

VORG Flame Robin Survey

The Victorian Ornithological Research Group Survey of the Flame Robin (*Petroica phoenica*) (see *Aust. Bird Bander* vol. 3, p. 73 and vol. 4, p. 67) is progressing steadily, but greater numbers need to be banded before satisfactory results may be expected. The production of simple and efficient traps, plus co-operation from an increasing number of banders, has advanced the chances of recovery or sight observation of colour-banded birds.

The distribution of printed forms in March 1967 to a large number of permanent observers throughout the whole range of this species, and to many casuals, also, has resulted already in a gratifying number of returns. These forms require only to be ticked in the relevant columns and compilation of data is simplified because of uniform recording. Forms are available on request.

In addition to the areas previously stated, colour-banding is now being carried out on the north coast of Tasmania where movements will be closely observed.

Flame Robins may be banded by any bander anywhere. A note to the Secretary of the ABBS

at the time of licence renewal is sufficient advice. A project form is not required.

Sex classification of brown birds is still obscure, but it is suggested that full notes be taken, especially where an area is worked regularly and retraps are obtained. Particular plumage notes should be taken of birds in which underparts vary between buff, grey-brown, washed pink or those with orange patches. The two latter are presumed immature male plumages. Soft parts show little variation apart from pads. There are numerous records of successful nesting by pairs of brown birds but the time taken to achieve mature plumage is still not determined.

To date, reports of moult to adult male plumage cover only the period late January to early April.

Information would be appreciated from banders who are prepared to assist in solving these problems.

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Notice to Contributors

Contributors are requested to observe the following points when submitting articles and notes for publication.

- Articles or notes should be typewritten if possible. Double spacing is required and carbon copies are acceptable only as duplicates.
- Margins of not less than one inch width at the left hand side and top, with similar or smaller margins at right hand side of pages.
- No underlining and no abbreviations except as shown below.
- The *Style Manual*, Commonwealth Government Printing Office, Canberra (1966) is the guide for this journal.
- Photographs should be glossy finish and not too small.
- Diagrams should be on plain white paper drawn with india ink. Any lettering is to be "professional style" or lightly pencilled.

Examples

The following examples should be noted as these constitute some of the more common deviations.

- Contractions.
Mr, Mrs, Dr are not followed by a full stop.
- Dates.
In full—21 January 1967.
In tables only—21.1.67.
Abbreviated—21 Jan. 67 (as in Recovery Round-up, the first three letters of each month except May, June, July and Sept.)
- Numbers.
In text, numbers one to ten are spelt; over ten, figures are used normally with a comma before each group of three figures.
- Band numbers.
011-12159, 130-41728.
- References.
References to other articles should be shown in text—'. . . A. M. Gwynn (1962) stated that . . . ' and under heading

Reference

Gwynn, A. M. (1962), 'The Silvereye Project', *Aust. Bird Bander*, 2:5-7.

- Acknowledgments to other individuals should include Christian names or initials.