

CARDUELIS HORNEMANNI EXILIPES

BY SHARON BEALS

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Contemporary
United States
Hoary Redpoll
Acanthis hornemanni

Collected from St. Michael, Nome County, Alaska, 1896
The Museum of Vertebrate Zoology

These tiny seedeaters survive -80°F Arctic temperatures by doubling their weight in down in winter, and living off of plants not buried under the snow. Using a pouch in their esophagus, they can store seeds to be regurgitated and eaten under shelter. They also build well-insulated nests lined with willow cotton, caribou hair, vole fur, feathers, fine grass, and in this case, even sheep's wool.

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:
Arctic or Hoary Redpoll
Museum of Vertebrate Zoology
Nest/Egg 708
St. Michael
United States, Alaska, Nome County, St. Michael
28 May 1896

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