

apparently nesting, in a patch of swampy woods near the Alabama River, about five miles southwest of Prattville. One of the birds was killed on June 8, 1939, by a misguided farmer, who, seeing the bird flying high over his house and swooping toward the ground, thought his chickens were in danger of being caught.—LEWIS S. GOLSAN, *Prattville, Alabama*.

Notes from Wisconsin.—HOLBOELL'S GREBE, *Colymbus grisegena holboelli*.—On the morning of May 19, 1937, Mr. Harold Axtell and Mr. Albert Brand, of Cornell University, stopped at Hope Lake, Jefferson County, and discovered a Holboell's Grebe. Later in the day, Prof. Arthur A. Allen, Mr. Brand and I observed the bird. It was a male and appeared to be in nearly full breeding plumage. The call was heard several times.

PIPING PLOVER, *Charadrius melodus*.—This species is rare inland from the Great Lakes. I took a male April 30, 1938. The bird, associated with other shorebirds, was on a dry mud bank in a marsh near Lake Barney, Dane County.

RICHARDSON'S OWL, *Cryptoglaux f. richardsoni*.—A mounted specimen of this species was observed in a collection at the State Game Farm, Poynette. The bird was stated to have been taken in the immediate vicinity and mounted by Mr. Karl W. Kahmann of Hayward. A letter received from Mr. Kahmann states that the mount was sold to the State Game Farm. "The bird was killed on December 26, 1933, is a male probably in the first year's plumage. It was taken near Stone Lake, Washburn County, Wisconsin, within a stone's throw of the Sawyer County line." This specimen is mentioned by C. T. Black (*Auk*, 52: 451, 1935), but it seems advisable to record its present location in order to avoid future error.—A. W. SCHORGER, *168 North Prospect Ave., Madison, Wisconsin*.

Birds that feed on Russian olive.—The enormous number of plants of the introduced Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia* L.) being used by a number of federal and state agencies throughout the Great Plains and adjacent territory in shelterbelt plantings for erosion control, and directly in wildlife plantings, makes it seem worth while to take stock of the value of this species to wildlife.

There is one published observation on the use of the Russian olive by birds. This record is for the Bohemian Waxwing (Stephens, T. C., *Proc. Iowa Acad. Sci.*, 24: 245-248, 1917). For additional records I am indebted to Verne E. Davison, Adrian C. Fox, and Hal Miller of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, Logan Bennett and Tom Murray of the U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey, and Neil W. Hosley, formerly of Harvard Forest, Petersham, Massachusetts. These men have made the observations credited to them below over a period of a few years in the States indicated, and have either orally or by letter communicated them to the undersigned who has been collecting such records for several years. The Section of Food Habits of the Biological Survey has also supplied two of the records.

Some of the following records lack exact dates, but all are otherwise accurate observations:—

EASTERN ROBIN, Bennett, Ames, Iowa, 1937.

WESTERN ROBIN, Miller, Pullman, Washington, fall 1937.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT, Davison, 1937 (stomach analysis showing 6.2 per cent of February food of sixteen birds in Beadle Co., N. D., to be Russian olive fruits); Miller, Pullman, Washington, 1937; Biological Survey files.

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE, Hosley, unpublished report, 1935; Biological Survey files.

CEDAR WAXWING, Fox, Park River, North Dakota, May 27, 1937.

HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE, Murray, Boise, Idaho, 1937; Miller, Pullman, Washington, 1937.

BOB-WHITE, Murray, 1937.

WESTERN EVENING GROSBEEK, Van Dersal, Lewiston, Idaho, October 13, 1937;
Miller, Pullman, Washington, 1937.

VALLEY QUAIL, Murray, 1937.

In addition to these records wherein identification of both bird and plant have been made, Hosley's unpublished report lists "songbirds" as feeding upon the drupes. Also Leopold has written that grosbeaks use them; and both Hal Miller and Tom Murray have spoken of their use by finches of some kind. Hal Miller has also seen waxwings feeding on them.

The author has been collecting material of this sort for some time in an endeavor to accumulate records to assist in selecting vegetation of greatest possible value to wildlife for use in erosion-control plantings. Additional records of the same or different birds, or mammals, will be welcomed.—WILLIAM R. VAN DERSAL, *U. S. Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D. C.*