

***Ornithoica vicina* (Diptera: Hippoboscidae) a new host record from the Marsh Hawk.**—While working with Dr. Frances Hamerstrom on a nesting study of the Marsh Hawk (*Circus cyaneus*), I had opportunity to examine several adult and subadult hawks that had been live-trapped by methods described by Dr. Hamerstrom (*Proc. XIII Intern. Orn. Congr.*, pp. 866–869, 1963) and by D. D. Berger and H. C. Mueller (*Bird-Banding*, 30: 18–26, 1959). I have identified as *Ornithoica vicina* individuals in two collections, one of four specimens taken from an adult male on 13 July 1964 and another of one specimen taken on 30 July 1964 from an adult female (both from Portage County, Wisconsin). I wish to thank Dr. Kenneth MacArthur, who checked the recent literature and found (pers. comm.) that: “Apparently *Ornithoica vicina* has not been recorded from the marsh hawk although it has been reported from seven of the Falconiformes.” An unidentified louse (Mallophaga: Ishnocera) found attached to the abdomen of one of the flies strongly suggests a phoretic relationship between the fly and louse.—WILLIAM C. SCHARF, *Department of Biology, Northwestern Michigan College, Traverse City, Michigan.*

Additional observations on “foot-stirring” feeding behavior in herons.—In a previous paper (Meyerriicks, *Wilson Bull.*, 71: 153–158, 1959), I described the foot-stirring feeding behavior of three species of North American herons (Snowy Egret, *Leucophoyx thula*; Reddish Egret, *Dichromanassa rufescens*; Louisiana Heron, *Hydranassa tricolor*), and cited literature concerned with this behavior for four additional species (Reef Heron, *Demiegretta schistacea*; Little Egret, *Egretta garzetta*; Pied Heron, *Notophoyx picata*; and White-faced Heron, *Notophoyx novaehollandiae*).

Since then Sally F. Hoyt, now Spofford (*Wilson Bull.*, 73: 386, 1961) has described foot-stirring by a Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*), based on a motion picture film record. The Black Heron (*Melanophoyx ardesiaca*), a tropical African species, is best known for its odd habit of shading the water surface by making a “canopy” of its wings (see discussion in Meyerriicks, *Publ. Nuttall Ornith. Club*, no. 2, 1960, pp. 108–109), but M. B. Markus (*Bokmakerie*, 15: 21–22, 1963) has seen foot-stirring in this species as well. In describing a photograph of a Black Heron canopy-feeding he states “This particular one was clearly seen to shuffle its feet in the manner of the little egret, presumably to attract or to induce aquatic animals into moving.”

My purpose here is to describe my own observations of foot-stirring by a Green Heron and to describe the use of this foraging method by Snowy Egrets in a rather unusual habitat.

On 16 September 1964 I was watching the feeding behavior of seven species of herons at the eastern end of the Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa Bay, Florida. At 1745 hours the following conditions prevailed: no wind; temperature 75° F; 10 per cent cloud cover; extremely low tide; and very clear shallow water near shore. Two Green Herons were standing on the mud at the edge of the shallows about 50 feet from my position. The birds were about 30 feet apart, and their plumages indicated that both were birds of the year. The nearest Green Heron was standing in an extremely low crouch, its abdominal feathers in the mud, and was following the movements of a school of tiny fish swimming about two to three feet in front of it. Suddenly the heron moved its whole body smoothly forward, shifted its weight slightly to the right foot, extended its left foot fully forward with toes widespread, and then scraped or raked the mud in the shallows with a long, slow, deliberate backward motion of its left leg and foot. The heron paused for a moment then repeated the single scrape with its left foot.