

Marbled Godwit Collected at Lake Texoma, Oklahoma

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On June 29, 1952, a Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) was observed feeding on a large sand bar in Lake Texoma near the University of Oklahoma Biological Station and close to the Texas-Oklahoma state line in Marshall County, Oklahoma. This bird (female, 420.2 grams) was collected and is now in the bird range of the University of Oklahoma Museum, Division of Zoology (U.O.M.Z. Number 547).

Lake Texoma was impounded in 1945. It has a surface area of approximately 93,000 acres, and 700 miles of shoreline. It is primarily for flood control and thus its shoreline is continually inundated and exposed, leaving large mud flats as attractive habitat for migratory or resident shore-birds.

The Marbled Godwit has been reported in Oklahoma by Nice (1) as a rare transient. She mentioned only one specimen, taken on June 15, 1905, as being in the museum at Alva, Oklahoma. Since the bird which I collected appeared at Lake Texoma during mid-summer and in a mid-continental area, it may be significant to note the possibility of this relatively new aquatic habitat as attracting birds which are rare to mid-continental areas of the south at this time of year. Normally, this species is a coastal migrant. It seems possible that Lake Texoma will attract more and more birds generally associated with aquatic habitats, and that observers in this region should keep this in mind.

LITERATURE CITED

1. NICE, MARGARET M. 1931. The birds of Oklahoma. Publ. Univ. Oklahoma Biol. Survey 3(1):1-224.
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