

Eastern Glossy Ibis Nesting in Southeastern Maryland.—On June 25, 1956, Don P. Fankhauser and I investigated a large heron colony of mixed species, on Mills Island in Chincoteague Bay, Worcester County, Maryland. Large numbers of American Egrets (*Casmerodius albus*), Snowy Egrets (*Leucophoyx thula*), Louisiana Herons (*Hydranassa tricolor*), Little Blue Herons (*Florida caerulea*), and Black-crowned Night Herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) were found, all nesting in a dense grove of young red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*). Much to our surprise, the colony also included at least two pairs of the Eastern Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*). Four adults of this species were repeatedly observed flying low overhead and frequently perching in nearby tree-tops. In addition, two young ibis, about three-fourths grown, were found. These two birds, still unable to fly, would hop and flutter among the tree branches whenever they were approached too closely. The large white crown patch and the peculiar barred markings of the bill were especially noticeable on both of the young.

This is the first breeding record for the Eastern Glossy Ibis in Maryland and apparently also represents the fourth breeding locality recorded along the Atlantic coast, north of Florida. In 1940 it was first found breeding in North Carolina, in Brunswick County (Pearson, Brimley, and Brimley, "Birds of North Carolina," Raleigh, 1942 p. 39), and in 1947 the first breeding record for South Carolina was reported in Charleston County (Sprunt and Chamberlain, "South Carolina Bird Life," Columbia, 1949, p. 99). The most northerly breeding record is for Cape May County, New Jersey, where it was found nesting in 1955 by W. B. Wright and Russell Fowler (Audubon Field Notes, 9: 370, 1955). Since all of these occurrences of nesting have been recorded relatively recently, it would appear that the Eastern Glossy Ibis is undergoing a definite and rather rapid northward expansion of its breeding range along the Atlantic Coast.—ROBERT E. STEWART, Patuxent Research Refuge, Laurel, Maryland.

Unusual Flight Behavior of Blue and Snow Geese.—The highly erratic, zig-zag courtship flight among duck species is commonplace, yet a courtship flight among geese apparently occurs infrequently, if at all. I witnessed unusual flight behavior of two Blue Geese (*Chen caerulescens*) and one Lesser Snow Goose (*Chen hyperborea*) late in the afternoon on April 7, 1956, while I was observing approximately 30,000 Blue and Snow geese that were loafing and feeding in a cornfield located several miles west of the Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Columbia, South Dakota. This large contingent of birds comprised a part of the spring migration flight.

There was a constant shifting about of geese, with several hundred in the air at all times. At about 5:30 P.M., the three geese, flying in a tight formation, began maneuvering about at a height considerably greater than that of the other birds. These three displayed markedly swift and agile flight within a radius of about one-quarter mile from the main concentration center. One of the two Blue Geese led the trio, with the other two in close pursuit. The flight, which lasted for 20 minutes, appeared to be a frenzied affair, and the Snow Goose made at least one attempt to grasp in its bill the tail feathers of the leading Blue Goose. The other Blue Goose, bringing up the rear, seemed less attentive.

Because of the erratic wheeling tactics and speed employed, the flight bore a striking resemblance to the courtship flight of Pintails (*Anas acuta*). It was terminated when the three birds joined the massed geese on the ground.—RONALD F. LABISKY, Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana, Illinois.