

## SOME NOTES ON SHAG RECOVERIES

Total ringed 1948—1953 (inclusive)=230.

Total recovered dead during first year of life=37.

### LOCALITY OF RECOVERIES (1948-1954 Recoveries)

<i>Locality</i>	<i>S. Coast of Devon and Cornwall</i>	<i>Bristol Channel</i>	<i>France</i>
Number of Juveniles recovered during first autumn up to the end of October.	21	9	7

### TIME TAKEN FOR INITIAL DISPERSAL (1954 data only).

From information obtained during the summer observations the usual age at which the young Shags leave the nest is fifty-two to fifty-four days. There then follows a period during which the young bird is dependent on its parents for food and appears to be unable to take off from the water. During this period it remains in the vicinity of the nesting site. The length of this period, believed to be about fourteen days or more, has been deduced from daily counts of the number of juveniles present in the area under observation being compared with the number known to have left their nests in this area. This means the young Shags will not begin to leave Lundy until at least sixty-six days after hatching. Deducting this age from the data on age when recovered (listed below) it appears that the southerly movement is fairly rapid and direct. The distance between Lundy and Lands End is between ninety and a hundred miles. In view of the far greater number of juveniles recovered during the autumn on the south coast of the Devon-Cornwall peninsula than are recovered on the north coast, it is possible that the young birds travel directly to the tip of the peninsula and do not normally travel down the north coast.

<i>Species</i>	<i>Ring No.</i>	<i>Ringed As</i>	<i>Date Ringed</i>	<i>Date Recovered</i>	<i>Place Recovered</i>	<i>Age (from date of hatching) when Recovered</i>
Shag	510370	N	25/6/54	13/9/54	Nr Bude, N. Cornwall	<i>c.</i> 104 days
Shag	511922	N	7/7/54	11/9/54	Penzance	<i>c.</i> 97 days
Shag	511898	N	7/7/54	30/8/54	Mousehole, S. Cornwall	<i>c.</i> 70 days
Shag	511889	N	7/7/54	4/9/54	Falmouth	<i>c.</i> 90 days
Shag	511927	N	7/7/54	8/9/54	Newlyn	<i>c.</i> 92 days
Shag	511918	N	7/7/54	26/9/54	Nr Plymouth	<i>c.</i> 115 days
Shag	511920	N	7/7/54	5/10/54	Nr Penzance	—