Dual Wood Duck occupancy of a nesting box.—The coincident use of a nesting box by two female Wood Ducks (*Aix sponsa*) was observed at the Dead Creek Waterfowl Area, Addison, Vermont, in the summer of 1961.

An earlier observation by Bellrose (1943. *Auk*, 60:446–447) outlined a similar phenomenon; his discovery originated with the appearance of 15 Wood Duck eggs in a single nesting box during an 8-day period, for a laying rate of nearly two eggs per day.

Simultaneous incubation of a clutch by both females was in progress when the Vermont incident was discovered on 8 June during a routine check of nesting box utilization. The nesting box used was of the cylindrical, galvanized metal type developed in Illinois (Bellrose, 1953. *Ill. Nat. Hist. Surv. Cir.* 45:47 pp.); having a 12-inch diameter, the interior was sufficiently commodious to permit the two ducks to hold a side-by-side position on the nest, although one bird obviously covered most of the eggs.

The rate of laying prior to 23 May (when 10 eggs were noted in the nest) could not be established, nor could it be determined from the gross appearance of the eggs whether one or both females had contributed to the final clutch of 13 eggs. However, if only one egg per day was deposited after 23 May, the 13th egg should have been laid on 26 May, incubation should have begun on 27 May (± one day), and hatching should have followed in about 28 days on 24 June. Actual hatching began on 26 June and was complete on 28 June. Therefore, it seems unlikely that more than one egg per day was added after 23 May; accordingly, the clutch of 13 eggs represented the laying of a single duck or, more likely, the dump nesting by a second duck in the established nest of the first.

Both females were banded on 8 June with USF&WS bands (No. 545–10982 and No. 545–10983), at which time No. 982 was observed to be carrying Vermont Tag No. C748 in the web of one foot. The web tag identified this bird as having been hatched at Dead Creek in 1960 in a nesting box ⅓-mile distant from that to which she returned in 1961 as a "novice" (lacking previous nesting experience). The age of No. 983 could not be similarly determined.

Between visits to the box on 9 and 13 June, two eggs disappeared, unaccountably, from the nest. Similar egg losses have been observed at other boxes on the area, and Bellrose (1943. Ibid.) also recorded the disappearance of two eggs from the box in which he observed dual utilization.

On subsequent checks, the clutch was being incubated at one time by bird No. 982, at another time by bird No. 983, and on two additional days by both birds simultaneously. Under the latter circumstance, and the approach of hatching, a differential flushing pattern was exhibited by the two females—one flying quickly away from the box, the other displaying the "broken wing" act typical of advanced incubation and broodiness.

When hatching occurred on 28 June, bird No. 983 was alone on the nest although a second female (possibly bird No. 982) was on the water near the box. Darkness intervened before it could be determined whether one or both females called the brood from the box and attended the ducklings in the marsh.

Normal clutch size for Wood Ducks using Dead Creek boxes has been very similar to that reported by McLaughlin and Grice (1952. *Trans. N. Am. Wildl. Conf.*, 17:242–259) for Massachusetts, 9–12 eggs; however, clutches of 20–40 eggs have been noted each year, and these generally considered to have resulted from dump nesting, particularly by novice females. This report of dual occupancy tends to support such a premise by positive identification of one of the females as such a novice; the information is inconclusive, however, since it fails to establish whether the novice female preempted the nest of another or tolerated the preemption of her own nest by another bird, or that dump nesting actually occurred. Along with the information of Bellrose, it does establish the fact that intra-

specific tolerance of incubating Wood Ducks to a common nest site, though rare, does occur. It further increases speculation as to the actual contribution of dump nesting to clutches of a size previously considered normal for one female.—ROBERT W. FULLER and ERIC BOLEN, *Vermont Fish and Game Department, RFD, Vergennes, Vermont, 26 July 1962.*

A partial albino wood pewee.—On 14 September 1961, I collected a partial albino Eastern Wood Pewee (*Contopus virens*) on the University of Wisconsin campus at Madison. The pewee, a male, was observed there for a week before it was mist-netted. The bird was mostly yellow in color; there was a slight grayish tinge on the breast, alula, and primaries. The abdomen was similar in color to that found in normal pewees. Above the bird was pale yellow (closest to Naphthalene Yellow of Ridgway's "Color Standards and Color Nomenclature") rather than the olive-brown of normal birds. The concealed bases of the feathers were pure white. The tail was pale yellow with an indication of gray at the tips of the rectrices. All feather shafts were white rather than the normal blackish-brown. The crown was pale yellow. The nape and sides of the head were bright yellow (closest to Ridgway's Bartya Yellow). The grayish color of the throat of normal pewees was lacking. The maxilla and mandible were pale brown, the tarsus brownish-black, and the iris black in color. It weighed 15.5 grams, had a rectrix that was 64.0 mm long and a wing (worn) 77.0 mm long. Its skull was completely ossified.

The bird was kept successfully in a cage, 3 feet cubed, for six weeks, during which time its song was normal.

Few published records of albinism in Eastern Wood Pewees exist (Berger, 1956. *Auk*, 73:137; and C. C. Ross, in litt.). Previous records are as follows: a "perfect" albino Eastern Wood Pewee, Chicago, Illinois (Deane, 1879. *Bull. Nuttall Ornith. Club*, 4:29); one at Montclair, New Jersey, that was ". . . perfectly white . . . except a soft lemon-yellowish white underneath, and slightest dusky tips to its wing" (Hegeman, 1913. *Bird Lore*, 15:376) and a "complete" albino (Greene Smith Collection, no sex or locality) now housed in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University (R. A. Paynter, in litt.). The partial albino Eastern Wood Pewee reported here represents the fourth known record of albinism in pewees.—EMIL K. URBAN, *Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin, Madison 6, Wisconsin, 10 May 1962.*

Cattle Egrets in north central Pennsylvania.—Davis (1960. *Auk*, 77:421–424) and Sprunt (1955. *Smithsonian Report*, 1954:259–276) reviewed the dispersal of the Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) in the continental United States. The observation here reported, of quite possibly an accidental visit (although I can find no real cause—i.e., they did not follow unusual weather), was coincident with observations of unusually large migrant groups of Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) and Bonaparte's Gulls, (*L. philadelphia*).

A single Cattle Egret was observed on 23 April 1962, and two individuals were observed on 24 April 1962. The birds were feeding in a vernal pond located in the Susquehanna River floodplain area 2½ miles east of Lock Haven, Clinton County, Pennsylvania.

An investigation of several vernal ponds, including this one, revealed an abundance of fairy shrimp (*Eubranchipus vernalis*) as the only sizable prey to be obtained there. It would appear that these temporary populations of *Eubranchipus* were attractive food for the egrets. The pond in question dried up by 15 May 1962 and was much reduced in size on the dates of observation. Two days after the observations no *Eubranchipus* could be found. Thus it appears that the egrets departed shortly after finding a food supply which in this case was only very temporarily available.—G. E. GRUBE, *Lock Haven State College, Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, 11 May 1962.*