

Diagram showing the Nature of Food of the HOUSE SPARROW when Immature and Aged.

This comparison is an early summer one when seed food (including weeds such as wireweed, fat-hen, thistle, etc.) is predominant. This shows that even the house sparrow, generally considered our most harmful bird-importation, has a good deal to be said for him; for it must be remembered that there are seeds only during a few weeks in the year, and as seeds decrease his insect food increases. (Diagram from Journal of Department of Agriculture, Washington, U.S.A.)

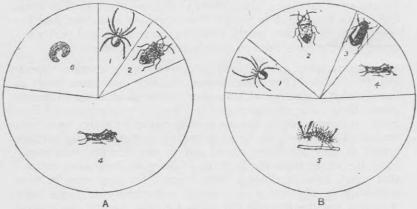


Fig. A.—Food of the young of an ordinary insect-eating bird during spring.

Fig. B.—Food of the adult of the same bird during summer.

Spider.
Fruit-bug.
Chafer-beetle.
Grasshopper.
Caterpillar of Cut-Worm Moth.

The diagrams are from the "Year-Book of the Agricultural Department," Washington, U.S.A., and specially refer to the common Cuckoo.

The diagrams show the extreme usefulness of insect-eating birds.