

are particularly large in Penpoint and Crescent Gunnels. The peak of the breeding seasons in the two species are separated by about 4 weeks (van Tets in Drent et al. 1964). For these reasons, it is probable that a more extended study of the feeding ecology of these species would indicate a level of competition far lower than that computed above.

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BIRD RECORDS FROM HONDURAS

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During the period from April 1970 through September 1972, Brown resided at Trujillo, Department of Colón, on the north (Caribbean) coast of Honduras. Records and collections mentioned herein, unless expressly stated otherwise, are his; most of these observations were made at Punta Caxinas, a sandy point on the north side of Trujillo Bay, 15 km NW of Trujillo. All reports affect the status of the species in Honduras, as published by Monroe (Ornithol. Monogr. no. 7, 1968). Specimens obtained are deposited in the Collection of Birds, University of Louisville (UL), Louisville, Kentucky.

Sula dactylatra. Blue-faced Booby. An adult was observed flying over Trujillo Bay on 15 September 1970 and, presumably the same individual, sitting on the beach at Punta Caxinas on 17 September. There is no previous record from Honduras.

Haematopus palliatus. American Oystercatcher. One was noted at Punta Caxinas on 23 May 1970; a group of five was recorded there on 26 July 1972. Only one previous report for the country exists.

Charadrius alexandrinus. Snowy Plover. Formerly considered rare or accidental in Honduras, this species is fairly common in winter at Punta Caxinas, with six observations between 10 November and 21 February.

Charadrius wilsonia. Wilson's Plover. Likewise considered rare, this species is common from Punta Caxinas to the mouth of the Chapagua River, 24 km E of Trujillo, with eight sightings between 4 July and 24 February.

Pluvialis dominica. American Golden Plover. One bird in nonbreeding plumage was observed on 15 April 1971 on the grassy airstrip at Puerto Castilla, 11 km NNW of Trujillo. There are no other Honduran reports.

Numenius americanus. Long-billed Curlew. Considered accidental in Honduras heretofore, this species was recorded on three occasions: single birds at Punta Caxinas on 23 May 1970, and 11 km N of Trujillo on the outer beach on 17 September 1970; and a group of three on the beach between the mouths of the Chapagua and Aguán rivers on 24 February 1972.

Stercorarius parasiticus. Parasitic Jaeger. A jaeger, probably this species, was recorded at Punta Caxinas on 9 April 1971. Two were seen there on 18 June 1971, of which one was collected (UL 3766); it proved to be an immature of undetermined sex.

Larus delawarensis. Ring-billed Gull. Monroe and seven other observers noted an immature along the beach at Tela, 175 km W of Trujillo on 29 December 1971. Brown recorded an adult at Punta Caxinas on 8 February 1972 and an immature at Puerto Castilla from 19 to 29 February. These are the first records of the species from Honduras.

Larus atricilla. Laughing Gull. The first specimen (UL 3765), an immature of undetermined sex, was obtained at Punta Caxinas on 8 February 1972.

Sterna hirundo. Common Tern. Formerly considered rare in Honduras, this species is common at Punta Caxinas, with extreme dates of 8 February and 17 September. The first Honduran specimen (UL 3763), an adult of undetermined sex, was taken on 18 June 1971; it represents *S. h. hirundo*.

Sterna albifrons. Least Tern. A breeding colony consisting of about 50 pairs is located at Punta Caxinas, with extreme dates of occurrence 23 May and 19 September. A lone, intact egg (UL 3767) was collected on 4 July 1972; incubating birds were noted on 26 July, at which time an adult female (UL 3762) and another egg (UL 3768) were taken. The female contained two enlarged ova, 16 and 7 mm in diameter, and has been identified by Dr. George

Watson of the U.S. National Museum as the eastern race, *S. a. antillarum*. This report marks a southern breeding range extension beyond the Bay Islands.

Thalasseus sandvicensis. Sandwich Tern. Previously unrecorded in Honduras, this species is common at Punta Caxinas, where it was noted in all months except March, October, and December. An adult female (UL 3764), representing the expected race, *T. s. acufavidus*, was obtained there on 15 April 1971.

Columba leucocephala. White-crowned Pigeon. One bird observed in second-growth along the north-

east side of Trujillo Bay on 6, 7, and 20 March 1971 marked the first occurrence of the species on the mainland of Honduras.

Crotophaga ani. Smooth-billed Ani. Another species previously unrecorded from the mainland, this ani was observed twice: on 24 April 1971 one was seen in mangrove between the northeast side of Trujillo Bay and the outer beach, and another was observed in semi-open marsh with several Groove-billed Anis (*C. sulcirostris*) near the same locality on 13 June 1971.

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AN UNUSUAL CASE OF NESTING PERSISTENCE IN A FEMALE FIELD SPARROW

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Among the fringillids, the Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) is noted for its nesting persistence. Walkinshaw (U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 237:1217, 1968) reports that if undisturbed by predators and other mishaps, the Field Sparrow may raise three broods of young in a given summer. Such reproductive output is seldom realized, however, due to nest predation and brood parasitism. Consequently, the female Field Sparrow may build several nests during the course of a single breeding season; the maximum number reported in the literature is seven (Walkinshaw, op. cit.)

While studying the breeding ecology of a Field Sparrow population at Allerton Park, near Monticello, Illinois, I observed one female which showed unusual nesting persistence in the face of nest predation and brood parasitism. She nested 10 different times during the late spring and summer of the 1972 breeding season. The maximum number of nesting attempts

by any other female on the study area was six. Of the 23 pairs breeding on the area, this female constructed the earliest and latest nests of the season, completed 2 May and 21 August, respectively. The pair was first observed together on 15 April and was last seen on the study area 1 September. Both were color-marked, permitting field identification.

Four of the nests built were parasitized by the Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) during egg laying; one was parasitized a second time during incubation. None were deserted as a result, although all other females on the study area immediately abandoned their nests following parasitism. Nine of the 10 nesting attempts ended unsuccessfully as a result of nest predation, predominantly by snakes. One nest placed near a territorial boundary was deserted after the first egg was laid. Once, the female continued incubation of a cowbird egg despite the removal of all her own eggs by a snake. This nest subsequently was preyed upon a second time. Only one brood successfully hatched, but showed abnormally slow growth during the first day after hatching before being removed by a snake. Following this incident, the female deserted the male for 11 days, but returned to make a final nesting attempt. She laid a total of 28 eggs and transported a total of 56.2 g of nesting material (4.5 times her body weight) to construct the ten nests.

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SALMONELLA TYPHIMURIUM FROM A MARYLAND MOURNING DOVE

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On 19 September 1971, an adult female Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) was found at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. The bird could not fly, appeared ruffled, had no external signs of damage or disease, but died in captivity the following night. A postmortem examination revealed an enlarged, pulpy spleen and yellowish liver, with small (<1 mm) whitish spots. Material from liver and spleen was streaked onto 5% blood agar and incubated at 37°C for 24 hr. The cultures produced bacterial growth which was subsequently identified as *Salmonella typhimurium* var. *copenhagen*. Impression smears of the liver stained with Giemsa's stain showed bipolar

cocco-bacilli both intra- and extracellular. Histo-pathologic examination of the liver showed bacteria (H & E and Giemsa stain). The final diagnosis was death due to salmonellosis.

Salmonella has been isolated from columbids on several occasions. Faddoul and Fellows (Avian Dis. 10:296, 1966) and Farrand et al. (Monthly Bull. Ministry Health, Lond. 23:231, 1964) described *S. typhimurium* from feral Rock Doves (*Columba livia*) while Wilson and MacDonald (Brit. Vet. J. 123:212, 1967) described it from a Wood Pigeon (*C. palumbus*). Eighty-three references to *Salmonella* isolations from birds are listed by Steele and Galton (*Salmonellosis, in Infectious and parasitic diseases of wild birds*. Iowa State Press, Ames, 1971) but none of these lists the Mourning Dove. In 1971, a bacteriological survey of 100 Mourning Doves from Oklahoma (Carpenter et al., Avian Dis. 16:671, 1972) produced neither *Salmonella* nor any other pathogenic bacteria.

We believe that this is the first report of salmonellosis from the Mourning Dove.

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