

Barn Owls hunting by daylight in Surinam.—In my “Birds of Surinam” (1968) I stated that the local race of the Barn Owl (*Tyto alba hellmayri*) in Surinam is strictly nocturnal. Since writing this I have twice observed a Barn Owl hunting by daylight.

On 11 June 1967 I saw one at 11:00, in bright sunlight, quartering the open and sandy savanna bordering the runway of the airfield at Zanderij. When the bird came nearby I collected it. It was a male in non-breeding condition and it had only a small lizard (Teiidae) in its gizzard. Its weight was only 387 grams. Eleven other specimens from Surinam averaged 486 g (extremes 410–558 g).

On 9 February 1968 at 10:00, once more in bright sunlight, I watched a Barn Owl hunting along the dam through a newly planted citrus plantation near Paramaribo. Three times it pounced down on the grassy roadside but it missed its prey each time. I am sure that it was chasing lizards which were numerous on the roadside.—F. HAVERSCHMIDT, *Wolfskuilstraat 16, Ommen, Holland, 29 March 1969.*

Food preferences of a hand-raised Blue Jay.—The kind of food that a Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) eats depends largely upon the kind available in a given locality at a particular time of the year (Dyche, Trans. Kansas Acad. Sci., 21:130–137, 1908). Beal (USDA Yearbook 1896:197–206, 1897) examined 292 Blue Jay stomachs and Dyche (op. cit.) examined over 150 stomachs. Both authors agreed that approximately 24 per cent of the total yearly diet consisted of animal food (mostly arthropods) while 76 per cent was plant material (predominantly seeds and accessory structures). Good-

TABLE 1
PLANT PRODUCTS CACHED OR EATEN BY RB 2 IN ADDITION TO REGULAR DIET.

Plant & Plant Products Sampled	Preference	Plant & Plant Products Sampled	Preference
Peas	+++	Coffee (cream)	+
Onions	+	Coffee (sugar)	++
Bean sprouts	++	Tea (any form)	+
All green vegetables	+	Carbonated soft drinks	-
Pineapple*	-	Beer (stale)	+++
Banana	+	Beer (fresh)	+
Blueberries	+++	Other alcoholic beverages	-
Raspberries	++	Candy & granulated sugar	+++
Strawberries	+	Peanuts	+++
Cooked fruits & fruit desserts	+	Almonds	++
Oranges & orange juice	+++	Acorns	-
Grapefruit & juice	+	All other nuts	+
Lemons & juice	+	Popcorn	++
Sweetened fruit juices	++	Potato chips	++
Pickle juice	+++	Tobacco	+++
Coffee (black)	-	Paper**	+
Coffee (cream & sugar)	+++	Houseplants & cut flowers	++

- = not eaten or cached
+ = eaten or cached infrequently when available
++ = eaten or cached regularly when available
+++ = eaten or cached with great frequency when available
* Whole pineapples were mobbed.
** Paper was eaten only when it accompanied a preferred item.

TABLE 2
ANIMAL PRODUCTS CACHED OR EATEN BY RB 2 IN ADDITION TO REGULAR DIET.

Meat & Animal Products Sampled	Preference	Meat & Animal Products Sampled	Preference
Beef, lamb, fish & fowl	+++	Fats	+++
Mild sausages	++	Soap (coarse-milled, unperfumed)	+++
Bacon, cooked & crisp	+++	Soap (fine-milled, perfumed)	+
Bacon, uncooked or soft	+	Leather	+
Spicy sausages & meats	+	Dandruff	++
Butter	++	Cerumen	++
Margarine	+	Toothpaste	++
Milk	-	Bee & candle wax	+
Eggs	+++		
Egg shells	+++		

- = not eaten or cached
 + = eaten or cached infrequently when available
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 +++ = eaten or cached with great frequency when available

win (Avicult. Mag. 59:122-133, 1953) observed that his captive Black-throated Jays (*Garrulus lanceolatus*) sampled a wide variety of plant and animal food offered to them.

During a behavioral study of Blue Jays in 1962-1964, a hand-reared male Blue Jay (RB 2) kept at home was given a regular diet of canned dog food, cuttlebone, cooked chicken eggs, raw beef liver, live insects, an insectivorous bird mixture developed by Ficken and Dilger (Avicult. Mag. 67:46-55, 1961), French's parrot mixture, cracked corn, peanuts, and suet. Since this bird was allowed to fly freely about the house, he was able to supplement his normal daily ration with food items not ordinarily available to jays in the wild, except perhaps those in picnic areas of parks. RB 2 sampled everything my family ate as well as a number of things we did not ordinarily eat (Tables 1 and 2). Some items were always eaten or cached by RB 2 when available and others were less regularly eaten or cached, and a preference order seemed to become established for the variety of items which were eaten. RB 2 seemed to recognize colors and shapes of wrappers and packages of his preferred items.

If one regards RB 2's feeding behavior as indicative of the feeding behavior of wild jays, one could infer that jays sample a very wide range of possible food sources, eating selectively from the items sampled and establishing definite food preferences.—A. R. WEISBROD, *Division of Biological Sciences, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14850, 17 March 1969.*

A White-throated Sparrow nest in western Pennsylvania.—The first nesting record for the White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) in western Pennsylvania was made when I found a nest containing 2 eggs in McKean County on 13 July 1968. Todd (Birds of western Pennsylvania, 1940) recorded summer sight records from 1929 to 1937 at Hearts Content in Warren County, in northwestern Crawford County, and twice at Pymatuning Swamp in Crawford County. A nest was found in the Ohio part of Pymatuning Swamp in 1932, an area since flooded by a reservoir. It was reported to be casual in summer near Dubois and "may breed occasionally." On a map showing summer records of the White-throated Sparrow in Pennsylvania, Poole (Pennsylvania birds—an annotated list, 1964) indicated these localities listed by Todd as implied nestings.