

thula). Due to the difficulty of reaching the colony, it was not visited until 25 May. By then, young ibis of both species were able to fly but were still in the colony. A fledgling Glossy Ibis, found injured, died in captivity on 21 June 1973. The skin is deposited in the reference collection of the University of Miami (UMRC 7497). By the time of our visit, it was not possible to estimate the number of nesting Glossy Ibis. However, previous counts of the number of Glossy Ibis entering and leaving the colony suggest that there were approximately 600 nests. This tallies well with a count of 1300 Glossy Ibis which roosted on an island north of Tamiami Trail just prior to the nesting season.

This is the first proven nesting of Glossy Ibis in the Everglades. However, a few were seen all spring in 1972 at a White Ibis colony located about 11 km south of the 1973 colony (Kushlan, 1973). Although no nests or young were found in that colony, they could have been overlooked due to its size.

We would like to thank Mr. Carl Gage of Key Largo, Florida, for piloting the flight on which the colony was discovered. We would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our indebtedness to Michael Ardoin, biologist, teacher, and friend.

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- James A. Kushlan, Department of Biology, Univ. of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida 33124, and James L. Schortemeyer, Fla. Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33315.

A New North Florida Wood Stork Colony

On 24 June 1973 we visited a previously unreported Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) nesting site on Black Hammock Island in northeastern Duval County (R. 28 E., T. 1 N. Sec. 15). Approximately 30 nests and 65 young storks, some almost able to fly, were observed. The colony was in a two-acre Black Tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*) and Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*) swamp. All stork nests were in Black Tupelo and were from 2 to 10 meters above 30 centimeters of standing water. Other species of wading birds nesting in this swamp in order of their abundance were Cattle

Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*), Louisiana Heron (*Hydranassa tricolor*), Great Egret (*Casmerodius albus*), Snowy Egret (*Leucophoyx thula*), Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea*), White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*), and Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*).

The property on which the colony exists is owned by Haywood Smith, who has lived there and observed storks in the area for 3 years. To his knowledge this was the first year they nested there. It is noteworthy that the colony was bordered on 3 sides by pasture and was only 300 meters from two occupied house trailers, Stephen A. Nesbitt, *Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, 4005 South Main Street, Gainesville, Florida 32601*, and John H. True, *Jacksonville Zoological Park, 8605 Zoo Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32218*.

Purple Gallinule Carrying Young

While fishing on Lake Jackson, Leon County, On 9 July 1967, L. Cliff Chavez and I observed an adult Purple Gallinule (*Porphyryla martinica*) flying with a large, black object in its bill. As it passed we could see that it was carrying a downy chick by the nape or back. The bird, thus burdened, flew about 75 meters from one patch of water lilies to another and, still carrying the young one, walked another 50 or more meters across the lily pads, finally disappearing into an area of emergent grass.

The distance of the observation was too great to determine the specific identity of the chick, although the Purple Gallinule is a fairly versatile predator, it seems probable that this individual was not engaged in an act of predation or cannibalism since other species of rails are known to carry their young. This behavior has been recorded in the Water Rail, *Rallus aquaticus* (Zimmerman, 1937; Desfayes, 1951), Virginia Rail, *Rallus limicola* (Bent, 1927; Walkinshaw, 1937), Clapper Rail, *Rallus longirostris* (Tompkins, 1937), King Rail, *Rallus elegans* (Johnson, 1950), and Common Gallinule, *Gallinula chloropus* (Wolff, 1953).

What is perhaps noteworthy about the present instance is the relatively great distance covered and the fact that the adult both walked and flew while holding the chick. It is interesting to note that at least two other species of birds that live on floating vegetation (the jacanas *Actophilornis africanus* of Africa and *Irediparra gallinacea* of Australia) have developed a rather specialized method of transporting their young under their wings (Hopcraft, 1968; Cobcraft, 1934).

Later on the same day as the above observation, we happened to run very suddenly in our boat upon a brood of small, downy Purple Gallinule chicks. These readily effected their escape by expertly diving and swimming under lily pads. I had previously noted that adults of this species are capable of diving and swimming underwater (Olson, 1966), so it was inter-