

The nest of *Granatellus venustus* Du Bus.—According to my information and to A. R. Phillips (pers. comm.), the nest of the Red-breasted Chat (*Granatellus venustus* Du Bus) has not been described. This is not surprising in view of the apparent rarity of the nominate race on the mainland of Mexico. However, in the course of fieldwork in 1962 on María Magdalena (of the Tres Marías group, Nayarit), two nests of the insular subspecies, *francescae*, were found. The first was found on 29 June and was at that time being built by a female. The second was found on 1 August; it was similar to the first, but complete and contained two white eggs (unmeasured), which were being incubated by a female. The tree (*Caelenodendron mexicanum* Standl.) in which the nest was situated stood 20 m from an arroyo at a point 2 to 3 km from the beach, on the southeast side of the island. The nest was placed in the fork of a twig at the perimeter of the foliage 1 m up in this 3-m tree. Foliage extended directly above the nest but not below it. The thin-walled, cup-shaped nest was made of fine herb stems, leaf petioles, vines, and material like "Spanish moss," with the finer elements on the inner surface. Most of the elements were less than 1 mm in diameter.

The rim of the nest was attached to the twigs by these same components as well as by spider webs. The maximum outer diameter of the nest, at the rim, was 7 cm and the inner diameter 5 cm; its maximum depth was also 5 cm.—P. R. GRANT, *Zoology Department, University of British Columbia, Vancouver 3, B. C., 15 May 1964.*

Wild Turkey behavior affected by the presence of Golden Eagles.—

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department conducted a trapping and banding program during February and March 1960–63, in order to mark wild Turkeys of the Rio Grande subspecies (*Meleagris gallopavo intermedia* Sennett) while they were concentrated in traditional winter roosting areas in Sutton County, Texas.

During the winters of 1960, 1961, and 1962, we saw no sign of Golden Eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*) around the wintering Turkey concentrations. In March 1963 we saw Golden Eagles almost daily in the vicinity of the winter roosts where we were trapping. The effects of the eagles on the behavior of the Turkeys was best described in Thomas' field notes as follows: "March 20, 1963. We have noticed that the Turkeys are extremely difficult to trap this year and seem to be more wild than we have seen them over a period of the last 4 years. Turkeys fed in close proximity to the drop-nets and then for no apparent reason flushed and flew for cover. Observations made in previous years indicated that the turkeys must be severely alarmed to take to the wing. These repeated sudden retreats to heavy brush cover were associated with the overflight of soaring birds such as hawks and Turkey Vultures. Still we were puzzled as we had never seen this type of behavior before. We questioned Mr. Bill Wade and Mr. Gordon Stewart, on whose property we were trapping, about this behavior. They attributed it to the fact that Golden Eagles had been harassing the Turkeys for the past 5–6 weeks. Mr. Wade reported that he had seen a pair of eagles kill two Turkey hens during the past week. Mr. Wade, who we considered a reliable observer, was accompanied on both of these occasions by two ranch laborers who verified the report. Both of these kills involved two Eagles working as a team. The Turkeys had taken refuge in dense motts of liveoak brush after being flushed by the Eagles and refused to move as the Eagles swept back and forth over the motts. One of the pair then landed in an open area adjacent to the mott and walked into the mott. This action caused the turkeys to walk or run or both from their hiding place. The second Eagle, still in the air, would make the kill. In one of the two instances, the Turkey hen was recovered by the two ranch laborers.

"March 21, 1963. 10 A.M., while watching the Turkeys feeding on a baited area close to the cannon net we noticed a Golden Eagle circling the area at an altitude of about 300 feet. When the Turkeys saw the Eagle, they all began to give alarm signals and flushed from the open area where they were feeding and hid in the surrounding liveoak motts. There were approximately 40 hens and 9 gobblers feeding in the area at the time. The Turkeys remained under cover for approximately 30 minutes. The Eagle made no attempt to catch any of the Turkeys, possibly due to our presence which could have easily been seen from the air, and continued on out of sight. 2 P.M., more Turkeys had entered the open baited area when a Golden Eagle flew over the area at an altitude of approximately 35 feet. The Turkeys simultaneously gave alarm signals and flushed for cover. During both of the observations concerning Eagles made this date, the alarm signals were given almost simultaneously by all of the Turkeys and these signals were continued for several minutes with greater than usual volume. Even though the Eagle made no attempt to catch any of the Turkeys it was very apparent that the Turkeys were upset by the presence of the Eagle." These field notes were typical of the daily difficulties encountered during the 1963 trapping operations. In fact, trapping was abandoned 2 weeks ahead of the scheduled closing date because of low trapping success. We were not able to make an estimate of the predation loss of the Turkeys to Golden Eagles. However, the mere presence of Golden Eagles in the vicinity of the wintering Turkey concentrations was enough to cause noticeable increases in the Turkey's wildness so that the difficulties involved in trapping were greatly increased.

Only two other references to Golden Eagle harassment of wild Turkeys of the Rio Grande subspecies were found in a canvass of literature. Golden Eagles were observed "harassing" wild Turkeys in winter roosting areas in Tom Green County, Texas during 1949 and 1950 (Walker, E. A., 1951. Texas Game, Fish, and Oyster Comm., F. A. Report Series No. 6, 45 pp.).

At least 3 of 548 Rio Grande Turkeys transplanted from Texas to Nebraska were killed by Golden Eagles during the winter of 1961-62 (Suetsugu, H. Y., and K. E. Menzel, 1963. *Trans. N. A. Wildl. Conf.*, 28:297-307).

This note is a contribution of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Pittman-Robertson Project W-62-R.—JACK WARD THOMAS, *Box 1148, Llano, Texas*; CALVIN VAN HOOZER, *Box 132, Sonora, Texas*; AND RODNEY G. MARBURGER, *111 Kellogg Bldg., Kerrville, Texas, 28 January 1964.*