

LETTER — A DATABASE FOR REGIONAL REPORT DATA

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I have read with great interest (Wilson, Spahn, de la Torre 1996) the suggested compiling of the individual regional species reports into a single table, while maintaining the Regional Editors essays. This is an excellent idea and with my interest in birds and databases, I would like the opportunity to explore it further.

A database could be structured containing the records of each region. The text of the species reports presented by the editors seems to be consistent enough to parse into database fields. A seasonal report could be designed that would extract and organize information from the database into a statewide report. Database reports are very flexible, the layout could group by species and then region. While generating copy for publication, the database would also build an archive for future applications.

LITERATURE CITED

- de la Torre J. 1996 Dec. Letter - Regional reports. *The Kingbird* 46(4): 320.
Spahn R. 1996 Dec. Editorial - Regional reports and records documentation. *The Kingbird* 46(4): 294-295.
Wilson A. 1996 Sep. Letter - Single species entries covering all Regional reports. *The Kingbird* 46(3): 213-214.
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