

Evidence of two Tree Swallow females sharing the same nest box.—On 13 June 1971, I observed eight eggs in a Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) box, located in John F. Kennedy Memorial Wildlife Refuge, 6 miles south of Massapequa, Nassau County, New York. As I opened the box, I was able to capture and band a bird believed to be a female as it had a well developed brood-patch. A few hours later, I checked the box again and captured a different bird with an equally well developed brood-patch, incubating the eight eggs. I also banded this bird.

On 14 June there were five eggs and three young in the box; on 16 June, as well as on the following day, there were four eggs and four young; on 18 June, two eggs and six young; and on 19 June there were eight young. On all these days three birds staunchly defended the box. On numerous occasions, I waited until one of the three birds entered the nesting box and then I walked over and trapped the bird inside. Each time it was one of the two banded females. Once or twice the other two birds would alight on the nesting box when the third bird was inside.

The third bird was mist-netted and banded on 19 June, and had no evidence of an incubation patch. Because the bird had had no incubation patch, and because it never entered the box I believed it to be a male. According to (Kuerzi, Proc. Linnaean Soc., 52-53:27, 1941) and (Low, Bird-Banding 3:2, 1932) under normal conditions the female Tree Swallow incubates the eggs, and the male usually perches outside.

On 26 June all the young were found to be partially feathered, but on 5 July no young were found in the box although the nest was intact.

The young did not seem to be hindered by the extremely crowded conditions in the box and the three adults (two females and one male) were always observed near the box. Although adjacent boxes were also occupied and were as close as 50 feet only at this box were there three birds defending the nest. In four years of Tree Swallow study in this area, this was the first occurrence of more than six eggs (Schaeffer, EBBA News, 34:216-222, 1971). There is mention of four seven egg clutches (Paynter, Bird-Banding, 25:35-58; 102-110; 136-148, 1954). Yunick (Kingbird, 21:47-56, 1971) mentions two cases of eight egg clutches and in one of the cases there were two different egg shapes, pointing to a suspicion of two separate layings. Bent (Life histories of North American flycatchers, larks, swallows, and their allies, 1942), mentions two males and one female using the same box but makes no mention of two females and one male. It is possible that this is a case of two females sharing a nest because all the other boxes in this general area were taken; however, it is also possible that this is an isolated case of polygyny, but other than the above I cannot offer solid evidence. I did not observe copulation between the male and any other bird because no visits were made to the Refuge during the appropriate time period.—HARVEY FARBER, 112-50 78th Avenue, Forest Hills, New York 11375, 22 September 1971.

Steller's Jays prey on Gray-headed Juncos and a Pygmy Nuthatch during periods of heavy snow.—Members of the family Corvidae are typically omnivorous in their feeding habits, their diet consisting primarily of fruits, grains, berries, insects and occasionally eggs and nestlings of various small birds. There are also several reports in the literature of the unexpectedly high frequency of Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) predation on red bats (*Lasiurus borealis*) (see D. F. Hoffmeister and W. L. Downes, Southwestern Naturalist, 9:102, 1964). Roth (Condor, 73:113, 1971) has recently reported an account of the Mexican Jay (*Aphelocoma ultramarina*) attacking and killing a small sparrow under conditions of heavy snow in southeastern Arizona.

Observations at feeding stations in Flagstaff, Coconino Co., Arizona, inhabited through-