

SECOND NESTING RECORD FOR THE WARBLING VIREO (*VIREO GILVUS*) IN ALABAMA

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In Alabama the Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*) is a rare migrant recorded most often in spring north of the Fall Line. It is known to breed locally along the Tennessee River only in Lauderdale County in the extreme NW corner of the state.

Although singing males have been observed in Colbert, Lauderdale, and Lawrence Counties during the breeding season from late April through July, and adults feeding fledglings have been seen near Waterloo, only two nests have been found as positive proof of nesting. The first was recorded in 1936 when, on 7 May, C. Russell Mason discovered a female building a nest approximately 20 ft. high in a Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) along the Tennessee River at the canal lock near Florence. The second was found by the author on 24 June 1997. A female, accompanied by the male, was observed building a nest in a large open grown sweetgum (*Liquidamber styraciflua*) within 100 yds. of the river just east of Waterloo. The nest was suspended from a horizontal fork near the end of a vertically hanging limb 35 ft. above the ground. Notes and sketches were made in the field and later used to illustrate the nest (Figure 1). The site was revisited on 18 July at which time the pair was observed feeding and brooding nestlings.

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Figure 1. Warbling Vireo brooding young, 18 July 1997, Waterloo, Lauderdale Co. (watercolor by Bill Summerour)