

Migrational homing by a pair of Mallards.—It is generally assumed that wild, North American female dabbling ducks (Anatinae: Anatini) select new mates each year and may return to the same nesting areas in consecutive years (McKinney 1964, *Wildfowl* 16: 93). Lincoln (1934, *Bird-Banding* 5: 151) first documented migrational homing in a female Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), and Sowls (1955, *Prairie ducks*, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Stackpole Co., pp. 25–45), working with color-marked birds, established that female Pintails (*A. acuta*), Gadwalls (*A. strepera*), Shovelers (*A. clypeata*), and Blue-winged Teal (*A. discors*) also return to previously used nesting areas. Black-bellied Tree Ducks (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*), in the same subfamily as the true geese (Anserinae), not only home to previously used nesting sites, but also retain the same mates in consecutive years (Bolen 1971, *J. Wildl. Mgmt.* 35: 386). Instances are recorded of males in the subfamily Anatinae returning to the same locality in consecutive years (Sowls, *ibid.*; Lewis Cowardin, pers. comm.), but no information exists on the homing of pairs.

During the course of a study on the social behavior and habitat use of various dabbling ducks in North Dakota, we documented the migrational homing of a pair of Mallards. On 6 May 1971 we captured a pair of Mallards in a cannon-net trap and affixed numbered nasal saddles and a miniature radio transmitter to both the hen and drake. The drake's transmitter failed in a few days, but the hen's transmitter allowed us to locate the pair several times until 2 June 1971. Our last record for the hen was on 15 June 1971. We never found a nest site, and feel that she did not raise a brood.

On 15 April 1972 the pair was sighted loafing on the ice of a partially frozen pond, 1 mile from the last observation point in 1971. Both birds were still wearing the radio transmitters and nasal saddles from the previous year. Daily visits to the area had not revealed the pair before 15 April 1972. The pair was sighted many more times, delineating a home range overlapping the previous year's.

Lebret (1961, *Ardea* 49: 137), working with a residential Mallard population in the Netherlands, documented a few instances of females retaining the same mates in consecutive years. He attributed this phenomenon to either a female rejoining her mate after a destroyed clutch and molting with him, or a female finding her previous mate on the molting ground. We suspect that Lebret's first explanation applies to our observation.—THOMAS J. DWYER, SCOTT R. DERRICKSON, AND DAVID S. GILMER, *U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center, Jamestown, North Dakota 58401*. Accepted 11 Sep. 72.

A possible hybrid Wattled Jacana × Northern Jacana in Costa Rica.—In the winter of 1971 I was able to compare the social behavior of four jaçanas living in a small marsh on the Osa Peninsula in southwestern Costa Rica (6–9 March) with that of a population of the Northern Jacana (*Jacana spinosa*) living on a large open pond at Turrialba, Costa Rica (27–30 January). The latter population has been extensively studied by Jenni and Collier (1972, *Auk* 89: 743). The Osa marsh, approximately 100 m long and 40 m wide, lies on the west side of the road leading south-southwest from Rincon, about 6 km beyond the Tropical Sciences Research Center.

Two of the birds at the marsh were mist-netted, weighed, photographed, and released. The following descriptions are based on field observations and on these photographs. Three of the jaçanas had bright yellow, trilobed frontal shields and plumage coloration typical of *J. spinosa* (Figure 1). One of these, an immature female, was larger than the other two but had not yet molted into adult plumage. The other