

Donna Dean

Kingbird Nest.

1926
1926

Nest found July 1. in a scrubby apple tree 15 ft. high, nest on a bough 8 ft from ground. bough sticking out almost bare of leaves.

Nest. 4" outer diameter, 3" inner diameter, 4" deep. Made of twigs, weed lined with plant fibers, ^{grass} and horse hair a species of goldenrod could be identified bird using old last years flowers & stalks.

Three eggs white spotted with umber.

Behaviour of mother & father birds is as follows.

As soon as the nest was found a box was placed under the tree making it possible to look into the nest. As soon as mother bird heard us approaching she would fly off and either join the father bird who was in a tree near by or on the fence or stay in the tree with

the nest. If I got up onto the box to look in both birds in turn would swoop down almost to my head and I was convinced that they were very good defenders of their nests.

The male bird could only be distinguished from the female in that he seemed a little larger and when they were together in the tree the male seemed to make the most noise.

On July 3 the mother bird was flushed from the nest and stayed off 21 minutes, flying from branch to branch. The male bird was not nearby as we approached the nest but as soon as the female was flushed he appeared to defend. As soon as we left, the female bird returned to her nest and the father bird to his perch above the nest.

2
Doris Dean

On July 7 as we approached nest the mother was on the nest, the father bird was nowhere in sight, after a while the mother bird flew off and while she was gone the nest was examined and with a great fuss both birds appeared and circled around and around above the nest. We went behind a hay stack and the mother bird soon settled down on her nest. After a few minutes a crow appeared and mother bird left nest and together with the male bird chased the crow, soon returned and both seemed perfectly satisfied.

Behaviour was the same each day, mother after flew off for food, father bird going down closer to the nest but never on it. Mother bird would fly across the road and return wipe her bill on fence wire after staying

there darting out and back catching insects, then returning to her nest, then the male would fly off coming back in a few moments to take up the watch at the top of the tree.

On July 16. there was one baby bird and two eggs. on July 17 still only one young and two eggs. - young had white down covering it.

The mother left the nest for food, father staying close sometimes sitting at the edge of the nest. Mother returned stopping to wipe her bill on the fence wire. flew to the edge of the nest and fed bird by regurgitation, soon after she returned the male bird flew away and while he was gone there appeared a red headed woodpecker which stopped near the nest. the male kingbird came when the female called and the male chased the woodpecker.

7
Lewis Bean

^{across} the road and into the woods.
Men working in field did not disturb them.

Only one young hatched and the two eggs remained in the nest until on July 27 the young had left with the parents and there was no sign of the eggs.

1. July 1 - eggs found
2. July 16 - " hatched
3. July 27. young left nest.

Behaviour

1. Mother did entire feeding.
2. Both birds defend their nest.
3. Male bird always perched in a position where leaves did not obstruct his view, and was keenly awake to every movement around him. Left perch every few minutes to dart out to seize insects. curled clasp at tip of bill, stiff hairs at base. help him hold insects
4. Call a ching, ching, sometimes has a soft pleasing song. usually in early morning.
5. Characteristic flight widely spread tail & quickly vibrating wings.