



## BLACK-CAPPED VIREO

BY SHARON BEALS

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### COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Contemporary

United States

Black-capped Vireo

*Vireo atricapillus*

Comal, Texas, collected in 1888

American Museum of Natural History

The smallest vireo in the United States, Black-capped Vireos construct an open hanging cup of leaves, grasses, plant fibers, spider webs and cocoons, lined with fine grasses. They breed in the disappearing scrublands of the south-central United States and north-central Mexico. Over grazing, habitat disruption, and nest parasitism by cowbirds have caused their disappearance from Kansas, and they are gravely endangered in Oklahoma and much of their range in Texas. A few preserves in Texas, where nests are monitored for cowbird eggs, and scrublands have been protected offer some hope for the survival of these lovely singers.

The nests were photographed in four science collections: The California Academy of Sciences, The Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, The Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, the Cornell Museum of Vertebrates, and the American Museum of Natural History.

Subject Details:

*Vireo atricapillus*\_NMNH\_B28231

# COUP D'ETAT

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PREPARATION: Nest(s) Egg(s)  
SEX: unknown  
PLACE: Comal, Texas, United States, North America  
COLLECTION DATE: 29 Apr 1888  
COMMON NAME: Black-capped Vireo  
TAXONOMY: Animalia Chordata Aves Passeriformes  
Vireonidae  
PUBLISHED NAME: Vireo atricapillus  
OTHER NUMBERS:  
Field Number : 40/4  
USNM NUMBER: B28231  
SPECIMEN COUNT: 4  
RECORD LAST MODIFIED: 11 Aug 2014

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