



**West African Ornithological Society
Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest
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they already bred. Before this event the latest I have seen what I have usually taken to be epops is 25th May: in the case of this June 1963 wave, Kaduna as a whole must have had about a hundred epops each day for a fortnight. From the way the numbers and areas of reports varied I should say it was not a question of one lot of birds remaining static for a fortnight but of a wave passing through Kaduna and lasting for this period. This is a very late date for any European migrant, however, so one cannot entirely exclude the possibility of these birds being senegalensis. By way of contrast I saw only a pair in 1964. (June 14th) and nothing later than April in 1965.

M. Skillator.

1. Smith, V.W. (1962) Some birds which breed near Vom, Northern Nigeria
Nig Field 27 : 4 - 34.
2. Smith, V.W. (1964) Further notes on birds brooding near Vom.
Nig. Field 29 : 100 - 117.

Collared Sunbird feeding on berries. On 4th April 1965 the writers observed a number of Collared Sunbirds Anthreptes collaris apparently feeding in a tangled clump of Alchornea cordifolia (Euphorbiaceae) in the Ife University Biological Garden. Observation at close range with the aid of x12 binoculars indicated that they were mainly concerned with the fruiting stems of the plant. At first it was assumed that they were taking insects but after some minutes a clear view was obtained of a male bird actually holding one of the distinctive red seeds in its bill. To our surprise it promptly swallowed it.

Bates (vide Bannerman 1948) records an unusually mixed diet in this species of sunbird, including insects (both imagines and larvae), small spiders, minute snail shells and fruits. The seeds of A. cordifolia are, nonetheless, surprisingly large (8.5 mm long) for such a small bird.
K.F. Blackwell and D.R. Wells

A nest of the Buff-throated Sunbird. Bannerman (1953, The Birds of West and Equatorial Africa) states that the nest, eggs and breeding of the Buff-throated Sunbird Chalcomitra adalberti have not been described, and as I know of no descriptions since that date, it may be of interest to record that I found a nest with two well-grown nestlings in a garden at Shagamu, Western Region, on 10th February 1962. The nest was built 15 ft. above the ground, in the shade of a canopy of creepers enveloping a dying tree about 20 ft. high. The external appearance of the nest very closely resembled that of its congener the Scarlet-breasted Sunbird C. senegalensis, a slightly untidy (for a sunbird) jacket of fibrous plant material suspended amongst a few dry-looking leaves at the end of a twig of the tree, perhaps incorporating some of these leaves into the structure of the jacket, and finished at the bottom into a straggly point or beard of wispy fibres and/or spiders' webs. The entrance hole was at the side, facing tangentially with respect