

Species: PHILADELPHIA VIREO Vireo philadelphicus
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): May 13, 1975 Time Bird Seen: 1:35 PM to 1:40 PM

Locality: Barr Lake

Nearest Town: Brighton County: Adams

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<u>None</u>		

Optical Equipment: 7 X 50 binoculars

If photographed, type of equipment used: _____

Light Conditions: sunny. The bird was shade during the observation.

Distance from bird (how measured): minimum distance of 35-40 feet

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: ? Plumage: adult

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

A vireo feeding about 35 or so feet up in a cottonwood, moving about the branches slowly, allowing good looks at it.

Describe in great detail the bird's size, overall shape, plumage and color-pattern. Include details on shape of bill, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to the marks you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance in field guide descriptions is not enough. Describe what you actually saw in the field:

Clearly a vireo by its sluggish feeding behavior and its fairly short, heavy dark bill. Upperparts (crown, nape, back, wings, rump and tail) were olive-brown in color, with no markings such as stripes, wingbars, etc. A moderately conspicuous pale yellow superciliary line. A dark (black) area on the lores, becoming a thin blackish line through and slightly beyond the eye. Throat, breast and sides pale yellow (not a bright yellow, but uniformly yellow), fading to whitish on the belly, flanks and undertail coverts, even these areas (especially belly and flanks) with a yellowish suffusion.

Describe the bird's song or call, if heard, including method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight, etc:

none.

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

Cottonwood woodland bordering a lake.

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

Thickish bill and fairly slow, leisurely movements eliminated all *byt*vireos.

Red-eyed Vireo-has no yellow on the underparts, has a gray crown bordered with black and a white superciliary line.

Warbling Vireo-most closely resembled this species. However the lores were black, Warbling always is white or at least pale in the lores. In addition, this bird was considerably yellower on the underparts and the superciliary line than the Warbling is. While Warbling Vireos often are yellowish, the color is generally concentrated on the flanks and sides, and not on the breast, throat and superciliary line.

A Warbling Vireo was in the same tree at the same time and was directly compared.

All other vireos-have spectacles rather than superciliary line.

Orange-crowned Warbler-the only warbler that could really be confused, it has a much thinner bill, more active behavior, dingier appearance with obscure breast streaks and yellow undertail coverts.

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

I have seen the Philadelphia Vireo only once before (in Colorado, 9-14-71, this report also submitted to CFO). I am quite familiar with the Warbling Vireo and Orange-cr. Warbler, and also with the Red-eyed Vireo.

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?

Peterson, Robbins consulted, and they supported my identification.

This report was written from notes made during x after observation; from memory

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