

CURRENT
ORNITHOLOGY

VOLUME 12

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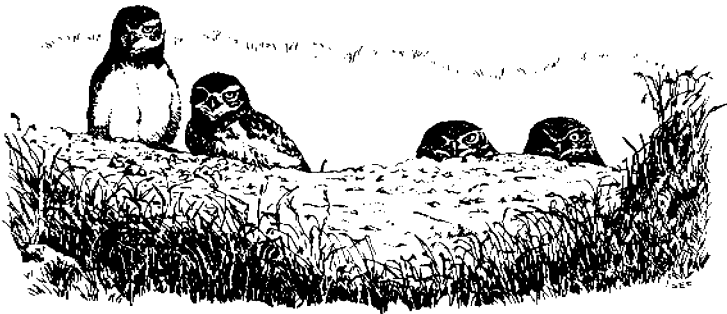
CURRENT ORNITHOLOGY

VOLUME 12

Edited by

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SPRINGER SCIENCE+BUSINESS MEDIA, LLC

The Library of Congress cataloged the first volume of this title as follows:

Current ornithology.—Vol. 1—
New York: Plenum Press, c1983—
v.: ill.; 24 cm.

Annual.

Editor: Richard F. Johnston.

ISSN 0742-390X = Current ornithology.

1. Ornithology—Periodicals. I. Johnston, Richard F.

QL671.C87

598'.05—dc19

(8509)

84-640616

AACR 2 MARC-S

Suggested citation: *Current Ornithology*, Vol. 12
(D. M. Power, ed.). Plenum Press, New York

ISBN 978-1-4613-5743-8 ISBN 978-1-4615-1835-8 (eBook)
DOI 10.1007/978-1-4615-1835-8

© 1995 Springer Science+Business Media New York
Originally published by Plenum Press, New York in 1995
Softcover reprint of the hardcover 1st edition 1995

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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PREFACE

Behavioral ecology, particularly as it pertains to reproductive biology, continues to attract wide interest in North America and elsewhere. Working together at the University of Washington, Les Beletsky, David Gori, Scott Freeman, and John Wingfield review testosterone and polygyny, further elucidating endocrinological correlates of mating strategies, and hormones and reproductive behavior in general. Scott Stoleson and Steven Beissinger study hatching asynchrony and onset of incubation. Their effort was, in part, to assess the value of “the brood reduction hypothesis” in explaining the “paradox of hatching asynchrony.” As a result, they have better organized our thinking about the many hypotheses associated with these phenomena and pointed the way toward better research.

Recording and accounting for changes in bird populations is another field that is of great importance, as ecologists and naturalists continue to be concerned about regional declines. Erica Dunn and David Hussell, both with the Canadian Wildlife Service, explore using migration counts to monitor landbird population change. Along with other protocols such as the Christmas Bird Count and Breeding Bird Survey, migration counts provide important data.

Thomas Grubb of The Ohio State University reviews support for the validity and sensitivity of growth bands in feathers as an indication of nutritional condition, and the use of feather banding in studying growth (ptilochronology). Marcel Lambrechts of the French Center for Scientific Research and Andre Dhondt of the University of Antwerp, Belgium, review studies on the capabilities of birds to discriminate individuals on the basis of song type and vocal cues. Udo Savalli of the University of California outlines every known hypothesis on the evolution of bird coloration and plumage elaboration, emphasizing signifi-

cance of evolution. This volume follows the tradition of earlier ones by its varied content and international thought.

I am especially grateful to the authors who worked diligently on their papers, and who were patient as I moved my office from Santa Barbara to Oakland. Regretfully, I must now relinquish the editorship of *Current Ornithology*, and, in so doing, want to thank especially the Editorial Board, which has been such a great help during my term from 1989 through 1995 (Volumes 6 through 12). Those who stuck with me from beginning to end are George Barrowclough, Robert Ricklefs, Stephen Rothstein, and John Wiens. I am delighted that one of the more recent appointees to the Editorial Board has agreed to take on the editorship. Ellen Ketterson and compatriot Val Nolan will be coeditors starting with Volume 13.

I would like to dedicate this, my last volume of *Current Ornithology* to John William Hardy and Richard F. Johnston.

Dennis M. Power

Oakland, California

CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1

TESTOSTERONE AND POLYGyny IN BIRDS

LES D. BELETSKY, DAVID F. GORI, SCOTT FREEMAN, AND
JOHN C. WINGFIELD

1. Introduction	1
2. Types of Polygyny and Associated Testosterone Profiles	4
2.1. Simultaneous Polygyny	5
2.2. Sequential Polygyny	6
2.3. Promiscuity/Leks	8
2.4. Brood Parasitism	9
3. Testosterone Levels and Breeding Ecology, Age, and Reproductive Success	11
3.1. Migratory versus Nonmigratory Males	11
3.2. Territory Owners versus Floaters	13
3.3. Testosterone and Age	14
3.4. Testosterone Manipulations	15
3.5. Testosterone-Induced Changes in Mating Systems	16
3.6. Testosterone and Breeding Density	17
3.7. Testosterone and Reproductive Success	17
4. Testosterone, Male–Male Aggression, and Parental Care	18
4.1. Theory and Background	18
4.2. Experiment: Testosterone Implants to Male Yellow- Headed Blackbirds	19
5. Testosterone Levels and Social Interactions	26

- 6. Costs of High Testosterone Levels 28
 - 6.1. Theory and Background 28
 - 6.2. Experiment: Testosterone Implants to Male Red-Winged Blackbirds 30
- 7. Conclusions 32
- 8. Summary 34
- References 35

CHAPTER 2

USING MIGRATION COUNTS TO MONITOR LANDBIRD POPULATIONS: REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF CURRENT STATUS

ERICA H. DUNN AND DAVID J. T. HUSSELL

- 1. Introduction 43
- 2. What is a “Migration Count”? 44
- 3. Collection of Migration Count Data 48
 - 3.1. Choice of Site 49
 - 3.2. Trapping 50
 - 3.3. Observations 52
 - 3.4. Daily Estimated Totals 55
 - 3.5. Summary of Data Collection Section 56
- 4. Analysis of Migration Count Data 56
 - 4.1. Annual Indices 56
 - 4.2. Trends 61
 - 4.3. Summary of Analysis Section 63
- 5. Evaluation of Migration Counts for Population Monitoring ... 64
 - 5.1. Incidental Evidence that Migration Counts Reflect Population Size 64
 - 5.2. Correspondence of Migration Count Trends to Trends in Breeding Populations 65
 - 5.3. Conclusions of Evaluation Section 74
- 6. Synthesis: The Pros and Cons of Using Migration Counts for Population Monitoring 74
- 7. The Future of Migration Monitoring in North America 78
- References 82

CHAPTER 3

PTILOCHRONOLOGY: A REVIEW AND PROSPECTUS

THOMAS C. GRUBB, JR.

- 1. Introduction 89
- 2. Causes of Growth Bars 91
- 3. Ubiquity of Growth Bars 92
- 4. One Growth Bar Denotes 24 Hours of Feather Growth 93
- 5. Growth Bar Width is Sensitive to Nutritional Condition 93
- 6. Other Possible Factors Controlling Growth Bar Width 94
 - 6.1. Ambient Temperature and/or Wind Chill 95
 - 6.2. Follicle History 95
 - 6.3. Endogenous Cycles 96
- 7. Applications 96
 - 7.1. Territory Size 97
 - 7.2. Reproductive Effort 99
 - 7.3. Nutritional Condition of Fledglings 100
 - 7.4. Habitat Selection 101
 - 7.5. Social Dominance 104
 - 7.6. Caching 107
- 8. Prospectus 109
 - References 112

CHAPTER 4

INDIVIDUAL VOICE DISCRIMINATION IN BIRDS

MARCEL M. LAMBRECHTS AND ANDRE A. DHONDT

- 1. Introduction 115
- 2. Neighbor–Stranger Recognition and Evidence for Individual Recognition by Song 117
- 3. Processes of Individual Recognition 120
 - 3.1. Composition of Song Repertoires 120
 - 3.2. Rendition of Songs 122
 - 3.3. Individual “Voices” 123
- 4. How to Distinguish among Processes of Individual Recognition 125

- 5. Design and Execution of Experiments Testing Individual
“Voice” Recognition in the Field 126
- 6. The Potential Significance of Individual “Voice”
Recognition 129
- 7. Signature Adaptations and Perceptual Adaptations for
Individual Recognition 131
- 8. Concluding Remarks 132
- 9. Summary 133
- References 133

CHAPTER 5

THE EVOLUTION OF BIRD COLORATION AND PLUMAGE
ELABORATION: A REVIEW OF HYPOTHESES

UDO M. SAVALLI

- 1. Introduction 141
- 2. The Hypotheses 143
 - 2.1. Physiological Hypotheses 145
 - 2.2. Facilitation of Foraging Hypotheses 148
 - 2.3. Interspecific Signaling Hypotheses 151
 - 2.4. Intraspecific Signaling Hypotheses 158
 - 2.5. Nonadaptive Hypotheses 167
- 3. Future Directions for the Study of Animal Coloration 169
 - 3.1. Testing Hypotheses 169
 - 3.2. The Relative Importance of the Hypotheses:
 Comparative Studies 173
 - 3.3. Toward Predictive Theories of Coloration and
 Ornamentation 174
- 4. Conclusions 178
- References 179

CHAPTER 6

HATCHING ASYNCHRONY AND THE ONSET OF INCUBATION IN
BIRDS, REVISITED: WHEN IS THE CRITICAL PERIOD?

SCOTT H. STOLESON AND STEVEN R. BEISSINGER

- 1. Introduction 191
 - 1.1. The Paradox of Hatching Asynchrony 192

1.2. Goals of This Review	194
2. The Onset of Incubation as the Principal Proximate Cause of Hatching Patterns	194
2.1. The Timing of Periods in the Nesting Cycle	195
2.2. Physiological Bases for the Onset of Incubation	197
2.3. External Factors Affecting the Onset of Incubation	197
2.4. Patterns of the Onset of Incubation	199
2.5. Other Proximate Factors Affecting Hatching Patterns	201
3. Hatching Patterns in Birds	203
3.1. Quantification of Asynchrony	203
3.2. Phylogenetic Patterns of Incubation and Hatching Asynchrony	204
3.3. Other Correlates of Asynchrony	210
3.4. Summary of Hatching Patterns	211
4. Hypotheses for the Evolution of Hatching Asynchrony	211
4.1. A Conceptual Framework	212
4.2. Factors Affecting the Onset of Incubation: Nonadaptive Constraints	214
4.3. Factors Producing Adaptive Incubation Patterns	215
4.4. Factors Selecting for Adaptive Hatching Patterns	221
4.5. Factors Influencing the Timing of the Entire Nesting Cycle	231
4.6. Summary of Hypotheses	234
5. Findings from Experimental Tests	235
5.1. Experimental Designs	235
5.2. Summary of Results	235
5.3. Problems with Experimental Tests of Hypotheses for Hatching Asynchrony	238
6. Synthesis: Integrating Multiple Hypotheses through Modeling	239
6.1. Prior Efforts to Integrate Multiple Hypotheses	239
6.2. Modeling Trade-offs in the Onset of Incubation	240
6.3. Modeling Asynchrony: An Example Using the House Sparrow	245
7. Conclusions	250
8. Summary	252
References	254
 INDEX	 271