

RANGE: Practically the whole of North America.

MIGRATIONS: March, October. A common summer resident.

FLIGHT: Strong, swift and graceful.

SONG: A fluted *ke, kong-ker-ee*, or a rich, sweet liquid *o-ka-lee*, or a *chuck*, like the other blackbirds.

NEST: *Position*—Built in the sedges or reeds. *Materials*—Grasses and stalks of weeds, lined with finer grass and weeds. *Eggs*—Pale blue, streaked or spotted with purple or black.

FOOD: Some grain; great quantities of injurious insects and weed seeds.

HABITS: The males arrive in flocks often three weeks before the females, who also come in flocks. Mating is usually over by the first of May. The male bird sings sweetly during the period of incubation, usually near the nest.