

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Calliope Hummingbird Entangled in Grass Barbs.—An interesting and possibly unusual tragedy occurred recently when an adult Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*) became entangled in barbs of a spike of grass, *Setaria verticillata*, growing in the garden of Professor J. H. Roblyer at the College of Idaho (fig. 1). The breast feathers were entwined about the head of grass. The small barbules of the awns held so firmly that the bird was helpless and unable to pull itself away. It had been dead some time when found by Mrs. Roblyer. The specimen was received July 15, 1954, at which time the grass was quite mature.—HAROLD M. TUCKER, *College of Idaho, Caldwell, Idaho, October 15, 1954.*



Fig. 1. Calliope Hummingbird entangled in grass barbs.

Glossy Ibis in Oklahoma.—On May 13, 1954, at the Federal Fish Hatchery near Tishomingo, Johnston County, Oklahoma, James H. Pratt shot a well plumaged adult Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) which had no white on the forehead or face. It was a solitary bird. Kermit E. Sneed, of the Sulphur Fish Hatchery, Sulphur, Oklahoma, eviscerated the specimen and courteously brought it to me. I skinned it out as soon as possible, but was unable to sex it. It was not very fat.

So far as I know this is the first Oklahoma specimen of *P. falcinellus* to have been preserved. It is no. 1280 in the new bird collection of the Museum of Zoology at the University of Oklahoma. In discussing the record with Mr. Sneed, I learned from him that in May, 1951, a well-driller had killed

seven adult Glossy Ibises on the ponds of the Red River Fisheries, near Grant, Choctaw County, Oklahoma, and that four of these had had no white on the face. The seven birds had all been in the same flock.

The White-faced Glossy Ibis (*P. mexicana*) has been recorded many times during recent years in Oklahoma. Mrs. Nice ("The Birds of Oklahoma," 1931:58) listed the species as "accidental" and mentioned a specimen taken near Dover, Kingfisher County, in 1897. John B. Semple collected an adult male specimen three miles south of Gate, Beaver County, on May 18, 1937. Our University bird collection has two specimens, both adults, one taken May 8, 1953, from a flock of sixteen birds at the Byron Fish Hatchery, Alfalfa County, by Clyde Burleson; the other taken by Cecil Nation, at the Red River Fisheries in Choctaw County, May 29, 1954.

No Glossy Ibis of either species has, so far as I know, ever been known to nest in Oklahoma. Though I continue to suspect that *mexicana* may prove to be a color-phase of *falcinellus*, I must admit that the coloration of the above-discussed specimens now in our collection corroborates Wetmore's statement (Auk, 68, 1951:525-526) to the effect that the shade of green in the wing plumage of *falcinellus* is oily and dark while that of *mexicana* is brassy. The difference is especially noticeable in the primary coverts.—GEORGE MIKSCHE SUTTON, *Oklahoma Biological Survey, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma, November 11, 1954.*

A Winter-active Poor-will.—The interest aroused by Jaeger's observations (Condor, 51, 1949: 105) on hibernation in the Poor-will (*Phalaenoptilus nuttallii*) makes the following observation noteworthy. At the Crown Ranch (elevation 1500 feet) in the Santa Ana Mountains south of Corona, California, on January 30, 1953, a single Poor-will was seen at 3 p.m. It could be approached within 10 feet before taking flight and would fly for about 10 seconds before again landing on the ground. It stayed within an area not greater than 25 yards square in a chaparral creek bottom. The air temperature was 60°F. No insects were apparent even after a cursory search.—NORMAN H. MELLOR, *Corona, California, August 17, 1954.*

Some Recent Arizona Bird Records.—In the period from September, 1951, to September, 1953, I accumulated a number of records bearing on the distribution of birds in Arizona. Many of these are from the Roosevelt Lake region of the central part of the state. I wish to express my appreciation to the Arizona Game and Fish Commission for providing collecting permits and for their cooperation and to Allan R. Phillips for identification of specimens here reported and for advice in preparation of this manuscript.

Pelecanus occidentalis. Brown Pelican. An emaciated immature male was found on a lawn in Goodyear, Maricopa County, on August 5, 1953, and presented to Abe Margolin, biologist at Phoenix College. The specimen measured as follows: wing chord, 570; culmen, 345. It is therefore referable to the western race *californicus*.

Mycteria americana. Wood Ibis. On August 23, 1953, this species was seen at a cattail marsh along the Salt River, one-half mile south of Paloverde, Maricopa County. At one time forty-nine were counted in the air. This is an exceptional number for central Arizona.

Aix sponsa. Wood Duck. A male was taken on January 17, 1953, near Tucson. It is the first specimen for southern Arizona. In view of the fact that Wood Ducks are raised commonly in captivity, it should be noted that there were no indications that this bird had been a captive. Its feathers were in perfect unworn condition, and its bill, legs, and feet were free from scales or diseased areas. A second male was seen at Arivaca, Pima County, on February 23, 1953.

Aythya marila. Greater Scaup. A partial skeleton was found at Picacho Reservoir, south of Coolidge, Pinal County, on January 31, 1953. Measurements of the bill and nail, and of the wing, plus color characteristics of the remaining primaries were sufficient to identify the species. This is the second verified record of the species for the state, although hunters have reported taking "big scaup ducks," and they are undoubtedly more common than records indicate. Picacho Reservoir is heavily hunted, and the bird found was presumably a cripple which had been eaten by scavengers.

Lophodytes cucullatus. Hooded Merganser. An immature male was observed on Tonto Creek, one mile north of Roosevelt Lake, Gila County, on November 17, 1951, and a female was flushed from some flooded *Tamarix* along the lake shore on April 5, 1952.

Accipiter gentilis. Goshawk. On February 12, 1953, I was attempting to "squeak up" Red Cross-