

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Cliff Swallows of Mixed Plumage Types in a Colony in Southeastern Arizona.—The A.O.U. Check-list (1957:364) outlines the breeding ranges of two races of the Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) as follows: *P. p. tachina* "from the lower Colorado River Valley and northern Arizona (Tuba City, Lakeside, Springerville), and central New Mexico, to southern Texas"; *P. p. minima* "from southeastern Arizona (San Bernardino Ranch, St. David, Sonoita), eastern Sonora, and western Chihuahua south . . ." Brandt (Arizona and Its Bird Life, 1951:668) found four colonies of *minima* in southeastern Arizona and says of one of these: "a colony of perhaps 30 pairs built under the high modern steel bridge over the San Pedro River, 5 miles south of Benson, until almost stoned out by boys."

On a field trip to southeastern Arizona in 1959, I visited five bridges which cross the San Pedro River, including the one mentioned by Brandt, which is just west of St. David. The sites and dates visited, listed from north to south, were: St. David (May 30), Fairbank (May 30 and June 5), Lewis Springs (State Highway 90, May 31), Hereford (June 5), and State Highway 92 (June 5). The only one of these locations at which Cliff Swallows were present was Fairbank, where at least 30 pairs were nearing the end of nest construction.

Van Tyne and Sutton (Misc. Publ. Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich., 37, 1937:58, 59) record the presence of *melanogaster* (= *minima*) in Brewster County, Texas, and state: "All of these specimens were breeding birds collected from nesting colonies, and their presence in breeding colonies of *tachina* is hard to explain if *tachina* and *melanogaster* are indeed geographical races of one species, as is commonly accepted." Van Rossem (Occ. Papers Mus. Zool. La. State Univ., 21, 1945:166) states that he is "far from convinced that the common and Mexican Cliff Swallows are conspecific."

The majority of the individuals which I saw at the Fairbank colony had the dark foreheads characteristic of *minima*, but a surprising proportion had the light foreheads to be expected in more northern populations. Although there may have been some slight variation in the color of the light foreheads, I saw no birds which could not be clearly assigned to "dark" or "light" classification. On May 30 I selected a group of six nests to determine if there were mixed pairs with regard to forehead color. The same nests were briefly checked again on June 5. The results were:

	May 30	June 5
Nest 1	2 dark	none entered
Nest 2	1 dark, 1 light	1 dark, 1 light
Nest 3	1 dark	1 dark
Nest 4	2 dark	1 dark
Nest 5	1 dark, 1 light	1 dark
Nest 6	none entered	2 light

Nest 4 was only a shelf on May 30 but was substantially completed on June 5. On May 30 in Nest 5 I observed what may have been copulation, but the two birds may have been merely jockeying for more comfortable positions near the entrance. I never saw more than one bird at a time in Nest 3; very likely both members of the pair at this nest had dark foreheads.

The evidence from this group of nests suggests that the proportion of dark to light foreheads on birds at this colony is about 2:1 and that the birds mate without regard to forehead color.—HORACE H. JETER, *Shreveport, Louisiana, July 7, 1959.*

The Barrow Goldeneye in Texas.—Recently Mr. Tom Cole, a resident of Greenville, Hunt County, Texas, brought to me for examination a mounted specimen of an adult male Barrow Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*). Mr. Cole had shot the specimen on a stock tank just southwest of Greenville on November 6, 1958. As far as I have been able to ascertain, this constitutes the only specimen-supported record of the Barrow Goldeneye in Texas.—F. W. MILLER, *Dallas Museum of Natural History, Dallas, Texas, April 22, 1959.*