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C.S.I.R.O., Division of Wildlife Research, Clayton Road, Helena Valley, W.A. Manuscript received August 15, 1986.

Mongolian Dotterel in Tasmania.—Two Mongolian Dotterels, Charadrius mongolus, were collected at Cape Portland, northeastern Tasmania, on December 8, 1966 and have been lodged in the collections of the Queen Victoria Museum, Launceston.

This is believed to be the first time that this species has been taken in Tasmania, but Milledge (1966) reported the first sighting of a single bird at Ralphs Bay in southern Tasmania on November 18, 1965.

Both birds were males in eclipse plumage.

Details are respectively; registered number 1966.2.226, 7; weight 55 gm., 60 gm.; total length 200 mm., 194 mm.; wing 134, 138; tail 52, 50; tarsus 36, 36.5; middle toe 20, 21; left gonad 4 x 1·5, 3 x 1·5; right gonad 3 x 1·5, 2 x 1·5, colour of gonads: pale cream, dark grey. In each bird the iris was dark brown, legs and feet slate grey, bill black, inside of mouth pinkish grey, stomach empty except for a little gravel and fat deposits very slight.—R. H. GREEN, Queen Victoria Museum, Launceston, Tasmania.

Reference

Milledge (1966). Recent additions to the Tasmanian bird list. Tas. Nat. Supp. to Bull. No. 6, Aug. 1966.

Breeding of Singing Honeyeater—Although the Singing Honeyeater, Meliphaga virescens, is very widely distributed and familiar to all ornithologists, there is little on record in the literature concerning the breeding biology of the species. Observations made by me at Sutherlands on the Mount Mary Plains, S.A., reveal that the incubation period is 13 days, and the nestling period covers a similar number of days.

A nest in 1963 contained the first egg on January 20; the second egg on January 21; and the third egg on January 22. There were 3 freshly-hatched chicks on February 3. The nestlings disappeared after a few days, apparently having been taken by a predator.

A nest containing two chicks about one day old was found on October 27, 1966. Both left the nest on November 9, 1966. Another nest had one egg on December 26, 1966, and the second egg on December 27. There was one young hatched at 1000 hrs. on January 9, 1967, and there were two chicks at 1545 hrs. on the same day. Both young left the nest at about 1030 hrs. on January 22, 1967.—E. F. BOEHM, Sutherlands, South Australia,