

CUBAN EMERALD

BY SHARON BEALS

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Contemporary
United States
Cuban Emerald
Chlorostilbon ricordii

Collected from Andros Island, Bahamas, West Indies, 1988
The Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology

These winged jewels are common in Cuba and the Bahamas, with a few found in Florida. Like all hummingbirds, nest building and care of the young is the responsibility of the female. They attach their nests to supporting forks of a branch in a shrub or vine, frequently in a young coffee plant. Their well-hidden two-inch cups are made of silky plant fibers and moss bound with spider web, with long trailing grasses and strips of plant bark that disguise its shape, and bits of lichen and bark attached to its exterior.

Subject Details:
Chlorostilbon ricordii
Andros Island, Bahamas, West Indies, collected in 1988

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