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**House Sparrow and Chipping Sparrow feed the same fledgling Brown-headed Cowbird.**—

On 10 June 1986, on the campus of the University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, I saw a Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) and a female House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) successively feed a fledgling Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*). A Chipping Sparrow fed the cowbird, which I judged to be about a week out of a nest, at 09:07 EDT. Immediately after the Chipping Sparrow left, a female House Sparrow, carrying millet, appeared and fed the cowbird. At 09:15 a Chipping Sparrow, and at 09:16 a female House Sparrow, fed the cowbird. The House Sparrow flew to the roof of a nearby building where there were Potter traps baited with millet. She returned to feed millet to the cowbird at 09:22 and later, at 09:28, a Chipping Sparrow fed a caterpillar to the cowbird.

Seven days later, within 15 m of the site of the preceding event, I saw a Chipping Sparrow feed an almost fully grown cowbird five times between 10:30 and 10:35. From its size, the cowbird could have been the one observed on 10 June. I saw no House Sparrow upon this occasion.

The nest-parent of the cowbird was unknown, but it is likely that a Chipping Sparrow had reared the cowbird. Chipping Sparrows commonly nest nearby and are heavily parasitized (Scott, D. M., unpubl. data) by cowbirds. My students and I have more than 60 records of Chipping Sparrows feeding or attending fledgling cowbirds on the campus. Although House Sparrows nest on the campus in small colonies, I previously had never seen a House Sparrow feeding a cowbird.

This incident emphasizes the uncertainty of recording a species as a host solely upon the basis of an individual feeding a young cowbird (Klein and Rosenberg 1986). In the present case, one of the possible foster-parents, the Chipping Sparrow, is a common host (Friedmann 1963), and the observation about the Chipping Sparrow is not remarkable. However, the House Sparrow has only once been reported as rearing a nestling Brown-headed Cowbird (Mearns 1881, Friedmann 1963). I have found no other record of a House Sparrow nest

containing a nestling Brown-headed Cowbird other than those of the nests used experimentally to study 6 nestling cowbirds (Eastzer et al. 1980), which all died before the age of 6 days. Nestlings of the Shiny Cowbird (*M. bonariensis*) also died in House Sparrow nests (Salvador 1983, Mason 1986). Mason (1986) and Eastzer et al. (1980) suggest that the nestling cowbirds died because of the inappropriate diet or mode of feeding provided by the adult House Sparrows.

There seem to be only three other records of House Sparrows feeding or attending fledgling Brown-headed Cowbirds (Ellis 1924, Imhoff cited by Friedmann 1963, and Stamm 1961). These observations, in the light of those made by Klein and Rosenberg (1986) and by Eastzer et al. (1980), do not establish conclusively that the House Sparrows were the nest-parents of the fledgling cowbirds. Thus, the House Sparrow may be a rarer successful foster-parent than formerly was thought.

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**Black-legged Kittiwakes nest on advancing glacier.**—Prince William Sound, Alaska (147°W, 61°N), has eight Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) colonies on cliff faces adjacent to tidewater glaciers. In 1986, Coxe and Tiger glaciers advanced slightly and covered parts of the nearby colonies. By 1987, Coxe Glacier had advanced enough to cover most of the cliff face area where 1020 nests had been. On 10 June 1987, there were only 85 nests on the rocky cliffs near Coxe Glacier, but 77 nests had been built on the glacier face. The kittiwakes that were displaced by the glacier were unable to nest at the specific site where they had nested previously, but they chose to nest on nearby ice (up to 0.5 km away), rather than to search for distant but more suitable nesting habitat. This behavior suggests that kittiwakes