

A.O.U. Check-list (1957) and by J.F. Parnell (The Populations, Breeding Biology, and Environmental Relations of Three Species of Waterfowl at Pea and Bodie Islands, North Carolina, Proc. Southeastern Assoc. Game and Fish Comm., 1960 p. 53-67).

However, evidence of nesting in an impoundment at West Onslow Beach, near Sneads Ferry in Onslow County, N.C., was discovered in 1969. This location is about 150 air miles SW of the Bodie and Pea Island colonies. I found seven adults and two young (unable to fly) at this impoundment on 22 June 1969 (*Chat*, 33:106). I was unable to search the area intensively for nests in 1969, but in 1970 I made several trips into this impoundment. On 31 May 1970 I found 9 Blue-winged Teal nests with clutches ranging from 3 to 12 eggs and averaging 7.67 eggs per nest. The nests were constructed of sedges and most were located on small patches of ground a foot or two above the water level. A few were fastened to grasses and suspended above water. I returned on 15 June 1970 to find all but two nests had apparently hatched successfully. The eggs in one nest were still being incubated while the remaining nest had spilled its eggs into the water. These were full clutches as 21 to 23 days are required for incubation (*Jour. Wildl. Mgm.*, 20 (1):28-46) and my two visits were only 2 weeks apart. A count of 20 adult Blue-winged Teal was recorded on 31 May 1970, which indicates practically all birds present were nesting. A partial count on 6 July 1970 disclosed at least 40 teal in the impoundment.

This impoundment was constructed about 4 years ago and is managed by a duck hunting club. The water level cannot be manipulated and the depth of the water varies with the rainfall. The construction of this impoundment at West Onslow Beach has created improved nesting and rearing habitats for the Blue-winged Teal as is the case at the Pea and Bodie Island impoundments (Parnell, *op. cit.*) and thus made it favorable for this breeding range extension.

Unusual Nesting Site for Tufted Titmouse

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On 8 May 1970 a neighbor in Southern Pines, Moore County, N.C., called and informed me that their dog had overturned the hollow base of a pottery bird bath, revealing a nest with young birds inside. When I arrived, I found the nest on the ground inside the base where the neighbor had replaced it. The nest contained five young Tufted Titmice (*Parus bicolor*), with pin-feathers just appearing.

The nest was square, measuring 5x5 inches, and it was $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick. It was a typical titmouse nest in its make-up. The base stood upright and was about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet tall. It was cylindrical with a large bottom, narrower neck, and a flared out rim around the opening in its top. Habitat was a mature stand of loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), open on one side and with a second growth of dogwood (*Cornus florida*) on the other side.

I placed several cinder blocks around the base to prevent dogs from overturning it again. Afterwards, both parent titmice were observed coming to feed the young. They would alight on the rim of the base and drop down inside. They were easily caught by hand while inside the base. Both wore bands that I had placed on them in my yard, which is situated nearby.

On 19 May all five young were well feathered and appeared ready to leave the nest. It seemed impossible for them to get out, as they would have to fly 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet straight up or climb the very slick walls. I therefore removed and released them nearby.

Titmice normally nest in cavities and crevices in trees, and also make frequent use of bird houses. In Bent's *Life Histories* (U. S. Nat. Mus., Bull. 171, p. 394-396) nest heights of from 3 to 97 feet are mentioned, thus ground nesting appears very unusual.