

## BIRD NOTES

## HYBRIDISM IN WOOD-SWALLOWS —

White-browed Wood-Swallows *Artamus superciliosus* and Masked Wood-Swallows *A. personatus* are often associated in flocks, some of which comprise hundreds of birds, and the two species frequently breed in close proximity to each other. There is reason to believe that species whose habits are so much alike could occasionally interbreed. A. J. North (*Descript. Cat. of the Nests and Eggs of Birds found breeding in Australia and Tasmania*, 44, Sydney, 1889) states that George Barnard once found a mixed pair in Queensland. A. R. McGill (*Emu* 44: 59-60, 1944) records an apparent hybrid near Bellata, N.S.W., in Nov., 1943. The matter was discussed further by McGill and H. G. Barnard (*Emu* 44: 153-154, 1944).

A hybrid Wood-Swallow which strongly resembled a male *A. superciliosus* but without the eyebrow, and having a black mask like *A. personatus* was mist-netted, banded, and weighed east of Sutherlands, S.A., on 8 Oct., 1972. The mask was margined with rufous instead of the usual white margin. Weight of the bird was 38 grammes. — E. F. BOEHM.

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