

Eudunda were better than at Sutherlands-Bower. Six birds were recovered six months or more after banding; one female (021-33331) was recovered 12 months later and another (021-33352) 23 months after banding.

These results nevertheless contrast rather sharply with retrap data from a more sedentary small Passerine, the Eastern Whiteface *Aphelocephala leucopsis* in the same general region (see Boehm 1970).

Some 12 000 Zebra Finches were banded in the Australian Bird-banding Scheme to 30 June 1972 (Purchase, 1973) without any outstanding longevity data being reported; 877 (7%) were retrapped. Retrap figures in areas where banding is carried out regularly over long periods are invariably higher than those for the overall banding figures for the whole of Australia. Nevertheless, the relatively few birds retrapped in the study is no doubt partly due to the nomadic habits of these birds. This nomadism, in addition to taking the birds out of the banding locations, also possibly causes an increase in mortality when they encounter unfamiliar situations in their search for food, water and refuge from predators.

While mist nets were used in the main project area where the birds were caught in the course of routine operations, at Eudunda they were attracted to traps by small seeds as bait. Nevertheless, there were Zebra Finches at Eudunda at times when none was to be found further east on the drier plains. The results therefore can be considered as significant.

References

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Whiskered Tern Recovery in Java

In the first week of February 1976, a student from the Academy of Forestry, Bandung, Indonesia, digressed from his allotted task of surveying the timber near Cirebon, north Java (spelt Tjirebon on most maps) to examine the birds caught by the local people. The method of catching is not known but undoubtedly they were to be eaten. Two of the birds were carrying CSIRO bands and three weeks later the student wrote to the CSIRO — "I have found two birds. I will inform you that Sign on the ring which number 550-52714, 032-10151. Would you please send me your idea".

The first number (550-52714) was obviously incorrect for a CSIRO band; the second band (032-10151) had been placed on a Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis* by J. A. K. Lane at Pelican Point, Perth, W.A. on 28 March 1974. A letter from the Secretary of the Australian Bird-banding Scheme (Mr David Purchase) to Dr Soekarja Somadikarta at the Zoological Museum, Bogor, Indonesia seeking clarification of the incorrect number soon produced results. One band had been lost but the other had been taken to the museum where it was correctly read as 050-52714.

This band had been placed on the leg of a newly hatched Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* on 18 November 1974 at Ticehurst Swamp, Ivanhoe, western New South Wales and the recovery at Cirebon represents a movement of 5100 km north-west from the banding place. The bird was one of 61 chicks banded by me near Ivanhoe about that time and, hopefully, more recoveries may yet be reported.

This is the first recovery in Indonesia of a Whiskered Tern banded in Australia although a previous recovery was reported from the Sepik River, Papua New Guinea (*Aust. Bird Bander* 7: 41).

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