

*Wilson Bull.*, 106(3), 1994, p. 573

**Feeder access: deceptive use of alarm calls by a White-breasted Nuthatch.**—While observing interactions among birds visiting my feeder, I noticed several instances of apparent deceptive use of alarm calls by one or more White-breasted Nuthatches (*Sitta carolinensis*). The observations were made at a six-perch oil seed feeder at my home in Waterville, Lucas County, Ohio, during the winters of 1989–1990 through 1991–1992.

In each instance, a nuthatch approached the feeder while it was occupied by three to six other birds, usually House Finches (*Carpodacus mexicanus*). The nuthatch perched 6–10 m from the feeder, either in the overhanging branches of a black walnut (*Juglans nigra*) tree or clinging to the brick wall of our house. After watching the activity at the feeder for a few seconds, the nuthatch uttered a loud, rapid series of high-pitched ‘yank-yank’ notes, seemingly identical to the alarm calls given by nuthatches when Cooper’s (*Accipiter cooperii*) or Sharp-shinned (*A. striatus*) hawks appear in our yard. Upon hearing the call, birds at the feeder flew immediately to cover in nearby shrubbery. Simultaneously, the nuthatch flew directly to the feeder and began extracting seeds.

Accipitrine hawks are frequent visitors to our yard, so birds at the feeder apparently receive enough positive reinforcement to continue to respond to all alarm calls as if an accipiter were present. Although two or more nuthatches reside almost continuously within sight of the feeder each winter, I have observed the deceptive use of alarm calls by nuthatches infrequently—perhaps eight times in more than 50 h of feeder watching. Most often, a nuthatch would simply fly directly to the feeder and displace a House Finch from one of the perches by probing at it with its bill. But deceptive alarm calling allows a nuthatch to gain feeder access without risking injury in a physical encounter with another bird. Perhaps, like the boy who cried ‘wolf,’ a nuthatch who uses the deceptive alarm call strategy too often might eventually render it ineffective. It would be interesting to know what special circumstances, if any, cause nuthatches to choose this strategy.

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**Unusual copulatory behavior by Fiery-throated Hummingbirds.**—On 17 June 1991, we discovered two Fiery-throated Hummingbirds (*Panterpe insignis*) lying together on the ground in the middle of a foot path at 2650 m elevation in Parque Nacional Volcan Poas, Alajuela Province, Costa Rica. The two birds appeared to be copulating; their cloacas were joined, and one bird clung tightly with its feet to the feathers of the other’s lower back and made occasional thrusting motions with its abdomen. The habitat was an epiphyte-laden elfin forest with abundant leaf litter on the ground. Dominant large plants included *Clusia* and *Gunnera* species. During about 15 min of observation, the putative female (the sexes are similar in this species) attempted several times to disengage and fly off, but the mounted (male?) bird kept its grip on its partner’s back and remained firmly attached. During these attempts to disengage, the two birds spun wildly about on the ground with the female (?) giving a series of rapid, buzzy scolding notes. Simmers returned to the spot 35 min later and found the birds still in a copulatory position in the middle of the trail. After a few more minutes they finally separated and flew off in different directions. As they separated a drop of clear fluid (semen?) was shed from the rear of the female (?) bird, presumably from the