

**UNUSUAL EGG PRODUCTION OF THE BARN OWL (*TYTO ALBA*)
IN CAPTIVITY**

by
G. M. Flieg
3868 Humphrey
St. Louis, Missouri 63116

In 1969 I became Curator of Birds at the Brookfield Zoo in Chicago and at that time a pair of Barn Owls began to nest. In 1969 four clutches were produced in January, March, June and October, and 11 birds were produced out of about 28 eggs. In 1970 three clutches were produced and 16 young matured out of 18 eggs. In 1971 six young were produced from clutches in February and June.

In summary, nine clutches were produced in less than three years and 33 young were produced from about 70 eggs. This is indeed phenomenal considering that the young weren't removed from the parents until they were able to fend for themselves. In some instances the female was laying eggs with the juveniles present in the cage. No aggression was directed toward the juveniles by either parent during incubation.

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