

bird had begun wing molt before the onset of tail molt. The flight of owls lacking functional tails seemed unimpaired except for the takeoffs which were slow and wobbly when compared to takeoffs with normal length rectrices. The effect of simultaneous tail molt on aerial foraging was not observed.

The other 29 owls did not undergo a simultaneous tail molt during the summer of 1970. Some of them were known to have undergone a gradual tail molt. Two were seen to begin gradual tail molt by loss of the central rectrices first when their young were 30 days old. It is interesting to note that the simultaneous tail molt in the field occurred after the young had reached some measure of independence and that a majority of the wild, breeding population did not undergo a simultaneous or nearly simultaneous tail molt.

These results supplement Mayr and Mayr's (loc. cit.) finding of a simultaneous tail molt in a museum specimen of *S. cunicularia*. Burrowing Owls can successfully secure insects on the ground without flying. If these owls can capture a sufficient number of prey on the ground, then the short period of complete tail loss may only represent a slight hindrance to foraging activities of the species.

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Another record of a short incubation period for the Robin.—Taft's note (Audubon Field Notes, 24:652, 1970) on the possible 7- or 8-day incubation period for a Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) prompts me to add a verifying observation made by one of my students, Ruth Ellen Sands, in 1956 in Athens, Ohio. She found a nest with 2 eggs on 20 April. On 22 April there were three eggs, the third having been laid between noon of 21 April and noon of 22 April. The three eggs hatched during the day on 30 April, from 8 to 8½ days after the laying of the last egg. All three young left the nest on 16 May, 2 in the morning and one around supper time.—HENRI C. SEIBERT, *Department of Zoology, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701, 10 June 1971.*

Discovery of the nest of the Kauai Akepa.—The Hawaiian Islands are inhabited by a unique family of birds—the Hawaiian Honeycreepers (family Drepanididae). Of the twenty-two full species of drepanidids, eight are already extinct and eight others currently considered to be in danger of extinction (Fisher, Simon, and Vincent, *Wildlife in danger*. New York, 1969). The six remaining species have at least one race each in danger of extinction.

The Akepa (*Loxops coccinea*) has distinct subspecies on four of Hawaii's main islands: *Loxops coccinea caeruleirostris* on Kauai; *L. c. rufa* on Oahu; *L. c. ochracea* on Maui; and *L. c. coccinea* on Hawaii. The species is fairly common only in the Alakai Swamp region of Kauai, less common at Kokee State Park on Kauai; it is extinct on Oahu, and rare on both Maui and Hawaii.

The nest, eggs, and nestlings have not been described previously for any of the subspecies of Akepa. Perkins (Aves. *in* Fauna Hawaiiensis 1 (4):365-466, 1903) wrote:

"On one occasion I saw a pair of the Maui species building their nest high up in a tall ohia, near the extremity of a horizontal branch. Both sexes kept coming to the ground for material and were carrying off the wooly down or 'pulu' of some stunted tree-ferns, probably as a lining for the nest. This was so well concealed that even with glasses