

Nesting of the Shoveller (*Spatula clypeata*) in central Ohio.—There are more than 40 small ponds scattered through the 7,000 acres which comprise the Delaware Reservoir Wildlife Experiment Station in Delaware and Marion counties, Ohio. The Station has been managed by the Ohio Division of Wildlife through the past several years for waterfowl production as well as for public hunting and fishing, but in 1956 most of the ponds were closed to public fishing because fishery research was in progress. Before 1956 the ponds were utilized by broods of Wood Ducks (*Aix sponsa*), Mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*), Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*), and Black Ducks (*Anas rubripes*) and in that respective order of abundance. During the spring of 1956, a pair of Shovellers remained near several of the ponds in Delaware County beyond the usual spring departure date. On June 22, a female Shoveller with a brood of 10 young three to five weeks of age was observed on one of the ponds in Marion County about 75 yards from the Delaware-Marion County line. I returned to the pond the following day and collected two ducklings from this brood, and these specimens are now in the collection of the Ohio State Museum.

Apparently nesting of the Shoveller in Ohio has been previously observed only in the Lake Erie Marshes of Ottawa County. There Trautman (1935. *Auk*, 52:201) reported the observation of two pre-flight broods, one in 1925 or 1926 and one in 1932.—PAUL A. STEWART, *Ohio Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Department of Zoology and Entomology, The Ohio State University, Columbus 10, Ohio, February 1, 1957.*

Anting performed by Scaled Quail.—The following incident was observed about mid-afternoon on November 30, 1956, some 7 miles east of Monahans, Ward County, Texas. The sun was shining brightly and the temperature was about 80° F. There was little breeze. A pair of Scaled Quail (*Callipepla squamata*) that had been feeding while moving along a dry streamcourse came to an ant bed. The female settled herself in the bed and remained motionless for a period of 20 or 30 seconds before she began to pick up ants from the bed. She appeared to hold the ant(s) in her bill and to stroke the undersides of her wings, the sides of the body and the tail area. The stroking action lasted only a few seconds, and was followed by a short period (10 to 12 seconds) in which the bird seemed dazed and suffering from what might be described as a momentary loss of balance. The stroking act was repeated three times. The ants did not appear to be placed in the feathers, but merely rubbed along their surfaces.

After the activity was completed, the quail remained motionless for about half a minute and then moved off the ant bed. I shot her immediately with a .410 shotgun loaded with dust shot. I examined her and could find no ants in the feathers. (Possibly any ants present could have been knocked off with the force of the charge.) I carefully removed all the feathers from the body and wings, but I could find no sign of a sting or other evidence of irritation to the skin. The digestive tract was examined and no ants were found there. The sex of the bird was determined by examination of the gonads.

The ants concerned were not collected. They were blackish-red in color and about $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in length.

During the entire incident the other bird continued foraging, apparently ignoring the action of its companion.—JACK W. THOMAS, *Department of Wildlife Management, Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, College Station, Texas, April 1, 1957.*