

Analysis presented is in three tables including the percentage of the total banded that were abnormal and a comparison between cavity nesters and non-cavity nesters. Cavity nesters were shown to have a higher percentage of leg and toe abnormalities.

Effects of Prairie Burning on Migrant Birds. Peter C. Petersen, 1974. *Inland Bird Banding News* 46:137-139.

Bird usage of an area before and after burning is discussed, as reflected by mist netting.

Birds of a Caragana-Alder Wind-Row near a Wyoming Strip Mine, J. W. Todd, 1974. *Inland Bird Banding News* 46:168-171.

Increased development of surface mines results in a decrease in bird habitat. This paper describes environmental study using netting and trapping for a reclamation plan to restore and improve the habitat for birds after mining.

Two Kestrel Nestings. Merit B. Skaggs, 1974. *Inland Bird Banding News* 46:171-176.

Observations of breeding and behaviour of the American Kestrel are detailed.

Bird Report, 1972-73. Compiled by Brian Glover, 1975. *S. Aust. Orn.* 26:175-180.

The report is for the period 1 July 1972 to 30 June 1973, covering 321 species of birds reported in South Australia. Of special interest the 'invasion' of the Black-tailed Native-hen and a Sooty Tern record.

Birds of the Gawler Ranges, South Australia. J. B. Paton, 1975. *S. Aust. Orn.* 26:180-193.

A description is given of the Gawler Ranges north of Eyre Peninsula, the former home of the Night Parrot *Geopsittacus occidentalis*. A history and bird list for the area is given. A comparison between the years 1902 and 1912, and 1972-1973 can be made in the table listing birds observed.

Kestrel Study Group

A Kestrel Study Group has been formed recently in Sydney, the main objectives being —

1. To co-ordinate kestrel study in N.S.W.
2. To collect and collate data primarily to ascertain plumage progression, age and sex characters.

Those interested in participating are invited to contact

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Reviews

The Dictionary of Birds in Colour by Bruce Campbell. Michael Ltd, London 1974, pp. 352, col. pl. 1008, figs. 9. 303 mm x 230 mm, \$Aust.15.95.

Presented as a colour photographic dictionary covering the birds of the world, this book achieves a high standard of presentation with a concise, accurate text. It may be used as a highly informative text book on the world's birds or as a book to browse through at one's leisure.

Introductory chapters deal adequately with The Faunal Regions, Origins and Species, The Bird's Anatomy, and Classification; the sequence of orders and families is essentially that of the *Check-List of Birds of the World* by J. L. Peters.

The bulk of the book is taken up with the section of colour illustrations which are grouped together, and consist of 191 pages containing 1008 illustrations. Mostly the colour photographs are of a very high quality both in photographic and printing merits. Some show a loss of shadow detail due either to faulty colour separation or heavy printing; this gives them a very dark appearance with a loss of clarity in the darker areas. One (823) has been inverted in the printing, while a few must have been included for their rarity and not their quality; they may have been better omitted.

The text is concise with each species being covered in about 90 words. There is a brief description of range and distribution, but no mention of status. Descriptions of male, female, and immature where known, voice, nesting and behaviour are given, providing considerable information in the space available. There is a numerical cross reference to the photographs to facilitate use of the text.

It is inevitable that there are some inaccuracies, which are obvious with better-known birds. These include, for example, the reference to the range of the Galah which incorrectly excludes the east and west coast; the male Eastern Spinebill is stated as having a grey crown instead of black; and the Little Wattlebird having a small red wattle.

Also it is surprising that the text material for the Grey-breasted Silveryeye has been based on data from New Zealand where it is a comparatively recent arrival; there has been a wealth of material published on this species in Australia during the past decade, including its migration pattern which is not mentioned.

The book is of a large format, is well printed and strongly bound, and can be recommended as an addition to any ornithological library.

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