

in the gardens of the Zoological Society of London. This species has a straight and relatively slender bill. In the aviary where it was housed, mealworms were usually thrown down onto an area of peat, and some would burrow into the substrate. On several occasions the bird was seen to perform an open-billed probing, or "zirkeln," movement in search of these. The movement was similar to that seen in the European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), the closed bill being thrust down into the peat and the mandibles then parted, forcing the material apart. Probing sometimes occurred to the full length of the bill. On one occasion the bird was watched feeding from an open tray, where it was observed using a similar "zirkeln" movement to break open pieces of soft fruit before eating fragments of them.—C. J. O. HARRISON, *Bird Section, Department of Zoology, British Museum (Natural History), London, May 22, 1963.*

Unusual Feeding Behavior of a Goshawk.—On two occasions in 1963, I observed an interesting method of prey-capture by an adult Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*). These observations were made at an elevation of 7800 feet within the ponderosa pine forest of the Santa Catalina Mountains, Pima County, Arizona. On February 20, a Goshawk had located a large Abert squirrel (*Sciurus aberti*) in a tall ponderosa pine. When I first observed the hawk, it was hopping from branch to branch chasing the squirrel through the tree. The hawk appeared always to remain below the prey and to keep the squirrel continually moving by means of a relentless chase. After fifteen minutes of chase the hawk then grabbed the squirrel and both fell to the ground, the hawk apparently killing the prey immediately.

On March 8, I noted the hawk, presumably the same individual, preening in a large pine within a quarter mile of the first observation. Presently an Abert squirrel began to ascend an adjacent tree. The hawk spotted the prey at once and, instead of directly attacking the squirrel, flew to a branch below it. Then, as in the previous case, the hawk chased the prey through the tree. At one point the squirrel even jumped to a branch of an adjacent tree, but the hawk flew over and pursued the squirrel in a similar manner from branch to branch in this new tree. Finally the hawk grabbed the squirrel as it was attempting to scamper down past the hawk. This attack lasted for ten minutes.

In both instances the hawk gave chase with concomitant screams. It was this screaming that attracted my attention in the first instance. In neither case did the hawk initially press its attack to the point of attempting to grab for the prey at every jump; it simply kept close to the prey. Whenever the squirrel would attempt to flee downward, the hawk would chase it back up. This persistent, although rather unhurried, chase and the continual screaming on the part of the hawk appeared to tire the squirrel to the point of both physical and mental exhaustion. I suspect that after ten or fifteen minutes of such a pursuit, fear as much as anything led to the relatively easy capture of the squirrels.

The normal feeding procedure of the Goshawk is a rapid dive upon a rather unsuspecting prey (Bent, Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. 167, 1937:133). Such an attack can be made within forest cover. But my observations represent a completely different technique of prey capture. Cram (*in Bent, op. cit.*:132) reported a case in which a Goshawk followed a rabbit on snow-covered ground by means of walking "much like a crow." Cram believed that Goshawks occasionally hunt rabbits in this manner when the underbrush is too dense to allow the hawks to fly through it. I can find no reference noting Goshawks, or any other accipiters, pursuing prey in a tree by hopping after it from branch to branch.—PETER W. WESTCOTT, *Department of Zoology, University of Arizona, June 10, 1963.*