

of the Honduran Flora and Fauna Survey. This is the second Honduran specimen and the first record from Utila. The species might have nested on nearby Roatan Island during the last century according to Oates, 1901 (fide Monroe loc. cit.). The only prior specimen Monroe mentioned is from the distant Swans Islands.

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**A second brood attempt by the Purple Martin.**—Throughout its range the Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) is known to raise only one brood. Most reports of second broods actually refer to late nesters occupying the nesting site after the previous occupants departed. Banding or otherwise marking the birds is usually considered the only incontrovertible way of determining whether or not a pair of martins were the same individuals that had reared the first brood. In 1970 in north central Texas, I observed a definite attempt, I consider, by martins to raise a second brood. Although the birds were not banded or otherwise artificially marked, an unusual behavioral characteristic display by the male and distinctive brownish markings on the breast of the female helped to identify these individuals. This male had a curious habit of swooping and diving at any human being or dog or cat that passed by the yard. Sometimes he came within a few inches of one's head. Never before or since have I seen a martin act in this manner.

In May 1970 three pairs of martins occupied a small six-room martin box in my garden. On 11 June three young successfully fledged from the nest of one of the pairs. About 10 days later a pair of martins began building in the same compartment. The male performed the characteristic dive on passersby that I had noted earlier, and the female had the same distinctive brownish breast markings. After many hours of watching these birds during both nestings, I am convinced that these were the same individuals in both instances.

By the time the eggs of this second nesting were laid it was 27 June, and all the other martins had left with their young. Premigratory flocking was already under way, and few visitors appeared at the colony. With each passing day the male of this pair remained absent for longer periods of time, and his visits to the nest and incubating female dropped to once a day until 13 July when he did not appear. On 14 July the female deserted the nest and was not seen again that year. On examining the nest later I found four eggs, all with fully developed embryos that would probably have hatched within a day or two.

In this part of the Purple Martin's range weather conditions during July are quite adequate in terms of temperature and food supply for rearing a brood of young. But martins are social birds, and apparently need the stimulus of the presence of other martins to breed successfully. The absence of this stimulus, especially late in the season, seriously weakens the breeding drive, and may be an important factor in preventing double-broodedness in the Purple Martin in the southern parts of its breeding range.

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