



The SCAUP

Blue-bill and Black-head are the common names of this duck and as there are two species in North America these are qualified by the prefix "Big" or "Little" by sportsmen who can distinguish between the two.

The larger species is common to the northern portion of both the old and new worlds and has a decidedly northern breeding range.

The Southern breeding records of this duck should all be carefully verified, those for Southern British Columbia are all erroneous and refer to the smaller species. The winter range covers the whole of the continent to the south. On the prairies, the Scaup shares the name of the Fall Duck with its smaller relative and the Ringnecked Duck, here it is usually a good table bird, as it is on the Great Lakes of the East and on all fresh water, but requires to be in really good condition to be at its best.

On the bays and inlets of the Pacific the Scaup is not reckoned as a game-duck, as a diet of shell-fish makes it uneatable; enormous numbers winter on every bay and as no one bothers them they can be studied at close range.

The lesser Scaup duck is confined to North America, breeding as far south as Colorado and wintering from the Southern Canadian border south to the West Indies and Central America.