

Last year, at least eight competent observations were made of the feather marked birds (5 Catbirds, 1 Indigo Bunting, 1 Scarlet Tanager and 1 Purple Martin). This year, the objectives are the same, i.e., to make as many observations and/or recoveries of these marked birds in the United States as possible. If you observe any of these birds, your finding, including all the usual data on location, date, habitat, weather, etc., should be reported to the Arbovirus Unit, Communicable Disease Center, Atlanta, Georgia 30333 (telephone 404 633-3311, ext. 574). More important, if you learn of the whereabouts of a residential marked bird which might be investigated, immediate notification will be appreciated.

Your cooperation in notifying competent ornithologists (both amateur and professional) in your region of this study would likely increase greatly the probability of success for this project.

Thank you in advance for your interest and aid in our program.

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Chief, Virology Section, Arbovirus Unit,
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HERON STUDIES

In connection with a research project concerned with the summer and year-round distribution of Black-crowned Night and Green Herons raised in southern Minnesota and Iowa, I would like to solicit help in reporting sightings of specially marked birds. Somewhere between one thousand and two thousand or more birds are being marked in one or more of the following ways: U. S. F. & W. Ser. numbered leg band, colored leg band, and in some cases a "back saddle" or dyed feather patches. Please observe carefully all birds of these species seen, and report the marked birds in the following manner.

1. exact location of sighting: from nearest town so that I can find the precise spot myself, or give range—township—section etc.
2. habitat: land (woods, field, etc.), water (lake, creek, etc.).
3. behavior: flying, feeding, sleeping, etc.
4. date and exact time of observation: i.e., 11:00 A. M., or 2:47 thru 3:34 P. M., etc.
5. number of bands on legs, colors of bands (if any), and, if possible, the number showing on the color-band (only if number was *positively* identified).
6. unusual coloring visible on body: colors and patterns used, and parts of body colored.
7. age of bird if known.
8. if bird is not alone, how many other herons (marked or unmarked) is it with?
9. species of bird: if species is unknown indicate as such.
10. observer's name and address.

I am also interested in learning the locations of all known Blk.-cr. Night Heron rookeries (nesting areas) in the United States and Canada, their size, associated species, and age. Do not confuse the roosts of non-breeders with nesting colonies. Be sure and inspect a suspected nesting area for occupied nests, and then describe said nests, eggs, or young to me in your letter, or the information will be of no use.

I fully appreciate the time and effort which interested persons will be spending to supply me with the requested information, and I shall give a personal reply to all correspondence as soon as time permits. Thank you for your cooperation. Robert C. Paulson, Jr., 2504 College St., Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613