The Auk



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The Auk welcomes original reports on the biology of birds. Appropriate topics include the documentation, analysis, and interpretation of laboratory and field studies, theoretical or methodological developments, and reviews of information or ideas. Contributions written in English are encouraged from throughout the world.

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An Abstract (<5% of paper length) should precede each regular article. It should summarize important premises, recapitulate findings, and give conclusions. Text citations should include the author and year (e.g. Darwin 1858, Wolter and Hunter 1968, Mayr et al. 1989); multiple citations should be arranged chronologically. Citations of specific page numbers, tables, or figures may be appropriate in certain situations (e.g. Diamond 1991:465–466, Zink et al. 1991:fig. 1, Dawson and Mannan 1991:table 6). Acknowledgments precede the Literature Cited. Title abbreviations of serial publications follow the International Serial Data System (ISDS) as indicated in *Serial Sources for the BIOSIS Previews Database* (1994, BIOSIS, Philadelphia), which is provided with *Biological Abstracts*. Scientific and English names of birds are given at first mention and follow the AOU's *Check-list of North American Birds* (1983) and its supplements. Measurements (and their designated abbreviations) are to be in SI units (see B. N. Taylor [Ed.], 1991, The international system of units [SI]. NIST Spec. Publ. 330, National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S. Dep. Commerce, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.). In general, abbreviations of statistical terms conform to the sixth edition of *Scientific Style and Format: The CBE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers* (1994, Cambridge University Press, New York). Use continental dating (e.g. 29 September 1990), the 24-hour clock (e.g. 0800 and 2035), and standard

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