JAKUBAS, W. J., J. R. MASON, L. CLARK, P. S. SHAH, AND D. NORMAN. 1991. Avian feeding deterrence as mediated by coniferyl benzoate: a structure-activity approach. Ecol. Appl. (in press).

MASON, J. R., N. J. BEAN, P. S. SHAH, AND L. CLARK. 1991. Taxon-specific differences in responsiveness to capsaicin and several analogues: correlates between chemical structure and behavioral aversiveness. J. Chem. Ecol. 17:2539–2551.

———, L. CLARK, AND P. S. SHAH. Taxonomic differences between birds and mammals in their responses to chemical irritants. *in* Chemical signals in vertebrates (R. Doty and D. Muller-Schwarze, eds.). Plenum Press, New York, New York (in press).

ROZIN, P., L. GRUSS, AND G. BERK. 1979. The reversal of innate aversions: attempts to induce a preference for chili peppers in rats. J. Comp. Physiol. Psychol. 92:1001–1014.

SZOLCSANYI, J., H. SANN, AND F-K. PIERAU. 1986. Nociception is not impaired by capsaicin. Pain 27:247–260.

WILLSON, M. F. AND J. N. THOMPSON. 1982. Phenology and ecology of color in bird dispersed fruits, or why some fruits are red when they are "green." Can. J. Bot. 60: 701–713.

——— AND W. G. HOPPES. 1986. Foliar 'flags' for avian frugivorous: signal or serendipity? Pp. 55–69 *in* Frugivorous and seed dispersal (A. Estrada and T. H. Fleming, eds.). D. W. Junk, Boston, Massachusetts.

WINER, B. J. 1971. Statistical principles in experimental design. McGraw-Hill, New York, New York.

DONALD M. NORMAN, *Dept. of Biology, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104*; J. RUSSELL MASON AND LARRY CLARK, *USDA/APHIS/S&T, Denver Wildlife Research Center and Dept. of Biology, Univ. of Pennsylvania, % Monell Chemical Senses Center, 3500 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104.* *Received 3 Dec. 1991, accepted 27 Jan. 1992.*

Wilson Bull., 104(3), 1992, pp. 551–552

First description of the nest and eggs of the Black Solitaire.—The Black Solitaire (*Entomodestes coracinus*), a little-known species whose nesting has not heretofore been described, occurs only in upper tropical and subtropical forests along the Pacific slope from the headwaters of the Río San Juan in W-C Colombia to NW Ecuador (Meyer de Schauensee 1970, Hilty and Brown 1986). It is fairly common at La Planada Natural Reserve, Dpto. de Nariño, Colombia (1°15′N, 78°15′W), where I discovered two active nests, each of which held two eggs.

I found the first nest on 19 July 1990, along the crest of a ridge at ca 1900 m when an adult was flushed from the nest and reappeared less than 5 min later. The open cup nest was anchored to several vertical stems of an aroid (*Monstera*) attached to the trunk of a melastome tree (*Conostegia* sp., ca 16 cm dbh and 6 m in height), leaning out from the trunk 1.7 m above the ground. Canopy height in the nest-site was ca 20 m. The nest was comprised mostly of fresh moss, with an inner lining of brownish rootlets. The nest cup was 48 mm deep and 90 mm wide (inside diameter). The subelliptical eggs were light glossy green with fine, brown, randomly distributed spots. Two days later, I again flushed an adult from the nest; this bird reappeared nearby on at least four occasions in the next 25 min. Voucher photographs of this nest with eggs and its habitat have been deposited in VIREO (V06-8-001, V06-8-002).

On 21 July 1990, I found a second nest of similar construction, approximately 1 km to the NW. It was located on a tree fern (*Cyathea* sp., ca 8.8 cm dbh and 3.5 m in height). The tree fern was densely covered by bromeliads (*Guzmania* sp.), aroids (*Anthurium* sp.), and small ferns. I found this nest on a trail at ca 1700 m. Both nest sites were in deep shade under a closed canopy. The shape, color, and markings of the eggs were similar to those described for the first nest, except that they were finely specked with brown at the smaller end, with the spotting becoming heavier and blotched at the larger end, rather than randomly speckled. The average measurements and weight of the four eggs were 27.6 ± 0.4 mm × 19.3 ± 0.6 mm and 4.9 ± 0.4 g, respectively. On 7 August both nests were empty and the adults were not seen. The eggs in the first nest, and possibly an adult bird, were lost to predation between 23 July and 7 August, because I found numerous small body feathers scattered around the nest. The fate of the eggs in the second nest is unknown.

The nest of the Black Solitaire resembles those described for the Black-faced Solitaire (*Myadestes melanops*) (Skutch 1972, Stiles and Skutch 1989) and the Andean Solitaire (*M. ralloides*) (Miller 1963, Wallace 1965), which are bulky open cups composed largely of mosses, lined with dark fibrous rootlets and similar materials. The eggs differ from those of Myadestes in their greenish ground color and sparser spotting which is less concentrated toward the thick end.

Acknowledgments.—These observations were made incidental to other research supported by Wildlife Conservation International, a division of New York Zoological Society, The American Federation of Aviculture, The Fundación para la Promoción de la Investigación y la Tecnología, and the Fondo José Celestino Mutis FEN-Colombia. I also thank the staff at La Planada Natural Reserve for their collaboration during the field work. L. Naranjo, F. Stiles, and two anonymous reviewers made helpful comments on the manuscript.

LITERATURE CITED

HILTY, S. L. AND W. L. BROWN. 1986. A guide to the birds of Colombia. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, New Jersey.

MEYER DE SCHAUENSEE, R. 1970. A guide to the birds of South America. Livingston Publ. Co., Wynnewood, Pennsylvania.

MILLER, A. H. 1963. Seasonal activity and ecology of the avifauna of an American equatorial cloud forest. Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool. 66:1–74.

SKUTCH, A. H. 1972. Studies of tropical American birds. Publ. Nuttall Ornithol. Club, No 10.

STILES, F. G. AND A. F. SKUTCH. 1989. A guide to the birds of Costa Rica. Cornell Univ. Press, Ithaca, New York.

WALLACE, G. J. 1965. Studies on Neotropical thrushes in Colombia. Publ. Mus. Mich. State Univ. Biol. Ser. 3:1–47.

WILLIAM BELTRÁN, *Sociedad Vallecaucana de Ornitología, A. A. 26538, Cali, Colombia.* *Received 1 June 1991, accepted 15 Dec. 1991.*

Wilson Bull., 104(3), 1992, pp. 552–553

American Coot kills Yellow-headed Blackbird nestlings.—I know of only one witnessed predation event by an American Coot (*Fulica americana*) on a vertebrate—a nestling Red-winged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) (pers. comm. cited in Burger, Auk 85:449–451, 1973). While making observations at the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area in