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Observations on the Yellow-eared Toucanet.—For most species of the family Ramphastidae almost no behavioral information has been published. As such data are surprisingly scanty for the Yellow-eared Toucanet (*Selenidera spectabilis*) found from Honduras to Ecuador, the following admittedly minor contribution is submitted.

The following notes were made 16 February 1974, approximately 5–6 km (by road) above Santa Fe, Province of Veraguas, on the Pacific slope of the Republic of Panama. The site was humid tall forest between 2800–2900 feet elevation, along a road being built across the continental divide beyond the Santa Fe Agricultural School.

While birding along this road with Ana Ramirez, Diana Ianoale, Roger Johnson, and Dodge Englemen, we noticed a large group of passerine birds moving through a small patch of trees along the road. At approximately 1515 a single male Yellow-eared Toucanet flew into a free 15–20 feet high where many other birds were feeding. These included White-ruffed Manakin (*Corapipo leucorrhoa*), Green Honeycreeper (*Chlorophanes spiza*), Tropical Parula (*Parula pitiayumi*), Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*), Emerald Tanager (*Tangara florida*), Speckled Tanager (*T. chrysophrys*), Yellow-throated Bush-Tanager (*Chlorospingus flavigularis*), and doubtless others. During this time the toucanet sat quietly while the other birds fed around him. After approximately 4–5 min another Yellow-eared Toucanet (also a male) landed nearby. In less than a minute they had moved next to each other. Suddenly I heard a clapping noise and turned to see the two birds fencing with their bills, something I had never observed before. The birds struck their beaks together five or six times and then grabbed each other, beak in beak. The bird on the left had its maxilla in the right bird's mouth with the bird on the right having its mandible in the left bird's mouth. They held this position for 3–4 min, with no movement whatsoever. They then turned their heads from side to side, still gripping bills tightly, as if trying to outwrestle the opponent. One of the toucanets eventually broke off and flew away. Van Tyne (1929, Univ. Michigan Mus. Zool., Misc. Publ. No. 19: 40) reported bill-fencing in the Keel-billed Toucan (*Ramphastos sulfuratus*), a behavior he regarded as "play" or "mock fighting." My observation of *Selenidera* suggested hostility.

For the next few minutes after one toucanet flew off the remaining male just sat quietly. He shortly started feeding on the berries in the tree. One berry got stuck on the tip of his bill, and the bird spent some time trying to shake it loose. The berries on which the toucanet and the other birds were feeding were later identified as *Hampea appendiculata*, family Bombacaceae. At 1536 the bird was sitting up-

right. Mist had been falling for several minutes. He fluffed out his feathers and, holding very tightly on the branch, started flapping his wings rapidly and raised himself to an almost vertical position, except for his beak, which stayed half-way between vertical and horizontal. Obviously this was to shake some of the water from his body. After finishing he stooped over.

After a few moments he sat upright, opened his bill three or four times, closed it rapidly, and looked around. He continued sitting upright with his crown feathers slightly raised for several minutes, and then started to move around in the tree in search of more berries, slowing working his way to its top, where he found a large cluster of berries that perhaps were riper than others. The bird moved around the tree by hopping, as do other toucans. The bird took each berry and held a nearly horizontal pose with it in the tip of his beak, juggled it there for about 6 sec, and then threw it slightly up and back into its mouth. The bird left the tree at 1545 with a berry in the tip of his beak.

I thank Mike Knee, botanist at Summit Gardens, Canal Zone, for the identification of the *Hampea* tree and Robert Dressler, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Balboa, Canal Zone, for its current nomenclature.—STEVE WEST, *PCS Box 5171, Howard AFB, Canal Zone.* Accepted 27 Jan. 75.

Notes on the Long-billed Curlew in Saskatchewan.—Very little information has been published on the Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*), and the following notes appear to add significantly to the information presently available on the species.

Our data on the Long-billed Curlew were gathered incidental to studies of ground nesting passerines on shortgrass prairie in southern Saskatchewan, Canada. The site was within 8 km of the former Canadian Committee for the International Biology Program (CCIBP) research station, 38.6 km north and 4.8 km east of the city of Swift Current, Saskatchewan. Detailed descriptions of the soil, weather, climate, and biology of the region can be found in the CCIBP Technical Report Series, and a general description of the geography, flora, and climate is given in Maher (1973).

The study was conducted from 1967 through 1971 as part of the IBP grasslands study and continued for the three subsequent years. Only 3 curlew nests were found in these 8 seasons, 2 with 4-egg clutches and 1 with a 5-egg clutch. According to Bent (1929), the clutch is 4, occasionally 5 eggs. The two 4-egg clutches hatched normally. One egg of the 5-egg clutch hatched and the adults immediately abandoned the nest. Although none of the eggs was pipped, the embryos of the remaining eggs appeared to be within a day or two of hatching. The presence of a fencing crew near the nest on the day the first egg hatched probably caused the abandonment.

Graul (1971) reported that one egg of a four-egg curlew clutch did not hatch and he assumed it was infertile. Bannerman (1960) says that infertile eggs are left in many European Curlew nests (*Numenius arquata*).

We banded 25 young curlews (parts of 10 broods) during the study, including the young from each four-egg clutch, which we banded the day they hatched. On 18 June 1968, a brood that had been banded in the nest on 12 June, was located with its parents slightly more than 6.5 km from the nest site, and this was our only sighting of banded birds. We do not know if this movement is normal, and if not, what caused it.