

TABLE 1.  
Weights and dates of capture for 15 Limpkin chicks.

Band number	Weight	Capture date
567-68906	0.78 kg	6 Oct. 1975
567-68911	0.39	8 Oct. 1975
567-68917	0.68	8 Oct. 1975
567-68918	0.88	8 Oct. 1975
567-68919	0.72	3 Nov. 1975
567-68929	0.70	3 Nov. 1975
567-68930	0.65	3 Nov. 1975
567-68931	0.70	3 Nov. 1975
567-68934	0.71	3 Nov. 1975
567-68935	0.78	3 Nov. 1975
567-68936	0.89	3 Nov. 1975
567-68937	0.74	3 Nov. 1975
567-68938	0.99	3 Nov. 1975
567-68948	0.94	11 Nov. 1975
567-68949	1.01	11 Nov. 1975

We did not capture chicks that were obviously too small to hold a patagial wing tag. For this reason, the number and size of chicks are not truly representative of the total population but do indicate a substantial number of young birds that were still developing in early November, probably having hatched in mid- or late September. It seems apparent from these data that the nesting dates of middle February through March and April given by Sprunt (Florida Bird Life, New York, Coward-McCann, 1954) do not always apply. The occurrence of these chicks in October and November may be the result of delayed or second nesting. Of 31 adults examined, 27 (87.1%) were undergoing a remigial molt. Adults captured on 11 November were in the later stages of or had recently completed this molt.

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**A New Method For Restraining Live Birds.**—A major problem to the avian researcher is restraining live birds without damaging them during weighing. A new type of food package on the market is ideally suited to this purpose: the cardboard tubular container. Several companies have products packaged in these containers, providing holders for different sizes of birds: Pringles Potato Chips, Planters Potato Chips, Daddy Crisp French Fried Potatoes, and Tiny Thin Pretzels.

The best way to prepare the container is to remove both ends, place the plastic resealable cap on the bottom, and cut off the top metal rim with a knife to make the can the desired height. This prevents claws, feathers, and bills from getting caught on the metal edge. Make a 1.5 cm slit, horizontal to and 1.5 cm from the top edge to fasten the pesola spring balance. Insert the bird head first, weigh, and pull it out carefully tail first. The plastic cap may be removed from the bottom and the bird pushed straight through, head first, if desired. Removal of the cap on the bottom makes cleaning relatively simple.

These containers may be used on a balance beam to restrain birds, too. For small birds that could fly out of the container, a plastic cap from a second can of similar size may be placed on the top.—ELIZABETH FERGUSON SCHREIBER, *Seabird Research, Inc., 11008 Teegreen Drive, Tampa, Florida 33612*. Received 5 January 1976, accepted 13 February 1976.