

TABLE 1. Criteria used for tentative identification of the sexes of the banded Least Tern pair captured in Kansas.

Characteristics	Kansas bird "male"	Texas bird "female"
Behavioral	Fed fish to incubating bird	Received fish, more attentive to nest
Wing chord	173 mm	168 mm
Tail length	81 mm	75 mm
Bill depth at widest point	6.0 mm	5.5 mm
Bill color	Bright orange	Yellow
Foot and web color	Bright orange	Orange with gray on web and toe joints

These points are all of significance to the recent federal approval of endangered classification for the Interior Least Tern (Fed. Reg. Vol. 50 FR 21784). Greater understanding of use areas and pairing common to the two populations is critical to evaluating the effect of reproductive interchange on future efforts directed at recovery of the interior population. Interior populations are declining as a result of substantial habitat modification that is expected to continue.

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Addendum: RLB recaptured the Texas bird 10 July 1985 on a nest 1 km NW of the 1984 nest. Its mate was not captured and the nest was destroyed by predators.

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Fidelity of an American Tree Sparrow to a Wintering Area.—On 15 November 1976 I caught an unknown age, unknown sex American Tree Sparrow (*Spizella arborea*) in a Potter trap at my banding station in Alfred Station, New York (coordinates 421-0774) and banded it (#1370-59030). Thus began a remarkable sequence of 41 captures over a

TABLE 1. Summary of recapture data on Tree Sparrow #1370-59030.

Winter	Date of 1st fall captures	# recaptures	Date of last spring capture
1976-1977	15 Nov.	15	8 Apr.
1977-1978	—	0	—
1978-1979	16 Nov.	5	22 Feb.
1979-1980	3 Dec.	2	2 Jan.
1980-1981	3 Dec.	2	7 Feb.
1981-1982	10 Nov.	4	5 Feb.
1982-1983	7 Dec.	2	13 Feb.
1983-1984	2 Dec.	4	8 Feb.

9-year period. Information on recapture dates is summarized in Table 1.—ELIZABETH W. BROOKS, 18 Washington Rd., Pittsford, New York 14534. Received 19 Jan. 1985; accepted 29 June 1985.

Diazinon Poisoning of Brown-headed Cowbirds.—We report here 2 separate cases of poisonings of Brown-headed Cowbirds (*Molothrus ater*) in Connecticut following the application of diazinon to lawns. Diazinon is a broad spectrum insecticide that is highly toxic to insects and also to birds (Hudson et al. 1984, Schlinke and Palmer 1971). Although field poisonings of ducks and geese have been reported (Schobert 1974, Stone 1979, Stone and Knoch 1982, Zinkl et al. 1978), we are unaware of documented accidental poisonings of passerine birds.

Methods.—In East Hartford, Connecticut on 29 September 1983, chlorpyrifos, an organic phosphate insecticide (Dursban 2.32 granular insecticide), was applied at a rate of 0.9 kg per 90 sq m to the infield of a baseball field that had been recently covered with sod infested with Japanese beetles (*Popillia japonica*). Diazinon 14% granular insecticide was applied on 30 September at a rate of 0.45 kg per 135 sq m to the infield and to the outfield which had been planted with grass about 1 month earlier. The ballfield was extensively watered following the application of diazinon. Hearts, livers, gizzards, and intestines dissected from 3 male and 3 female Brown-headed Cowbirds which had been frozen shortly after they were found dead at the ballfield on 5 October and 6 soil samples (3 from the infield and 3 from the outfield) taken to a depth of 2.5 cm were obtained on 14 October and analyzed for organochlorine and organophosphate insecticides by standard procedures using gas-liquid chromatography (Lawrence 1982).

In the second incident, diazinon liquid spray was applied by a commercial pest control company to a private yard in Meriden, Connecticut, on 4 September 1984 for the control of lawn insects. One male and one female cowbird were frozen about 24 h after death on 9 September 1984. Organs listed in the previous paragraph were examined for organochlorine and organophosphate insecticides.

Results and discussion.—About 5 dozen male and female Brown-headed Cowbirds which had been roosting in trees adjacent to the ballfield died in East Hartford. Diazinon was the only insecticide found in their tissues (Table 1). Analyses of soil samples taken in the infield revealed residues of diazinon and chlorpyrifos ranging from 2.06 to 11 ppm and 0.22 to 2.16 ppm, respectively. In the outfield, diazinon residues ranged from 3.09 to 31.05 ppm. Chlorpyrifos and other insecticides were not detected.

In Meriden, Brown-headed Cowbirds were observed dying beneath their roosting sites 4 days after diazinon had been applied to the lawn. Two dozen dead birds were collected. Diazinon was detected in the tissues of those examined (Table 1).

Insecticidal poisoning of passerine birds is often difficult to document because non-flocking small birds often disperse and may die in wooded or tall grassy, weedy areas.