

NOTES AND NEWS

NEBBA now has in stock 17 types of mist nets. The nylon nets listed in the October 1969 issue are in stock, with the exception of types D, H, and HT which have been discontinued. In addition (as discussed in the January 1971 issue) we have a very small experimental supply of a tetoron net (polyester), type KTX, otherwise similar to ATX. The price for KTX will be 50 cents higher than for ATX in each combination of discounts; for the time being, a limit of 3 KTX per customer. We suggest that only the most experienced users of nets try KTX for now.

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, the U. S. Post Office takes 9 days to deliver 95% of the parcels mailed in the New York City area for delivery in that area. It takes more than 16 days to deliver 95% of the parcels mailed in Springfield, Mass. for addresses in Seattle. The Post Office apparently did not comment on how long it took for the last of the test packages in each experiment to arrive, or perhaps how many never did arrive. Lately some firstclass mail has taken 5 days to cover 100 miles, and the *New York Times* recently quoted 5 days for 30 short blocks in Manhattan. We hope that the more orderly administration of the Post Office after reorganization will improve these figures substantially. Meanwhile, keep them in mind in ordering nets. Preferably, order early. If that is impossible, consider airmail (at 10% extra) or special handling (at fees of 25 cents extra for packages not over two pounds, 35 cents for more than two but not over ten, and 50 cents for more than ten). If you want these, ask for them specifically.

Many purchase orders request unrealistic delivery dates, usually because it takes the institution a week or two to prepare and mail the order. An eminent university recently requested receipt of nets by the 18th, on an order dated the 23rd and received on the 25th. Our reply necessarily was that NEBBA generally can make prompt shipment on all net orders, but scarcely that prompt. If you do need nets in a hurry, we suggest that you have your purchasing department get the order in the mail immediately.

Inquiries and orders for NEBBA nets should be directed to Mr. E. A. Bergstrom, 37 Old Brook Road, West Hartford, Conn. 06117.

Effective with the July issue, the cost of separates of papers in *Bird-Banding*, and of extra whole copies supplied to authors, will go up, for reasons similar to the recent increase in the general printing rates for the journal.

You still have time to become a life member of NEBBA at the current level of \$125, a bargain compared with the new rate of \$150 effective this fall (at the same time as annual dues and subscriptions).

As this issue goes to press, the backlog of papers accepted for publication is relatively small. The volume of papers received has continued to be substantial, but more papers than usual have been declined, or accepted only subject to major revision. Despite various recent increases in publishing costs, we expect to be able to maintain the size of the journal. Therefore, papers being accepted for publication at the moment are likely to get into print in less than our usual average elapsed time of about a year from receipt. General notes normally can be included in the next issue to go to the printer after acceptance.

We note with pleasure the addition of a new member to the review staff, Roger B. Clapp. Mr. Clapp is on the staff of the Pacific Ocean Biological Survey Program (Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C. 20560), and has contributed to *Bird-Banding* from time to time.

Membership in the Manomet Bird Observatory has now passed the 800 mark. Dues (starting at \$7.00) may be sent to Miss Barbara Treat, Manomet Bird Observatory, Box O, Manomet, Mass. 02345. Last summer and fall the Observatory operated a project under contract with the Mass. Division of Fisheries & Game, banding over 2,000 Mourning Doves. Work is progressing well on steps to record all banding data on standard punched cards for processing; details on over 10,000 birds banded each year would otherwise be very difficult to handle. A series of

formal research reports is being started. Work with schoolchildren, both at the Observatory and at schools, keeps growing, though limited by both staff and space. To remove some of these limitations, a fund drive for \$86,700 has started, with over \$14,000 from five foundations in recent weeks. The Observatory can put to good use a wide variety of volunteer talents, and of gifts large or small, in money or otherwise—ranging from S & H green stamps to the use of a tractor for a spring weekend to plow a field for wildlife planting. Offers or questions may be directed to the director of the observatory, Kathleen S. Anderson.

NO MIST NETS IN JUNE OR JULY

As this issue goes to the printer, it is probable that I will be abroad for a month in June and July. Mail will not be forwarded, and we regret that it is impractical for anyone else to handle mist net orders meanwhile. Thus NEBBA will be unable to ship nets, make quotations, or reply to questions about nets from about June 5th through July 15th (note that these dates are slightly different from the tentative dates in the last issue). Usually quite a backlog of orders builds up during such an absence, and takes a few days to catch up with. If you can anticipate your needs enough to order by the end of May, you may save quite a delay. During that absence, Mrs. Howard can supply copies of the mist net list as printed in the October 1969 issue (the same price level is still in effect, but see "Notes and News" in this issue for some changes in nets available).

E. A. BERGSTROM