

was that of a mostly white, i.e. leucistic, adult. Color photographs taken at that time are on the cover of the Florida Naturalist 55(5), December 1982. By October 1983, the bird had darkened substantially. It had the appearance of a typical adult, even to the point of a yellowish crown. Though it is still distinctly lighter than a normal pelican.

As noticed in the 1979 account, the occurrence of a white or nearly white Brown Pelican has never been reported. For this reason and because subsequent to banding this individual has been seen regularly in the same area, it is possibly the same individual referred to in the 1979 note.

The earlier description of the bird as "albinistic" was intended to imply "tending toward an albino condition." Based on the valuable comment received from J. P. Hailman a more appropriate designation would be non-eumelanin schizochroism, the lack of eumelanin causing the pale, leucistic appearance.

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Florida Field Naturalist 12: 38-39, 1984.

Synchronous diving by Hooded Mergansers.—Synchronous diving, although a well known phenomenon in mergansers, apparently has not been recorded for Hooded Mergansers (*Mergus cucullatus*). On 14 January 1974, on the Indian River, near Titusville, Brevard County, Florida, I observed a party of nine Hooded Mergansers. I often saw them swimming in line, and these birds generally kept together as a flock. The two recognizable adult drakes in the group apparently were not its dominant members. I observed vigorous and often excited scurrings across the surface of the water with some 'food-scanning', thrusting their heads below the surface with quick side-to-side movement. Apparently when food was found, synchronized diving by all members of the flock occurred. Within a few seconds of one another, each member of the flock disappeared for fewer than twelve seconds. With the reappearance of the first Hooded Merganser, the others soon surfaced. Independent diving of individuals also occurred but was less in evidence.

I have seen similar behavior in other species of *Mergus*. On 11 November and 2 December 1962, in Teignmouth in the county of Devon, England, on the turbid waters of the River Teign, I frequently saw 24 Red-breasted Mergansers (*M. serrator*) 'food-scanning' and diving together on the rising tides. I have also seen 'food-scanning' and synchronous diving by small groups of Red-breasted Mergansers on the Cornish coast in the English Channel and Atlantic, and on inland pools of brackish water. In addition prior to severe arctic weather in Britain in the winter of 1962, forty Common Merganser (*M. merganser*) arrived on some of the few pools of the large frozen Chew Valley Lake (500 h) in Somerset (now Avon), West Country, England. Vigorous synchronous diving by the Goosanders occurred during their short stay.—Bernard King, Gull Cry, 9 Park Road, Newlyn, Penzance, Cornwall, England.

Florida Field Naturalist 12: 39, 1984.