

times through the rest of June and July, and heard it singing to 18 August. Its preferred singing perch was one of the highest branches of the hawthorn in the central plot. In early afternoon of 30 July she saw a second White-throated Sparrow fly into the shrubs followed by the male. The next morning the senior author visited the site and almost immediately saw the female fly with a large insect into the hedge at the corner of the library. Upon close approach to the hedge after the female emerged without the insect, first one and then a second stub-tailed fledgling flew out. Both showed the head striping and other characters of White-throated Sparrow. At this time the adults were greatly excited and called continuously. A short time later the senior author and R. Byron once again saw the female carry food to the young which appeared to have been out of the nest 2 or 3 days. Later the same day the junior author found both adults and young. The adult male had a white-striped and the female a tan-striped crown. Both authors visited the place sporadically in August, and saw the adults and only one young on 8, 11, 13, and 15 August. The last date the two adults were noted was 21 August, and one adult was seen on 27 August. The senior author searched the area rather thoroughly but could not find the nest.

The choice by these White-throated Sparrows of a nesting site so different in character from their usual breeding habitat is certainly remarkable. The nearest known summer record is about 50 km distant. Actually, the library esplanade seems to offer good conditions for such a nesting because insects are attracted to the building lights set in wells about the perimeter, water is usually available from precipitation and sprinkling, and there is enough relatively undisturbed cover and probably no predators. Except for a few library employees and birders, the many persons entering and leaving the building were largely unaware of the birds' presence. For courtesies rendered the authors thank Joseph B. Rounds, Director of the library, and members of the institution's maintenance department.—ROBERT F. ANDRLE, *Buffalo Museum of Science, Buffalo, New York 14211*, and FRANCES M. REW, *129 Arbour Lane, Buffalo, New York 14220*. Accepted 9 Jan. 70.

Cloacal sexing of raptors.—At the season when raptors are prone to copulate some can be stimulated to prolapse the vent, thus making accurate sexing possible. As this is the time when breeders of raptors urgently need methods of sexing and as the technique may also be useful to raptor banders, it seems worth publishing our experiences even though the sample is small and the method does not always work—we have been successful only during the breeding season, and not always then.

The procedure was first discussed by Quinn and Burrows (*J. Heredity*, 27: 31, 1936). Hochbaum (*Trans. North Amer. Wildl. Conf.*, 7: 299, 1942) described somewhat similar methods used in sexing waterfowl. These methods were outlined in detail by Skinner and Arrington (*Univ. Wisconsin Fact Sheet*, No. 31, 1969) in response to the demands of poultry fanciers and aviculturists for a simple explanation of artificial insemination techniques.

It is helpful to have an assistant to hold the bird by the feet, breast down and facing away. If alone, use your knees as a vise to hold the feet. In either case it is simpler, if the bird weighs over about 600 g, to kneel and let the bird's breast rest on the ground. The breasts of smaller birds may be held in the palm of a hand. First palpate the bird's abdomen to feel for an egg. If you are sure of an egg's presence you need not proceed further to determine sex, but if you still want to make the bird prolapse—as for artificial insemination—take care not to break the egg lest damage to the bird result. Birds with markedly enlarged vents are females that have recently laid.

To induce a bird to prolapse, stroke the back firmly toward the base of the tail and at the same time exert pressure on the belly with the other hand. Gradually work your fingers from the belly to the sides of the vent, still maintaining pressure; the vent should then prolapse. The raptors we have worked on usually passed urates just before or after prolapsing.

Upon further manipulation—especially right after the bird has struggled to free itself—the male ejaculates semen, a small quantity of slightly milky fluid. We have not yet prolapsed enough raptors to give a good description of how to distinguish between urates and semen and hope others will be able to define this precisely. Tentatively we suggest that semen is slightly milky and comes in small quantities; urates resemble whitewash and are voided in larger quantities. Females are manipulated in the same manner as males; when successfully prolapsed they evert the rosette-like structure that terminates the oviduct.

We have used this technique successfully on adults of the following species near the onset of the breeding season: 2 Great Horned Owls, *Bubo virginianus* (1 male, 1 female); 2 Broad-winged Hawks, *Buteo platypterus* (1 male, 1 female); 1 female Harris' Hawk, *Parabuteo unicinctus*; and 3 Golden Eagles, *Aquila chrysaetos* (2 males, 1 female). All our February attempts were unsuccessful, presumably because the birds were not yet in breeding condition. Of 7 Harris' Hawks unsuccessfully manipulated, we were unable to prolapse 4; 3 were prolapsed partially, but they neither ejaculated semen nor showed the end of the oviduct. We also failed to prolapse two Gray Hawks, *Buteo nitidus*, and one Roadside Hawk, *B. magnirostris*.

Whether or not the birds were tame seemed to make no difference; of those successfully sexed 4 (2 male, 2 female) were mated birds and 4 (2 male, 2 female) were fresh-trapped.—FRANCES HAMERSTROM, *Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Plainfield, Wisconsin 54966*, and JOHN L. SKINNER, *Department of Poultry Science, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706*. Accepted 28 Jan. 70.

Pendulum display by Olive-sided Flycatcher.—On 16 June 1969 at the Russell Reservation, 2½ miles northwest of Lafayette, Contra Costa County, California, I saw two flycatchers in flight performing a pendulum display accompanied by beak-snapping. They simultaneously flew back and forth three or four times in an arc, snapping their beaks, and then perched separately below the tops of nearby coniferous trees approximately 50 feet tall. A few seconds later they flew, again simultaneously making three to four swings through an arc above an open area and snapping their beaks. The arc was 30 to 40 feet across the chord and had a depth of 6 to 8 feet. The display took place approximately 45 to 55 feet from the ground. At times at the bottom of the arc the birds, both facing in the direction of flight and parallel to each other, were perhaps 2 feet apart, but appeared to come close enough to touch each other at the high point on each side, where they faced each other. The display was repeated twice more after perching intervals a few seconds in length; then both birds flew away.

While in flight, both birds appeared to be of the same species, but I was unable to make a positive identification. After the first and third displays, I positively identified one as an Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Nuttallornis borealis*). The display may have been territorial or courtship, but since the sexes of the birds involved were not known, it was not possible to determine this. So far as I know, a pendulum display of this sort has not been reported in any tyrannid. I thank John Davis and Nicolaas Verbeek for editorial suggestions.—GENEVIEVE M. TVRDIK, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720*. Accepted 3 Dec. 69.