

hawks remained in the area and renested on another cliff $\frac{1}{4}$ mile away, but I found no trace of the owls.

Although both Jacobs (Wilson Bull., 20: 103, 1908) and Broley (Wilson Bull., 59: 17, 1947) reported instances of mutual occupation of a nest by a Bald Eagle and Great Horned Owl, both Bent (U. S. Natl. Mus., Bull. 170: 309, 1937) and Craighead and Craighead (Hawks, owls and wildlife, Harrisburg, Stackpole Co., 1956) agree that hawks do not normally nest in the vicinity of the early nesting owls as the owls have been known to prey on Red-tailed Hawk nestlings and adults. More recently Orians and Kuhlman (Condor, 58: 371, 1956) found both species nesting in the same tract of woods but did not observe Red-tailed Hawks attacking flushed Great Horned Owls.—DWIGHT G. SMITH, *Department of Zoology and Entomology, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah 84601.*

First nesting of the Wheatear in western Hudson Bay, Canada.—An adult female of the Greenland race of the Wheatear, *Oenanthe oenanthe leucorhoa* (Gmelin), and its nest with one egg were collected on 30 June 1968 along a rocky shoreline at Rankin Inlet, Hudson Bay, southern Keewatin, N.W.T., Canada (62° 48' N, 92° 05' W). The bird weighed 36.8 g, had moderate body fat, and a slightly edematous brood patch. The diameter of the largest ovarian follicle was 6 mm. There were two ruptured follicles in the ovary and one unshelled ovum in the oviduct. We did not see a male bird at or near the nest on either 30 June or 1 July. The specimen is No. 1400 in the University of Saskatchewan, Biology Museum. We assigned it to the Greenland race of the species on the basis of its size (wing 97, tail 54, exposed culmen 15, and tarsus 28 mm).

The nest, with one egg, was situated above a window frame between the exterior and interior sheathing in an abandoned cabin. It was bulky and loosely constructed of dry stems of grass, sedge, and several forbs. The cup, 65 mm in diameter and 40 mm deep, was lined with ptarmigan feathers, dog wool, and a few human hairs.

The Greenland race of the Wheatear is a transatlantic migrant (Snow, 1953) wintering in Africa whose breeding range is reported as: "from southern District of Franklin, in east-central Ellesmere Island, probably Felix Harbour on Boothia Peninsula and Arctic Bay on Baffin Island, northern Greenland, Iceland, Jan Mayen, and the Faeroes south to northern Quebec and Labrador" (A.O.U., 1957: 446). Another race, nominate *oenanthe*, breeds in extreme northwestern Canada and northern Alaska.

The species is unrecorded at Southampton Island (Sutton, 1932) or Chesterfield Inlet, Keewatin (Saville, 1951; Höhn, 1968). Although Todd (1963: 563) reports the species as probably breeding at the western end of Hudson Strait in northern Quebec, the present record is apparently the first from the shores of Hudson Bay and represents a southwesterly breeding range extension of about 300 miles.

Several authors have concluded that *O. o. leucorhoa* is extending its breeding range in northeastern North America. Salomonsen (1950) documents a recent northerly range extension in Greenland. Todd (1963) cites a specimen for Sept-Iles, Quebec at the mouth of the St. Lawrence River and suggests the species may breed in that area. Forbes (1938) and Shortt and Peters (1942) express a view that the Greenland Wheatear is becoming more common on Baffin Island, and Sutton and Parmelee (1954) speculate that the species "may well have a completely circumboreal breeding distribution in the next century or so." The present records support this suggestion.

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M. ROSS LEIN and WILLIAM J. MAHER, *Department of Biology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. Present address of first author: Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138.*

A Ruffed Grouse with an abnormal bill.—During the course of a research project conducted near Amherst, Massachusetts, a Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) was found dead in a live trap on 24 January 1968, evidently killed by a predator. The bird proved to have an abnormal bill (Figure 1), the only such aberration noted in 12 grouse caught in this vicinity during January and February 1968. The grouse weighed 681.0 g. An autopsy performed by the Animal Science Department at the University of Massachusetts indicated that it was in good physical condition. It was a male, central tail feather 18.4 cm, and classified adult by shape of the primaries.

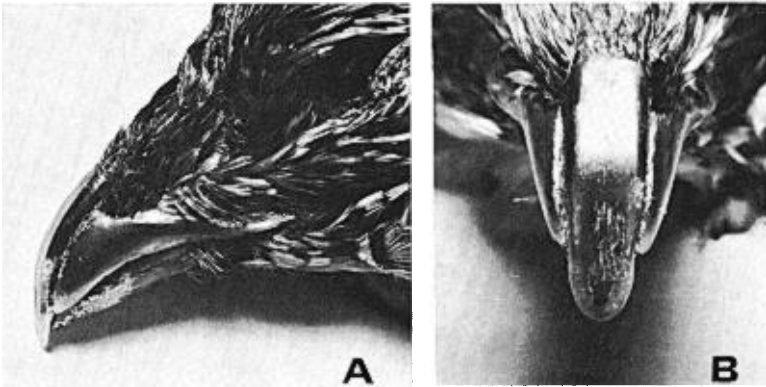


Figure 1. A, side view of bill (opposite side is identical). B, top view of bill showing uniform and symmetrical structure.