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6-1986

1985 Nebraska Nesting Survey

Esther V. Bennett

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Bennett, Esther V., "1985 Nebraska Nesting Survey" (1986). *Nebraska Bird Review*. 1243.
<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/nebbirdrev/1243>

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1985 NEBRASKA NESTING SURVEY

Compiled by Dr. Esther V. Bennett

Data on the 1985 nesting season in Nebraska were received from 28 observers and two agencies, reporting on 83 species from 39 counties. Counties in 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, N represents nests for which no Nest Record Card was submitted, E represents eggs, F represents feeding, C represents copulating, CF represents carrying food, FCo represents feeding Cowbird, NM represents carrying nesting material, and Y represents young observed. GPC in the following paragraph represents Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, and CLNWR is Crescent Lake National Wildlife Refuge..

Twenty-four species were reported on 193 North American Nest Report Cards and 59 species were reported without cards, for a total of 83 species. The counties, with column numbers on the tabulation shown in parentheses, and the contributors are: Banner (3) A. M. Kenitz; Box Butte (6) GPC, Doug Thomas; Buffalo (22) Ken Strom, Marie Strom; Cass (38) Ruth Green; Chase (14) GPC, Iola Pennington; Cherry (11) Jim Ducey, GPC; Cheyenne (7) GPC; Dawes (5) T. E. Bray, GPC, B. L. Wilson; Dawson (19) GPC; Deuel (10) T. E. Bray; Dodge (32) Emma Waterbury; Douglas (36) R. G. Cortelyou, Alice Rushton; Fillmore (29) GPC; Franklin (23) GPC; Frontier (16) GPC; Gage (35) T. E. Bray, Babs Padelford, Loren Padelford; Garden (9) CLNWR, Rick Wright; Coper (20) GPC; Hall (24) Vera Coons; Hamilton (26) Norris Alfred, T. E. Bray, Gloria Eckerson, Lee Morris, B. L. Wilson; Keith (12) GPC; Keya Paha (18) Jim Ducey; Kimball (4) GPC; Knox (25) Jim Ducey; Lancaster (34) Betsy Hancock, GPC, W. C. Garthright, Bill Mulder, W. T. White; Lincoln (15) Jim Ducey, GPC, Mrs. A. B. Gundlicks, B. L. Wilson; Pawnee (39) T. E. Bray; Perkins (13) GPC; Polk (27) Swede Lind; Red Willow (17) GPC; Rock (21) Jim Ducey; Saline (31) GPC; Sarpy (37) R. G. Cortelyou, Ruth Green, Babs Padelford, Alice Rushton, David Starr; Saunders (33) R. G. Cortelyou, Alice Rushton; Scotts Bluff (2) Ruth Green, GPC, A. M. Kenitz; Seward (30) W. C. Garthright; Sheridan (8) T. E. Bray, Jim Ducey; Sioux (1) David Hughson, Helen Hughson, GPC, Ruth Green, B. L. Wilson; York (28) GPC, Lee Morris.

Persons or agencies contributing over 15 Nest Cards are: W. C. Garthright (76) and Game and Parks Commission (86). For the Audubon Society of Lincoln Bill Garthright and many volunteers monitored and maintained nest boxes which had been initially placed on Salt Valley lakes by Resource Services Division of Game and Parks Commission. According to John Dinan, Game and Parks Commission surveys of the Missouri, Platte, and Niobrara rivers located 180 Least Tern nests and 88 Piping Plover nests. These were reported on Colonial Bird Register forms. G. A. Wingfield and John Dinan, Game and Parks Commission employees, provided valuable Nest Card information, as did J. A. Gubanyi, who is working on a Master's degree at UNL. His study is funded by Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, UNL, and the National Wildlife Federation. His cards were included with those of Wingfield and Dinan.

The following 40 Nebraska species which were reported in 1985 were not reported in the 1984 Nesting Survey (*NER* 53:46: Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, Green-backed Heron, Canada Goose, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Harrier, Black-necked Stilt, Upland Sandpiper, Long-billed Curlew, Common Snipe, American Woodcock, Wilson's Phalarope, Burrowing Owl, Long-eared Owl, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Western Wood-Pewee, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Say's Phoebe, Western Kingbird, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Black-billed Magpie, Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Rock Wren, Gray Catbird, Loggerhead Shrike, Red-eyed Vireo, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Summer Tanager, Lazuli Bunting, Lark Bunting, Swamp Sparrow, McCown's Longspur, Bobolink, Western Meadowlark, House Finch, and Pine Siskin.

Twenty-nine species reported in the 1984 Survey were not reported in 1985: Western Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Black-crowned Night-Heron, White-faced Ibis, Northern Pintail, Blue-winged Teal, Gadwall, Redhead, Ruddy Duck, Swainson's Hawk, Merlin, Wild Turkey, American Avocet, Forster's Tern, Black Tern, Rock Dove, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Great Crested Flycatcher, Blue Jay, Marsh Wren, Bell's Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, American Goldfinch, and House Sparrow.

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, although it will be appreciated if the information is

	Sioux	Scotts Bluff	Banner	Kimball	Dawes	Box Butte	Cheyenne	Sheridan	Garden	Deuel	Cherry	Keith	Perkins	Chase	Lincoln	Frontier	Red Willow	Keya Paha
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
N. Rough-w. Sw.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Swallow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cliff Swallow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Barn Swallow	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-billed Magpie	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Crow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bl.-cap. Chickadee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-br. Nuthatch	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CF, Y
Rock Wren	CF	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Wren	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Robin	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gray Catbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Loggerhead Shrike	-	-	-	-	-	N, Y	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N, Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-eyed Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ovenbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y
Common Yellowth.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Summer Tanager	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Grosbeak	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lazuli Bunting	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dickcissel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rufous-s. Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chipping Sparrow	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lark Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	CF	-	-	CF	-	-	-	-	-	-	CF
Lark Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grasshopper Sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
McCown's Longspur	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bobolink	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-w. Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N, E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y
Yellow-h. Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CF	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great-tail. Grackle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Orchard Oriole	-	-	-	-	-	N, Y	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	1, CE	-	-	-
Northern Oriole	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Finch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N, Y	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	-	-	-	-	-	N, Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-
Nest Cards																		
Individuals	27	11	1	5	11	8	3	2	-	1	1	3	1	1	18	2	4	-
Species	5	7	1	2	5	2	2	2	-	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	-
No Nest Cards	2	5	-	-	-	17	-	9	4	-	9	-	-	4	1	-	-	5
Total Species	7	12	1	2	5	19	2	11	4	1	10	1	1	5	4	1	1	5

Dawson	Gosper	Rock	Buffalo	Franklin	Hall	Knox	Hamilton	Polk	York	Fillmore	Seward	Saline	Dodge	Saunders	Lancaster	Gage	Douglas	Sarpy	Cass	Pawnee	Total	Check
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39		
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1	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	1	24	S
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1	1	13	3	1	2	2	4	2	3	1	1	1	1	5	17	2	4	8	1	1	83	T