

Oklahoma Bird Life

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OKLAHOMA BIRD LIFE

By Frederick M. Baumgartner and A. Marguerite Baumgartner



ILLUSTRATED BY Wallace Hughes

PHOTOGRAPHS COMPILED BY Herbert Chezem

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Frederick M. Baumgartner, A. Marguerite Baumgartner : Oklahoma Bird Life before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Oklahoma Bird Life:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. No Other OK Bird Book Like This Semi-Academic, Semi-Popular, Massive Volume By Diotima A big, heavy hardback; not a book to be carried into the field. Neither a highly technical book like Reinking's "OK...Breeding Birds" nor a popular field guide to the state's birds. (See "Imaturo's" rather sweet comments on this friendly-written book.) . Mainly good only for Oklahoma though helpful in Kansas north Texas. No maps of species distributions, but has notes on commonality, etc. (e.g. one record, in the Northwest, of a Curve-Billed Thrasher, "In Ellis Co., seen near Arnett, Dec. 26, 1968 [CBC=Christmas Bird Count]. Distributions of species in OK only [occasional vague note of occurrence beyond OK]. For each species notes of occurrence [places dates] are given for 8 ill-/un-defined subregions of OK: North-Central (NC), C, SC, NE, SE, SW, NW, Panhandle. There is a "STATUS..." or habitat summation for each species in OK: e.g.: Curve-Billed Thrasher---"Uncommon resident in

brush cholla cactus in Black Mesa area, in mesquite grasslands of Jackson County, straggling N E to C OK". Nesting data given if germane. There is a handy seven page Check-List of the 355 species grouped by family (1992,so a little out of date) ,including season region. I found the 20 pages of OK-habitats/ecology to be quite helpful in giving context. There are also 51 color plates of birds grouped in families---When added to the 475 other pages, there are 525 large pages in this massive semi-academic tome.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy George H.Love the book. Mrs. Baumgartner was my den mother in cub scouts and would take us bird watching.8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Oklahoma Bird Life - a delightful referenceBy ImaturoOklahoma Bird Life is a delightful reference. Whenever a pair of birds begins nesting in the yard, I head straight for this book. Oklahoma Bird Life provides info on the birds' range, migration, habitat, # of eggs in a brood, incubation periods, fledge times, and what the birds eat. The narrative stories make reading about the birds a pleasure. For example, the authors tell a wonderful story about Carolina Chickadees in their own yard. The color plates and numerous photos bring the book to life and help with identification. While I live in Georgia, Oklahoma Bird Life includes most species of birds, and I am never disappointed.The information in Oklahoma Bird Life enabled us to postpone a roofing job for 2 weeks to allow robins to fledge. I highly recommend Oklahoma Bird Life to people who enjoy learning about birds. It is much better than a list of facts, as the stories make it so delightful.

From water birds to birds of prey to the complex order of perching birds, Oklahoma is remarkable for the variety and extent of its bird life. Ornithologists, students, and amateur birders alike will welcome this comprehensive and lavishly illustrated guide to birds in the state by Frederick M. Baumgartner and A. Marguerite Baumgartner.Fifty-one color plates and 58 line drawings of Oklahoma birds by artist Wallace Hughes as well as more than 150 black-and-white photographs compiled by Herbert Chezem, including numerous remarkable photographs of birds in action, illustrate the text.