
Recent Literature

Edited by Martin K. McNicholl

Identification, molts, and plumages

The use of measurements in sexing Common Murres from Newfoundland. W. Threlfall and S.P. Mahoney. 1980. *Wilson Bull.* 92:266-268. (Determination of sex on the basis of measurements was not possible with any degree of certainty.) NC

Foraging behavior of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker in South Carolina. R.G. Hooper and M.R. Lennartz. 1981. *Auk* 98:321-334. (Each bird was uniquely marked with colored plastic leg bands.) NC

Bigamy in a male Mockingbird. C.A. Logan and M. Rulli. 1981. *Auk* 98:385-386. (When 1 color-banded male disappeared, his color-banded neighbor took over the entire area previously held by the missing male. He formed a bond with the second female while maintaining a bond with his original mate.) NC

Lack of differential survival among young Ipswich Sparrows. H.A. Ross and I.A. McLaren. 1981. *Auk* 98:495-502. (Over 3 years, 1113 nestlings and 227 juveniles were banded on Sable Is., Nova Scotia. First-year survival rates from the egg were only 2-4%.) NC

Sexual size dimorphism and survival of male and female blackbirds (Icteridae). W.A. Searcy and K. Yasukawa. 1981. *Auk* 98:457-465. (Recaptures and recoveries were used to calculate survival rates. Male survival decreases relative to female survival as the degree of sexual size dimorphism increases.) NC

Overwinter mortality and sexual size dimorphism in the House Sparrow. R.F. Johnston and R.C. Fleischer. 1981. *Auk* 98:503-511. (Specimens were captured in mist nets. Overwinter mortality in Kansas accentuated sexual size dimorphism; males were larger after winter and females smaller.) NC

Male and female parental roles in the Western Gull under different environmental conditions. R. Pierotti. 1981. *Auk* 98:532-549. (Males captured with nest traps were marked with picric acid on top of the head and females were marked on the breast.) NC

Second-wave nesting of the California Least Tern: Age composition and reproductive success. B.W. Massey and J.L. Atwood. 1981. *Auk* 98:596-605. (1575 chicks were banded over 4 years. Chicks and adults are now being color banded.) NC

Autumn selection of breeding location by Field Sparrows. R.J. Adams, Jr. and R. Brewer. 1981. *Auk* 98: 629-631. (Indirect evidence using banding data is given in

support of the idea that breeding locations are selected prior to autumn departure.) NC

Primary shaft measurements in relation to age of Sharp-tailed Grouse. P.J. Caldwell. 1980. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 44:202-204. (The difference between juvenile and adult primary 9/primary 8 calamus diameter ratios was highly significant. Age classes may be separated by using this technique with only 0.1% misclassification.) NC

Observations on the life history of Willets on Long Island, New York. L. Wilcox. 1980. *Wilson Bull.* 92: 253-258. (Adults were trapped on their nests with wire trip-step traps or scoop nets. 17 returns were obtained from 23 adults and 31 young banded from 1969-1978. Nearly all mated pairs can be sexed by size and weight.) NC

Vocal and territorial behavior in the White-eyed Vireo. R.A. Bradley. 1980. *Wilson Bull.* 92:302-311. (Mist nets were used in Florida to capture vireos attracted to taped playbacks of conspecific song. Birds were marked with 3 colored plastic bands arranged in unique combinations.) NC

Display behavior of Ovenbirds (*Seiurus aurocapillus*).
I. Non-song vocalizations. M.R. Lein. 1980. *Wilson Bull.* 92:312-329. (Nine males were individually color-banded in this New England study.) NC

Feeding of secondary nestlings by polygynous male Bobolinks in Oregon. J.F. Wittenberger. 1980. *Wilson Bull.* 92:330-340. (All males and half of all females were banded, and individuals identified by both colored plastic leg bands and unique plumage characteristics.) NC

CWS Peregrine shot in Illinois. Anonymous. 1981. *Eyas* 5(2):3. (Captive-raised Peregrine released in Wood Buffalo National Park, Alta. was shot and rehabilitated in IL.) MM

Prince Edward Point Observatory 1980 Report. H.R. Quilliam *et al.* 1980. *Blue Bill Suppl.* 1980, reprinted in *Ont. Bird Banding* 14:1-37, 1981. (Includes a general summary of banding activities by H.R. Quilliam, pp. 3-7, a summary of returns 1976-1980 also by Quilliam, pp. 13-15; a summary of recoveries and foreign retraps in 1980 by R. Weir, pp. 16-18; and reports on specific projects abstracted separately below. In her summary of returns, Quilliam notes the continuing problem of ageing and sexing Northern Orioles at this Ont. banding station. In 1980, 9316 birds of 129 species were banded, bringing the station's long term total to 70,640 birds.) MM

Saw-whet Owl studies 1980. R. Weir. 1980. *Blue Bill Suppl.*, reprinted in *Ont. Bird Banding* 14:8-12, 1981. (496 owls were netted at Prince Edward Point, Ont. in 1980, bringing the total since 1975 to 1966. Totals indicate age-sex distribution and catch per unit effort in various sites.) MM

House Finches. H. Quilliam. 1980. *Blue Bill Suppl.*, reprinted in *Ont. Bird Banding* 14:19-22, 1981. (Banding of 27 birds at Kingston, Ont. helped document the species' rapid recent appearance there. Limited molt data were provided by recaptures.) MM

Yellow Warblers: nest biology and philopatry. C. Lywood. 1980. *Blue Bill Suppl.*, reprinted in *Ont. Bird Banding* 14:23-29, 1981. (185 Yellow Warblers were color-banded at Prince Edward Pt., Ont., but few resighted. Returns of birds banded in previous years support the hypothesis that birds that have bred in a previous year are the most likely to return.) MM

American Robins: philopatry and breeding success. J. Dear. 1980. *Blue Bill Suppl.*, reprinted in *Ont. Bird Banding* 14:30-37, 1981. (645 Amer. Robins were banded at Prince Edward Pt., Ont. 1975-1979, with return rates increasing annually, indicating a high degree of philopatry. Males showed a higher dispersal rate than females. The term "dispersion" is used incorrectly to mean "dispersal.") MM

Interesting recoveries. Bank Swallow. D. Brewer. 1981. *Ont. Bird Banding Newsletter* Dec. 1981: 2. (Recovery of Ont.-banded swallow in Peru.) MM

Interesting recoveries. Cooper's Hawk. B. Duncan. 1981. *Ont. Bird Banding Newsletter* Dec. 1981: 2. (8+ year old female recovered in Ont., originally banded in Penn.) MM

Blue Jays at Cobble Hill. J.M. Speirs. 1981. *Ont. Bird Banding Newsletter* Dec. 1981:3-5. (Observations and longevity data on 3 color-banded jays in Ont.) MM

Hollywood bluebirds. M. Skaggs and M. Skaggs. 1981. *Sialia* 3:97-98. (Slightly altered combination of 2 articles originally published in 1941 and 1942. Banding helped determine rematings and returns to Ohio study area.) MM

Status of Luther Marsh Canada Goose flock 1971-78. D.E. Joyner. 1981. *Ont. Field Biol* 35:57-69. (45 [8%] of 564 Canada Geese banded at Luther Marsh, Ont. were killed by hunters. Recoveries show that the birds winter along Lake Erie, coastal Maryland, and various

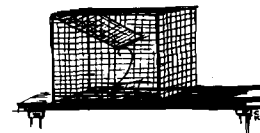
states s. of Ont. as far west as Wisc. and south to Ala.) MM

Protecting nesting boxes from climbing predators. R. M. Patterson. 1981. *Sialia* 3:133-135. (Includes recovery of 3 banded [Eastern?] Bluebirds recovered from stomach of Black Rat Snake.) MM

Thirty-third winter bird-population study. 49. Coastal study. 50. Disturbed coastal scrub A. 51. Disturbed coastal scrub B. T. Theimer, D. DeSante, K. Keave, D. Sherman, S. Whisler, G. Geupel, B. Pendleton, J. Kjelmlyr, and J. Buchanan. 1981. *Amer. Birds* 35:34-35. (Color banding helped document higher than usual mortality of White-crowned Sparrows on all 3 censuses, showed that Bushtits foraged in two non-interchanging flocks within the same areas in count 50, and helped define precise numbers of several species. Authors listed as composite — DeSante involved in all 3 counts.) MM

Thirty-third winter bird population study. 56. Barrier beach and salt-water estuary. J. Wilson and R.W. Loftin. 1981. *Amer. Birds* 35:36. (Color bands showed that some Black Skimmers which fledged in this Florida area winter there and that some wintering Royal Terns were fledged in Va. and N.C.) MM

The effects of human disturbance in Osprey reproductive success. A. Poole. 1981. *Colonial Waterbirds* 4:20-27. (Females were trapped in MA with a "noose carpet" placed over eggs at least midway through incubation or over small young, and males were captured with a noose snare on ground perches. No desertions occurred and the trapping/banding operation did not appear to affect food delivery rates.) MM



Foreign banding results

Movements of adult and juvenile Bananaquits within a morph-ratio cline. J.M. Wunderle, Jr. 1981. *Auk* 98: 571-577. (Foraging birds were captured in mist nets and given unique combinations of color bands.) NC

Displays of the Magellanic Oystercatcher (*Haematopus leucopodus*). E.H. Miller and A.J. Baker. 1980. *Wilson Bull.* 92:149-168. (Oystercatchers were sexed on the basis of relative size of mates and relative bill color.) NC

Recent Literature

Banding equipment and techniques

A radio-collar for game birds. S.C. Amstrup. 1980. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 44:214-217. (Components include a vinyl tagging fabric collar and transmitter soldered to antenna and battery with heat-shrink tubing around the antenna and acrylic coating over antenna base and transmitter. Advantages include little handling of the bird, absence of straps, light weight with weight concentrated near bird's crop, upright antenna, and its relative invisibility.) NC

A decoy trap for diving ducks. M.G. Anderson, R.D. Saylor, and R.D. Afton. 1980. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 44:217-219. (Description of a smaller, portable trap used to capture both sexes of Canvasbacks, Redheads, and Lesser Scaup. A single female of the target species was used as a decoy. A key factor in the success of the trap was the wide, unobstructed opening through which birds could view the decoy hen and enter the trap.) NC

Comparison of neck bands and patagial tags for marking American Coots. G.A. Bartelt and D.H. Rusch. 1980. *J. Wildl. Manage.* 44:236-241. (Coots were captured through use of a nightlighting technique. Age of juveniles was assigned from plumage characteristics, whereas age of adults was ascertained from tarsus color. The neck band was more visible and had less effect on body weight than patagial tags. A few neck-banded coots encountered later had their lower mandibles under the neck band. Overall survival did not appear to be affected by the method of marking.) NC

The effects of trapping, banding, and patagial tagging on the parental behavior of Least Terns in Texas. M.V. Brubek, B.C. Thompson, and R.D. Slack. 1981. *Colonial Waterbirds* 4:54-60. (Least Terns trapped at nests and marked with patagial tags deserted more often than terns handled less, but behavior of terns trapped with cannon nets away from nests and marked with patagial tags was similar to that of unmarked birds. The authors tentatively conclude that terns can be marked with patagial tags without altering parental abilities, but such marking should not be done in conjunction with trapping at nests.) MM

An attempt to evaluate the impact of cannon-netting in Caspian Tern colonies. H. Blokpoel. 1981. *Colonial Waterbirds* 4:61-67. (Nest desertion and loss of eggs to gull predation were higher after cannon-netting than after human intrusion without cannon-netting.)

Behavior of Common and Roseate Terns after trapping. I.C.T. Nisbet. 1981. *Colonial Waterbirds* 4:44-46. (Roseate Terns may desert their nests if trapped during the first 15 days of incubation, but can be trapped and tagged safely from day 17 until first starting of the egg. Trapping at hatching or with newly hatched chicks is not advisable, as resumption of normal incubation or sheltering may be adversely slow.) MM

Differences in behavioral responses of young Common Terns and Black Skimmers to intrusion and handling. M. Gochfeld. 1981. *Colonial Waterbirds* 4: 47-53. (This paper should be read by all researchers who enter colonies of birds. Of particular importance to banders are the findings that chicks are less likely to run if the band is placed on the tarsus by pulling the leg out from under the bird than if the bird is picked up, and that covering the chick with a hand briefly after putting it down also reduces the chance that it will run.) MM

North American banding results

Winter home ranges of 4 clans of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers in the Carolina sandhills. D.M. Sherrill and V.M. Case. 1980. *Wilson Bull.* 92:369-375. (Clan members were uniquely color banded in January. The mean home range of the 4 clans (8, 4, 2 and 4 birds) was 31.2 ha.) NC

Factors affecting the incidence of distress calls in passerines. M. Perrone, Jr. 1980. *Wilson Bull.* 92:404-408. (Bird behavior was noted as the mist net or walk-in traps were approached and during subsequent handling. A significantly greater proportion of stragglers than nonstragglers called. Among nocturnal migrants, larger species struggled more often than smaller species. Among 7 nonmigrant species, there was a lack of correlation of size and straggler frequency. This outside-the-nesting season study shows that distress calls do not summon help or even attract small birds at this time, but warning occurs inevitably, and predators are often attracted.) NC

Implications of juvenile harassment in Purple Martins. C.R. Brown and E.J. Bitterbaum. 1980. *Wilson Bull.* 92:452-457. (Extensive use of color-marked birds was made in this continuing study of martins in Texas.) NC

NC = Noel Cutright

MM = Martin K. McNicholl

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Nestling foods and foraging patterns in the Clay-colored Sparrows. R.W. Knapton. 1980. *Wilson Bull.* 92:458-465. (Mist nets were used to capture adults and immatures, and nestlings were banded at about 5 days of age. Two colored plastic bands in different combinations were used for individual recognition in this Manitoba study.) NC

Fall migration of Saw-whet Owls at Prince Edward Point, Ontario. R.D. Weir, F. Cooke, M.H. Edwards, and R.B. Stewart. 1980. *Wilson Bull.* 92:475-488. (An extensive 4-year mist netting and banding study resulted in 1128 captures. Sex and age distribution, local distribution, weather, and recaptures are discussed.) NC

The significance of deteriorating man-made island habitats to Common Terns and Ring-billed Gulls in the St. Mary's River, Michigan. W.C. Scarf. 1981. *Colonial Waterbirds* 4:155-159. (Common Tern chick production was determined by checking subsequent fledging or mortality of banded chicks.) MM

The incidence of man-caused and natural mortalities to raptors. D. Keran. 1981. *Raptor Res.* 15:108-112. (Includes a detailed analysis of band returns of all North American raptor species, with longevity data for most species, and causes of death.) MM

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Books

Diets for Birds in Captivity. Kenton C. Lint and Alice Marie Lint, published by Blandford Press, Dorset, England. 1981. 222 pages. \$50.00.

This book thoroughly describes diets used successfully to maintain, and in many cases breed in captivity, most families of birds kept at the world famous San Diego Zoo. Diets used by other zoos are also described in many cases. The information is a good basis for developing satisfactory diets for long term maintenance of wild birds in captivity. The described diets are very detailed and specific, listing gram amounts of individual food items to be fed daily. Detailed diets are presented for all families of birds.

The Lints' book is a listing of diets only, however, and does not claim to be nutritionally detailed or complete. Much is still unknown about specific nutritional requirements of many species and families of birds. The described diets are those developed by trial and error and common sense during 28 years as curator of birds at the San Diego Zoo. There is no explanation, for example, why soaked raisins can be substituted for blueberries in the diet for Thailand Hoopoes but not for Wood Hoopoes.

The described diets do not include nutritional analyses, and this will prove frustrating to nutritionists and other food scientists. One appendix does list nutritional and compositional details of many of the prepared feeds and some of the seeds listed in the diets. This appendix will enable a serious nutritionist to make analyses of

many of the complete diets. Nutritional analysis of all the dietary items are not provided and are probably not available in many cases. For example, pyracantha, cotoneaster and eugenia berries, chick weed, comfrey, sow thistle, cockroaches, garden snails, and eucalyptus seeds have probably never been analyzed for nutrient content.

Another excellent appendix describes culture methods for some of the live foods suggested, such as mealworms, fruit flies, and earthworms.

Many of the diets are unnecessarily complex for bird banders or wildlife rehabilitators. An example is the diet for gamebirds such as quail. This diet includes specific types of seeds and greens, insects, boiled egg, trout chow, and vitamins, when there are nutritionally complete commercially prepared gamebird foods available.

The book is expensive (\$50.00), considering the usefulness of the information for bird banders. The diets are generally too complicated for use in the field to maintain wild birds for short periods in captivity. A knowledge of the natural diets of the birds we band is probably sufficient to allow successful short term captive care. As a reference book, it would be of interest to banders who wish to know about the diets used to maintain in captivity those birds they handle. Wildlife rehabilitators would find the book useful as a reference for planning diets for captive birds in their programs.

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