

ally large numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls were in the sheltered waters of the harbor and sound.

Normally the occurrence of Ivory Gulls south of Canada is unusual. There are records for wintering Ivory Gulls in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York. The southernmost records known to me are for Atlantic City, New Jersey (30 January 1955, *Am. Birds* 9(3):244; 14 February 1966, *Am. Birds* 20(3):407). There is also one summer report for New Jersey (19 August 1955, *Am. Birds* 10(1):13). The only known nesting records for Ivory Gulls in North America are for Seymore Island, a small island north of Bathurst Island and southeastern Ellesmere Island, Baffin Bay area of Arctic Canada (Frisch and Morgan, *Canada Field-Naturalist* 93(2):173-174, 1979).

First North Carolina Record of a Band-tailed Pigeon

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About midafternoon on 10 June 1980 at the Fetterbush Overlook (mile marker 422) on the Blue Ridge Parkway, Haywood County, N.C., I observed a Band-tailed Pigeon (*Columba fasciata*). This represents the first record of this species for the state.

The bird was studied by four people, all of whom had previous experience with this bird in the western United States. They were, in addition to me, Jane Kittleman and Marjorie Hopkins of Dallas, Texas, and Martha Milburn of Hamison, Arkansas. Milburn arrived after we had studied and identified the bird. It was her first eastern bird-watching trip, and we were careful not to reveal our thoughts concerning the bird's identity. She quickly announced, "It's a Band-tailed Pigeon, but the book says only the Mourning Doves are here."

Originally I had stopped to look at what I assumed was a Broad-winged Hawk perched on a dead tree just below the east end of the overlook. Realizing that it was not a hawk, I wrote down the following description before checking the field guide:

Bill yellow, black-tipped, slightly hooked.

Gray all over, dark on back of neck, as head turned, a dark area with white band at top.

Eyes red.

Notched tail.

The bird then flew close to us and landed in a Mountain Elderberry (*Sambucus pubens*). It fed and moved about leisurely, showing no sign of alarm. Visible in flight was its rounded tail and a flash of white in the belly. We saw a broad area of a different shade on the terminal end of the tail, but this was not particularly noticeable. The feathers had a soft sheen, and the bird was plump and healthy looking. There was no band visible on its yellowish legs.

The "red eye" is in reality a red ring around the eye. A notched tail, evident when the bird was first seen facing us, disappeared when it flew. This notch is the only discrepancy from the descriptions I later read in the field guides, although the Western edition of the Audubon guide has a photograph of perched Band-tailed Pigeons showing a distinctive notch in the tail.

Although this is a Western species, there are several previous records of Band-tailed Pigeons in the eastern United States:

Alabama, October 1971, *Am. Birds* 26(1):76.

Louisiana, five records, *Am. Birds* 27(3):628.

Tennessee, Nashville, April 1974, *Migrant* 45:49-51.

Kentucky, November 1973, *Kentucky Warbler* 50:18-19.

[NOTE: The above article was prepared from various letters received from Maxilla Evans. The original correspondence is on file at the North Carolina State Museum. Because this species has not been previously reported from the state, the Band-tailed Pigeon should be placed on the Provisional I list for North Carolina birds (see Chat 44(3):59-61).—DSL]

[NOTE: The March 1980 Newsletter of the Columbia, S.C., Audubon Society reports the sighting of a Band-tailed Pigeon with a flock of Rock Doves in the Boykin-Rembert area north of Sumter, S.C. Kay Sisson (pers. comm.) says that the bird was found on 30 January 1980 by three hunters, who checked the identity in a field guide. Bennie Marshall of Route 1, Rembert, S.C., telephoned Mrs. Sisson about the bird and noted all the differences from the Rock Dove, leaving no question in her mind that he knew what he was talking about. The other two observers were Baynard Boykin and Alen Wooten.—EFP]

Nectar Robbing by Orchard Orioles

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Nectar is an important component of the diet of several species of orioles (Fisk and Steen, *Condor* 78:269-271, 1976). In the tropics, wintering Orchard Orioles (*Icterus spurius*) and Northern Orioles (*I. galbula*) have been observed visiting flowering trees for nectar and may even be pollinators for some tree species (Leck, *Auk* 91:162-163, 1974; Cruden and Herman-Parker, *Auk* 94:594-596, 1977). Here in North America, Northern Orioles have been found to feed upon the nectar of flowering Trumpet Creepers (*Campsis radicans*) (Bent, U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 211, 1958). However, little is known of oriole nectar feeding habits on the breeding ground in the temperate region. The purpose of this note is to describe the nectar feeding behavior of Orchard Orioles in North Carolina.

On the morning of 7 July 1980, while observing a patch of flowering Trumpet Creepers within an Orchard Oriole territory on the Dorothea Dix Farm, Raleigh, N.C., I observed a flock of four orioles (one adult, three juveniles) feeding upon the blossoms. A feeding oriole perched on the vine or the attached end of the flower and used its bill to pierce a hole in the top part of the floral tube (corolla) near the nectaries. Once inside the long corolla, the bird opened its bill (gaped) and proceeded to lap up nectar with the tongue. Periodically, a feeding bird lifted its head to permit the liquid to flow down the throat. After feeding upon one flower, the bird moved on to the next blooming flower. The flock members concentrated all of their feeding effort upon the blooming Trumpet Creeper flowers and ignored the Trumpet Creeper buds as well as the abundant flowers of Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*). The flock fed within the Trumpet Creeper tangle for approximately 7 minutes before departing.

On the morning of 8 July 1980, I examined the corollas of Trumpet Creeper flowers growing within and outside the Orchard Oriole territory. I inspected 169 blooming Trumpet Creeper flowers in four different patches all within 1 km, but outside the oriole territory. No evidence of damage to the flowers was found outside the oriole territory. However, within the Orchard Oriole territory 78.3% of the blooming Trumpet Creeper flowers (N=23) contained slits in the corollas while only 15.8% of the flower buds (N=19) contained longitudinal slits. Thus Orchard Orioles showed a