

- Quay, T.L. 1951. Mourning Dove Studies in North Carolina. N.C. Wildl. Res. Com., Raleigh
- Sprunt, A., Jr. & E.B. Chamberlain. 1949. South Carolina Bird Life. Contributions for the Charleston Museum: XI. 585 pp.
- Tyler, W.M. 1932. Eastern Mourning Dove. pp. 402-416. *in* Life Histories of North American Gallinaceous Birds. A. C. Bent, ed., U.S. National Museum Bulletin #162. Dover Reprint edition 1963.
- Tyler, W.M. 1949. Eastern Robin. pp. 14-48. *in* Life Histories of North American Thrushes, Kinglets, and their Allies. A.C. Bent, ed., U.S. National Museum Bulletin #196. Dover Reprint edition. 1964.

Harris' Sparrow in Durham County, N. C.

NORMAN BUDNITZ
4115 Garrett Drive
Durham, NC 27705

HARRY E. LEGRAND JR.
N.C. Natural Heritage Program
P.O. Box 27687
Raleigh, NC 27611

On 21 April 1991 the senior author was birding on the Durham, NC spring count along Brickhouse Road (SR 1630) just N of Falls Lake in northeastern Durham County. On that cool (temp. 45° F) and rainy morning, he observed an adult Harris' Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*), in a hedgerow among open fields at a wildlife management area. The bird was associating with White-throated Sparrows (*Z. albicollis*), a White-crowned Sparrow (*Z. leucophrys*), and Field Sparrows (*Spizella pusilla*). He watched the Harris' Sparrow for one minute at a distance of 15 feet with 10x binoculars.

Budnitz noted that the bird was an adult in breeding plumage. It was clearly larger than the White-throated Sparrows it was associating with, and it had a more erect posture. It had a black face (forehead, sides, and chin) surrounding a pink bill. The black extended down through the throat and ended in a tapering point on the breast. The bird also had a blackish cap, though this was harder to distinguish because it was wet and the feathers were blowing in the wind. The belly was light with some streaking on the sides. The longish tail appeared to be notched. The back was dark brown.

The Harris' Sparrow was observed by several dozen birders through 4 May. All seven members of the N.C. Bird Records Committee, including the junior author, saw the sparrow, and Richard Davis heard the sparrow singing.

This appears to be the sixth record for North Carolina. Olson (Chat 42:60-61) summarized the first four records, and a fifth record was also published in The Chat (45:84). The records now include two from the mountains, two from the western Piedmont, and two from the lower Piedmont. The previous records were grouped between November and March. This Durham County record is by far the latest sighting for North Carolina, with the most brightly-plumaged individual reported for the state. Most importantly, this appears to be the first Harris' Sparrow that was studied by a group of birders over an extended period of time.