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Two of these holes were on side branches with only a gentle slope but one was on the main stem and practically vertical.

There was considerable competition with Grey Headed Sparrows Passer griseus and a Senegal Kingfisher Halcyon senegalensis which were probably also nesting in the tree.

R. E. Sharland

Grey Kestrel Eating Oil-palm nut fibre. Mr. H. G. Bass brought to my attention the presence of a Grey Kestrel Falco ardosiaceus* in a grove of Oil-palm Elaeis guineensis at the University of Ibadan on 6 July 1965. From then until the end of the month (last record on 31st July) a bird was consistently present in the same small area. Two were seen at dusk on 20th.

This falcon spent much of its time sitting in the crown of a palm and on 15th July I had a bird under continuous observation for twenty minutes while it fed on palm nut fibre. During this period it finished four fruits; each was extracted from the fruiting body with the beak, transferred to a foot and held down while small strips of fibre were torn off and swallowed; yet another instance of this lipid-rich fruit as a dietary component in otherwise specialised, non-frugivorous birds (vide Fry (1964) Bull. N.O.S. 3 16-17).

D. R. Wells

*Elgood & Sibley (Ibis 106: 1964) cite this species as a vagrant to the Ibadan area.

Occurrence of the Shining-Blue Kingfisher away from Water. A shining-blue Kingfisher Alcedo quadribrachys was captured alive in a classroom at Victory College, Ikare, Western Region, in August 1965, and released after being photographed in the hand. Identification was confirmed through photographs and description by C.H. Fry. The occurrence is interesting because like the congeneric Kingfisher of Europe A. atthis, the present species is amongst the most aquatic of the family, and the nearest stream to the classroom is about a quarter of a mile away. It is only 5-6 ft. wide, and nowhere very deep. The school compound is on a gentle slope in savanna country, surrounded by farms or farmed land reverting to bush. I believe one of these kingfishers was similarly taken a year ago.

pp. P. E. C. McCausland

Breeding of the Yellow-throated Long-claw. With reference to Lang's observations on the Long-claw Macronyx croceus (Bull. N.O.S. 6 (1965) : 44-46), the following may be of interest.

A pair was observed collecting nesting material near my house in Bida during the last week of May 1963. The nest was located on 3rd June and contained three eggs. All eggs hatched and the young were first seen on 14th June. About this time a change in calling was noticed to "weeee ti-ti-ti-ti". Later only one nestling remained with no trace of the others. A few days later the nest was deserted but the surviving nestling was found quite well a few yards from the nest in long grass and was obviously being tended by at least one parent bird. The nest was approximately 25 yards from the house.

R. J. Blackall