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The duration of parental care in the Common Tody Flycatcher.—The nesting habits of the Common Tody Flycatcher (*Todirostrum cinereum*) are now well known. Skutch (1930, *Auk* 47: 313–322; 1960, *Pacific Coast Avifauna* 34: 475–489) published two detailed life histories of the race *finitimum* in Panama and Costa Rica, and I (Haverschmidt 1968, *Birds of Surinam*, Edinburgh, Oliver and Boyd, p. 326) gave a summary of the nesting habits of the nominate race in Surinam. My observations agree in all aspects with those of Skutch except as to clutch size, *finitimum* laying 3, less often 2 eggs, while in Surinam all 21 nests I examined contained 2 eggs. The two stages of parental care as defined by Skutch (1976, *Parent birds and their young*, Austin, Univ. Texas Press, p. 341) he could not determine as all his nests were robbed.

In 1960 a single pair housed in my garden near Paramaribo, and I was able to study them through the whole breeding cycle till the young were independent. The pertinent data are: Nest still in progress of building on 26 July. On 9 August 1 egg, 10 August at 1730 still 1 egg, 11 August at 1730 2 eggs. On 28 August at 0700 still 2 eggs, which both hatched at 1230 after an incubation period of 18 days. The female slept in the nest (head in the doorway) till 9 September (age of nestlings 10 days). At sundown on 15 September both nestlings still in the nest, but had left the morning of 16 September after a nestling period of 18 days. The nestlings remained in company of their parents in the immediate neighborhood of the nest tree and could be easily located by their begging call, a long-drawn "psee," quite different from the ordinary note, a measured "tick, tick" of the old birds. On 13 October, 27 days after having left the nest, I saw one of the young birds feeding itself for the first time in the usual way by jumping to a leaf, but when one of the old birds arrived with food it uttered its begging call and was fed. Then followed a period in which the young birds not only searched for food for themselves, but were still fed by their parents. This I saw for the last time on 28 October. In this particular pair the duration of parental care after the young had left the nest lasted 43 days.—F. HAVERSCHMIDT, 16 *Wolfskuilstraat*, Ommen, Holland. Accepted 19 Oct. 76.