

(*A. americana*), and Gadwall (*A. strepera*). There is considerable potential for ducklings to become separated from their mothers. Risk of exposure to adverse climatic conditions is great, especially early in the year when cold water and cold air often combine with rain and high wind. In addition, females that nest early in the season always risk having broods hatch when food is scarce or unavailable. This female must have begun egg laying during the first week of

April, during an unusually mild early spring but cool and wet late spring. This incident is significant because it emphasizes the hazards associated with the timing of nesting for females and the consequences of even a brief lapse of attentiveness by young and/or females.

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### Rockhopper Penguin (*Eudyptes chrysocome*) Record at Palmer Station, Antarctica

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An adult male Rockhopper Penguin (*Eudyptes chrysocome*) with a broken wing was collected on Cormorant Island near Palmer Station, off the south coast of Anvers Island, Antarctic Peninsula (64°8'S, 63°58'W) on 29 December 1980. The specimen is deposited at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (uncatalogued). This locality is approximately 1,100 km from the nearest breeding area of the species, the islands off Cape Horn. The bird was standing at the edge of a colony of nesting Adelie Penguins and appeared alert and in good condition except for its injury. Dissection and weighing produced the following wet weights: total, 2,532 g; pectoral muscles, 440.44 g; thigh muscles, 219.62 g; liver, 76.86 g; heart, 28.14 g; brain, 10.91 g; stomach, 18.45 g; the stomach was empty and there were no visible subcutaneous fat deposits. Both testes were present; they were 180 mm by 80 mm in length and width and, together, weighed 1.23 g. Color notes were made from life. The eyes were dull red, the feet whitish pink with black soles, and the bill reddish brown.

Male Rockhopper body weights on Macquarie Island average 2.7 kg (range, 2.1–3.2) (Warham 1963); the individual collected near Palmer Station was therefore well within the expected weight range. Unless this individual was taken onboard ship, transported, and then released, it most likely came from the Falkland Islands (G. E. Watson pers. comm.), where Rockhoppers breed abundantly (Pettingill 1960, Strange 1965). The facial characteristics and head plumes were consistent with the dark-faced form (*chrysocome*) expected for a bird from South America or the Falkland Islands (Carins 1974), although the underwing pattern was more like that of the subtropical form *moseleyi* (Prevost and Moughlin 1970).

The peak egg-laying date for Rockhoppers on the Falkland Islands is estimated to be 20 November (Warham 1972). If this individual were breeding, he

might have recently been relieved by his mate (males usually incubate first, for approximately 25 days) and gone out to sea to feed, which would explain his occurrence far from the Falkland Islands. A broken wing might well have hindered his ability to return to the Falklands. This is the first record for this species at Palmer Station (confirmed by D. Parmelee).

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