

ABSTRACTS FOR ISSUE 103(1) FEBRUARY 2001

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

ACCIPITER PREDATION OF AMERICAN REDSTART NESTLINGS¹

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Abstract. We used small video cameras to film predators at nests of American Redstarts (*Setophaga ruticilla*). We filmed three predation events, all by accipitrine hawks, in which no signs of predation were left at nests. Hence, as suggested by other workers, predator identification based on signs left at nests is unreliable. In addition, predation rates may be underestimated if accipiters or other predators take nestlings just prior to fledging without leaving signs. These incidents may be interpreted by field workers as nests where young fledged successfully.

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