

# SILVEREYE LONGEVITY.

S.G.Lane, Lane Cove. N.S.W.

On 20th March, 1964, my wife retrapped a Silvereye (*Zosterops lateralis*) which I had banded on July 13, 1958, five years and eight months earlier; it has since been retrapped again on 30th April, 1964.

The bird was of "Sydney type" plumage and its history is as follows:

010-04544 Banded on 13.7.58 in my garden at Lane Cove.

Retrapped at the same place on -

13.7.59	4.8.59	7.8.59	25.9.59
27.9.59	30.9.59	1.10.59	9.10.59
12.10.59	15.10.59	21.10.59	23.6.60
28.6.60	13.8.60	17.8.60	16.11.60
12.1.61	20.3.64	30.4.64	

It is interesting to note that -

- the first retrap was one year to the day after banding;
- after being retrapped on 12.1.61 it was lost sight of for 38 months;
- as this bird was banded in the month of July, it can reasonably be assumed to have been not less than six months of age at that time. (The breeding season here is normally between October and January.) It would therefore be over six years old when last retrapped.

This is the oldest recovery so far for the Eastern Silvereye. The next oldest record known for this species is of a bird banded by Hal Thomas at Irymple, Victoria, on 29.8.58 (010-06201) which was retrapped for the first time on 7.7.63 and again on 18.7.63, 4 years 10 months after banding.

Table 1 gives the number of individuals recovered in relation to the potential for periods exceeding 5, 4, and 3 years from banding date.

Table 1.

<u>Period of Banding.</u>	<u>Number Banded.</u>	<u>Recovered.</u>	<u>Percentage.</u>
July '58 to 30.3.59	225	1 over 5 years	.4
July '58 to 30.3.60	675	9 over 4 years	1.3
July '58 to 30.3.61	1375	34 over 3 years	2.4