

**A Probable First North American Record of the Greater Antillean
Race of Black-whiskered Vireo**

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On 8 and 23 April 1977 James M. Stevenson collected and prepared single specimens of Black-whiskered Vireos on St. George Island, Franklin County, on the coast of northwest Florida. Noting a marked difference in the two specimens, he turned them over to me for closer examination. The specimen of 23 April closely resembled those of *V. a. barbatulus* available to me at the Tall Timbers Research Station and Florida State University, but the one collected on 8 April differed in having a more brownish head and back, buffier superciliaries, and a longer, more narrow bill. Later it was identified by Jon C. Barlow of the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. He indicated that the bird was undoubtedly *V. a. altiloquus* (not *V. a. barbatulus*, as are all other North American specimens known to me). According to Bond (1956. Check-list of the birds of the West Indies, Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia), the subspecies *altiloquus* breeds in the Greater Antilles (except Cuba and the Isle of Pines) and the Virgin Islands, wintering mainly in northern South America. Barlow's identification was based on "the distribution of buff on the head, straightness and thinness of the bill, and length of the culmen."

According to Ridgway (1904, Birds of North and Middle America, Bull. U.S. Natl. Mus. No. 50, Part 3: 141-142), the exposed culmen of the Black-whiskered Vireo that breeds in Florida and Cuba, *V. a. barbatulus*, measures 14.0-15.5 (\bar{x} = 14.9) mm in males and 12.5-15.5 (\bar{x} = 14.4) mm in females, whereas *altiloquus* (sub. nom. *calidris*) measures 15.0-17.5 (16.3) mm and 15.0-16.0 (15.8) mm for the respective sexes. My measurements for the specimen of *V. a. altiloquus* (TTRS 3550) were: culmen 16.3 mm (as against 14.8 for the *barbatulus* specimen of 23 April), wing (flat) 84.0 mm, tail 61.4 mm. Because these specimens were prepared by injection with formalin, the sex of each was not determined. Other races of the Black-whiskered Vireo differ from *altiloquus* in color or bill length (see Ridgway op. cit.: 137-142).

Sightings of Black-whiskered Vireos with brownish upperparts and long bills have been reported on three previous occasions along the northern Gulf Coast (Duncan 1976, Amer. Birds 30: 658), suggesting the possibility that *V. a. altiloquus* may be a rare but regular visitor to the area.

I am most grateful to Jon C. Barlow for identifying the specimen and to him and Eugene Eisenmann for their advice regarding the manuscript. Received 20 October 1977, accepted 9 February 1978.

**Stomach Contents of Clark's Nutcrackers Collected in
Western Montana**

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Clark's Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*) has long been known as a food specialist which relies heavily on the seeds of coniferous trees (Bent 1946). Its distribution on the major mountain ranges of the interior of western North America is generally associated with the widely-distributed ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) and white bark pine (*P. albicaulis*) and locally with such species as limber pine (*P. flexilis*), piñon pine (*P. edulis*, *P. monophylla*), Jeffrey pine (*P. jefferyi*), and Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*). A monotypic species, Clark's Nutcracker occurs commonly from the mountains of central British Columbia and southwest Alberta to northern New Mexico, central Arizona, and the southern Sierra Nevada of California. At intervals of several years it irrupts into intermountain areas, Pacific coastal areas (Davis and Williams 1957, 1964) and occasionally the Great Plains east of the Rocky Mountains, northern Mexico, and southern Alaska. It nests in March and April, often under winter conditions, when nestling nutcrackers are fed pine seeds (Skinner 1916, Mewaldt 1956).

This report provides a summary of the stomach contents of 426 Clark's Nutcrackers collected between 1,000 and 2,500 m elevation mostly in the mountains of Missoula and Ravalli counties in western Montana from October 1946 to May 1949. The skins of all specimens collected, field notes, and card files

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