

Nesting Localities of House Finches Wintering in North Carolina

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I obtained from the Bird Banding Laboratory a listing of House Finches (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) recaptured after being banded in North Carolina. The listing involved 23 recoveries, of which one was a second recapture. The list was examined to determine to what states the birds go for the nesting season after being in North Carolina during the winter.

A House Finch banded in North Carolina by J. D. Copeland on 7 April 1983 was recovered in Pennsylvania on 2 June 1983, showing that at least some House Finches from more northern nesting grounds are still in North Carolina in early April. With no records available to determine the time of autumn migration to North Carolina, the winter season was arbitrarily set to start with December. Thus, the winter season was defined as covering the period December through April and the nesting season the period May through July.

Of the 23 recaptures, only 11 were of birds banded during the winter and recovered during the nesting season. Assuming that these birds constitute a representative sample of the winter population of House Finches in North Carolina, the distribution of these birds during the nesting season can be taken to indicate the percentages of the winter population of House Finches in North Carolina going to the different states for the nesting season. Thus, of House Finches in North Carolina during the winter, 54.5% go for the nesting season to Pennsylvania, 18.2% go to New Jersey, 18.2% go to Maryland, and 9.1% go to Virginia.

Clearly, a sample of 11 birds is much smaller than is to be desired. Pending the accumulation of more data, the figures given can be considered as a first approximation of the breeding distribution of our wintering House Finches.

A Scarlet Ibis or Hybrid White Ibis X Scarlet Ibis In South Carolina

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A pink ibis was seen on two occasions in the Charleston, S. C. area. The bird was first seen by Ann N. Mithoefer on the NW end of Sullivan's Island near Station 17 on 27 September 1987. On 29 September the bird was seen by Henrietta Evatt on James Island Creek. The ibis was foraging in the salt marsh and resting on a dock with 6-7 adult White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*). Mrs. Evatt photographed the bird and a print has been placed on file at The Charleston Museum. Sidney A. Gauthreaux, Jr. reviewed the photographs of the pink ibis, and concluded that the bird was similar to the White Ibis X Scarlet Ibis (*E. ruber*) hybrids he observed in Flamingo, Florida in January 1983.