ALBINISM IN THE CRESTED CARACARA AND OTHER RAPTORS IN BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR, MEXICO

Key Words: Crested Caracara; Caracara plancus; Turkey Vulture; Cathartes aura; Red-tailed Hawk; Buteo jamaicensis; albinism.

The term albinism refers to animals showing some degree of abnormal white coloring or depigmentation (Nero 1954). Animals having a degree of elimination of melanin from the eye, the skin and feathers, or hair are considered albinos. Some authors consider albinism, partial albinism, and diluted plumage as unusual or aberrant plumages of...