

Mountain, Jul 16 (PPW) and several in the Jenny L area (GB). Yellow-breasted Chat: reported near Glenville and at Meadowdale in Jun (EH, PPW). Redstart: seemed quite scarce, especially in lowland areas; three local breeding bird counts listed one each, and another had none.

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: many colonies noted in Jun. Orchard Oriole: unreported during period, with none at former nesting sites; only report for the year—one May 8 near Castleton (Juanita Cook). Evening Grosbeak: reported from Pilot Knob in Jul (Alice Holmes) and from Jenny L (GB). Pine Siskin: one seen singing at 2200 feet elevation, Black Dome Mountain trail Jul 16 (PPW). RED CROSSBILL: about six remained at a Niskayuna feeder to Jun 12 (Frederick Klemm). No evidence was found of their nesting in the area. Grasshopper Sparrow: five GBB, surprisingly high. Henslow's Sparrow: seems to have vanished from several former nesting areas—no reports all period.

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

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Once again the summer is characterized by a lack of birding. This report is brief due to few birders in the field, and even fewer contributing notes.

The season ranks with the hottest on record. The weather bureau reports more days of above 90 degrees temperature than ever before, and rainfall was almost non-existent. Several spring rains raised the reservoirs to their average capacities for the season and they remained there throughout the period. The drought, however, continues without sign of abating.

Several contributors commented on poor nesting results in their areas. Fred Hough says that nesting was below normal in Ulster, with a number of species showing greater than usual mortality. Several common species i.e. Starling, Grackle, etc., showed good brood success but others such as Robin, Catbird, Song Sparrow had poor survival rates.

Abbreviations: Dutch—Dutchess Co; Oran—Orange Co; Putn—Putnam Co; Sull—Sullivan Co; Ulst—Ulster Co; West—Westchester; Rock—Rockland.

Contributors frequently cited: WBC—Waterman Bird Club; PC—Pauline Chernick; MC—Mitch Cubberley; RFD—Robert F. Deed; ME—Martha Earl; SG—Stanley Grierson; FH—Fred Hough; PJ—Paul Jeheber; JK—Jim Key; MK—Mary Key; ML—Mabel Little; AM—Al Merritt; BM—Barbara Merritt; KN—Ken Niven; VP—Vivian Parkhurst; DS—Dan Smiley; B & TS—Bill and Trixie Strauss; OW—Otis Waterman.

LOONS-DUCKS: Very few of herons of any species thru season. Great Blue Heron: 12 birds and six nests reported in Tamarack Swamp, Dutch Jun 27; scattered single reports elsewhere thru period. Common Egret: first, one Jul 8 & 9 Katonah (ML); Cornwall-on-Hudson Aug 1 thru period, max two. Snowy Egret: Cornwall-on-Hudson Aug 1 thru period, max two. Least Bittern: one Tri-Loba Hill Sanctuary,

Katonah Jun 5 (SG); usual summer reports from Cornwall-on-Hudson thru Aug 15. American Bittern: WBC reports one Jun record; two Pine Plains Jul 8 and one Stissing Village early Aug. Mute Swan: usual breeding in Rock and West, none elsewhere; single birds reported from Dutch and Iona Is., Rock in late Jun. Canada Goose: six at Tri-Loba Hill Sanct. Jul 24; six spent the better part of Jul and Aug at Roe Pk, Highland Falls. Teal: no reports. Wood Duck: seemed more scarce in Dutch, but normal to better in Oran and Sull. HOODED MERGANSER: first breeding record for Region—one female with four young at Katonah, West Jun 19 thru 25, young about $\frac{3}{4}$ grown, nest site discovered by Stan Grierson contained one unhatched egg which is at the American Museum of Natural History, New York City; a single female or imm on farm pond at Blooming Grove Aug 10 (ME).

HAWKS—OWLS: Most species of hawks appeared to be about normal. Turkey Vulture: few reported in Dutch, normal elsewhere. Red-tailed Hawk: almost no reports from Dutch, but normal elsewhere; only breeding record from Blooming Grove, where a downy young was taken from nest by two boys (ME). Red-shouldered Hawk: none reported. Broad-winged Hawk: few reports, but probably normal; one pursued by Red-tail over Katonah Jun 11. Sparrow Hawk: appears normal, but fewer Jul reports than usual. Bobwhite: call notes heard at Tomahawk L, Farmingdale, Goshen and Hamptonburgh. (ME) TURKEY: one Sacket L, Sull Aug 7 (Ken Niven). Virginia Rail: reported two places in Dutch, Jun and Jul; observed thru early Aug at Moodna Marsh, Cornwall-on-Hudson. Sora: one Jun Pine Plains, one Aug 12 Cornwall-on-Hudson. Common Gallinule: none reported. Semipalmated Plover: one Cornwall Bay Aug 3 (AM et al); six Piermont, Rock Aug 13 (RFD). Ruddy Turnstone: two Piermont, third record for Rock (RFD). Common Snipe: reported nesting Blooming Grove as last year. Upland Plover: one Jul 4 near Pine Plains (VP); three at Amenia Jul 26 (B & TS); max 18 at Hamptonburgh, Oran thru end of season (ME). Solitary Sandpiper: six thru Aug at Divine Corners, Sull (PC). White-rumped Sandpiper: three Piermont, Aug 13, fourth record for Rock (RFD). Short-billed Dowitcher: five Piermont Aug 13 (RFD). Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers: good numbers thru much of area thru first half of Aug; max 60 Semipalmated Aug 13, Piermont (RFD). Black-backed Gull: max 50, Piermont Aug 13 (RFD). Bonaparte's Gull: one imm Cornwall Bay Aug 13 (A & BM, PJ). Common Tern: max about 50, Piermont Aug 13 (RFD); one or two reported on the Hudson as far north as Cornwall. Cuckoos: both species normal in Ulst and Oran, below normal in Putn, very scarce in Dutch. Screech Owl: several reports of calling birds thru Jul and Aug. Horned Owl: only report, one calling near Carmel, Putn (ML). Barred Owl: one nest with one young, Cross River, West June 11 (David Junkin).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Nighthawk: usual nesters in large towns; no migrants at close of period. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: seemed very scarce in most areas; reported regularly along the Hudson at Cornwall. Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers: did well thru most of area, no unusual changes in numbers. Flycatchers: Bob Deed says: "I have never known them to be so scarce in Rockland." Condition much the same throughout the rest of Region except for the Kingbird which was normal. Crested, Phoebe, Pewee, and Least very low in numbers. Horned Lark: nested in the same areas as last year; one adult carrying food as late as Jun 21 near Blooming Grove, Oran (ME). Tree Swallow: as numerous as ever, started flocking in early Jul, an estimated 4,000 on wires at Cornwall Jul 21 (A & BM). Barn Swallow: absent from several areas in Oran where it previously nested; good breeding population in Dutch thru Jun and Jul. Cliff Swallow: new nest site in Oran; one pair near Mt. Lodge Pk, Washingtonville (ME); one Aug 11, Cornwall (A & BM). Purple Martin: numbers seriously reduced after spring kill; nesting birds left Pine Plains area Jul 5 (VP).

Blue Jay: as many or more than ever. Common Raven: remains about Slide Mt. in the Catskills (FH, DS). White-breasted Nuthatch: numbers seem lower than normal, not many young reported. Red-breasted Nuthatch: last report Dutch Jun 9, Red Oaks Mill (MK); a group of four at Mohonk L Jun 29 (DS), known to nest in Schawangunk Mts. House Wren: failed to nest in many former sites, but numbers continue to be good. Winter Wren: one singing atop Balsam Round Top Mt., Ulst Jun 25 (MC). Carolina Wren: always scarce, but unusually so in recent years; one Jul 14 & 18 Red Oaks Mill, Dutch (M & JK). Mockingbird: nesting in usual sites; new nesting at Monticello, two young, fledged and flying, last seen Jun 22 (KN). Thrushes: most species normal. Robin: nested again this year on the summit of Slide Mt. (FH). Wood Thrush: nesting birds in good numbers. Gray-cheeked Thrush: Bicknell's var. in normal numbers on Slide Mt. Veery: few reported and heard, numbers seem lower. Bluebird: numbers about normal thru most of Region; 40 nesting pairs in Dutch brought off about 90 young, 25 found dead, not many second nestings noted. First nesting mortality probably due to cold weather and lack of food. Some increase noted in unhatched eggs. July heat may also have had an effect. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: pairs reported in four locations near Nyack, and another pair reported from Rockland L (RFD). Cedar Waxwing: numbers of nesting birds low in the Blooming Grove area (ME).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Red-eyed Vireo: arr very late in May; below normal thru period. Warblers: numbers of all species below normal. Golden-winged and Blue-winged: both nesting near Tomahawk L. Brewster's: observed Jun 1 near Pleasantville (Tom Howe). Myrtle: reported nesting on Balsam Round Top Mt., Ulst Jun 25 (MC). Cerulean: Jun 15, about three pair nesting Mt. Rutsen Rd near Rhinebeck, one pair nesting Cruger's Is. Chestnut-sided: breeding in good numbers near Sterling Forest Gardens. Blackpoll: ten on Balsam Round Top Mt. Jun 25 (MC). Mourning: one singing Balsam Round Top Mt. Jun 25 (MC). Yellow-breasted Chat: unreported in most counties; three reports from Dutch—one pair Red Hook and one bird Cruger's Is. Jun 15; one bird Rock City Jul 2 (OW). Canada: one killed striking window in Bedford Hills, West Aug 5 (Lee Gargliano).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Orchard Oriole: single birds Jun 1 Hawthorne, Jun 8 Poughquog, usual residents at Kripplebush and Stone Ridge were not observed to nest; nesting was observed near Tomahawk L, Oran (ME). Baltimore Oriole: numbers down in Dutch, normal elsewhere; observed flocking on Aug 4 (50 birds) and Aug 11 (78 birds) at Cooper's Corner, Sull (Ed McBride). Common Grackle: in greater numbers than usual if possible. Scarlet Tanager: almost unreported, only two during Jul in Dutch. Indigo Bunting: numbers good after late spring arr. DICKCISSEL: one Jun 25, Kingston (Frank McCausland). Purple Finch: on Slide Mt. during nesting season; at least four pair feeding young during Jun at Standfordville and vicinity, a pair believed to have nested near Martha Earl's home at Blooming Grove, imm and adult birds feeding on Mulberries there; a family reported same time Gile's Rd, Rock Tavern. House Finch: Bob Deed says "I get more phone calls on House Finches than any other bird;" range extended to Dutch where they nested at Vassar College and possibly Poughquog; one banded Jan 2 at Chevy Chase, Md. was recovered at Mohonk L Mar 17, first record for that area. (A note of interest: Bob Deed reports this species nests along side Purple Finches on Cape Cod. Excellent for comparisons). Grasshopper Sparrow: well reported from Dutch, more than usual; two near Unionville, Oran Jul 2. (A & BM). Slate-colored Junco: no reports. Chipping Sparrow: a pair on the summit of Slide Mt. again this summer (FH, DS).

Autumn reports due no later than Dec 5.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, N.Y. 10928