

# *Contents*

## **Part I. Basic Ptilochronology**

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	Ptilochronology, nutritional condition, and fitness	3
1.2	Other indices of nutritional condition	10
1.3	Feather growth as an index of nutritional condition	12
1.4	Criticisms of ptilochronology	13
1.5	Summary	19
<b>2</b>	<b>Can reduced nutritional condition really cause narrowed growth bars?</b>	<b>20</b>
2.1	Summary	25
<b>3</b>	<b>Does any factor other than nutritional condition control feather growth?</b>	<b>26</b>
3.1	Annual cycles	26
3.2	Non-nutritional response to cold temperature and wind	30
3.3	Follicle history	32
3.4	Summary	35

## **Part II. Applied Ptilochronology**

<b>4</b>	<b>Habitat quality</b>	<b>39</b>
4.1	Territory size	39
4.2	Successional stage	40
4.3	Moisture	46
4.4	Anthropogenic modifications	49
4.5	Summary	67
<b>5</b>	<b>Nutritional consequences of self-cached food</b>	<b>68</b>
5.1	Summary	75
<b>6</b>	<b>Social behavior</b>	<b>76</b>
6.1	Intraspecific social behavior	76
6.2	Interspecific social behavior	88
6.3	Summary	97
<b>7</b>	<b>Individual quality</b>	<b>98</b>
7.1	Sexual selection and natural selection	98
7.2	Growth bar width as an honest signal	99

7.3	Feather pigment color as an honest signal	102
7.4	Feather structural color as an honest signal	105
7.5	Carotenoids versus melanins	111
7.6	Multiple signals of quality	113
7.7	Fluctuating asymmetry	116
7.8	Summary	118
<b>8</b>	<b>Reproductive effort</b>	<b>120</b>
8.1	Brood size	120
8.2	Breeding and molting	123
8.3	Tests of theories of reproductive effort	130
8.4	Summary	138
<b>9</b>	<b>Nestling condition</b>	<b>139</b>
9.1	Summary	142
<b>10</b>	<b>Prolonged brood-care</b>	<b>143</b>
10.1	Adult nutritional condition	143
10.2	Nutritional condition of retained offspring	148
10.3	Summary	151
<b>11</b>	<b>Taking stock and looking ahead</b>	<b>152</b>
11.1	Conceptual issues	152
11.2	What causes growth bars?	152
11.3	On 24-hours' worth of feather growth per growth bar	153
11.4	Linking growth bar width and nutritional condition	153
11.5	Potentially confounding factors	154
11.6	Original versus induced feathers	155
11.7	Controlling for structural body size	155
11.8	Feather growth lag times	156
11.9	Relations among growth bar width, feather length, and feather mass	156
11.10	Ptilochronology and fitness	157
11.11	Ptilochronolgy and conservation biology	158
11.12	Correlation versus causation	159
<b>Appendix 1</b>		<b>160</b>
<b>Appendix 2</b>		<b>162</b>
<b>References</b>		<b>165</b>
<b>Index</b>		<b>175</b>

# Index

- albatross
  - black-footed 125
  - Laysan 125
- anthropogenic habitats, correlations with feather growth
  - Amazonia 55
  - Israel 51
  - Kenya 58
  - Ohio 59
  - Southern Florida 49
  - Sweden 51
  - Texas 53
- asymmetry, fluctuating 66, 116
- blackbird, European 130
- blackcap 46
- booby, blue-footed 136
- bowerbird, satin 114
- breeding, cooperative 143
- brood care, prolonged, *see* prolonged brood care
- caching 68, 70, 73
- cardinal, northern 7, 26, 113
- chickadee
  - black-capped 77, 151
  - Carolina 14, 17, 20, 60, 89, 91, 151
- condition, nutritional, *see* nutritional condition
- cooperative breeding, *see* breeding, cooperative
- copulation, extra-pair 99, 102
- creeper, brown 89, 94
- ecological stressor, density dependent and independent 19
- effort, parental 120, 130, 133
- effort, reproductive 120, 130, 133
- energy intake, net, *see* net energy intake
- EPC, *see* copulation, extra-pair
- EPE, *see* fertilization, extra-pair
- extra-pair copulation, *see* copulation, extra-pair
- extra-pair fertilization, *see* fertilization, extra-pair
- feather, induced, *see* induced feather
- fertilization, extra-pair 99
- finch, house 7, 102, 111, 114, 153, 157
- fitness
  - definition 5
  - inclusive 151
  - measurement of 6
- fluctuating asymmetry, *see* asymmetry, fluctuating
- flycatcher, pied 140, 153
- follicle history, effect on feather growth 32
- fragmentation, habitat, correlation with feather growth 51, 55
- goose, Canada 153
- grassquit, blue-black 109, 114
- grebe, eared 11
- grosbeak, blue 106, 111, 114, 157
- growth bar
  - atypical 126, 131, 140
  - causation of 152
  - definition 4, 7
  - description 7
- growth bar width
  - anthropogenic habitats, correlation with 50, 78, 158
  - brood size, response to 120
  - factors other than net energy intake, correlation with 27, 154
  - follicle history, effect of 32
  - honest signal of quality 99, 103
  - individual quality, relation to 98, 112, 114
  - measurement of 160
  - moisture, correlation with 46
  - molt, relationship with 124, 128
  - reproductive success, correlation with 101
  - response to net energy intake 20, 68, 70, 83, 139
  - social behavior, relationship with 76
  - successional stage, correlation with 40
  - survivorship, correlation with 97, 100
  - temperature and wind, response to 83,
  - territory size, correlation with 39
- habitat fragmentation, *see* fragmentation, habitat
- habitats, anthropogenic, *see* anthropogenic habitats
- handicap principle 98
- hawk, Cooper's 95
- immunocompetence 87
- imping 102
- individual quality 98
- induced feather 10
  - lack of growth of 69
- jay
  - gray 68, 73, 143
  - Siberian 73, 143, 148, 149
- junco, dark-eyed 7
- manakin, white-crowned 56
- moisture, habitat, correlation of with feather growth 46
- net energy intake
  - benefit-cost index of 39
  - effect on feather growth 20

## 176 Index

- nuclear species 93
- nutcracker, Clark's 68
- nuthatch
  - Eurasian 24, 70, 72, *see also* nuthatch, European
  - European 24, *see also* nuthatch, Eurasian
  - white-breasted 23, 30, 60, 70, 89, 93, 157
- nutrition 9
- nutritional condition 9
  - definition 9
  - indices of 10, 139, 148
- nutritional stress 9
- ovenbird 47, 154, 158
- parid, definition of 95
- Paridae 95
- peacock 98
- plumage color
  - carotenoids versus melanins 111
  - pigment 102
  - signal of quality 102, 105, 111
  - structural 105, 111
- pollution
  - copper, and feather growth 62
  - lead, and feather growth 64
- Procellariiformes 128, 130
- prolonged brood care 143, 148
- ptilochronology
  - applied 37, 151
  - assumptions of 15
  - basic 1
  - criticisms of 13, 105
  - definition 3
  - genesis of 4
  - measurements in 160
  - support for 20
- quality, individual, *see* individual quality
- reproductive value, residual 135
- residual reproductive value, *see* reproductive value, residual
- robin
  - American 130
  - white-starred 58, 158
- satellite species 93
- scientific method 3
- scientific names of bird species 162
- scrub-jay, Florida 43, 77, 155
- selection, sexual 98
- sex allocation theory 136
- sexual selection, *see* selection, sexual
- shearwater, Cory's 128
- shrike
  - loggerhead 39, 50, 155
  - northern 13
- social behavior
  - interspecific 89, 93
  - intraspecific 77, 79, 81, 85, 87
- sparrow
  - American tree 28, 154, 157
  - house 33
  - white-crowned 13, 141
  - white-throated 14, 22, 87, 108
- starling, European 28, 120, 122
- storm-petrel, Leach's 130, 141, 153
- stress, nutritional, *see* nutritional stress
- successional stages, correlation with feather growth
  - fire-controlled oak scrub 43
  - pine woodland 40
- swallow
  - barn 116
  - tree 16, 67, 139, 156
- tern, common 133
- territoriality, adaptiveness of 71
- territory size, correlation with feather growth 39
- thrush, hermit 41, 157
- tit
  - blue 85, 89
  - coal 85, 87, 89
  - great 35, 62, 82, 86, 89, 111
  - marsh 77
  - willow 7, 72, 76, 79, 86, 153, 156
- titmouse, tufted 4, 23, 60, 89, 93, 144, 146, 154
- tropicbird, red-tailed 129
- vulture, turkey 153
- warbler
  - graceful 51
  - grasshopper, Styan's 99, 114, 124, 152, 158
  - hooded 123
- woodcreeper, wedge-billed 56
- woodpecker
  - downy 23, 53, 60, 89, 93, 97
  - hairy 89, 94
  - pileated 89
  - red-bellied 89, 94
  - red-cockaded 53, 158
  - white-backed 51, 155
- wren, house 152