

MALLARD NESTS IN TREES.—Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) nests have occasionally been found in abandoned hawk or crow nests in North Dakota (Stewart 1975, Breeding Birds of North Dakota, Tri-College Center for Environmental Studies, Fargo, ND). During 1977, two mallard nests were observed in trees in Divide County, North Dakota.

One nest was 3.2 m above the ground in a 10 m white spruce (*Picea glauca*). The tree was one of 2 spruce trees in a half-acre shelter belt next to an abandoned farm site. The trees were surrounded by small grain crops. According to the landowner, this nest had been used by crows during the previous 2 years. On the first visit (8 May) the nest contained 7 eggs that had been incubated 4 days. The eggs in the nest were destroyed by crows before 31 May.

The second nest was 2.1 m above the ground in a 4 m boxelder (*Acer negundo*). The tree was in a grove of about 10 trees adjacent to an abandoned shed. The area surrounding the trees was a sheep pasture. On the first visit (11 May) the nest contained 9 eggs that had been incubated 4 days. Eggs in this nest hatched.

In both nests the major nest materials were small twigs with grass and down lining the bowl.

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