

黄嘴朱顶雀的异步孵化与幼鸟生长*

刘泽华 赵亮 张晓爱

(中国科学院西北高原生物研究所, 西宁, 810001)

摘 要

根据1998和1999年的野外工作,描述了黄嘴朱顶雀产卵的顺序和大小之间的关系、异步孵化方式与其所导致的体重等级对雏鸟生长的影响。黄嘴朱顶雀(*Acanthis flavirostris*)雌鸟在产下第1枚卵后即开始孵卵,随产卵数目的增加,每日孵卵时间也随之增加。卵的大小随产卵顺序增加,而孵化率则随之降低。雏鸟出壳顺序与产卵顺序一致,且出壳时间的间隔逐步延长,同窝雏鸟间还形成显著的体重等级。随孵化顺序,幼鸟的雏期和离巢体重分别缩短和降低,生长率却没有显著性差异。

关键词: 异步孵化; 幼鸟生长; 黄嘴朱顶雀

许多晚成鸟在一窝卵还未产齐时,即开始孵化,由于巢内各卵的始孵时间不同,雏鸟出壳时间参差不齐,这种现象叫做异步孵化(Asynchronous incubation)(郑光美主编,1995)。异步孵化导致同窝雏鸟间形成大小等级(Size hierarchy),使得幼鸟竞争食物的能力有所不同,进而影响到幼鸟的生长发育和存活(Zach, 1982; Harper, 1993; Stenning, 1996)。已有许多研究探讨了异步孵化与卵的大小、幼鸟的生长以及离巢雏鸟之间的关系(Stouffer, 1990; Sydeman, 1992; Malacarne, 1994; Slagvold, 1995)和异步孵化的进化动因及适应意义,并就异步孵化的进化提出了许多假说(Magrath, 1990; Pijanowski, 1992; Hebert, 1993; Konarzewski, 1993; Nillsson, 1995)。本文通过分析黄嘴朱顶雀(*Acanthis flavirostris*)产卵的顺序和大小之间的关系,以及异步孵化及其对幼鸟发育的影响,为进一步检验相关假说提供依据。

研究地点和方法

1998~1999年的繁殖季节在青海省北部的中国科学院海北高寒草甸生态系统定位站进行。有关定位站的自然环境已有详尽报道(杨福圃,1982)。在本地区的黄嘴朱顶雀

* 国家自然科学基金(No. 39870121)资助项目。

(*Acanthis flavirostris*)为留鸟,成鸟主要以草籽为食,雌雄共同以灌浆草籽育雏。每年繁殖1次,繁殖期从5月下旬至8月下旬。筑巢于灌丛之中,巢呈碗型,主体用禾本科干草编成,内衬羊毛或牛毛。经测量14个巢,巢平均高 $8.1 \pm 1.0\text{cm}$ 、外径 $7.6 \pm 1.4\text{cm}$ 、内径 $5.2 \pm 0.6\text{cm}$ 、深 $5.0 \pm 0.48\text{cm}$ 。成鸟每日产1枚卵,卵淡蓝色,最少3枚,最多6枚,常见5枚,平均 4.5 ± 0.889 枚($n=36$)。常见天敌为大鸢(*Buteo hemilasius*)和艾虎(*Mustela eversmanni*)。

5月中旬开始在灌丛中搜寻朱顶雀的巢,发现后标记并编号。产卵后,标记卵的顺序、测量卵的长径和短径(用游标卡尺,精确至0.02毫米)、称量卵的重量(用瑞士产梅特勒托里多野外使用电子天平,精确至0.01克)。雏鸟开始出壳后,每日2次固定时间查看鸟巢,剪趾标记雏鸟,确定出壳顺序同时称量雏鸟体重变化。

根据1998和1999年汇总的数据,应用Excel 97和SPSS 7.5进行数据统计分析。整窝雏鸟出壳时间长度指窝内第1只雏鸟出壳至最后1只雏鸟出壳所用的时间长度。巢按整窝雏鸟出壳时间长度1、2、3天分开,分别取整窝卵全部孵出那一天雏鸟的体重来计算体重变异系数(CV%)和体重差异百分比(PWD),后者 $PWD = (W_{\max} - W_{\min}) / W_{\min} \times 100\%$,其中 W_{\max} 表示窝内最重雏鸟的体重, W_{\min} 表示窝内最轻雏鸟的体重(Zach, 1982)。幼鸟体重生长率 r 以Logistic生长方程拟合,用NLREG(Sherrod, 1989)分析软件计算。雏期以雏鸟出壳后至离巢时这段时间来计算。

结果和讨论

1. 卵的大小和顺序

双因子方差分析(Two-way analysis of variance)结果表明,朱顶雀的卵在窝内(组内)和窝间(组间)的变异都非常显著,其中窝间变异占70.7% ($F_{(15,45)} = 9.39, P < 0.01$),窝内变异占6.7% ($F_{(3,45)} = 4.45, P < 0.01$)。这说明卵的差异主要和成鸟本身质量、成鸟所处环境及产卵时间有关(Greig-Smith等, 1986),同时还和产卵顺序有关。根据对24窝卵的统计,最后1枚卵和第1枚卵倾向于最大,分别占50%和25%(图1),这和其他许多研

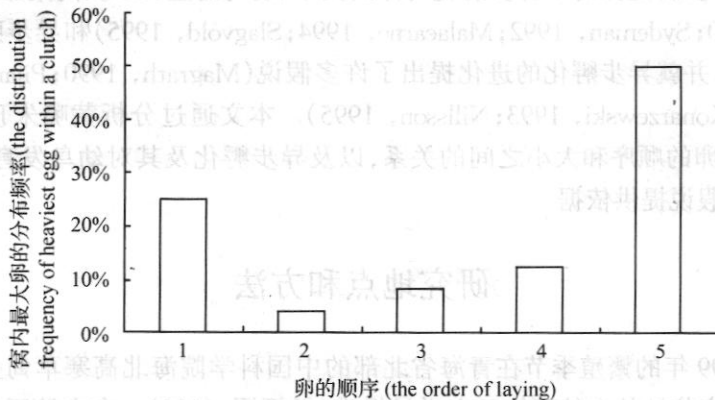


图1 最大卵的分布频率($n=24$)

Fig. 1 The distribution frequency of the heaviest egg ($n=24$)

究的测量结果不同(Bryant, 1975; Greig-Smith 等,1986; Zach,1982)。卵的重量与产卵顺序之间没有显著性关联($F_{(1,4)} = 6.75, P > 0.05$),但第 2、3、4 枚卵与最后 1 枚卵差异显著,且卵的重量倾向于逐渐增加(表 2)。

2. 异步孵化和幼鸟大小等级的建立

雌性成鸟在产下第 1 枚卵之后即进入孵卵期,但只在白天间断性孵卵,并且孵卵时间随产卵数目的增加而不断延长。在倒数第 2 枚卵产下后,雌鸟开始全天孵卵,这期间雌鸟的多数食物由雄鸟供给,直至雏鸟开始出壳。多数窝的雏鸟出壳期为 2~3 天,而且雏鸟的出壳顺序及时间间隔与产卵顺序十分吻合。首先产下的卵最先出壳,最后 1 枚卵出壳最晚。但出壳时间间隔却不相同,最后 2 枚卵之间的出壳时间间隔大于其他卵的间隔(1.23 ± 0.36 天, $n = 21$),这种情形在窝卵数 4、5 和 6 中都是一致的。孵化结束后,计算每窝雏鸟间的体重变异系数和体重差异百分比。窝内最重和最轻雏鸟的体重平均相差 78.38%,体重变异系数和体重差异百分比均显著地随出壳时间长度的延长而增加($P < 0.05$, F-test, $n = 21$)(表 1)。所以,同窝雏鸟在孵化后所形成体重等级,主要是因为雏鸟出壳和发育时间上的差异,即主要由异步孵化方式引起。这个结果和 Bryant (1975)及 Zach (1982)等人的研究一致。

表 1 同窝雏鸟全部出壳的时间长度与体重差异

Table 1 The weight differences in relation to hatching time range within clutches

	同窝雏鸟全部出壳的时间长度(天)(Length of hatching period, days)		
	1 (n=4)	2 (n=10)	3 (n=7)
体重变异系数(CV)(%) ^a *	9.95 ± 1.55	21.11 ± 1.9	31.25 ± 5.15
体重差异百分比(PWD)(%) ^b *	20.91 ± 8.2	59.85 ± 11.6	137.7 ± 37.6
不同出壳时间长度所占比例(%) ^c	19.05	47.62	33.3

注(Note): a Coefficient of variation $CV = \text{Standard deviation} * 100\% / \text{average}$;

b Percentage weight differences. (the weight of the heaviest nestling - the weight);

c The proportion of various hatching time range.

* $P < 0.05$.

3. 异步孵化和孵化率

如表 2 所示,不同顺序卵的未受精比例基本相同,但受精却未孵出的比例相差很大,特别是最后 1 枚卵有 1/4 没有孵出。部分卵壳的表面有叨啄的小凹陷,打开这些卵,发现里面的胚胎已失水死亡。这可能是成鸟在这枚卵孵化延迟一、二天的情形下,叨啄所致。这种行为尚未在其他研究中发现。我们认为叨啄,一方面,可能会使雏鸟顺利出壳;另一方面,也许可以尽早削减无法喂养的幼鸟,因为如果胚胎发育过慢,让胚胎早些死亡,可避免成鸟的无谓投入(因为体重相对过轻的雏鸟处于竞争劣势,死亡率高。Forbes, 1993; Stenning, 1996)和缩短雏期。但这一行为的确切意义尚需进一步研究确定。

表 2 不同卵的平均重量(n=24)和孵化率(n=100)

Table 2 The average weight (n=24) and percentage hatching (n=100) of various eggs

卵的顺序 the order of egg laid	1	2	3	4	5
卵的平均重量(克)(n=24) the average egg weight	1.37	1.37 **	1.36 ***	1.41 ***	1.47
未受精比例(%) the proportion of infertile	10	5	10	20	10
受精但未孵出卵的比例(%) the proportion of fertile egg failing to hatching	0	0	0	5	25
孵化率(%) * hatching rate	90	95	90	75	65
总体孵化率(%) (n=100) total hatching rate			83		

注(note): * P<0.05, ** P<0.025, *** P<0.01.

4. 异步孵化与幼鸟发育

孵化顺序对幼鸟的雏期和离巢体重有显著性影响(表 3)。雏期随孵化顺序逐渐缩短。这是由于离巢前 1、2 天,成鸟喂食次数减少,逼迫幼鸟离巢,通常整窝幼鸟在同 1 天内陆续离巢。本试验中,孵化顺序对生长率的影响不大,这和多数同类研究的结果不同(Mead, 1985; Harper, 1994; Lebedeva, 1994; Horak, 1995)。在野外观察中可以看到雌、雄成鸟每次喂食时一般给每只幼鸟都喂一点,没有偏袒。这一点在称量雏鸟体重时也可以看到,每次称量时雏鸟的嗉囊都充满了食物。在 2 年的实验中,只观察到 1 只最后孵出的雏鸟因同胞竞争而饿死,这只雏鸟与同窝其他雏鸟的体重相差过大(PWD=182.7%)。

表 3 不同雏鸟的生长率、雏期和幼鸟离巢体重

Table 3 Growth rates, nestling periods, and fledgling's weight of various nestlings

孵化顺序 hatching order	生长率(r) growth rate	雏期(天)** nestling period(days)	离巢体重(克)* the weight of fledgling(g)
1(n=12)	0.4918	14.25	12.29
2(n=12)		13.75	12.05
3(n=12)	0.4985 ^a	13.75	11.41
4(n=12)		13.7	11.22
5(n=12)	0.4938	13.3	11.21

注(note): * P<0.05. ** P<0.025.

^a 第 2、3、4 只雏鸟的平均生长率(the average growth rate of second, third, and fourth nestling)。

参 考 文 献

- 杨福国, 1982. 青海高寒草甸生态系统定位站的自然地理概况. 高寒草甸生态系统, 1:1~8. 甘肃人民出版社.
- 郑光美主编, 1995. 鸟类学. 274. 北京师范大学出版社.
- Bryant D M, 1975. Breeding biology of House Martins *Delichon urbica* in relation to aerial insect abundance. *Ibis* 117: 180~216.
- Greig-Smith, P W, Feare, C J, Freeman, E M, Spencer, P L, 1986. Cause and consequences of egg-size variation in the

- European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*. *IBIS* 130:1~10.
- Harper, R G, Juliano, S A, Thompson, C C, 1993. Avian hatching asynchrony; brood classification based on discriminant function analysis of nestling masses. *Ecology* 74: 191~196.
- Harper, R G, Juliano, S A, Thompson, C C, 1994. Intrapopulation variation in hatching synchrony in House Wrens; test of the individual-optimization hypothesis. *Auk* 111:516~524.
- Hebert, P N, Sealy, S G, 1993. Hatching asynchrony and feeding rates in yellow warblers: a test of the nest-failure hypothesis. *Ornis Scand* 24:10~24.
- Horak, P, 1995. Brood reduction facilitates female but not offspring survival in the great Tits. *Oecologia* 102:514~519.
- Konarzewski, M, 1993. The evolution of clutch size and hatching asynchrony in altricial birds: The effect of environmental variability, egg failure and predation. *Oikos* 67:97~106.
- Lebedeva, N V, 1994. Nidicolous and post-nidicolous mortality of young from asynchronous broods of some passerine birds (*Passeriformes*). *Zool. Zhur.* 73: 122~131.
- Magrath, R D, 1990. Hatching asynchrony in altricial birds. *Biol. Rev.* 65:587~622.
- Malacarne, G, Cucco, M, Bertolo, E, 1994. Sibling competition in asynchronously hatched broods of the pallid-swift (*Apus pallidus*). *Ethol. Ecol. Evol.* 6:293~300.
- Mead, P S, Moeton, M L, 1985. Hatching asynchrony in the Mountain White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys oriantha*): a selection or incidental trait? *Auk* 102:781~792.
- Nilsson, J-A., 1995. Parent-offspring interaction over brood size: cooperation or conflict? *J. Avian Biol.* 26:255~259.
- Pijanowski, B C, 1992. A revision of Lack's brood reduction hypothesis. *Am. Nat.* 139:1270~1292.
- Slagvold T, Amundsen T, Dale S, 1995. Costs and benefits of hatching asynchrony in blue tits *Parus caeruleus*. *J. Anim. Ecol.* 64:563~578.
- Stenning, M J, 1996. Hatching asynchrony, brood reduction and other rapidly reproducing hypotheses. *Tree* 11(6):243~246.
- Stouffer, P L, Power H W, 1990. Density effects on asynchronous hatching and brood reduction in European starlings. *Auk* 107:359~366.
- Sydeman W J, Emslie S D, 1992. Effects of parental age on hatching asynchrony, egg size and third-chick disadvantage in western gulls. *Auk* 109:242~248.
- Zach R, 1982. Hatching asynchrony, egg size, growth, and fledging in tree swallows. *Auk*. 99:695~700.

HATCHING ASYNCHRONY AND ITS EFFECTS ON THE GROWTH OF NESTLING IN TWITE

Liu Zehua Zhao Liang Zhang Xiaoi

(Northwest Plateau Institute of Biology, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xining, 810001)

Abstract

The relationships between laying egg order and egg mass, asynchronous hatching, and the effects of asynchronous hatching on the growth of nestling were described, based on the data of 1998 and 1999 for twite in field. Female twites begin hatching with laying the first egg, and daily attentiveness time increases with the number of egg. The mass of eggs increased in related to laying order in significantly, but hatching rate decreased significantly. Eggs generally hatched in the order in which they were laid, and the time between hatching increased with hatching order, which resulted in significant weight hierarchy. The nestling times and

weight of fledglings decreased with hatching order, while growth rates did not have significant difference. Discussions, based on results of above, suggested that asynchronous hatching, as a part of brood-reduction strategy, could reduce the probability of whole-brood loss to predation, poor food supplement, or other causes. Meantime, brood-reduction strategy justly was a back-up strategy.

Key words: Asynchronous hatching; Growth of nestling; Twite

Li, X. 1992. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 19: 214-219.

Li, X. 1993. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 20: 214-219.

Li, X. 1994. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 21: 214-219.

Li, X. 1995. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 22: 214-219.

Li, X. 1996. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 23: 214-219.

Li, X. 1997. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 24: 214-219.

Li, X. 1998. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 25: 214-219.

Li, X. 1999. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 26: 214-219.

Li, X. 2000. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 27: 214-219.

Li, X. 2001. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 28: 214-219.

Li, X. 2002. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 29: 214-219.

Li, X. 2003. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 30: 214-219.

Li, X. 2004. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 31: 214-219.

Li, X. 2005. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 32: 214-219.

Li, X. 2006. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 33: 214-219.

Li, X. 2007. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 34: 214-219.

Li, X. 2008. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 35: 214-219.

Li, X. 2009. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 36: 214-219.

Li, X. 2010. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 37: 214-219.

Li, X. 2011. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 38: 214-219.

Li, X. 2012. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 39: 214-219.

Li, X. 2013. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 40: 214-219.

Li, X. 2014. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 41: 214-219.

Li, X. 2015. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 42: 214-219.

Li, X. 2016. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 43: 214-219.

Li, X. 2017. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 44: 214-219.

Li, X. 2018. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 45: 214-219.

Li, X. 2019. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 46: 214-219.

Li, X. 2020. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 47: 214-219.

Li, X. 2021. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 48: 214-219.

Li, X. 2022. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 49: 214-219.

Li, X. 2023. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 50: 214-219.

Li, X. 2024. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 51: 214-219.

Li, X. 2025. The effect of environmental conditions on the growth of nestlings in the twite. *Acta Zool. Sin.* 52: 214-219.

HATCHING ASYNCHRONY AND ITS EFFECTS ON THE GROWTH OF NESTLING IN TWITE

Li Xiang, Zhao Chang, Zhang Xiang

(Department of Biology, Beijing Normal University, Beijing 100875, China)

Abstract

The relationships between hatching order, egg mass, asynchronous hatching, and the effects of asynchronous hatching on the growth of nestling were described based on the data of 1998 and 1999 for twite in field. Female twite began laying egg with larger diameter and daily increment time increases with the number of egg. The mass of egg increased in nested hatching order in asynchronous, but hatching rate decreased significantly. Egg massally hatched in the order in which they were laid, and the time between hatching increased with hatching order, which resulted in equal but weight decrease. The hatching times and