

After reviewing the literature and actively searching for colonies, I have come to the conclusion that the limiting factor controlling further expansion of the breeding range of the northern Barn Swallow in lower Alabama is the development of suitable nesting sites in the form of concrete bridges over water adjacent to large open areas and culverts next to lakes or large pastures.

I thank Gail Bader for helping me gather data.

Literature Cited

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GREAT WHITE HERON SIGHTED AT MARION, ALABAMA

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A Great White Heron, Ardea herodias occidentalis, white phase of the Great Blue Heron, Ardea herodias, was observed at Lakeland Farms, Marion, Alabama, on September 8, 1977. The bird was viewed for 30 minutes with a 20-power balscope at about 100 yards distance. The large yellowish-colored bill and pale yellowish legs were noted. In the same scope view was a Great Blue Heron and on the same lake was a Great Egret for comparison. The size of this heron, which stood in water near the Great Blue Heron, made a significant comparison of the larger size of the Great White Heron. Hurricane Babe passed through the Florida Keys striking the west coast of Louisiana on the night of September 4, 1977. The storm then moved inland in a northeasterly course passing through the Marion area near midnight of September 6. It is possible that this heron was picked up by Hurricane Babe and then carried by the resulting storm to this "alien land." Other observers in the party were Susan Holt, Helen Kittinger and Ann Miller.

TELEVISION TOWER CASUALTIES AT HUNTSVILLE

FALL, 1976

C. Dwight Cooley

In the fall of 1976, regular collections were made and daily records kept of bird casualties at WHNT television tower in Huntsville, Alabama. The tower is located east of Huntsville, Madison County, Alabama, atop Monte Sano Mountain and is of the needle-type construction. WHNT tower, supported by 12 cables, is 1000 ft. tall and reaches an altitude of approximately 2600 ft. above sea level.

Collections were begun on September 30 and terminated October 31. During this period of 32 consecutive days of collection, 42 individuals of 18 species were recorded. Table 1 depicts the species list, total number of birds and the collection dates. Since one cannot determine whether a bird fell before or after midnight, the morning collection dates are used.