

At the same time, persistent reports of additional swallows in the Lakeside area — all unconfirmed — suggest strongly that the original colonisation was by a party of several birds.

APPENDIX

Plant material used as strengthening in the partly-completed nest collected from the water gauge at the end of the 1962/63 season was kindly identified as under, by Miss Ruth Mason, of the Botany Division, D.S.I.R.:—

Ruppia sp. — leaves.

Lemna sp. — a few fruits.

Trifolium sp. — a seed and some leaves.

Festuca arundinacea — some fruits.

A filamentous green algae.

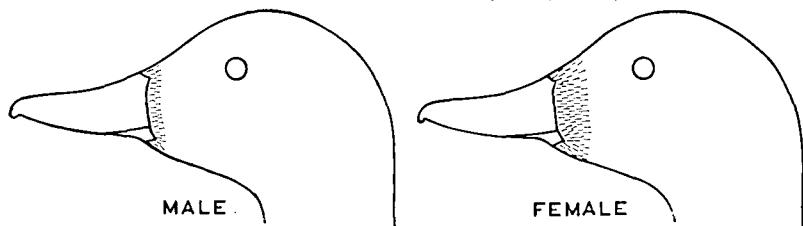


SHORT NOTE

NOTE ON THE IDENTIFICATION OF SEX IN JUVENILE PARADISE SHELDUCK

While banding 23 juvenile Paradise Duck (*Tadorna variegata*) in the central North Island during November 1961, I carefully studied the plumage before sexing each bird cloacally. The juvenile female has a similar black head to the male, but Delacour (1956) states the female has "a reddish tinge on the breast and upper mantle." I agree with this but consider it to be darker than the eclipse plumage of the adult female. I also found that white feathers are not necessarily present on the head of the immature female.

In my examination of these juveniles which had their plumage fully developed except for the primary feathers, I found there was an area of grey around the base of the bill on the forehead, cheeks and chin. In the males it was narrow and in the females extended to nearly half way between the bill and the eyes. (cf. Fig. 1).



Using this grey area in conjunction with the general colouration I determined the sex of the juveniles and found the method to be correct, when checked by cloacal examination.

In December 1962, I found this variation again occurring in the juveniles but was unable to make cloacal examinations to check. It is therefore desirable for further information to confirm this method of sexing the juveniles at this stage.

REFERENCE

DELACOUR, JEAN, 1956: *The Waterfowl of the World*, Vol. 1, Country Life Limited, London.
— H. J. F. McALLUM