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.

Acknowledgments.—We thank the following assistants who helped in the study: A. Corbould and D. Elliot, who climbed with spurs to check boxes in the height test, and T. Jackson, B. Rattray, C. McCall, R. Henry, S. E. Sadler, D. A. Saunders, and L. Beattie, who helped to check and service boxes. D. Hussell suggested statistical procedures. P. Tessier and his staff provided much help during the field work. This paper is Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Wildlife Research Section Contribution No. 84–14.—HARRY G. LUMSDEN, *Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Wildlife Research Section, P.O. Box 50, Maple, Ontario L0J 1E0, Canada*; JUDY ROBINSON AND RONALD HARTFORD, *Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Elk Lake, Ontario P0J 1G0, Canada.* *Received 1 Jan. 1985, accepted 14 May 1985.*

Wilson Bull., 98(1), 1986, pp. 168–169

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 (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;

Ludlow and Kinnear, Ibis 4:95, 1934; Barclay-Smith, Br. Birds 57:517, 1964; Boswall, Bull. Br. Ornithol. Club 93:38–39, 1973). The only previous record of Rock Doves nesting in trees in North America is a brief mention of tree nesting in New York state by Barclay-Smith (1964).

Acknowledgments.—Many thanks to J. Bever for loan of equipment, to A. Peterson for assistance in the field, and to D. Osborne, E. Peterson, J. Ingold, C. Braun, an anonymous reviewer, and the ornithology discussion group, Miami University, for advice, comment, and discussion on this material.—A. TOWNSEND PETERSON, *Dept. Zoology, Miami Univ., Oxford, Ohio 45056.* *Received 20 Mar. 1985, accepted 1 June 1985.*

Wilson Bull., 98(1), 1986, pp. 169–170

A new method for collecting prey delivered to Tufted Puffin chicks.—The food habits of seabird chicks in general are not well known. A commonly used method of discovering what seabirds eat is to collect adults and examine the contents of their stomachs (e.g., Pearson, J. Anim. Ecol. 37:521–552, 1967; Bedard, Can. J. Zool. 47:1025–1050, 1969; Sealy, Auk

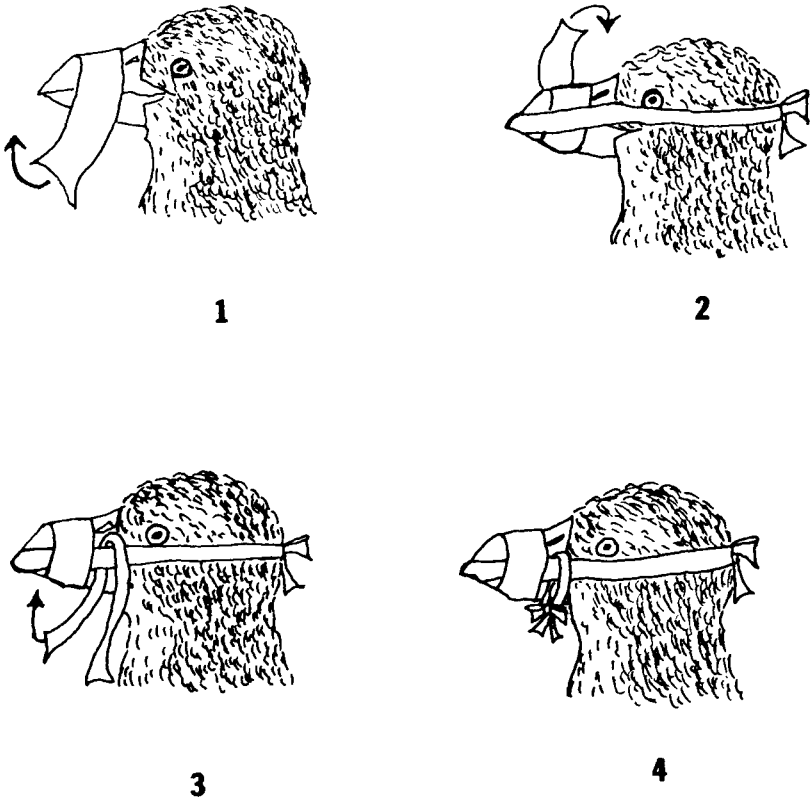

FIG. 1. Sequential steps of tying the bill harness on the Tufted Puffin chick.