

located at W.H.P. (W.H.) and Hooded Warblers made a better appearance than usual in recent years—4 reports from May 15 to 31. Only one **CONNECTICUT WARBLER** this spring—M.P. (S.T.).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: The only **WESTERN MEADOWLARK** this spring was a singing bird in Kendall on May 18 (W.L. *et al.*). It was still present a week later. Three Orchard Orioles returned to the region's only known nesting site in Carlton on May 11 (W.L.). A very early Northern Oriole was at B.B. on April 22 (m. ob.). Two hundred Rusty Blackbirds on April 19 is a good spring count, B.B. (R.&M.Mc.).

The last Common Redpoll in a poor season was noted on April 5 in Webster (A.&B.K.). Pine Siskins, however, were still being seen in Irondequoit on May 31 (M.E.&D.T.). This could be a nesting area. Many observers noted the great scarcity of Vesper Sparrows but most other species appeared normal. Fox Sparrows however were in poor numbers this year with the last one seen on May 11 (M.A.S.). A report of 500 Snow Buntings on April 6 is a late record for so many, W.L. (F.&R.D.).

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

DOROTHY W. MCILROY

The coldest April on record, averaging 9 degrees below normal, was followed by the warmest May since 1934. The week of April 5-11 averaged 17 degrees below normal! The April 3-5 blizzard left several inches of snow in the southern areas, but the northern part had about 2 feet, which did not completely disappear until April 20. So many geese moved from refrozen Montezuma Refuge to the Barge Canal that it was blanketed from shore to shore. Strong, cold, northwest winds persisted most of the month. After mid-April a slow, steady warming trend brought 70 degree temperatures in late April and over 80 after May 18. Precipitation in April was less than 50% of normal; May total was about normal, occurring as heavy rains separated by long dry spells.

The April snow brought birds flocking to feeders, especially Song Sparrows and blackbirds that had already arrived in numbers. Ten wild turkeys were seen in a barnyard near Elmira April 3. Morgan Jones reported "three robins eating seeds at the Larson's window-shelf feeder in Tyre on April 6, a sure sign of desperation." Savannah, Grasshopper and Vesper Sparrows came to feeders near Elmira, and the only redpolls for the period were seen at feeders during the snow. Many Fox Sparrows came to feeders and fed in flocks along roadsides. Early phoebe arrivals disappeared. Within four days phoebes were back in Ithaca, but Walter Benning considered this a disaster species, with only three sightings all spring; J. Walters saw none at Clifton Springs between March 31 and May 2; although nesting was somewhat delayed at Seneca Army Depot, Morgan Jones had 31 pairs nesting in his study area (37 pairs in '74 and 28 in '73). Early Tree Swallows disappeared and the numbers of Tree and Barn Swallows were low until late April.

The Eaton Ornithological Society census May 18 reported only 132 species, including 15 warbler species instead of the usual 25. Warblers had moved out with warm south winds on Saturday, and new migrants did not arrive until Monday. Two good finds were a Barn Owl at Fayette where they have nested for two years (7 young fledged in '74) and a group of 10 Short-billed Marsh Wrens found by the Jorgensens along the railroad causeway at the

north end of Cayuga Lake. Subsequent trips showed none remained, however. Ithaca census May 18 was also low, 155 species.

Notable rarities were Willet, Common Raven and Kentucky Warbler.

Abbreviations: arr—first date; Cay L—Cayuga Lake; EOS—Eaton Ornithological Society census; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; SAD—Seneca Army Depot.

Contributors and compilers: WEB—Walter Benning; JB—Jack Brubaker, Watkins Glen; JG—Jim Gibson; RG—Robert Gustafson, MNWR; BH—Bernice Hilfiker; WH—Wilfred Howard; MJ—Morgan Jones, SAD; EK—Elaine Kibbe, Ithaca; JW—Jayson Walker, Waterloo; Mary Welles, Elmira.

LOONS—DUCKS: Red-necked Grebe: 1 Apr. 16 Cay L. Pied-billed Grebe: scarce Elmira, numbers still low MNWR after Agnes. Great Blue Heron: 51 Apr. 30 Addison heronry; max. 40 May 25 MNWR. **CATTLE EGRET:** 1 Apr. 26 Sheldrake (Holloway); 1 May 24-25 MNWR. Great Egret: max 4 May 29 MNWR. **SNOWY EGRET:** 1 May 25 MNWR (WEB). Black-crowned Night Heron: Apr. 3 MNWR, very scarce, WEB saw none. **GLOSSY IBIS:** 1 May 1 and May 18-20 MNWR. Whistling Swan: 1 May 25 (WEB) and 29 (JG *et al.*) MNWR, late. Maximum duck numbers at MNWR higher than March max: Gadwall 500 Apr. 2, Green-winged Teal 1000 Apr. 14, Blue-winged Teal 1200 Apr. 4, Am. Wigeon 200 Apr. 2, Northern Shoveler 500 Apr. 14, Wood Duck 450 Apr. 1, Redhead 60 Apr. 14, Ring-necked Duck 200 Apr. 2, Canvasback 20 Apr. 2, Lesser Scaup 50 Apr. 1, Bufflehead 50 Apr. 21, Oldsquaw 18 Apr. 1. Eurasian Green-winged Teal: 1 Apr. 2 MNWR (JG *et al.*). Ring-necked Duck: 164 Apr. 2 Tobehanna L., Tyrone, largest concentration ever seen in Watkins area; 2 Apr. 12 Elmira, only report of species formerly common on spring migration. **WHITE-WINGED SCOTER:** 3 Apr. 28 Seneca L. (BH). **BLACK SCOTER:** 1 male May 14 Cay L (JG *et al.*).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: more than usual Watkins—nine reports in Apr., max. 7 Apr. 21. Goshawk: regular Ithaca, nest with 3 downy young May 27. Sharp-shinned Hawk: reported regularly Ithaca; 1 Apr. 29 Clifton Springs. Cooper's Hawk: 4 Apr. reports. Red-shouldered Hawk: seen regularly Ithaca; 3 or 4 sightings a week SAD. Broad-winged Hawk: several reports late Apr., early May. Rough-legged Hawk: 1 light phase May 17 SAD, late. Bald Eagle: immature May 5 MNWR.

Sora: arr Apr. 27 Ithaca, about 2 weeks late. Common Gallinule: numbers still low MNWR after Agnes. Semipalmated Plover: max. 35 May 29 MNWR. Black-bellied Plover: max. 22 May 27 MNWR. Am. Woodcock: 11 Apr. 15 in less than 1 mile airport area Ithaca (EK). Common Snipe: numbers low MNWR. Upland Sandpiper: 12 near Ithaca, more than usual. **WILLET:** 1 Apr. 12 MNWR (H. Lapham), also reported there the following weekend. Short-billed Dowitcher: arr Apr. 21 MNWR. Wilson's Phalarope: 1 MNWR Apr. 26-27 (RG, D. Lancaster). Common Tern: 1 Apr. 20 Ithaca, early. Caspian Tern: 2 Apr. 30 MNWR, 1 May 9 Cay L. Black Tern: some recovery from Agnes, but numbers still low MNWR. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: none. Black-billed Cuckoo: arr May 19, late; 4 in half mile May 27 Ithaca (EK); only 6 reports rest of Region. Barn Owl: 1 Fayette all period; 1 Apr. 19 Watkins Glen. Short-eared Owl: last seen week of Apr. 8. Saw-whet Owl: 1 May 17 Elmira (Stasche).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: 2 calling Kennedy near Elmira and 1 Horseheads, mid-May; 1 heard May 26 SAD. Red-bellied Woodpecker: 27 May 18 EOS. Red-headed Woodpecker: 10 May 18 EOS. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: scarce, WEB saw none.

Eastern Phoebe: see introduction. Willow and Alder Flycatchers: arr late, May 17 and May 15, both present Ithaca airport, Alder in good numbers; 3 Willow May 27 Big Flats. Least Flycatcher: more than usual (WEB). Bank Swallow: arr May 2, 3 weeks late. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 each May 24 and 26 Ithaca, uncommon. Purple Martin: have recovered from low numbers at MNWR with all houses filled and have recovered from Agnes at SAD; numbers still low Elmira. **COMMON RAVEN:** 1 Apr. 2 and 2 May 18 Monterey (JB)—pos-

sibly nesting? Fish Crow: the 1, possibly 2, regularly seen Ithaca (Hahn, others). Carolina Wren: the increased populations survived the Apr. snow; several Ithaca, 4 May 18 EOS, pair nesting Clifton Springs, "well established along Seneca Lake between Willard and Geneva where there were none before last fall" (MJ). Long-billed Marsh Wren: arr May 18 MNWR, nearly a month late. Short-billed Marsh Wren: see introduction. Gray Catbird: plentiful after May 6. Wood Thrush: few until well into May. Swainson's Thrush: wave May 17 Watkins area, singing Cayuta L. Outlet; only 3 other reports. Gray-cheeked Thrush: 2 Ithaca reports; 1 singing May 20-24 SAD. Eastern Bluebird: max. migrants 20 Apr. 10 Ithaca; 14 May 18 EOS; 11 nesting pairs SAD by end of May (6 pairs all last year), 2 broods of 5 young each already fledged; few nesting Ithaca.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Vireos: Yellow-throated: arr May 10, late. Solitary: arr Apr. 10 Ithaca, nearly 2 weeks late. Philadelphia: 1 each May 17, Elmira, May 15 and 19 Ithaca. Warbling: arr May 3, late.

Arrival of about two-thirds of the warbler species was anywhere from a week to a month late. Prothonotary: 1 Apr. 27 Myers (Goodloe), very early; 1 May 11 (SAD). Yellow-rumped (Myrtle): trickled in the last of Apr., first big influx not until May 9; good numbers Cayuga Basin, scarce Elmira. Blackpoll: arr May 11 Waterloo, on time, but none Elmira until May 19. Pine: arr on time Elmira, a month late Ithaca. Prairie: 7 May 17 Elmira census, all in new locations, none found in former locations. Northern Waterthrush: arr Apr. 28 Ithaca, more than 2 weeks late; arr May 12 Elmira, a month late. Louisiana Waterthrush: arr a week late Ithaca, a month late Elmira. **KENTUCKY WARBLER:** 1 May 27 Ithaca (C. Mullen, many), present at least a week, third Cayuga Basin record. **CONNECTICUT WARBLER:** 1 May 11 Waterloo (JW); 1 May 12 Seneca Falls (Jorgensen). Yellow-breasted Chat: 4 Ithaca area in May, more than usual; 1 Seneca Falls; 2 locations Watkins area; 4 locations Elmira. Am. Redstart: 1 Apr. 20 Cay L the day after heavy south winds (Schuyler Co. Bird Club), early.

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: 100+ males May 12 Dutch Hill, Elmira (WH). N. Oriole: arr Apr. 11 Phelps, not until May 9 (late) Elmira. Scarlet Tanager: arr May 10, late. Indigo Bunting: arr Apr. 25 near Geneva (BH), early. House Finch: Etna, several locations Ithaca, many singing in Elmira, reports from Big Flats and Horseheads, feeding fledged young May 19 Corning. Common Redpoll: 2 Apr. 4-6 Elmira feeder; 1 Apr. 4-9 Newark feeder. Savannah Sparrow: scarce until May. Grasshopper Sparrow: 6 in late May on 700 meter transect near Ithaca airport (EK). Vesper Sparrow: arr Apr. 6, about 3 weeks late; 1 Apr. 11 at Corning feeder; scarce everywhere. White-crowned Sparrow: 1 early Apr. Ithaca, no more until May; good migration May 1-20. Lincoln's Sparrow: singles May 10 and 12 Ithaca. Lapland Longspur: last, week of Apr. 8 Ithaca. Snow Bunting: last, week of Apr. 30 Ithaca.

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REGION 4 – SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

April was decidedly cold, especially from the 4th thru 13th when the temperature never was above 40 degrees F and fell to 22 or less every night. May was almost as decidedly warm and produced no temperatures below 40. The early April cold was accompanied by some snow and produced considerable activity at feeders. The May heat, on the other hand, brought many complaints of a "fast" migration.