

DUCK BANDING

Duck banding continued apace during March, reports Technical Officer J. Traynor, who is in charge of the field work of this research programme. Two hundred and fiftythree ducks were trapped and marked, bringing the total number of ducks banded since the inception of the scheme (in June, 1952) to 2959. Of the birds banded in March, 27 (all black duck) were trapped at Queen's Gardens, 26 (8 black duck and 18 grey teal) were trapped in the Dumbleyung district and 200 (of which only 5 were black duck and the remainder grey teal) at Wardering Lake in the Woodanilling district.

Recoveries : Only 5 bands were returned during the month and, as shown below, 4 were from black ducks and one from a pink-eared duck. The latter was the first band to be recovered from this species, which is not surprising as only 4 have been banded. Two of the rings recovered from black ducks were from recently banded birds - one had only been released 11 days prior to its recovery a few miles away. It had died from the effects of a body shot, but where this had happened it was impossible to say.

Band No.	Date Banded	Place Where Banded	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>Black Duck</u>					
3762	2.3.56	Queen's Gardens	13.3.56	Como	3 miles
2629	9.4.54	Lake Karrinyup	13.3.56	Monger's Lake	5 "
3569	21.2.56	Kewdale	11.3.56	Gundaring Lake	130 "
2472	5.3.54	Wardering Lake	25.2.56	Wellesley River	90 "
<u>Pink-eared Duck</u>					
2307	10.2.54	Cook's Farm Moora	25.2.56	Cook's Farm Moora	---