



**West African Ornithological Society**  
**Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest**  
**Africain**



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(9 gms., sample 99). The egg is rather large for the size of the bird.

The nest was examined on 28 occasions during the incubation period, and on only four of these was an adult sitting, This is perhaps not surprising in such a warm climate. Both eggs hatched on 16th June, the incubation period of the first being 13 days 22 hours + 21 hours. The incubation period for H. p. elaeica in south-east Europe is said to be 13 days (Witherby et al. 1943. Handook of British Birds, 2 :67).

The young were fed by both parents. Both young left the nest on 29th June, after a nestling period of 13-14 days. The nestling period of H. p. pallida in Egypt is said to be probably 15 days (Witherby et al., op.cit.). The fledglings were rather dark brown compared with the very pale adults.

R. J. Dowsett.

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INTERNATIONAL WILDFOWL RESEARCH BUREAU.

The results of the 1968/69 duck census were duly incorporated in the newsletter of the International Wildfowl Research Bureau.

Volunteers are needed to count ducks in the 1969/70 season. Will anyone willing to do this please contact me as soon as possible. If anyone from southern Nigeria is contemplating a tour of Sokoto or Maiduguri in December or January and is willing to count ducks, I can let them have details of lakes in these areas.

In Europe, where pressure on the wetlands is very severe, surveys are being undertaken in order to provide information for conservation measures. In Nigeria the destruction of natural habitats is also proceeding at a rapid rate and is accentuated by a falling water-table. I hope that the Governments of the new States will take steps to conserve and study the resources of the 'fadamma' of Northern Nigeria.

R. E. Sharland.

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RINGS.

I am holding a large quantity of rings purchased by R.J.Dowsett for use on Lake Chad. Mr. Dowsett is anxious to be paid for them so I intend to return them to the B.T.O. when an opportunity occurs. With the present import restrictions it is unlikely that anyone will be allowed to import rings. If anyone wishes to buy any of these will they please contact me.

R. E. Sharland.

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WANTED: R.J.Dowsett, P.O.Box 12, Monze, Zambia, would like to buy pre-Nos. 13/14 Of the Bulletin.