

enough banding records of Rufous Hummingbirds (over 50 in the Southeast) to know that they regularly winter here. The Calliope may be an occasional winter visitor also. These birds are well suited to cold weather, so leave your feeders up and watch closely, especially between September and April.

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### FIRST NESTING RECORD OF THE SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*TYRANNUS FORFICATUS*) IN ALABAMA

Paul D. Kittle and Dee C. Patterson

Imhof (1976) considered the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) to be rare on migration and occasional in summer for inland Alabama. Nesting of this species in Alabama, however, had not been recorded. Successful nesting records in nearby southeastern states include those at Murfreesboro, TN (Jackson, 1984), Catersville, GA (LeGrand, 1989), Laurens Co., SC (LeGrand, 1982), and Tupelo, MS (Jackson, Howell, and Werschkul, 1975). An unsuccessful nesting attempt by this species occurred in Hardin Co., TN, during the summer of 1990 (Damien Simbeck, pers. comm.).

The junior author and Dee Patterson observed a pair of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers constructing a nest on 30 June 1990. This nest was located 7.2 km west of Florence, Lauderdale Co., AL, and was checked approximately every other day for the next six weeks by the authors and other local birders. The nest was built in a slippery elm (*Ulmus rubra*) at a height of approximately 10–12 m. This tree contained many dead branches, measured 40 cm in diameter, and was in a small grove of trees surrounded by open agricultural land. Approximately half of the surrounding land was cropland (cotton and soybeans) and half was a fallow field overgrown with thick weeds and grasses.

Nest building was observed on 30 June and 1 July. The female was observed sitting on the nest from 2 through 21 July. Feeding of nestlings



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was first observed on 23 July and continued through 4 August. Three of the four young fledged on 5 August and the fourth fledged the next day. Young birds were still near the tree on 9 August, but had dispersed by 11 August. The male parent was observed near the nest tree on 17 August. The female and three young were observed 0.8 km west of the nest site on 3 September.

Individual Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were observed 2.1 km east and 0.8 km west of this nest site on 12 and 13 June 1989 (Imhof, 1989), which indicates that this species may have previously nested at this locality.

### Literature Cited

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