

From three feet below the surface in the humus layer at Los Tamarindos, which in point of antiquity antedates the time of the Spanish discovery (as no glass beads or iron objects are found among the human artifacts), the following birds are identified: Brazilian Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax olivaceus*) and the Horned Screamer (*Anhima cornuta*).

In the deeper layers, from six to eleven feet from the surface, the following were obtained: Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*), Brazilian Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax olivaceus*), Cocoi Heron (*Ardea cocoi*), Egret (*Casmerodius albus*), Wood Ibis (*Mycteria americana*), Gray-breasted Tree-duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis discolor*), Fulvous Tree-duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*), White-faced Tree Duck (*Dendrocygna viduata*), Black-collared Hawk (*Busarellus nigricollis*), Red-winged Hawk (*Heterospizias meridionalis*), another Hawk of the genus *Buteo*, Curassow (*Crax alberti*), Purple Gallinule (*Ionornis martinica*), Gallinule (*Gallinula chloropus*), Rusty Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*), a large Macaw (*Ara* sp.), an Amazon Parrot (*Amazona* sp.), a small Paroquet of uncertain genus, and the Cayenne Owl (*Rhinoptynx clamator*).

The midden deposits at the Hacienda Tocorón yielded the following: Brazilian Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax olivaceus*), an Ibis (*Guara* sp.), Horned Screamer (*Anhima cornuta*), Gray-breasted Tree-duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis discolor*), White-faced Tree-duck (*Dendrocygna viduata*), Baldpate (*Mareca americana*), Muscovy Duck (*Cairina moschata*), Limpkin (*Aramus scolopaceus*), and a Gallinule (*Gallinula chloropus*).

In the sandpit at Cascabel there was found a humerus of the White-faced Tree-duck (*Dendrocygna viduata*).

The Baldpate, represented by a left humerus lacking the head, has not been recorded previously, so far as I am aware, from Venezuela. The other birds are those that are to be expected in this locality, the majority being forms that frequent aquatic or marshy habitats.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

On Paired Ovaries.—The persistence of but a single ovary, the left, is the normal condition in birds, though there are well known exceptions. The work of Gunn,¹ Kummerlöwe,² Fitzpatrick³ and many others, but especially that of Gunn, has brought out the fact that bilateral development of ovaries is not uncommon in Hawks. In the genera *Accipiter*, *Circus* and *Falco* the bilateral condition may be as common as the unilateral condition. Occasional instances were recorded of the presence of paired ovaries in quite unrelated species as Grebe, Fulmar, Duck, Swan, Grouse, Rail, Gull, Woodcock, Owl, Thrush, Rook and Sparrow.

While in Madagascar and New Guinea, collecting birds for the American Museum, I noted the bilateral development of ovaries in some species of Hawks, but not in others, and also found this condition not unusual in certain Parrots and Lories. Its occurrence in Parrots and Lories has apparently not been recorded. In the species I examined the right ovary varied from one-fourth the size to nearly the same size as the left. In some cases the right ovary showed some enlargement but in no instance did this enlargement approach a breeding condition. Rudiments of a right oviduct were found but in no instance did it appear functional.

The following is a list of the species in which I observed right ovaries present. (The number of specimens examined of the Madagascar species was not kept carefully.)

¹ 1912, Proceedings Zoological Society, London, pp. 72, 73.

² 1931, Zeitschr. f. mikroskop.-anatom. Forschung, 24, pp. 614-621.

³ 1934, Wilson Bulletin, XLVI, pp. 19-22.

	No. females with right ovary present	No. females examined
<i>Machaerhamphus anderssoni</i>	1	
<i>Haliastur sphenurus</i>	1	4
<i>Accipiter madagascariensis</i>	2	
<i>Accipiter francesii</i>	11	
<i>Accipiter fasciatus</i>	5	5
<i>Accipiter novaehollandiae</i>	1	1
<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	1	
<i>Gymnogenys radiatus</i>	1	
<i>Ieracidea berigora</i>	2	2
<i>Coracopsis nigra</i>	Several	
<i>Chalcopsitta scintillata</i>	1	3
<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>	1	8
<i>Eclectus roratus</i>	2	4
<i>Psittacella brehmii</i>	1	5

Thus the presence of a right ovary seems not uncommon in certain Parrots and Lories as well as in some Hawks.

Some of Riddle's¹ work, done some time ago, is suggestive in this connection. Working with Pigeons, he found some females with persistent right ovaries and observed that this condition occurred almost wholly in females hatched from eggs otherwise known to have the greatest or strongest female producing tendency, and from which a high per cent of females hatched.

May it be that the not uncommon persistence of a right ovary in certain groups of birds is indicative of a tendency toward femaleness in these species, and furthermore may be expressed in the sex ratio, there being a larger number of females than males in these forms? I have no data on the sex ratios of these birds, but possibly there is some such correlation as suggested above.

There seems to be no general correlation between the development of bilateral ovaries and sexual dimorphism. In the Hawks the chief sexual difference consists of the females being larger; in *Eclectus roratus* the female is slightly smaller and largely red, while the male is larger and chiefly green. In *Psittacella brehmii* the male is brighter and slightly larger. In the other Parrots there is little difference between the sexes except the slightly smaller size of the female.—A. L. RAND, *Amer. Museum Nat. Hist., New York.*

¹ 1916, *American Naturalist*, L, pp. 409, 410.