



Cape May Warbler exploiting a most unusual food source for the species, a seed feeder, in Plainfield, Illinois, December 17, 1990. Photograph/Joel B. Milosevich.



In a winter that was notable for several owl species, southeastern Manitoba had near-record numbers of Great Gray Owls, with perhaps more than 300 present. This one was just across the border in Roseau Bog, Minnesota, February 2, 1991. Photograph/Dennis Fast.



Immature Ivory Gull at Red Rock Reservoir, Iowa, December 30, 1990. The first state record, and the high point of the winter for many midwestern birders. Photograph/Timothy R. Barksdale.



This gull at Ocean City, Maryland, on February 10, 1991, showed a combination of characteristics that suggested it was a hybrid Ring-billed X Laughing Gull in first-winter plumage. Photograph/Michael O'Brien.



Eurasian Tree Sparrow in Pierce County, Wisconsin, February 24, 1991. Apparently the introduced population in the St. Louis area is continuing to very slowly expand its range. Photograph/Janine Polk.



Members of the rail and gallinule family are famous for their long-distance wanderings. Even so, this Eurasian Purple Gallinule in Delaware in December 1990 was widely (but not universally) considered most unlikely as a genuine wild stray. Photograph/Colin D. Campbell.

PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Winter 1990–1991



Mountain Bluebird at Hillman Marsh, Essex County, Ontario, December 12, 1990. Probably a first-winter male, as suggested by the contrastingly dull and pale outermost greater coverts in the wing. Photograph/James N. Flynn.



Black-legged Kittiwake in first basic (first-winter) plumage in Bay County, Florida, January 3, 1991. Apparently a first county record. Photograph/Tony Menart.



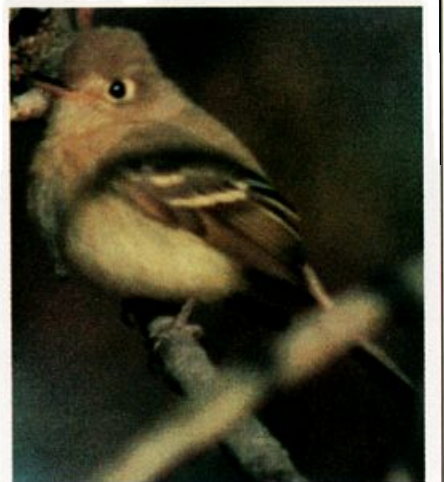
Blue morph Snow Goose in Unicoi County, Tennessee, January 29, 1991. First local winter record. Photograph/Rick Knight.



In many regions from Newfoundland to the Rockies, an invasion of Gyrfalcons was a highlight of the winter. As far south as Illinois, even one of these boreal raptors creates major excitement. This gray-morph immature was photographed February 17, 1991, in La Salle County, Illinois. Photograph/Joe B. Milosevich.



Female Tufted Duck at St. John's, Newfoundland, January 8, 1991. Photograph/Bruce Mactavish.



Pacific-slope Flycatcher in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, December 20, 1990. First confirmed record for eastern North America. Photograph/Randy C. Miller.



Male Varied Thrush at Signal Mountain, Tennessee, January 27, 1991. Apparently a first state record. Photograph/R. Bruce Wilkey.



Gray Flycatcher in Karnes County, Texas, December 7, 1990. This bird, which provided the first winter record for Texas, spent the entire winter at this location. Photograph/Greg Lasley.



First-winter Glaucous Gull (center) with California Gulls east of Reno, Nevada, January 10, 1991. Third record for northern Nevada. Photograph/Jane Thompson.



A new species of barn owl? This rufous morph Eastern Screech-Owl roosted atop a Barn Swallow nest in a barn near Kleefeld, Manitoba, in February 1991. Photograph/Dennis Fast.



Willow Ptarmigan on the James Bay Road, Quebec. The species staged a major invasion in eastern Quebec during winter 1990-1991. Photograph/Jean Paquin.



Le Conte's Sparrow at Fort Lyon, Colorado, December 1990. Four individuals spent the winter in a marsh here, providing only the second firm record for Colorado. Photograph/Inez Prather.



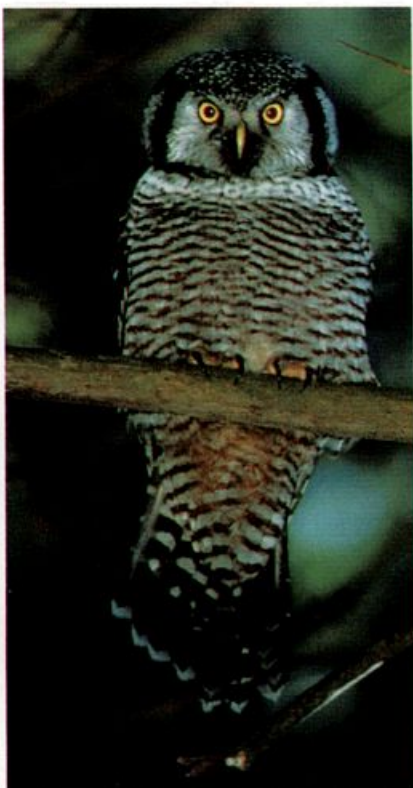
This Eurasian Curlew at Ferryland, Newfoundland, on January 7, 1991, furnished one of the few North American records, but it disappeared shortly after its discovery when extreme winter weather set in. Photograph/Bruce Mactavish.



Purple Sandpiper (with Willets) at Boca Chica jetty, Cameron County, Texas, February 28, 1991. One of the southernmost records ever for the species. Photograph/Barry R. Zimmer.



Fall through winter 1990-1991 turned out to be an exceptional season for Bramblings in northwestern North America. Among the farthest afield of the birds from this "invasion" was this Brambling at Santa Cruz, California, December 30, 1990. Photograph/Alan Walther.



Northern Hawk Owl at North Springfield, Vermont, January 1991. Photograph/Kevin Karlson.



Merlin near Bishop, Inyo County, January 26, 1991. This bird shows the blackish coloration typical of the race *suckleyi*, a rare visitor to southern California. Photograph/Tom Heindel.



Male Aztec Thrush feasting on pyracantha berries at Portal, Arizona, January 27, 1991. First winter record for Arizona of this stray from Mexico. Photograph/Dale and Marian Zimmerman.