

When they come in the yard, I notice a habit which I have not seen mentioned in any of the literature. Almost every night that they are present the birds from time to time alight on the bare spots near the foundations of the house, where they creep about over the red clay, and apparently pick up grit. (Upon investigation I found no ants or other insects on the ground.) Sometimes a bird will chuckle softly while doing this. Furthermore, on these occasions I have never seen them take dust baths.

This action of the birds is so common here that I thought it worthy of record.—GORDON W. JONES, *Wilderness, Virginia*.

A Male Kingfisher Incubating at Night.—Along the Rio Morja, a tributary of the Motagua in Guatemala, I found, in 1932, nests of three species of Kingfishers. The females of both the Amazon Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle amazona*) and the Green Kingfisher (*C. americana isthmica*) incubated during the night, but the males relieved them early in the morning and occupied the nest for the greater part of the day. The routine of the Ringed Kingfisher (*Megaceryle t. torquata*) was very different. The two sexes alternated in the burrow on a twenty-four hour basis, and nest relief occurred only once a day, at about 7 or 8 o'clock in the morning. Each of the mates incubated for a complete twenty-four hour period, with the exception of a brief recess during the afternoon, when the eggs were left unattended.—ALEXANDER F. SKUTCH, *Tecpam, Guatemala*.

Male Woodpeckers Incubating at Night.—In 1932, while studying the bird-life in the lower Motagua Valley in Guatemala, I watched two nests of the White-billed Pileated Woodpecker (*Ceophloeus lineatus similis*) and found that the males of both incubated during the night. Later I studied three nests of the Truxillo Woodpecker (*Centurus santacruxi pauper*) and learned that the males regularly incubate the eggs during the night, and also brood the nestlings until the latter are about three weeks old. The following year in the high mountains of Guatemala, I found a male Guatemalan Flicker (*Colaptes m. mexicanoides*) incubating during the night. A male Hairy Woodpecker (*Dryobates villosus sanctorum*) spent the night in an inaccessible nesting hole which evidently sheltered young nestlings. In the cases of the first three species, at least, the sexes alternate on the eggs during the day, the females generally arriving early in the morning to relieve their mates. I have watched only the last three excavate their nesting holes and found that both mates share the labor rather equally. In the limited amount of literature I have been able to examine, I have found no reference to male woodpeckers incubating at night. It would be interesting to have observations on species in other regions.—ALEXANDER F. SKUTCH, *Tecpam, Guatemala*.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Breeding in the Virginia Blue Ridge.—Three male Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers (*Sphyrapicus varius varius*) were seen in Amherst County, Virginia, on July 6, 1933, at altitudes ranging approximately from 3550 to 3700 feet. Most of the birds were in or near a