6-1987

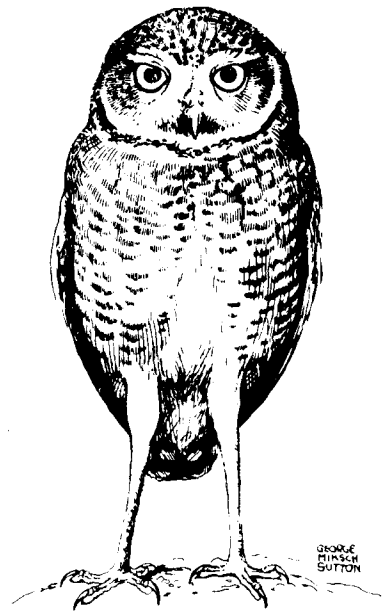
# Nebraska Bird Review June 1987 Volume 55 Number 2

ISSN 0028-1816

# The Nebraska Bird Review

## *A Magazine of Ornithology of the Nebraska Region*

Volume 55 June 1987 Number 2

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## NEBRASKA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION, INC.

Founded 1899

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Published quarterly in March, June, September, and December, by the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union Inc. as its official journal and sent to all members who are not in arrears for dues. Subscriptions (on a calendar year basis only) are $10.00 per year in the United States, $12.00 per year in Canada and Mexico, and $12.50 per year in all other countries, payable in advance. Single copies are $3.00 each, postpaid, in the United States; $3.50 elsewhere.

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| | 1 Sioux | 2 Scottsbluff | 3 Banner | 4 Kimball | 5 Dawes | 6 Box Butte | 7 Morrill | 8 Cheyenne | 9 Sheridan | 10 Garden | 11 Keith | 12 Chase | 13 Dundy | 14 Lincoln | 15 Hayes | 16 Hitchcock | 17 Frontier | 18 Red Willow | 19 Keya Paha | 20 Dawson | 21 Gosper | 22 Furnas | 23 Rock | 24 Kearney | 25 Hall | 26 Boone | 27 Merrick | 28 Hamilton | 29 Clay | 30 Nuckolls | 31 Platte | 32 Polk | 33 York |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pied-billed Grebe | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y |
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| Wood Duck | - | Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y | Y |
| Mallard | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Blue-winged Teal | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y |
| Northern Shoveler | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y |
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| Ferruginous Hawk | 17 | - | - | 5 | 2 | 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Golden Eagle | 4 | - | - | 1 | 3 | - | 1 | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Prairie Falcon | 7 | 1,N,F | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ring-n, Pheasant | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y |
| N. Bobwhite | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Piping Plover | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 3 | - | - |
| Killdeer | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N,Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| American Avocet | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N,E | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Spotted Sandpiper | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
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| Least Tern | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 8 | - | - | - | - | - | 6 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7 | 3 | - | - | 18 | - | - |
| Rock Dove | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Mourning Dove | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N,Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N,E | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Yellow-b. Cuckoo | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Common Barn-Owl | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 4 | 1 | 1 | 28,N | 1 | 2 | 48 | 14 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| E. Screech-Owl | - | - | - | - | - | Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Great Horned Owl | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Burrowing Owl | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Long-eared Owl | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - |
| Lewis' Woodpeck. | - | - | - | - | C,N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Red-head. Woodp. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

# 1986 NEBRASKA NESTING SURVEY

Compiled by Dr. Esther V. Bennett

Data on the 1986 nesting season in Nebraska were received from 20 observers and one organization, reporting on 67 species from 49 counties. Counties on the tabulation are listed in a west to east order, with the northernmost of the approximately equal locations given first. Numbers represent Nest Record Cards, A (for aliment) represents carrying food; B represents building nest; C represents copulating; E represents eggs; F represents feeding; M represents carrying nesting material; N represents nests observed for which no Nest Record Card was submitted; P represents brood patch; and Y represents young observed. Underlined numbers represent nests reported on Colonial Nesting Reports, and GPC in the following paragraph represents Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

Twenty species were reported on 202 North American Nest Record Cards, and 47 species were reported without cards, for a total of 67 species. The counties, with column numbers in the tabulation shown in parantheses, and the contributors are: Banner (3), A. M. Kenitz; Boone (26), Wayne Mollhoff; Box Butte (6), Doug Thomas; Butler (38), GPC; Cass (48), GPC, Ruth Green; Cedar (36), GPC; Chase (12), GPC, Iola Pennington; Cheyenne (8), GPC; Clay (29), GPC; Dawes (5), Mark Brogie, Bill Huser; Dawson (20), GPC; Dixon (41), GPC; Dodge (42), GPC; Douglas (46), Charles Burnett, R. G. Cortelyou, GPC, Helen MacAnally, Alice Rushton; Dundy (13), GPC; Fillmore (34), GPC; Frontier (17), GPC; Furnas (22), GPC; Garden (10), Ruth Green; Gosper (21), GPC; Hall (25), Bill Lemberg; Hamilton (28), GPC; Hayes (15),

| | Fillmore 34 | Thayer 35 | Cedar 36 | Stanton 37 | Butler 38 | Seward 39 | Saline 40 | Dixon 41 | Dodge 42 | Saunders 43 | Lancaster 44 | Washington 45 | Douglas 46 | Sarpy 47 | Cass 48 | Richardson 49 | Total Nest Cards |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pied-billed Grebe | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Great Blue Heron | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 180/50 |
| B-c. Night-Heron | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Canada Goose | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Wood Duck | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y | - | - | - | Y | - | - | 3 |
| Mallard | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Blue-winged Teal | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Northern Shoveler | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Northern Harrier | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Red-tailed Hawk | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | 6 |
| Ferruginous Hawk | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 30 |
| Golden Eagle | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 12 |
| Prairie Falcon | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 9 |
| Ring-n. Pheasant | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Northern Bobwhite | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Piping Plover | - | - | 13 | 3 | 6 | - | - | 9 | 1 | 12 | - | - | 8 | - | 2 | - | 63 |
| Killdeer | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| American Avocet | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Spotted Sandpiper | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Upland Sandpiper | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | Y | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Common Snipe | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Wilson's Phalarope | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Least Tern | - | - | 19 | - | 43 | - | - | 45 | 3 | 58 | - | - | 20 | - | 10 | - | 237 |
| Rock Dove | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Mourning Dove | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | M | - | - | - | 3 |
| Yellow-b. Cuckoo | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Common Barn-Owl | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | 111 |
| E. Screech-Owl | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Great Horned Owl | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | N,E | 1 | 3 |
| Burrowing Owl | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Long-eared Owl | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Lewis' Woodpecker | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Red-head. Woodp. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y | - | - | Y | - | - | - | - |

| | Sioux 1 | Scottsbluff 2 | Banner 3 | Kimball 4 | Dawes 5 | Box Butte 6 | Morrill 7 | Cheyenne 8 | Sheridan 9 | Garden 10 | Keith 11 | Chase 12 | Dundy 13 | Lincoln 14 | Hayes 15 | Hitchcock 16 | Frontier 17 | Red Willow 18 | Keya Paha 19 | Dawson 20 | Gosper 21 | Furnas 22 | Rock 23 | Kearney 24 | Hall 25 | Boone 26 | Merrick 27 | Hamilton 28 | Clay 29 | Nuckolls 30 | Platte 31 | Polk 32 | York 33 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Downy Woodpeck. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Northern Flicker | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Eastern Phoebe | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Say's Phoebe | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N,Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | A,F |
| Cassin's Kingbird | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | M | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Western Kingbird | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N,Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Eastern Kingbird | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N | N | - |
| Purple Martin | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Tree Swallow | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Bank Swallow | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N |
| Cliff Swallow | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - |
| Blue Jay | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Black-b. Magpie | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N,Y | - | - | - | - |
| B-c. Chickadee | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| House Wren | - | F | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Eastern Bluebird | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Mount. Bluebird | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| American Robin | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cedar Waxwing | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Solitary Vireo | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Yellow-thr. Vireo | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Tennessee Warb. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | P | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Northern Parula | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Yellow Warbler | - | B | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| American Redstart | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Prothonotary W. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Northern Cardinal | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Blue Grosbeak | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N,Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Chipping Sparrow | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| McCown's Longsp. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| W. Meadowlark | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | A,Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Common Grackle | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Orchard Oriole | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Northern Oriole | - | B | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Y | - |

GPC; Hitchcock (16), GPC; Kearney (24), Harold Turner; Keith (11), GPC; Keya Paha (19), GPC; Kimball (4), Mark Brogie, Bill Huser; Lancaster (44), K. F. Dinan, GPC, Bill Garthright; Lincoln (14), GPC, Ruth Green, Lee Morris; Merrick (27), GPC, Wayne Mollhoff; Morrill (7), GPC; Nuckolls (30), Bill Garthright; Polk (32), Norris Alfred; Platte (31), GPC; Red Willow (18), GPC; Richardson (49), GPC; Rock (23), Eldon Marsh; Saline (40), GPC; Sarpy (47), Russell Benedict, Ruth Green; Saunders (43), R. G. Cortelyou, GPC, Alice Rushton; Scotts Bluff (2), Mark Brogie, Bill Huser, A. M. Kenitz; Seward (39), GPC; Sheridan (9), Mark Brogie, Bill Huser; Sioux (1), Mark Brogie, GPC, Bill Huser; Stanton (37), GPC; Thayer (35), GPC; Washington (45), Ruth Green, Rick Wright; and York (33), Norris Alfred, Lee Morris.

Game and Parks Commission employees and aides contributed 192 Nest Record Cards and recorded 533 nests of four species on Colonial Bird Register forms. These individuals are: Frank E. Andelt, John Dinan, Joe Gabanyi, K. L. Gottschalk, Bob Linderholm, Jim M. Mitchell, T. W. Proctor, R. G. Stutheit, John Sweet, Curt Twedt, W. T. White, and Greg Wingfield.

The following 22 Nebraska species which were reported in 1986 were not reported in the 1985 Nesting Survey (*NBR* 54:31): Great Blue Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Northern Bobwhite, Spotted Sandpiper, Rock Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Screech-Owl, Lewis' Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Cassin's Kingbird, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Mountain Bluebird, Solitary Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Tennessee Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, and Prothonotary Warbler.

Forty species reported in the 1985 survey were not reported in 1986: Least Bittern, Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, Green-backed Heron, Cinnamon Teal, Common Moorhen, American Coot, Black-necked Stilt, Long-billed Curlew,

| | Fillmore | 34 | Thayer | 35 | Cedar | 36 | Stanton | 37 | Butler | 38 | Seward | 39 | Saline | 40 | Dixon | 41 | Dodge | 42 | Saunders | 43 | Lancaster | 44 | Washington | 45 | Douglas | 46 | Sarpy | 47 | Cass | 48 | Richardson | 49 | Total Nest Cards |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Downy Woodpecker | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Northern Flicker | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Eastern Phoebe | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | N | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Say's Phoebe | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | 1 | |
| Cassin's Kingbird | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Western Kingbird | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | 1 | |
| Eastern Kingbird | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Purple Martin | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | N,Y | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Tree Swallow | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | 1 | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | N | - | | - | | - | | 1 | |
| Bank Swallow | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | N,Y | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Cliff Swallow | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Blue Jay | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | Y | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Black-bill. Magpie | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| B-c. Chickadee | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | 1 | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | 1 | |
| House Wren | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | N,Y | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Eastern Bluebird | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | 8 | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | | - | | - | | 9 | |
| Mountain Bluebird | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | | - | | - | | 1 | |
| American Robin | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | Y | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Cedar Waxwing | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Solitary Vireo | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| Yellow-thr. Vireo | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | N,P | - | | - | | - | |
| Tennessee Warbler | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | | - | |
| Northern Parula | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | F,Y | - | | - | | - | |
| Yellow Warbler | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | | - | |
| American Redstart | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | | - | |
| Prothonotary Warb. | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | F,Y | - | | - | | - | |
| Northern Cardinal | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | | - | |
| Blue Grosbeak | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | | - | |
| Chipping Sparrow | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | F | - | - | - | | - | | - | |
| McCown's Longsp. | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | | - | |
| W. Meadowlark | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | | - | |
| Common Grackle | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | | - | |
| Orchard Oriole | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | | - | |
| Northern Oriole | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - | - | - | - | | - | | - | |

| | Fillmore | Thayer | Cedar | Stanton | Butler | Seward | Saline | Dixon | Dodge | Saunders | Lancaster | Washington | Douglas | Sarpy | Cass | Richardson | Total Nest Cards |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nest Cards | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Individuals | 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 | 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 | 49 | |
| Species | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 12 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 67 |
| Colonial Cards | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Individuals | - | - | 32/2 | 3/1 | 49/2 | - | - | 54/2 | 4/2 | 70/2 | - | - | 28/2 | - | 12/2 | - | 533/4 |
| Species | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| No Nest Cards | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 4 | 1 | - | 43 |
| Total Species | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 12 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 67 |

| | Sioux | Scottsbluff | Banner | Kimball | Dawes | Box Butte | Morrill | Cheyenne | Sheridan | Garden | Keith | Chase | Dundy | Lincoln | Hayes | Hitchcock | Frontier | Red Willow | Keya Paha | Dawson | Gosper | Furnas | Rock | Kearney | Hall | Boone | Merrick | Hamilton | Clay | Nuckolls | Platte | Polk | York |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nest Cards | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Individuals | 28 | 9 | - | 6 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 1 | - | 4 | 1 | 1 | 29 | 1 | 2 | 48 | 14 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| Species | 3 | 7 | - | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| Colonial Cards | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Individuals | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 16/2 | - | - | 60/3 | - | - | - | - | 31/1 | 141/3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 8/2 | 4/2 | - | - | 21/2 | - | - | - |
| Species | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| No Nest Cards | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 15 | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | 4 | 8 |
| Total Species | 6 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 16 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 |

American Woodcock, Hairy Woodpecker, Western Wood-Pewee, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Horned Lark, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, American Crow, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Rock Wren, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Loggerhead Shrike, European Starling, Red-eyed Vireo, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Summer Tanager, Lazuli Bunting, Dickcissel, Rufous-sided Towhee, Lark Sparrow, Lark Bunting, Grasshopper Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Bobolink, Red-winged Blackbird, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Great-tailed Grackle, House Finch, and Pine Siskin.

Anyone who sees evidence of nesting, young, or adult birds carrying nesting material, food, or fecal sacs, can submit the information without the use of a special form. The information should be easily separated by species and county. This information will be included in the Nebraska Nesting Survey by letters rather than numbers.

Anyone who has found, or ex-

pects to find, an active nest is invited to request Nest Record Cards to use in reporting the nest. Each nest requires a separate card, except for colonial nesting species, which require either a separate card for each visit to the site or the use of Colonial Bird Register forms.

Send your Nest Record Card requests and completed cards to Dr. Esther V. Bennett, 1641 Devoe Drive, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68506.

## THE EIGHTY-SIXTH (1987) ANNUAL MEETING

The eighty-sixth Annual Meeting was held in Valentine 15, 16, and 17 May, 1987, in conjunction with the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union. A previous joint meeting was held in Yankton, S.D. in 1959. Total attendance at some part of this meeting was 116; 6 who were members of both societies, 57 members of NOU only, 39 members of SDOU only, and 14 nonmembers. Friday night George Vandel, of the SD Game, Fish, and Parks Commission, spoke on the program, sponsored by the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, for the identification and preservation of shorebird habitat. At the NOU Annual Meeting, Saturday afternoon, Thomas Labedz. Lincoln, was elected President; Ray Korpi, Bellevue, Vice-president; Mrs. Ruth Green, Bellevue, Secretary; Mrs. Alice Kenitz, Gering, Treasurer; Dr. Neva Pruess, Lincon, Librarian; and R. G. Cortelyou, Omaha, Editor. Certificates of appreciation were given to Mrs. Lona Shafer, the retiring Treasurer, for five years in that position, and, in absentia, to Gary Lingle, retiring President, for two years as Vice-president and three years as President. He was in China attending the International Crane Workshop. It was announced that the 1987 Fall Field Day will be at Halsey 3 and 4 October. The invitation of the Wildcat Audubon Society to hold the 1988 Annual Meeting in Scottsbluff/Gering was accepted. After the meeting Wayne Mollhoff reported on the status of the bird atlas project. At the banquet that evening Dr. Diana Tomback, of University of Colorado at Denver, spoke on "Clark's Nutcracker, Landscape Architect of the Subalpine".

Saturday and Sunday mornings were available for birding, and for the first time in the recollection of the editor, there was a serious accident while birding at a meeting: Dr. Mildred Gross broke her leg just above the ankle while at the Ft. Niobrara NWR. Fortunately, the break could be treated so that she was able to go home that afternoon. There were four organized field trips: Lacreek NWR, in S.D. northwest of Valentine; Ft. Niobrara and Valentine Refuges, both in Cherry Co.; and the Niobrara Valley preserve of The Nature Conservancy. The road used for this trip is on the north side of the Niobrara, in Keya Paha Co., but in a couple of places bridges allowed access to Brown Co., south of the river. Saturday was hot and very windy, Sunday was cooler and less windy. A short shower came up while the count was being compiled. The official count extended from noon Friday to noon Sunday, and was resticted to Brown, Cherry, and Keya Paha counties in Nebraska, and Lacreek NWR and those parts of South Dakota immediately adjacent to Cherry and Keya Paha counties. A total of 157 species was recorded, 148 were recorded from Nebraska: 142 from Cherry Co. (marked c), 56 from Keya Paha (k), 45 from Brown Co. (b); and 99 from South Dakota (d). On her way home Sunday afternoon Mrs. Alice Kenitz saw a Ferruginous Hawk in Cherry Co., too late to be included in the count. The individual species are: Common Loon c; Pied-billed c d, Eared c d, Western c d, and Clark's c Grebes; American White Pelican c k d, Double-crested Cormorant c d, American Bittern c d, Great Blue Heron c k b d; Great c and Cattle c Egrets; Green-backed Heron c, Black-crowned Night-Heron c d, Trumpeter Swan c d, Canada Goose c k d, Wood Duck c k b d, Green-winged Teal d, Mallard c k b d, Northern Pintail c d, Blue-winged Teal c k b d, Northern Shoveler c d, Gadwall c d, American Wigeon d, Canvasback c d, Redhead c d, Ring-necked Duck d, Lesser Scaup c, Common Merganser c, Ruddy Duck c d, Turkey Vulture c k b d, Mississippi Kite c, Bald Eagle k, Northern Harrier c d; Sharp-shinned c k b, Cooper's c, Swainson's c d, and Red-tailed c k b d Hawks; American Kestrel c k d, Merlin d, Ring-necked Pheasant c d, Greater Prairie-Chicken c, Sharp-tailed Grouse c k d, Wild Turkey c k, Virginia Rail c, Sora c, American Coot c d, Black-bellied Plover c, Killdeer c k b d, Black-necked Stilt c, American Avocet c d, Lesser Yellowlegs c, Willet c d; Spotted c k b d and Upland c

k d Sandpipers; Long-billed Curlew c d; Hudsonian c and Marbled d Godwits; Sanderling c; Semipalmated c, Least c, White-rumped c, Baird's c d, and Stilt c Sandpipers; Common Snipe c, Wilson's Phalarope c d; Franklin's c and Ring-billed c d Gulls; Forster's c d and Black c d Terns; Rock c d and Mourning c k b d Doves; Yellow-billed Cuckoo c k, Eastern Screech-Owl c; Great Horned c d and Burrowing c k d Owls; Common Nighthawk c, Common Poorwill c; Chimney c d and White-throated c Swifts; Belted Kingfisher c k d; Red-headed c k d, Downy c b d, and Hairy c k d Woodpeckers; Northern Flicker c b d, Eastern Wood-Pewee k b, Least Flycatcher c k d; Eastern d and Say's d Phoebes; Great Crested Flycatcher c k b d; Western c k b d and Eastern c k b d Kingbirds; Horned Lark c k b d; Tree c b, Northern Rough-winged c k d, Bank c d, Cliff c d, and Barn c k b d Swallows; Blue Jay c k b d, Black-billed Magpie c b d, American Crow c k b d, Black-capped Chickadee c k b d, White-breasted Nuthatch c k d; House c k b d, Sedge c, and Marsh c d Wrens; Eastern Bluebird c k b d, Veery c, American Robin c k b d, Gray Catbird c b d, Northern Mockingbird c, Brown Thrasher c k b d, Water Pipit d, Loggerhead Shrike c d, European Starling c k b d; Bell's c d, Warbling c k b d, and Red-eyed c k b d Vireos; Tennessee c, Yellow c d, Blackburnian c, Bay-breasted c, Blackpoll c, and Black-and-white c k Warblers; American Redstart c k b d, Ovenbird c k d, Common Yellowthroat c k b d, Yellow-breasted Chat c k b d, Scarlet Tanager c d, Northern Cardinal c k; Black-headed c k d and Blue c Grosbeaks; Lazuli c and Indigo c k d Buntings; Dickcissel c, Rufous-sided Towhee c k b d; Chipping c d, Clay-colored c k d, Field c b, Vesper k d, and Lark c k b d Sparrows; Lark Bunting c b d; Savannah d and Grasshopper c k b d Sparrows; Bobolink c d, Red-winged Blackbird c b d; Eastern c d and Western c k b d Meadowlarks; Yellow-headed c d and Brewer's c Blackbirds; Common Grackle c k b d, Brown-headed Cowbird c b d; Orchard c k b d and Northern c k b d Orioles; Red Crossbill c, Pine Siskin c d, American Goldfinch c k b d, and House Sparrow c.

A Mallard's nest found at Lacreek had been parasitized, probably by another duck species.

## INSECTS IN SOME NEBRASKA CROPS AS FOOD FOR PHEASANT CHICKS

ABSTRACT. Insect biomass was estimated for crops grown on an organic, a dryland, and an irrigated farm from 1 June to 15 July, the time period assumed important for Ring-necked Pheasant *(Phasianus colchicus)* nesting and chick dependence on insect food. Differences due to farming system were not detected. Total insect biomass production during the season was 2,555, 2,173, and 338 mg per square m for oats-sweetclover, oats, and sweetclover, respectively. Leafhoppers were the most abundant insects in oats and oats-sweetclover, with plant bugs the most abundant in sweetclover. Mean standing crop biomass (mg per square m) of only those insects acceptable as food for chicks was oats-sweetclover (509), oats (413), sweetclover (397), wheat (247), alfalfa (163), soybeans (46), and corn (38). Oats-sweetclover and oats were the only crops providing both nesting habitat and insect food for Pheasant chicks.

Insects are essential as food for Ring-necked Pheasant chicks. It is generally believed that oats *(Avena sativa)* or oats-sweetclover *(Melilotus officinalis)* provide adequate amounts of insects (Warner 1984) but few quantitative data are available. Whitmore et al. (1986) confirmed that these crops support many insects eaten by chicks.

Intensive agriculture, with use of commercial fertilizers, has resulted in a decline in the area planted to oats-sweetclover. Warner et al. (1984) associated the declining Pheasant population in Illinois with the trend toward monoculture in farming. The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission sponsors a habitat program in which farmers and ranchers receive payment for growing oats-sweetclover for a 2-year period. Sweetclover is interseeded in oats the first year and harvest of the oats crop is permitted. Sweetclover and oats stubble provide habitat during the second year. To evaluate this program, we determined the insect biomass available to Pheasant chicks in crops grown in three farming systems.

### METHODS

Study sites included a 307-ha farm which had been organically farmed for 17 years, representing a diversified management system; an adjacent 129-ha

conventional dryland farm; and a 129-ha irrigated farm. All farms were near Valley, Nebraska. Crops grown on the organic farm included corn, soybeans, alfalfa, wheat, and oats-sweetclover. Corn and soybeans were grown on the dryland farm, but only continuous corn was grown on the irrigated farm. In addition, second-year sweetclover was sampled on public land near Valparaiso, Nebraska, 50 km SW of Valley.

Both insect standing crop biomass and insect biomass production were estimated for oats-sweetclover (1979), oats (1980), and sweetclover (1980). Six samples on each date for each crop were taken at 2-week intervals from May until after oats harvest. Oats and oats-sweetclover were sampled by randomly dropping a round metal frame (0.5 square m area) over the area to be sampled. This frame had a plastic screen top closed by a drawstring. A gasoline-powered suction device was used to remove insects from the enclosed area. Six linear samples, each 6 m long, were taken with the suction sampler from sweetclover where plant height prevented use of the enclosed frame. These samples were converted to square m using the calibration method of Pruess and Whitmore (1976).

Insects were killed and partially separated by using U.S.A. standard testing sieves (Whitmore et al. 1986). Mean weights of individual insects were estimated from known numbers of individuals from each species and size. Samples were oven-dried at 70°C for 24 hours, transferred to a desiccator for 24 hours, and weighed to nearest 0.01 mg.

Adults of above-ground herbivorous insects (Homoptera, Hemiptera, and Lepidoptera), with corresponding immature stages, were separated by species for calculation of biomass production. Two groups of predators, lady beetles (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) and nabids (Hemiptera: Nabidae) were also separated for production estimates.

Biomass production estimates were calculated using the average cohort method (Benke and Waide 1977). Mean weights and numbers of each size class were used to estimate production as the sum of all insect biomass which died at any stage of development. Generation time for each species was estimated from the size-frequency distribution of growth stages over time. Because adult insects in many cases weighed more than the final immature stage, they were included as a cohort after immatures of that species became adult. Adults appearing early in the season, prior to the presence of full-grown immatures, were considered to be immigrants and included only in standing crop biomass.

Only standing crop biomass was estimated for other crops. Alfalfa and wheat were sampled with the enclosed frame described above. Corn and soybeans were sampled using the linear method., We did not achieve true replication, but subsample variation and variation between sample dates were considered in drawing conclusions. Whitmore et al. (1986) found that young Pheasants fed almost exclusively on insects greater than 3 mm length (those retained by screen sizes 12-16) and, for interpretive purposes, we report standing crops of only these larger insects.

## RESULTS

Insects smaller than size 16, although abundant, contributed little to standing crop biomass but did contribute to total biomass production. Mean standing crop of insects not considered in biomass production ("other insects", Table 1) contributed as much or more biomass as did those species for which production estimates could be made.

Homoptera (leafhoppers and planthoppers) and Hemiptera (plant bugs) were the main source of insect biomass production in oats and oats-sweetclover (94% and 95% of total production, respectively). Plant bugs comprised 59% and aphids 36% of total insect production in sweetclover.

No differences in standing crops, or species present, were observed in soybeans (organic vs. dryland) or corn (organic vs. dryland vs. irrigated) and data were pooled to show means for the crops sampled (Fig. 1). Oats-sweetclover and oats had the highest mean insect standing crops during the time period we considered important (1 June to 15 July).

Seasonal changes in standing crop for oats, oats-sweetclover, and sweetclover are shown in Fig. 2. Highest standing crops occurred during the period of peak chick hatch (1 June to 20 June). Insect standing crop in sweetclover declined beginning about 1 July, when chicks would still be highly dependent on insect food. Standing crops remained high in oats and oats-sweetclover until oats harvest (about 15 July).

Table 1. Mean insect standing crop and biomass production (mg per square m) of insects in oats (O), oats-sweetclover (OS), and second-year sweetclover (S2). Only insects more than 3 mm length are included in standing crop estimates.

| Insect Group | Standing crop | | | Production | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | O | OS | S2 | O | OS | S2 |
| Homoptera | | | | | | |
| Leafhoppers (Cicadellidae) | | | | | | |
| *Endria inimica* | 46 | 24 | - | 762 | 322 | - |
| *Draeculacephala* sp. | 67 | 67 | - | 942 | 1,111 | - |
| other leafhoppers | 22 | 43 | - | 153 | 421 | - |
| Planthoppers (Delphacidae) | | | | | | |
| *Delphacodes* sp. | 25 | 29 | - | 186 | 232 | - |
| Aphids (Aphididae) | - | 4 | 6 | - | 112 | - |
| Hemiptera | | | | | | |
| Plant bugs (Miridae) | 7 | 10 | 37 | 75 | 100 | 201 |
| Nabids (Nabidae) | 8 | 13 | - | 51 | 206 | - |
| Lepidoptera | - | 1 | - | - | 21 | - |
| Coleoptera | | | | | | |
| Lady beetles (Coccinellidae) | 2 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 29 | 15 |
| Other insects * | 221 | 213 | 218 | - | - | - |
| Total | 399 | 415 | 267 | 2,173 | 2,555 | 338 |

* Includes adults of above species prior to production of first generation.

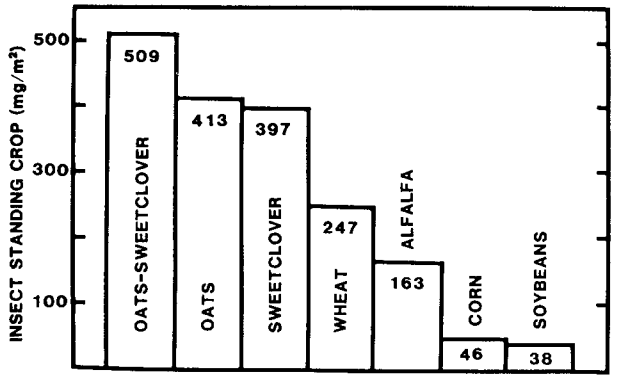


Fig. 1 Mean standing crop biomass (mg per square m) for size class 12-16 (more than 3 mm length) insects from crops sampled 1 June to 15 July.

## DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Size and stability of standing crop are probably adequate measures of an insect food resource for Pheasant chicks. Oats and oats-sweetclover, although sampled in different years, supported essentially the same insects. In Nebraska, during the first season, oats-sweetclover does not appear to be a more diverse habitat that oats alone Prior to oats harvest, sweetclover comprised less than 5% of vegetative biomass in oats-sweetclover. The most abundant insects in both crops were several leafhopper species that have a broad grass host range, excellent dispersal capabilities, high reproductive potential, and relatively long lives as adults. Whitmore et al. (1986) found these leafhoppers to be readily accepted as food by Pheasant chicks. Following oats harvest, there was a long period when all vegetation, and insects, were sparse. This occurs sufficiently late in the season that chicks would either no longer be dependent on insect food or would have sufficient nobility to move to other habitats. Oats stubble would still provide both protective cover and grain as food.

The sweetclover field observed in this study, although harboring considerable insect biomass, contained primarily insects which live in the canopy (more than 1 m) and thus would be unavailable to small chicks. Declining biomass

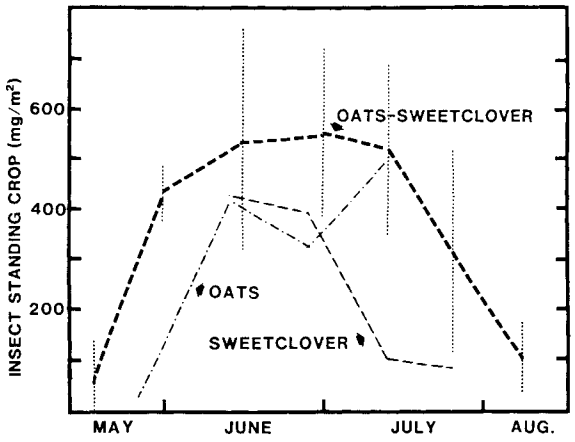


Fig. 2 Seasonal changes in insect standing crop biomass (mg per square m) for oats-sweetclover, oats, and sweetclover. Vertical lines are standard errors for oats-sweetclover estimates.

after 1 July was the result of crop drying after seed set and drought conditions that prevented new growth. However, sweetclover in combination with other vegetation, might provide excellent habitat. In our experience, alfalfa often harbors greater insect densities than found in the field sampled. But removal of the first cutting both diminishes the insect food resources as well as posing physical threat to chicks.

Winter wheat provided relatively high insect biomass early in the season, but standing crop began to decrease about 15 June as wheat began to head. Late-planted row crops such as corn and soybeans are obviously unsuited to nesting as well as lacking an insect food resource early in the season.

Insecticides were not a factor in this study. A soil insecticide for corn rootworm control was used only on the irrigated farm. This treatment, applied to a habitat unsuitable for nesting, had no measurable effect on above-ground insects. Statistical correlations sometimes found between pesticide use and wildlife decline (Warner et al. 1984), in the absence of direct evidence of wildlife mortaility, may be due to the high intercorrelation of pesticide use with monocultures. If pesticides should prove a contributing factor in Pheasant decline, then oats or oats-sweetclover might provide refuge in modern agricultural systems. Most insects found in oats feed by sucking without causing visible plant damage and insecticides are rarely applied.

The greatest value we can assign to organic farming is the inclusion of oats-sweetclover as an important component of that system. If only insect food were limiting to Pheasant production, then oats alone would appear equal to oats-sweetclover and a 1-year rather than a 2-year, program might encourage additional participation. Oats stubble would need to be left over winter, providing both grain and limited cover. The extent to which availability of insect food limits utilization of otherwise favorable habitats is still unknown. Wildlife biologists, however, seem in general agreement on other attributes of good nesting cover for Pheasants. The present 2-year program assures continuity of habitat over a longer time span, provides better residual cover during the second year, and probably has an adequate insect food resource.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study was partially supported by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. This report is published as Journal paper no. 7711, Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station

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## A RED-NAPED SAPSUCKER IN SIOUX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

The Red-naped Sapsucker *(Sphyrapicus nuchalis)* has recently been recognized as a valid species (American Ornithologists' Union, 1985). Its inclusion in the avifauna of Nebraska is based on three birds, all taken in September in the northwestern corner of the state during the years 1919 and 1920 (Bray et al. 1986). Bray et al. (1985) give detailed accounts of these specimens and present an over-view of the species in Nebraska. The following, along with being the first spring record of the species in Nebraska, represents the first verified occurrence of this species in the state since 1920.

On the afternoon of 17 April 1987 we found an adult male-plumaged Red-naped Sapsucker inhabiting the ponderosa pine *(Pinus ponderosa)* forest along the upper reaches of Sowbelly Canyon, Sioux Co. The bird was first seen in flight, and exhibited a red crown, white wing patches, and a black and white back. When the bird came to rest at a distance of about 15 yards we could easily see the white and black face pattern, red throat with black below, and narrow longitudinal white wing stripe. The bird had a notable white V extending up the back, originating from a conspicuous white rump patch. The sides of the bird were somewhat barred, while the breast appeared unstreaked and had a faint yellowish wash. When the bird turned its head it displayed a red nape, which is the primary characteristic that separates this species from the congeneric Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *(Sphyrapicus varius)* with which it had previously been lumped.

The bird was easily approached as it foraged among the pines. It seemed to favor one particular group of trees, and upon closer inspection a "sap well" was found in an approximate eight-inch (diameter at breast height) 40-foot tall ponderosa pine. The "sap well" was located at a height of about nine feet above ground level, and consisted of two parallel rows of small holes that had been freshly drilled. We watched the bird for approximately 45 minutes, and on three occasions saw it fly to the "sap tree" above the "sap well" and then back itself down to the feeding area.

Identifiable photographs are in the possession of the authors and others have been sent to the Nebraska Records Committee. Unfortunately, none of the photographs seemed likely to produce a usable black-and-white reproduction for the Review.

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--- *Mark A. and Ellen L. Brogie, Box 316, Creighton, Neb. 6871*

## BLACK RAIL IN KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

The Black Rail *(Laterallus jamaicensis)* is apparently an extremely rare spring and fall migrant in Nebraska (Johnsgard, 1980). No breeding evidence for this species exists for the state, although several field guides show Nebraska at the northern edge of this rail's breeding range. A description of a Black Rail seen 22 April 1980 in Lancaster Co. (*NBR* 48:88 is the only accepted record (Class III) of this species in the state (Bray et al., 1986). Whitney et al., 1978) makes no mention of this species for South Dakota, although Iowa has

several records, two of which suggest the possibility of nesting (Dinsmore et al., 1984). A tape-recording of calls from the below mentioned bird represents the first positive proof occurrence of a Black Rail in Nebraska.

On the night of 25 May 1986 we heard a Black Rail calling from a wet meadow ($S\frac{1}{2}SW\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 2, T31N, R7W) in Knox Co. The "kik-kee-do" call was repeated in approximately three to six second intervals. We were in posession of a tape of this species' vocalizations (National Geographic Society - *Guide to Bird Sounds*) and tried to attract the bird by playing a redition of its calls. Although the bird was constantly calling and moving back and forth along a small waterway, we were not succesful in attracting the bird closer than an approximately 50-yard distance. A tape-recording of the Rail's vocalizations was made and a copy will be turned over to the Records Committee. Although the quality of the tape is poor, the Rail's calls are discernable on good audio equipment. We listened to the Rail for about 45 minutes and when we left at approximately 10:30 PM it was still calling. We returned the next night, and again several nights later, but on both nights we were unable to hear or find the bird.

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## MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER IN CEDAR COUNTY, NEBRASKA

MacGillivray's Warbler *(Oporornis tolmiei)* is considered by Johnsgard (1980) to be a rare spring and fall migrant in western Nebraska, with most records from the Panhandle, but reported from as far east as Platte Co. Bray et al (1986) consider it regular and cite a specimen taken in Boone Co., Whatever the status, this warbler is infrequently encountered in Nebraska, and separating this species from Mourning Warbler *(Oporornis philadelphia)* can often be difficult. Some authorities believe the two to be conspecific, although Hall (1979) found very few hybrid specimens and Salt (1973) found that they did not respond to the playback of each other's song in the suggested overlap zone in Alberta (Roberson 1980).

*-- Ed M. Brogie photo*

It is the authors' opinion that for any record of a MacGillivray's Warbler in central and eastern Nebraska to be entirely convincing the bird should have in-hand data taken on it or extremely well documentation of multiple field marks, which must include tail length in reference to the body. Reasons are as follows: MacGillivray's Warblers are characterised by having a broken eyering, although both male and female, adult and immature, Mouring Warblers may have incomplete eyerings (Wood and Beimborm 1981); while MacGillivray's have black lores and most Mournings have gray lores, some populatons of Mourning Warblers are black lored (Robertson 1980). The above mentioned characteristics are not fully explained in any of the major field guides, although they do state that separation and field identification of immatures of these species is often very difficult or next to impossible.

The key factor in differentiating these two warblers in-hand is tail and wing length. Lanyon and Bull (1967) and Wood and Beimborm (1980) say to separate these species by using the following measurements (in millimeters)

of tail and flattened wing length:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lanyon and Bull data | Mourning | Wing | Tail | Wing minus tail |
| | Male | 58-67 | 45-53 | 10-18 |
| | Female | 55-64 | 43-52 | 10-15 |
| | MacGillivray's | | | |
| | Male | 57-65 | 49-63 | 2-10 |
| | Female | 55-62 | 47-58 | 2-10 |
| Wood and Beimborm | Mourning | 57-67 | 42-53 | 10-18 |
| | MacGillivray's | 55-65 | 47-63 | 2-10 |

The following is the easternmost occurrence of MacGillivray's Warbler in Nebraska and the first record of this species for the northeastern part of the state.

On 20 May 1986 we trapped and banded a male MacGillivray's Warbler in Cedar Co., Nebraska, 3 miles west of Laurel. The Warbler was banded by David Stage (Master Permit # 21582) and given the band # 1740-01031, The bird was characterized by having white crescents above and below the eye and black lores on a gray head. The throat was also gray, with a thin black area at its base which sharply contrasted with the bird's yellow breast.

As stated previously, these characteristics can fit both Morning and MacGillivray's Warblers. However, this Cedar Co. bird had a wing length of 58.5 mm and a tail length of 61.0 mm. The tail and the wing minus tail measurements are clearly outside the range for Mourning Warbler and clearly confirm the species as being a MacGillivray's Warbler. The bird was held overnight and photographed before being released the next morning.

Two days later, on 22 May, Ed M. Brogie, Paul Pearson, and the authors were successful in observing the MacGillivray's Warbler in the same hedgerow from which it was captured. By taking turns of crawling into the dense hedge and having the others "drive" the bird past we all were able to get good views of this secretive warbler. Ed, at one point, had the bird less than one foot away at eye level. It was looked for the next day, but was not seen again.

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*David A. Stage, Box 354, Laurel, Neb. 68745*

Addendum: Observation of two additional *Oporornis* warblers in Cedar Co.

On 22 May, within 20 minutes of observing the MacGillivray's Warbler, the four of us also found a female Connecticut Warbler *(Oporornis agilis)* and a male Mourning Warbler. The Connecticut exhibited the characteristic eyering of the species, had a grayish head with a lighter colored throat, yellow undertail coverts, and noticeably large feet which it used to walk rather than hop. The male Mourning lacked an eyering, had a dark gray head and throat, with a black bib which contrasted sharply with the yellow breast. It also showed yellow undertail coverts as it hopped above us while feeding.

## NOTES

PELICAN WITH SANDHILL CRANES. On 17 October 1986, about 1:30 PM, I took a call from Mrs. Darrol Sukraw from Stapleton, who reported a

flock of Sandhill Cranes (approximately 100 birds) that contained a single Whooping Crane. After questioning her about the description of the white bird, I felt her observation might be valid and asked her which direction the birds were traveling.

She informed me that the flock had just passed over Stapleton and was flying dirctly south down highway 83, toward North Platte. This is a distance of about 30 miles. Hoping that I could verify the Whooping Crane sighting, I finished a project on my desk and drove across town to the north side of North Platte. As I crossed the North Platte River I observed a large flock of Sandhill Cranes riding the thermals over highway 83 and slowly moving south. The flock was flying at an altitude of approximately 1,000 to 1,500 feet, but a single white bird stood out vividly from the rest of the flock. I radioed back to the North Platte office that I had located the flock with the single white bird, and it appeared to be a Whooping Crane..

I had no binoculars, but the snow white color of the bird's body and the black wing tips were very apparent, even at the high altitude. It was impossible to see the bird's legs or the shape of its neck, but it did seem to be larger that then the Sandhill Cranes in the flock. The white bird flew in perfect unison with the others of the flock. When they would glide, it would glide. When they rode the thermals over the river and soared, it would soar. And when they would line out and fly south, it too would fall into formation and fly with the flock.

Since I did not have binoculars to make a positive identification I radioed conservation officer Dwight Allbery, who was working south of town. I told him the birds were starting to pass over town, and I was afraid that I would lose them in the process. I did lose sight of the flock, and started looking for them on the south side of town. I finally found the flock near Lake Maloney. They were headed southwesterly. I again radioed Allbery, who caught up with me and the flock. We put his spotting scope on the white bird, which was now flying in about 12 birds from the end of the line. It was a White Pelican, and we last observed it, still in formation, flying south with the Sandhill Cranes at about 1,500 feet altitude.

--- *Rocky Hoffman, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Route 4, Box 36, North Platte Neb. 69101*

SNOWY EGRET IN DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA. On 31 May 1987 Ed M. Brogie, Ellen Brogie, Jim Landon, and I observed a Snowy Egret *(Egretta thula)* in Dakota Co. on a small pond along the north side of Highway 20, immediately west of the Missouri River bridge.

The bird was in the company of two Great Egrets *(Casmerodius albus)* and its smaller size, black bill, black legs with bright yellow feet were clearly noted.

--- *Mark A. Brogie, Box 316, Creighton, Neb. 68729*

MINDEN NOTES About 10 May my brother Elwin, who lives in Adams Co., near Holstein, heard a clicking noise as his dog stalked something in the grass. The dog jumped and caught it, but Elwin was able to get it before it was harmed. It was a Black Rail - very small, purplish color, yellow legs. The bird ran away into the uncut grass when it was released. Earlier in the year my cousin, Robert Spicknall, had a Northern Shrike and an American Bittern near Holstein. On 10 May I heard a Lesser Yellowlegs, and saw Upland Sandpipers and Grasshopper Sparrows. Elwin saw a Bobolink around mid-April and a Snowy Heron about 1 and 4 May.

--- *Harold Turner, Box 333, Minden, Neb. 68959.*

TRUMPETER SWANS. Two Trumpeter Swans, identified by their neckband numbers 33NC and 58NA, arrived at Schilling Waterfowl Refuge, Plattsmouth, Nebraska, on 5 December 1986 and stayed until 11 December, when they moved to a more secluded farm pond in Iowa, where they were fed and protected by the farmer.

33NC is a 3-year-old female who has migrated before. Last year she and her mate wintered 40 miles west of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Last spring they were seen north of Lincoln, Nebraska, while on their way back, but somewhere between Lincoln and Gordon, Wisconsin, where she summered, the male disappeared. She stayed in Gordon until October, and was not reported again until this sighting in our area.

58NA was originally sexed as a female, but personnel in the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources now believe "she" is a "he". Whatever, 58NA is a 4-year-old from Sibley County, Minnesota, who has never migrated before. Personnel in the Hennepin County Trumpter Swan Restoration Project say there are at least 11 other swans which have recently disappeared: four collared adults, five cygnets traveling with them, and two uncollared subadults. Some other unmarked birds may have left, also.

--- *Ruth C. Green, 506 W. 31st Avenue, Bellevue, Neb. 68005*

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE IN KEITH COUNTY, NEBRASKA. On 19 April 1987 we identified and photographed a male Barrow's Goldeneye *(Bucephala islandica)* at Keystone Lake, Keith Co. The bird was first seen frequenting the effluent area of Kingsley Dam and was approached to a distance of approximately 50 yards.

The bird exhibited a large white facial crescent on a purplish head. The forehead was very abrupt and the black bill appeared quite small in relation to the head size. The bird's white breast and white sides were separated by a black narrowing line extending forward from the back. The black back contained a row of white spots running from the shoulder of the wing to the middle part of the back. A white wing patch was also clearly visible.

Three other Goldeneyes were also present, although they were not identified as our attention was drawn on the aforementioned bird and the task of photographing it. Several photographs were taken before all four birds were frightened away by a passing boat.

The photograph is the first photographic evidence of this species for Nebraska. Identifiable photographs are in possession of the authors and others have been sent to the Nebraska Records Committee.

--- *Mark A. and Ellen L. Brogie, Box 316, Creighton, Neb. 68729*

BALD EAGLE STRIKES SANDHILL CRANE. Around 7 AM 22 March 1987 I was SE of Kearney, watching Sandhill Cranes coming from the river to the fields. There had been a heavy rain, and the fields were wet and muddy, there was an overcast, and it probably was in the 40s. A man, woman, and child were in a pickup, and the man called to me as I started to leave, to say that he had lived there all his life and just saw something he had never seen before - a Bald Eagle had struck a Crane in flight. Both of the observers were used to Sandhill Cranes, and she had seen the Whooping Crane near her folks house. The Eagle was circling about 30 or 40 feet above the Crane, which was on the ground. Unfortunately, I got out of the car to see better, and caused the Eagle, a fully mature bird with white head and tail, to fly over to the trees along the river. While I talked to the family the Crane got to its feet and began to peck at the ground, but it was obviously injured. The other Cranes had all gone on their way, but this one made no effort to fly. The Eagle sat and watched, the farmer went on his way, and I had to go on my way before I saw the outcome of this event.

- *Naomi Brill, 4625 South St., Lincoln, Neb. 68506*

Efforts to identify the observers of the strike have not been successful. Mr. George W. Brown, Kearney, canvassed the area of the observation but no one could identify the observers, who apparently were not residents of the immediate area.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION MIDWINTER EAGLE SURVEY. The 1987 total of 994 Bald Eagles represents the highest estimate of the state's wintering population since systematic surveys began. The 1987 figure is 33% greater than the previous high of 746 birds observed in 1985. Undoubtedly, a majority of the increase can be atttributed to the very mild winter we've experienced. Most rivers across the state remained ice-free, and ice cover on the major reservoirs and lakes was less than usual. As a result, favorable foraging conditions were found in several areas that do not accomodate many

eagles in most years. Hopefully, a portion of the increase in wintering eagles is a reflection of an increasing breeding population. It is nice to think that maybe conservation and restoration efforts are paying off.

--- *Greg Wingfield, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Route 4, Box 36, North Platte, Neb. 69101*

The 1987 count, with figures from 64 sites, is summarized below. (River sites are stretches of the river.) 1986 survey results are given at *NBR* 54:61.

| | No. of Sites | Bald Eagles Adults | Bald Eagles Immatures | Bald Eagles Unknown | Golden Eagles Adults | Golden Eagles Immatures | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| North Platte River | 6 | 82 | 46 | - | 4 | 2 | 134 |
| Platte River | 9 | 162 | 52 | 5 | 1 | - | 220 |
| South Platte River | 1 | 21 | 9 | - | - | 2 | 32 |
| Republican River | 3 | 137 | 75 | 14 | - | - | 226 |
| Middle Loup River | 1 | 17 | 3 | - | - | - | 20 |
| North Loup River | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| Loup River | 1 | 49 | 12 | - | - | - | 61 |
| Snake River | 1 | 6 | - | - | - | - | 6 |
| Niobrara River | 5 | 76 | 11 | - | 1 | 2 | 90 |
| Missouri River | 4 | 128 | 33 | 1 | - | - | 162 |
| Kimball/Cheyenne counties | 3 | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | 3 |
| Garden | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | - | 2 |
| Dawes | 3 | - | 2 | - | 3 | - | 5 |
| Sheridan | 4 | 1 | - | - | 3 | 2 | 6 |
| Wood Lake/Valentine NWR | 2 | - | - | - | 3 | - | 3 |
| Brown Co. | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | 2 | - | 4 |
| Holt | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Loup/Wheeler | 2 | 3 | - | - | 2 | - | 5 |
| Boone/Nance | 2 | 2 | 1 | - | 3 | - | 6 |
| Cass | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | - | 2 |
| Clay | 1 | 7 | 4 | - | - | - | 11 |
| Furnas/Frontier /Red Willow | 4 | 5 | 2 | - | - | - | 7 |
| Dundy/Chase | 6 | 14 | 9 | - | 1 | 3 | 27 |
| Total | 64 | 714 | 260 | 20 | 30 | 11 | 1,035 |

FALL 1986 WHOOPING CRANE REPORT. The US Fish and Wildlife Service, Grand Island, reported the following confirmed Whooping Crane sightings in Nebraska for the fall of 1986:

14 October, 2 flying over Pressey State Special Use Area, T14N, R21W, Sec. 9, 4 mi. northeast of Oconto, Custer Co.

29 October to 8 November, 2 adults and an immature, T6N, R13W, Sec. 17 and 20, 7 mi. east of Minden, Kearney Co.

2 November, 2 flying 4 mi. n. and ½ e. of Cairo, Howard Co.

3 November, 2, 3 mi. e. of Rockville, on the Middle Loup River, Sherman Co.

5 November, 3, T8N, R15W, Sec. 18, 2 mi. e. of Kearney bridge, Platte River, Buffalo Co.

7 November, 3, T8N, R15W, Sec. 19 and 20, 2 mi. s. of I-80 on Hwy 44, 2 mi. e. and ½ n., Kearney Co.

NOVEMBER WOODCOCK SIGHTING - HALL COUNTY, NEBRASKA. We sighted an American Woodcock *(Scolopax minor)* on 20 November 1986, on the St. Augustine Boy Scout Camp, on the Platte River south of Grand Island. The legal description of the site is T11N, R9W, NE¼SE¼ Sec. 16. The bird was observed about 2:00 PM. Weather conditions were clear, sunny, and relatively calm, approximately 50° F.

The lone Woodcock was flushed from riparian woodland immediately adjacent to the Platte River. Overstory trees consisted of eastern cottonwood *(Populus deltoides)* and eastern red cedar *(Juniperus virginiana)*. Average height of the overstory was 14.2 m, with an average canopy cover of 94.3%. Understory

trees and shrubs included downed cottonwood, roughleaf dogwood *(Cornus drummondii)* and young red cedar, with a mean height of 2.1 m and canopy cover of 67.7%. Leaf litter was abundant. Soil was Wann deep fine sandy loam (range site, subirrigated; woodland site, moderately wet). These data were taken as part of a habitat investigation of riparian woodlands and other cover types of the central Platte River floodplain.

This observation appears especially significant because of the record low temperatures experienced in the area during the previous week. The lowest offical temperature during that period reached -8° F at Grand Island.

--- *Jerry Brabander and Kim Hanson, US Fish and Wildlife Service, 2604 St. Patrick, Suite 7, Grand Island, Neb. 68803*

NIOBRARA NOTES. On 6 June 1987 the students of Willie and John Lueshen's Norfolk bird class, with their families - a total of 21 - made a field trip to Schreier's River Acres, near Bohemia Prairie, 10 miles from Verdigre. Highlights of the trip were: several Tree Swallows, a Cedar Waxwing on a nest in a deciduous tree, a Song Sparrow, a Willow Flycatcher building a nest of spiderwebs, and two Least Terns on the Niobrara River near a sandbar.

-- *Lona Schreier, Box G, Verdigre, Neb. 68783*

SHORT-EARED OWLS IN LANCASTER CO. Five to seven Short-eared Owls were observed on 10 January 1986, during a controlled burn on the Jack Sinn Memorial WMA, Lancaster Co. Two to five birds were observed on nearly a daily basis from early October through the end of November in 1983, 1984, and 1985, and seven or eight birds were observed 25 November 1985. The observer was in the field five days a week during this time, in each of the three years. One Owl was seen in November 1985 at Wildwood WMA.

All observatioins were by Game and Parks Commission personnel.

--- *Ross Lock, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, PO Box 30370, Lincoln, Neb. 68503*

THE FATE OF THE HALSEY POORWILL. I delivered the Common Poorwill present at the 1986 Fall Field Day (*NBR* 54:79) to the Wildlife Rescue Team, Inc., in Lincoln 5 October. The bird had been found a week or so earlier, west of Grand Island, Hall Co., and turned over to Gary Lingle, who brought it to the meeting. Mrs. Diane Chrisman, Bird Team Leader for WRT, who cared for the bird after its arrival in Lincoln, believed it to be a young bird, based on plumage description. It survived to get to Lincoln because Common Poorwills go into a torpor when food becomes scarce, and this prevented it from starving. It had a possible broken radius and a dislocated shoulder. The broken bone was no problem, but the shoulder led to several unexpected complications. It is very rare to have Common Poorwills in captivity and little is known about their requirements. The Poorwill gave WRT people valuable experience in dealing with odd birds. WRT made contact with an avian nutritionalist at University of California-Davis for future help. The bird ate well and gained weight on its special diet. It was given regular physical therapy sessions and was doing well for the most part. It enjoyed dust baths, preening, and sitting on a log. But the wing healed improperly, so that it could not be released back in the wild. Mrs. Chrisman convinced other members of WRT to keep the bird for educational display, and for that it would have to become accustomed to people, and the wing would have to be removed to allow proper motility on the ground. Before the wing was removed the bird was allowed to waddle around the Chrisman home, and it became a favorite pet of Mrs. Chrisman's son. But the Poorwill's cryptic coloring worked all too well on the Chrisman's carpet, and the bird was accidently stepped on and killed. The bird will be deposited at the Nebraska State Museum.

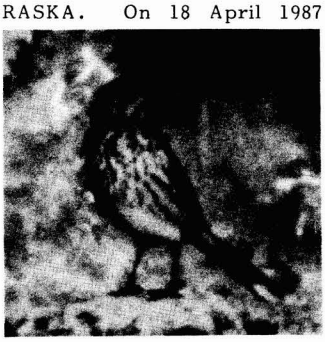
--- *Thomas E. Labedz, 1241 Starview Lane, Lincoln, Neb. 68512*

CLARK'S NUTCRACKER. On the morning of 10 September 1986 Nick Lyman and George Nason, both of the North Platte office of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, observed a single Clark's Nutcracker in central Lincoln Co. The bird was observed by Lyman several more times during the following week. All observations were made in the South Beach area of Lake Maloney, approximately 6 miles south of North Platte. Characteristics used

to identify the bird included the dark wings against the light gray body, white wing and tail patches, and the long, heavy bill. Both Lyman and Nason have seen Clark's Nutcrackers on several occasions while traveling through the western mountain states.

--- *Greg Wingfield, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Route 4, Box 36, North Platte, Neb. 69101*

SAGE THRASHER IN SIOUX COUNTY, NEBRASKA. On 18 April 1987 Larry Roper, Ellen Brogie, and I observed a Sage Thrasher *(Oreoscoptes montanus)* in Sioux Co., The bird was found frequenting a sandstone outcropping along the road going into Sowbelly Canyon from Harrison.

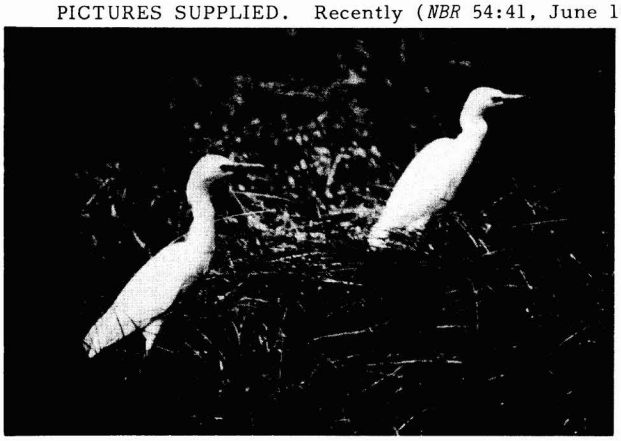


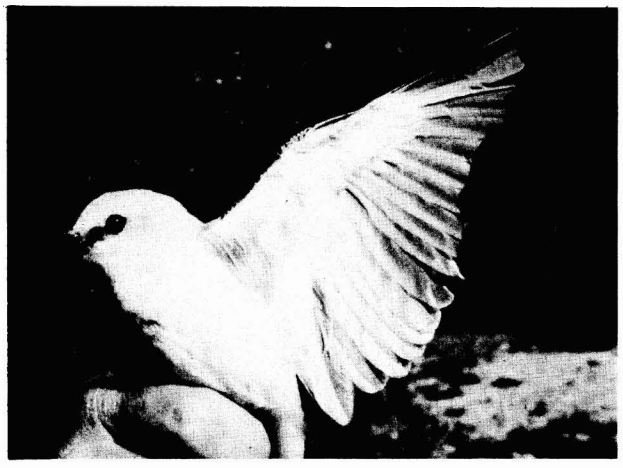
The bird exhibited the streaked breast, slightly cured bill, white wing bars , light yellowish eye, and white cornered tail characteristic of the species.

We first saw the bird at approximately 8:00 AM, but observed it in the same area several hours later and again in mid-afternoon. Identification photos are in possession of the author and others have been sent to the Nebraska Records Committee.

--- *Mark A. Brogie, Box 316, Creighton, Neb. 68729*

PICTURES SUPPLIED. Recently (*NBR* 54:41, June 1986) Silcock, Bray, and Padelford commented on the lack of Nebraska pictures of the Cattle Egret and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (they supplied one of it). The Cattle Egret picture is supplied by Wayne Mollhoff and was taken 7 May 1983 near Albion. The unusual Scissor-tailed Flycatcher picture is supplied by Ruth C. Green, Bellevue. It is one she netted in July 1979, just south of Fontenelle Forest, Sarpy Co. The Mississippi Kite was photographed by Paul Kaufman 11 May 1986 on Old Cheney Road, Wilderness Park, Lincoln. It was reported in *NBR* 54:48.





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A COMMON YELLOWTHROAT SENIOR CITIZEN. On 28 June 1986 I re-netted a male Common Yellowthroat that I had banded as an after hatching year male on 20 June 1981. This bird was at least six years old.

--- *Ruth C. Green, 506 W. 31st Avenue, Bellevue, Neb. 68005*

HAND FEEDING (ALMOST). I stepped out on my patio 14 March 1986 to refill empty suet feeders. Two Red-breasted Nuthatches, who had been emptying a plastic feeder on my kitchen window, came flitting around my head. I took a piece of suet and held it in my open hand. One of the Nuthatches lit on my finger. As soon as it was aware that my finger was different it hurried off without pecking the suet.

--- *Gladys Johnson, Hoe Hill, RFD 1, Box 226, Elkhorn, Nebraska 68022*

CORRECTION TO 1986 INDEX. The last entry for Whooping Crane in the 1986 Index should be 66, not 64.

THE XX INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS will take place in Christchurch, New Zealand, from 2-9 December 1990. Requests for the First Circular and suggestions regarding Congress organization should be addressed to: Dr. Ben D. Bell, Secretary-General, XX International Ornithological Congress, Department of Zoology, Victoria University of Wellington, Private Bag, Wellington, New Zealand.

1987 FALL FIELD DAY, 4-H CAMP, HALSEY FOREST, 3 AND 4 OCTOBER