

TABLE 3  
COMMON TERN EGGS

	<i>l</i>	<b>B</b>	$\delta_B$	<b>R<sub>B</sub></b>
No. clutches analyzed	22	22	22	22
Computed variance ratio				
Sequence	3.22	7.56	16.19	14.42
Parentage	10.12	5.57	1.29	1.26
F value for 1% level				
Sequence	5.15	5.15	5.15	5.15
Parentage	2.32	2.32	2.32	2.32
F value for 5% level				
Sequence	3.22	3.22	3.22	3.22
Parentage	1.81	1.81	1.81	1.81
Significance				
Sequence	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Parentage	Yes	Yes	No	No
Variability				
Sequence	0.000124	0.000105	0.00000826	0.001228
Parentage	0.00375	0.000535	0.00000115	0.000175
Error	0.00123	0.000351	0.00001197	0.002013
Total	0.005104	0.000991	0.00002138	0.003416
Partition of variability, %				
Sequence	2.4	10.6	38.6	36.0
Parentage	73.5	54.0	5.4	5.1
Error	24.1	35.4	56.0	58.9
Coefficient of variation, %				
Sequence	0.7	0.8	5.0	6.8
Parentage	3.7	1.9	1.9	2.6
Error	2.1	1.6	6.0	8.8
Mean value of characteristic for				
First egg	1.6546	1.210	0.0551	0.5391
Second egg	1.6420	1.212	0.0559	0.5250
Third egg	1.6688	1.192	0.0606	0.4704
All eggs	1.6551	1.205	0.0572	0.5115

results agree and the revised table is submitted herewith. I have every reason to think the new table is correct and that in another 20 years no further errors will be discovered. My own confession of error does not commit Miss Gemperle (now Mrs. Buzas), who has not been consulted. If she were, she would no doubt agree.—F. W. PRESTON, *Box 49, Meridian Station, Butler, Pennsylvania 16001*. Accepted 29 May 73.

**Florida Cardinals feeding on nectar.**—For several weeks this spring a friend and I watched a pair of Cardinals (*Cardinalis cardinalis floridanus*) that habitually fed on shrimp plant (*Beloperone guttata*) flowers in a garden in Ocala, Florida. We first noticed this behavior on 5 March 1973, when we saw a male apparently eating shrimp plant blossoms that had fallen to the ground. After a short time he flew up into the dense foliage of the plants where he was hidden by the com-

pect foliage most of the time, but occasionally he could be seen plucking the flowers or with a white flower in his bill. He was soon joined by a female who flew to the same spot on the ground where the male had been earlier. She also appeared to be eating fallen blossoms. Presently she joined the male up in the foliage. As we watched the motions of the birds in the plants we could see flowers falling to the ground. After feeding for about half an hour the birds flew off, frightened by a passing car. I then examined the dropped blossoms and compared them with flowers still on the plant. The unpicked flowers had a small greenish-white capsule at the base of the calyx, which was missing from the blossoms the birds had dropped. The capsule felt sticky to the touch and was sweet to the taste. Shrimp plant flowers have considerable quantities of nectar, and this particular clump is often visited by Ruby-throated Hummingbirds (*Archilochus colubris*). Apparently the Cardinals were eating the nectar-filled capsule, nipping it off and discarding the rest of the flower. The Cardinals visited the shrimp plant about once a day and always tested the fallen blossoms on the ground before flying up into the foliage.

So far as I have been able to determine only the Florida subspecies of the Cardinal has been reported to feed on nectar, and then only from the flowers of the Turk's cap hibiscus (*Malvaviscus drummondii*) (Russell 1951, Auk 68: 514). The reported technique with the hibiscus flowers differed, involving a slashing of the calyx. The Cardinals we watched never visited the several clumps of Turk's cap growing near the shrimp plants, and none of the Turk's cap blossoms were slashed.

My thanks to Mary H. Clench for her comments and suggestions.—MARY W. WIBLE, 517 Northeast 9th Street, Ocala, Florida 32670. Accepted 25 May 73.

**The correct gender of *Daption* Stephens 1826.**—Stephens (1826) proposed the anagram *Daption*, based on the Spanish vernacular Pintado ("painted"), as the generic name for the hodgepodge of southern hemisphere petrels "described by Latham" (1781). He explicitly designated *Procellaria capensis* Linnaeus as the type species. Use of *Daption* now is restricted to the Cape Pigeon (or Cape Petrel of the A.O.U. Check-list 1957). Although Stephens used obvious neuter forms for each of the other specific epithets that he associated with *Daption* (*antarcticum* = *Thalassoica antarctica* (Gmelin), *niveum* = *Pagodroma nivea* (Forster), *desolatum* = *Pachytila desolata* (Gmelin), *gelidum* = *Procellaria cinerea* Gmelin?, *griseum* = *Puffinus griseus* (Gmelin), *album* = *Pterodroma alba* (Gmelin), and *fuliginosum* = *Oceanodroma* sp. or *Nesofregatta albigularis* (Finsch), see Bourne 1957), he formally recorded the type species as *Daption capenses* on page 241. This was a patent *lapsus calami* or printer's error. Although the name appears as *Daption capensis* on page 240 referring to its "slight notice" in the Règne Animal (Curvier 1817, where it is actually listed as *Procellaria capensis*), it appears with a neuter adjective as *Daption capense* in the index on page 267. Apparently Stephens adopted neuter gender by analogy with the Greek diminutive ending *-ιον* (transcribed *-ion*).

Stephens' original spelling has been emended to agree with Linnaeus' feminine *Procellaria capensis* or has been mistranscribed as *Daption capensis* by many authors of checklists and handbooks (see Table 1 for important examples). Their works have been used for reference by later workers, most of whom have used *Daption capensis*. A number of standard references (see Table 1) do use the neuter form. The fourth edition of the A.O.U. Check-list (1931) used *capense*, but through oversight this was changed to *capensis* in the first printing of the fifth edition