

Buff-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza reguloides*

012-30552. Adult banded by B. R. Hutchins at Sandy Creek, SA on 28 Apr. 79. Recaptured at banding place on 3 Aug. 85, over 6 years, 3 months after banding. (This is the oldest recorded for this species).

Yellow Thornbill *Acanthiza nana*

012-76161. Banded by B. R. Hutchins near Sandy Creek, SA on 5 Aug. 79. Recaptured at banding place on 15 June. 85, over 5 years, 10 months after banding.

Noisy Friarbird *Philemon corniculatus*

070-68942. Adult banded by I. Grant at Hackett, ACT on 23 Jan. 77. Recovered dead at Campbell, ACT on 9 Dec., 84, over 7 years, 10 months after banding. 4 km S.

Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis*

061-28357. Juvenile banded by K. Rogers at Knowsley S. F., Vic., on 6 May. 84. "Bird flew into garage" at Rochester, Vic. on 27 Nov., 84, 51 km NNE.

Crescent Honeyeater *Phylidonyris pyrrhoptera*

021-87196. Immature male banded by B. R. Hutchins near Sandy Creek, SA, on 21 June. 79. Recaptured at banding place on 15 June. 85, over 5 years, 11 months after banding.

New Holland Honeyeater*Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*

(a) 031-67625. Immature banded by D. C. Paton at Scott Conservation Park, SA, on 15 Nov. 80. Recaptured at Hale Conservation Park, SA, by T. J. Bradley, on 15 Dec., 84. 80 km N.

(b) 031-75582. Immature banded by T. G. D. Shannon at Yanchep National Park, WA, on 12 Sept. 82. Found dead at Craigie, WA, on 27 Feb. 85. 25 km SSE.

(c) 032-59838. Banded by T. J. Bradley at Hale Conservation Park, SA, on 15 Dec. 84. Found dead at Cheltenham, SA, on 30 May 85. 44 km SW.

Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis*

014-63718. Banded by O. Mueller 46 km NNW Perth, WA, on 1 Feb. 85. Shot at Baldvis, WA, on 4 Mar. 85. 88 km S.

Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

060-06794. Juvenile banded by M. Clayton at Kaleen, ACT on 8 Jan. 85. Found injured (later recovered) at Lyons, ACT on 15 Feb. 85. 14 km SSW.

Satin Bowerbird *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*

080-90156. Male banded by G. Borgia at Wallaby Creek, NSW on 22 Sept. 81. Found dead at Woodenbong, NSW in Sept. 84. 13 km N.

Australian Magpie *Gymnorhina tibicen*

(a) 090-59072. Adult female banded by J. B. Paton at Yilki, SA on 14 Apr. 68. Recovered "alive and healthy" near banding place on 15 Oct., 84, over 16 years. 6 months after banding.

(b) 090-78002. Adult male banded by J. B. Paton at Beaumont, SA, on 9 Oct. 76. Found dead near banding place on 28 Sept., 84, over 8 years after banding.

LITERATURE REVIEW

A long-term bird population study in an Apalacian Spruce forest. G. A. Hall. (1984). *Wilson Bull.* 96(2): 228-240.

The breeding population in a stand of second growth red spruce forest in eastern West Virginia was determined at 5-year intervals by the spot-mapping method from 1947-1983. From 1962-1983 the population was also monitored annually by a somewhat crude "index method". In these 36 years the overall species composition changed very little, although the number of species and the total number of males underwent a marked reduction, at about the same time the crowns of the spruce trees coalesced and eliminated all other plant species from the area. Since that time the population has remained essentially constant, although a slow decline appears to be taking place. In boreal habitats such as this one the population determined in any one year was very sensitive to weather factors.

Estimating numbers of birds by point counts: How long should counts last? R. J. Fuller and D. R. Langslow. (1984). *Bird Study* 31(3): 195-202.

In the British habitats studied, most species and pairs were seen within 10 minutes. Hence longer point counts are a poor investment of time.

Activity rhythm and feeding success of nesting Night Herons *Nycticorax nycticorax*. M. Fasola. (1984). *Ardea* 72(2): 217-222.

Activities of the Night Heron were observed over the whole daily cycle at the nest site in the pre-laying period and during incubation, as well as at the nest and on the feeding grounds in the nesting period. The distribution of activities over time changed from a sharp day (roosting) night (feeding) rhythm in the pre-laying period to an even distribution of activities in the nesting period when total time devoted to feeding increased.

Effect of edge on breeding forest bird species. R. L. Kroodsma (1984). *Wilson Bull.* 96(3): 426-436.

Examines the effects of power-line corridor edges on the density of breeding bird species of a forest habitat. This study was based on the density of territories from the edge to unaltered interior habitat, rather than on observations along forest edge. Censuses were conducted along transects parallel to the corridor. Density was estimated for each transect and plotted on distance from the corridor/forest edge. Plots for 22 bird species are presented.

Habitat utilisation and the prey taken by Kestrels in arable farmland. R. A. Pettifor. (1984). *Bird Study* 31 (3): 213-216.

The Kestrels studied spent 81% of their hunting time and made 70% of their strikes over grass which comprised only 17% of the study area. This reflected their mainly mammalian diet.

Noddies — Their identification and occurrence in South Africa. G. Nicholls. (1984). *Bokmakierie* 36(4): 91-97.

Describes juvenile, immature and adult plumages of the Common Noddy *Anous stolidus*, Lesser Noddy *A. tenuirostris* and Black Noddy *A. minutus*, all of which occur in Australian waters.

Breeding bird population in relation to changing structure following fire exclusion: A 15-year study. R. T. Engstrom, R. C. Crawford and W. W. Baker (1984). *Wilson Bull.* 96(3): 437-450.

For 15 years after fire exclusion in 1966, annual breeding bird censuses were conducted on an 8.6 ha plot of oldfield pine forest in northern Florida. Changes in vegetation structure were assessed using data from plant succession studies and by taking 0.04 ha circular samples within the study area 15 years after fire exclusion and in a contiguous annually burned oldfield forest. Using rarefaction, a statistical technique, annual bird species totals for this study are compared to bird species richness in nearby old-growth longleaf pine and mature beech-magnolia forests.

Changes in the bird community and vegetation structure were dramatic. Only 11 of 43 bird species were encountered every year of the study. Most finches and brush nesting species no longer occurred on the study area while several species associated with mesic conditions had increased in abundance.

A new marking technique for birds. G. Richison (1984). *N. Am. Bird Bander* 9: 4.

Red-bellied Woodpeckers and Cardinals were successfully marked by applying coloured plastic strips to the tail feathers as follows:

- trim the upper tail coverts to expose the proximal portion of the retrices;
- cut the barbs from the proximal portion of each rachis of three centrally-located retrices;
- a 50 cm piece of coloured tape is placed centrally under the trimmed portions of the three retrices;
- hold one end of the tape over the top so the tape is face-to-face and then fold the other end over, trimming any excess tape;
- using a needle and thread, sew through the rachis of each rectrix in such a way that the two ends of the thread end up close enough together so they can be tied together;
- apply a drop of glue to the knot;

It is difficult for the bird to remove this short-term (next moult) marker. The method was found more effective than coloured plastic leg bands or dyeing the the plumage for studying individuals of the species mentioned.

Automatic recording of nest visits by burrow-nesting birds. M. Schramm (1983). *J. Field Ornithol* 54: 192-194.

A general note describing the construction of an automatic device developed to record nocturnal nest visits by adults to feed nestlings.

Pre-independence behaviour, morphometrics and trapping of fledgling Red-breasted Sparrowhawks. R. Simmons (1984). *Ostrich* 55: 158-162.

Describes a technique of catching flying young Red-breasted Sparrowhawks by exploiting their innate curiosity about moving objects. Pine cones modified to resemble partially plucked birds were thrown past perched birds which dived at the cone and kneaded it on the ground. While still grounded, fledglings were covered with a raptor mist net or caught by hand. Final captures coincided with the last days of dependence on parents for food. Capture frequency decreased with increasing age and satiation.

Aspects of the breeding biology of the Kelp Gull at Marion Island and in South Africa. A. J. Williams, J. Cooper and P. A. R. Hockey (1984). *Ostrich* 55: 147-157.

The breeding biology of two races of *Larus dominicanus* are compared. Both populations have similar clutch size and intraclutch egg-size variation, lay eggs of similar composition and chicks have similar growth patterns.

Finding and trapping nightjars. H. D. Jackson. (1984). *Bokmakierie* 36: 86-89.

Describes methods of locating nightjars using spotlights and capture of birds using handnets and mistnets. The capture techniques were extremely effective. When mist netting was used at 20 nest sites to capture parent birds, desertion due to capture was the exception with only one nest being deserted.

An inexpensive trap for capturing flightless Canadian Geese. A. J. Nastase. (1982). *N. Am. Bird Bander* 7: 47-48.

Describes a 18m x 18m hemp net of 5cm mesh used as a drop net to capture flightless geese or other waterfowl. The drop-net trap is lightweight, portable and easily re-set by four people in less than 60 seconds.

A holding box for birds. R. C. Tweit. (1982). *N. Am. Bird Bander* 7: 49.

Describes the construction of an inexpensive, sturdy bank of individual bird-holding boxes utilising used milk cartons.

Improved trapping methods for Loggerhead Shrikes. A. Kridelbaugh (1982). *N. Am. Bird Bander* 7: 50-51.

Describes a 20cm x 20cm single cell wire box trap with a drop door on one side set off by a treadle. Bait used was either a live mammal (mouse) which was housed within a removable compartment inside the trap or a large tethered insect (beetle).

Net poles and connectors. R. Pantle. (1982). *N. Am. Bird Bander* 7: 52.

Describes the construction of net poles using 3/4" diameter metal conduit. Connectors are made of a lesser diameter rod inserted between sections of the conduit.