

ent in *akahige* than in *rubecula* is of little significance. I personally believe that the genus *Erithacus* should also include all the species placed by Vaurie in the genus *Luscinia* as there are no differences among them important enough to warrant generic distinction. It was even a greater surprise to find the species *sibilans* separated in the genus *Pseudaedon*. I have never seen this little Robin in its breeding territory, but it was a common winter visitor to northern Indochina, where I observed and collected it repeatedly. It is a Robin as much as any other species; the insignificance of the song and the color of the eggs do certainly not warrant generic distinction any more than in the case of *Phoenicurus moussieri*, for instance. It resembles very closely the female of *E. cyane*.

Authors who accept without argument the large genus *Turdus* for all the typical Thrushes, some of which differ even more among themselves than the comparatively few species of Robins do, should be consistent in including all the latter in the genus *Erithacus*.—J. DELACOUR, *Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California*.

First Records of Cattle Egrets (*Bubulcus ibis*) in Guatemala.—At about 2:30 P.M. on 24 April 1959, a Cattle Egret flew into the Cibal Aguada at Tikal, Peten, Guatemala. It was in the company of two mature Little Blue Herons (*Florida caerulea*) at the time. The taboo against collecting at this archeological site was temporarily lifted when the story of the comparatively recent spread of this active bird from Africa was explained. The bird was still there the next morning, and I collected it on 25 April 1959. The specimen is now at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard College. It was a mature male, with enlarged testes, and the crown and nape were a light, buff color. The bill was a clear, lemon yellow above but lighter or whitish yellow below. The tarsi and feet were black, contrasting with thighs of greenish yellow where exposed up to the feathers. The irides were yellowish white. Weight was 318.3 grams.

This appears to be a first record of the Cattle Egret in the Department of Peten, Guatemala. Tikal is a very recently "opened" area situated in heavy forest, with an airstrip only about four years old. There are no cattle in the area, which is located about 200 miles north of Guatemala City, at an elevation of about 500 feet.

Two other records for the Mexican part of Yucatan Peninsula were reported by Reginald Denham (Auk, 76: 359, 360, 1959).

Two other Cattle Egrets taken in Guatemala were reported to me, as quoted below by permission of Hugh C. Land. "We took two specimens in Guatemala, both from a flock of about fifty birds that could be seen almost daily in a meadow with a herd of cattle. The first skin was taken on November 6th, 1958. It was collected by a native and prepared by Larry Wolf, a student at the University of Michigan. The sex of the bird could not be determined. I took a female on January 12th, 1959. Both specimens came from an area five miles south-west of Panzós in the Department of Alta Vera Paz. The elevation here is about 200 feet above sea level. This locale is in the Polochic Valley, about thirty miles west of Lake Izabal."—FRANK B. SMITHE, *645 West 44th Street, New York 36, New York*, and HUGH C. LAND, *University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma*.

Copulatory Behavior of the Red-headed Woodpecker.—On 16 May 1959, in Ann Arbor (Washtenaw County), Michigan, I observed the interesting position assumed by Red-headed Woodpeckers (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) during copulation. In preparation for the act, one of the birds, presumably the female, perched

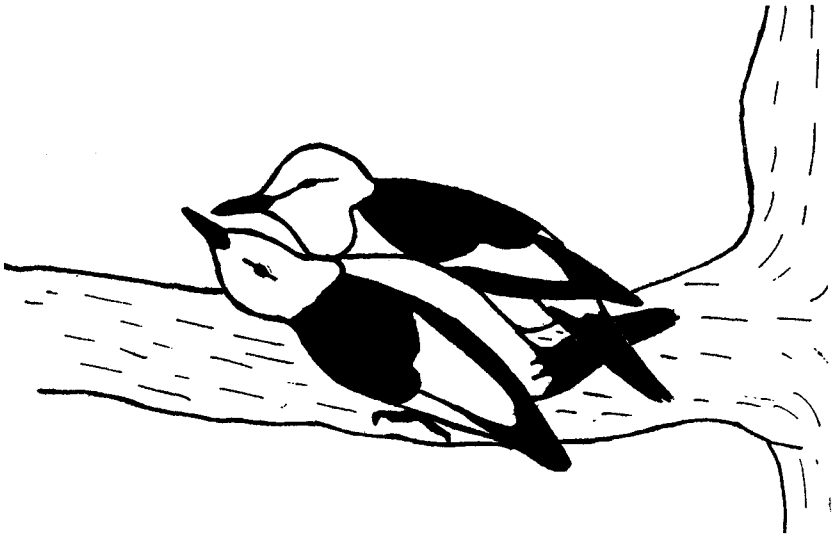


Figure 1. Position of Red-headed Woodpeckers during copulation.

parallel on a limb, in typical woodpecker fashion, and remained motionless. The partner appeared and obtained copulatory position by claspng the side of the limb to the female's left with one, or possibly both, feet. The male then rotated his body so that the anus was upturned (see Figure 1). In this position the copulatory organs of the pair united, and the male exhibited a rapid, repeated, sideward motion lasting a few seconds. The female remained motionless. The active partner immediately flew from the tree and chased a third Red-headed Woodpecker that had neared the scene. Soon the abandoned female fluffed her feathers and flew in the direction taken by the male.

Kilham (*Auk*, 75: 322, 1958) described a similar copulatory position in his study of the Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Centurus carolinus*). However, in that species "the male starts well-mounted, then gradually falls off to the left side and somewhat backward. . . ." It would be of interest to know if this side posture is also used in other species of woodpeckers. Perhaps such a posture is necessitated because of two factors: the female's habit of perching parallel to the branch; and the possession of stiffened rectrices by members of the Picidae. Perhaps the combination of these two factors prevents satisfactory union of copulatory organs in any other position.—WILLIAM E. SOUTHERN, *Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois.*

Knot Collected Inland in Oregon.—On 6 May 1959, an injured Knot, identified as the American race (*Calidris canutus rufa*), was collected on the gravel road that runs through McFadden's marsh, approximately 10 miles south of Corvallis, Benton County, Oregon. This bird had apparently been injured by flying into a wire fence parallel to the road. The author observed seven more of these Knots the same morning feeding on the edge of the marsh.

This is the first known record of this species east of the Coast Range in Oregon, although it is a rare migrant along the coast. In "Birds of Oregon" Gabrielson