effective. This notion is supported by the reduced visibility of aerial feeders during mild wind.

Both of Dunn's (1973) explanations of increased success rate are based on the prey's ability to detect foraging terns. Our results support her second hypothesis (as stated above) that water surface conditions are the most important factor influencing foraging efficiency in terns due to its inhibitory effect on the prey's ability to detect terns.

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Atypically colored Little Blue Heron eggs.—Egg colors of the Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) are described as pale hues of blue, green, and bluish green (Bent, U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 135, 1926; Palmer, Handbook of North American Birds, Vol. 1, Yale Univ. Press, New Haven, Connecticut, 1962; Oberholser, The Bird Life of Texas, Vol. 1, Univ. Texas Press, Austin, Texas, 1974; Hancock and Elliott, The Herons of the World, Harper and Row, Publ., New York, 1978). In 1973, I examined 2332 Little Blue Heron clutches in Texas and found two clutches of which the eggs had a ground color of deep olive-buff (Ridgway, Ridgway Color Standards and Nomenclature, Washington, D.C., 1912) with very small brownish orange spots (Kornerup and Wanscher, Reinhold Color Atlas, Reinhold Publ. Corp., New York, New York, 1962) less than 0.5 mm in diameter each scattered over the entire shell, but more concentrated near the large end. One clutch was in the Ennis heronry (Ellis County, 32°20′N, 96°37′W) and the other clutch was in "The Slough" heronry at the Beaver Catfish Hunting and Fishing Club (Anderson County, 31°52′N, 95°53′W). The two heronries were about 100 km apart. Exact locations and descriptions of these heronries can be found in Telfair (pp. 88–90, 96–99, 109–117, 130–133 *in* Ph.D. diss., Texas A&M Univ., College Station, Texas, 1979).

To my knowledge, no eggs of this olive-buff color have been reported in the literature nor have I noted any others among several hundred clutches I have seen since 1973. Answers to my inquiries about 28 museum egg collections confirmed the uniqueness of my observations. However, one clutch (taken in Orange Lake, Florida) in the Reading Public Museum and Art Gallery (Pennsylvania) has olive-buff blotches; seven clutches in the New York State Museum (taken in Florida and South Carolina) have a wash of extremely pale, inconspicuous olive blotches or stains, while some have a few small and very widely scattered orange spots; four clutches at the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan (all taken in Texas) have brownish splotches and smears; one clutch in the Baylor University Strecker Museum (Waco, Texas) has small orange spots; and several eggs in the Corpus Christi Museum (Texas) have very small brownish orange spots. Thus, based upon my observations, literature descriptions, and museum collections, absence of green and blue pigment in the egg shells of the Little Blue Heron occurs in less than 0.1% of clutches.

All five eggs in the Ennis clutch produced "normal" chicks and the pipped egg shells were collected. One of the four eggs in "The Slough" heronry was collected; but the others were destroyed in a flood. Both clutches were photographed (35 mm Kodachrome 64 color transparencies) and each egg was measured. Length and breadth for each of the nine eggs were within the range of measurements obtained from 180 randomly chosen eggs from the two heronries.

Perhaps these atypically colored eggs resulted from a rare allele that may be restricted to

Texas; and since the two clutches were in heronries not far apart (100 km) possibly the two females were related (Charles G. Sibley, pers. comm.). Olive-buff colored eggs are much less conspicuous in nests than are normally colored eggs and, perhaps, would be less subject to predation by sight-oriented predators. I suggest that other persons interested in ardeid eggs may find atypically colored eggs for other species. If so a study of the significance of atypical egg coloration among ardeids could be undertaken.

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Eye-color changes in Barrow's Goldeneye and Common Goldeneye ducklings.—At hatching, the irides of Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*) and Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula americana*) ducklings may be brown, gray-brown, gray, or even blue-gray; irides of adults of both species are yellow, irides of juveniles are brown (Palmer, ed., Handbook of North American Birds, Vol. 3, Yale Univ. Press, New Haven, Connecticut, 1976). Given the close relationship of brown colors to yellow, one might expect the transition from natal to adult iris color to proceed in a simple sequence such as: gray-brown, brown, light brown, brownish yellow, yellow. This is not the case. In 1964, casual observation of half-grown ducklings of each species, which I had earlier examined as day-old young, disclosed a seemingly unusual eye-color: an intense ultramarine blue. The color, apparently undescribed in any waterfowl species, seemed equally unrelated to the natal gray-brown, the juvenile brown described in the literature, and the adult yellow. Each duckling had also a dark, brownish ring around the pupil, evidently similar to the brown "Innenring" noted by Bauer and Glutz von Blotzheim (Handbuch der Vögel Mitteleuropas, Vol. 3, Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft, Frankfurt am Main, 1969) in eyes of juvenile *B. c. clangula* females. The purpose of this note is to describe the appearance and development of the two eye-color components in known-age ducklings of both goldeneye species. Note: It is not known whether the blue eye-color appears in half-grown young of the congeneric Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*). Presumably, the detection of a lighter transitional color in this species would be made more difficult by the large amount of dark pigment in the irides of both hatchlings and adults; the natal iris color is dark brown or dark gray-brown, the adult iris is "dark brownish" (Palmer 1976).