

nesting territory in the country revealed only 0.7 per cent bird remains compared with a 2.4 per cent bird content from two locations in the city. In contrast to this, South Hadley is rural, and the abundance of sandy soil with several lakes and streams scattered in the vicinity makes ideal environments, especially for the Hairytail and Starnose moles. Availability probably determines the kind and number of prey consumed by Barn Owls.

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The Black-crested Titmouse of Trans-Pecos Texas.—In an earlier report (J. Van Tyne and G. M. Sutton, 1937. Univ. Mich. Mus. Zool. Misc. Publ. No. 37: 63) attention was called to some of the characters which distinguish the Black-crested Titmouse (*Parus atricristatus*) population of Brewster County, Texas. I have since been able to study more adequate material from that county and from Jeff Davis County and I propose that this form be called

Parus atricristatus dysleptus, new subspecies

Type.—University of Michigan Museum of Zoology No. 65256; adult male; Texas, Brewster County, 5 miles south of Alpine, at 5,000 feet; February 15, 1935; collected by J. Van Tyne.

Characters.—Similar to *Parus atricristatus atricristatus* Cassin, described from "the Rio Grande, Texas," but the tail and wing considerably longer; crest shorter and broader; the black of crown and crest extending farther (to the nape and sometimes to the hind neck); and upper parts grayer (less olive).

Similar to *Parus atricristatus sennetti* (Ridgway), described from Bexar County, Leon Springs, but the crest shorter and broader, and the black of crown and crest deeper (not slaty), extending farther (to the nape and sometimes to the hind neck); the upper parts grayer; under parts whiter; and the cinnamon-rufous on flanks more extensive and, at least usually, darker.

Similar to *Parus atricristatus paloduro* (J. O. Stevenson, 1940. Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., 53: 15), described from Armstrong County, Palo Duro Canyon, Harrell Ranch, but the wing slightly, the tail markedly, shorter; crest shorter and broader;

the black of crown and crest extending farther (to nape and sometimes to the hind neck); upper parts paler and grayer (less olive); and under parts whiter.

The above description is based on adult specimens in good plumage. Breeding specimens collected later than about May 1 are usually very worn and faded and not readily identifiable to subspecies.

MEASUREMENTS OF *Parus atricristatus*

	Range	Mean (with standard error)		Standard deviation	Coefficient of variation
WING					
<i>atricristatus</i>					
23 ♂♂	67.0—75.5	71.09	±0.45	2.16	3.04
21 ♀♀	65.0—72.5	69.19	±0.38	1.73	2.50
<i>sennetti</i>					
21 ♂♂	74.0—78.5	76.38	±0.29	1.31	1.71
8 ♀♀	71.0—78.0	73.4			
<i>dysleptus</i>					
14 ♂♂	75.0—81.5	77.61	±0.51	1.89	2.44
6 ♀♀	72.0—75.0	73.7			
<i>paloduro</i>					
7 ♂♂	77.0—80.0	78.2			
5 ♀♀	75.0—79.0	77.5			
TAIL					
<i>atricristatus</i>					
23 ♂♂	57.0—65.0	61.85	±0.48	2.28	3.69
21 ♀♀	56.0—63.0	60.48	±0.36	1.67	2.76
<i>sennetti</i>					
18 ♂♂	64.0—70.5	66.83	±0.45	1.89	2.83
7 ♀♀	62.0—68.0	64.6			
<i>dysleptus</i>					
15 ♂♂	63.0—70.0	66.70	±0.44	1.69	2.53
6 ♀♀	61.5—64.0	62.8			
<i>paloduro</i>					
7 ♂♂	67.5—73.0	69.8			
4 ♀♀	67.0—70.0	68.7			

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