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## **STATUS OF THE FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*TYRANNUS SAVANA*) IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA**

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The Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*) breeds in Middle and South America and occurs in North America as a vagrant. Monroe and Barron (1980) summarized 40 reports of Fork-tailed Flycatchers in the United States and Canada and concluded that "North American vagrants . . . have been presumed to be vagrants that 'overshot' their normal 'wintering' grounds in northern South America." While they noted some movements that did not fit this pattern, they offered no hypotheses to explain them. Furthermore, whereas they noted "that most North American reports pertain to the nominate subspecies" (Bond 1940), they did not discuss ageing of these vagrants.

Our review of *American Birds* and other sources reveals 63 additional reports through 1992, bringing the total number reported in the United States and Canada to over 100 (Appendix). The authenticity of some of these reports has been questioned, leaving 94 records we consider valid. Aside from two birds seen together near Florida City, Florida, on 15 September 1984 (*Am. Birds* 39:44, Powell 1986, B. H. Anderson in litt.), all accepted records involve single individuals, although two were within 15 miles of each other on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, during the fall of 1980 (*Am. Birds* 35:159).

Our analysis of these records suggests that the proposal by Monroe and Barron (1980) only partly explains the movement of this species into the United States and Canada, as there is a marked contrast between the occurrence pattern along the Gulf of Mexico and that along the Atlantic coast, in the Midwest, and in New England. In attempting to explain these movement patterns, we also examined ageing criteria and subspecific identification, both of which shed light on the issue.

## PATTERN OF OCCURRENCE

Sixty-six of the Fork-tailed Flycatchers found in the United States and Canada were along the Atlantic coast from Florida north to Nova Scotia (Figure 1), with more than 85% of these north of the Carolinas. Eleven more were in the interior, west to Dorion, Ontario (Goodwin 1978), Duluth, Minnesota (Svingen 1991), Columbia County, Wisconsin (Freese 1979), and Henderson, Kentucky (Audubon 1834, Mengel 1965). In addition, 14 have been recorded along the Gulf of Mexico from the southwestern tip of Florida to southern Texas, with five of these in Florida and seven in Texas. In the western United States and Canada, one was seen at Drumheller, Alberta, on 1 June 1988 (Wedgwood 1989), one was photographed near Picabo, Idaho, between 25 August and 7 September 1991 (Trost 1991), and a third was photographed at Bridgehaven near the mouth of the Russian River on the north-central coast of California between 4 and 8 September 1992 (*Am. Birds* 47:146, 1993). One reportedly shot near Santa Monica, California, in the "latter part of the summer" of 1883 (Toppan 1884) cannot be verified, because the specimen was destroyed by fire in 1896 (Grinnell 1915).

Fifty-six of the 77 Fork-tailed Flycatchers (the single Vermont record cannot be assigned to season) along the Atlantic coast and inland to Ontario, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Kentucky have appeared in fall between 23 August (Meritt 1970) and 1 December (Knight 1910), with the majority during September and October (Figure 2). This is the time when the nominate subspecies should be migrating from wintering grounds in northern South America to breeding grounds in southern South America. We propose that these birds flew a latitudinal mirror-image misoriented migration route northwest instead of southwest during the austral spring.

Twenty Fork-tailed Flycatchers have been found along the Atlantic coast and inland to Minnesota and Wisconsin in spring and summer between 2 May (*Am. Birds* 44:398) and 17 July (*Kingbird* 37:206). We propose that these birds overshot their winter grounds when migrating northward during the austral fall migration. One found near Rustic, Virginia, on 3 June 1988 remained through 1 August (Williams 1988), during which time it molted. Late June and July birds, such as those photographed in eastern Douglas County, Wisconsin, on 24 June 1988 (Johnson 1989) and on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, on 25 June 1984 (Tufts 1986), and one videotaped at Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, Florida, on 13 and 14 July 1992 (J. L. Baker in litt., B. H. Anderson in litt.), may have arrived earlier than when found and simply have been wandering in search of suitable "wintering" localities. One reportedly collected at Lake Ridge, Michigan, in July 1879 also fits this pattern of occurrence, but the specimen is no longer extant, and the record has been questioned (Barrows 1912).

Although the sample size is small ( $n = 3$ ), the seasonal occurrence of Fork-tailed Flycatchers in the western United States and Canada appears similar to that for the Atlantic coast, with two records for fall and one in early June.

The species' seasonal occurrence along the Gulf of Mexico, however, is quite different, with eight individuals found in spring/summer but only two

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Figure 1. Distribution of Fork-tailed Flycatcher occurrences in the U.S. and Canada.

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in fall (Figure 2). Spring dates of occurrence extend from 20 April (Bremser and Duncan 1992) to 15 July (*Am. Birds* 28:895), whereas the fall dates are 8 October (Oberholser 1974) and 17 October (*Am. Birds* 31:168). In addition, four individuals have been found in Texas in winter between 4 December (*Am. Birds* 44:293) and 4 February (James 1963). A report for March was not accepted by the Texas Bird Records Committee (G. W. Lasley in litt.).

### SUBSPECIES

Four subspecies of the Fork-tailed Flycatcher have been described (Zimmer 1937) and are currently recognized (Traylor 1979). The highly migratory nominate race breeds as far south as the southern tip of Argen-

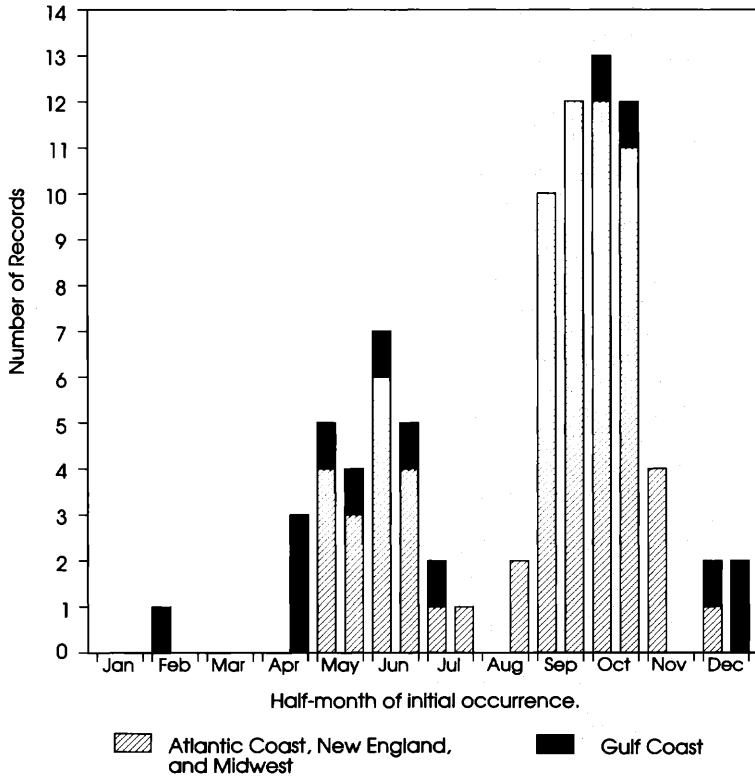


Figure 2. Seasonal distribution of dated records of the Fork-tailed Flycatcher, by half-month, along the Atlantic coast, in New England, and in the Midwest compared to seasonal occurrence along the Gulf of Mexico.

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tina and the Falkland Islands, withdrawing to extreme northern South American during the austral winter. The partially migratory northern race *monachus* breeds from southern Mexico south to north-central Brazil, with some birds withdrawing southward from the northern part of this range in our winter. The other two races are reported as resident, *sanctaemartae* along the Caribbean coast of Colombia and extreme northwestern Venezuela and *circumdatus* in the Amazon basin of Brazil (Traylor 1979).

Although Zimmer stated that *monachus* is "readily separated" from nominate *savana* by its "much paler gray" back, this distinction is often not apparent without birds in hand (Hilty and Brown 1986). Back color is greatly affected by wear, however, with worn *monachus* being as dull as fresh *savana* (J. V. Remsen in litt.). Zimmer also stated *monachus* typically shows a "more whitish collar," but Patten's examination of 84 skins at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (LACM;  $n = 74$ ) and the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology (WFVZ;  $n = 10$ ) showed a great deal of variability in this feature (seasonal wear was taken into account), with one nominate bird having a nearly complete white collar. The visibility of a collar depends on specimen preparation, however, making this feature difficult to judge on skins. In addition, Zimmer stated that *monachus* generally lacks the gray flanks that contrast with the white breast on *savana*. The most useful feature, however, is the shape of the two outermost primaries on adult male *savana*, which are more deeply emarginated than those on adult male *monachus*. Also, the 8th primary on adult male *monachus* shows almost no emargination, whereas this feather is as deeply notched as the outermost two on *savana*. Both *sanctaemartae* and *circumdatus* are similar to *monachus* in back coloration. Adult males of *sanctaemartae* have almost no emargination on the outer four primaries, whereas adult males of *circumdatus* have the deepest emargination on the outer two primaries of any of the four races. Because emargination is next to impossible to ascertain in the field, identification to subspecies on this basis without the bird in hand or clear in-flight photographs (e.g., *Am. Birds* 47:146), is questionable.

Most Fork-tailed Flycatchers reaching the United States and Canada are believed to be of the highly migratory nominate subspecies. Specimens (see Appendix for abbreviations) from Maine (life mount; BMS X03.163), Pennsylvania (FMNH 304056), and New Jersey (specimen lost) have been identified as *savana* (Bond 1940). Birds from Michigan (UMMZ 206495) and Texas (LSUMZ 25116) have also been identified as the nominate subspecies. The bird in Virginia during the summer of 1988 underwent a complete molt during its stay (*Am. Birds* 43:79), strongly suggesting that it also was of the nominate race, because June and July is the time of the year this subspecies molts.

Monroe and Barron (1980) suggested that an adult male (ANSP 35423) labeled "New Jersey," with no date or specific locality, to be the specimen taken at Trenton, New Jersey, in fall 1900 (Babson 1901). This specimen was identified as *sanctaemartae* by John T. Zimmer (Bond 1940). Monroe and Barron (1980) questioned this identification, but apparently did not examine the skin. Mark B. Robbins examined this specimen at our request. Robbins stated (in litt.) that its back color is light like that of *sanctaemartae*

and that the shapes of the outer three primaries match those of *sanctaemartae*. Thus, this specimen is problematic, suggesting three possibilities: *sanctaemartae* is not as sedentary as generally believed, the specimen is incorrectly attributed to New Jersey, or the characters diagnosing Fork-tailed Flycatcher subspecies are not as definitive as Zimmer (1937) indicated.

A Fork-tailed Flycatcher photographed at Rio Hondo, Texas, between 17 December 1984 and 16 January 1985 (TPRF 353) and an "adult" photographed near Ricardo, Texas, between 18 and 26 December 1988 (TPRF 732) were identified as *monachus* by J. V. Remsen (*Am. Birds* 43:232; in litt.), in part because they were bright birds in fresh plumage; birds of the nominate race would be quite worn in winter. It is possible that most of the "winter" birds in Texas are of this race, moving northward from Mexico after the nesting season; however, the only Texas specimen (LSUMZ 25116) is a nominate bird taken near Edinburg in February (James 1963).

### AGEING

Popular guides (e.g., Peterson and Chalif 1973, Scott 1987) indicate that immature Fork-tailed Flycatchers can be distinguished from adults by their shorter tails. Although immatures have shorter tails than adults, tail lengths of immature males and adult females overlap considerably. Only very young birds with exceedingly short tails prior to their post-juvinal molt, such as young *savana* encountered in spring and young *monachus* encountered in early winter, can be safely aged on the basis of their short tails alone (they can wander while in this plumage). Fork-tailed Flycatchers acquire long tails during their first molt, making tail length an unreliable character for ageing most birds, particularly nominate birds found in the United States and Canada in fall, all of which should have completed their post-juvinal molt. We believe misleading information in field guides has led observers to identify first-year birds as adults and resulted in erroneous age data appearing in the literature.

Zimmer (1937) stated that short-tailed juveniles, prior to their post-juvinal molt, have brownish rather than black caps, much brown in the wings, a generally brownish wash to the upperparts, a light buffy wash on the underparts, and extensive brown rather than black on the rump and uppertail coverts. Long-tailed first-year birds, following their post-juvinal molt, are stated to have black caps, gray backs, and clean white underparts like adults. First-year birds retain wide brown or cinnamon fringes on the wing coverts, whereas adults have the wing coverts thinly fringed with gray. Furthermore, first-year birds typically retain some brown on the rump, whereas adults have entirely black rumps. Few guides address wing-covert or rump coloration, but Blake (1953) included the fact that first-year birds have brown fringes on the coverts, and Stiles and Skutch (1989) noted that adults have gray fringes. Stiles and Skutch also indicated that the brown rump is present only on "young" (= juvenile) birds. Meyer de Schauensee (1970) mentioned the black rump of adults but did not indicate the rump color of immatures. Patten's examination of 84 skins in LACM and WFVZ confirmed these criteria, as all young birds showed cinnamon-brown fringes

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to their wings and upper tail coverts. Fresh-plumaged adults, by contrast, had thin but distinct gray fringes concentrated at the tips of the wing coverts, and all had black uppertail coverts.

In addition to the differences in the wing and uppertail coverts, immatures do not have as extensive a yellow crown patch as adults; because this feature is difficult to see, even on adults, it is probably of little use for ageing birds in the field. Steven W. Cardiff and J. V. Remsen (in litt.) suggested that the color of the cap is a valid character for ageing Fork-tailed Flycatchers, the cap being brownish on juveniles, black without shine or gloss on first-year birds, and shiny or glossy black on adults.

Brown visible on the rump and uppertail coverts and extensive brown fringes on the wing coverts on the recent California bird (see the cover photograph) suggests that it was a nominate bird in its first "spring" (our fall), having hatched during our winter. Monroe and Barron (1980) reported at least three fall Fork-tailed Flycatchers prior to 1980 as immature (Monroe and Barron 1980), and at least eight more since that time were reported as immature or first-year. Two of the six extant specimens taken in the United States are immatures (B. Kochancz pers. comm., J. V. Remsen in litt.), three are adults (R. W. Storer in litt., D. Willard in litt. M. B. Robbins in litt.), and the Vermont specimen has not been aged. Our review of photographs published in *American Birds* and various regional publications suggests that many fall birds were immatures, including some reported as adults, presumably because they had long tails. We suspect that most fall Fork-tailed Flycatchers in the United States and Canada are immature birds of the nominate race that have flown north instead of south during their first "spring" migration. We also suspect that birds occurring in spring and summer are short-tailed juveniles and full-tailed adults which overshot their wintering grounds during "fall" migration.

Short-tailed individuals in Texas in winter are likely first-year birds of the northern race *monachus* that moved north instead of south during their first attempt at migration. Similar northward winter movement from Mexico has been found in a number of other passerines, such as the Clay-colored Thrush (*Turdus grayi*), Golden-crowned Warbler (*Basileuterus culicivorus*), Crimson-collared Grosbeak (*Rhodothraupis celaeno*), and Blue Bunting (*Cyanocompsa parellina*).

## SUMMARY

The status of the Fork-tailed Flycatcher in the United States and Canada is still much like that determined by Monroe and Barron (1980). Most records are believed to involve birds of the nominate race *savana*, which breeds in southern South America and spends the austral winter in northern South America. It appears that there is a specimen of the "sedentary" South American race *sanctaemartae* attributed to New Jersey, and photographs of what are believed to be *monachus* from Texas.

Most Fork-tailed Flycatchers occur along the Atlantic Coast in fall from southern Florida to as far north as the Gaspé Peninsula in Quebec, with a few individuals inland to as far north as southern Ontario and west to the coast of California, but only an occasional individual along the Gulf of

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Mexico. We suspect that the majority of these birds are first-year individuals that have flown north instead of south during the austral spring migration.

A smaller number occur over the same area in spring, with one reaching as far north as south-central Alberta, but with a higher percentage along the Gulf of Mexico. We believe these birds are juveniles and adults that overshot their wintering grounds in northern South America during the austral fall migration.

Individuals occasionally attempting to winter in south Texas are believed to include immature *monachus* that have moved north as post-breeding wanderers from Mexico.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The following individuals generously supplied information about records for a particular state or region: Bruce H. Anderson (Florida), Jocelyn Lee Baker (Florida), Robert C. Duncan (Alabama), Pete Dunne (New Jersey), Walter G. Ellison (Vermont), Robert Janssen (Minnesota), Teta Kain (Virginia), Greg W. Lasley (Texas), Blair Nikula (Massachusetts), Charles H. Trost (Idaho), William H. Turcotte (Mississippi), and Erika Wilson (Maryland). The following individuals reviewed and supplied information to us concerning United States specimens of Fork-tailed Flycatchers: Peter R. Grant (Princeton University), Bill Kochancz (Boston Museum of Science), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (University of Louisville, Kentucky), Raymond A. Paynter, Jr. (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University), J. V. Remsen, Jr. (Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University), Mark B. Robbins and Frank B. Gill (Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia), Robert W. Storer (Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan), and David Willard (Field Museum of Natural History). Lloyd F. Kiff, Kimball L. Garrett, and Philip Unitt allowed us access to study skins in their care at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, and the San Diego Natural History Museum, respectively. We are indebted to Steven W. Cardiff and J. V. Remsen, Jr., for offering excellent advice regarding the ageing of this species. Kurt F. Campbell, Richard A. Erickson, J. V. Remsen, Jr., Peder Svingen, and Peter D. Vickery offered helpful comments on earlier drafts of this paper.

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### APPENDIX. Records of the Fork-tailed Flycatcher for the United States and Canada through 1992.

Numbered records we consider valid; we question the nine unnumbered records because they lack sufficient details or because they have been questioned by regional authors or records committees. Comments give the disposition of specimens and photographs; if neither of these is specified, the record is a sight record. Four of the earliest of the eleven specimens taken in the United States are known lost, and

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another reported extant by Monroe and Barron (1980) cannot be located, so we presume it is lost also. Furthermore, some early sight records lack documentation; for example, only seven of the eleven reported from Texas have been accepted by the Texas Bird Records Committee (G. W. Lasley in litt.). Even so, the validity of only three pre-1900 reports of Fork-tailed Flycatchers has been questioned, even though none of the eight includes specific dates and/or locations. Abbreviations: AB, *American Birds*; AFN, *Audubon Field Notes*; ANSP, Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia; BMS, Boston Museum of Science; CBRC, California Bird Records Committee (records archived at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, Camarillo, California); FMNH, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago; LSUMZ, Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge; NP, National Park; NWR, National Wildlife Refuge; TPRF, Texas Photo Record File, Texas A&M University, College Station; UMMZ, University of Michigan, Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor; UVM, University of Vermont Museum, Burlington; WWF, Welder Wildlife Foundation, Sinton, Texas.

1. Late October, year?; Henderson, Ky. (Audubon 1834, Mengel 1965). Specimen lost.
2. Early December, ca. 1820; Bridgeton, N. J. (Bonaparte 1825, Leck 1984). Specimen said to be extant by Monroe and Barron (1980), but its whereabouts are unknown (B. L. Monroe, Jr., in litt.); Bonaparte (1825) published a sketch of it.

August 1822 (2 birds); near Natchez, Miss. (Audubon 1834). Identification dubious (W. H. Turcotte in litt.).

3. June 1832; Camden, N. J. (Audubon 1834, Leck 1984). Specimen lost, but Audubon (1834) painted it.
4. Fall 1873; Fox Chase, Pa. (Bond 1940, Poole 1964). Specimen (FMNH 304056). Adult *T. s. savana*.

July 1879; Lake Ridge, Mich. (Barrows 1912). Alleged specimen lost; questioned by Barrows (1912).

Late summer 1883; Santa Monica, Calif. (Toppan 1884). Alleged specimen lost; record has been questioned (Grinnell 1915).

5. 1884?; Vermont (W. G. Ellison in litt.). Specimen. A previously unpublished record for Vermont based on a life mount at UVM labeled only "Vt." (i.e., there is no other collection data). Walter G. Ellison stated (in litt.) that "this record is uncertainly attributed to Vermont and has no definite date and locality associated with it." Nevertheless, he presented a "plausible story" that a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) taken by C. W. Graham in St. Johnsbury in 1884 (*Random Notes Nat. Hist.* 1(8):3, 1884) may be this Fork-tailed Flycatcher. Spear (1976) implied that the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was deposited at Dartmouth College, but Ellison stated there is no Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Dartmouth College, and suggested it instead ended up at the University of Vermont where it is now correctly identified as a Fork-tailed Flycatcher. The Vermont Bird Records Committee has accepted this record.
6. Fall 1900; Trenton, N. J. (Babson 1901, Bond 1940). Specimen (ANSP 35423). Considered *T. s. sanctaemartae*; see text.
7. 1 Dec 1908; Marion, Me. (Knight 1910, Bond 1940). Specimen (BMS X03.163). Immature *T. s. savana*.
8. 22 Oct 1916; Martha's Vineyard, Mass. (Foster 1917). Considered "hypothetical" by Griscom and Snyder (1955), but accepted by Veit and Petersen (1993).

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9. 1–3 Nov 1939; Cape May, N. J. (Leck 1984).
10. 14 Sep 1944; East Quogue, N. Y. (Bull 1974, *Kingbird* 41:4).  
     10 Aug 1946; north of Uvalde, Tex. (Peterson 1960, Oberholser 1974).  
     19 Nov 1946; Rio Grande delta, Tex. (Peterson 1960, Oberholser 1974).
11. 23 Sep 1947; Heckscher State Park, N. Y. (Bull 1974, *Kingbird* 41:4).
12. 5 Nov 1952; 24 km west of Okeechobee, Fla. (Sprunt 1954).
13. 7 Oct 1954; Clermont, N. Y. (Bull 1974, *Kingbird* 41:4).
14. 8 Oct 1958; Tivoli, Tex. (Oberholser 1974). Photograph published and archived (WWF P-26).  
     20 Mar 1959; Rio Grande delta, Tex. (AFN 13:308, Oberholser 1974).
15. 4 Feb 1961; near Edinburg, Tex. (James 1963). Specimen (LSUMZ 25116).  
     Immature *T. s. savana*.
16. 26–27 Sep 1961; Martha's Vineyard, Mass. (AFN 16:10).
17. 29 May 1967; West Orange, N. J. (AFN 21:490, AFN 22:17, *N. J. Nature Notes*, Dec 1986:157).  
     25 Sep 1967; Encinal Peninsula, Tex. (AFN 22:62).
18. 4–9 May 1968; Plum Island, Mass. (AFN 22:506).
19. 23 Aug 1968; Cape May, N. J. (Meritt 1970). Published photograph. Erroneously published as a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in AFN 23:31, 1969.
20. 6–11 Sep 1970; Biddeford Pool, Me. (AB 25:29). Unpublished photograph.
21. 26 Sep 1970; Dartmouth, Nova Scotia (Tufts 1986). Unpublished photograph.
22. 4 Sep 1972; Brigantine NWR, N. J. (AB 27:39, Danzenbaker 1973).
23. 4 Sep 1972; Cape May, N. J. (*N. J. Nature News*, Dec 1972:186). Considered same as preceding record by Danzenbaker (1973), but the two locations are about 80 km apart, leading us to believe otherwise.
24. Late Oct–1 Nov 1973; Bull's Island, S. C. (Dick 1974). Published photograph.
25. 15–16 Jul 1974; Sugarloaf Keys, Fla. (AB 28:895).
26. 14–25 Sep 1975; Whiting, Me. (AB 30:24, AB 30:33). Published photograph.
27. 24–26 Aug 1976; Seal Island, Nova Scotia (Tufts 1986). Immature; published photograph.
28. 9–15 Sep 1976; Martinsville, Me. (AB 31:229, AB 31:232). Published photograph.
29. 17 Sep 1976; Rockledge, Fla. (Cruikshank 1980).
30. 1–8 Oct 1976; Kennebunk, Me. (AB 31:229). Published photograph. Considered "possibly same" as Martinsville bird (record no. 28) by Vickery (1978).
31. 17 Oct 1976; Chokoloskee, Fla. (AB 31:150, AB 31:168). Published photograph.  
     Mid-Apr 1977; Sanibel Island, Fla. (Edscorn 1977). "Not accepted" (B. H. Anderson in litt.).
32. 28–30 Oct 1977; Dorion, Ontario (Goodwin 1978). Published photograph.
33. Late Oct–15 Nov 1977; Grand Bay, New Brunswick (Godfrey 1986).

## FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER STATUS

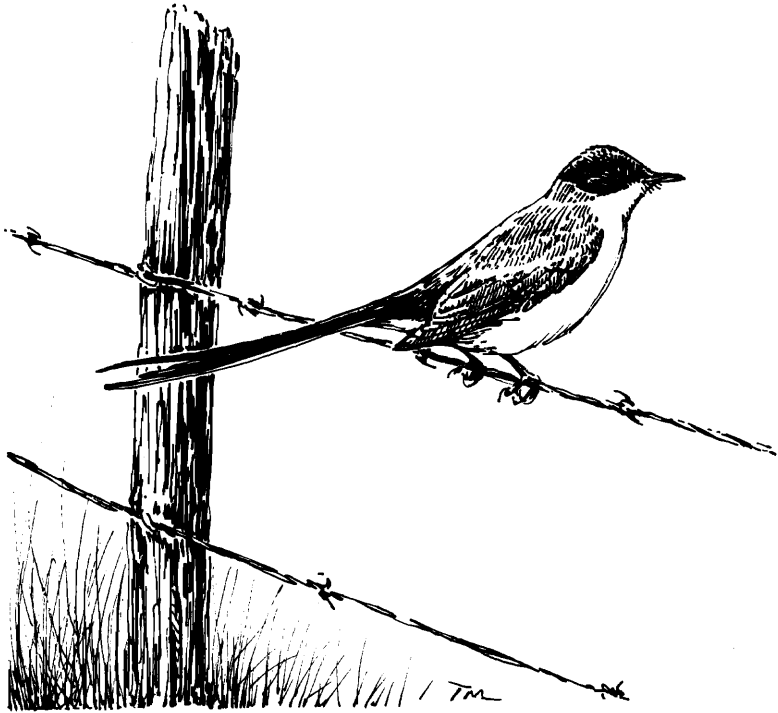
34. 23 Sep 1978; Sandy Point State Park, Md. (Wierenga 1978). Immature; accepted (E. Wilson in litt.).
35. 11 Oct 1978; Cape May, N. J. (AB 33:162). Published photograph.
36. 22–27 Oct 1978; Queens Co., N. Y. (AB 33:162).
37. 26 Oct 1978; Suffolk Co., New York (AB 33:162).
38. 13–16 Nov 1978; Columbia Co., Wis. (Frøese 1979, AB 33:180). Published photograph.
39. 22 Sep–4 Oct 1980; Chatham, Mass. (AB 35:159). First-year; published photograph.
40. 27 Sep–7 Oct 1980; Orleans, Mass. (AB 35:159). First-year; published photograph.
41. 5 May 1981; Big Cypress NP, Fla. (Britten 1984, Powell 1986).
42. 16 May 1981; Austin, Tex. (AB 35:841). Photographs published and archived (TPRF 247).
43. 22–27 Sep 1981; Chatham, Mass. (AB 36:154). Unpublished photograph.
44. 30 Jun 1982; Bonaventure Island, Quebec (AB 36:958).
45. 16–18 Sep 1982; Nantucket, Mass. (AB 37:157).
46. 6 Oct 1983; Rumely, Mich. (AB 38:206). Specimen (UMMZ 206495); adult male *T. s. savana*. The date was erroneously published as 20 Oct 1983 in AB 38:206 (R. W. Storer in litt.).
47. 18–20 May 1984; Cape May, N.J. (Dunne 1984). Juvenile; published photograph.
48. 25 Jun 1984; Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia (Tufts 1986). Unpublished photograph.
49. 15 Sep 1984; near Florida City, Fla. (AB 39:44, Powell 1986). Two birds seen together.
50. 24 Oct 1984; Bailey Island, Me. (AB 39:28). “Remained several days.”
51. 17 Dec 1984–16 Jan 1985; southeast of Raymondville, Tex. (AB 39:186, AB 40:497). Considered *T. s. monachus*; photographs published and archived (TPRF 353).
52. 6–8 Jun 1985; Garden Key, Fla. (AB 39:905). “Adult in heavy molt”; unpublished photograph.
53. 9 Oct 1985; Block Island, R. I. (AB 40:258).  
10 Oct 1985; Monroe, Me. (AB 40:258). “Undocumented.”
54. 11–12 Oct 1985; Boston, Mass. (AB 40:258).
55. 19 Oct 1985; Port Mahon, Del. (AB 40:90).
56. 11 Nov 1985; Merritt Island NWR, Fla. (Dowling 1989). The 24 Nov 1985 date listed in AB 40:103 is an error (B. H. Anderson in litt.).
57. 1–7 Jun 1986; Cape Carteret, N. C. (Haberyan 1988, AB 40:458). Worn adult; published photograph.
58. 17 Jul 1986; Brooklyn, N. Y. (*Kingbird* 37:206).
59. 13 Jun 1987; Falmouth, Mass. (Veit and Petersen 1993).

## FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER STATUS

60. 20–21 Jun 1987; Marshfield, Mass. (Veit and Petersen 1993).
61. 24 Apr 1988; Ft. Morgan, Ala. (Summerour 1988). Age?
62. 1 Jun 1988; Drumheller, Alberta (Wedgworth 1989).
63. 3 Jun–1 Aug 1988; Rustic, Va. (AB 43:79, Williams 1988, *Raven* 60:5–6). Molting adult; published photographs.
64. 24 Jun 1988; Douglas Co., Wis. (Johnson 1989, AB 42:1292). “Striking adult”; published photograph.
65. 4 Sep–mid-Oct 1988; Port-Menier, Quebec (AB 43:69). Published photograph taken 25 Sep 1988.
66. 23 Oct 1988; south Colleton Co., S. C. (AB 43:302). “Changing plumage.”
67. 18–26 Dec 1988; near Ricardo, Tex. (AB 43:232, 43:338). Considered *T. s. monachus*; photographs published and archived (TPRF 732).
68. 7 May 1989; Oak Beach, N. Y. (AB 43:457, *Kingbird* 39:190). Unpublished photograph.
69. 27 Sep 1989; Camden, Del. (AB 44:65). Reported as an adult.
70. 29–30 Oct 1989; Apple River East, Nova Scotia (AB 44:48). Reported as an adult; published photograph.
71. 4 Dec 1989; Aransas NWR, Tex. (AB 44:293). “An apparent adult.”
72. 2–3 May 1990; Concord, Mass. (AB 44:398). Discussion in *Am. Birds*; unpublished photograph.
73. 17–19 May 1990; Chincoteague, Va. (AB 44:409, Ake 1991).
74. 16–25 Jun 1990; Shark Valley, Fla. (AB 45:93, Baker 1991).
75. 26 Sep 1990; Ledyard, N. Y. (*Kingbird* 42:6).
76. 7–16 Oct 1990; Hamlin, N. Y. (Marcotte 1991, *Kingbird* 42:6, AB 45:82). Published photographs.
77. 14 Oct 1990; Cambridge, Mass. (AB 45:77).
78. 23–25 Apr 1991; Gilchrist, Tex. (AB 45:471). Reported as adult; photographs published and archived (TPRF 1001).
79. 11–14 Jun 1991; Bon Portage Island, Nova Scotia (AB 45:1089). Reported as an immature.
80. 14–20 Jun 1991; Kent Island, New Brunswick (AB 45:1089). Considered same individual as preceding in AB 45:1089, but we suspect otherwise.
81. 14 Jun 1991; Castellow Hammock Park, Fla. (*Fla. Field Nat.* 20:27).
82. 25 Aug–7 Sep 1991; east of Picabo, Ida. (Trost 1991). Published photographs.
83. 6 Sep 1991; Duluth, Minn. (Svingen 1991, AB 46:94). Published photograph.
84. 6–9 Sep 1991; West Lawrenceton, Nova Scotia [AB 46:55, *Nova Scotia Birds* 34(3):24]. Published photograph.
85. 29 Sep 1991; Cape May, N. J. (Bacinski 1992, AB 46:71). Published photograph. The 9 Sep photo caption date in AB 46:71 is an error.
86. 3 Oct 1991; Wellfleet, Mass. (*Bird Observer* 20:54).
87. 12 Oct 1991; Back Bay NWR, Va. (T. Kain in litt.). Unpublished photograph (apparently poor quality).

## FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER STATUS

88. 23–24 Oct 1991; Saint-Denis, Quebec (AB 46:59)
89. 20 Apr 1992; Dauphin Island, Ala. (Bremser and Duncan 1992). Age?
90. 3–14 May 1992; Grand Marais, Minn. (Ekhof and Backstrom 1992). Worn adult; published photograph.
91. 13–14 Jul 1992; Loxahatchee NWR, Fla. (J. L. Baker in litt., B. H. Anderson in litt. Unpublished photographs; there is also a videotape of this bird in Fla. Ornithol. Soc. Records Committee files.
92. 4–8 Sep 1992; Bridgehaven, Calif. (AB 47:146). Immature; photographs published (see cover) and archived (CBRC 240-1992).
93. 9–11 Oct 1992; Horton, New Brunswick (AB 47:58). Published photograph.
94. 13 Oct 1992; Fire Island, N. Y. (AB 47:73).



Fork-tailed Flycatcher

Sketch by Tim Manolis