Dusting by a Red-bellied Woodpecker

According to Lawrence Kilham (*Bird-Banding* 46: 251-252, 1975) dusting had not been described for any member of the Order Piciformes prior to his recent note on dirt-bathing by a Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*). The lack of records of dust-bathing by woodpeckers prompts me to note my one observation for the Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Centurus carolinus*).

On 28 May 1972, while visiting the Archbold Biological Station, Highlands County, Florida, several ornithology students and I watched a recently fledged Red-bellied Woodpecker dust bathing. It was mid-morning on a warm, sunny day. The bird was on a sparse lawn near the Station laboratory building in a small patch of sandy dirt where previously I had seen Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) and House Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) dusting. We first saw the young woodpecker after it had begun dusting. I noticed no differences from the general bathing motions characteristic of passerines. After we watched for a few seconds, the sun came out from behind a cloud and the bird immediately began sunning. It leaned its body to the left, thus exposing its right side to the sun, stretched out the right wing and gaped. After a few seconds it came out of its seeming stupor, perhaps because of our movements, and flew to a nearby fence post.—*Glen E. Woolfenden, Department of Biology, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida 33620.*

Sooty Tern Records Wanted

All inland and offshore Florida records of Sooty Terns that are believed to have resulted from the recent appearance of Hurricane Eloise are wanted. Please indicate 1) location (nearest town and county) and date of sighting; 2) number of birds involved; 3) name of individual(s) who made the observation; 4) age and/or sex of birds; and 5) whether the record is supported by a preserved specimen. If the latter is true, where is the specimen currently housed? Send information to *Dr. Walter K. Taylor, Department of Biological Sciences, Florida Technological University, Orlando, Florida 32816.*