

Hybridization was first known to occur in a colony of White Ibises in Greynolds Park, Florida, where Scarlet Ibis eggs were introduced from Trinidad in July 1961 (Bundy, Audubon Mag. 67:84-85, 1965; Zahl, National Geogr. 132:874-882, 1967). The first hybrids were pink and salmon colored.

In the overlapping ranges of the Scarlet and White Ibises in Colombia and Venezuela a natural hybrid population exists (Ramo and Busto, Col. Waterbirds 10(1):111-114, 1987). They recorded 40 mixed pairs and observed 14 mixed copulations between White and Scarlet Ibis from 1981 to 1984. Because these observations of mixed pairs were made in different locations over a period of years, this does not appear to be a rare event. Ramo and Busto reported that "the color of the Scarlet Ibis in the colonies varied from light orange to scarlet." They also commented that some white birds had scattered orange feathers and suggested that this was further evidence of hybridization. Currently Scarlet and White Ibises are hybridizing in a large flight cage at Disney World in Orlando, Florida (Palmer E. Krantz, pers. comm.).

It is possible that pink ibises are escaped Scarlet Ibises. According to Keith Bildstein (pers. comm.) Scarlet Ibises kept in captivity and fed inadequate amounts of β -keratin turn pink, and these birds are often difficult to differentiate from the hybrids. Palmer E. Krantz (pers. comm.), in contrast, reports that escaped Scarlet Ibises are still very red and do not appear pink.

During spring 1989 a pink ibis was seen several times by University of Georgia researchers in the White Ibis nesting colony on Pumpkinseed Island in Winyah Bay near Georgetown, South Carolina and on one occasion the researchers observed a Scarlet Ibis (Tony DeSanto, pers. comm. and in prep.).

Swallow-tailed Kites Capture a Bat and Rough Green Snakes

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On 1 July 1989 at 1330 h we saw a Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) flying along a tree line bordering a large cutover area just inside the gate to Fairlawn Plantation on Gerund's Bridge Road (SR 98), Charleston County, South Carolina. The kite was back-lit initially, but was in good light. Flying toward the east, the kite dove into the canopy, and reappeared, grasping in its talons a small brown bat with wings still flapping. Several times the kite reached down, and pulling at the bat, removed its wings, and then began consuming it in flight. Once, the remains were dropped, and retrieved in air. The bat was completely eaten on the wing. While the kite was eating this bat, we saw another bat flying around, which may have been flushed during the capture of the first one. We do not know the species of the bat that was captured.

On 22 July 1989 at about 1100 h, we were standing beside U.S. 17, near Awendaw, S.C., at the gate to the Charleston Kiwi Fruit Farm. The area across the highway is an old weedy pasture with trees along ditch banks. We saw four Swallow-tailed Kites flying in the distance, and as they came toward us, they crossed the highway and flew behind some trees. They returned after about five minutes. One kite had a Rough Green Snake (*Opheodrys aestivus*) that it was consuming in flight. These four kites flew around for about ten minutes. Two of them were calling in the manner of young begging for food. Again they went behind the trees of the kiwifruit farm. Next, one of the kites landed in the top of a large Loblolly Pine (*Pinus taeda*) to the left of the farm gate and directly above us. It had a whole rough Green Snake, which it draped over a branch. This bird appeared to be an adult that was accompanied by young kites. In all we saw six Swallow-tailed Kites during the thirty minutes.

Cedar Waxwing Breeding on the Lower Coastal Plain of South Carolina

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On 15 June 1968, Rodgers located a Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) nest in a Water Oak (*Quercus niger*) in a suburban yard in Lane, Williamsburg County. The nest was 15 m high, near the end of a limb, in the outer canopy of the tree. Because of the nest's height, he was not able to examine the contents. However, on 30 June, Rodgers saw an adult Cedar Waxwing feeding a recently fledged young. The adults were feeding the young bird pieces of plums, which they obtained from a tree in a neighboring yard. Shortly thereafter, Rodgers reported his findings to E. M. Burton of the Charleston Museum, but received no response. However, he was able to document the breeding record by collecting one of the juveniles on 3 August 1968 in the vicinity of the nest site. The unsexed specimen is ChM #1988.12.004. This confirmed breeding record is cited elsewhere (Post and Gauthreaux, Contrib. Charleston Mus. 18, 1989).

The present record antecedes by 13 years the first confirmed breeding of the Cedar Waxwing in South Carolina (McNair and Gauthreaux, *Chat* 48:17, 1984). Although Cedar Waxwings have not been found nesting in the coastal plain of South Carolina before, they have expanded their breeding range throughout the southeast (McNair, *Migrant* 58:109-134).

We appreciate critical comments by D. B. McNair.