

BLUE JAYS AND TENT CATERPILLARS

J. B. GOLLOP, 2202 York Avenue,
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. S7J 1J1.

On 7 December 1980, two Blue Jays were first noticed in the Shubert Chokecherry outside our living room window at 1415. The farther jay, 3-4 m away, was pecking at a tent caterpillar egg case. The closer one, 1-2 m away, spent about 1 minute pecking at and eating another case. It then went to a nearby case which peeled off easily. Then it started pecking at another one but was apparently frightened by my movements. The entire observation lasted about 4 minutes.

At least two of the cases appeared to be full of eggs. The one that peeled off may have been the previous year's and nothing could be determined about the first one. There are probably enough

Blue Jays in the city that, if most of them spend part of each day feeding on tent caterpillar egg cases all winter, they may prove to be a biological control of considerable significance.

CORRECTION NOTICE

The article "Wildlife Changes in Southeastern Saskatchewan" (Blue Jay 38(2):69-79) was prepared and submitted by Mr. Stelfox as an employee of the Wildlife Research Division (Sask. D.T.R.R.) in Saskatoon. Unfortunately this address was omitted from behind his name in the printed article and insufficient acknowledgement was therefore given to the Wildlife Research Division, which supported the research, writing and manuscript preparation.



Tent Caterpillars

G. J. Smith