

observed in the area). The smallest clutch observed contained 3 eggs. Only one breeding pair of Tree Swallows was known prior to the erection of boxes in 1962, while, in 1963 thirty-four breeding pairs used the nest boxes. This population of Tree Swallows and Bluebirds will be followed for the next two years rather closely. It may well be the nestbox project in the Warren, Pennsylvania sixty-five miles west of Olean, area conducted by Mr. Highhouse (op. cit.) is partially responsible for this rapid invasion.

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Hybrid Warblers in Chatham Area: On the morning of Sunday, July 21, 1963, a group of seven warblers identified as one Golden-winged, one Blue-winged, one Lawrence's, and four Brewster's appeared in a rural area between East Chatham and Old Chatham, Columbia County. They were observed from 7:00 to 7:15 a.m., at such close range that their markings were distinguishable even without the use of field glasses. It had rained during the night, but the atmosphere was now clear.

When I first noticed the birds, they were close together, on a barbed wire fence that separates a flower garden from a large field used frequently as pasture for cows. I was watching from a glass enclosed room. The birds flitted about but remained near one another, always returning to the fence. One flew toward me and alighted on a rhododendron bush; for a fleeting moment it was at rest only about six feet away and was readily identified as a Golden-winged. Of the others, all observed within 20 feet and both with and without field glasses, only one had the black throat patch and the black cheek of the Golden-winged but it had distinctly yellow underparts. This was unmistakably a Lawrence's. The other five birds all had yellow underparts, and all but one had yellow wing-bars as well. The one with the white wing-bars had the typical Blue-winged plumage. The others, I surmised, were Brewster's although the underparts seen were yellow, not white, in any of these birds. The birds continued to flit about to different parts of the fence and to a nearby lespediza clump. The Blue-winged perched on the lespediza long enough to give the characteristic buzz of the species. Then all flew across the field, which is bounded by a small stream to the west, by woods to the north, by another field to the east, and by my house and grounds to the south. I have not seen the birds again.

It seemed to me that I might have seen a family group, so to check on this probability I consulted the article by Kenneth C. Parkes on "The Genetics of the Golden-winged X Blue-winged Warbler Complex," which appeared in the *Wilson Bulletin* of March, 1951. According to this article, many Brewster's have yellow underparts, especially in the first winter plumage. As for the production of a Lawrence's although the parents usually appear typical of the two distinct species, they must both have recessive genes from both species, since the Lawrence's has double recessive characteristics. Several combinations are possible to produce from 12.5% to 50% Lawrence's among the offspring in accordance with the Mendelian Law. Different combinations account for the varying characteristics among the Brewster's Warblers.

Hortense Barten, Mariposa, Old Chatham

Another Albino Robin: On September 19, 1963, a partial-albino Robin appeared in my yard. The body was all white, with some grey feathers on wings, tail and head, and the eyes were brownish. The bird remained for 19 days, usually eating the fruit of the Mountain Ash (*Sorbus americana*) with other Robins, and being seen to bathe frequently. In general there was little conflict, although I did see a normal-plumage Robin chase the albino on one occasion. Attempts to photograph the bird by Mr. Harold Mitchell, who also observed it in the vicinity, were unsuccessful.

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