

OPEN SEASON FOR DUCKS

The open season for wild ducks will not close until the 31st of this month.

A number of suggestions had been received that owing to the early pairing off of some birds action should be taken to close the season early this year, as was done last year. It was decided however, that while some early nesting had undoubtedly taken place and the ducks were generally pairing off in the latter part of April, conditions were only normal and quite different from last year when the season was advanced considerably by the February floods. The Department felt satisfied that, although there was undoubtedly a little early breeding, the shooting that took place in May would be less intense than in other months and its effect on future duck populations negligible.

It was considered better to adhere to the usual season rather than cause confusion by altering the closing date, which should only be done when conditions were quite abnormal.