

Intraspecific relationship in Red-shafted Flickers.—On the afternoon of 14 November 1964, a Red-shafted Flicker (*Colaptes cafer*) was observed apparently attempting to rescue another Red-shafted Flicker that had been caught in a mist net.

I was attracted to the scene in the backyard of my home in Oak Creek Canyon, Zion National Park, Utah, by the loud and insistent calls of both birds. Upon observing the birds through 9× binoculars at a distance of about 55 feet, I found that a female flicker had been caught in the lowest strand of the net and was hanging only a few inches above the ground. The male flicker, standing on the ground directly beneath the female, was able to reach the female's bill with its own. They clasped each other's bill and both birds appeared to tug. After seven or eight tugs, the male jumped onto the body of the female and began pecking at the net strands, all the time calling in a loud manner typical of an annoyed flicker. He then jumped back onto the ground and again clasped the female's bill with his and began backing away, with the help of wing beats, apparently trying to pull the female free of the net. He suddenly released his hold and flew at the net. He again jumped upon her body and began a vigorous pecking at the net strands. Just as suddenly he jumped back onto the ground and began the tugging process again.

I watched these actions for about 6 minutes. Then, noticing that there was blood from an apparent cut on the female's loreal region, I approached the net to release the bird. The male then flew only a short distance away to a scrub oak where he began a "churr-ing" call and bobbed up and down in a manner I have seen woodpeckers do when they are excited. I banded and released the female, who flew to a rock about 40 feet up the slope from the male. She began a constant calling which was immediately answered by the male, and within 30 seconds he flew to her and they disappeared up canyon together.—ROLAND H. WAUER, *Zion National Park, Utah, 21 January 1965.*

A melanistic Pileated Woodpecker specimen from Georgia.—While arranging specimens of Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) in the U.S. National Museum, I found an almost entirely black female that immediately reminded me of the Old World Black Woodpecker (*D. martius*). This specimen (USNM No. 268901) was collected 2 November 1917 in the Okefinokee Swamp of Georgia by Harrison Lee, and is in good condition except for some feathers missing from portions of its head and neck. The bird was completing its annual molt (the central rectrices and eighth primaries were coming in and the other rectrices and inner seven primaries were new). It is an adult individual as indicated by its relatively short and narrow tenth primaries (until their first prebasic molt is nearly completed, woodpecker young of the year are usually distinguishable from adults by their longer and broader tenth primaries).

The specimen's underparts lack any indication of the white feather edges often noted in Pileated Woodpeckers. The white wing patches, characteristic of that species, are entirely lacking, and white is visible only on the underside of the wings, as a fine mottling on a few covert feathers and the inner bases of primaries 5–7. The shafts of the remiges (but not the rectrices) exhibit some dusky white near their bases, and not the sharply setoff black and white stripes normally found in *D. pileatus*. The head and neck lack the striking white marks so characteristic of the Pileated Woodpecker. The only white visible on the head and neck is that normally found beneath the red of the crest feathers, and a few vague traces on the edges of some malar feathers.

The remainder of its plumage, including the mottled brown and black forehead, is like that of a normal female Pileated Woodpecker. There is one other apparent abnormality—its extremely long and narrow bill. Its bill length (culmen = 54.2 mm)