

feet out and chattering the while; they assumed the side-by-side position on the new limb. The birds now began to engage in the elaborate behavioral patterns that Hardy (*op. cit.*) has described in detail in this species and has termed mutual preening and appeasement. Mutual preening, fluffing of the plumage, closing the eyes, nuzzling, and "wing-up" actions were observed in the pair. This pattern of behavior was maintained intermittently for approximately 25 minutes, at the end of which period one individual began to "fawn" the other by raising its leg and "clawing" the wing and back of its partner. This action was followed in a few seconds by an attempt to mount on the part of the individual that had been engaged in the "clawing." Under the impression that this behavioral pattern represented an unusually early date for breeding in the species, the two individuals were forthwith collected while in the attempted mounting posture. The two specimens (U.C.L.A. nos. 51,588-9) proved to be two adult males, weighing 85.4 g and 82.2 g, and with testes 10 mm and 9 mm, respectively.

It is difficult to assess the evolutionary significance of such a behavioral characteristic in wild psittacines without additional information on the natural history as well as the ethology of the species concerned. For example, no information is available on sex ratios in wild populations of *A. canicularis*, of seasonal variations in flock compositions, of the ratio of available nesting sites to the number of breeding pairs of birds in any given area, or of the frequency of the homosexual character within wild populations. Certainly these are only a few of the many critical questions that must be answered before an evaluation of this character can be attempted.

I wish to thank John William Hardy and Thomas R. Howell for discussing this topic with me. These studies were supported in part by a grant (G-3683) from the National Science Foundation.—O. MARCUS BUCHANAN, *UCLA-Dickey Collections, Department of Zoology, University of California, Los Angeles, California, 14 December 1965.*

**Breeding Record of the Cassin Sparrow (*Aimophila cassinii*) in Arizona.**—While conducting research on the breeding biology of the Rufous-winged Sparrow (*Aimophila carpalis*), I was fortunate enough to find three nests of the Cassin Sparrow (*A. cassinii*). Nesting of the species occurred from the latter part of July to early September 1965. The habitat was mixed bunchgrass and thornbrush located 7 miles E, 7 miles S Tucson, Pima County. The nests were constructed 6 to 12 inches off the ground in bunchgrasses. All nests were constructed beside mesquite trunks, but none was attached to the trunks. A total of eight young fledged from the three nests. I banded five of the young and one maternal adult with Fish and Wildlife Service bands.

The A.O.U. Check-list (1957:603) reports Arizona as being in the breeding range of *A. cassinii*, but Phillips *et al.* in *The Birds of Arizona* (1964, pp. 200-201) reports no record of the birds breeding in the state. One 15-day-old fledgling (Univ. Ariz. Dept. Zool. no. 5683) was secured for the record.

Study of the breeding adults plus the observation of the Cassin's song flight during the nuptial displays eliminated any confusion with the Botteri Sparrow (*A. botteri*). Also, the Botteri Sparrow has not been reported in the Tucson area during its breeding season, and the nest has not been found in the state (Phillips *et al.*, *ibid.*:200).—ROBERT D. OHMART, *Department of Zoology, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, 15 December 1965.*

**Notes on Costa Rican Birds.**—During the summer of 1965 incidental observations were made on birds in Costa Rica. Several items of interest are recorded here.

*Elanus leucurus*. White-tailed Kite. Slud (Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., vol. 128, 1964) gave several sight records for this kite, but reported that no specimens had yet been taken in Costa Rica. On 27 June I saw a lone bird foraging over a densely overgrown pasture along the Pan American Highway about 15 miles south of Buenas Aires, Puntarenas Province. Later, on 19 July, I collected an example of this species as it foraged with another individual over a pasture along the

Pan American Highway nine miles north of Cañas, Guanacaste Province. The stomach contained only a few mammal hairs. The bird was in heavy body molt, and the primaries were molting. The left testis was 6 mm long. Richard Sage took a specimen on 20 August 14 km southwest of Liberia, Guanacaste Province. This bird was also molting. The left testis was  $8 \times 3$  mm. Measurements (wing 305, 307 mm; tail 186, 181 mm) show that both specimens are of the northern race *majusculus*. These specimens are the southernmost records for this race.

Although no kites were seen in Guanacaste Province in mid-June, several, in addition to the one I collected, were observed there in mid-July. I suspect these birds were early migrants to Costa Rica. To date there is no evidence of breeding in the country.

*Tapera naevia*. Striped Cuckoo. Slud (*op. cit.*) noted that there were no records of this species from the General-Térraba Valley region, "where a bird that could only be this one was described to [him]." I was in the Térraba Valley at Palmar Sur on 29 and 30 June and from 14 to 21 August. During both of these periods, *Tapera* was common in brushy areas and pasturelands along the road from Palmar Norte to Puerto Cortes, Puntarenas Province, on the Río Térraba. Six to eight birds could be heard calling in the early morning in one mile along the road. On 29 June at about 1700, I noted five or six *Tapera* with several *Myiozetetes* flycatchers and Ruddy Ground Doves (*Columbigallina talpacoti*) sitting on the dusty gravel road. The *Tapera* were fluffed and flattened out on the road as if taking a dust bath.

One bird was collected by Robert Jenkins eight miles west of Palmar Norte at about 0530 on 19 August. It was "singing" from the top of a six-foot weed stalk in an overgrown pasture. The stomach contained only the mouthparts of three grasshoppers. The testes were slightly enlarged (left,  $4 \times 2$  mm). The plumage was very worn.

*Rhinoptynx clamator*. Striped Owl. This owl is apparently not rare in Costa Rica, and although Slud (*op. cit.*) feels that the "center of distribution" is the Térraba region, the paucity of specimens from Costa Rica prompts me to record another. One was taken by Robert Jenkins at 0745 along the road from Palmar Norte to Puerto Cortes, Puntarenas Province. It was sitting quietly in a *Gliricidia sepium* tree forming part of a live fence row along a weedy pasture. The surrounding area was all pastureland or cultivated fields. The granular ovary was in postbreeding condition. The brood patch was refeathering, and the bird was moderately fat. The stomach contained the remains of eight or nine tettigoniid grasshoppers approximately three to five cm long.

*Nyctibius griseus*. Common Potoo. Slud (*op. cit.*) reported only one record from the dry lowlands of Guanacaste Province, a specimen taken by Austin Smith at Tempete. On 19 June, at a point five km north of Cañas, I observed one sitting exposed, but in the shade, 25 feet up in the middle of a tropical deciduous woodland. It was facing at approximately a  $20^\circ$  angle to the long axis of a horizontal limb. From about the same level on a nearby hillside I was able to see the tail protruding beneath the limb. The bird seemed to be less effectively concealed than in the classic pose. The bill was pointed almost vertically, and the eyes were closed.

The specimens mentioned in this account are deposited in the collections of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. I would like to thank Richard Sage for permission to report his specimen of the White-tailed Kite.—LARRY L. WOLF, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, California, 14 December 1965.*

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## CORRIGENDA

In the note "*Falco rufifigularis*—the correct name of the Bat Falcon" (Condor, 68:208–209, 1966), on p. 209, third line from the end of the note, the word "*rufifigularis*" should replace "*refigularis*," a typographical error.

In the article "The molt of breeding Cassin Auklets" (Condor, 67:220–228, 1965) the numeral in row 1 column 3 in table 2, p. 222, should read 18 rather than 10 for the number of single birds with two primaries in molt. The averages are correct as printed.

Condor (68:275, 1966), Table 1, Part 2, right column, the entry in parentheses under Post-breeding molt should be (= "Postnuptial Molt"), not (= "Prenuptial Molt").