

THE RESULTS OF BANDING 154 EMUS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA*

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Between 21 June and 26 September 1969, aluminium bands were placed on the legs of 154 emus at the following places in inland Western Australia: Mileura Station (31 birds); along the No. 1 Vermin-proof Fence between the Meekatharra–Wiluna road and the Mt. Magnet–Sandstone road (102 birds); and along the No. 3 Vermin-proof Fence between Ajana and its junction with No. 3 Vermin-proof Fence (21 birds). The banding sites of individual emus are shown on Figure 1 as dots. The recovery sites of the bands from individual birds are shown as open circles, joined to the appropriate banding site by a full line, except where movements along vermin fence lines were involved. The longest movement was 335 miles.

Table 1 presents an analysis of the recoveries in relation to date of recovery. All 14 bands recovered before mid-September 1969 [Table 1(a)] showed that birds had moved between south and west of the banding site; from November 1969 onwards [1(b)], 6 out of 16 birds were found north of the banding site.

Davies (1968)‡ has presented other data indicative of a southerly movement of emus from the inland of Western Australia in the winter–spring period, and a northerly movement in summer. The banding data provide further evidence of such a movement for the season 1969–70.

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‡ DAVIES, S. J. J. F. (1968).—Aspects of a study of emus in semi-arid Western Australia. *Proc. ecol. Soc. Aust.* 3, 160–6.

TABLE I
EMU BANDS RECOVERED TO 31 DECEMBER 1970

Band Number	Banded		Recovered		Movements		
	Date (1969)	Position*	Date (1969-70)	Position*	Distance (miles)	Time (days)	Rate (miles/day) Direction
(a) Recoveries June-October 1969							
57	21 June	No. 1 Fence: 243 miles	23 June	No. 1 Fence: 226 miles	17	2	8.5 SSW.
61	22 June	No. 1 Fence: 246 miles	6 July	No. 1 Fence: 181 miles	65	14	4.64 SSW.
83	23 June	No. 1 Fence: 260 miles	28 June	No. 1 Fence: 240 miles	20	5	4.00 SSW.
84	23 June	No. 1 Fence: 250 miles	30 Sept.	No. 2 Fence: 153 miles	192	99	1.94 SW.
87	23 June	No. 1 Fence: 226 miles	28 June	No. 1 Fence: 206 miles	20	5	4.00 SSW.
92	23 June	No. 1 Fence: 206 miles	22 Aug.	No. 1 Fence: 70 miles	136	61	2.23 S.
122	28 June	No. 1 Fence: 303 miles	11 Sept.	No. 3 Fence: 33 miles	180	75	2.4 WSW.
123	28 June	No. 1 Fence: 305 miles	14 Sept.	No. 1 Fence: 245 miles	60	75	0.8 SSW.
124	28 June	No. 1 Fence: 302 miles	14 Sept.	No. 3 Fence: 124 miles	276	80	3.45 WSW.
131	29 June	No. 1 Fence: 332 miles	17 July	No. 1 Fence: 220 miles	112	18	6.22 SSW.
133	29 June	No. 1 Fence: 330 miles	14 Sept.	No. 1 Fence: 245 miles	85	75	1.13 SSW.
161	11 Sept.	No. 3 Fence: 33 miles	14 Oct.	No. 3 Fence: 112 miles	79	32	2.50 W.
163	11 Sept.	No. 3 Fence: 41 miles	15 Sept.	No. 3 Fence: 74 miles	33	4	8.25 W.
175	12 Sept.	No. 3 Fence: 70 miles	13 Sept.	No. 3 Fence: 74 miles	4	1	4.00 W.
(b) Recoveries November 1969-August 1970							
55	21 June	No. 1 Fence: 229 miles	10 Nov.	5 miles SE. of Koolyanobbing	190	141	1.35 SSE.
58	22 June	No. 1 Fence: 254 miles	15 Nov.	Booldy Station	155	145	1.19 WNW.
50	15 Aug.	No. 1 Fence: 254 miles	20 Nov.	No. 2 Fence: Perenjori-Kowara Rd.	196	96	2.04 SW.
79	23 June	No. 1 Fence: 277 miles	15 Nov.	No. 1 Fence: 279 miles	2	146	—† NNE.
205	26 Sept.	Mileura (Bulleen)	10 Dec.	Mileura (Three Corners)	1	75	—† SW.
72	22 June	No. 1 Fence: 288 miles	20 Dec.	No. 2 Fence: E. of Perenjori	225	179	1.26 SW.
111	28 June	No. 1 Fence: 330 miles	22 Dec.	No. 2 Fence: 365 miles	35	175	0.2 NNE.
116	28 June	No. 1 Fence: 320 miles	12 Jan.	Wogarno Station, Mt. Magnet	122	200	0.61 SW.
55	21 June	No. 1 Fence: 229 miles	10 Nov.	5 m. SE. of Koolyanobbing	190	141	1.35 SSE.
157	10 Sept.	Junction No. 2 and No. 3 Fences	15 Feb.	Yalgoo	30	158	—† S.
108	27 June	No. 1 Fence: 331 miles	28 Feb.	Lyndon, Carnarvon	335	245	1.36 NW.
145	30 June	No. 1 Fence: 300 miles	6 Mar.	No. 1 Fence: 296 miles	4	248	—† S.
192	20 Sept.	Mileura (Needlegun)	14 Mar.	10 m. S. of Koonmarra H.S.	20	174	—† ENE.
183	19 Sept.	Mileura (Needlegun)	28 Mar.	Warrara, Carnarvon	310	189	1.64 NW.
57	21 June	No. 1 Fence: 243 miles	10 Apr.	Boondanoo, Mt. Magnet	71	293	—† NW.
167	12 Sept.	No. 3 Fence: 32 miles	15 Aug.	Credo, Kalgoorlie	330	336	0.98 ESE.

* Position on vermin fences given to the nearest mile peg.

† Bird had been dead for some time when found.

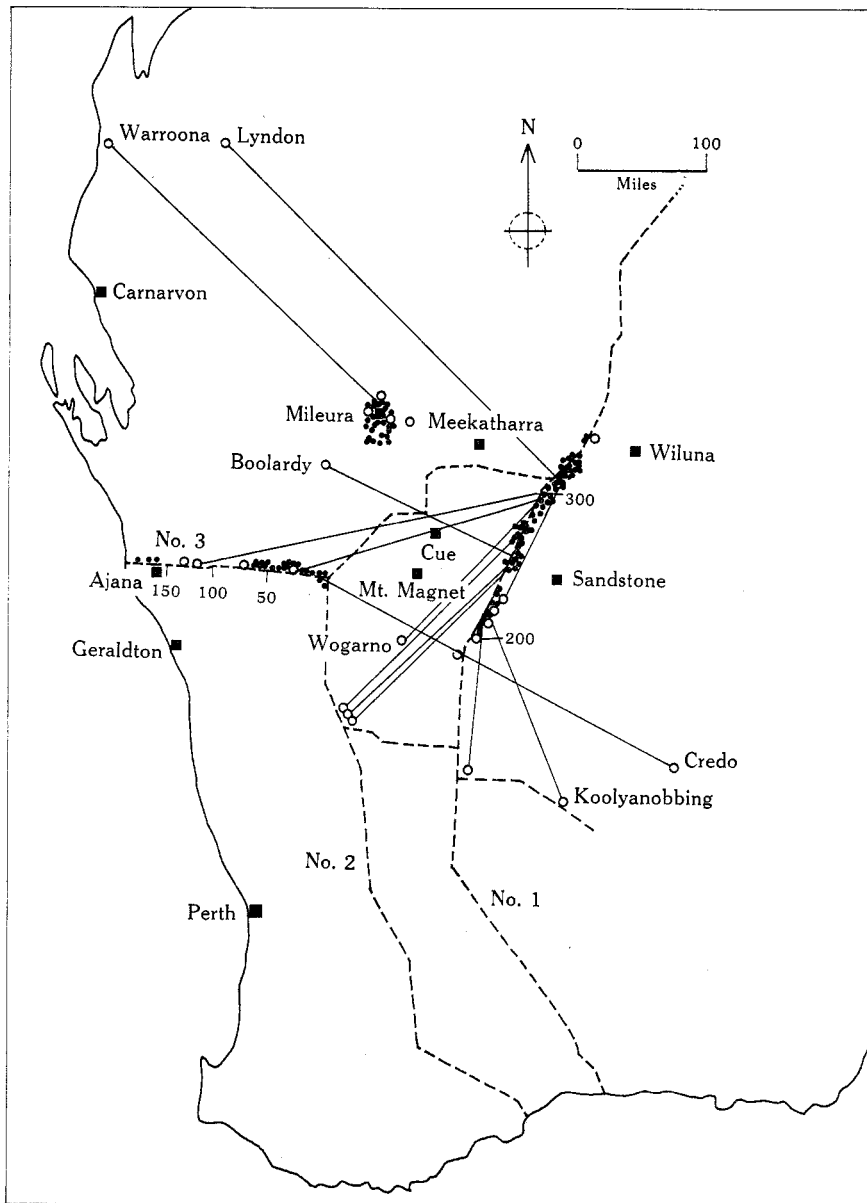


Fig. 1.—Map of part of Western Australia, showing the principal Vermin-proof Fences (No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3), and mileages along the fences, sites where emus were banded (·), and sites where bands were recovered (○). Individual banding and recovery sites are joined by a line except when movements took place along the fences.