

Daily netting at Tamanché produced a more balanced distribution of species of migrants with 38 Tennessee Warblers (*Vermivora peregrina*) and 126 individuals of all other migratory species combined, not counting the Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*), which we did not band.—DAVID T. ROGERS, JR., *Dept. Biology, Univ. Alabama, University, Alabama 35486*, JESÚS GARCÍA B. AND ANTONIO RÓGEL B., *Secretaría de Desarrollo Urbano y Ecología, Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico. Received 21 July 1984, accepted 30 July 1985.*

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Choice of nest boxes by cavity-nesting ducks.—In an earlier study (Lumsden et al., *Wilson Bull.* 92:497–505, 1980), we found that both Common Goldeneyes (*Bucephala clangula*) and Hooded Mergansers (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) preferred boxes with entrances of 13 × 10 cm over those with entrances of 10.5 × 8 cm or 7.5 × 6 cm. In that study, entrance holes were cut into inspection plates that were attached to the front of each box. Twice, Common Goldeneyes nested in boxes where the inspection plate had fallen off. Here, we report on goldeneye use (1) of boxes with entrances of 13 × 10 cm (the size chosen in the previous study) vs 21 × 13 cm (the size of entrances without an inspection plate), (2) of boxes with and without nesting material, and (3) of boxes at different heights above the ground.

Materials and methods.—The study was conducted at two lakes (Elk and Long) and 2 rivers (Mattagami and Muskego) in eastern Ontario. In 1980–1982 we set out 47–51 pairs of boxes with large (21 × 13 cm) and small (13 × 10 cm) entrance holes on each lake each year. All of the boxes contained wood chips as nest material, and all were mounted at 3 m. In 1984, we put 6 or 7 cm of wood shavings in one box of each pair, leaving the other with a bare wood floor. Fifty sets of boxes were available on each lake.

Between 1977 and 1984, on the Mattagami and Muskego rivers, we tested preferences for boxes placed on the same tree at 3, 4.5, and 6 m above the ground. An average of 20 sets of boxes was available each year, and all contained wood chips and had entrances 13 × 10 cm.

We considered that a box was used if a duck laid one or more eggs in it. The size, shape, and color of the eggs of goldeneyes vary (Dow and Fredga, *J. Anim. Ecol.* 53:679–692, 1984; Lumsden, unpubl. data) so that it is often possible to tell if two or more females use the same box. In such cases we scored the box as having been used twice. A successful female may return in succeeding years to the same box to nest. To increase the independence of our data, we scored boxes as having been used or not used, and the number of years a box was used was ignored. We inspected boxes once in late May–early June. Sometimes nests had been preyed on, and the box was found with a mass of down and no eggs. We scored such boxes as used.

Results and discussion.—The size of entrances did not significantly influence the choice of boxes used by Common Goldeneyes. We recorded 19 uses of boxes with small and 13 uses with large entrances ($\chi^2 = 1.125$, $df = 1$, $P > 0.05$). Ten Hooded Mergansers used boxes with small entrances, and 3 used boxes with large entrances (Binomial Test, $P < 0.05$). All four Wood Ducks (*Aix sponsa*) used boxes with small entrances. Although Common Mergansers (*Mergus merganser*) are able to squeeze through a small entrance hole, they seldom do so. One bird laid a single egg in a box with a small entrance, completing her clutch in the neighboring box with a large hole. Three other Common Mergansers completed their clutches in boxes with large entrances.

In the test involving nest material, all 18 ducks (10 Common Goldeneyes, 4 Hooded Mergansers, 2 Common Mergansers, and 2 Wood Ducks) using the boxes chose the ones with wood shavings. Common Goldeneye preference for the presence of nest material is clear (Binomial Test, $P < 0.05$).

On the Mattagami and Muskego Rivers, Common Goldeneyes chose the 3 m boxes 3 times, the 4.5 m boxes 9 times, and the 6 m boxes 14 times. This choice pattern differs significantly from a 1:1:1 ratio ($\chi^2 = 7.00$, $df = 2$, $P < 0.05$). Other species did not nest in this area. Although Common Goldeneyes chose the highest boxes more frequently than the others, the rate of occupancy would probably not change in the absence of choice. In 1975 and 1976, all sets of boxes on those rivers were mounted at 3 m (Lumsden et al. 1980). The rate of occupancy both years was similar to that during the years when boxes of different heights were available (1975–76, mean = 8.5 females, range = 7–10; 1977–84, mean = 7.0 females, range = 3–12).

Mink occasionally prey on goldeneye nests in boxes placed at 3 m, and it is likely that the frequency of nest predation would drop with an increase in the height of the box.

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Rock Doves nesting in trees.—Rock Doves (*Columba livia*) are native to the Old World and originally nested in sheltered recesses or caves high on cliffs (Goodwin, Pigeons and Doves of the World, Br. Mus., London, England, 1967). In recent history, Rock Doves have colonized cities around the world, usually nesting on window ledges, in building crevices, and under bridges (Harrison, A Field Guide to Birds' Nests, Houghton Mifflin, Boston, Massachusetts, 1975). This note documents an instance of Rock Doves nesting in trees in Oxford, Butler County, Ohio (pop. 30,000), a town with many tall shade trees that form a partial canopy at 12–15 m.

From 14 to 28 April 1982, I located 54 Rock Dove nests on a 105-ha tract of urban Oxford. Forty-one (76%) of the nests were on buildings; the remaining 13 nests (24%) were in trees. Ten of the tree nests were in enclosed holes; 3 (23%) were in open cavities. Eight of the 15 tree nests were in silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*); 2 (15%) were in white ash (*Fraxinus americanus*); and 1 (8%) each was in sugar maple (*A. saccharum*), American basswood (*Tilia americana*), and black cherry (*Prunus serotina*). Tree nests were 9.1 ± 3.7 m (SD) ($N = 12$) above ground in trees averaging 22.4 ± 8.0 m ($N = 12$) tall; the average diameter at breast height (dbh) of nest trees was 77.7 ± 19.5 cm ($N = 12$).

A random sample ($N = 34$) of cavity trees in the study area yielded the following tree-species composition: silver maple 62%, sugar maple 21%, and other species 17%. Tree nest distribution did not differ ($\chi^2 = 3.3$, $df = 2$, $P > 0.05$) from the actual cavity distribution. Cavities in the random sample were located an average of 8.0 ± 3.1 m ($N = 34$) above ground in trees averaging 19.8 ± 6.1 m ($N = 20$) tall; average dbh was 72.7 ± 15.5 cm ($N = 20$). Nest-tree measurements did not differ ($P > 0.05$) from the random sample. Thus, Rock Doves used tree nest sites according to availability of cavities.

Previous reports of Rock Doves nesting in trees are of small numbers of birds in widely scattered localities (Baker, Indian Pigeons and Doves, Witherby, London, England, 1913;