



## GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE

BY SHARON BEALS

---

### COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Contemporary  
United States  
Great-tailed Grackle  
*Quiscalus mexicanus*

Collected from Chinautla, State of Guatemala, Guatemala,  
2002  
The Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology

Opportunistic survivors that have moved from the neotropics to as far north as Canada, these grackles need suitable cover in trees or other foliage for nesting, and water for drinking, bathing, and finding aquatic prey. Females fasten their cup-shaped nests to vertical twigs, weaving the outer cup with coarse grasses, weeds, bark strips, reeds, leaves, vines, feathers, paper, ribbon, fabric, or plastic. They cement the inner cup with mud or cow dung and line it with finer grasses.

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

# COUP D'ETAT

---



Cornell Museum of Vertebrates, and the American Museum of Natural History.

Subject Details:

Great-tailed Grackle

Quiscalus mexicanus

Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology

Guatemala, Departamento Guatemala

Chinautla 13 March 2002

WFVZ 172,912\_1

Collector: René Corado

A composite photo of 3 frames to keep the depth of field in such an intricate nest

The collector of this nest said that the next year when he returned to Guatemala, the forest where this nest had been was now a watermelon patch. Take away lesson: Think twice about eating food out of season. While this is a pretty common bird, how long till it is uncommon?

Custom Options:

Framed Paper Prints with Border: 29" | 38" | 60" | Available with UV Plexi or Museum Optimum.

Framed Prints with No Borders (print to edge): 29" | 38" | 60" | Available with UV Plexi or Museum Optimum.

Framed Prints with No Borders (print to edge) on Aluminum: Please Inquire.

Price Upon Request.

MADE TO ORDER This item is made to order.

Please contact our sales team for more information