TABLE 1

COMPARISON OF OVERALL PLANT AND ANIMAL DIETS FROM THE CROPS OF JUVENILE AND ADULT BLACK-BELLIED TREE DUCKS.

Age Group	Type of Food-Per cent	
	Plant	Animal
21-day brood	91.6	8.4
35-day brood	91.3	8.7
Adults[1]	94.4	5.6

[1] Data from Bolen and Forsyth (1967).

important foods, each occurring with 100 per cent frequency of occurrence. The insects included 14 families of which most (86 per cent) were primarily terrestrial.

Animal matter in the 35-day old brood included insects, snails, oligochaets, and single occurrences of an unidentified tick and freshwater shrimp. Nine insect families were represented of which only two (22 per cent) were primarily terrestrial taxa.

The incidence of terrestrial insects in the younger brood and the corresponding change to acquatic forms in the older broods suggests that young tree ducks are reluctant to submerge their heads while feeding. Additionally, the older tree duck brood fed heavily on submersed *Sagittaria* tubers whereas the young birds took plant foods either aerially or floating at the surface. Chura (op. cit.) found that young Mallards are at first hesitant to submerge while feeding and that they accordingly tend to avoid many aquatic invertebrates until their feeding behavior matures further. The few data now available indicate, however, that young Black-bellied Tree Ducks still in downy plumage apparently rely less heavily on animal foods than many other waterfowl species.

Several food items were identified with the gracious assistance of Francis M. Uhler and Harold D. Murray. The field work was supported by the Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Foundation and the School of Agricultural Sciences, Texas Tech University.
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Successful reconstruction of active Bald Eagle nest.—On 25 June 1969 an active Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) nest in Itasca County, Minnesota, blew down during a violent rain storm (wind 65 mph). The nest, two 8-week-old eaglets, and the top two meters of the tree fell 18 m to the ground. The tree supporting the nest was a partially dead northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*) and had served as the nest supporting structure for 16 years. The nest was located 2½ m above the forest canopy on the dead portion of the tree and the parent birds had easy access from all directions.

The nestlings showed no apparent injuries and were kept for three nights in a makeshift nest box three m above the ground. This nest could not be seen from above the forest canopy. On 27 June an artificial nest was constructed adjacent to the trunk of the original nest tree on a large branch one-third m from the top of the tree. The base of the nest was constructed of six freshly cut poplar poles 1⅓ meters long which were nailed and criss-crossed on top of the branch. A two-meter square piece of 2½ cm chicken wire was then placed on top of this framework. A 1⅓ meter square piece of burlap was then placed over the larger sticks and on top of this were placed smaller

sticks and decayed woody material from the old nest. Fresh sphagnum moss (*Sphagnum* spp.) was then placed on top of the entire structure to prevent rain from washing away the woody material. This moss is commonly found in Bald Eagle nests in Minnesota.

The eaglets were fed small minnows (*Chrosomus* spp.) and pieces of yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*) periodically until they were placed in the artificial nest at 08:15 on 28 June.

The female parent had flown over the nesting area on 25 and 26 June, but neither the female nor the male roosted in the area of the fallen nest at night. At 10:38 on 28 June the female flew by the nesting area out of sight of the nest and gave a series of calls. At 12:15 the male parent flew directly over the nest and showed no change in attitude or in normal flight. At 15:30 the female parent flow over the nest and gave a long series of calls while circling the area nine times then left. The male was observed stretching his wings and preening while on an alternate nest 350 m north of the artificial nest. He showed no interest in breeding activities. At 21:00 (20 minutes before sunset) the female returned to a favored perch near the artificial nest and was harassed by a Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*). She issued a continuous series of calls for 20 minutes and flew seven circle flights. At 21:25 she flew to the nest tree, perched on top of it, and peered down at the nestlings. She then dropped gently to the artificial nest and exchanged a series of soft calls with the young.

A thunder storm occurred the night of 28 June. On 29 June both young were present with bulging crops, fresh bullheads (*Ictalurus* spp.) and ciscos (*Coregonus* sp.) were in the nest, and both parents flew circle flights around the nest for the entire period that the senior author was present at the nest. Activity at the nest was observed on 29 and 30 June and parents brought food regularly. To our knowledge this is the first time that an experiment such as this has been recorded in the literature for this species.

Both birds successfully fledged from the nest and were seen flying in the vicinity of the nest during the month of October.

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Territorial conflict in the American Woodcock.—I reported in-flight, physical contact between two male American Woodcocks (*Philohela minor*) (*in* Sheldon, The book of the American Woodcock: 52, 1967). I believe that this was the first report of in-flight contact in this species although "tilting" has been reported in the European Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*) (Slater, British birds with their nests and eggs, V:106, 1898). This note presents additional details of the observation.

On 30 April 1961 I observed the courtship activities of two woodcock which had established singing grounds within 300 feet of each other in abandoned fields in Leverett, Franklin County, Massachusetts. The two males were displaying in an irregular sequence and the flights frequently overlapped in time. At 19:30 bird "B", whose ascending flight spirals had been gradually shifting on successive flights, flew directly over the spot where bird "A" had just plummeted to the ground. "A" flew without a pause after landing and ascended silently and nearly vertically (instead of in its normal gradual southerly flight route) to intercept the "B" bird. Physical