overlapping temperature range in the field and captivity are not appreciably different. However, a Mann-Whitney U-Test shows that the coefficient of variation of attendance in captivity was significantly smaller ($P < 0.001$) than in the field (14.3% vs. 33.1% respectively). This reduction in the mean coefficient of variation of attendance in captivity to about half the field value may be attributed to the greater constancy of conditions in captivity.

SUMMARY

Incubation behavior of the Dead Sea Sparrow was observed in nature and captivity. Nest attentiveness related linearly with ambient air temperatures, increasing in both high and low air temperatures from the minimal value of 37.3% of maximum attentiveness at an ambient temperature of 35.1°C. The increase in attentiveness per degree of ambient temperature was 3.4 times greater for high temperatures than for low temperatures, indicating the importance of nest attentiveness in keeping eggs cool in a hot environment.

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AN ALBINISTIC MOUNTAIN QUAIL FROM OREGON

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Albinism is relatively common among gallinaceous birds in North America (Gross, Bird-Banding 36:67–71, 1965) and Great Britain (Sage, Br. Birds 55: 201–225, 1962; Sage, Br. Birds 56:409–416, 1963). Bobwhites (*Colinus virginianus*) and California Quail (*Lophortyx californicus*) are among the most frequently reported species (Ross, Cassinia 47:2–21, 1963; Gross 1965). Records of albinism in other North American quail are far less common. Ross (1963) reported one partially albinistic Mountain Quail (*Oreortyx pictus*) in the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. Deane (*in* Ross 1963) stated that albinistic Mountain Quail occasionally were found during the 1800's; however, the frequency of his observations was not cited.

Because of the paucity of recent data regarding albinism in Mountain Quail, I believe the following information to be noteworthy. I saw a partially albinistic Mountain Quail on 25 September 1976 and collected it on 2 October 1976. The bird was in the company of one normally pigmented quail and near a covey of approximately eight individuals on both occasions. The collection locality (Lane County, NW ¼ Sect. 33, T15S, R5E, 700 m elevation) was within

FIGURE 1. Dorsal view of albinistic Mountain Quail from Lane County, Oregon.

the Willamette National Forest, Oregon, and was dominated by Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*). The bird was a juvenile male; age was estimated as approximately 14 weeks based on the molt sequence of primaries for other species of North American quail (Taber, Wildlife Management Techniques, p. 332, 1969). Completely albinistic feathers occurred symmetrically throughout the plumage, with the exception of the rectrices which were normally pigmented. The albinistic feathers were mostly concentrated on the rump, secondaries, and secondary coverts (Fig. 1). Primaries 5 and 6 of each wing were completely albinistic; most of the remaining primaries contained some areas that lacked pigment. About 40% of the plumage was comprised of completely or partially albinistic feathers; no dilution of pigment in pigmented areas was detected. Except for several small, normally pigmented spots, the toes and tarsi were completely albinistic. The lower mandible was pigmented except for a small, white spot along each side of the base. The irides were normally pigmented.

Undoubtedly, many factors affect the rate at which albinism is reported. The restricted distribution of Mountain Quail and the remoteness of its preferred habitat in relation to other North American quail may partly explain the scant information regarding albinism in this species.

The specimen currently is in the collection of the author. E. C. Meslow and D. K. Edwards provided critical comments on the manuscript. This is Technical Paper No. 4641 of the Oregon State University Agricultural Experimental Station.

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A NEW HYBRID OYSTERCATCHER FROM SOUTH AMERICA, *HAEMATOPUS LEUCOPODUS* × *H. ATER*

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Hybrid oystercatchers have been reported from several regions. The American Oystercatcher (*Haematopus palliatus*) hybridizes with the Black Oystercatcher (*H. bachmani*) in Baja California (Jehl, unpubl. data; Bancroft, Condor 29:29–57, 1927) and with the Blackish Oystercatcher (*H. ater*) in Argentina (Jehl, unpubl. data; Jehl et al., Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club 93:56–63, 1973). In New Zealand, pied and black forms of the Variable Oystercatcher (*H. unicolor*) interbreed (Baker, J. Zool., London 175:357–390, 1975).

In the austral spring of 1973, I made preliminary studies on the distribution and hybridization of oystercatchers along the coast of Argentina between Tierra del Fuego and southern Buenos Aires Province. Blackish and American oystercatchers are sympatric over much of this area, the American being much more numerous in the north and the Blackish in the south. In southern Patagonia, the Magellanic Oystercatcher (*H. leucopodus*) replaces the American Oystercatcher. The former is a distinctively pied species with relatively short legs, a longish tail, yellow orbital ring, and a long slender bill. The three species occur together during the breeding season in Santa Cruz Province between the vicinity of Puerto Deseado and San Julián (Jehl and Rumboll, Trans. San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist. 18(8):145–154, 1976).

On 17 November 1973, I collected a hybrid from a flock of non-breeding oystercatchers near the mouth of the estuary at San Julián, Santa Cruz Province; the flock contained approximately 40 Blackish, 40 American, and 50 Magellanic oystercatchers. I had expected the specimen to be a *palliatus* × *ater* hybrid, which it resembles in several aspects (e.g., mottled rump and undertail coverts; ragged breast band; black feathers on flanks, abdomen). However, it was relatively large, like *ater*, and its back color was darker than that of either *ater* or *palliatus*. Further, the breast band was broad and the bill long and slender, as in *leucopodus*. The orbital ring was orange, intermediate between the yellow of *leucopodus* and the orange-red of *ater* and *palliatus*. I consider it a hybrid *ater* × *leucopodus*.