

occasionally in the daytime to feed on seed, it was after dusk and during the evening that they were most active.

They, by this time, seemed to be able to look after themselves, so after giving them a drink and some bread soaked in milk, of which they had become fond, we took them to the back of our woods. Here, in a swampy place where we had seen jumping mice, we left their nest with a large quantity of seeds in it, under an old stump. Re-visiting the spot the next morning we saw no sign of them.

Although it proved to be quite an undertaking

to rear these young jumping mice from babyhood, it was well worth-while, even if only for the amusement at feeding time. We and our friends had many a hearty laugh over their antics as each of the mice endeavoured to take the straw from the others. They were unquestionably not as well developed as they should have been at their age and were rather thin. Our feeding was doubtless at fault, we having had no previous experience with tiny animals, but we at least reared them so that they were active and apparently capable of subsisting by their own efforts when released.

(*ERUCASTRUM GALLICUM*)—A SLY INTRUDER

By HERBERT GROH



IN AN ARTICLE on "Some Recently Noticed Mustards", contributed to *Scientific Agriculture*, July, 1933, one of the species discussed was *Erucastrum gallicum* (Willd.) O. E. Schultz., both species and genus unrecorded previously in Canada. Since the article was prepared, a number of other records secured in 1933, have considerably extended the range, and may be presented for publication here.

The first American records were published in *Rhodora* in 1911, by Dr. B. L. Robinson, one of these dating back to 1903, being from Wisconsin, and another, which was the immediate occasion of the note, from Massachusetts. The weed, which has received the common name dog mustard, has become fairly widespread, and has been found as far west as Glacier National Park, Montana.

Although only now reported in Canada, the first collection of this plant, was made by myself as early as July, 1922, but was laid aside unnamed. Significantly enough, this earliest record was from Emerson, Man., right on the International Boundary, and due north of prior infestations along the Red River.

Interest in the identity of the specimens which had accumulated in the Division of Botany, was stimulated in the fall of 1931, by the receipt of material from Manitoba, as well as from Ontario, along with evidence of really aggressive tendencies. It was not until after another season's fruitful weed surveys, however, that the name was correctly ascertained; and the full force of our rather culpable Canadian blindness to its persistent appeals for recognition at last burst upon us.

When the available material was assembled at the end of 1932, it was found that more than 30 stations for the weed were known, and mostly authenticated by specimens in the Division Herbarium. These were distributed over about 2500 miles of longitude from Charlottetown, P.E. I. to Scott, Sask., as follows:

P.E.I., one record, 1926; N.S., one, 1932; Que., five, 1927 and later; Ont., six, 1925 and later; Man., thirteen, 1922 and later; Sask., seven, 1932. Seven of these records were contributed by correspondents of the Division, and many others were secured in the course of motor travel kindly made possible by field officers of the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, chiefly on other quests.

As already intimated, weed surveys in 1933 have added to the above information. The range is now no farther west, but has been extended north to St. Walburg, Sask., at present the terminus of a branch railway, running northwest of Battleford for about 80 miles. The stations to be placed on record for 1933 are as follows:

Ottawa, Ont., July 11. (W. H. Minshall)—On a railway embankment skirting Hintonburgh. This is the first record for the Ottawa district.

Kirk's Ferry, Que., (Reported independently by W. H. Wright and H. Groh)—Railway bed for the entire length of the station yard.

Regina, Sask. (Reported by W. G. Palmer).

Weyburn, and Lewvan, Sask., July 28. (These and the following all recorded by H. Groh)—All from railway premises.

Melvile, Sask., July 31.

Yorkton and Zehner, Sask., August 1.

St. Walburg and Turtleford, Sask., August 20

Saskatoon, Sask., August 22 ---Spread extensively in railway yards.

Thus well over 40 stations are at hand for a weed until recently unsuspected in our midst; and without doubt, this can be multiplied all over the country, unless possibly in Alberta and British Columbia, which received fairly intensive surveys in the principal agricultural belts in 1930, 1931 and 1933, without its discovery.

For the benefit of any who might have an opportunity to look for it, an excellent description, as given by Dr. Robinson in his paper in *Rhodora*, may be here quoted.—“Annual, erect or ascending, 2-4 dm. high, with habit somewhat as in *Sisymbrium altissimum*; stem retrorsely pubescent, the hairs being simple; leaves oblong in general outline, deeply pinnatifid to decidedly bipinnatifid, the lobes rounded, the sinuses broad and usually obtuse or truncate; racemes at length elongated, loose, the pedicels slender, ascending or so widely spreading as to be nearly horizontal, in fruit 6-10 mm. long, the lower ones subtended by distinct

(though much reduced) leaves or leaflike bracts; flowers of medium size; petals pale yellow 5 mm. in length; pods linear, subterete, 2.5-3.5 mm. long, 1-2 mm. in thickness, tipped with a slender style about 3 mm. long; seed essentially in a single row in each cell.”

The continuance of leaves or leaflike bracts up into the inflorescence, is an unusual thing in the *Cruciferae*, so that their presence here is useful as a field character for identification. Other aspects of the plant also soon impress themselves strongly upon one who has seen it a few times, and this in spite of the fact that from seedling to well developed maturity, it may exhibit every degree of branchiness.

Dog mustard is adventive from Europe, where it is a recognized weed. In this country it is usually found along railways or waysides, but is not confined to such a habitat. In several places it was seen as a crop weed, and in the Ste. Rose district of Manitoba is regarded as a dangerous pest.

NOTES ON THE NESTING OF THE DUCK HAWK IN ONTARIO

By ROBERT VINCE LINDSAY



OF THE REMNANT of hawks to be found in the north-eastern United States and Canada, the Duck Hawk, (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) is probably the most interesting and spectacular.

It is very doubtful if this species ever occurred in eastern Canada in numbers sufficiently great to justify the term “common” being applied to it, the difficulty in finding suitable nesting sites undoubtedly having been an important factor in limiting its numbers. Like its Old World counterpart of mediaeval fame (the peregrine falcon) the Duck Hawk has consistently shown a decided preference for rugged surroundings remote from civilization in which to rear its young. It almost invariably selects high rocky cliffs overlooking lake or stream (with a requisite water-fowl population) for its daily needs¹.

The persistent advance of civilization in the New World, and, within recent years, the highly efficient weapons of destruction perfected by man, have been largely responsible in reducing many of our more conspicuous forms of bird-life to dangerously near the vanishing point, and one can readily appreciate the conservationist's attitude of alarm as to the future welfare of this and other illustrious birds of prey.

The future increase of the Duck Hawk in Ontario appears to be improbable, and its status at present, if the literature on the subject is to be our criterion, shows it to be so rare that very few eyries have been discovered.

Possibly the first Ontario breeding record is that of J. E. Cabot, who saw an unfledged young in the summer of 1848, at St. Ignace Island, Nipigon Bay, Ontario.²

In 1898 P. A. Traverner found a set of eggs in an eyrie located on the side of a cliff 75 feet above water at Crown Island, Lake Muskoka³; and W. G. Shelbourne collected a set of eggs from an eyrie in the Blue Mountains, Leeds County in 1900, and in 1901 eggs were again collected; a set of two eggs was found on May 8, 1902, and in 1903 another set of four eggs. This nest was visited several times by the late Edwin Beaupré⁴. J. W. Russell describes an eyrie with three downy young found on a ledge of a high cliff at Dorset, Lake of Bays, Muskoka, in June, 1906. They nested again in 1907, the young hatching on May 20⁵; M. Y. Williams reports adults and young seen on July 10, 1915 at Echo Island, top of Bruce Peninsula⁶; Edwin Beaupré found one pair breeding near Kingston (Crow Lake), eggs or young having been seen



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