

Attracting Feathered Friends

A BIRD requires protection from enemies, a safe home where the young can be raised, sufficient food and water, and congenial surroundings.

Make or buy nesting houses. Birds are not particularly attracted to fancy houses, but want safety and comfort. Hollow limbs make excellent houses, and some can be found on every farm. For wrens, the entrance hole should be from $\frac{7}{8}$ to 1 inch in diameter; for chickadees, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches; for bluebirds, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches; tree swallows, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches; and flickers $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Robins, phoebes, and kingbirds build only in open houses. Martins want houses with many rooms; rooms should be 6 x 6 x 6 inches; entrance holes $1\frac{3}{4}$ x 2 inches and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches above the floor.

Place house in shade and fasten securely; an orchard is a fine location. Swinging houses without perches are good when domestic sparrows are troublesome. A piece of tin fastened around the trunk of tree or post, in the shape of an inverted funnel, will keep cats away. Fasten a narrow shelf below the eaves of the barn to attract eave swallows, and leave an opening in