

BLUEBIRD-FLICKER CONFLICT.¹—The Eastern Bluebird is well known for its aggressive behavior toward other hole-nesting species. On June 9, 1967, near Gambier, Ohio, I observed a pair of bluebirds attack a flicker in a dead elm tree where the bluebirds had a nesting cavity. The flicker landed on a branch below that which contained the nesting hole. The female flew at the flicker first, and was followed by the male. The flicker was jostled off balance, and held its beak open in a threatening manner. The male bluebird flew at the head of the flicker three times, while the female remained perched nearby. In one instance it appeared that the male bluebird's head was inside the beak of the flicker. The flicker was hanging nearly upside down when it was finally driven from the tree. The wing-up display, which is usually associated with courtship, was given twice by the bluebird male just prior to the first flying attack.—ROBERT D. BURNS, *Department of Biology, Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio 43022.*

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