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Opportunistic winter water acquisition by Pine Grosbeaks.—The sparse documentation of water acquisition by birds in cold regions is limited primarily to observations of consumption of water in a frozen form. Methods reported include Pine Siskins (*Carduelis pinus*) eating snow, Cedar Waxwings (*Bombcilla cedrorum*) catching snowflakes during a storm (both by Dr. Glover Allen as cited in Gordon (1934) and in Allard (1934)), and "Song Thrush" chipping ice (Harding 1986). Allard (1934) also reported "starlings" eating snow and catching snowflakes. Other species observed eating snow include the "Redwing (*T. iliacus*) and Blackbird (*T. merula*)" (editors note following Harding [1986]), and Bohemian Waxwing (*B. garrulus*) (pers. obs.).

This note documents the opportunistic exploitation of free water droplets in a cold region in winter by Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*). It also notes that this species has the ability to hover, somewhat like a hummingbird, for short periods.

Lone Pine Grosbeaks were observed on 7 November 1992 and again 20 December 1994 at a site about 24 km northeast of Anchorage, Alaska, in Eagle River Valley (61°19′N/149°28′W), flying from a cottonwood tree (*Populus* sp.) perch to hover briefly below an icicle as a droplet of water formed. The droplet was sipped off the end of the icicle and then the bird returned to its perch in the tree about 1.5 m away. This process was repeated 5–10 times over a 5-min period. The icicles were forming off the roof of a cabin located on a south-facing 27° slope. The area is under what Viereck et al. (1992) classifies as an "open poplar" (I.B.2.c) or "open spruce-poplar" (I.C.2.d) forest and receives its first measurable snowfall in September and is snowfree by mid April (pers. obs). The area is visited intermittently throughout the winter months by Pine Grosbeaks. Temperatures prior to both observations varied somewhat (±3°C) but were consistently subfreezing ($\bar{x} = -10$°C) at night (National Weather Service, pers. comm.; NOAA 1992) and at or above freezing (0–5°C range) during the day at the 610 m elevation observation site. Both observations were preceded by snowfall of 25 cm (6–7 November 1992) (NOAA 1992) to 46 cm (15–18 December 1994) (pers. obs.). These conditions led to droplet-producing icicles along the south-facing roof pitch.

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Evidence of nest parasitism in Mottled Ducks.—Intraspecific nest parasitism, which is the fostering of one or more eggs into the nest of a conspecific, is widespread in waterfowl (Yom-Tov 1980, Eadie 1991). Intraspecific nest parasitism is most common among cavity nesting waterfowl and waterfowl that nest in colonies (Rohwer and Freeman 1989). In contrast, it is rare in solitary, upland-nesting waterfowl, including most Anatini (Eadie et al. 1988, Rohwer and Freeman 1989), except when they nest in high densities (e.g., Drewien and Fredrickson 1970, Titman and Lowther 1975, Hines and Mitchell 1984). Dense-nesting situations may facilitate parasitism by reducing the time, energy, and risk associated with finding host nests (Rohwer and Freeman 1989). Some authors (e.g., Jones and Leopold 1967, Erskine 1990) have suggested nest parasitism may also occur as a consequence of nest site competition when waterfowl nest in high densities. However, parasitism persists in cavity nesting ducks when nest sites are abundant (Semel and Sherman 1986) and evidence for nest site competition in non-cavity nesting waterfowl is equivocal (Rohwer and Freeman 1989). Intraspecific nest parasitism has been documented for only six species of Anatini from North America: Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*), Green-winged Teal (*A. crecca*), Cinnamon Teal (*A. cyanoptera*), Mallard (*A. platyrhynchos*), American Black Duck (*A. rubripes*), and Gadwall (*A. strepera*) (reviewed in: Eadie et al. 1988, Rohwer and Freeman 1989, Sayler 1992). Here we report the first evidence of intraspecific nest parasitism in the Mottled Duck (*A. fulvigula*).

We found 132 Mottled Duck nests during searches of six islands in the Atchafalaya Delta Wildlife Management Area (29°26′N, 91°20′W), Saint Mary Parish, Louisiana, during March through August 1994. When we found a nest, we estimated incubation stage (Weller 1956) and individually marked all eggs. Newly laid eggs were marked on subsequent nest checks and incubation stage was estimated again. Incubation period for Mottled Ducks was assumed to be 26 days (Stutzenbaker 1988).

We found four cases of apparent nest parasitism. (1) On 8 April, we found a nest containing 12 eggs, which we estimated at 19 days incubation. On 16 April, the nest contained several recently hatched eggs and one unhatched egg. We opened the unhatched egg, which contained a 15 day-old embryo (Caldwell and Snart 1974). We believe that this was a nonterm egg (an egg laid after the onset of incubation, Morse and Wight 1969) and not an