

GENERAL NOTES

Mourning Dove Recovered in Labrador.—Records of the Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*) in Labrador are rare. Austin (1932), Godfrey (1966), and Todd (1963) cite nine records for coastal Labrador. Seven of these are late summer or autumn records in the south between Red Bay (51° 44' N, 56° 25' W) and Sandwich Bay (53° 39' N, 57° 14' W). Two records are of uncertain date. The northernmost record at Nain (56° 32' N, 61° 41' W) occurred on 5 June 1928 and is the only spring occurrence recorded.

I wish to report another June record which represents the first Mourning Dove band recovery in Labrador and the first Labrador occurrence of a Mourning Dove of known natal origin. The bird was banded (803-33690) at my feeder in Schenectady, N.Y. (42° 48' N, 73° 53' W) on 8 May 1973 as a newly fledged juvenile. Its banding date is the median date for the banding of young doves just out of the nest at my feeder for the years 1966 through 1973 (range, 5 to 12 May). There were no recaptures of the bird from the time of banding until its recovery on 10 June 1974 in Labrador.

It was found dead on a freshly burned lawn by H. Normore at a cabin on the Pinware River, nine miles from its mouth at the Strait of Belle Isle. The cause of death was not apparent. The recovery point is about 10 miles due west of Red Bay, and 1,000-1,050 miles northeast of the point of banding.

I wish to thank John Tautin and Jay Sheppard of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bird Banding Laboratory for assistance in providing information on this recovery.

LITERATURE CITED

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- GODFREY, W. E. 1966. The Birds of Canada. Ottawa, National Museum of Canada.
- TODD, W. E. C. 1963. Birds of The Labrador Peninsula and Adjacent Areas. Toronto, University of Toronto Press.
- ROBERT P. YUNICK, 1527 Myron Street, Schenectady, New York 12309. Received 30 September 1975, accepted 15 October 1975.

Variations in the Black Mask of the Common Yellowthroat.—The black mask of the male Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) is a well-known, diagnostic sexual character. The adult male's (AHY) mask is jet black, intensely developed, and bordered by gray on the dorsal areas. After having aged (by skull ossification) and sexed (by gonadal inspection) over 3,000 Common Yellowthroats, most of which were nocturnal migrants killed at tall-lighted structures in Florida, I have detected two exceptions to the above statements.

On 20 March 1973, a female (FTU 1952) Common Yellowthroat was collected after having hit the Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB) at Cape Kennedy during nocturnal migration. The skull was completely ossified and the enlarged ovary was 5.5 mm in length. The mask extends about 4.0 mm past the eyes and about 5.0 mm posterior to the culmen of the bill. The intensity of the black is similar to that of an immature male; the gray border is absent. Dr. John Aldrich of the USNM stated that the specimen definitely represents *G. t. ignota*, matching autumn females of that race. He further remarked that the bird is in unusually fresh plumage and is similar to autumn birds in the absence of appreciable feather wear. This leads one to speculate that perhaps the bird experienced an aberrant winter molt in view of its facial pattern and the fresh plumage. To my knowledge this is the only documented female Common Yellowthroat with a black mask.

The second exception to the typical facial mask of the Common Yellowthroat pertains to the immature male. It is not uncommon to find immature males (with large areas of the skull unossified) that have an extensive, well-developed black mask with gray edging. Without knowing that the skull was unossified, one would automatically age these immatures as adults. Fisk (*EBBA News*, 35: 59-61, 1972) also found this condition to exist in the immature male. My observations, based upon both September and October birds, indicate that about 10% of the immatures examined possessed unossified skulls and well-developed facial masks, bordered by gray. Furthermore, most, if not all, of these males appear