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Some Repeats and Returns of North American Migrants in Panama.—As part of a general study on arthropod-borne viruses (e.g., encephalitis), the Gorgas Memorial Laboratory of Panama has undertaken a long-range study of migratory thrushes and catbirds. Under the direction of Dr. Pedro Galindo, this study involves the manning of up to 100 mist nets on a dawn to dusk basis throughout the year near Almirante, Bocas del Toro Province, a coastal lowland area close to the Costa Rican border on the Caribbean slope. The results of the first year's

work by the Gorgas Laboratory is being published elsewhere by Dr. Galindo and co-workers. [this issue, pp. 202-09]

It was my good fortune to visit this mass netting operation for four days, 20-21 October and 10-11 November 1962, at which time I banded some 200 North American migrants not involved in the Gorgas studies at that period. These birds are listed in Table 1. Subsequently, a number of these banded birds were recaptured at Almirante by the Gorgas workers, who kindly recorded the band numbers and passed the information on to me.

There follows a report of these repeats and returns, which should be of interest in view of the scarcity of records from banded North American migrants in the Neotropics bearing on their local status as transients or winter residents. I have rounded off the weeks between banding and recapture.

Dumatella carolinensis (Catbird). One bird banded 11 November recaptured 21 November (2 weeks). The Catbird is a known abundant winter resident in the Almirante area. However, since only one of 27 specimens banded was a repeat, and this after only ten days, it seems likely that true winter residents comprise only a small portion of the autumn population.

Vermivora peregrina (Tennessee Warbler). One bird banded 11 November recaptured 27 November (3 weeks); another banded 11 November taken again 14 December (5 weeks). Six specimens were banded in all.

Dendroica petechia (Yellow Warbler). One bird banded 11 November recaptured 6 January (9 weeks). Eight specimens banded in all.

Dendroica magnolia (Magnolia Warbler). One banded 21 October recaptured 5 December (7 weeks). Two specimens banded in all.

Seiurus aurocapillus (Ovenbird). One banded 11 November recaptured 3 December (4 weeks); another banded 11 November recaptured 12 December (5 weeks); a third banded 21 October retaken 7 January (12 weeks). With only 13 specimens banded in all, three were recaptured—and one of these after 12 weeks. Thus, the Ovenbird is very likely a winter resident in the Almirante area, though seldom seen.

TABLE 1. NORTH AMERICAN MIGRANTS CAUGHT AT ALMIRANTE, PANAMA, IN GORGAS LABORATORY NETS, BANDED BY H. LOFTIN, 20-21 OCT. & 10-11 NOV., 1962

Name	No. Banded	No. Repeats
Capella gallinago (Common Snipe)	2	
Dumatella carolinensis (Catbird)	27	1
Hylocichla mustelina (Wood Thrush)	4	
Hylocichla minima (Gray-cheeked Thrush)	67	
Hylocichla fuscescens (Veery)	4	
Vireo flavifrons (Yellow-throated Vireo)	1	
Vireo olivaceus (Red-eyed Vireo)[1]	9	
Mniotilta varia (Black-and-white Warbler)	1	
Protonotaria citrea (Prothonotary Warbler)	2	
Vermivora peregrina (Tennessee Warbler)	6	2
Dendroica petechia (Yellow Warbler)	8	1
Dendroica magnolia (Magnolia Warbler)	2	1
Dendroica pensylvanica (Chestnut-sided Warbler)	5	
Seiurus aurocapillus (Ovenbird)	13	3
Seiurus noveboracensis (Northern Waterthrush)	8	2
Oporornis formosus (Kentucky Warbler)	6	
Geothlypis trichas (Yellowthroat)	11	
Icteria virens (Yellow-breasted Chat)	1	1
Wilsonia canadensis (Canada Warbler)	3	
Piranga rubra (Summer Tanager)	7	1
Pheucticus ludovicianus (Rose-breasted Grosbeak)	9	

[1]Some of these vireos may have been *V. flavoviridis* (Yellow-green Vireo).

Seiurus noveboracensis (Northern Waterthrush). One banded 10 November recaptured 5 December (4 weeks); another banded 10 November recaptured 7 January (9 weeks). A total of 8 birds were banded. This species may be seen through the winter in the Almirante region.

Icteria virens (Yellow-breasted Chat). One bird banded 20 October recaptured 4 December (7 weeks); this specimen was the only one taken.

Piranga rubra (Summer Tanager). One bird banded 10 November recaptured 15 November (1 week). A total of 7 specimens were banded.

An interesting facet of this bird-banding at Almirante is that almost no migrants of any kind were taken by the Gorgas workers after about mid-January until the early days of spring. According to Dr. Galindo, the autumn migration begins noticeably about the last of September, hits a peak in the last week of October, falls off rapidly thereafter and is essentially over by about mid-November.

I wish to thank Dr. Galindo, Mr. Eustorgio Mendez and others of the Gorgas Memorial Laboratory for their generous cooperation; also Dr. Gustavo Engler and others of the Chiriqui Land Company (United Fruit Company) for the kind use of their facilities at Almirante. — Horace Loftin, Florida State University Canal Zone Program, Box 246, Ft. Clayton, Canal Zone.

An Interesting Black-crowned Night Heron Recovery.—On May 27, 1961 at Rookery Island in the Susquehanna River near Washington Boro, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, I banded 25 nestling Black-crowned Night Herons (*Nycticorax nycticicorax*) (D. S. Heintzelman, *Atlantic Naturalist*, 1961: 241-242). One of those birds, number 617-18314, was recovered on January 11, 1962 at Andytown, Florida, a distance of approximately 975 miles from the banding station. The bird was about 240 days old at the time of recovery.—Donald S. Heintzelman, 629 Green Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Can Blue Jays swim?—On July 7, 1963, I startled three Blue Jays (*Cyanocitta cristata*) that were drinking or bathing at the edge of our farm pond. They immediately flew across the pond. Two of them made the crossing safely and perched in a nearby tree. The third jay fell into the pond about 25 feet from shore. As it was impossible for me to reach the jay, I expected to see it drown. Instead the jay propelled itself through the water with a hopping motion — pushing the water with wings and feet. Several times the water washed over its head and as its mouth was open all the while, it must have taken in a considerable amount of water. It finally reached shore but was so wet and exhausted it had difficulty pulling itself out of the water. I started to help it ashore but my approach caused it to go back into the water so I backed away and watched from a little distance. The jay then with much effort reached land where it remained for almost an hour. Interestingly enough this was a juvenile Blue Jay.—Mrs. J. R. Downs, So. Londonderry, Vt.