

well adapted for an existence requiring the intricacies of controlled flight in dense thickets and shrubs, the normal habitat of the species. The foregoing account appears to be an instance where an individual, caught in a marginal environment under unusual circumstances, found these same adaptations to be ill suited for the occasion.

It is interesting that three Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) on the same pond refused to depart when disturbed, although they flew back and forth across the pond, again with some difficulty. Savannah Sparrows (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) and meadow-larks were noted to take refuge on the lee side of the levee away from the full force of the wind.—DENZEL E. FERGUSON, *Department of Zoology and Entomology, Mississippi State University, State College, Mississippi, 18 April 1961.*

Observations of birds feeding on overwintering corn borer.—During the annual spring corn borer survey for Delaware in early March 1959, entomologists at the University of Delaware found that many of the cornstalks examined had holes pecked in them. The holes, empty when examined, almost invariably opened into chambers once occupied by larvae of the European corn borer (*Pyrausta nubilalis*). Blackbirds were conspicuously numerous in cornfields at this time and were suspected of taking corn borers.

Being officially engaged in blackbird studies, I was particularly interested in these findings. Baker, Bradley, and Clark (1949. "Biological Control of the European Corn Borer in the United States." Tech. Bull. No. 983), list the following birds as being seen feeding on European corn borer:

- Downy Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos pubescens*)
- Robin (*Turdus migratorius*)
- Common Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*)
- Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*)
- Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*)
- Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*)
- Black-capped Chickadee (*Parus atricapillus*)
- Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*)
- Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*)

They credit particularly the Downy Woodpecker and the Red-winged Blackbird with having been frequently observed removing large numbers of corn borer larvae and eggs from specific fields.

During 1959 and 1960 I made numerous observations of all species of birds seen in cornfields within 50 miles of Newark, Delaware. Downy Woodpeckers were the only birds seen pecking holes in dead cornstalks and removing and eating the larvae found inside. In November 1959, at the University of Delaware, two stalks of corn containing corn borers were placed upright in a cage containing 15 Red-winged Blackbirds and several Common Grackles. The stalks were examined over a month later and showed no evidence of bird feeding. They were then cut open and four living European corn borer larvae were removed from one stalk and one from the other.—DON FANKHAUSER, *Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Laurel, Maryland, 16 June 1961.*