

quantification bases (ppm fresh carcass weight or dry weight or lipid weight). Inasmuch as lipid quantities vary widely from organ to organ and the chlorinated hydrocarbons are especially soluble in lipids, we feel that a lipid weight basis is the best quantification standard. The scattered literature contains total DDT values for various insectivorous birds ranging from 5–25 ppm fresh weight, and on a lipid weight basis these quantities would be much higher. Thus pesticide burdens in the migrating cuckoos appear to be quite low, a feature perhaps related to the cuckoos' specific insect foods or to their relatively high arboreal feeding positions.

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Oldsquaw homing in winter.—On 25 November 1972 J. Pawlowski shot at Presqu'île Provincial Park, Ontario, an adult female Oldsquaw (*Clangula hyemalis*) I had banded as an adult 8 March 1972 less than 200 m from the recovery site. This is the first published North American recovery for an Oldsquaw banded on the wintering grounds. As no Oldsquaws remained at Presqu'île during the summer of 1972, the bird apparently migrated to the breeding grounds after banding and then returned to the same wintering area occupied the previous year.

Homing to a particular breeding area is well-documented in many waterfowl species, but fidelity to a specific wintering area is less well-known. Probably fewer than 150 Oldsquaws have ever been banded in North America on the wintering grounds. Furthermore the species is not particularly sought out by hunters. Banding data are difficult to obtain and distribution theories must be based on small sample sizes. This particular recovery suggests a winter homing ability previously unknown in this species.—R. M. ALISON, *Ministry of Natural Resources, Toronto, Ontario, Canada*. Accepted 14 May 73.

Aerial feeding by a shearwater.—Most species of shearwaters obtain the bulk of their food from the upper few centimeters of the sea, feeding either by "pattering" or by "surface seizing" in Ashmole's classification (*in* Farner and King 1971, *Avian biology* vol. 1, New York, Academic Press). Some species, particularly those in the genus *Puffinus*, can also obtain food a meter or so below the surface by "pursuit diving" or "pursuit plunging." Gould (*in* Ashmole and Ashmole 1967, *Peabody Mus. Bull.* 24: 74) reported a Wedge-tailed Shearwater (*Puffinus pacificus*) catching flyingfish in midair, and it appears that at least one other species is able to exploit the aerial niche at least occasionally.

On 7 April 1973, 21 miles off the coast of Mexico and approximately 95 miles southeast of Acapulco, I noticed what appeared to be erratic behavior by a single Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus lherminieri*). The bird leaped a meter or so into the air, made a few vigorous flaps, then crash-landed on the surface 5 to 10 m from its starting point; it repeated this activity several times. Similar behavior is sometimes exhibited by this and other species of shearwaters when diving for food, but in this case the bird made no attempt to submerge, and it remained on the surface for only a second or so before repeating the performance.