

Since these were only random observations, it is possible that many more attempts at copulation took place than these data show. More significantly, the data indicate that tree swallows (at least this pair) will copulate during incubation. Heretofore this has been an assumption based only on circumstantial evidence (Kuerzi, 1941, Life history studies of the Tree Swallow. *Proc. Linn. Soc. New York* 52-53: 1-52).

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#### A TOUGH OLD BIRD

By Charles O. Handley, Sr.

The July 29, 1971 issue of the weekly newspaper, The Greenbrier Independent, Lewisburg, W. Va., carried an account of a wild turkey gobbler wearing wing tag No. 1417 that was shot by Conservation Officer Ronald Dillon on the Fork Creek Public Hunting Area, Boone Co., during the past spring gobbler hunting season.

This turkey was netted on October 26, 1963 on the Watoga State Park, Pocahontas Co., and released along with 13 other native wild turkeys on the Big Ugly Public Hunting Area, Lincoln Co., about 200 miles away. Thus the point of recovery was about 17 miles from the point of release.

This recovery is proof of the wandering and life span of this particular individual turkey. It is also proof that the W. Virginia Department of Natural Resources was on the right track when it gave up the release of thousands of so called 'wild' turkeys raised in captivity and resorted to trapping small numbers of native wild turkeys and releasing them on former wild turkey ranges. Very little if any benefit resulted from the release of 'wild' turkeys raised in captivity, whereas the wild turkey has now been established in sufficient numbers to warrant hunting on several areas where the live trapped native wild turkeys were released.

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