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Numbers of the Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) are in steep decline. A special section in this issue of the *Condor* addresses the species' basic biology and factors possibly contributing to the decline, such as blood parasites, mercury contamination, and habitat change from logging. Photograph of a male Rusty Blackbird at Leroy Percy State Park, Mississippi, by Gerhard Hofmann, Gerhard@hofmann-photography.de.

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