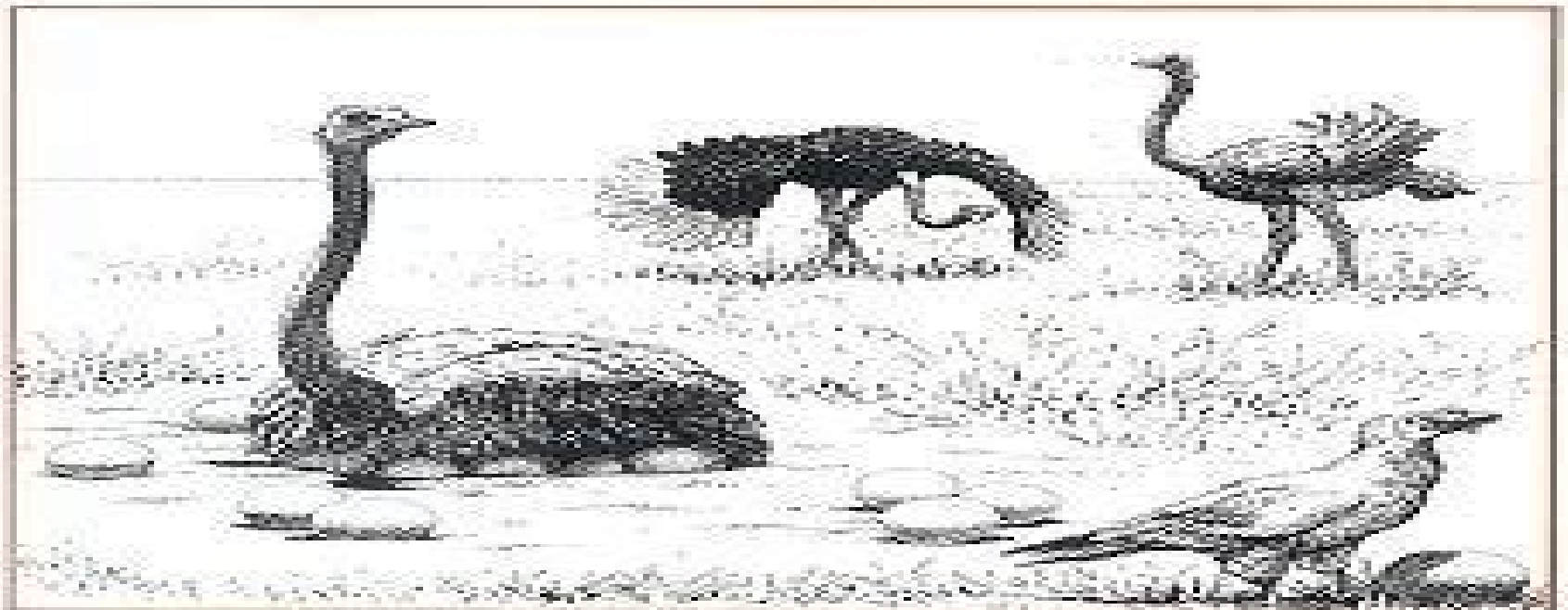


# The Ostrich Communal Nesting System

BRIAN C. R. BERTRAM



MONOGRAPHS IN BEHAVIOR AND ECOLOGY

# The Ostrich Communal Nesting System

**Daniel Vandersommers**



## **The Ostrich Communal Nesting System:**

**The Ostrich Communal Nesting System** Brian C.R. Bertram, 2014-07-14 As the study of cooperative breeding systems expands a number of key species form the examples that underpin our general understanding The ostrich is increasingly becoming such a textbook species on the basis of the results obtained in Brian Bertram s study of vigilance and egg discrimination in this extraordinary bird Here Bertram presents new data on the ostrich communal nesting system in which several females lay in one female s nest with only one female and the male doing all the work The Ostrich Communal Nesting System unravels the basis of the cooperation observed and explains how a system involving apparent altruism is maintained by natural selection It is now possible as never before to explain and quantify the effects of the different choices these birds make and to integrate ecological and morphological factors such as predation and size Based on three seasons of study in Tsavo West National Park in Kenya this book depended on recognizing individual birds detecting and monitoring well concealed nests determining motherhood of eggs from their surface appearance and time lapse photography of nests Key findings were that females could switch rapidly between reproductive strategies that a nesting female could recognize her own eggs and when necessary discriminate against those of other females and that the whiteness of ostrich eggs is an adaptation that protects them against overheating but at the cost of greater vulnerability to predation Originally published in 1992 The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print on demand technology to again make available previously out of print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905

**Ostrich Production Systems** M. M. Shanawany, John Dingle, 1999 Leks Jacob Höglund, Rauno V. Alatalo, 2014-07-14 The evolution of leks clusters of small territories where males congregate and display in order to attract mates is of central issue in behavioral ecology because of the insights it offers into female mate choice sexual selection and the evolution of mating systems In the first book on the subject Jacob H glund and Rauno Alatalo draw together existing knowledge on two main aspects of lekking Why do leks evolve in some species and not in others Why do females of certain lekking species select their mates even though such behavior reaps few or no material benefits for them In each case they emphasize the importance of understanding the selective forces that act on individuals in natural populations H glund and Alatalo synthesize the available information on lekking in all animal groups and suggest new areas of research Originally published in 1995 The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print on demand technology to again make available previously out of print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of

books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905      **Female Control** William Eberhard, 2019-12-31

A growing body of evidence has begun to reveal flaws in the traditional assumption of female passivity and lack of discrimination after copulation has begun William Eberhard has compiled an impressive array of research on the ability of females to shape the outcome of mating He describes studies of many different cryptic mechanisms by which a female can accept a male for copulation but nevertheless reject him as a father Evidence from various fields indicates that such selectivity by females may be the norm rather than the exception Because most post copulatory competition between males for paternity is played out within the bodies of females female behavior morphology and physiology probably often influence male success in these contests Eberhard draws examples from a diversity of organisms ranging from ctenophores to scorpions nematodes to frogs and crickets to humans Cryptic female choice establishes a new bridge between sexual selection theory and reproductive physiology in particular the physiological effects of male seminal products on female reproductive processes such as sperm transport oviposition and remating Eberhard interweaves his review of previous studies with speculation on the consequences of this theoretical development and indicates promising new directions for future research

*Dynamic Modeling in Behavioral Ecology* Marc Mangel, Colin Whitcomb Clark, 2019-12-31 This book describes a powerful and flexible technique for the modeling of behavior based on evolutionary principles The technique employs stochastic dynamic programming and permits the analysis of behavioral adaptations wherein organisms respond to changes in their environment and in their own current physiological state Models can be constructed to reflect sequential decisions concerned simultaneously with foraging reproduction predator avoidance and other activities The authors show how to construct and use dynamic behavioral models Part I covers the mathematical background and computer programming and then uses a paradigm of foraging under risk of predation to exemplify the general modeling technique Part II consists of five applied chapters illustrating the scope of the dynamic modeling approach They treat hunting behavior in lions reproduction in insects migrations of aquatic organisms clutch size and parental care in birds and movement of spiders and raptors Advanced topics including the study of dynamic evolutionarily stable strategies are discussed in Part III      Poets,

Prophets, and Texts in Play Ehud Ben Zvi, Claudia V. Camp, David M. Gunn, Aaron W. Hughes, 2015-06-18 In this volume a list of esteemed scholars engage with the literary readings of prophetic and poetic texts in the Hebrew Bible that revolve around sensitivity to the complexity of language the fragility of meaning and the interplay of texts These themes are discussed using a variety of hermeneutical strategies In Part 1 Poets and Poetry some essays address the nature of poetic language itself while others play with themes of love beauty and nature in specific poetic texts The essays in Part 2 Prophets and Prophecy consider prophets and prophecy from a number of interpretive directions moving from internal literary analysis to the reception of these texts and their imagery in a range of ancient and modern contexts Those in Part 3 on the other hand Texts in Play take more recent works from Shakespeare to Tove Jansson's Moomin books for children as their point of departure

developing conversations between texts across the centuries that enrich the readings of both the ancient and modern pieces of literature

Sacred Monsters Nosson Slifkin, 2007 Dragons unicorns mermaids all the famous creatures of myth and legend are to be found in the Torah Talmud and Midrash But what are we to make of them Do they really exist Did the Torah scholars of old believe in their existence And if not why did they describe these creatures Sacred Monsters is a thoroughly revised and vastly expanded edition of the bestselling book Mysterious Creatures Rabbi Natan Slifkin the famous Zoo Rabbi revisits all the creatures of that work as well as a host of new ones including werewolves giants dwarfs two headed mutants and the enigmatic shamir worm Sacred Monsters explores these cases in detail and discusses a range of different approaches for understanding them Aside from the fascinating insights into these cryptic creatures Sacred Monsters also presents a framework within which to approach any conflict between classical Jewish texts and the modern scientific worldview Complete with extraordinary photographs and fascinating ancient illustrations Sacred Monsters is a scholarly yet stimulating work that will be a treasured addition to your bookshelf

**Reproductive Biology and Phylogeny of Birds, Part B: Sexual Selection, Behavior, Conservation, Embryology and Genetics** Barrie G M Jamieson, 2007-01-02 The second part of volume 6 discusses sexual selection of ultraviolet and structural signals melanins and carotenoids as feather colorants and signals sexual selection and auditory signaling odors and chemical signaling sexual dimorphism sexual selection signal selection and the handicap principle courtship and copulation sexual conflict and

**The Black-Tailed Prairie Dog** John L. Hoogland, 1995-04 In The Black Tailed Prairie Dog John L Hoogland draws on sixteen years of research at Wind Cave National Park South Dakota in the United States to provide this account of prairie dog social behavior Through comparisons with more than 300 other animal species he offers new insights into basic theory in behavioral ecology and sociobiology Hoogland documents interactions within and among families of prairie dogs to examine the advantages and disadvantages of coloniality By addressing such topics as male and female reproductive success inbreeding kin recognition and infanticide Hoogland offers a broad view of conflict and cooperation Among his surprising findings is that prairie dog females sometimes suckle and at other times kill the offspring of close kin Enhanced by more than 100 photographs this book illuminates the social organization of a burrowing mammal and raises fundamental questions about current theory As the most detailed long term study of any social rodent The Black Tailed Prairie Dog will interest not only mammalogists and other vertebrate biologists but also students of behavioral and evolutionary ecology

Entangled Encounters at the National Zoo Daniel Vandersommers, 2023-09-29 Founded amid the urban commotion of Washington DC before the dawn of the twentieth century the National Zoological Park opened to preserve teach and conduct research about the animal world Entangled Encounters at the National Zoo is a study of this important cultural landmark from 1887 to 1920 Centered on the animals themselves each chapter looks from a different angle at the influential science of popular zoology in order to shed new light on the complex entangled relationships between humans and animals Daniel Vandersommers s goal is twofold First through

narrative he shows how zoo animals always ran away from the zoo This is meant literally animals escaped frequently but even more so figuratively Living breathing historical zoo animals ran away from their cultural constructions and these constructions ran away from the living bodies they were made to represent The author shows that the resulting gaps produced by runaway animals contain concealed distorted and erased histories worthy of uncovering Second Entangled Encounters at the National Zoo demonstrates how the popular zoology fostered by the National Zoo shaped every aspect of American science culture and conservation during the Gilded Age and Progressive Era Between the 1880s and World War I as intellectuals debated Darwinism and scientists institutionalized the laboratory zoological parks suddenly appeared at the heart of nearly every major American city captivating tens of millions of visitors Vandersommers follows stories previously hidden within the National Zoo in order to help us reconsider the place of zoos and their inhabitants in the twenty first century

**Cuckoos, Cowbirds and Other Cheats** Nick Davies, 2010-09-30 This fascinating study describes the natural histories of these brood parasites and examines many of the exciting questions they raise about the evolution of cheating and the arms race between parasites and their prey Brood parasites fill their armoury with adaptations including exquisite egg mimicry rapid laying ejection of host eggs murder of host young chick mimicry and manipulative begging behaviour ploys shown by recent research to have evolved in response to host defence behaviour or through competition among the parasites themselves While many host species appear defenceless accepting parasite eggs quite unlike their own many are more discriminating against odd looking eggs and some have evolved the ability to discriminate against odd looking chicks as well How is this arms race conducted Will defenceless hosts develop defences in time or are there constraints which limit the evolution and perfection of host defences And why are so few species obliged only to lay eggs in host nests Have host defences limited the success of brood parasitism or is it in fact much more common than we suspect but occurring mainly when birds parasitize the nest of their own kind All of these puzzles are examined in descriptions of the natural history of each of the groups of parasites in turn Here is a book with wide appeal both to amateur naturalists fascinated by this most singular and macabre of behaviours and by ornithologists and ecologists interested in the evolution of ecology and behaviour The story takes us from the classic field work by pioneer ornithologists such as Edgar Chance Stuart Baker Herbert Friedmann and others through to the experimental field work and molecular techniques of today s leading scientists We visit brood parasites in Europe Asia Japan Africa Australasia and North and South America to look at some of the world s most interesting birds and some of biology s most interesting questions many of which still beg answers from ornithologists in the future Brilliant illustrations by David Quinn illuminate the species discussed showing many behaviours never before illustrated and conveying the thrill of watching these astonishing birds in the wild

**The Most Perfect Thing** Tim Birkhead, 2016-04-12 A bird s egg is a nearly perfect survival capsule an external womb and one of natural selection s most wonderful creations Shortlisted for the Royal Society Insight Investment Science Book Prize 2016 One of Forbes Best Books

About Birds and Birding in 2016 Renowned ornithologist Tim Birkhead opens this gripping story as a female guillemot chick hatches already carrying her full quota of tiny eggs within her undeveloped ovary As she grows into adulthood only a few of her eggs mature are released into the oviduct and are fertilized by sperm stored from copulation that took place days or weeks earlier Within a matter of hours the fragile yolk is surrounded by albumen and the whole is gradually encased within a turquoise jewel of a shell Soon the fully formed egg is expelled onto a rocky ledge where it will be incubated for four weeks before a chick emerges and the life cycle begins again THE MOST PERFECT THING is about how eggs in general are made fertilized developed and hatched Birkhead uses birds eggs as wondrous portals into natural history enlivened by the stories of naturalists and scientists including Birkhead and his students whose discoveries have advanced current scientific knowledge of reproduction

Cooperation Among Animals Lee Alan Dugatkin, 1997 This study outlines four different categories of co operation among animals reciprocal altruism kinship group selected co operation and by product mutualism and ties them together in a single framework Studies on co operation in insects fish birds and mammals are then reviewed

**The Welfare of Farmed Ratites** Phil Glatz, Christine Lunam, Irek Malecki, 2011-05-30 This volume reviews for the first time the broad range of issues that affect the welfare of commercially farmed ratites Although ratites incorporate several families of flightless birds this book focuses on the most commonly farmed ratites the ostrich emu and rhea The readers are taken on a journey through all sectors of the industry which include breeding incubation hatching brooding rearing growth transport and processing with an emphasis on husbandry and management protocols that can impact bird welfare and health Also discussed is the structure and sensory innervation of the skin and digits of the birds and the potential welfare implications of industry practices on these structures Each chapter in this volume focuses on a particular aspect of the commercial farming of ratites with contributing authors from a broad range of disciplines

**Animal Traditions** Eytan Avital, Eva Jablonka, 2000-11-23 Animal Traditions maintains that the assumption that the selection of genes supplies both a sufficient explanation of the evolution and a true description of its course is despite its almost universal acclaim wrong Eytan Avital and Eva Jablonka contend that evolutionary explanations must take into account the well established fact that in mammals and birds the transfer of learnt information is both ubiquitous and indispensable The introduction of the behavioural inheritance system into the Darwinian explanatory scheme enables the authors to offer new interpretations for common behaviours such as maternal behaviours behavioural conflicts within families adoption and helping This approach offers a richer view of heredity and evolution integrates developmental and evolutionary processes suggests new lines for research and provides a constructive alternative to both the selfish gene and meme views of the world It will make stimulating reading for all those interested in evolutionary biology sociobiology behavioural ecology and psychology

**Raphael's Ostrich** Una Roman D'Elia, 2016-04-27 Raphael's Ostrich begins with a little studied aspect of Raphael's painting the ostrich which appears as an attribute of Justice painted in the Sala di Costantino in the Vatican Una Roman D

Elia traces the cultural and artistic history of the ostrich from its appearances in ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs to the menageries and grotesque ornaments of sixteenth century Italy Following the complex history of shifting interpretations given to the ostrich in scientific literary religious poetic and satirical texts and images D Elia demonstrates the rich variety of ways in which people made sense of this living monster which was depicted as the embodiment of heresy stupidity perseverance justice fortune gluttony and other virtues and vices Because Raphael was revered as a god of art artists imitated and competed with his ostrich while religious and cultural critics complained about the potential for misinterpreting such obscure imagery This book not only considers the history of the ostrich but also explores how Raphael s painting forced viewers to question how meaning is attributed to the natural world a debate of central importance in early modern Europe at a time when the disciplines of modern art history and natural history were developing The strangeness of Raphael s ostrich situated at the crossroads of art religion myth and natural history both reveals lesser known sides of Raphael s painting and illuminates major cultural shifts in attitudes toward nature and images in the Renaissance More than simply an examination of a single artist or a single subject Raphael s Ostrich offers an accessible erudite and charming alternative to Vasari s pervasive model of the history of sixteenth century Italian art

#### **Parasites in Social Insects** Paul

Schmid-Hempel,2019-12-31 This book analyzes for the first time how parasites shape the biology of social insects the ants wasps bees and termites Paul Schmid Hempel provides an overview of the existing knowledge of parasites in social insects Current ideas are evaluated using a broad database and the role of parasites for the evolution and maintenance of the social organization and biology of insects is carefully scrutinized In addition the author develops new insights especially in his examination of the intricate relationships between parasites and their social hosts through the rigorous use of evolutionary and ecological concepts Schmid Hempel identifies gaps in our knowledge about parasites in social insects and uses models to develop new questions for future research In addition issues that are usually considered separately such as division of labor genetics immunology and epidemiology are placed in a common framework to analyze two of the most successful adaptations of life parasitism and sociality This work will appeal not only to practitioners in the fields of behavioral ecology and sociobiology but also to others interested in host parasite relationships or in social organisms such as apiculturists struggling to overcome the problems arising from mite infestations of honeybee colonies

#### Parasitoids H. Charles J.

Godfray,2019-12-31 Parasitoids lay their eggs on or in the bodies of other species of insect and the parasitoid larvae develop by feeding on the host causing its eventual death Known for a long time to applied biologists for their importance in regulating the population densities of economic pests parasitoids have recently proven to be valuable tools in testing many aspects of evolutionary theory This book synthesizes the work of both schools of parasitoid biology and asks how a consideration of evolutionary biology can help us understand the behavior ecology and diversity of the approximately one to two million species of parasitoid found on earth After a general introduction to parasitoid natural history and taxonomy the



first part of the book treats the different components of the reproductive strategy of parasitoids searching for a host host selection clutch size and the sex ratio Subsequent chapters discuss pathogens and non Mendelian genetic elements that affect sexual reproduction evolutionary aspects of the physiological interactions between parasitoid and host mating strategies life history theory and community ecology A special effort is made to discuss the theoretical background to the subject but without the use of mathematics

**The Emperor's Embrace** Jeffrey Masson, 2001-02-28 Jeffrey Moussaieff  
 Masson's marvelous Jane Goodall New York Times bestseller *When Elephants Weep* made us re evaluate the emotional lives of animals And in his follow up New York Times bestseller *Dogs Never Lie About Love* Masson reflected with intelligence and originality Los Angeles Times Sunday Book Review on the emotional world of dogs Now in *The Emperor's Embrace* Masson offers a remarkable look at one of the most fulfilling roles in the animal world fatherhood With fascinating insight impeccable research and captivating writing controversial psychoanalyst Jeffrey Masson a new father himself introduces us to the world's best dads He takes us to such places as Antarctica as he explores how emperor penguin fathers incubate the eggs of their young by carrying them around on their feet for two months nestled beneath a special brood pouch And he tells us how once the babies hatch the fathers snuggle the babies on their feet until the mother returns from her time at sea feeding them a special milk like substance until her arrival Masson a superb storyteller showcases the extraordinary behavior of outstanding fathers heroes among animals including the wolf and why wolves make good fathers and dogs don't the beaver who encourages his young to cling to his tail as he navigates through ponds the sea horse the only male animal that gives birth to its young the marmoset the South American monkey who carries his babies for the first two years of their lives wherever he goes Masson also examines nature's worst fathers lions langurs bears and humans He shows that when a father does care for his young as with the beaver we immediately look for a biological and not an emotional explanation But Masson demonstrates that for these animals as with humans fatherhood is a profound all encompassing experience Groundbreaking compelling inspirational Masson's unique look at one of nature's most venerable institutions takes us to animal habitats around the world yet always returns to the heart For animal lovers fathers mothers sons and daughters everywhere *The Emperor's Embrace* is a book that will forever change our perceptions of parenthood and family love

*Biotic Interactions in Arid Lands* John L. Cloudsley-Thompson, 2012-12-06 The exigencies of life in the desert environment have resulted in the selection of a diversity of adaptations both morphological and physiological in the flora and fauna At the same time many plants and most small animals are able not merely to exist but even to thrive under desert conditions mainly by avoiding thermal extremes and by the refinement of pre-existing abilities to economise in water In the same way the biotic interactions of the flora and fauna of the desert do not involve many new principles Nevertheless conditions in arid regions frequently do invoke refinements of the complex interrelations between predators and their prey parasites and their hosts as well as between herbivores and the plants upon which they feed In this book I shall discuss not only such interactions and their feedback

effects but also community processes and population dynamics in the desert. The physical conditions of the desert that principally affect predators and their prey are its openness and the paucity of cover. This is restricted to scattered plants, occasional rocks, holes, and crevices in the ground. Furthermore, nightfall does not confer relative invisibility as it does in many other ecobiomes because of the clarity of the atmosphere. The bright starlight of the desert renders nearby objects visible even to the human eye while an incandescent moon bathes the empty landscape with a flood of silver light. Consequently, adaptive coloration is functional at all hours of the day and night.

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