

Nest Study - Robin,

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Only one young at the nest
nest - what the nest is for

C. L. Porter
Aug. 18, 1930

Nest Study - Robin.

The nest treated in this study was built in a white birch, east of the flagpole above the Biological Station, at a height of approximately fifteen feet from the ground.

The nest was built of a variety of materials including paper, roots, sticks, grass and leaves. The lining was entirely of grass. Very little mud was used in its construction.

Four eggs were found in the nest on July 8, 1930. These had hatched July 20. One of the young birds disappeared the day after it hatched.

The blind was constructed July 22, 1930 and observation was begun at once. The young at this time had patches of down but their eyes were still closed. At this time it was possible to reach blind without being discovered by the adults but after they had reached considerable size the male was apparently on guard most of the time making it difficult to approach the nest.

Only once during the observations was the female on the nest when the male arrived with food; she got off the nest sufficiently for the young to be fed. Feeding usually took only two or three minutes but the adults were gone for long periods of time. While the birds were young the female always brooded them a few

Minutes before leaving nest but this was discontinued after they were partially feathered. Sometimes the female would return with a large quantity of food, at other times with only one insect. The food given the young consisted of insects, crane flies, grasshoppers, cicadas and larvae of various kinds. Fruit of the pin cherry was fed on one occasion.

The young were fed in rotation the mother being able to tell which had been fed last. Although both young stretched up their heads the one that had not been fed seemed to be more persistent. When a large insect such as a cicada was fed, the adult would put it in the mouth of the young bird and then squeezing it with its bill, the young at the same time trying to swallow it. Young were fed during evening until about twenty minutes before the whip-poor-will called. Usually after the young were fed they would elevate their anus, expell a faecal sac which the adult disposed of by eating.

One young bird left the nest July 31, the other left the nest after being measured August 1.

Robin #1 - Growth Measurement Record

All measurements of length in millimeters

Date	Friday July 22 10:36 AM		Saturday July 23 10:30 AM		Sunday July 24 10:30 AM		Monday July 25 10:30 AM		Tuesday July 26 10:30 AM		Wednesday July 27 10:30 AM		Thursday July 28 10:30 AM		Friday July 29 10:30 AM		Saturday July 30 10:30 AM		Sunday July 31 10:30 AM		Monday Aug 1 10:30 AM		Tuesday Aug 2 10:30 AM		Wednesday Aug 3 10:30 AM																																																																																																																																																																										
	Weight in grams	52	9.65	14.85	25.26	35.35	39.56	45.7	51.85	53.65	55.51	56.10	58.95	60.01	Length	59	62	65	68	85/2	89	95	105	109	117	125	130	135	Tail	0	0	0	0	Just Pricking through	tips 1mm.	4	6.5	9	14	16 with sheath 11 out	22	30.5	Bill	6.1	6.5	7.0	7.6	8.4	10	10.6	11.3	12.1	12.9	13.9	14.5	14.5	Bill Eye	9.3	11.5	12	16.75	18.75	21	22	23	24.3	26.2	27.1	27.5	28	Bill Gape	10.1	13.5	15.5	19	26	21	22	22.5	23.2	23.5	24.5	25	25	Bill Nostril	3	4	5.5	6	6.5	7	7.5	8.0	8.5	9	9.5	10.5	10.5	Eye Diameter	closed 3	closed 3.5	closed 4	closed 5	closed 6	slightly open 6.5	= 6.9	= 7.6	= 8.2	8.9	9.5	9.5	9.5	Extent	59.72	61	63	66	78.5	90	111	120	131	142	150	176	195	Wing Right	1	11	14.5	16	20.5	23	30	32	33	35	36.1	41.5	45	Primary	0	0	0	fine tips appearing	10	18	25	29 in 3 out	37 in 8 out	35 in 13 out	20 in 21 out	12 in 31 out	full length 56	Wing-body	20.4	22	23	28.5	35	42	49	53	59	67	74	81	93	Tarsus-Toe	16.5	19	23	32	40.5	43.5	54	57	60	62	63.4	64.5	66	Foot	14	17	20	25.5	33.75	40	44	46.5	48.75	50	51.75	53
Right Foot	1.	3.5	2.75	4.75	3	5.5	3.05	7	3.5	9	4	10	5	11.5	5.5	11.5	6	12	6.5	13	8.5	13	8.5	14	9	14	9	2.	4.5	1	5	1.5	6	6.5	8.5	2.5	11.5	2.5	12.5	2.5	13	3.5	13.5	7	14	4	15.5	5	15.5	5	17	6	20	6	3.	6.1	2	7.5	2	9.5	2	13.75	2	16.75	3.5	18.5	3.5	20	4	23	5	23.5	6	24	6	25	6	26	7	24	7.5	4.	4.5	1	5	1.5	6	1.5	9.5	1.5	11.5	2.5	12.5	2.5	13	3.5	12.5	4	14	4.5	15.5	5	12.5	5	17	6	20	6																																																																																							

No.	Name	Age	Sex
	Kahle		
Date	7/30/20	Locality	Douglas Lake
Collected by	C. A. Porter	Address	
Weight		grs. Primary	48 m.m. Crest Ruffs
Length	138	m.m. Wing-Body	96 m.m. Ruffs Extent
Tail	17	m.m. Foot-Body	95 m.m.
Mid T. F.	15	m.m. Tarsus	34 m.m.
Bill	14	m.m. Tarsus-Toe	60 m.m.
Bill Eye	24	m.m. Foot	45 m.m.
Bill-Gape	27	m.m. No. Right Toe Nail	No. Left Toe Nail
Bill-Nostril	8	m.m. 1.	17 6. 1.
Eye Diam.	7.5	m.m. 2.	15 3.5 2.
Extent	221	m.m. 3.	25 4.5 3.
Wing Right	33	m.m. 4.	15 3.5 4.

Ornithological Measurement Record

No.	Name	Age	Sex
	Kahle		
Date	July 27 1930	Locality	Douglas Lake
Collected by	C. A. Porter	Address	
Weight		grs. Primary	25 m.m. Crest Ruffs
Length	110	m.m. Wing-Body	50 m.m. Ruffs Extent
Tail	6	m.m. Foot-Body	20 m.m.
Mid T. F.	6	m.m. Tarsus	29 m.m.
Bill	14	m.m. Tarsus-Toe	54 m.m.
Bill Eye	17	m.m. Foot	43 m.m.
Bill-Gape	22	m.m. No. Right Toe Nail	No. Left Toe Nail
Bill-Nostril	6	m.m. 1.	15 4.5 1.
Eye Diam.	6	m.m. 2.	12 3 2.
Extent	200	m.m. 3.	24 4 3.
Wing Right	27	m.m. 4.	15 3 4.

No.	Name	Age	Sex
	<i>Robin</i>		
Date	<i>7/21/50</i>	Locality	<i>Douglas Lake</i>
Collected by	<i>C. H. Porter</i>	Address	
Weight		grs. Primary	<i>31</i> m.m. Crest Ruffs
Length	<i>135</i>	m.m. Wing-Body	<i>90</i> m.m. Ruffs Extent
Tail	<i>16</i>	m.m. Foot-Body	<i>120</i> m.m.
Mid T. F.	<i>15</i>	m.m. Tarsus	<i>33</i> m.m.
Bill	<i>19</i>	m.m. Tarsus-Toe	<i>59</i> m.m.
Bill Eye	<i>22</i>	m.m. Foot	<i>43</i> m.m.
Bill-Gape	<i>25</i>	m.m. No.	Right Toe Nail No. Left Toe Nail
Bill-Nostril	<i>7.5</i>	m.m. 1.	<i>15</i> <i>5</i> 1.
Eye Diam.	<i>6.5</i>	m.m. 2.	<i>15</i> <i>3.5</i> 2.
Extent	<i>219</i>	m.m. 3.	<i>22</i> <i>4</i> 3.
Wing Right	<i>31</i>	m.m. 4.	<i>15</i> <i>3.5</i> 4.

Ornithological Measurement Record

No.	Name	Age	Sex
	<i>Robin</i>		
Date	<i>7/28/50</i>	Locality	<i>Douglas Lake</i>
Collected by	<i>C. H. Porter</i>	Address	
Weight		grs. Primary	<i>35</i> m.m. Crest Ruffs
Length	<i>115</i>	m.m. Wing-Body	<i>85</i> m.m. Ruffs Extent
Tail	<i>12</i>	m.m. Foot-Body	<i>83</i> m.m.
Mid T. F.	<i>11</i>	m.m. Tarsus	<i>30</i> m.m.
Bill	<i>16</i>	m.m. Tarsus-Toe	<i>57</i> m.m.
Bill Eye	<i>20</i>	m.m. Foot	<i>44</i> m.m.
Bill-Gape	<i>28</i>	m.m. No.	Right Toe Nail No. Left Toe Nail
Bill-Nostril	<i>8</i>	m.m. 1.	<i>16</i> <i>5</i> 1.
Eye Diam.	<i>7</i>	m.m. 2.	<i>14</i> <i>3</i> 2.
Extent	<i>200</i>	m.m. 3.	<i>23</i> <i>4</i> 3.
Wing Right	<i>33</i>	m.m. 4.	<i>15</i> <i>3</i> 4.

No. Name *Robin* Age Sex

Date *7/25/30* Locality *Douglas Lake*

Collected by *Ch Porter* Address

Weight	grs.	Primary	9	m.m.	Crest Ruffs			
Length	83	m.m.	Wing-Body	55	m.m. Ruffs Extent			
Tail	—	m.m.	Foot-Body	44	m.m.			
Mid T. F.	—	m.m.	Tarsus	25	m.m.			
Bill	11.5	m.m.	Tarsus-Toe	45	m.m.			
Bill Eye	26	m.m.	Foot	20	m.m.			
Bill-Gape	25	m.m.	Right		Left			
			No.	Toe	Nail	No.	Toe	Nail
Bill-Nostril	6	m.m.	1.	14	4	1.		
Eye Diam.	4.5	m.m.	2.	9	2.5	2.		
Extent	134	m.m.	3.	12	3	3.		
Wing Right	22	m.m.	4.	11	2.5	4.		

Ornithological Measurement Record

No. Name *Robin* Age Sex

Date *7/26/30* Locality *Douglas Lake*

Collected by *Ch Porter* Address

Weight	grs.	Primary	16	m.m.	Crest Ruffs			
Length	103	m.m.	Wing-Body	65	m.m. Ruffs Extent			
Tail	—	m.m.	Foot-Body	75	m.m.			
Mid T. F.	—	m.m.	Tarsus	26	m.m.			
Bill	14	m.m.	Tarsus-Toe	51	m.m.			
Bill Eye	19	m.m.	Foot	40	m.m.			
Bill-Gape	23	m.m.	Right		Left			
			No.	Toe	Nail	No.	Toe	Nail
Bill-Nostril	6	m.m.	1.	15	4	1.		
Eye Diam.	6	m.m.	2.	13	3	2.		
Extent	250	m.m.	3.	20	3.5	3.		
Wing Right	27	m.m.	4.	14	3	4.		