

- Cramp, S. and C.M. Perrins (eds.). 1994. The birds of the western Palearctic, Vol IX. Oxford Univ. Press, Oxford.
- Fox, A.D. 1981. Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*). Pp. 187-189 in Report of the 1979 Greenland White-fronted Goose study expedition to Eqaungmiut Nunât, west Greenland (A.D. Fox and D.A. Stroud, eds.). Greenland White-fronted Goose Study, Aberystwyth.
- Hussell, D.J.T. 1972. Factors affecting clutch size in Arctic passerines. *Ecol. Monogr.* 42: 317-364.
- Klimkiewicz, M.K. 2000. Longevity records of North American birds, Version 2000.1. Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Bird Banding Laboratory, Laurel, MD.
- Klimkiewicz, M.K. and A.G. Fitcher. 1987. Longevity records of North American birds: Coerobinae through Estrildidae. *J. Field Ornith.* 58:318-333.
- Lyon, B. and R. Montgomerie. 1995. Snow Bunting and McKay's Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis* and *Plectrophenax hyperboreus*). In The birds of North America. No. 198-199 (A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.). Acad. Natl. Sci., Philadelphia, PA, and Am. Ornithol. Union, Washington, D C.
- Pyle, P., S.N.G. Howell, R.P. Yonick, and D.F. DeSante. 1987. Identification guide to North American passerines. Bolinas, CA.
- Svensson, L. 1984. Identification guide to European passerines. Third revised and enlarged edition. Stockholm, Sweden, and BTO, Tring, England.

**William F. Petrie**  
 801-415 Greenview Avenue  
 Ottawa, ON K2B 8G5  
 and  
**David J.T. Hussell**  
 34 Carr Place  
 Kanata, ON K2K 1K7

---



---

### A New Longevity Record for the Magnolia Warbler

A Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*) banded on 13 Jul 1993 and recaptured on 11 Jun 2000 provides a longevity record for the species of 8

years and 0 months. The bird was a female, but when recaptured in 2000, its plumage was more typical of that associated with males.

The bird was banded originally by Mark Dugdale with USFWS band number 1890-65086 on the left leg and a supplementary address band (Hussell et al. 1993) on the right leg at a MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship; see De Sante et al. 2000) site operated by the Thunder Cape Bird Observatory at Thunder Cape, Ontario (41°18'N, 88°56'W). At this time the bird was sexed as a female due to the presence of a heavily vascularized brood patch and typical female plumage. It was aged as a second year (SY), based on plumage. Flight feather wear was labeled heavy, indicative of an adult prior to its prebasic molt (Pyle 1997:465). With a well-developed brood patch this could not have been a hatch year bird.

I recaptured #1890-65086 at the same site on 11 Jun 2000, the first recorded recapture of this bird since its original banding. Based on plumage alone, I aged it in the field as after hatch year (AHY), due to mixed SY and ASY feathers. The rectrices were truncate, there were no molt limits among the wing coverts, and flight feather wear was light—all indicative of an ASY bird. By contrast, the primary coverts were tapered and abraded with no blue edging, features usually associated with the retained juvenile feathers of a SY bird (Pyle 1997:465). The bird was sexed as a female based on the presence of a vascularized brood patch (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Underside of Magnolia Warbler #1890-65086 showing a vascularized brood patch and bold streaking of the underparts, 11 Jun 2000. (Photograph by Bruce Rodrigues)



**Fig. 2. Front view of Magnolia Warbler #1890-65086, 11 Jun 2000. (Photograph by Bruce Rodrigues)**

Upon initial examination in 2000, #1890-65086 appeared to be a male based on plumage alone (Pyle 1997, Hall 1994). Its plumage better matched that of a typical SY male as described by Pyle (1997). Underparts had bold black streaking, lores and auriculars were black, and the crown was bluish-gray (Figs. 1 & 2). Black centers of feathers on the upperparts were similar to those of a SY male and some ASY females (Pyle 1997: Fig 261F). Retrix 2 had a moderate amount of white, consistent with a SY male or ASY female (Pyle 1997: Fig 264B).

Based on Ontario nest records (Peck and James 1987), #1890-65086 probably hatched in Jun 1992. Following the arbitrary assumption of Klimkiewicz et al. (1983), however, I assume it hatched on or before 1 Jun 1992 and was at least 8 years and 0 months old when I recaptured it in 2000. This is 1 year and 1 month older than the currently accepted longevity record of 6 years 11 months for a Magnolia Warbler (Peterson 1971, Klimkiewicz 2002). Some brighter females have been known to resemble SY males (Curson et. al 1994). That this 8-year-old female had relatively bright plumage, similar to that of a SY male, indicates that such plumage may be characteristic of older female Magnolia Warblers.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

I thank the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources-Wildlife Assessment Program, the Thunder Cape Bird Observatory Committee of the Thunder Bay Field Naturalists, and Bird Studies Canada for

continued funding and administrative support of Thunder Cape Bird Observatory. I also thank David J. T. Hussell, Jon D. McCracken, Dr. Nick Escott, and Tina Newbury for reviewing a draft of this manuscript. This note is a contribution of Thunder Cape Bird Observatory.

#### **LITERATURE CITED**

- Curson, J., D. Quinn and D. Beadle. 1994. *Warblers of the Americas: an identification guide*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, MA.
- DeSante, D.F., K.M. Burton, P. Velez, and D. Froehlich. 2000. MAPS manual: 2000 protocol. The Institute for Bird Populations, Point Reyes Station, CA.
- Hall, G.A. 1994. Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*). In *The birds of North America*, No. 136 (A. Poole and F. Gill, Eds.). Acad. Natl. Sci., Philadelphia, PA, and Am. Ornithol. Union, Washington, DC.
- Hussell, D.J.T., D. Shepherd, G.E. Wallace, and J.D. McCracken. 1993. Supplementary address bands increase recovery rates. *N. Amer. Bird Bander* 18:133-141.
- Klimkiewicz, M.K. 2002. Longevity records of North American birds. Version 2002.1. Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. Bird Banding Laboratory, Laurel, MD.
- Klimkiewicz, M.K., B.P. Clapp, and A.G. Fitcher. 1983. Longevity records of North American birds: Remizidae through Parulinae. *J. of Field Ornith.* 54: 287-294.
- Peck, G.K. and R. D. James. 1987. *Breeding birds of Ontario-nidology and distribution*. Vol. 2. Passerines. Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto.
- Peterson, R.W. 1971. Warbler returns at Somerville, Maine. *Bird-Banding* 42:99-102.
- Pyle, P. 1997. *Identification guide to North American birds*, Part 1. Slate Creek Press. Bolinas, CA.

**Bruce Rodrigues**  
**Thunder Cape Bird Obs.**  
**c/o Sleeping Giant Provincial Park**  
**R.R. 1 Pass Lake, Ontario P0T 2M0**