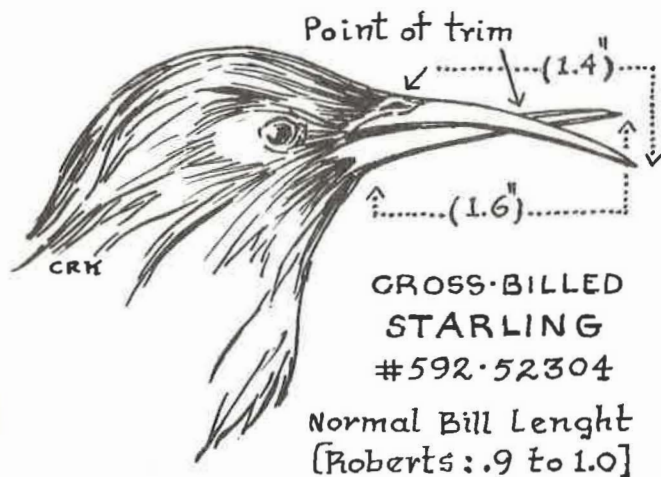


In any event, my observations lead me to believe that a water-drip, if anything, makes the bath less attractive to the majority of common visitors. If there is a time to use a drip, I would advise the periods in spring and fall when large numbers of migrants are passing through. Then it is an advertisement, so to speak, to let birds know that water is present.

Box 389, Leesburg, Virginia.



CROSSBILLED STARLING  
By Constance R. Katholi

Starling #592-52304, a well-fed, glossy male, suffers from a truly monstrous deformity: the bird is crossbilled! (See Diagram.) The mandibles which are nearly half an inch longer than normal are crossed at half their length. Investigation revealed the underlying problem to be a dislocated jaw. Normal wear which keeps the bill under control does not function in this instance. I could not resist giving the bill a "trim," cutting it so that the "new" tips rested together. Obviously this is only a temporary correction; the mandibles will grow again. There was actually no evidence of feeding problems or undernourishment with the deformity; nor, for that matter after the "operation." Ten days later the bird was in the net again, still vigorous and scrappy, none-the-worse,--if no better,--for the experiment.

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