

the lake was formed in 1957. The vegetation on the nearest mainland was secondary oak-hickory stands interspersed with pastures.

On 23 July 1960, I made observations at the nest area from 11:35 AM to 1:30 PM (EST). An adult Prairie Warbler fed three fledglings perched in broom-sedge tussocks, which were 20, 50, and 55 feet from the nest. They remained near these positions throughout the observation period. The young birds were silent except when the adult approached with food or foraged nearby. On these occasions a rapid twitter was emitted. The adult was usually observed to forage on the ground from 5 to 30 feet from a perched fledgling. When an insect was captured, the parent usually fed the nearest young bird. Often the parent uttered a single call note as it foraged. During the period of observation, 22 food items were brought to the fledglings. The first received eight items, the second five, and the third nine. Apparently only one parent was involved in the feeding of the young. The adult was never observed to leave the island and probably was able to find a sufficient amount of food without traveling to the mainland. When I revisited the island on 5 August 1960 I found no Prairie Warblers; presumably the brood had been successful and the individuals had dispersed.

Although this island is considerably smaller than the annual average territory size of the Prairie Warbler—3.5 acres (Nolan, pers. comm.)—the brood fledged. These observations suggest that a territory size of 3.5 acres is not necessary for the raising and fledging of a brood. Apparently the food supply on the island was sufficient for the family of warblers. Since the warblers were the only birds nesting on the island, there was probably no competition for insect food with other birds; however, the sparseness of the stand of vegetation as compared with other, local old-field communities would tend to discount any suggested overabundance of food.

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**A partial albino Red-winged Blackbird with a deformed bill.**—An unusual male Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) was collected on 24 March 1963, 5 miles east of Fresno, Fresno County, California. The upper mandible had apparently grown sharply decurved to the right of the lower mandible. The lower mandibular tomium was markedly "rolled" inward. The tongue was dried and frayed distally for 4 mm and protruded between the lower mandibular tomium. The bird was little to moderately fat, weighing 59 grams two hours after death. The specimen also showed partial albinism: the outer vane of the middle alular quill and the proximal 1.5 cm of the outer vanes of the last eight primary remiges being white on both wings.

Normal territorial behavior including song and agonistic behavior was observed. The right testis measured  $5 \times 4$  mm; the left testis,  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 4$  mm. Unfortunately, the bill abnormality was noticed post-mortem, eliminating the possibility of observing feeding behavior.

A similar bill deformity was reported for the American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) by Batts (1954. *Wilson Bull.*, 66:142). The present report is the only record of this type of bill abnormality that I could find in the literature for a passerine species.—EUGENE S. MORTON, *Department of Biological Sciences, University of the Pacific, Stockton, California, 20 May 1963.*