

females taken from April 8 to 23 averaged 15.1 mg. (12.0–19.0 mg.). The ovary of the female taken on May 11 weighed 35.0 mg.

In summary, spring molt of the Harris Sparrow in Kansas begins in the second week in March and is completed by late April or early May. Replacement of feathers on the head and throat is complete. At the level of the shoulders, replacement is heavy but incomplete. At the level of the rump and belly, only scattered feathers are replaced. Some wing coverts seem to be molted regularly while others are molted only sporadically. The two central tail feathers are molted consistently in spring.—GLEN E. WOOLFENDEN, *Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, January 30, 1955.*

Notes on behavior of the Wild Turkey.—The note, "Swimming by Wild Turkey poults," by Leo M. Martin and Thomas Z. Atkeson (1954. *Wilson Bull.* 66:271) brings to mind an observation of my own. On June 9, 1951, I encountered a pair of adult Turkeys (*Meleagris gallapavo*) with at least six fledglings perhaps three or four days out of the eggs. The group scattered and one of the young birds walked slowly along a large, flat dead tree extending out into a pond. Upon reaching the small outer end the bird walked off into the water without the slightest hesitation and swam leisurely some 30 yards or more to the far shore. The poult was cold and exhausted when I picked it up without difficulty a few moments later. One parent disappeared. The other remained in plain sight near at hand but showed a minimum amount of agitation. I found one cold, addled egg a few feet distant from the spot where I picked up the fledgling. A. C. Bent (1932. *U.S. Nat. Mus. Bull.* 162:339) quotes Audubon as describing young Wild Turkeys, unable to make the flight across a river, as falling in and swimming to shore. I am informed that a number of different adults, injured, have been seen swimming here.

Not mentioned by Bent is the posture in running, which is somewhat like that of the Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*). On June 4, 1949, by pure happenstance I observed an adult running almost noiselessly through the underbrush at a speed faster than that of any human. The bird carried its head and neck outstretched forwards in such a manner as to form a single plane with the back. The region in question, in the eastern United States and further north than the Potomac River, has had rigid control now for going on towards a century. Some interbreeding with domestic turkeys was permitted years ago but I am inclined to believe the dominant strain is that of the Wild Turkey, *M. g. silvestris*.—WENDELL TABER, 3 Mercer Circle, Cambridge, Massachusetts, January 27, 1955.

Cardinal exploits Loggerhead Shrike's artificial food source.—A young Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*), barely able to fly, was brought to me on June 24, 1954. I raised this bird and freed it on September 12, 1954, in my yard, which adjoins an orchard on the outskirts of Norman, Oklahoma. With supplementary feeding, the bird established itself and has remained in this vicinity ever since. It comes once or several times a day to the electric wire just outside a kitchen window, squealing and fluttering its wings to be fed. Foodstuff, such as raw meat or cheddar cheese, tossed to the bird, usually is caught in mid-air and carried away to be eaten. The bird hangs part of its food on twigs; and I have seen meat impaled on three or four barbs of the fence.

When the shrike is hungry, a call or a rap on the windowpane will bring it up; at

other times its only response may be half-hearted begging from some distant perch. No food trays are maintained and all feedings have come from the hand, except that during six days in December, while we were away from home, the bird fed on cheese and meat placed in a fold of chickenwire fastened to the light wire beside the window.

On November 11, I noted that the shrike's leg had been broken, and for several days thereafter the bird depended largely on our feedings. However, it was not long before it again occasionally showed indifference to being fed. Once since its injury it was seen with a mouse, which it tore and ate on the ground, after futile efforts to manage it in a tree. The shrike continued to be highly intolerant of other birds, fiercely driving away Blue Jays (*Cyanocitta cristata*), Mockingbirds (*Mimus polyglottos*), Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*), Meadowlarks (*Sturnella* sp.) and other shrikes.

Presumably, this is a male bird. It first attempted to sing on July 9, and its song (harsh notes mingled with musical phrases of thrasher-like tones) has been noted during each month, except December. Some song periods in October and early November lasted almost 15 minutes.

Late in November a male Cardinal (*Richmondia cardinalis*) began to visit the yard. Soon I noticed that the Cardinal was following the shrike about a good deal of the time, along the back fence, where the shrike "caches" food, and from tree to tree in the orchard.

On November 25, I saw the Cardinal working with something on top of a bird-house in the fence corner, but I did not investigate. The shrike is in the habit of bringing food there to be eaten and sometimes leaving part of it. Later that day, the Cardinal came to a spot on the lawn where the shrike had fed a short time earlier and where food bits remained. I watched the Cardinal nibble at the meat three or four times before it flew.

During the next two days, the Cardinal was observed a number of times, perching along the fence about six feet from the bird-house where the shrike was busily beating meat preparatory to eating. It appeared to be watching the shrike closely. Once I saw it flying away from the nest box with a good-sized piece of cheese showing brightly in its bill, the shrike in hot pursuit. Both birds disappeared on the far side of the orchard.

On November 28, when I called the shrike to the door and fed it, the Cardinal came also. The Cardinal moved about in a nearby tree, while the shrike stood on the lawn eating ground meat. Presently the Cardinal alighted about a yard from the other bird and began to *chip* and hop about alertly, but keeping out of the shrike's reach. When the shrike flew away with part of the meat, the Cardinal at once came and took bite after bite of the remaining portion. In a few moments the shrike returned and flew at the interloper with loud *scree* scolds. The Cardinal fled and the shrike carried away the last of the food. Now the Cardinal came back and began hopping all around the area, looking for food. But when I opened the door to throw it meat, it flew off. This episode took place about 15 feet from the window where I watched.

In several instances, between December 5 and 11, when the shrike came to be fed, it was accompanied by the Cardinal. The latter hunted for and sometimes found bits of food the shrike had dropped; but I did not again see the shrike return to retrieve its food from this apparently protein-hungry fringillid.—LOVIE M. WHITAKER, 1204 West Brooks Street, Norman, Oklahoma, March 3, 1955.