

successful feeding attempts. We noted, however, that aggressive and non-aggressive sandpipers had similar feeding attempt rates.

According to Recher and Recher (Wilson Bull. 81:140-154, 1969) a point is reached when the frequency and intensity of aggression among sandpipers declines as they become more concentrated in an area of abundant food. The adult sandpipers we watched may have reached this point but the juveniles may not have—possibly because they were less efficient than adults (see Recher, Ecology 47: 393-403, 1966) in catching prey and therefore had a higher threshold for lowering aggression.

We thank D. G. Ainley, J. P. Hailman, and M. A. Howe for their helpful comments. This report is part of the results we have obtained in studies of migratory shorebirds funded by the Migratory Bird and Habitat Research Station, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Contract No. 14-16-0008-687.—BRIAN A. HARRINGTON AND SARAH GROVES, *Manomet Bird Observatory, Manomet, MA 02345*. (Present Address SG: *Dept. of Zoology, Univ. of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.*). Accepted 9 Apr. 1976.

Herring Gull eating bayberry.—Several studies of the Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) (Harris, Ibis 107:43-53, 1965; Threlfall, Can. Field-Nat. 82:176-180, 1968; Tinbergen, *The Herring Gull's World*, 1960) have demonstrated the omnivorous and opportunistic qualities of its diet. In addition to the well known animal and garbage components, Herring Gulls consume grasses, grain, and blueberries (*Vaccinium angustifolium*) when available (Threlfall, Nature in Wales 11:67-73, 1968; Davis, Br. Birds 49:400-404, 1956; Haycock and Threlfall, Auk 92:678-697, 1975). This note describes a previously unrecorded vegetable food source.

On 30 August 1975 I observed an adult Herring Gull feeding on the fruit of bayberry (*Myrica pennsylvanica*) at Great Gull Island, Suffolk County, New York. The bird flew to the bush from downwind, lowered its feet and spread them in the upper twigs of the bush, and kept its wings spread so that it was supported by the wind. While in this position the bird bent its head several times and picked berries off the upper twigs. The gull fed in this manner for approximately 2 min and then flew off upwind.

Pellets of either Herring Gulls or Great Black-backed Gulls (*L. marinus*) containing bayberry fruit have been found by visitors to the island in late December and early January (Hays, pers. comm.), but no gull has ever been seen eating the fruit. (Observers are present on Great Gull Island every year from 1 May to at least mid-September.) The fruit is available throughout the year, although least common in late spring and early summer. The unusual feeding technique and scarcity of evidence suggest that for Herring Gulls bayberry fruit is an infrequent food item.

This is contribution No. 43 from the Great Gull Island Project, American Museum of Natural History.

I thank Helen Hays for reading an earlier version of this paper. Work at Great Gull Island is supported by the Linnaean Society of New York and the American Museum of Natural History.—ROGER F. PASQUIER, *Dept. of Ornithology, American Museum of Natural History, New York 10024*. Accepted 9 April 1976.

The Lesser Antillean Bullfinch in the Virgin Islands.—The polytypic Lesser Antillean Bullfinch (*Loxigilla noctis*) occurs throughout the Lesser Antilles (except the Grenadines), from Grenada in the south through Anguilla and Saba in the north and northwest. This species was not observed west of the Anegada passage, a 124 km strait separating the northern Lesser Antilles from the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico until discovered by Raffaele and William Truesdell, Park Naturalist of the Virgin Islands Na-