

Long drinks by a hummingbird.—It is perhaps well known that the Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) can drink continuously for several seconds if the supply of fluid is large relative to the bird's capacity. Normally this occurs only when man-made feeders are provided. When estimating the duration of some of these long drinks by counting seconds I also noticed the causes of interruption of drinking. Drinks of six seconds or less were very numerous and were not recorded (Table 1).

TABLE 1
SUMMARY OF 25 LONG DRINKS

Seconds	Number	Seconds	Number
7	7	13	1
8	3	14	1
9	2	16	1
10	1	17	1
11	4	23	1
12	2	24	1

The detectable causes of interruption were: actions of man or of other hummingbirds, approach of bees or wasps, and interruption of the supply of fluid. In many cases no cause was evident. There may well be individual differences. It frequently happens that a bird will take a series of drinks separated by quick withdrawals and reinsertions of the bill, each drink a little shorter than the preceding. If conditions are favorable, five or six pulsations of the gular area per second can be seen. These observations were made at Hillsboro, N.C. So far, no differences can be ascribed to sex.—CHARLES H. BLAKE, *Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 14 August 1961.*

Notes on Least Flycatcher behavior.—While studying the Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) from 1955 to 1958 in southeastern Michigan, I gathered fragmentary data on the breeding biology of the Least Flycatcher (*E. minimus*). My observations on the latter were of unmarked birds, but the following notes seem significant. This work was done on the University of Michigan's Edwin S. George Reserve, near Pinckney, Livingston County. I wish to thank Dr. Irving J. Cantrall for helping me obtain financial assistance through a Reserve grant.

Only de Kiriline (1948. *Aububon Mag.*, 50:149–153) seems to have published observations on the selection of the nest site by Least Flycatchers; she noted that the female alone selected the site, and described how the female “flitted from crotch to crotch, pressing her breast down into each one to test it for comfort,” returned to a particular site again and again, and finally constructed the nest there.

On 2 May 1956, I saw two Least Flycatchers perched 2 feet apart and 30 feet up in an aspen (*Populus*) tree. Both were singing *chebec*. One bird went to an upright crotch and sat in it; the other sang *chebec*, then the bird in the crotch sang *chebec*. At another location, 15 May 1956, a Least Flycatcher came to a particular fork on a limb three times within an hour, perched in the fork, and sat there uttering a long, soft, chattering call. The tail was held straight down and the body quivered as the bird called. Three days later I saw a Least Flycatcher again go to this fork. It sat there giving the chatter call, sang *chebec* twice, then called *wit* several times. After two minutes, a second Least