

The collars are about 2 inches deep and are bright yellow. Each carries a number and letter that can be read through binoculars or a telescope.

In 1975 the codes on 25 collars were clearly read in Ireland. The markings done in 1976 are now showing up on geese that have arrived this winter.

Computer Used

Irish observers transmit the information to Canada where, within minutes, a computer gives the date of marking of individual birds.

Thus it is known that D62 was hatched in 1973, had been to Ireland and back twice, being collarmarked in Canada in the summer of 1975. It was next seen in the North Bull sanctuary in Co. Dublin, on January 11 1976.

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THE LIGHTER SIDE OF SAFRING

In January this year Mr Zablon Godia of the Kenya Police, Eldoret reported the recovery of a South African ringed European Swallow. His letter began:-

Dear Sirs

I have the pleasure to inform the Government of South Africa (Pretoria Zoo)". We always did wonder!

The ringing/recovery details of the European Swallow are:

R. 493 European Swallow Hirundo rustica AA 29105 (A. Hewitt)

22.12.74 Melrose Dam, Johannesburg 26 08S, 28 04E

05.11.76 Sidini Market, Kenya 00 09N, 34 23E

Bird caught - subsequent fate unknown
