

Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas

Dec. 16, 1967

at 1620 Tennessee St., placed approx 200 peanuts with shells, in backyard at 8:00 A.M. In 3 minutes a blue jay arrived and started to carry these nuts away ^{at a rate of about 30-60 seeds ~~per trip~~}. In approx 5 minutes, 2 other jays arrived and immediately carried the peanuts away, one ^{nut} at a time. Each peanut was carried from position on ground to as few as 3 feet away and as far as 200'. The average distance for one jay was 30', another jay nearer 100'. In each case the peanut was forced into the grass or trash on ground and then as the final act a leaf (some up to 4" in diameter) was placed over the peanut and then the jay immediately left to gather another nut. These peanuts were placed in grass, leaves, top of leaf piles, top of brush piles with mixture of dead grass. One jay extracted nut and placed the nut in wedge of willow fence some 1 1/2 feet above ground. This behaviorism continued for approx 1/2 hour before the jay consumed the first nut and then shortly after the enthusiasm for gathering and storing nuts decreased. It is apparently important to hide food, when plentiful, as soon as possible, especially with squirrels in area. The gray & fox squirrel participated in gathering nuts in about 25 minutes after placed on ground. In one hour, all nuts had disappeared. Cardinals were mildly interested in nuts. One jay robbed a cardinal of a nut. Starling in immediate area but were not interested in the nuts. A fox squirrel carried a nut 50' away and tried to wedge it into bark near a tree nest. The nut dropped to the ground and while the squirrel reacted in trees to the displacement, it did not attempt to retrieve it. Squirrels recognize nuts on ground from 40' away. Noted one blue jay half swallow a 2 nut shelled peanut (shell just beyond vision in throat, and then pick up another one in bill & carry them away.

Dec. 19, 1967

Photos 671219-1 and 671219-2 of sunset from Campus of University of Kansas. Photos 671219-3 to 671219-7 of brown cactus flower of _____ given to us by Dad & Kilee this summer.

Dec. 20, 1967

Photos 671220-1 to 671220-6 of experimental mice showing fat deposits 2 of Barney.