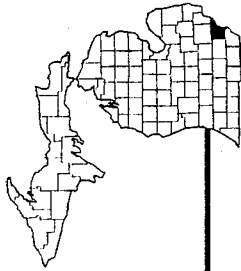


"Yellow" Palm Warbler (*Dendroica palmarum hypochrysea*) banded in Wayne Co.



Julie A. Craves
Rouge River Bird Observatory
University of Michigan-Dearborn

On 1 Nov 2003, a Palm Warbler (*Dendroica palmarum*) assignable to the race "*hypochrysea*" was banded on the campus of the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Wayne Co., as part of the ongoing operations of the Rouge River Bird Observatory.

The breeding range of Palm Warblers corresponds with boreal bogs and fens in Canada, northern New England, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, and parts of northern Wisconsin and Minnesota (Wilson 1996). *Dendroica palmarum palmarum*, or "Western" Palm Warbler is the race typically seen in Michigan. It nests west of Ottawa, Ontario and winters in the southeastern U.S. and the West Indies, while the "Yellow" Palm Warbler (*D. p. hypochrysea*) nests east of Ottawa (although the Ottawa population is apparently extirpated) and winters on the Gulf Coast (Pittaway 1995, Wilson 1996). "Yellow" Palm Warblers generally migrate north and east of the Appalachias (Wilson 1996).

The Dearborn bird was in general richly colored, with a strong yellow wash overall. The entire underside was bright yellow, with no contrast between the breast, belly, and undertail coverts. The supercilium was also yellow. This distinguishes it from "Western" Palm Warblers, which are duller, with buff-colored bellies that may be washed with yellow, but always contrast with the undertail coverts, and which have pale or buffy superciliums (Wilson 1996, Pyle 1997, Sibley 2000).

This bird was a hatching-year bird, based on an incompletely ossified skull. The unflattened wing chord was 63 mm, slightly above the mean for Palm Warblers banded at this site (62.1 mm \pm 2.2, n=212). "Yellow" Palm Warblers average a bit larger than "Westerns" (Pyle 1997). There was no chestnut on the crown. In basic plumage, "Yellow" females will have no chestnut on the crown, while males may have a crown patch of 0-4 mm (Pyle 1997).

The only other documented record for *D. p. hypochrysea* is a bird banded in Kalamazoo Co., in October 1990 (McPeck and Adams 1994). This was also a late fall date for Palm Warbler in Dearborn, based on 25 years of records (Craves 1996). Wilson (1996) states that "Yellow" Palm Warblers migrate later than the "Western" race in the fall.

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