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SOME EGYPTIAN PLOVER NESTS IN SENEGAL - Apart from Howell's masterly paper (1979), there are comparatively few published data on the nesting of the Egyptian Plover *Pluvianus aegyptius*. It is therefore worth recording some details of nests found in 1985 in Senegal in the Niokola-Koba National Park.

At Mourang, 16 km west of Dar Salam, a nest found on 20 March contained c/2; it still had c/2 on the last day it was checked, 25 March. At Boufoulabe, 5 km west of Siminti, four nests were found. The first had c/2 on 20 March, c/3 by 1000 h on 21 and still 3 eggs on 28 March. The second had 3 eggs on 20 March; one egg had hatched by about 1530 h on 21 March, when a parent removed half an eggshell, ran with it for some 10 m and then ate it; a second egg hatched about 1230 h on 22 March and the third on the afternoon of 23 March. Three young were still present on 28 March. The third nest contained c/1 on 20 March and at 1000 h on 21; but c/2 by 1600 h on 21 March; it still contained 2 eggs on 28 March. The fourth contained c/1 on 20 March, c/2 on 21 March at 1000 h and still c/2 on 28 March.

If we take 'breeding season' to mean the time of egg-laying, and if we take 30 days as the species' incubation period (Howell 1979), then we have one pair that completed its clutch on 20 March, two pairs that completed their clutches on 21 March, one that completed its clutch about 18 February, and one that completed its clutch between 18 and 24 February. There were three clutches of 2 and two clutches of 3 eggs.

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Reference

Howell, Thomas R. 1979. Breeding Biology of the Egyptian Plover. Univ. Calif. Pubs. Zool. 113.

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PLAIN NIGHTJAR AT SEA OFF IVORY COAST - D. Levell showed me a colour transparency of a nightjar, one of two which appeared on SS 'Komandor Surveyor' stationed 5-8 km off Jacquelineville, 05°12'N 04°25'W, Ivory Coast, on a day in the period 15-20 December 1980, when the weather was calm but hazy. The bird photographed is clearly a Plain Nightjar *Caprimulgus inornatus*, and it remained on board for the best part of the day. It appears to be the first coastal record for Ivory Coast; Thiollay (Malimbus 7, 1985: 1-59) states that the species is a widespread dry season visitor in all savannas there, and has occurred south at least to Lamto (06°13'N).

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