

and lack of any noticeable white patches in the plumage, I concluded that the bird was an eider. I then referred to *Birds of North America* (Robbins *et al.*, 1966) to find out the field marks for differentiating the species of eiders, and continued to observe the bird in order to get a good look at the bill. When the bird faced me, I noted that the exposed portion of the upper mandible was very long, extending high onto the forehead, nearly to the eyes. From the side, this extension of the upper mandible made the feathered area beneath it appear unusually large. I observed the bird at a distance of about 100 yards through a Balscope Zoom 60, set at 20-30X. The sky was heavily overcast, but no rain was falling while I studied the bird. Stormy weather earlier in the day was undoubtedly responsible for the large variety of migrating ducks, gulls, and terns present in the area that day. Others who later observed the bird were: Wilfred Howard (610 Coburn Street, Elmira, New York 14904) and Mary Welles (1225 Horseheads-Big Flats Road, Elmira, New York 14903).

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Red-tailed Hawk preys on Common Gallinule: On the afternoon of 9 May 1976, while banding three nestling Red-tailed Hawks (*Buteo jamaicensis*) we found the foot of an adult Common Gallinule (*Gallinula chloropus*) in the nest. The nest, located approximately 65 feet above ground in the crown of a Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*), overlooks Clay Swamp in Onondaga County. The adult birds were observed on numerous previous occasions hunting over the marsh or perched atop electric transmission poles in the marsh.

The Common Gallinule has previously been reported as prey of Red-tailed Hawks (see Bent, *Life Histories of North America Birds of Prey*, Vol. 1, 1937, page 157), but to the authors' knowledge, this is the first such report for New York State. The occurrence is probably not uncommon around marshes in central New York.

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Pine Siskin breeding on Staten Island: A pair of Pine Siskins (*Spinus pinus*) was observed feeding two young at a thistle feeder in the New Dorp section of Staten Island, Richmond County, beginning June 19, 1976. The birds were a remnant of the flock of twenty-five or more which had used the feeder during