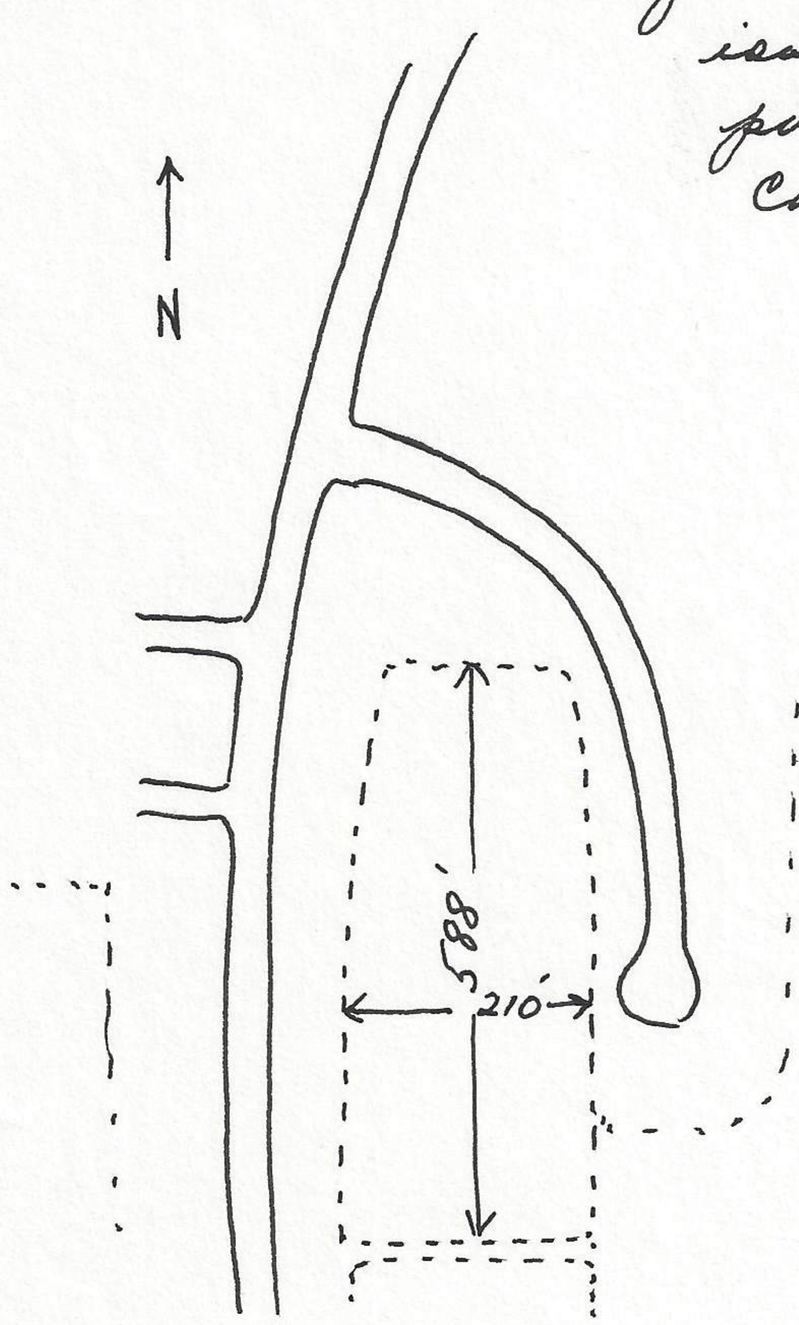
1326

711005-126

18/10 mi. W and 1/2 mi. N Lawrence (P.O), Douglas Co., Kansas

Oct. 5, 1971

At approx. the center of sec. 26, R19E and T12S, examined a grackle, cowbird, starling roosting sete. The isolated grove of trees lies between two paved city roads, the west one having consederable traffic during the day. The area used is 588' x 210' and is dominated by elm averaging 30' high. Osage orange trees approx every 50'. Smale understory of dogwood. Ground of dry leaves and no vegetation or brush. The total area of roosting space is 11760 sq. ft. The number of individual excreta, on ground averages 576 per sq. foot or every 1/2 inch. Some areas are whitewashed, some 1 to 1 1/2 inches apart but on the average are 1/2 inch apart.



On the basis of 11760 sq. feet and 576 droppings per sq. feet, the number is

11760
576
70560
82320
58800
6,773,760 individual droppings

If birds have used this area for two week (or a conservative time of three weeks) the number birds contributing to the total biomass of excreta is → 322,512 birds per day
This on the basis of one evacuation per night.

21) 6,773,760
63
47
42
53
42
117
105
26
21
50
42
8

If two evacuation per night the number would be 161256.

On the basis of estimates of percentages of the flock of birds from previous estimates the numbers of birds are as follows.

80% grackles = 258.009
15% starling = 48,376
5% cowbirds = 16,125

Some of the variations of partial flock composition are: 98% grackles, 2 percent starling; 5% grackles, 70% starling, 20 percent cowbirds. Variation of flock composition and arrival time would be a significant observation.