

# First Occurrence of the Golden-winged Warbler in Trinidad

by A. D. Brewer

On December 29, 1976 a Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) was identified in the Northern Range of Trinidad, about twelve miles north of Arima. The bird was seen at close range in dense rain forest, in a mixed flock which included various honey creepers and ant-birds and the following details were noted.

Size: a little larger than White-flanked Antwren (*Myrmotherula axillaris*) with which it associated, probably about 5 inches. Upperparts: back, wings, rump, and upper tail a slightly greenish gray; a broad yellow shoulder-patch on the wings, not including the flight-feathers or the acutal bend of the wing; back of head gray, crown and forehead dull yellowish. Underparts: uniform dull grayish-white. A conspicuous, chickadee-like dull black throat patch starting at base of bill and broadening out to cover upper throat; a second black mark stretching back from bill, through eye to ear coverts. Face otherwise dull gray-white. No white outer tail feathers seen. Eye, bill and leg color not observed. The observer is very familiar with the species in all plumages since sev-

eral pairs nest within a few hundred feet of his house in Ontario every year.

The Golden-winged Warbler winters in Central and South America east to Colombia; it is apparently accidental in Western Venezuela in the region of Merida (Bent, 1953; de Schauensee, 1970). It has apparently never been recorded in Trinidad before (French, 1973, and personal communication); the present record constitutes a range extension of 700 miles to the east.

## LITERATURE CITED

- Bent, A. C. (1953). Life Histories of North American Wood Warblers. U.S. National Museum Bulletin 203.  
de Schauensee, R. M. (1970). A Guide to the Birds of South America. Livingston Publishing Company  
French, R. P. (1973). A Guide to the Birds of Trinidad and Tobago. Livingston Publishing Company.

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## Work in Progress

### MEMORANDUM

TO           Banders requesting color-marking sighting reports from the public

FROM:       George M. Jonkel, Chief Bird Banding Laboratory

SUBJECT:    Reporting auxiliary-marked bird sightings to the Bird Banding Laboratory

We have an increasing number of banders who advertise that reports of color-marked birds should be reported directly to them. Many of

these observations concern individual birds that can be identified or related to a standard U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service band. We are losing certain recoveries because researchers fail to notify us once they have their own information.

We urge you to send us all reports that can be identified to F&WS band numbers and any color-marking sightings that are not of your own birds. We can report these to other researchers. If you advertise for reports, please request that all sighting reports be made directly to the Bird Banding Laboratory, Office of Migratory Bird Management, Laurel, MD 20811. We will report back to the banders involved as rapidly as possible.