

In raptors, males are said to deliver most of the prey items during the breeding season. In this study we compared male versus female prey deliveries at eight nests of Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae* in Canberra. We observed the incubation period on 103 nights, nestling / fledging period on 143 nights, for a total of 246 nights. Females hunted through the incubation period. Prey deliveries for males and females combined averaged 8.90 items per hour during the nestling period and 11.04 per hour during the fledging period, in the first hour or two after dusk. In the first half of the nestling period (weeks 1–3) females delivered significantly more prey items per hour than males did (3.44/hour compared to 1.60/hour). Females hunted near the nest and delivered more invertebrates than did males. In the second half of the nestling period, (weeks 4–6), there was no significant difference in the number of prey deliveries between males (5.11 items/hr) and females (5.84 items/hr). For the total nestling period, (weeks 1–6), females made 5.01 deliveries per hour, significantly higher than male deliveries at 3.90 per hour. There was no significant difference in the number of prey deliveries to fledged young by males (5.29/hr) and females (5.75/hr). Both males and females delivered vertebrate prey. These data do not fit the 'normal' pattern of male/female behaviour found in most raptor studies.