

NOTES AND NEWS

Computer Program for Analyzing Bird Banding and Recovery Data.—A computer program has been developed for the computation of great circle distances and compass directions from one point to another on the earth's surface. The input data are the latitudes and longitudes of the points, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Canadian Wildlife Service data format. For any grouping of such distance and direction data, the program also computes the mean distance and direction, the latter by the method appropriate for circular data. Measures of dispersion are also given, as is a statistical test (the Rayleigh test) for a "preferred" mean direction, and other quantities useful for other statistical analyses. Geographic location between 19 and 59° N latitude and between 52 and 125° W longitude may be printed on a rectangular coordinate system 8.0×12.1 in (20.3×30.7 cm) in size, with an indication of the frequency of data at each plotted point. This coordinate system is such that a transparent overlay of a U.S. Army map of this portion of North America may then be placed atop the computer printout. A detailed description of the program is available at no charge from its developers: JERROLD H. ZAR AND WILLIAM E. SOUTHERN, *Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115*. Copies of the source program and/or deck (in FORTRAN IV) may be obtained, at cost, from the Department of Computing Services, Northern Illinois University.

Colonial Waterbird Group Meeting.—The Linnaean Society of New York, as part of its Centennial celebration, will host the Second Annual Meeting of the Colonial Waterbird Group at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City on 21–23 October, 1978. The Linnaean Society will sponsor a Symposium of invited papers on "Factors Affecting Productivity in Colonial Species" on 21 October and the morning of 22 October. Submitted papers for the Colonial Waterbird Group will be given on the afternoon of 22 October and the morning of 23 October. A workshop session the afternoon of the 23rd will conclude the meeting. Please send for information on contributed papers, abstracts for which must be received by 1 August, 1978, to: DR. P. A. BUCKLEY, *North Atlantic Regional Office, National Park Service, 15 State Street, Boston, MA 02109*. Although invited papers will be published, it is not yet certain if submitted papers will also be published in a *Proceedings*. For registration information, please contact Ms HELEN HAYS, *Dept. of Ornithology, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, NY 10024*.

NEBBA MIST NETS

The Northeastern Bird-Banding Association, Inc. imports mist nets from Japan as a service to its members and other netters. Net income has been used to build up the needed working capital, to support indices of *Bird-Banding* reference tools that do not pay their own way fully, and to support research work. The Manomet Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 0, Manomet, Massachusetts 02345, acts as agent for NEBBA in the mist net business.

Most nets are in stock for immediate shipment. We have generally been able to fill orders promptly, but delays may occur for a variety of reasons, such as strikes or customs. If you know your needs in advance, an early order may avoid delay in your netting project.

The prices shown include shipment by surface parcel post within the U.S. If desired, we can ship by parcel post "special delivery" or "special handling" or air parcel post, at the actual extra cost. We make every effort to deliver by desired dates, but some requests are unrealistic, even to the point of asking for a date earlier than the day the order reaches us. Requests should keep in mind the limitations of the postal service.

For shipment outside the U.S. we charge the actual postage. On any shipment outside the U.S., the purchaser (1) arranges any import license or other formalities; (2) pays any custom duties or other charges levied by his country; and (3) pays for the net order in advance and then will be invoiced for postage separately.

We regret that we cannot ship by other methods, such as United Parcel Service or Air Freight, partly because we have no convenient way for shipments of that sort to be