

One Cowbird disappeared between July 20 and 22, but the other Cowbird and the two Song Sparrows fledged July 23. On August 4 the adult Song Sparrows were still feeding the two fledgling sparrows and the Cowbird and on August 11, the male sparrow was attending the Cowbird.

The first nest was placed on the ground; the second, 11 inches, and the third, 24 inches above ground in thistle (*Cirsium*).

The following table summarizes the success of the three nests.

Date nest found	Song Sparrow			Cowbird		
	Eggs laid	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Eggs laid	Eggs hatched	Young fledged
1. April 30, 1949	3	0	0	4	3	3
2. June 18	4	3	0	1	1	0
3. July 2	4	2	2	3	2	1
Totals	11	5	2	8	6	4

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Molt of Remiges and Rectrices of Immature Song Sparrows.— Song Sparrows with molting remiges and rectrices handled in late summer and fall are often erroneously recorded as adult birds due to the common belief that these feathers are not molted by immature birds. The texture of the plumage is a better criterion upon which to base their age, though as the season progresses this too may become more difficult, especially in the late fall when all transients have acquired about the same feather quality and the general appearance of adults.

Among 85 immature Song Sparrows banded in 1935 in Pomfret, Connecticut, 40 were recaptured and 9 of these repeats were molting both remiges and rectrices and the changes were recorded as follows, measurements in millimeters:

C189943 Im. July 17, wing 63, tail 64.50. Aug. 18, primaries and secondaries new, outer primary 15, tail 54.

C189948 Im. July 17, wing 63.50, tail 61. Aug. 18, 1st (outer) and 2nd primaries old, 3rd, 4th and 5th in sheaths 27 to 41, tail 41.

C189981 Im. July 28, wing 68.25, tail 68.50. Aug. 18, wing and tail coverts new, tail 29. Sept. 1, primaries 9, 8, 7, 6, 5 and tertials in sheaths, tail 46.

C189988 Im. July 28, wing 65.50, tail 63. Aug. 27, primaries—1st 41.50 in sheath, 2nd and 3rd 50 (old), 4th and 5th in sheaths 34, tertials in sheaths, tail 27. Sept. 7, primaries—1st 43, 2nd 12, 3rd 27, 4th 44, 5th, 6th and 7th in sheaths, tail 58.

C189987 Im. July 28, wing 69, tail 64.50. Oct. 5, primaries—1st 37, 2nd 43, 3rd 47.50 in sheaths, 4th to 9th 51 to 48 (old) ?, secondaries, 47 to 39 in sheaths, tertials 38, 34, 25 in sheaths, tail 54 to 69, seven in sheaths.

C189983 Im. July 28, wing 67.50, tail 67.50. Aug. 27, wing, except 1st (outer) primary, new, second primary in sheath, tail 33 in sheaths.

C190000 Im. July 29, wing 62, tail 65. Aug. 18, 2nd and 3rd primaries in sheaths, tail 45.50.

34/114005 Im. Oct. 6, wing 67, tail 74. Outer primaries and secondaries and tail in sheaths.

34/114006 Im. Oct. 6, wing 68, tail 68. Outer primaries in sheaths.

The notes above were prepared in 1935 but after consulting "The Sequence of Plumages and Moults of the Passerine Birds of New York" by Jonathan Dwight Jr., I decided that my discovery was not of much consequence. However, at the annual meeting in January 1950 of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association there was some discussion regarding wing molt in Song Sparrows as an age criterion. Not having my notes to refer to I took no part in the discussion but decided to publish them instead.

Dr. Dwight states: "First winter plumage of Song Sparrow is acquired by a partial sometimes complete, postjuvinal moult which involves the body plumage and tail and very often, part at least, of the remiges. The renewal of five or six outer primaries occurs in nearly all young birds of this species and is very likely characteristic of the first brood." (Annals of New York Academy of Sciences XIII (1900), p. 202.) —Olive P. Wetherbee, 11 Dallas St., Worcester, Mass.