

1960 and 1961, the 12 that were cowbird-parasitized produced a grand total of three cowbirds and two vireos (Wiens, 1963, *Wilson Bull.*, 75: 130-31, 134).

In the light of what the above-cited observers have reported, the unqualified success of a Johnston County nesting seems to me to be worth recording. We found the nest on 28 June 1968 about 2 ft. up along the edge of a thicket of sand plums (*Prunus angustifolia*) close to an unpaved road through the Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge. The nest held four eggs. The following day there were three eggs and a chick. By 1 July all the eggs had hatched. The young were completely naked and about 20 mm. long, one being obviously the largest and one the smallest, indicating that hatching had not been simultaneous.

On 3 July, feather tracts were visible. While being fed on that date, the brood made a good deal of noise and I feared that this, together with my frequent visits, would entail predation; but on 6 July the week-old chicks were fairly well feathered and the nest crowded. On 10 July three young were in the nest and I heard the fourth begging for food in the thicket. Both parent birds scolded vigorously while I banded the three young, two of which refused to stay in the nest. On 11 July one bird was still in the nest. That day I was not scolded by either parent. On 12 July the nest was empty; nor did I hear or see either the young birds or their parents anywhere in the vicinity.—Jenna Jo Hellack, 204 N. Rennie, Tishomingo, Oklahoma 73460, 31 August 1968.

Unsuccessful nesting of the Boat-tailed Grackle in Pontotoc County, Oklahoma.—On 15 June 1968, at a small impoundment in comparatively treeless pastureland 2 mi. north and 1 mi. west of Roff, Pontotoc County, Oklahoma, I discovered a small breeding colony of Boat-tailed Grackles (*Cassidix mexicanus*). The five nests were in trees growing on the dam of the impoundment, four of them in a not very large black willow (*Salix nigra*), one in a bois d'arc (*Maclura pomifera*). Of the nests in the willow, one had never been finished; one held four eggs; and two held three eggs each. The nest in the bois d'arc, though occupied (a female bird flew from it), I could not climb to, so I did not ascertain what it contained.

I saw three male and four female grackles on 15 June, but on several visits between that date and 2 July I never saw more than two adult birds in the vicinity of the nests. On 29 June one of the nests in the willow held two young birds and an egg. These young survived until about 2 July, on which date I found them dead in the nest. None of the eggs hatched in the other nests that I could climb to, probably because the females deserted. I think it highly improbable that my visits caused the females to desert, for I did little more than climb to the nests for a quick look and I did no shooting in the vicinity. No young were fledged from the colony.—Sandra L. Davidson, Route 1. Roff, Oklahoma 74865, 15 September 1968.

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