

incubating birds were unable to physically cover the entire clutch with their bodies so that many eggs, including those deposited after incubation began, would not be fully developed when the properly covered eggs hatched.—DON DELNICKI, ERIC G. BOLEN, and the late CLARENCE COTTAM, *Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Foundation, Sinton, TX 78387 (present address for DD: P.O. Box 156, Challenge, CA 95925)*. Accepted 14 May 1975.

**An apparent hybrid goldeneye from Maine.**—Recently there have been reports of male hybrids between Barrow's and Common goldeneyes (*Bucephala islandica* and *B. clangula*) based on specimens from New Brunswick, Canada (Snyder, *Wilson Bull.* 65: 199, 1953), and British Columbia (Jackson, *Auk* 76:92-94, 1959) and on sight records from Washington (Schultz, *Murrelet* 38:11, 1958) and Iceland (Bengtson, *Bull. Br. Ornithol. Club* 92:100-101, 1972). Fjeldsa (*Bull. Br. Ornithol. Club* 93:6-9, 1973) reported possible hybrid female specimens from Maine and Iceland.

At Perkins Cove, York Co., Maine on 3 March 1963, we observed an apparent hybrid male goldeneye for about 30 min. At a distance of 100 m through a 30× telescope we noted several features which seem intermediate between the 2 goldeneye species. The forehead sloped upwards gradually from the bill and the hind crown sloped back gradually, imparting a triangular appearance not typical of either species. The fore and upper parts

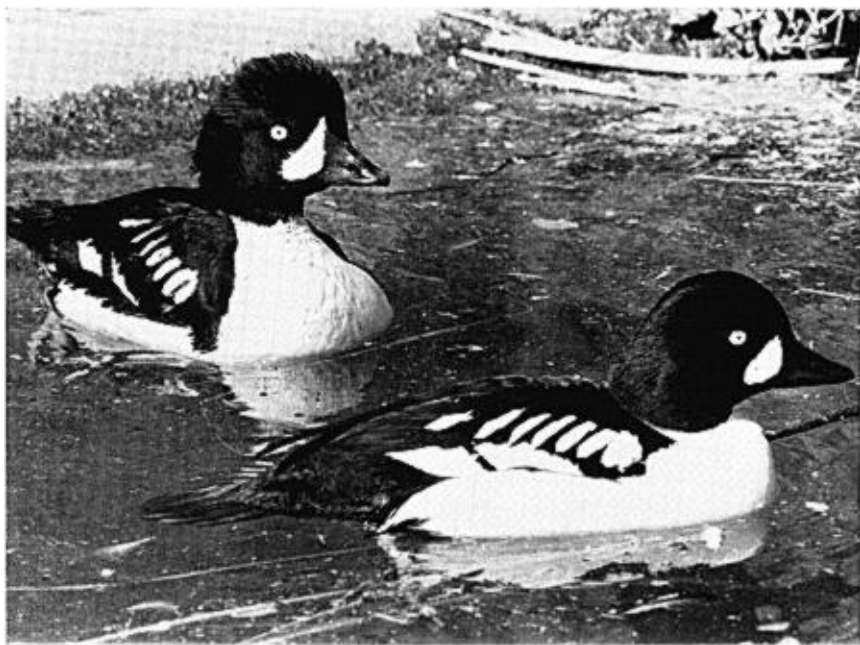


FIG. 1. Adult male Barrow's Goldeneye (left) and hybrid male Barrow's-Common goldeneye right. Note the oval facial spot, reduced amount of black on side, and lack of black "shoulder" mark on hybrid. Photograph in Denver Municipal Zoo by Thomas Mangelsen; photograph used by courtesy of Dr. Paul A. Johnsgard.

of the head were distinctly brownish, this color merging into purplish toward the nape. Iridescent head colors are notoriously difficult to determine in the field, but the viewing conditions were good. The brown head color has been described in several of the above mentioned reports. The facial spot was oval in shape, the superior margin extending above the level of the eye. The side was blacker than in the Common Goldeneye, but the "ladder" effect of the Barrow's was not well-developed, nor did we note the vertical black "shoulder" mark anterior to the bend of the wing. Snyder (1953) discusses other intermediate characters apparent only in specimens (e.g., pattern and shape of bill, frontal bone, nape feathers and nostrils) which support a hybrid origin for his specimen.

In most of western North America, Barrow's Goldeneye breeds south of the range of the Common Goldeneye, although the latter migrates through lakes where Barrow's Goldeneye breeds (Munro, Trans. R. Can. Inst. 22:259-318, 1939). Johnsgard (Handbook of Waterfowl Behavior, Cornell Univ. Press, Ithaca, N.Y., 1965) describes the close behavioral similarity of the species, and presumably there would be little obstacle to interbreeding, particularly if one species occurs as a straggler in the range of the other. This is probably the case at Lake Myvatn, Iceland where a few Common Goldeneye have been observed recently during breeding seasons and where hybrids have been found (Bengtson 1972, Fjeldsa 1973). The hybrids previously reported and our observation suggest the occurrence of hybridization somewhere in eastern North America. Observations of behavioral interactions of the species where they breed sympatrically would be of great interest. Johnsgard (1965) reports that wild hybrids have been found involving *B. clangula* and 5 other species, and Ball (Peabody Mus. Nat. Hist. Yale Univ. Bull. 3:1-26, 1934) mentions additional hybrids in captivity. A hybrid between *B. clangula* and *B. islandica* has been produced at least once in captivity with the Barrow's as the female parent (P. Johnsgard pers. comm.). Figure 1 compares a male Barrow's (left) with the male hybrid (right), the difference in the facial spot and pattern of wing and side are well illustrated. We thank Dr. P. Johnsgard for comments on the manuscript and for permitting us to use the photograph.—MICHAEL GOCHFELD, Dept. of Ornithology, American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY 10024 and GUY TUDOR, 380 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10025. Accepted 8 May 1975.

**Cleptoparasitism by gulls of migrating shorebirds.**—Facultative cleptoparasitism or interspecific robbing of food (Nettleship, Ecol. Monogr. 42:239-268, 1972) has been reported in several gull species. Bent (U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 113, 1921), Ansingh et al. (Ardea 48:51-65, 1958), Rooth (Int. Comm. Bird Preservation, 7th Bull. :117-119, 1958), and Hatch (Auk 87:244-254, 1970) have reported that Laughing Gulls (*Larus atricilla*) take food from the Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), Sandwich Terns (*Sterna sandvicensis*), Common Terns (*S. hirundo*), and Arctic Terns (*S. paradisaea*). Meinertzhagen (Pirates and Predators, Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh, 1959) reported that Great Black-backed (*L. marinus*), Glaucous-winged (*L. canus*), and Black-headed gulls (*L. ridibundus*) take food from ducks, coots, grebes, and loons. Nettleship (op. cit.) has seen Great Black-backed Gulls rob Common Puffins (*Fratercula arctica*). Hopkins and Wiley (Auk 89:583-594, 1972) reported Common Terns taking food from Arctic Terns at a Common Ternery. We have observed gull cleptoparasitism on Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) and Black-bellied Plovers (*Squatarola squatarola*) by 2 additional species of gulls; the Ring-billed Gull (*L. delawarensis*) and Bonaparte's Gull (*L. philadelphia*).

Interactions between gulls and Dunlin and Black-bellied Plovers were watched for approximately 20 min in late afternoon on 24 May 1974 at the Nayanguing Game Re-