

two birds were in close proximity. While over the dead bird, the live bird's neck and head were outstretched and bent slightly forward. Its wings were also extended and fluttered for the duration of the mountings. The tail was thrust downward.

This copulatory position was assumed four times, the duration of each mounting varying between 15–30 seconds. Between the mountings the bird would fly about near the flight cage. After the final mounting the bird flew toward the marsh and disappeared. Subsequent observations of the dead bird and vicinity revealed no further activity.

Nero (1963. *Wilson Bull.*, 75:376–413), stated that, Red-winged Blackbird males (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), in addition to attacking male experimental dummies, frequently also attempted to copulate with them. Allen (1934. *Auk*, 51:180–199) states that a male Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) repeatedly attempted coition with the flat skin of a male Yellow-breasted Chat which was mounted on a branch. Griffin (1959. *Auk*, 76:238–239) recorded apparent homosexual behavior between two living birds, a Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) and a House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) in which the House Sparrow attempted copulation.

Although McCabe and Hale (1960. *Auk*, 77:425–432) and Linsdale (1938. *Am. Midland Nat.*, 19:1–206) state that first year male Yellow-headed Blackbirds are non-breeders, this inexperienced bird was probably reacting to the peculiar conditions of a strong environmental stimulus and an overpowering sexual drive.—JERRY R. LONGCORE, *Department of Fisheries & Wildlife, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 4 February 1966.*

An aggressive display by a Tufted Titmouse.—On 4 February 1964, near Knoxville, Tennessee, I saw a Tufted Titmouse (*Parus bicolor*) give an aggressive display. The bird was hammering on a cluster of hazelnuts while perched at a height of about 3 feet on the trunk of a small, fallen tree. It was approached to within a few feet by two other titmouses. It dropped its cluster of hazelnuts, lowered its head and began to vibrate its slightly raised wings with an especially hard side to side shaking of the tail and at the same time giving a scold note. The approaching titmouses left the immediate area without coming any closer to the displaying individual. Once they were gone the display stopped but the remaining titmouse continued to scold for a few minutes after they were gone. The bird then flew down to the ground and picked up the cluster of hazelnuts, flew back to the same small tree trunk and started hammering on them again.

Brewer (1961. *Wilson Bull.*, 73:348–373) states that behavior resembling the wings-raised and head-forward postures described above are occasionally seen in the Carolina Chickadee (*Parus carolinensis*) and Black-capped Chickadee (*Parus atricapillus*). Laskey (1957. *Bird-Banding*, 28:135–145) reports a similar threatening posture in the Tufted Titmouse. The bird crouches down with spread wings, head thrust forward and emits rasping notes. Dixon (1949. *Condor*, 51:110–135) referring to the Plain Titmouse (*Parus inornatus*) states that they have a threatening posture which may be accompanied by wing vibrations. Odum (1941. *Auk*, 58:518–535) reports a similar display in the Carolina Chickadee.—GARY O. WALLACE, *Department of Zoology and Entomology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville 37916, 22 February 1966.*

Cape May Warbler in Costa Rica.—According to Slud (1964. *Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.*, 128:322), the Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*) seems not to have been recorded in Central America before the early 1950's. In seven full years of field work in Costa Rica, Slud found this warbler only twice: near Barranca beside the Pacific coast in late November; and near Turrialba on the Caribbean slope, where he

saw a number of individuals in December. I did not meet the Cape May Warbler in Costa Rica before the spring of 1963, when on the Barba massif I saw fleetingly a warbler which was apparently this species. On the morning of 9 May 1964, while watching a nest of the Scarlet-thighed Dacnis (*Dacnis venusta*) in an open grove of slender, second-growth trees near Las Cruces, I saw the only Cape May Warbler that I have positively identified in this country, and apparently the only one that has been recorded by anyone in the spring. Las Cruces is a few miles south of San Vito de Java on the Pacific slope of Costa Rica near the Panamanian border, at an altitude of about 4,000 feet.

This Cape May Warbler, a male in full breeding plumage, clung to slender, moss-covered, upright branches, well up in the trees, from which he plucked larvae or other small creatures, which he carried to a perch to devour. He also gleaned much from the foliage in the treetops. When not foraging, he rested for considerable periods on horizontal twigs. He was present in the same small grove of trees every day (with one possible exception) for the next week. I last saw him there on the sunny morning of 15 May, when he sang a pretty little song over and over. By this date, nearly all the migrants from the north had already left.—ALEXANDER F. SKUTCH, *El Quizarrá, San Isidro del General, Costa Rica, 3 March 1966.*

Feeding reactions of Myrtle Warblers toward wax-moth larvae dyed various colors.—Experiments were conducted in which a simultaneous choice of artificially colored wax-moth larvae was offered to caged Myrtle Warblers (*Dendroica coronata*) to establish whether the colors of larvae commonly found in nature (green, brown, and yellow) would be preferred over less common colors (red, orange, blue, and violet). No such preference was found. Instead, there was a great deal of variation in response, although the birds generally avoided red. Three of the ten birds did have a preference, each for a different color (brown, yellow, and red). The other birds chose the various colored larvae more or less randomly.

The three birds which usually chose a particular color showed a much stronger preference during the first half of each exposure period than during the second half, which probably reflected a decrease in the relative availability of larvae of the preferred colors.

The birds did not differ in the length of time required to select the colored larvae as compared with the time required to select the undyed larvae during a base line. There was no indication of imitation, social facilitation, dominance at the food dish, or increased aggressiveness as associated with starvation.

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Tongue deformity in immature Robin.—In late July, 1965, near Ithaca, New York, an immature Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) was picked up and brought to the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, exhibiting a most unusual condition.

The tongue had penetrated the flesh and skin between the rami of the mandible, and was hanging freely about an inch below the "chin." As shown in the accompanying photographs, taken by W. R. Spofford, it was encrusted with hardened saliva, mucous, and dirt. The bird was very thin, and it might be assumed that so long as it had been fed by parents, there was little difficulty in eating, but once it was on its own, the lack of functional tongue was undoubtedly a handicap.