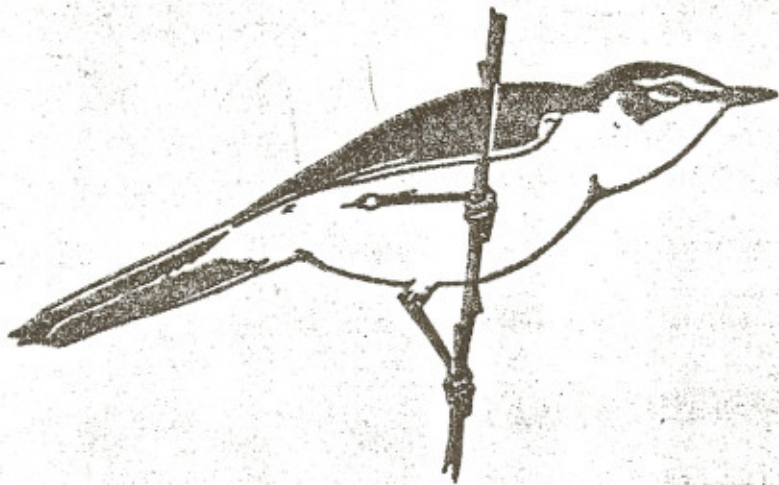


H. T. Owen 11, 90

# The Chat

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field to find that a combine had cut a 50 foot strip around the three acre field. After that only one bird was seen. It is possible that the other may have been killed while on or near the nest. The two birds certainly presented every indication that a nest of eggs was being incubated. At no time during the 12 days observation did I notice the birds leaving the confines of the three acre field.

W. L. HAMMERT, Project Leader State-wide Investigator of Wildlife Habitat and Distribution, Raleigh, N. C.

**YOUNG COASTAL OAK-HICKORY FOREST.** Forest in transition from pine to live oak and laurel oak-hickory climax. Forest crown thin with moderate undergrowth of saplings and shrubs; trees averaging about 30 feet high and 8 inches DBH; Crown trees: Pine, 30%, average 11 inches DBH; Live oak, 59%; average 5 inches DBH; laurel oak, 23%, average 7 inches DBH; pignut hickory, 7%, average 6 inches DBH; holly, 1%, average 2 inches DBH; Undergrowth: holly, 23%; oak saplings, 34%; sparkleberry, 20%; others, 25% (including wax Myrtle, Osmanthus, Yaupon.) SIZE: Approximately 4.2 acres (100x200 yds. with string). LOCATION: 30 yds. from the sound at the Carolina Marine Biological Laboratory, Beaufort, N. C.; tract bordered by small mud flat on one side, a field, a clearing, and the sound on the other sides. TOPOGRAPHY: flat. EDGE: Large effect: the whole area may be considered as an edge to the field, clearing, and mudflat. SURVEYS AND COVERAGE: 9 hours on 11 and 12 June 1946. WEATHER: scattered clouds, wind: 12-30 mph. CENSUS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 1P; Flicker, 1Y; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 1P; Crested Flycatcher, 1P; Fish Crow, 1P; Chipping Sparrow, 1P; Towhee, 1Y; Cardinal, 1Y; Painted Bunting, 2P; Red-eyed Vireo, 2P; White-eyed Vireo, 1P; Yellow-throated Warbler, 1P; Pine warbler, 1P; Prairie Warbler, 1Y; Carolina Wren 1Y; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 1Y; Carolina Chickadee, 1Y; Tufted Titmouse, 1P; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 1Y; Brown Thrasher, 1P; Total, 20 species, 22 pairs. DENSITY: 104 adults per 100 acres. Visitors: Purple Martins darting incessantly among tree-tops.

HOWARD THOMAS ODUM, Chapel Hill, N. C.

**CLIMAX SALT MARSH.** Spartina alone dominating 60% of area; Juncus alternating in patches with Salicornia and Spartina, 40% of area; flooded by highest tides with several permanent pools containing great numbers of fiddler crabs and associated fauna; divided by small tide-water ditch and bordered on one side by another ditch. LOCATION: In typical marsh—between pine woods and the sound on the Oyster Farm of the Fish and Wildlife Service on the North river near Beaufort, N. C. SIZE: 12.5 acres (300x200 yds. with string). EDGE: No significant effect—area is 50 yds. from pine woods on one end and the sound on the other; long sides are bordered by similar marsh; no pairs attracted. SURVEY AND COVERAGE: 12 hours on June 9 and 10 1946; Weather: clear, wind 25-35 mph. CENSUS: Chipping Sparrow, 1P; Wilett, 1N; Seaside Sparrow, 12 singing birds. (Total Seaside Sparrows counted, 30); total, 3 species, 15 pairs (singing bird as a pair). DENSITY: 120 pairs per 100 acres. REGULAR VISITORS: (Since these species feed over an area far larger than the census area, the average number present at any time seems to be the best representation of density. Fractions are obtained by dividing the time present by the total time of observation.) Snow Egret, 1; Louisiana Heron, 1; Little Blue Heron, 3; Green Heron, 5; Turkey Vulture, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, .01; Osprey, .01; Laughing Gull, 1; Least Tern, 1; Chimney Swift, .3; Fish Crow, .5; Boat-tailed Grackle, 1. FINAL DENSITY: 342 adults per 100 acres.

HOWARD THOMAS ODUM, Chapel Hill, N. C.

**FLOODPLAIN FOREST.** Section of an extensive piedmont floodplain forest approaching climax; Oak, 25% (swamp chestnut, swamp red, overcup); hickory,

17%; ash, 18%; red maple, 16%; sweet gum 10%; elm, 8%; black gum 6% with moderately lush growth of saplings and shrubs. Trees averaging 9 inches DBH (oak), 13 inches, hickory, 12 inches, ash, 4 inches, maple 5 inches, sweet gum 8 inches, elm 11 inches, black gum 5 inches) and averaging about 65 ft. high. A few crown trees have been removed by man in recent years. The area is flooded with a foot or more of water in every month of the year except in drought periods. Pools remain throughout breeding season. SIZE: Approximately 18.5 acres (300x300 yds. with string). TOPOGRAPHY: Flat. EDGE: almost none, the large stream along the border has no different type of vegetation. SURVEYS: Many trips in all seasons since 1938, map completed in April, tree count made in August. COVERAGE: 27 hours on 12 days between March 1st and August 1946 averaging 138 minutes per trip. WEATHER: precipitation normal to slightly above normal; temperatures normal to slightly below normal; area was flooded about 8 times during the period. CENSUS: Wild Turkey, 1N; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 2P; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 1P; Hairy Woodpecker, 1P; Downy Woodpecker, 1P; Red-billed Woodpecker, 1P; Filieated Woodpecker, 1P; Acadian Flycatcher, 6P; Carolina Chickadee, 1Y; Tufted Titmouse, 1Y; Wood Thrush, 1P; Yellow-throated Vireo, 1P; Red-eyed Vireo, 1P; Blue Gray Gnatcatcher, 1Y; 1P; Carolina Wren, 1Y; Louisiana Water-thrush, 1P; Kentucky Warbler, 1Y, 2P; Hooded Warbler, 3P; Redstart, 1P; Cardinal, 1Y, 1P; Total: 20 species, 42 pairs. DENSITY: 227 pairs per 100 acres. Regular visitors: Parula Warbler, (?) pairs; Barred Owl, 1P; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1P; Turkey Vulture, (?) pairs; Final DENSITY: 497 adults per 100 acres.

HOWARD T. ODUM; MRS. ADELAIDE WALTERS, Chapel Hill, N. C.

**YOUNG UPLAND OAK HICKORY FOREST.** Many pines remaining in the transition from pine woods to climax oak-hickory; forest crown somewhat open with understorey of dogwood, Sourwood, sassafras, and redbud averaging 25 feet high; fairly thick undergrowth of saplings and shrubs; thin crown in NW corner allows several pine saplings; trees average about 50 feet high and 10 inches DBH; crown trees 56% oak (white, 15%; scarlet, 14%; black 11%); Southern red, 8%; post, 8%; blackjack, 1%; pine, 17%; white heart hickory, 14%; black gum, 8%; and cedar and tulip poplar 3%; along the stream is a narrow line of tulip poplar (56%) and red maple (44%), 50 ft. high and 9 inches DBH with substratum of magnolia, alder, and lush sapling growth averaging about 15 feet; not disturbed by man for at least 30 years. About 45 crown trees blown down in a thunderstorm since census in 1942. Size: Approximately 25 acres (400x300 yds. with string), of typical piedmont woodland of North Carolina; tract bordered on four sides by similar forest. TOPOGRAPHY: two hills sloping to a small dividing stream. EDGE: Slight effect produced by road and narrow clearing running through the woods along 150 yds of the SW corner; this attracted two pairs. SURVEYS: First breeding census in 1942 with many trips during migrations before. COVERAGE: Total of 39 hours on 27 days between March 1st and July 10th averaging 64 minutes per trip between 5 A.M. and 10 P.M. WEATHER: precipitation normal to slightly above normal; temperatures normal to slightly below normal. CENSUS: Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 1P; Red-billed Woodpecker, 1Y; Hairy Woodpecker, 1N; Down Woodpecker, 1N, 1P; Crested Flycatcher, 1P; Acaddia Flycatcher, 1N, 2P; Wood Pewee, 1P; Carolina Chickadee, 1N; Tufted Titmouse, 1P; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2N; Wood Thrush: 10Y; Yellow-throated Vireo, 1P; Red-eyed Vireo, 1Y, 6P; Pine Warbler, 1N, 1Y, 1P; Ovenbird, 2P; Summer Tanager, 1Y, 1P; Total: 16 species, 39 pairs. DENSITY: 156 pairs per 100 acres. Regular visitors: Broadwinged Hawk, 1P; Blue Jay, 1P; Chimney Swift, (?) pairs; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 1P; Barred Owl, 1P; Turkey Vulture, (?) pairs; Crow, (?) pairs. FINAL DENSITY: 368 adult per 100 acres.

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