TABLE 1

HEMATOCRIT IN CAPTIVE AND FERAL WHITE-CROWNED SPARROWS DURING MOLT

Molt Stage[1]	Postnuptial Molt		Prenuptial Molt	
	Captive[2]	Feral[3]	Captive[2]	Feral[3]
0[4]	48.4 ± 2.66 (12)[5]	—	45.2 ± 7.25 (13)	50.8 ± 3.35 (30)
1	42.0 ± 2.72 (8)[6]	—	48.5 ± 2.10 (15)	46.1 ± 3.00 (12)
2	42.0 ± 5.42 (4)[6]	—	45.8 ± 2.87 (4)[7]	44.5 ± 2.88 (6)[6]
3	43.6 ± 2.84 (10)[6]	—	46.0 ± 3.68 (27)[7]	45.6 ± 2.81 (43)[6]
4	50.3 ± 4.06 (17)	46.0 ± 2.74 (19)	46.4 ± 2.72 (10)[7]	46.6 ± 1.85 (13)[6]
5	48.2 ± 3.14 (21)	46.2 ± 2.77 (26)	50.1 ± 4.32 (19)	49.6 ± 4.05 (26)

[1] See Table 1 for characterization of molt stage.
[2] Birds caged individually outdoors during 1968 and 1969 in Pullman, Washington; blood collected by cardiac puncture.
[3] Birds taken from the Snake River Canyon in southeastern Washington; cardiac puncture taken less than 1 hr after capture.
[4] Hematocrit at stage 0 determined within 2 wk of molt.
[5] Mean hematocrit ± SD (N in parentheses).
[6] Mean differs significantly ($P < 0.05$) from stages 0 and 5.
[7] Mean differs significantly from stage 5 only.

TABLE 2

ERYTHROCYTE NUMBERS IN WHITE-CROWNED SPARROWS DURING POSTNUPTIAL MOLT

Molt Stage	Stage Characteristics	Mean ± SD
0	Before molt	2.76 ± 0.19 (3)[1]
1	Primaries 1–4 and spinal tract molting	3.94 ± 0.85 (6)
2	Primaries 5–7, tertials thoracic, capital, and spinal tracts molting	3.79 ± 0.48 (6)
3	Primaries 8–9, secondaries, femoral, and crural tracts molting	4.24 ± 0.68 (5)
4	Primary or secondary molt completed	4.18 (2)
5	Body molt completed	4.73 ± 0.30 (8)[1]

[1] Means in millions per cubic millimeter (N in parentheses); $P < 0.001$ between molt stages 0 and 5.

was transferred directly from the bird to a glass slide, and a fine-tipped glass rod was repetitively passed through and away from the blood drop until the visible formation of a fibrin thread suspended from the rod. The time to thread formation was called the clotting time. Clotting time ranged from 0.25 to 0.50 min with a mean of 0.35 ± 0.10 (SD) min in the 23 birds sampled, no significant differences in clotting times were noted between any of the molt stages with this technique.

The authors thank James R. King for comments on the original manuscript, and also Robert A. Lewis and Michael D. Kern for supplying a portion of the birds used in these studies. This work was supported by a NIH grant GM 1276-12 awarded to Leonard B. Kirschner.—JOHN D. CHILGREN AND WILLIAM A. DEGRAW, *Department of Zoology, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington 99163. Present addresses, first author: Department of Zoology, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331; second author: Department of Biology, University of Nebraska, Omaha, Nebraska 68101.* Accepted 21 Oct. 75.

Great Egret preys on sandpiper.—At 1740 on 18 May 1973 at Brigantine National Wildlife Refuge, Oceanville, New Jersey, I saw a Great Egret (*Casmerodius albus*) capture an unusually large object. Immediately the egret flew about 50 m to a shallow pool where it was in full view. I could see that it had caught a sandpiper that I was unable to identify, though Least Sandpipers (*Calidris minutilla*) were plentiful in the vicinity.

After landing, the egret repeatedly dropped and picked up the sandpiper until it hung limp in its bill. Repeated attempts at swallowing were followed by coughing-up motions. Occasionally, the egret dipped the sandpiper in the water before resuming swallowing attempts, which were hindered by the sandpiper's wings catching on the outside of the egret's mouth. At 1754 the sandpiper's viscera hung from its skin and at 1758 it was swallowed. The egret then drank several times and wandered off. I have found no mention in the literature of Great Egrets preying on other birds.—ROBERT REPENNING, *327 Hickory Lane, Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033.* Accepted 6 Oct. 75.