Table 1. Nesting Chronology of the Duda Farms Black Skimmer Colony.

Date	Fresh scrapes	Nests	1e[1]	2e	3e	4e	Broken eggs	Young
9 Jun	9	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
29 Jun	10	6	1	3	0	0	2	0
6 Jun	10	7	1	2	3	1	0	0
13 Jul	0	8	2	0	5	1	0	0
27 Jul	16	15	4	6	5	0	0	0
3 Aug	1	6	0	5	0	1	0	0
17 Aug	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
31 Aug	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	3 small, 2 dead
8 Sep	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	1 1/3 grown
3 Oct	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2 flying

[1]1e = one egg, 2e = two eggs, 3e = three eggs.

The unexplained loss of many nests, observations of broken eggs and flattened young, and our observing only two fledged young show the hazards faced by skimmers attempting to nest inland. Disturbance by field observers and others may have been a factor (Safina and Burger 1983, Condor 85:164-171) despite our efforts to discourage observers from using the nesting road by placing a large barrel in the middle of the road. However, the skimmers started using the parallel road across the canal as well, so our efforts to control access were fruitless. Two large dogs near the nesting colony on 29 June also could have presented problems for the skimmers.

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Prey handling by Anhingas.—The Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) usually feeds underwater by impaling a fish with its mandibles. After surfacing, the Anhinga tosses its head backward, freeing the fish which it catches in mid-air and mouths to position for headfirst swallowing (Owre 1967, Ornithol. Monogr. 6: 1-38). We observed two Anhingas using trees to ready fish for swallowing. Each Anhinga used the tree differently, and we believe for a different purpose.

The first observation was made on 23 March 1984 at 1520 h EST at 'Ding' Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Florida. We saw a male Anhinga swimming with a laterally flattened fish, about 15 cm in length, held between its mandibles. The Anhinga swam about 30 m to a mangrove thicket, frequently tossing its head back. After submerging approximately 1 m from the thicket, the bird climbed onto a mangrove root about 0.5 m above the water and proceeded to strike the fish against a neighboring root 30 times in about 2 min. The Anhinga then tossed its head backward, releasing the fish from its bill. The fish was caught and swallowed headfirst. The bird proceeded to wingspread facing northwest. A. Margaret Elowson (pers. comm.) also saw this Anhinga and corroborates our observation.

The second observation took place on 26 March 1984 at 1151 h EST on Anhinga Trail, Everglades National Park, Florida. The Anhinga (its sex was not recorded) was perched about 0.3 m above the water surface on a branch of a fallen tree. A centrarchid-like fish, about 15 cm long, was impaled by the bird's upper and lower mandibles. The Anhinga

brushed the impaled fish against the branch of the tree. Each bout of brushing began with the lowering of the bird's head and placement of its bill against the branch. The Anhinga forced the fish toward the tips of its mandibles by drawing its bill across the branch from base to tip while rotating its head and bill from side to side. Each bout was interrupted by tossing. The fish was removed from the lower mandible after four bouts of brushing and tossing, and was thrown from the upper mandible, caught, and swallowed headfirst, after two more bouts of brushing.

In the first observation, the mangrove root was used as a substrate on which to strike the fish. The fish was not impaled and possibly too active for swallowing, or to be thrown from the mandibles and successfully caught. It is likely that the injury caused by impalement is important in subdueing prey. Consequently, when a fish has not been impaled battering may follow.

The second observation is similar to those described by Owre (1967, pp. 129-130). In each instance, a large catfish was brought to the surface and dragged to shore without once lifting it from the water. The fish were freed by vigorously wiping the mandibles against branches. Owre hypothesized that the impaled fish were too heavy and thick-bodied to be thrown from the mandibles. In our observation, the fish was thin-bodied and not so heavy as to prevent the Anhinga from lifting its head, but the mandibles may have been driven so deeply into the fish that removing it was difficult. The branch was used to manipulate the fish to a position where it could be successfully thrown from the mandibles.

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Bahama Mockingbird in West Palm Beach.—On 14 April 1985, I found a singing Bahama Mockingbird (*Mimus gundlachii*) in my yard in southeastern West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida (Fig. 1). This bird had been singing for three previous days before I identified the singer, and it stayed for five more days before disappearing.

The brownish gray color, streaking on the breast and flanks, white tipped tail, no white wing patches, and faint buffy wingbars were noted by 158 observers from eight different states. As I have seen this species many times in the Bahamas, especially on Eleuthera, I was interested in the behavior patterns. It sang frequently from thick cover as well from wires. The melodic song was short and repetitive with four or five phrases. It did not imitate other birds. A Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) harrassed the Bahama Mockingbird frequently but did not succeed in driving it away or changing its behavior patterns.

This bird seemed oblivious of the presence of many photographers, recording persons, observers, and the media and was even found running about the street in early morning and late afternoon. While in the street, the bird's wings drooped slightly, and the tail was fanned frequently. The bird ate insects and the berries of the Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*), gumbo limbo (*Bursera simaruba*), and native red mulberry (*Morus rubra*). Out yard has been planted to resemble coastal hammock, and this may have been an attractant.

Since Russell (Russell et al. 1980, Fla. Field Nat. 8: 31-32) reviewed the records to that date for North America, Sandy Sprunt and Karen Sunderland found a Bahama Mockingbird on Long Key on 10 June 1982 (Paul 1982, Amer. Birds 36:970). This sighting in West Palm Beach is the fifth for the United States, the only record for mainland North America, and the earliest spring date for this species.