

CANADIAN NESTBOX REPORT, 1982

Twenty-second Annual Report from Brandon, Manitoba

Table 1. Occupancy of Nesting Boxes in the Brandon, Manitoba Area, 1982.

Occupant	No. of Nestings
Mountain Bluebirds	662
Eastern Bluebirds	72
Bluebirds (not identified as to species)	7
Cross Nesting Bluebirds (Eastern x Mountain)	1
Tree Swallows	661
House Sparrow	119
House Wrens	62

Other occupants of boxes included mice, squirrels and Eastern Kingbirds.

During 1982 the nestbox project was again carried out by "The Friends of the Bluebirds." This volunteer group held spring and autumn meetings and monitored boxes during the breeding season.

A summary of nestbox occupants and nestings during 1982 is shown in Table 1.

A pair of Eastern Kingbirds nested in one of Earle Farley's boxes. Three eggs were laid but did not hatch. The entrance hole had been enlarged by a squirrel which had previously occupied the box. Farley also reported the only case of cross breeding this season: an Eastern Bluebird female with a Mountain Bluebird male.

On the average the Mountain Bluebird clutch size was down this year. Possibly the late, cold spring was a factor.

In order to keep mice from overwintering in nestboxes, some members used a strip of plywood or screen netting to cover the entrances when cleaning the boxes at the end of the nesting season.

Raymond Gladden, our primary contributor of nestboxes, built 261 this year. Some of them have 1 9/16 inch entrance holes for purposes of experimentation.

A master map of nestlines, prepared by Ann Smith, will be a continuing project.

Nesting results were compiled by Norah Lane, Mamie McCowan, Barbara Robinson, Hazel Patmore and Ann Smith.

Mountain Bluebird Trail, Lethbridge, Alberta

Three thousand miles were traveled in banding 307 bluebird nestlings and 27 adults. Eleven second broods fledged by 5 August. Results are shown in Table 2.

Calgary, Alberta, Area Bluebird Trail Report

Thirteen sections of bluebird trails were monitored by one or more individuals during 1982 in the Calgary area. These people monitored 765 boxes on 421 miles of line. Nests in these boxes fledged approximately 840 Mountain Bluebirds and 2,030 Tree Swallows.

This summary was submitted by Don Stiles.

Table 2. Occupancy of Nesting Boxes on the Mountain Bluebird Trail, Lethbridge, Alberta, 1982.

Nesting boxes available	840
Boxes used by bluebirds	101
Bluebird eggs laid	482
Bluebirds fledged	387
Bluebird nestlings banded	307
Bluebird adults banded	27
Sterile eggs	95*
Tree Swallow nests	56*
Tree Swallows fledged	280*
Tree Swallow eggs laid	365
House Wren nests	5
Number of boxes used	156

*estimated

This report was compiled by Duncan J. Mackintosh. ■

1701 Lorne Avenue, Brandon, Manitoba R7A
OW2 (Lane); 1719 - 9th Avenue S., Leth-
bridge, Alberta T1J 1W4 (Mackintosh); 20
Lake Wapta Rise SE, Calgary, Alberta T2J
3M9 (Stiles).

