
**A Roosting Aggregation of the Blue Mud-Dauber,
*Chalybion coeruleum*¹**

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The observations reported here were made during the summers of 1957 and 1958 on the writer's front porch, in Goodwell, Oklahoma. The house faces north-eastward, so the porch is shaded from about 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. during the summer months.

The mud-daubers were first noticed buzzing around the springs on the porch swing on the evening of June 17, 1957. Only half a dozen spent the night on the springs at this time, but these were joined by others on succeeding evenings. They began to aggregate about 6:00 p.m., and continued to come in until almost dark. By July 20, 1957, over 200 individuals regularly spent the night on the springs of the swing, while still others congregated around near-by bolt heads in the porch ceiling.

The numbers of wasps slowly decreased from about August 1 until Sept. 1 after which no wasps appeared. This performance was repeated during the summer of 1958. The time of first appearance was June 10 but the peak in numbers was reached about July 20. All wasps were gone by the 3rd. week in August.

The aggregation contained both sexes. No mating was observed. They scattered early in the morning; all were gone by 7:00 a.m. Each

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individual apparently went its separate way.

Since such behavior of blue mud-daubers had not been seen before by the writer, and a search of available literature revealed no record of such behavior, it is here reported.
