

points his head straight up, and quivers all over. If a female approaches, the male immediately goes into display 2D. Höhn (*Auk*, 74: 213–214, 1957) recorded only this display on Banks Island. The birds he saw were silent, solitary, and had their backs to the wind as did those I observed in Oklahoma.

2D (Rowan's display G). Although this display is somewhat similar to 2C, certain differences are evident: (1) the wings are held lower and the outer primaries point downward slightly; (2) sharp notes (here rendered as *tick*) are frequently uttered; (3) the alula is more obvious, being nearly perpendicular to the last primary; and (4) the displaying bird is often on "tip-toes." Pointing the head straight up and quivering the body are much more common motions in this display than in 2C. The posture has various degrees of intensity, involving changes in the position of the head and legs. At the height of the display a bird is on "tip-toes," has its bill pointing nearly straight up, *ticks* two or three times per second, and shakes its entire body so that its wings move up and down vertically as much as an inch. At times the wings of a displaying male surround the nearest female. Once a bird in this posture rapidly circumscribed circles with its wings.

This display is nearly always preceded by 2C and is only given by males near females. I have observed displays by one, two, or three males to a single female and by one male to two females. In such group displays the birds are often so crowded that their wings touch. If a male is displaying to two females and one leaves, he turns to face the remaining one. Females respond to the display by (1) facing a male while standing on "tip-toes," back perpendicular to the ground, wings folded against the body (occasionally rubbing bills with him), or (2) by walking away. Displays 2C and 2D were by far the most common at Norman.

2E (Rowan's display H). Both wings are raised overhead and turned so that the wing linings face forward. The body is vertical, the tail horizontal, and the bird is sometimes on "tip-toes." This display was performed in silence by a solitary bird and was observed only on one occasion. Rowan considered this the most characteristic display at Edmonton and included a photograph in his figure 15.

2F (Not described by Rowan). One bird flutters silently over another, its legs dangling in air. The displaying bird usually takes off from one side of the bird to which it is displaying, and lands on the other side. This display is most common in large flocks of females.

3 (Not described by Rowan). Two birds face each other, their bills pointed forward, and their backs and tails parallel to the ground. Both birds alternately charge one another and then retreat. A chattering sound accompanies this display.

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American Widgeon and Shoveler breeding in Vermont.—Following development of the 2,000-acre (809.4 hectares) Dead Creek Waterfowl Area in Addison County, west-central Vermont, during 1953–56, small migrant flocks of American Widgeons (*Mareca americana*) began stopping there in fall. In the springs of 1960–62, one to two pairs of widgeons were known to be present on one particular impoundment well into each breeding season. Later on, only a lone male was observed loafing on a specific mudflat, suggesting the possibility of a nesting attempt in the

general area. Nonetheless, continued vigilance disclosed no positive evidence of nesting prior to 1962.

On 17 July 1962, Fuller saw a female widgeon leading a brood of nine downy young across a field road and onto the impoundment, where a pair of widgeons had been regularly noted two months earlier. The ducklings appeared to be newly hatched. Duck and brood entered the water together at a point approximately one-quarter mile from the mudflat frequented by a pair of adults in May and later by a lone drake. When first sighted, the group was 250 feet (78 meters) from water and within a 70-acre (28.3 hectares) peninsular meadow which was reverting to a mixture of grasses and weeds, occasional clumps of dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*), and isolated red cedars (*Juniperus virginiana*). The maximum distance of any nest in this area from water would have had to be approximately 800 feet. Mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) utilized this same field for nesting in 1962.

This nesting was well outside the recorded breeding range of the American Widgeon (A.O.U. Check-list, fifth edit., 1957). E. H. Forbush (*Birds of Massachusetts and other New England states*, vol. I, pp. 206-207, 1925) considered the species as "generally uncommon or rare" in the interior of the three northern New England states, but more common along the coast and in the southern sections; no instance of nesting in New England was mentioned. In Nova Scotia, C. O. Bartlett (*Canadian Field-Nat.*, 74: 153-155, 1960) regarded as a "first record" the observation of a female American Widgeon and six young at Amherst Point in August, 1957. The following year he observed three broods at Deroches Point Ponds. Otherwise, the known widgeon nestings nearest to Vermont appear to be those listed in the A.O.U. Check-list as rarely taking place in southern Ontario and northwestern Pennsylvania (Pymatuning Lake). I believe the nesting described above is the first recorded in Vermont, and was possibly related to habitat development in this Champlain Valley migration route.

On 9 May 1962, we noted a pair of Shovelers (*Spatula clypeata*) in a meadow at North Hero, Grand Isle County, northwestern Vermont. The continued presence of the pair suggested a nest in the vicinity, and a search of available nesting cover resulted in its discovery on 31 May. (We thank Owen Seelye, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, for assistance with his retrievers in locating the nest.)

The nest, containing 11 eggs and abundant down, was located within a small farm meadow, approximately 15 feet from a well-travelled road and 4 feet from a fence-row. The nearest permanent water was Lake Champlain, 0.2 miles to the east. Removal and opening of one egg indicated that incubation had started about 27 May; therefore, laying started in mid-May. We did not revisit the nest until 14 June, at which time it was found destroyed. Although hair of the raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) was conspicuous among the fragments of eggshell, the primary cause of nest failure was undetermined. Neither male nor female Shoveler was sighted again in the vicinity.

Being completely removed from any refuge or management area, this nesting attempt could not be explained as attraction to developed waterfowl habitat, nor could it be traced to the release or escape of Shovelers in the state. Nesting of the species has been reported from the Montezuma marshes in New York, from southern Ontario, and from New Brunswick (A.O.U. Check-list, fifth edit., 1957). To our knowledge, however, there is no previous record of Shovelers nesting in Vermont; in fact, the species is uncommon as a visitor at any season of the year.—ROBERT W. FULLER and NEIL E. KING, *Vermont Fish and Game Department, Vergennes, Vermont.*