

TABLE 1. *North Carolina Caspian Tern Nesting Data.*

Year	Date	Nests	Nest Contents	Location
1972	27 June	2	1 egg, 2 eggs	Oregon Inlet
1973	1 June	1	1 egg	Oregon Inlet
1974	12 June	1	1 chick	Hatteras Inlet
	13 June	4	1 chick, 2 chicks, 1 egg, 1 egg	Oregon Inlet
1975	5 June	4	1 chick, 1 chick, 2 eggs, 2 eggs	Oregon Inlet

species in coastal North Carolina. While this species is not abundant as a nester on the East Coast and appears to be erratic in its breeding distribution, it may become a regular component of our nesting bird fauna.

These observations were made while conducting research on community succession on dredge islands supported by the NOAA Office of Sea Grant, Department of Commerce, Grants No. 2-35178 and 04-3-158-40.

Notes and Comments on the Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers in Southwestern North Carolina in Summer

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On 20 June 1974 I found five singing Blue-winged Warblers (*Vermivora pinus*) in the western half of Cherokee County, N.C., in the extreme southwestern corner of the state (*Chat* 39:58). In 1975 I made three more trips to Cherokee and Clay Counties to study the avifauna of this region and to search for additional Blue-wingeds. I was unable to find any Blue-winged Warblers east of Murphy despite considerable search; however, on 23 June I found the species at three locations west of that town, two of these near Suit and one near Unaka. Surprisingly, the song period of the species had ended, as I detected the birds only by their constant calls, which I render as a buzzy *bzee*. At each location I saw about three birds, with one adult male and two adult female or immature-plumaged birds present. I drew the birds into view with my imitation of the *b-e-e-e b-z-z-z* song, and the birds were very excited upon hearing the song. Although I am not positive I saw any juveniles, breeding is strongly indicated by the fact that I observed two female-plumaged birds at each location and saw one such bird carrying food into grasses on the ground.

In addition to the Blue-winged Warblers, I found Golden-winged Warblers (*V. chrysoptera*) at several localities in the two counties. On 13 June single singing birds were 2 miles N of Hayesville, 1 mile E of Marble, 3 miles SE of Andrews, and 6 miles SE of Andrews. On 23 June a singing male was found along NC 294 about 2 miles E of the Tennessee state line. All five birds were first noted by song, and three were singing an alternate to the usual song, a variation consisting of about seven rapid buzzes followed by a higher terminal note.

A discussion of the Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers in the same area must mention the possibility of hybridization between these two closely related species. I am not aware of any published records of hybrids (Brewster's and Lawrence's) or mixed matings in North Carolina during the summer, nor have I seen any evidence of hybridization between the two species in the mountains of the state. My summer observations total about 12 Blue-winged Warblers, all in Cherokee County, and over 30 Golden-wingeds, from Watauga County southwest to Cherokee County and especially in Jackson and Macon Counties. My observations also indicate that although the two species might breed

in the same locality in the state, there are fairly definite differences in elevation and habitat for breeding. I have found the Blue-winged only between 1650 and 1800 feet. Although my Golden-winged records for Cherokee and Clay Counties have been between 1650 and 3000 feet, over most of North Carolina the species is scarce below 2000 feet, reaching peak abundance above 3000 feet. The Blue-winged prefers somewhat earlier stages of brushy field habitat than does the Golden-winged, and the latter species is usually found on much steeper slopes than those where I've seen the Blue-winged. The Blue-winged prefers overgrown fields with shrubs and saplings in the 5 to 12 foot high range, whereas the Golden-winged likes fields grown up with saplings in the 8 to 30 foot range, especially where the saplings are black locust (*Robinia pseudo-acacia*).

In summary, my observations and published records show no evidence of hybridization between the Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers in the North Carolina mountains in summer, unlike the interbreeding populations from West Virginia and Maryland northward. Birders should try to observe singing warblers of these species to determine whether the birds are purebreeds, hybrids, or in some intermediate plumage. Any records of hybrids and birds in intermediate plumages should be published, especially if they are of nesting season birds.

CBC ROUNDTABLE

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of things which we missed. We picked up a few bones and tried to identify the bird; Herman took one bite and was satisfied.

Herman ought to be a member of the Carolina Bird Club, but again the word fails. Herman isn't a "member" of anything; he's complete unto himself. It was great to know you, Herman.

Birds Can Be Fun in Australia

Friends in Sydney have shared with me a nature column by Vincent Serventy; reading makes me want to go "down under." In the South Perth Zoo, wild wagtails were introduced into a cage of captive wagtails. Confrontation took place, with the birds expanding their white "eyebrows" as a threat gesture. People in Auckland picked up a great petrel (wing spread over 6 feet) which had apparently flown from the Falkland Islands off South America and was exhausted. The pied currawong rolls on its back and plays with a ball like a juggler. The rock warbler is not found far from Sydney, but nests commonly around homes, or even in them; it is a ground-feeder. There is a nightjar (nighthawk) which looks like a small owl; yes, it's called the owlet-nightjar.

Well, I'll never add these to my list, but it's fun to read about them. The friend who sends the newspaper clippings says that large parrots are eating all the seed in their feeders. Pity.

Peregrine Falcons to be Checked

John Horn (of the Department of Botany at Duke) has sent a report about Peregrine Falcons bred in captivity by Professor Tom Cade at Cornell University. Sixteen have been released and several have been seen on their way south. Each bird has a blue band on one leg, and some have six-inch wire radio antennae trailing from their tails. If you see one, notify Dr. Tom Cade at 607-256-5056.