



## LICHTENSTEIN'S ORIOLE

BY SHARON BEALS

### COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Contemporary  
United States  
Altamira Oriole  
*Icterus gularis*

Collected from Morazón, State of El Progreso, Guatemala,  
2001  
The Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology

Relatives of blackbirds and meadowlarks, Altamira Orioles can be found from the Rio Grande to Nicaragua, living in year-round territories as life-long pairs. It can take the female a month to weave a pendulous nest, which is entered from the top, with a nesting chamber at the bottom. In Texas, Altamira Orioles are considered a threatened species due to the loss of the native trees of the Rio Grande to agriculture and to flood control.

The nests were photographed in four science collections: The California Academy of Sciences, The Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, The Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, ...