

square mile drainage in 1956, 1957, or 1958, although several miles of gravelly streambanks are present in the upper Eagle Creek area. Apparently the survival and return of young Tattlers to the area was not sufficient to increase the population during that three-year period.—ROBERT B. WEEDEN, *Department of Zoology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver 8, Canada.*

**Land Snails as Food of White-crowned Pigeon.**—At Krause Lagoon, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, several hundred White-crowned Pigeons (*Colomba leucocephala*) nest yearly in the mangrove islands of this salt water marsh—the last remaining colony in these islands. For the past five years I have been banding these pigeons in an effort to determine the territorial range covered in their annual movement through the Virgin Islands. For this work squabs only have been used since the capture of adult pigeons in sufficient numbers for banding would be next to impossible.

White-crowned Pigeon squabs, always two in number—barring accidents—develop at an amazing rate. At twelve days of age they have become difficult to capture and when they are fifteen days old they can fly and may no longer be a banding possibility.

Undoubtedly one of the principal factors contributing to their rapid growth is the great amount of food fed to them by the parents. A White-crowned Pigeon colony at breeding time is a most active place. From dawn to dark the parent pigeons are on the wing in a constant effort to keep their demanding young filled. The foods given consist primarily of wild berries and fleshy drupes. The full crop of a pigeon squab is often larger and heavier than the rest of the bird. The early days of such squabs consist entirely of sleep and digestion.

The exception to the standard White-crowned Pigeon baby formula is the one where an engorged squab is picked up for banding and it is found that its weight in the hand does not somehow agree with the size of the bird. Examination of the squab discloses a crop full of rattling land snails—including shells! A disgorged snail proved to be *Drymaeus elongatus*, a common tree snail of the local scrub forest. These snails, generally a drab white, and measuring on an average 25×10 mm., are quite abundant. They aestivate during dry periods and often appear like fruit clinging to the scrub. It was found that from one percent to two percent of pigeon squabs were fed these snails. I was told by my local guide that this occurrence was more apt to take place in years of extreme drought when other foods were scarce. Snail appearance in the pigeon diet may be dictated chiefly by necessity rather than by choice.—G. A. SEAMAN, *Box 474, Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands.*

**Notes on Bachman's Sparrow in Central Louisiana.**—Notes on the ecology of Bachman's Sparrow (*Aimophila aestivalis*) were obtained during a study of birds in relation to the direct or artificial seeding of Longleaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*) and Loblolly Pine (*P. taeda*) in central Louisiana from 1955 to 1957. Stoddard (in Burleigh, "Georgia Birds," pp. 667–668, 1958) has presented an account of the ecology of this species in the pine woods of southern Georgia. Detailed studies in Louisiana have not been reported. Observations were made on experimental lands of the Kisatchie National Forest, about 25 miles southwest of Alexandria, Rapides Parish.

*Habitat:* The terrain in this area varies from flat to gently undulating. Natural vegetation is predominantly Longleaf Pine with an interspersed of small stands