

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

HAROLD D. MITCHELL

Except for a few warm days, mostly in early summer, the weather was comparatively cool, with occasional rainy periods to prevent the severe drought conditions experienced further eastward in the state. Few migrant warblers tarried as late as June. A successful nesting of Mockingbirds in Westfield, where an unusual number were reported, is especially noteworthy.

Loons — Ducks: Normal nesting activities, with nothing special to report.

Hawks — Owls: Beal noted an Osprey at Chautauqua Lake near Jamestown, June 16, and one was observed at Gainesville on July 25 by Mrs. Smith, who also reported a Snipe and 5 Whimbrel from the same area on Aug 15. Larkin reported 3 Bald Eagles at Derby, June 9. Rosche saw 2 Turkeys at Allegany State Park, June 8. An early Whimbrel appeared on Bird Island Pier, Buffalo, July 13 (Filor). Snipe probably nest at Kent's Switch where one was seen July 31 (Knott, fide Parker). Two Caspian Terns were seen July 16 at Ontario Beach (Buckland, Janiec). Heavy southwest gales in June caused havoc in the nesting colony of Common Terns in Buffalo Harbor, forcing later nestings of many pairs. Very few Bonaparte's Gulls were reported during the period. Six young Barn Owls were successfully reared in Alden (Mitchell).

Swifts — Shrikes: Bourne reported Olive-sided Flycatcher near corner Thruway and Camp Rd., Hamburg, June 1, and a Loggerhead Shrike at Sturgeon Pt., June 11. Parker saw a Tufted Titmouse at Chautauqua Lake July 25, and a Short-billed Marsh Wren at Bear Lake, June 23. Two Carolina Wrens were seen daily at Niagara Falls from July 28 to 31 and one remained throughout August. Another appeared in a Buffalo residential district, Aug 3, (Andrle). A group of Mockingbirds, which first appeared April 20, raised at least one brood successfully at Westfield (Bentley), and remained in the vicinity until July 20. As many as 16 were known to be present at one time, an unprecedented number for this area.

Vireos — Warblers: At Taylor Hollow three Black and White Warblers were seen on June 2 (McShane et al). The last Blackpoll Warbler migrant was seen June 2 at Hickok's Rd (Bourne). A Yellow-breasted Chat was noted at Ohoville, June 8 (Rosche et al) and another June 23 in the Tonawanda Indian Res. (Brockners).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: A Dickcissel was seen June 4 at Elma (Rosche et al). It was a male in full song but remained in the area for only a few days.

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REGION 2 — GENESEE

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The present period may be characterized as somewhat cooler than average and much drier than normal. The dying hurricane "Audrey" produced heavy rain and wind in late June. This rainfall, in addition to frequent thundershowers in early July, constituted most of the rainfall for the period, as since that time we have had only brief local showers and thunderstorms which have not been sufficient to prevent gradually increasing drought conditions. Except for a hot spell in late June and another short heat wave in mid-July temperatures have consistently been somewhat under normal. The lowering water level has produced good shorebirding along Lake Ontario but many of the mudflats elsewhere are so grown up with vegetation that they are unsuitable for any number of shorebirds.

Loons — Ducks: There was not a single report of any grebes during the period.