

lots examined (table 1). The low per cent consumption of game birds and mammals other than cotton-tails conforms with the findings of others on western populations of Great Horned Owl (table 2).

TABLE 2

SUMMARY OF FOOD STUDIES OF THE GREAT HORNED OWL WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER

Source	Locality	Per cent occurrence			
		Game birds ¹	Non-game birds	Game mammals ²	Non-game rodents
Baumgartner (Wilson Bull. 56, 1944:212)	Oklahoma	1.4	8.4	15.5	62.0
Present study	Oklahoma	....	4.7	28.0	62.5
Parmalee (Auk, 71, 1954:469)	Texas	2.9	8.8	29.4	58.9
Craighead (<i>op. cit.</i> :407)	Wyoming	2.3	1.4	2.8	92.2
Alcorn (Condor, 44, 1942:285)	Nevada	6.3	....	37.5	56.2
Bond (Condor, 42, 1940:165)	Nevada	....	3.2	....	96.8
Jones (Nebr. Bird Rev., 20, 1952:10-11)	Nebraska	8.6	....	4.5	86.9
Fitch (Condor, 42, 1940:74)	California	....	....	19.0	81.0
Fitch (Condor, 49, 1947:140-141)	California	0.7	1.5	13.9	77.0

¹ Bobwhite and California quail, Ruffed Grouse, and ducks. ² Cottontail, jackrabbit, snowshoe hare, muskrat.

Studies of the Great Horned Owl in the West, including the present Oklahoma study, suggest that the diet of this owl is not inimical to the welfare of game birds. Inglis (Relations of Rodents to Game Populations, Texas Ag. Expt. Sta., 1959:279-339) work in the Texas Panhandle illustrate that rodents and quail fed on many of the same kinds of foods. Possibly the high per cent of small rodent consumption by Great Horned Owls is indirectly beneficial to quail by reducing competition for the weed and grain seed supply.

Craighead and Craighead (Hawks, Owls, and Wildlife, 1956:294) after a study of raptor-prey interrelationships, concluded that avian predation was usually proportional to prey density except in cases where prey risk was low. Perhaps the apparent low vulnerability of Scaled Quail to owl predation can be attributed to the nocturnal feeding activity of the Horned Owls. Scaled Quail are inactive at night as they roost in a covey circle with each bird facing outward. This type of roosting behavior may decrease predation risk from owls.

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Lapland Longspur in México.—On November 14, 1961, a Lapland Longspur, *Calcarius lapponicus*, was found dead at the south end of Cerralvo Island, the southernmost island in the Gulf of California, Baja California, México. The species has not previously been reported from México (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 33, 1957).

The bird was found lying at the edge of an arroyo about 50 yards from the shore. The eyes and legs were dried, but the generally good condition of the bird suggested that it had been dead for not more than 24 hours. Internal decomposition had progressed so that the sex of the bird could not be determined, but plumage characters indicate that it was a male. Its skull was fully ossified. The specimen has been placed in the collections of the California Academy of Sciences.

The pattern of variation in Lapland Longspurs is such that the subspecific identity of individual birds cannot readily be determined. The specimen under consideration is quite dark; comparison with series housed at the California Academy of Sciences and at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology revealed a closer resemblance to wintering birds of the eastern United States than to those of the western United States. The bird has thus been tentatively identified as *C. l. lapponicus*.

Current studies on Cerralvo Island are being carried out under the sponsorship of the National Science Foundation. Frank A. Pitelka and Richard T. Holmes helped in the identification of the specimen.—RICHARD C. BANKS, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California, December 21, 1961*.