

Barn Owls with Two Broods of Young.—Observations are herein presented of nesting activities of a pair of Barn Owls (*Tyto alba*) in the vicinity of Davis in northern California. Two nests were made during their breeding season. The first egg was probably deposited in late December of 1953, and the first egg of the second clutch was deposited during the latter part of March or early April of 1954. Reports dealing with other areas clearly indicate that nesting is not necessarily confined to any season. In view of this fact, it is probable that continuous breeding throughout spring and summer by individual pairs may not be uncommon. Stewart (Auk, 69: 227-245, 1952) cites a record of a banded "female taken from a nest with five young at Hunt's Point, New York, on July 27, 1939, and captured four months and eight days later (December 5, 1939) from a nest with three young at the same place." Although this may indicate continuous breeding, it may also represent late fall and normal spring breeding.

The nesting site of the owls at Davis was located in an old wooden building which had been used to house a water tank on the second floor. Four small (1 × 2 foot) vents below the eaves of the roof provided entrance for the owls. The empty water tank (approximately 4 feet high and 8 feet in diameter) was partially covered by a galvanized iron lid so that a "quarter moon" opening into the tank was formed. The owls' first nest was located on top of this lid; the second nest was inside the empty tank.

The first nest was observed January 8, 1954. At this time two adults were seen and four eggs were found. In early February the nest was revisited and three young were observed; one egg was unhatched. Later in the same month one of the downy young was found on the ground floor of the building. It had apparently fallen from atop the tank lid and through a trap door opening to the first floor. It was left unmolested inasmuch as it was quite accessible to the adult owls through the trap door opening and an open window. It was found dead the following day.

On April 10, the nest was revisited. Two adults flushed: one from the top of the tank, and the other from within the tank. One young bird was dead (on the floor at the base of the tank), and the other was almost fully fledged but unable to fly. On this date the second nest was observed with three eggs in the bottom of the tank. The unhatched egg of the previous clutch was still on top of the tank lid with the young owl. Several fresh, decapitated gophers (*Thomomys bottae*) were also observed on the tank lid amid hundreds of owl pellets. At this time the remaining young owl was removed. The nest was again revisited May 5, and as before, two adults flushed, one from the top of the tank and the other from within the tank. The nest in the tank now contained four warm eggs. One of these was taken and opened. A live well developed embryo (ca. 13 days incubation) was found.

On May 31, the nest was again revisited and two downy young, one slightly larger than the other, were observed. The third egg was not found. During the latter part of June the young were found to be nearly fully fledged, and the nest was found empty on July 25.

From the evidence presented it seems clear that one pair of Barn Owls nested twice during their breeding season which began during December 1953 and lasted until June 1954.—G. VICTOR MOREJOHN, *University of California, Davis, California.*

Ross's Goose in Texas.—During a field trip to the Texas coast in December, 1953, I had occasion, in company with U. S. Game Management Agents Frank Clarkson and Carl J. Gruener and State Game Wardens Clarence Beezley and Bert Cade, to check two crippled geese held by Mr. Dorisse Daigle, 1560 Van Buren Street, Beaumont. One of the geese was a Lesser Snow Goose (*Chen hyperborea hyperborea*);