

# Purple Martin Remover Instructions

Questions? contact us at [sparrowswap@ncsu.edu](mailto:sparrowswap@ncsu.edu)

**Step 1: REMOVE CLUTCH** - Remove house sparrow (HOSP) eggs AFTER the HOSP parent has finished completely laying her clutch (typically around 4-6 eggs). Collect HOSP eggs from nestbox by GENTLY rolling eggs into palm and placing eggs into a container. Dispose of the clutch by placing the clutch in a plastic bag and throwing it in the garbage to avoid attracting predators. **You can choose to remove or leave the nest, but please mark on the datasheet which option you choose.** If you remove the nest, please dispose of it along with the eggs. **If you are unsure if this is a house sparrow nest, do not remove the eggs.**

**THIS IS VISIT #1 – FILL OUT ALL VISIT #1 INFORMATION ON THE DATA SHEET.**

**Step 2: FOLLOW-UP OBSERVATIONS** - Please observe the nestbox until another egg (HOSP or native bird) has been laid or 3 visits (21 days) after the removal, whichever comes first. Record the species using the nestbox, whether you see the parents, nestbox contents, and whether the nest is attended or abandoned on a follow-up visit about 7 days after the initial removal (**Visit #2**). Visit again about 14 days (**Visit #3**) and about 21 days (**Visit #4**) after the initial removal. **If you see signs of House Sparrow aggression** (including broken eggs, dead adults, injured chicks, or any other signs) **please write your observations the comments.**

**Step 3: END OF OBSERVATIONS** – If/when a new HOSP clutch has been laid, decide whether you want to be a Remover or Swapper for that clutch and start a new datasheet for the clutch accordingly.

**Step 4: PRINT AND MAIL OR ELECTRONICALLY SUBMIT DATASHEET(S)**- Datasheet(s) can be printed, filled out, and mailed to the address below. Datasheet(s) can also be filled out electronically and emailed to [sparrowswap@ncsu.edu](mailto:sparrowswap@ncsu.edu).

Mail to the museum at:

**Dr. Caren Cooper**  
**ATTN: Sparrow Swap**  
**North Carolina State University**  
**Campus Box 8008**  
**Raleigh, NC 27695-8008**



## PURPLE MARTIN REMOVER DATASHEET

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SciStarter Username: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Target Nestbox

Name: _____	Lat/Long or Address: _____ _____			
	<b>Visit 1</b>	<b>Visit 2</b>	<b>Visit 3</b>	<b>Visit 4</b>
Removal Date: _____	Date: _____	Date: _____	Date: _____	Date: _____
Species: _____	Species: _____	Species: _____	Species: _____	Species: _____
For Visit #1, did you remove the nest from the nestbox? (Circle)	Yes   No			
Did you see the parents?	Yes   No	Yes   No	Yes   No	Yes   No
What is in the nestbox?	<input type="checkbox"/> Empty Box <input type="checkbox"/> Nest Material <input type="checkbox"/> Eggs* <input type="checkbox"/> Chicks*	<input type="checkbox"/> Empty Box <input type="checkbox"/> Nest Material <input type="checkbox"/> Eggs* <input type="checkbox"/> Chicks*	<input type="checkbox"/> Empty Box <input type="checkbox"/> Nest Material <input type="checkbox"/> Eggs* <input type="checkbox"/> Chicks*	<input type="checkbox"/> Empty Box <input type="checkbox"/> Nest Material <input type="checkbox"/> Eggs* <input type="checkbox"/> Chicks*
Do you think the nestbox is...	Abandoned   Attended	Abandoned   Attended	Abandoned   Attended	Abandoned   Attended
Comments:				
*Stop datasheet. If new eggs are HOSP, start a new datasheet as a Remover or Swapper.				