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Interspecific egg pecking by the Black-capped Chickadee.—Few passerines are known to destroy eggs of other birds, and documentation is restricted mainly to members of the Troglodytidae and Mimidae (e.g., Orians and Willson 1964; Verner 1975; Picman 1977; Belles-Isles and Picman 1986a, b). The relative rarity of egg-pecking behavior among passerines could be explained by costs associated with the destruction of eggs of other birds, such as aggression by nest owners toward the aggressor. Alternatively, it is possible that this phenomenon is more common and that its apparent "rarity" is the result of difficulties in obtaining evidence for it. In 1984–1986, while studying House Wrens (*Troglodytes aedon*) at Presqu'ile Provincial Park, Ontario, and in the Mer Bleue Bog near Ottawa, Ontario (description of these study areas given in Belles-Isles and Picman 1986a, b), we obtained evidence of seven cases of egg pecking by Black-capped Chickadees (*Parus atricapillus*). Because we could find no previous reports on egg-destroying behavior by this species, we describe these cases below.

Case 1: We used a trap for House Wrens that exploits their egg-pecking tendency (e.g., Belles-Isles and Picman 1986b). The trap consists of a 28 × 22 × 8 cm cage containing a Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) nest and egg. The egg is glued to a trigger which sets off a hoop-netting trap when a bird pecks the egg (Picman 1980). In one of these traps on May 26, 1984, in Presqu'ile Provincial Park, we accidentally captured a female chickadee with a well developed brood patch. However, we did not observe the bird pecking the Red-winged Blackbird egg. No chickadee nest was found within a 20-m radius.

Case 2: On May 14, 1985, in Presqu'ile Provincial Park, we found a chickadee nest in the laying stage. We placed a blackbird nest trap 3 m from the nest while chickadees were away. Two chickadees approached the trap approximately 60 min later. One of them flew directly into it, perched on the nest edge, and pecked the Red-winged Blackbird egg. The captured bird was again a female with a fully developed brood patch.

Cases 3–7: In the spring and summer of 1985 and 1986, one of us (JP) investigated predation of passerine nests. Predators were photographed using camera setups that took pictures when eggs were disturbed in an experimental nest (see Picman 1987). During this study, artificial nests with one or two Japanese Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*) eggs were offered to predators in different habitats (marsh, meadow, scrubland, forest). This produced approximately 700 pictures of predation events in habitats suitable for chickadees (scrubland, forest). Of these, five were of Black-capped Chickadees (2 in 1985 and 3 in 1986). Chickadees in these pictures were in an egg-pecking position (i.e., the birds perched on the nest edge had their bills touching the egg, or their raised head was pointing toward the egg). Four of these events occurred in scrubland and one in a coniferous forest. All five chickadee pictures were obtained during the breeding season in June or July. Unfortunately, the pictures of these events did not allow us to determine the sex and the breeding stage of the individuals involved. The rate of egg attacks by Black-capped Chickadees was generally low, suggesting that this species is a relatively unimportant egg predator. This low frequency of egg attacks could be the result of: (1) the behavior being limited to a few individuals within a population, (2) the relative rarity of this species in our study areas, and/or (3) the lack of appropriate stimuli eliciting the egg-pecking behavior in this species. We do not have data to discriminate among these alternatives. Therefore, more research is needed to establish the frequency of occurrence of egg-pecking behavior in the Black-capped Chickadee, the stimuli that elicit this behavior, and the ecological significance of this behavior.

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A possible case of intraspecific killing in the Lesser Snow Goose.—Most species of birds aggressively defend their territories, nests or mates against intraspecific intruders, but it is rare for either the resident or the intruder to be injured seriously or killed during such confrontations (Maynard Smith and Price 1973). There is evidence, direct and circumstantial, indicating that intraspecific killing, associated with defense of territory, nest or mate, or with forced copulation attempts, occurs (Cottrille 1950, Grubbs 1977, Loflin 1982, McKinney et al. 1983, Lombardo 1986, Belles-Isles and Picman 1987). Relatively little is known of the frequency of these events. The Lesser Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens caerulescens*) is a monogamous, colonial, Arctic nesting bird with vigorous mate defense. Interactions are particularly aggressive during the incubation period, and are associated with a high frequency of extra-pairbond copulation attempts (Mineau and Cooke 1979). It is estimated that 2.4% of all goslings are fathered by extra-pair fertilization (Lank et al. 1988). In June 1985 at La Pérouse Bay, Manitoba, Canada (58°24′N, 94°24′W), we encountered an unusual situation in which a Lesser Snow Goose was apparently killed by a pair of Lesser Snow Geese, while intruding on a nesting territory.

On 27 May 1985 an incubated nest (P108) of a pair of blue phase Lesser Snow Geese was found. This nest was one of approximately 3100 nests found in 1985 as part of a long term study at La Pérouse Bay (see Cooke 1987). The nest was located on the periphery of the main nesting colony and was at least 100 m from another nest. When the nest was revisited on 17 June, a white phase goose which had recently died was found beside the nest cup. Its foot was wedged firmly between two branches of a small willow bush (*Salix brachycarpa*), and the feathers on the head and back of its neck were missing. On dissection