

The Pine Warbler is one of the larger and more plainly colored members of the genus *Dendroica*. Both sexes are yellowish-green above, brighter yellow beneath, the female, as is usually the case, being noticeably darker in appearance. In actions, this species lacks the restless activity characteristic of many of the warblers, its movements being unhurried and rather deliberate. The males sing throughout much of the year, their slow, clear trill being one of the most familiar sounds in the pine woods of Georgia.

Breeding activities normally begin rather early in the spring, although the date is governed to some extent by the weather. At Athens it was not unusual to find fresh eggs by the latter part of March, my earliest breeding record, the result of mild weather during much of February, being that of a nest that held four fresh eggs on March 15, 1927. The female was first observed working on this nest on February 17, and it was then already so well started that, although fully eighty feet from the ground at the outer end of a limb of a large loblolly pine, it was plainly visible. Later that month, and again in early March, there were intervals when the weather was cold and rainy, but although delayed for days at a time, the female persisted in her efforts, and finally, after a full month had passed, had finished the nest and laid the usual complement of four eggs. The nest is always in a pine, and is usually well up from the ground and at the outer end of a limb. The average height varies from twenty-five to forty feet, rarely lower, but not infrequently much higher. It is compact and deep-cupped, and well built of rootlets, weed stems, grasses, dry pine needles, and shreds of bark, lined with plant down, feathers, and horsehair. A male seen near Athens on March 18, 1925, was gathering nesting material from the side of a crow's nest that held eggs but from which the owner was temporarily absent; and another observed a few days later was busily engaged in lining her nest with bunches of fur plucked from a dead cat lying in an open field. As nests with fresh eggs can be found in early June, it is probable that two broods are sometimes reared each year.

**Kirtland's Warbler**  
*Dendroica kirtlandii* (Baird)

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION: Breeding range limited to north central Michigan. Winters in the Bahamas.

STATUS IN GEORGIA: A rare transient on the coast.

Kirtland's Warbler was first recorded in Georgia by Arthur H. Helme who collected a female on Cumberland Island, April 12, 1902. He also took another female there on April 14, 1903, and a male on April 27, 1904 [Helme, 1904]. Isaac Arnow took a specimen at St. Marys, April 16, 1904.

Family Parulidae: wo

T. D. Perry reported  
no recent records.

LIMITS AND RECOGNITION  
range, Kirtland's Warbler  
possibly occurs often  
locate, but in such small  
one. If seen, it can  
other warblers, gray crown  
low underparts and  
ground, where it works  
up and down much

**Northern Parula**  
*Dendroica discolor*

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION  
central Michigan, southern  
southwestern Mississippi  
southeastern Georgia.  
on islands off the coast

STATUS IN GEORGIA:  
state except the southern

In the mountains  
it has been noted  
county, and Margaret  
open valleys where

In the eastern part  
not found as a breeding  
Stewart counties south

Way, and Early counties  
southwestern Georgia  
geologic formation known  
and vegetation similar

In spring, the eastern

St. Marys: March 23 (1904)

Cumberland Island: March 26 (1902)

Cumberland Island: March 26 (1902)

Savannah: March 8 (1904)

Way County: March 1904

Gerald: April 3 (1904)

Americus: April 10 (1904)

Columbus: April 14 (1904)

SEARCHING BIRDS

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Arthur H. Helme,  
12, 1902. He also  
on April 27, 1904  
s, April 16, 1902;

Family Parulidae: WOOD WARBLERS

and T. D. Perry reported one seen at Savannah on August 27, 1909. There are no recent records.

HABITS AND RECOGNITION: Because of its extremely restricted breeding range, Kirtland's Warbler will always be one of the rarest of the warblers. It possibly occurs oftener in Georgia than the few available records would indicate, but in such small numbers that one must be fortunate indeed to find one. If seen, it can be recognized by its large size as compared with other warblers, gray crown, brown back heavily streaked with black, and yellow underparts and sides streaked with black. It commonly feeds on the ground, where it walks rather than hops and, when nervous, wags its tail up and down much in the manner of a Palm Warbler.

Northern Prairie Warbler  
*Dendroica discolor discolor* (Vieillot)

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION: Breeds from eastern Nebraska, eastern Kansas, central Michigan, southern Ontario, and southern New Hampshire south to southwestern Missouri, northern Mississippi, southern Alabama, and southeastern Georgia. Winters in the Bahamas and West Indies and casually on islands off the coast of Central America.

STATUS IN GEORGIA: A local but fairly common summer resident over all the state except the southwestern and south central portions.

In the mountains, the Prairie Warbler is rather local in its distribution; it has been noted during the breeding season at Young Harris, Towns County, and Margret, Fannin County, and doubtless occurs in many of the open valleys where conditions are suitable.

In the eastern part of the state, it nests to the coast, but farther west it is not found as a breeding bird south of a line running from Sumter and Stewart counties southwestward through the western edge of Randolph, Clay, and Early counties. Norris [1951] has shown that this limited range in southwestern Georgia approximates the lower boundary of the geologic formation known as the Red Hills Belt, characterized by topography and vegetation similar in many respects to that of the Piedmont of Georgia.

In spring, the earliest transients have been noted at:

- St. Marys: March 23 (1905).
- Cumberland Island: March 16 (1902).
- Sea Island: March 26 (1948).
- Savannah: March 8 (1908).
- Grady County: March 24 (1952).
- Fitzgerald: April 3 (1941).
- Americus: April 10 (1942).
- Columbus: April 14 (1946).
- Macon: March 30 (1945).
- Milledgeville: March 31 (1936).
- Augusta: April 3 (1945).
- Athens: April 5 (1927).
- Atlanta: March 26 (1938).
- Canton: March 31 (1905).
- Dalton: April 7 (1944).