View metadata, citation and similar papers at core.ac.uk

brought to you by CORE

provided by SFA ScholarWorks

Stephen F. Austin State University
SFA ScholarWorks

Faculty Publications | Forestry

2006

Genetic Variation Among Gravid Female American Woodcock in Eastern Texas During Winter (Abstract)

R. Montaque Whiting Jr.

Christopher E. Comer

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/forestry

 Part of the Forest Sciences Commons

Tell us how this article helped you.

Recommended Citation

Whiting, R. Montaque Jr. and Comer, Christopher E., "Genetic Variation Among Gravid Female American Woodcock in Eastern Texas During Winter (Abstract)" (2006). *Faculty Publications.* Paper 306.
http://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/forestry/306

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Forestry at SFA ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Publications by an authorized administrator of SFA ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact cdsscholarworks@sfasu.edu.

10th American Woodcock Symposium
October 3 – 6, 2006
Roscommon, Michigan, USA

GENETIC VARIATION AMONG GRAVID FEMALE AMERICAN WOODCOCK IN EASTERN TEXAS DURING WINTER

R. MONTAGUE WHITING, JR., Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture, Stephen F. Austin State University, Box 6109 SFA Station, Nacogdoches, TX 75962, USA

DEAN RANSOM, JR.[1], Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, 2258 TAMU, 210 Nagle Hall, College Station, TX 77843, USA

CHRISTOPHER E. COMER, Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture, Stephen F. Austin State University, Box 6109 SFA Station, Nacogdoches, TX 75962, USA

KATHRYN A. CONNELL, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, 2258 TAMU, 210 Nagle Hall, College Station, TX 77843, USA

RODNEY L. HONEYCUTT[2], Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, 2258 TAMU, 210 Nagle Hall, College Station, TX 77843, USA

Abstract: We investigated genetic variability in gravid female American woodcock (*Scolopax minor*) from two eastern Texas counties during late January 1997-1999. We amplified and sequenced a 750 base pair fragment of the mitochondrial cytochrome *b* gene for 20 gravid females collected on winter range. We observed 13 unique haplotypes among the 20 individuals with an average haplotype divergence of 0.63%. The high level of haplotype diversity (h = 0.009474) and low nucleotide diversity (π= 0.00509) are consistent with genetic variation in woodcock collected on the traditional summer nesting range. Our results suggest considerable admixture among woodcock populations on wintering grounds. If winter breeding is common, it may provide a mechanism for preventing genetic differentiation of woodcock populations from different flyways, and this lack of differentiation has implications for the proper designation of management units for woodcock.

1 Present address: Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, P.O. Box 1658, Vernon, TX 76384, USA
2 Present address: Natural Sciences Division, Pepperdine University, 24255 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu, CA 90263, USA