

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

American Crow attacks European Starling in mid-air: On Monday, 28 November, on Dunton Ave., East Patchogue, at approximately 1:30 P.M., Dave Cespedes and I, while walking home, saw an American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) knock a European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) out of the air by pecking it on the head. This starling had fallen to the ground where the crow attacked it. A second crow joined the first to try and kill the starling. A flock of about ten starlings tried to help the starling by chasing the crows away, but they were not successful. We chased the crows away and, seeing that the starling was still alive but unable to fly, we picked it up and took it home. Later it recovered and was released.

Bent (Bent, A.C., 1946, *Life Histories of North American Jays, Crows, and Titmice*, Dover Publications, Part II) reports a wide variety of food taken by crows, but does not mention any bird attacked in mid-air.

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