

GENERAL NOTES

Dorsal apterium present in Bobwhite.—In the only existing discussion of pterylosis in the Odontophorinae, Clark (1898. *Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus.*, 21:641–653) stated that the group is characterized by the lack of a dorsal apterium. Of the five genera represented in Clark's study (*Oreotyx*, *Callipepla*, *Lophortyx*, *Colinus*, and *Cyrtonyx*), only *Lophortyx* was described as possessing a trace of a dorsal apterium. Examination of 175 specimens (170 prepared as flat skins and 5 plucked) disclosed that a dorsal apterium is also present in Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*). Located in the dorsal region of the spinal tract, the apterium averaged about 2 cm long and less than 1 cm wide.

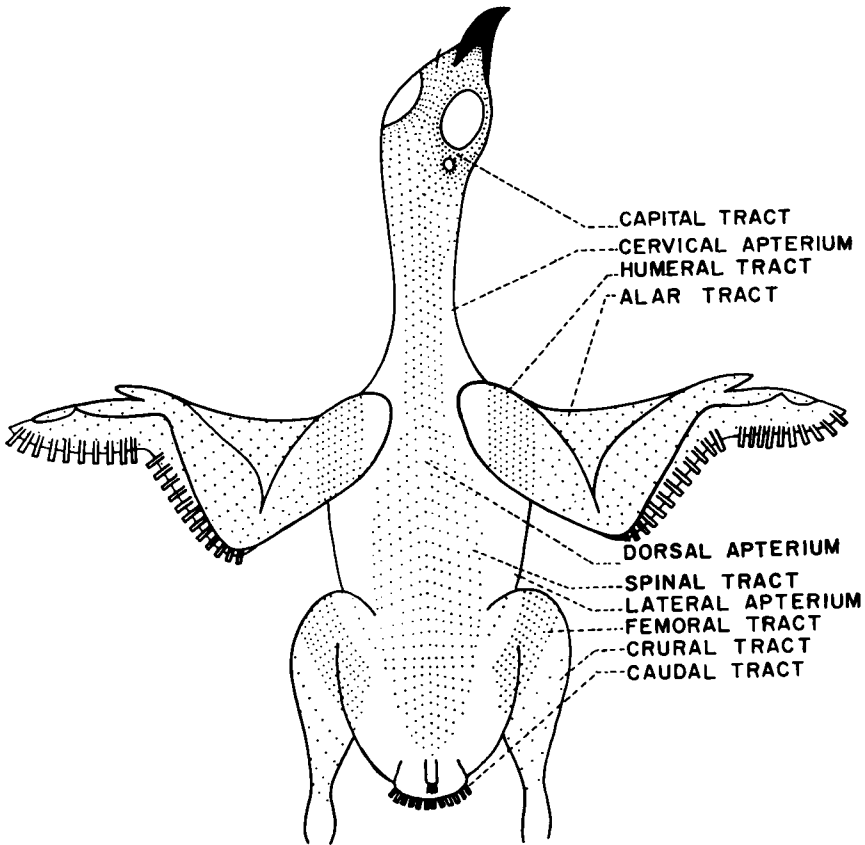


FIG 1. Plucked Bobwhite, dorsal view, illustrating dorsal apterium.

Specimens examined were collected from January to March 1956 in the southern one-third of Illinois. Most were first-winter birds, but those in adult plumage also exhibited the apterium.—LUCY SHARP BREWER, *Cooperative Wildlife Research Laboratory, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois, 25 June 1960.*