

Further Observation on Ring-necked Pheasant Nesting.—Since my previous report on pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) nesting success (Holcomb, 1965, *Wils. Bull.*, 77: 290-293), I have made additional observations in 1965 at Toledo, Ohio. Special attention was drawn to Bobwhite Quail (*Colinus virginianus*) parasitism of pheasant nests. Table 1 gives all of the data, including 11 nests reported in the 1965 paper.

TABLE 1. FACTORS AFFECTING NESTING SUCCESS IN PHEASANTS

	Number	Total No. of Nests Represented	% of Total Pheasant Eggs Laid	% of Total Pheasant Nests
Total eggs laid	445	31	100	100
Chicks hatching	117	12	26	39
Chicks leaving nest successfully	105	11	24	35
Fully developed chicks deserted in eggs	19	7	4	23
Infertile eggs	9	6	2	19
Eggs cracked by flushed hen	3	1	0.5	3
Dump nests - eggs deserted	156	9	35	29
Eggs taken by predators	109	9	24	29
Quail eggs laid in pheasant nest	15	7	—	22
Eggs and new chicks lost due to rain	16	2	3.5	6
Eggs deserted - cat stalking hen	18	1	4	3

Total percent success:

$$\frac{\text{Chicks leaving nest } 105}{\text{Total eggs laid } 445} = 24\%$$

Behavioral conflicts and predation accounted for most nest failures. Altogether, 156 eggs in nine nests were deserted when more than one hen laid eggs in a nest, 29 percent of the eggs. Bobwhite quail laid eggs in seven pheasant nests. Some of my nests were dump nests that had been deserted prior to deposition of quail eggs. The quail accounted for at least one nest desertion by laying eggs in a pheasant nest and perhaps caused another desertion. One nest had seven quail and 19 pheasant eggs when it was discovered.

A Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) nest containing 6 pheasant and 13 grouse eggs has been reported (Kenaga *et al.*, 1955, *Auk*, 72: 80-81. To my knowledge, the deposition of quail eggs in pheasant nests has not been reported often in the literature. There was an earlier report of a pheasant nest that was deserted after a quail had laid eight eggs in the nest (Blain, 1954, *Jack-Pine Warbler*, 32: 77-78. The nesting area I studied had perhaps about the same number of pheasants and quail and both species were plentiful. It would be interesting to determine the long-term interspecific behavioral effects of these two species on one another, under crowded conditions. Five quail nests were found in 1965 and at least three of these nests had more than one quail hen contributing eggs. Two of these nests were deserted after 14 and 22 eggs were laid in them, respectively. The eggs in the other nest were taken by a predator.—Larry C. Holcomb, Department of Biology, Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska 68131.