

Second U. S. Record of a Bahama Woodstar

From April 7 to May 15, 1974 a Bahama Woodstar, *Calliphlox evelynae*, was seen daily at my home at Homestead, Dade County, Florida, and was still present on June 1. It was studied at ranges of from 10 feet by many observers. William B. Robertson, Jr. identified it on April 7 as probably an immature male, corroborating this the next day with a study of an extensive series of the species in the Dr. Albert Schwartz Collection in Miami. Alexander Sprunt IV, also identifying it on April 11, believed it to be in molt.

Field marks were: bill black and slightly decurved; white spot behind the eye; back, and central rectrices green; outer rectrices rufous, with small black subterminal spots which, seen from below, formed a black bar. Tail very slightly forked, with tips badly worn. A pure white breast-band reached back to the nape, forming an incomplete collar which appeared narrow or broad according to the position of the head; underparts white, with throat slightly buffy, sides of breast and flanks rufous; thighs white, crown grayish, a few green feathertips at the bend of the wing.

By May 7 the abdomen was rufous, the crown dark, the throat dusky, but neither gorget nor forehead showed color.

The habitat is dry scrub with flowering shrubs, very similar, according to Sprunt, to that which the species frequents in the Bahamas. The bird perches frequently, for periods of time, a behavior typical of the species. It was seen to feed most frequently at Redbird Cactus (*Euphorbia pedilanthus*) but also used Firecracker Plant (*Russellia equisetiformis*), Red Pentas (*Pentas lanceolata*), Yellow Elder (*Stenolobium stans*), and Cape Honeysuckle (*Tecomaria capensis*).

The only previous reported U. S. occurrence is of a bird studied roosting over a period of weeks, often at one foot range, by Howard Langridge, John B. Edscorn, Paul W. Sykes and others at Lantana, Florida in 1971 (*Am. Birds* 26:52, 1972). Photographs were considered inadequate to establish its identity by the U. S. National Museum, but were accepted by James Bond. A satisfactory photograph of the Homestead bird is published herewith. — Erma J. Fisk, 17101 SW 284 St., Homestead, Fla. 33030.



Bahama Woodstar, Homestead, Fla., Apr. 20, 1974. | Brooks Atherton