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Chordeiles minor sennetti in Florida

The first record for Florida of a specimen of *Chordeiles minor sennetti*, a subspecies of the Common Nighthawk, was published by Mengel (*Auk*, 68: 507), who "discovered" the study skin in the collections of the University of Michigan. This specimen had been collected in Clay Springs, Orange County, on 21 April 1896.

Two more specimens of this subspecies were taken in Broward County during the autumn of 1972. The first, a road kill from Ft. Lauderdale, found on 14 October by Roger Martz, fisheries biologist, Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, is a female now in the University of Miami Reference Collections (UMRC 7283). A second bird (UMRC 7282), sex undetermined, found injured in Pompano Beach on 16 October, died in the custody of Mrs. Madelaine Menser. Identification of both specimens was confirmed at the National Museum of Natural History by John S. Weske.

I examined an additional and apparently unreported specimen of the subspecies in the collections of the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH 476887). This carries a Rothschild Museum label. Originally identified as *C. m. chapmani*—which it patently does not resemble—the identification had been redesignated "*C. m. sennetti?*". No collector is specified for this male bird taken in Hillsborough County, 24 April 1897.

C. m. sennetti breeds in the upper midwestern and northwestern areas of the United States and adjacent portions of Canada (Checklist of North American Birds. 1957. American Ornithologists' Union, Baltimore, Md.). Its Florida status, based on the records cited herein, is therefore that of an unusual spring or fall migrant. I suggest it is possible that occurrence may be less unusual than indicated by the records now at hand. Nighthawks are probably less well scrutinized than most migrants and, being among the more difficult to prepare as study skins, dead birds are no doubt less apt to be retrieved than those of other migrants.

Casualties of Nighthawk migrants should be carefully inspected for information concerning this, as well as other, subspecies of the Common Nighthawk.

I thank the Bird Division of the American Museum of Natural History for the opportunity to examine specimens of *Chordeiles minor*.—Oscar T. Owre, Department of Biology, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida 33124.