

NOTES

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Late nesting date for the Carolina Wren in Oklahoma.—Carolina Wrens (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) are opportunistic nesters, breeding not only in natural crevices but also in nest boxes, mailboxes, stone walls, pockets of old clothes, old woodpecker holes, and building rafters (Bent, 1948, Life histories of North American nuthatches, wrens, thrashers and their allies, U. S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 195). I recently discovered a Carolina Wren nest on an interior ledge above a barn doorway near Macomb in central Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma. On 18 August 1997, I flushed a female incubating five eggs. My daily nest checks revealed that all eggs hatched on 21 August, and all five nestlings fledged on 2 September at 12 days of age.

Current nesting dates for Oklahoma range from 18 March when one egg was found in Cleveland County to 1 August when five eggs were discovered in Leflore County (Sutton, 1967, Oklahoma birds, Univ. Oklahoma Press, Norman). The nest discovered in Pottawatomie County surpasses the previously reported latest nesting date for Oklahoma by 32 days. The latest dates reported for Arkansas are 12 August when young were still in a nest in Union County in the southern part of the state, and 29 September when young were just fledging from a nest at Little Rock (James and Neal, 1986, Arkansas birds, Univ. Arkansas Press, Fayetteville). The reported late nesting date for Kansas is 10 August (Johnson, 1964, The breeding birds of Kansas, Univ. Kansas Publ. Mus. Nat. Hist. 12: 575–655), while that of Texas is 13 August (Oberholser, 1974, The bird life of Texas, vol. 2, Univ. Texas Press, Austin). I suspect that late nesting by Carolina Wrens occurs frequently in Oklahoma during mild summers, though probably overlooked because of their permanent resident status.—HOPE R. MCGAHA, Rt. 1, Box 188, Macomb, OK. 74852. Received 26 November 1997, accepted 16 January 1998.

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