

nesting in the two southeast Missouri counties. Nest counts conducted during the first week in June, 1965 through 1969, include a high count of 4,759 nests in 1968, a low count of 3,887 nests in 1967, and an average of 4,218 nests for the five years. Although these counts include other species of herons, their total numbers are insignificant when compared with the number of Little Blue Herons.

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) eggs from southern Louisiana were reported to contain *p,p'*-DDE at levels ranging from 0.15 to 0.42 ppm (Causey and Graves, *Wilson Bull.*, 81:340-341, 1969). These levels are similar to those we found in eggs of Little Blue Herons, which is not surprising since the food habits of the two species are similar.

We thank Glen C. Sanderson, William H. Elder, Helen C. Schultz, William L. Anderson, and Stanley L. Etter for reading this manuscript and offering helpful criticisms.—ROBERT E. GREENBERG, *Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana, Illinois 61801*, AND PAUL L. HEYE, *Southeast Missouri State College, Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63701*, 2 July 1970.

Nesting record of Mexican Duck (*Anas diazi*) in Texas.—Aldrich and Baer (*Wilson Bull.*, 82:63-73, 1970) have recently reported on the status and speciation of the Mexican Duck (*Anas diazi*). They state that though it has been found in the past along the Rio Grande near El Paso, there are no definite nesting records in Texas. On 18 June 1969, we observed an adult Mexican Duck with six small young along Ash Creek on the Babcock Ranch, 16 miles SSE of Alpine, Brewster County. This locality is approximately 60 miles north of the Rio Grande and 200 miles southeast of El Paso. The following day we saw two adults fly overhead in this vicinity, but did not see the young again.

The three adults were identified by their similarity to a female Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), but differing in having conspicuously darker tails.

The area is primarily grassland with scattered ash trees (*Fraxinus* sp.) along the creek. The stream is perennial with flow during the wetter seasons, primarily late summer and fall. There was some flow at the time this observation was made and water depth was generally less than one-half meter.

On 27 May 1970, Ohlendorf saw an adult duck accompanied by three small young at a small lake 2 miles SW of Balmorhea, Reeves County. These may have been either Mallards or Mexican Ducks, as they could not be identified with certainty. Water here was less than one foot in depth, with some flow into irrigation ditches. Accompanied by Tony Mollhagen and Bill Mealy, Ohlendorf returned to this locality on 6 July 1970. A pair of Mexican Ducks was seen there. Their legs were more reddish than those of Mallards and their tails were darker.

Recent reports by local residents suggest that Mallards also breed in the Trans-Pecos area of Texas. We have ourselves observed paired Mallards throughout the summer.

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Egg turning by an incubating Wood Duck.—Although it is generally known that birds turn their eggs during incubation, little is known about the actual process. Because of the difficulty in making direct observations of the turning of eggs by a