

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

A wintering Pine Warbler: On 21 Dec 1989 my son Homer (Jimmy) told me that he had a warbler coming to his feeder. Doubting this, and because of his description of a greenish back with yellowish on the breast, I concluded that it probably was a kinglet, but I said that I would come to check it. His home is a 1760 house with a huge spruce tree in the front yard, located between Amenia and Millerton just off route 22 in northeastern Dutchess County. The feeder is a covered, wire enclosed tray fitted directly to the dining room window about 4 feet from the ground. A variety of small birds feed here, including Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, nuthatch, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, House Finch and occasional American Tree Sparrow and Dark-eyed Junco. The warbler feeds often and compatibly with all, eating mostly from the balls of beef fat and cornmeal. I did go on 10 Jan 1990. Sitting in the dining room, after a wait of 20 minutes the bird appeared — warbler all right — a Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*) with its plain back, white tail spots and quite distinct wing bars, and yellowish wash on its breast. At this close range the faint eye ring was visible. The bird comes regularly and often every day. It was seen last on 17 Mar 1990. R. T. Peterson, on the range maps in the back of the *Field Guide to Eastern Birds* (4th Ed, 1980, Houghton-Mifflin Co., Boston) notes that this species winters casually along the coast as far north as Cape Cod, often at feeders. It is quite unusual for one to overwinter in upstate New York.

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[A photograph of the Pine Warbler submitted with this note is unsuitable for publication; it has been placed on file with the NYSARC. John Bull (1974. *The Birds of New York State*. Doubleday Natural History Press, New York) lists five Upstate winter records and a few additional records have appeared in subsequent *Kingbird* Regional reports — *The Editor*]