

Cowbird, Veery, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, and Canada Warbler might also have resulted from inadequate coverage of preferred habitats at arrival times.

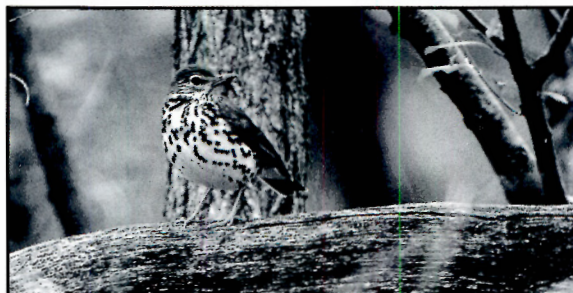
As the 3 groups of early, middle and late migrants arrived they showed progressive decreases in composite deviations from E Illinois to the 3 other sites (W Illinois: +3.3, +2.6, +0.2; E Indiana: +8.1, +0.5, -0.9; S Wisconsin: +25.5, +8.3, +6.2).

These reductions strongly indicate

that factors serving to delay the migratory advance in late winter and

early spring are much less operative as the season advances, allowing a

broad avian front of mixed species to accelerate rapidly toward their destinations.



Wood Thrush, Washington Park, Sangamon Co. 6 May 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Annual Variations

Given the popular media accounts of the swallows returning to Capistrano Mission in California on precisely 19 March each year and the reappearance without fail of the "buzzards" at Hinckley, Ohio 4 days earlier, to what extent can our long-term averages enable us to predict accurately

Table 3. May median arrival dates of 24 migrants in eastern Illinois and median deviations in days at 3 other Midwestern sites (n = sample years)

SPECIES	Trend-a/	E Illinois		W Illinois		E Indiana		S Wisconsin	
		Median	n	Dev	n	Dev	n	Dev	n
Swainson's Thrush	E	1 May	22	+4	14	-7	37	+4	19
Kentucky Warbler	E	1 May	22	+5	14	-2	35	DLb/	
Least Flycatcher	-	2 May	20	+4	10	-2	38	+2	20
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	U	3 May	21	+1	15	-1	36	+11	15
Gray-cheeked Thrush	U	3 May	22	+1	13	-1	33	+5	15
American Redstart	U	3 May	22	+1	14	+3	30	+8	20
Yellow-breasted Chat	U	3 May	22	+1	10	-2	34	DL	
Eastern Wood-Pewee	S	4 May	21	+6	14	+2	38	+11	20
Blackburnian Warbler	U	4 May	22	-2	13	-3	34	+5	20
Blackpoll Warbler	W	4 May	21	-1	14	+6	33	+9	19
Summer Tanager	E	4 May	21	+3	10	-3	31	DL	
Veery	-	5 May	19	-7	10	-1	32	+3	18
Golden-winged Warbler	U	5 May	21	+1	14	-1	28	+5	20
Cape May Warbler	U	5 May	19	0	10	+1	37	+5	14
Dickcissel	W	5 May	21	-3	15	+5	28	DL	
Black-billed Cuckoo	U	6 May	19	+1	10	+1	29	+13	17
Chestnut-sided Warbler	-	6 May	22	-4	13	-3	36	+3	20
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	U	7 May	21	+1	13	-1	31	+13	17
Magnolia Warbler	U	7 May	22	-1	10	-2	39	+4	20
Acadian Flycatcher	U	8 May	20	-1	10	0	37	+9	17
Bay-breasted Warbler	E	9 May	22	+1	12	-4	30	+5	16
Wilson's Warbler	-	10 May	19	-3	11	-4	28	+5	20
Willow Flycatcher	U	14 May	19	0	9	0	28	DL	
Canada Warbler	-	14 May	21	-4	9	-2	32	-2	20
Actual average median deviation					+0.2	-0.9	+6.2		
Theoretical average median deviation					+2.1	+6.9	+16.1		

a/ Illinois-Indiana arrival trends: uniform (U) within 4-day interval at the 3 sites; first at southernmost (S) E Illinois; advance from west (W) eastward; advance from east (E) westward; trendless (). b/ DL = data lacking.