

presumably do not defend feeding territories, remains unknown. Dawnsinging is performed by mated male martins with well-established nests (pers. obs.).—EUGENE S. MORTON, *National Zoological Park, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20008. Accepted 12 Apr. 1985.*

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**Observations of a Tufted Titmouse and a Cattle Egret associating with a black bear.**—On 2 May 1980, in a bottomland hardwood forest in eastern Arkansas, I located a yearling male black bear (*Ursus americanus*) and his radio-collared mother in a water hickory tree (*Carya aquatica*) in one m deep floodwater. While preparing to tranquilize the juvenile bear, I observed a Tufted Titmouse (*Parus bicolor*) jumping about the bear's back and rump pecking at its fur. After a few minutes, I noticed that the titmouse was collecting hair in its beak, and carrying it from the site. During a period of approximately 30 min, an adult titmouse, presumably the same bird, returned to the bear twice to repeat this behavior. The third hair-gathering episode was interrupted, however, as I approached the bear.

It is likely that the titmouse was using the collected hair in its nest. The incident occurred during the nesting period of the Tufted Titmouse in this region (Douglas and Neal, *Arkansas Birds: Their Distribution and Abundance*, Univ. Arkansas Press, Fayetteville, Arkansas, in press), and this species has been reported to use the hair of a variety of mammals to line its nest (Bent, U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. No. 191, 1946; Pielou, Ph.D. diss., Michigan State Univ., Lansing, Michigan, 1957). The Tufted Titmouse has been observed collecting hair from living mammals including red squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*), woodchuck (*Marmota monax*), and human (*Homo sapiens*) (Bent 1946), and opossum (*Didelphis marsupialis*) (Goertz, *Wilson Bull.* 74:189–190, 1962), but not black bear.

In the same forest on 13 September 1980, I saw a radio-collared adult male black bear wading in a shallow lake with a Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) perched on its back. Cattle Egrets have been reported feeding alongside and atop a number of African ungulates including elephant (*Loxodonta africans*), rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*), and hippopotamus (*Hippopotamus amphibius*), where they prey upon insects stirred up by these mammals and, possibly, ectoparasites (Pitman, *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Club* 82:100–101, 1962; Brown, *The Birds of Africa*, Vol. I, Academic Press, London, England, 1982).—TOMMY R. SMITH, *Graduate Program in Ecology, and Dept. Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, Univ. Tennessee, P.O. Box 1071, Knoxville, Tennessee 37916-1071. Accepted 8 Apr. 1985.*

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**Abnormal yellow eye ring on a Tropical Kingbird.**—Abnormal yellow plumage occurs rarely among wild birds, and is generally known as xanthochroism (e.g., Pettingill, *Ornithology in Laboratory and Field*, 4th ed., Burgess Publ. Co., Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1970: 193; Van Tyne and Berger, *Fundamentals of Ornithology*, 2nd ed., Wiley and Sons, New York, New York, 1976:161; Terres, *The Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American*