

# 长嘴百灵 (*Melanocorypha marima*) 繁殖生物学研究

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## STUDIES ON BREEDING BIOLOGY OF THE LONG-BILLED CALANDRA LARK

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### ABSTRACT

The authors examined the breeding biology of Long-billed Calandra Lark (*Melanocorypha maxima*) at Haibei Research Station of Alpine Meadow Ecosystem, Academia Sinica, from May to August, 1984—1985. Fifty-six nests were observed under regular intervals, fixed point at 35h area.

Long-billed Calandra Larks nest on the "head-pagoda" in the swamp meadow. The form of nest is cup-like, with a diameter of 70—80 mm, and depth is more than 60 mm. The materials constitution are mainly made up by Plants of Cyperaceae Family. The nest is divided into inside and outside layers. The success rate of nest is 83.9%.

The mean clutch size is 2.83, varying from 1 to 4. The eggs are 5.1 gms in mean fresh weight. The mean dimensions of 93 eggs were  $26.90 (23.00—29.16) \times 19.23 (17.60—20.54)$  mm. The mean volume were  $5.1 (3.2—6.1) \text{ cm}^3$ .

The weight and size of eggs tend to increase with the passage of time. Incubation period is 12—13 days, and the percentage of hatching is 59.2%. The Nestling period is 10—13 days, the survival rates of nestlings are 58.4%. The major reason of breeding failure might be attributed to the abandoned nests by parents.

The female and male all participate in the care of the nestlings. The care time is varied with ambient temperature at the first four days of nestlings. The frequency of parental care decreases with the age of nestling, and times of foods delivery to the nestlings increase with the age during the nestling period.