

Quail in My Yard

May 28, 2017

I looked out the north door this morning to see about THIRTY baby quail. I watched them for quite awhile and there were NO parents anywhere! When baby quail feed in the yard, the parents are always with them. The father sits up on the gate and keeps a wary eye out, and the mother feeds with the babies. But not this time! I have never seen this. They are old enough to manage on their own luckily and it appeared as though one or 2 of the chicks were leaders. I hope they do ok, so strange to see no parents!

May 29

Father quail was here this morning, but his brood was down to 3 from 6. Kinda sad that they are such a prey item. On the other hand, we have their fecundity to thank for helping the predators stay alive. We might not like that they eat other animals, but that is how the system works. There were 3 parentless baby quail here also, down from 30? Maybe different parentless quail? Spring is such an interesting time of the year!