

A total of 25 cm of snow fell during the period 3–10 January, making finding food difficult for the birds. Furthermore, weights of the Starlings found dead at the roosting site were relatively low, the 54 birds averaging 81.4 g; whereas, 22 Starlings shot at mid-day averaged 94.6 g. All of the 6 grackles and 17 of the 54 Starlings found dead at the roosting site contained food in their gizzards, indicating that at least some of them had not died from starvation. More birds were found dead on the morning of 12 January (38) when the lowest temperature during the night had been -24.4°C than in the morning of 13 January (26) when the lowest temperature was -17.2°C . I think that the mortality can be considered to have been weather-related, but, when there had been no shooting following 2 heavy snowfalls in North Carolina, I searched at blackbird-Starling roosting sites without finding any dead birds.

Many Starlings came to the roosting site each evening only to leave immediately to go to spend the night in a nearby barn. Nine dead Starlings were found in the barn on the mornings of 12 and 13 January. Since approximately 2500 Starlings roosted in the barn, the rate of mortality (0.4%) was much lower among Starlings in the barn than among those roosting in the trees (15%). The owner of the barn reported that the Starlings roosted in the barn only in unusually cold weather.—PAUL A. STEWART, 203 Mooreland Drive, Oxford, North Carolina 27565. Accepted 5 Aug. 1977.

Wilson Bull., 90(4), 1978, pp. 656–657

An observation of polygyny in the Common Yellowthroat.—During the summer of 1967 at the American Museum of Natural History's Kalbfleisch Field Research Station at Huntington, New York, we observed a color-banded male Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) mated with 2 color-banded females, each of which successfully fledged young (on 5 and 10 July). On 2 June, the male and female A were observed feeding in a hedgerow that divided 2 fallow fields. On 14 June, the male was observed aiding a second female (B) in the early stages of building a nest in the field to the south of the hedgerow. On 18 June, the male was again observed feeding with female A who had a clutch of 4 eggs in the field to the north of the hedgerow. Observations made on 26 June revealed that the male was feeding the recently hatched nestlings of A and making infrequent visits to the vicinity of B who was observed incubating a clutch of 4 eggs.

Extensive observations on 4 and 5 July revealed that the male continued to assist female A in feeding her young, but spent approximately 25% of his time singing in the hedgerow and visiting female B, presumably to assist feeding her nestlings. On 8 July, the male divided his time equally between both fields. During the entire day of 14 July, the male fed young with female B except for 2 short visits to female A.

Female A and her young were last observed on 19 July. The male remained with female B in the south field and intermittently fed the young during the remainder of July and August. The male gave the flight song on several occasions, but no further nesting attempts were discovered in the area.

The territory of this male yellowthroat was about 1.2 ha, approximately twice the size of that reported for monogamous males (Stewart, 1953, *Wilson Bull.* 65:99–115). Breeding bird censuses of the south field during the 2 previous summers (unpubl. reports Kalbfleisch Field Research Station Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.) reported 2 male yellowthroats occupying territories comparable to those reported by Stewart. During our study, only the one male was present and the remainder of the south field was unoccupied by

yellowthroats (The north field had not been censused previously). This suggests that reduced intra-specific competition, due to a shortage of males, may have permitted the maintenance of a larger territory and second female. Nolan (1963, Proc. XIII Int. Ornithol. Congr., 329-337) cites a similar case with a male Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*) that was forced to give up half of a large territory and a second nesting female to a male that appeared 3 weeks into the breeding season.

These observations were made while we were participants in NSF URP grant GY-989. We are indebted to Edward Gilman for assistance with observations.—GEORGE V. N. POWELL, Dept. of Zoology, Univ. of California, Davis 95616, and H. LEE JONES, Dept. of Zoology, Univ. of California, Los Angeles 90024. Accepted 15 Aug. 1977.

DOUBLE-BROODEDNESS IN PURPLE MARTINS: ADDENDUM

In Charles R. Brown's paper on double-broodedness in Purple Martins, *Wilson Bull.* 90: 239-247, 1978, the following paragraph was inadvertently omitted from the "Observations" section:

1977: Two color-banded pairs of Purple Martins successfully fledged second broods of 4 and 5 young on 27 and 29 July, respectively. These pairs previously had fledged first broods of 5 young each. These pairs wore bands which had been painted distinctive colors. The identity of these individuals was confirmed by observation and (for some) capture during both broods. Time did not permit a detailed analysis of martin populations and environmental conditions at the colony in 1977, since most field work was performed at another Purple Martin colony that year. But behavior of the second broods in 1977 closely paralleled behavior of the 1976 broods. (Additional second broods were noted at another Sherman colony in 1977.)