



## Participant Information

Please print or type

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- How long have you been feeding hummingbirds at this location?  
\_\_\_\_ number of years
- Is your residence in a \_\_\_\_ rural or \_\_\_\_ urban area? (check one)
- Is your residence on  
\_\_\_\_ less than 1/2 acre  
\_\_\_\_ 1/2 - 1 acre  
\_\_\_\_ more (\_\_\_\_ number of acres)  
*optional*

Completed survey forms should be mailed by **January 18, 2013**, to:  
**Hummingbird Roundup  
Wildlife Diversity Program  
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
4200 Smith School Road  
Austin, Texas 78744**

Participants who mail in the completed survey will receive a pin depicting one of Texas' 18 hummingbird species and a hummingbird newsletter that will summarize the results of the year's survey.

(This survey form is printed on recycled paper.)

# The Texas Hummingbird Roundup Backyard Survey

Sponsored by the  
Wildlife Diversity Program • Wildlife Division • Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

## Welcome to the 2012 Texas Hummingbird Roundup!

2011 will be a year long remembered by Texans. The heat, drought and numerous wild-fires across the state combined to take a serious toll on our flora, with a rippling affect on our fauna. For hummingbirds, some of the fires were in some of the best hummingbird habitat in the state, and it will be interesting to see if any impact is noted in the Hummingbird Roundup surveys we will receive in January.

This year, for the first time, a report based on analysis of data received from the Roundup was presented at the Rockport Hummer-Bird Celebration. The analysis of data related to the *Selasphorus* genus showed participants that this bird can be seen almost any week of the year and may be possible in every county in the state. The most likely time for Rufous Hummingbirds to arrive in Texas is August, and they are most likely to depart in November. Your data is helping us understand this bird that has been flagged by the National Audubon Society as declining.

There is much more to learn about these birds. Pull up a chair, find your binoculars, keep the camera handy and fill the feeders. We never know what will show up, but we can be sure hummingbirds will make use of suitable hummingbird habitat within the state.

## Observation Tips

Even though it would be great to sit by your feeder each day and watch the birds—you don't have to do that. We do recommend that you set aside a certain amount of time during convenient intervals (about two hours per week) to observe each week and then record the highest number of each species and gender observed. Note: Morning coffee and the evening meal are good times to watch because the birds are actively feeding at these hours. If you fall short one week, record what you saw and continue on.

If you think you will have several species over the year, there are a couple of sheets you will want to duplicate. See back page for yearly reporting form and page 3, unusual sighting report. Extra copies of these sheets will assure that you have enough for reporting all of your finds.

### PUBLICATIONS ON HUMMINGBIRDS

- Holmgren, Virginia C. 1986. *The Way of the Hummingbird*. Santa Barbara, CA: Capra Press.
- Johnsgard, P.A. 1983. *Hummingbirds of North America*. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press.
- Shackelford, C.E.; M.M. Lindsay, and C.M. Klym. 2005. *Hummingbirds of Texas*. College Station, Texas: TAMU Press.
- Stokes, D. and L. Stokes. 1989. *The Hummingbird Book: The Complete Guide to Attracting, Identifying, and Enjoying Hummingbirds*. Boston: Little, Brown and Company.
- Tyrrell, Esther Q., and Robert A. Tyrrell. 1985. *Hummingbirds*. New York: Crown.

Williamson, Sheri L. 2001. *Peterson Field Guide: The Hummingbirds of North America*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

### HUMMINGBIRD BOOKLET

*Bird Watcher's Digest*, Box 110, Marietta, OH 45750. Reprint. *Enjoying Hummingbirds More*.

### BIRD GUIDES

- Peterson, Roger Tory. 1980. *A Field Guide to the Birds East of the Rockies*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.
- Peterson, Roger Tory. 1991. *A Field Guide to Western Birds*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.
- Scott, Shirley L., ed. 1983. *Field Guide to the Birds of North America*. Washington, DC: National Geographic Society.

**Please check habitat descriptions that suit your home and provide elevation information, if known:**

- streamside
- mountain
- forest
- desert
- brushland
- urban landscaped for hummingbirds
- urban not landscaped for hummingbirds

\_\_\_\_\_ Approx. elevation above sea level

**Use these abbreviations for species identification:**

- RTHU = Ruby-throated
- BCHU = Black-chinned
- RUHU = Rufous
- BUFH = Buff-bellied
- LUHU = Lucifer
- BLUH = Blue-throated
- MAHU = Magnificent
- BTLH = Broad-tailed
- BEHU = Berylline
- ANHU = Anna's
- CAHU = Calliope
- GRMA = Green-breasted Mango
- BBLH = Broad-billed
- WEHU = White-eared
- VCHU = Violet-crowned
- COHU = Costa's
- ALHU = Allen's
- GRVE = Green Violet-ear
- R/A = Rufous/Allen's type
- UNKN = Unknown

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Texas Hummingbird Roundup is a scientific study through which the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department gathers information about hummingbirds from the public while disseminating information on their needs. The survey encourages Texans to maintain natural habitat for the birds, properly care for hummingbird feeders and record sightings. Your answers will be used to further our knowledge of the hummingbirds of Texas and will help the Wildlife Diversity Program in its mission to help keep our tiny visitors returning each year.

- 1) When was the **first** hummingbird seen in your yard this year? (*month/day*) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
(*not first returning migrant*)
- 2) What species did you **first** observe this year? \_\_\_\_\_  
(*please use abbreviations listed at left*)
- 3) Was it    1 = male            2 = female            3 = immature            4 = unknown?
- 4) What species do you see most often? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Did you observe a hummingbird in torpor this year?    Yes    No  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ Outside temp \_\_\_\_\_ Cloud cover \_\_\_\_\_ Precip \_\_\_\_\_

***Hummingbird Feeders***

- 6) Do you maintain a year-round feeder?    Yes    No
- 7) If no, then when did you have feeders up? (*month/day – month/day*) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ – \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) How many feeders do you maintain on a regular basis \_\_\_\_\_ and during migration \_\_\_\_\_?
- 9) How often do you change and clean your feeder?    2-3 days    4-6 days    6-8 days

***Hummingbird Fuel***

- 10) If you make your own hummingbird food, what recipe have you been using? \_\_\_\_\_ part(s) water to \_\_\_\_\_ part(s) sugar
- 11) Do you use red coloring in your mix?    Yes    No
- 12) Do you buy your nectar solution?    Yes    No  
If yes, what brand(s) do you purchase?

***Nesting***

- 13) Did you see a hummingbird nest in your yard this year?    Yes    No  
If yes, a) where was the nest located?    tree    shrub    other (plant species \_\_\_\_\_)  
b) how far above the ground was the nest built?    0-5 feet    6-10 feet    11-15 feet  
c) did you see any eggs?    Yes (1 or 2)    No  
d) did you see any fledglings?    Yes (1 or 2)    No  
e) was the same nest used in a second nesting attempt?    Yes    No
- 14) Did you observe any hummingbirds in mating flight?    Yes    No  
Time of year:    Spring (Mar-April)    Summer (May-Aug)    Fall (Sept-Dec)

***Hummingbird Gardens***

- 15) What percentage of your yard contains native Texas plants?    0-20%    21-40%    41-60%    61-80%    81-100%
- 16) Do you have mature trees in your yard?    Yes    No  
Percent cover:    0-20%    21-40%    41-60%    61-80%    81+%
- 17) If you planted flowers to attract hummingbirds to your residence, did you plant in a container garden or a yard?    \_\_\_\_\_ container garden    \_\_\_\_\_ yard
- 18) What types of plants did you use?    Annuals            Perennials            Biennials  
(*circle all that apply*)            Vines            Shrubs            Trees
- 19) a) Did you plant the seed packet sent to you?    Yes    No  
b) Was it successful?    Yes    No
- 20) How is water provided for birds in your yard?  
none    bird bath    fountain    sprinkler    mister    other \_\_\_\_\_

# Texas Hummingbird Diversity and Unusual Sightings

Texans, more than most Americans, have greater opportunities to view different hummingbird species. Because of our state's size and diverse ecology which includes coastal, desert, mountain, tropical, forest and grassland areas, 18 different hummingbird species have been recorded. Eleven species occur commonly in Texas. If you live in east to north Texas, you will have at least one (maybe two) species during the migratory year. If you happen to reside in West Texas, around the Lower Rio Grande Valley or on the Gulf Coast, you are likely to see three or more species routinely. You may even have overwintering birds. Our publication, "A Quick Reference Guide to Texas Hummingbirds" will help you determine what species you are likely to see in your area.

In order for the Wildlife Diversity Program to verify sightings of a rare bird, call (800) 792-1112, ext. 4644. An attached photo will be necessary. Fill out the form below and send it right away. Your description will help biologists determine identification. The Roundup has a new group of volunteers who will be called upon to help participants identify and document rare birds when necessary.

## Bird Identification Tips

It is very simple to tell the difference between most adult male and female hummingbirds. The majority of males have a solid colored tail and the majority of females and immature males have white tips on their tail feathers. But, there are a few exceptions to this rule. The following species never have white tips on their tails: Green Violet-ear, Buff-bellied Hummingbird, Broad-billed Hummingbird, White-eared Hummingbird and Violet-crowned Hummingbird. On the other hand, both sexes of the Blue-throated Hummingbird have white tips on the tail feathers. Immature males of all species will begin to show bright colors on their gorget feathers in the late summer.

## Usual Texas Hummingbirds

Buff-bellied Hummingbird	Anna's Hummingbird
Blue-throated Hummingbird	Calliope Hummingbird
Magnificent Hummingbird	Broad-tailed Hummingbird
Lucifer Hummingbird	Rufous Hummingbird
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Allen's Hummingbird
Black-chinned Hummingbird	Broad-billed Hummingbird
Green Violet-ear Hummingbird	White-eared Hummingbird

If you see these species outside their usual area, a careful note or completion of the form below would be appreciated.

## Unusual Texas Sightings

These birds must be accompanied by a Rare Bird Sighting report and photo.

While these birds are recorded in Texas, their occurrence is rare. Any sightings of these birds should be accompanied by a phone call to (800) 792-1112, ext. 4644 and photographs.

Violet-crowned Hummingbird	Costa's Hummingbird
Green-breasted Mango	Berylline Hummingbird

Unless the bird is in your hand, the Allen's and Rufous species are extremely difficult to distinguish. Except for adult males, suspected Allen's Hummingbirds should be reported as Rufous or Allen's types (R/A).

## Rare Bird Sighting Report

Call us at (800) 792-1112, ext. 4644.

### For unusual sightings biologists need to know:

What species do you think you have?

- 1) Color, shape and length of bill are important:
- 2) Coloring and markings on throat, top and front of head:
- 3) Color of back and underparts:
- 4) Color and movement of tail while hovering:
- 5) How long the bird has been visiting your feeder or yard:
- 6) Any different sounds made by the hummingbird:

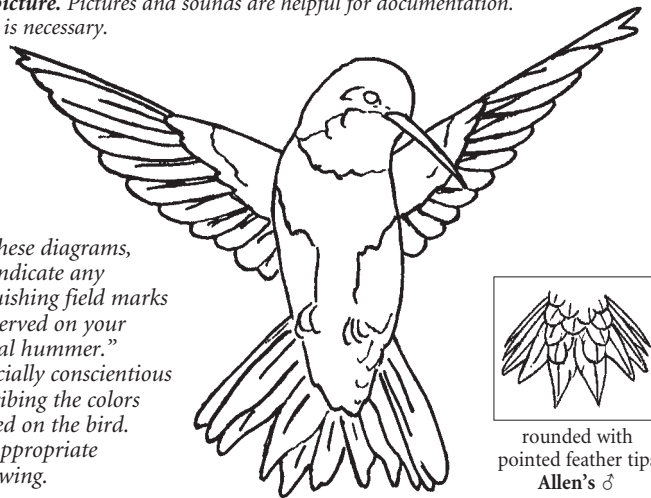
Name:

Address:

County:

Telephone: (daytime):  
(evening):

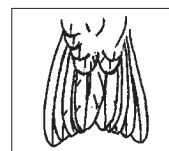
**Note: If you have a video camera or a 35mm camera with a long-range lens, take a picture. Pictures and sounds are helpful for documentation. A photo is necessary.**



Using these diagrams, please indicate any distinguishing field marks you observed on your "unusual hummer." Be especially conscientious in describing the colors displayed on the bird. Circle appropriate tail drawing.



forked with pointed feather tips  
**Ruby-throated** ♂



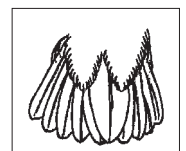
slightly forked with normal feather tips  
**Buff-bellied** ♂ ÷ ♀



deeply forked with extremely pointed feather tips  
**Lucifer** ♂



rounded with pointed feather tips  
**Allen's** ♂



rounded with normal (blunt) feather tips  
**Broad-tailed** ♀

Fill in completely and mail to: Hummingbird Roundup, Wildlife Diversity Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744.

# Attracting Hummingbirds to your Backyard

It's easy to attract these tiny treasures to your backyard. The secret to luring hummingbirds can be summed up in three words: plants, feeders and patience.

## Plants and Trees

Whether you live in the country with lots of space to plant a large, elaborate garden or in an apartment with just a deck or patio, you can plant a beautiful garden that will attract hummingbirds.

While hummingbirds feed on a wide variety of plants, they seem to prefer feeding at flowers that are brightly-colored and tube-like. Orange and red flowers are high on hummingbirds preference list, but hummers will feed from other nectar-producing flowers regardless of their color. When choosing flowers, select a variety of native plants that will provide a profusion of blooms from early spring through fall and winter. Pay attention to where and how your flowers are planted. Planting groups of flowers in different locations in your garden will help reduce conflicts between the birds feeding in your garden.

Trees provide perches and also harbor insects that are important hummingbird food. Even small trees can break up the space so the birds can establish several territories. Trees also provide nesting sites. If you have the space, plant a native tree today.

## Feeders

There are several things to keep in mind when purchasing and using a feeder. The following points will make your backyard feeding station more hospitable and safe for the hummingbird.

- When selecting your feeder, make sure it does not drip. A leaky feeder attracts ants and other feeder pests. Note: Your feeder is more likely to drip if you fill it with cold sugar-water mixture and place it outside when the weather is very hot.
- Hang your feeder high enough that cats cannot jump to catch the hummingbirds. The feeder should not be in direct sunlight all day. Hummingbirds seem to prefer a small limb-perch five to fifteen feet from the feeder so they can eat and then perch to "guard" the feeder.

- Purchase a bee guard that will keep flying pests, such as bees, wasps and yellow jackets, away from the feeder. These protective screens are big enough to allow hummers to feed, but help keep airborne pests away.
- Purchase an ant moat and keep it full. Hung above your feeder, these water traps prevent ants from accessing the feeders. Avoid hanging feeders from tree limbs to reduce ant problems.
- Buy feeders that are easy to clean and do so often to prevent the growth of mildew and harmful bacteria. In warm weather clean your feeder every 2-3 days. The warm sun causes the sugar solution to spoil more quickly, which can pose a risk to feeding birds.
- You may want to purchase a feeder equipped with a perch. Hummingbirds will use a perch to feed, allowing you a chance to view the bird more easily. However, there is no evidence to suggest that feeders with perches are more attractive to the birds. Feeders without perches tend to exclude other birds.
- Your feeder will not prevent hummingbirds from migrating; it will give hummers a place to stop and refuel on their way south. Keeping your feeder active all year is advised.

## Patience

Your patience and hard work luring your first hummingbird will pay off the first time you see the tiny creature swiftly flying and feeding in your garden or at your feeder. These inquisitive little birds will provide you with great delight and amazement as you watch their airborne acrobatics and feisty antics. By providing a feeder and flowering plants, you can help provide a habitat for hummingbirds and ensure that they visit your home time and time again.

## Hummingbird Rehabilitation

While we do not like to see it, hummingbirds, like every other animal, are occasionally injured. If you suspect a hummingbird is sick, injured or orphaned, please observe the animal closely but do not intervene until you are sure the animal needs help.

If you observe the injury, pick it up and immediately place it in your palm and offer it sugar solution from your feeder. It may revive quickly and soon fly away. If you must shelter the bird, it is important that a wildlife rehabilitator be called immediately. Please visit [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/rehab/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/rehab/) for a list of licensed rehabbers. Place the bird in a small box, protect it from injury and disturbance, and keep it in a warm location (birds DO NOT like air-conditioned rooms!). Thank you for your concern and for helping us ensure that as many of these birds as possible can be returned to their natural environments.

## Hummingbird Gardening

If you would like information on gardening for hummingbirds and other wildlife, call or write for "Texas Wildscapes" (512) 389-4644. By participating in this program, property owners receive information on how to provide the basics of food, water and cover for wildlife.



This beautiful 10" full-color identification wheel will help you recognize most of the hummingbird species found in Texas and North America. The front of the wheel has color illustrations and descriptions of 16 North American hummers. The back contains more information on other hummer species, a nectar recipe and fun hummingbird facts. Send \$11.95 (shipping and handling included) to Texas Hummingbird Roundup, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744.

**2012 Texas Hummingbird Roundup Credits:** The Texas Hummingbird Roundup is a project of the Wildlife Diversity Program. Special thanks to Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The Texas Hummingbird Roundup is coordinated by Project Coordinator, Mark Klym.

# Tips on Tricky Hummingbirds

Low light or poor angle situations make hummingbird identification a challenge—especially when the books tell you to look for the colorful gorget on the male which is almost never seen. There are other observations you can make to help in identification of these birds. Some of them are set up here in combinations with the birds they are often confused with.

<p><b>Bill Length</b></p> <p><b>Wing Length and Shape</b></p> <p><b>Tail Shape</b></p> <p><b>Behavior</b></p>	<p><b>Black-chinned</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long – often half again the width of the head</li> <li>• Long, club-shaped wing extending to the tip of the tail</li> <li>• Forked, but not as deeply as the Ruby-throated</li> <li>• Pumps tail when feeding</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ruby-throated</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moderate – about the width of the head</li> <li>• Shorter, tapered wing extending less than the length of the tail</li> <li>• Deeply forked</li> <li>• Tail almost still when feeding</li> </ul>
<p><b>General Characteristics</b></p> <p><b>Bill Characteristics</b></p> <p><b>Tail Shape and Color</b></p> <p><b>Back Colors</b></p>	<p><b>Magnificent</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large dark bird, seems slower moving</li> <li>• Very long, straight black bill</li> <li>• All dark colored tail, adult female will have small white corners on an otherwise green upper tail. Tail fan shaped</li> <li>• <i>Uniform gray-green coloration from top of head to tip of tail</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Blue-throated</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large dark, seemingly slower bird</li> <li>• Shorter, straight black bill</li> <li>• Oversized black tail. All birds will have large white corners on an otherwise black upper tail. Oversized tail appears rounded</li> <li>• <i>Green from top of head to top of tail. Tail black (may be a small patch of red above tail)</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>General Characteristics</b></p> <p><b>Bill Shape and Color</b></p> <p><b>Belly</b></p> <p><b>Tail and Rump</b></p> <p><b>Wing Color</b></p> <p><b>Habitat</b></p>	<p><b>Berylline</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dark green overall with rufous tail</li> <li>• Orange red lower mandible with some black on the upper mandible as a juvenile. Black recedes as an adult</li> <li>• Gray belly</li> <li>• Rufous tail with purple black uppertail coverts</li> <li>• Rufous wings</li> <li>• Between 3,000 and 10,000 feet above sea level</li> </ul>	<p><b>Buff-bellied</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dark green overall with rufous tail</li> <li>• Red bill tipped with black. Juveniles have a black upper mandible which recedes to a black tip</li> <li>• Buffy belly</li> <li>• Rufous tail with bronze green uppertail coverts</li> <li>• Dark wings – green to black</li> </ul>
<p><b>General Characteristics</b></p> <p><b>Tail Gorget</b></p> <p><b>Bill</b></p> <p><b>Sound</b></p>	<p><b>Calliope</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small bird present September–April</li> <li>• Short, squared tail</li> <li>• STRIPED or streaked rosy red</li> <li>• Short, thin bill</li> <li>• Pale buffy</li> </ul>	<p><b>Archilochus Young</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Birds will be the same size as adult Ruby-throated or Black-chinned.</li> <li>• Forked tails longer in both species</li> <li>• Will be spotted with some spots more dominant than others, usually dominant to the center of the throat</li> <li>• Much longer, typical length for adult Ruby-throated or Black-chinned</li> <li>• Gray</li> </ul>
<p><b>General Characteristics</b></p> <p><b>Tail Coloration</b></p> <p><b>Sound</b></p>	<p><b>Broad-tailed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larger blue-green bird with white breast and rosy red throat on male</li> <li>• Long, broad tail</li> <li>• Will have a lot of rufous on top of tail, flanks buffy</li> <li>• Male makes a shrill trill sound when in aggressive flight</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ruby-throated</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average sized gold-green bird with white breast and ruby red throat on male</li> <li>• Average length forked tail</li> <li>• No rufous, very little buff on flanks</li> <li>• Wings make typical humm sound</li> </ul>
<p><b>Bill Head</b></p> <p><b>Female Head</b></p> <p><b>Wings Size</b></p>	<p><b>Anna's</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short, straight bill</li> <li>• Red crown and throat with a white <i>eye ring</i></li> <li>• Gray cheeks and throat, green crown separated by slight white over eye band</li> <li>• Do not extend to tip of tail</li> <li>• Slightly larger bird</li> </ul>	<p><b>Costa's</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short slightly curved bill</li> <li>• Purple crown and throat with long flared gorget and white <i>eyebrow</i></li> <li>• Gray cheek separates white throat from green cap</li> <li>• Project just beyond tip of tail</li> <li>• Average sized hummingbird</li> </ul>

## General Tips

- Do not attempt to guess the bird's size – use a comparison to common hummingbirds.
- Notice bill color, shape.
- Notice wing lengths.
- Do not rely on behaviors unless they are known to be consistent.
- Rufous/Allen's – unless you get a good look and photo of the spread tail record as R/A.

## Hummingbird Feeding Plants

### Acanthus Family:

Flame acanthus

### Catalpa Family:

Cross-vine  
Trumpet creeper  
Desert willow  
Yellow bells (esperanza)

### Pineapple Family:

Air pine

### Bluebell Family:

Cardinal Flower

### Heath Family:

Texas azalea

### Horsechestnut Family:

Buckeye  
Red Buckeye

### Mint Family:

Prairie brazoria  
Purple horsemint  
Wild bergamot  
Spotted beebalm  
Tropical sage  
Autumn sage  
Crimson sage  
Big red sage  
Cedar sage  
Mountain sage  
Texas betony

### Logania Family:

Pink-root

### Mallow Family:

Heart-leaf hibiscus  
Turk's cap  
Globe mallow

### Agave Family:

Century plant  
Red yucca

### Cactus Family:

Hedgehog cactus

### Honeysuckle Family:

Coral honeysuckle

### Morning Glory Family:

Scarlet morning glory  
Cypress vine

### Ocotillo Family:

Ocotillo

### Legume Family:

Lead plant amorpha  
False indigo  
Smooth amorpha  
Panicked amorpha  
Anacacho orchid tree  
False mesquite  
Eastern coral bean  
Bristly locust  
New Mexico locust  
Rattlebush

### Four-o'clock Family:

Hierba de la Hormiga  
Colorado four o'clock  
Scarlet four o'clock  
Scarlet muskflower

### Phlox Family:

Scarlet standing cypress  
Standing cypress  
Drummond's phlox  
Polemonium

### Buckthorn Family:

Mexican buckeye

### Madder Family:

Trompetilla

### Figwort Family:

Indian paintbrush  
Grassland paintbrush  
Woolly paintbrush  
Cenizo  
Snapdragon vine  
Havard's penstemon  
Cup-leaf penstemon  
Three-flower penstemon  
Wright's penstemon

### Buttercup Family:

Texas clematis  
Wild columbine

### Rose Family:


Prairie rose

### Verbena Family:

Lantana urticoides  
(Texas lantana)


## Do's and Don'ts of Feeder Care

- **It is important that chemicals such as insecticides and repellents are not used on or around your feeders.** They can be harmful to the birds, even if not applied directly to the area where birds feed. Remember that hummers also eat some insects, and may perch anywhere on or around your feeder. Try to minimize the use of chemicals, pesticides and fertilizers all over your yard.
- **Ant moats and bee guards for feeders are inexpensive and easy to make as well.** Many of our participants use them and they are very effective. This is the safest way to reduce pest problems.
- **It is extremely important that you change the old solution in your feeder and clean it out as often as possible.** We recommend that you clean it at least every 2-3 days on a regular basis and more often in hot weather! Many of our Roundup participants report changing the solution nearly every day — this is excellent! Bacteria and fungi love a hot sugar solution and can be toxic to your birds!
- **Red food coloring is unnecessary in hummingbird nectar and is probably harmful to the birds.** The red color on the feeders is enough to attract these birds. Hummingbird plants and a wild-scaped yard will enhance the attraction.
- **Use 1 part regular household sugar in 3 to 4 parts water only – never use honey or sugar substitutes!**
- **Some of our participants have reported using cooking oil around feeder ports to deter flying insects.** We do not recommend this practice. If you must continue to use this method, *be very certain that no oil actually enters the feeder holes* where it may contaminate the nectar or coat the bills of the hummingbirds.
- **It is very convenient and enjoyable to have your hummingbird feeder near a window where you can view the hummers easily (and share your observations with us). However, if you have had incidences of birds flying into glass windows, there are many possible solutions.** Move the feeder to an area where there is less glass to create the reflection of grass, trees, and sky which confuses hummers and other birds. Place stickers, pictures, or other items on windows to draw their attention to the barrier.
- **Make sure that your feeder is placed in a safe area, away from cats and other pets.**



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**Hummingbirds of Texas**  
with their New Mexico and Arizona Ranges

Clifford E. Shackelford,  
Madge M. Lindsay, and C. Mark Klym

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21) Have you observed hummingbirds using the: bird bath fountain sprinkler mister other

22) List in order of frequency the five plants hummingbirds **fed from** most often in your garden.

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### Feeder Pests & Other Users

23) List the species other than hummingbirds that used your feeder this year.

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24) Did you see a hummingbird moth this year? Yes No

25) Did you observe a hummingbird being attacked? Yes No

If yes, a) where? at feeder at flowers perched in flight

b) what? bee/wasps cat dog hawk oriole roadrunner other \_\_\_\_\_

### Identification Guides

26) List any hummingbird identification guides you used (*title and author*):

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### Overwintering Observations

27) Did any birds visit your feeders during the months of January and February?

Occasional visits \_\_\_\_\_ Repeated visits \_\_\_\_\_ No visits \_\_\_\_\_

28) Will your hours be reported to Master Naturalists?

### Comments and Questions

Add any other comments or questions you might have regarding this year's survey.

Are there any reports you would like to see in the newsletter?

## 2012 Overwintering Observations (January-February 2012)

JANUARY				
WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J
Jan. 1-8				
[ 1 ]				
total hours observing				
Jan. 9-15				
[ 2 ]				
total hours observing				
Jan. 16-22				
[ 3 ]				
total hours observing				
Jan. 23-31				
[ 4 ]				
total hours observing				

FEBRUARY				
WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J
Feb. 1-5				
[ 5 ]				
total hours observing				
Feb. 6-12				
[ 6 ]				
total hours observing				
Feb. 13-19				
[ 7 ]				
total hours observing				
Feb. 20-26				
[ 8 ]				
total hours observing				
Feb. 27-29				
[ 9 ]				
total hours observing				



-ELISHEA

# Hummingbird Observations

Note: Please record your best idea of the number of individuals coming to your feeder.

MARCH					APRIL					MAY					JUNE					JULY				
WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J	WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J	WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J	WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J	WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J
Mar. 1-3 [ 10 ]					Apr. 1-8 [ 15 ]					May 1-6 [ 19 ]					June 1-10 [ 24 ]					July 1-8 [ 28 ]				
total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing									
Mar. 4-11 [ 11 ]					Apr. 9-15 [ 16 ]					May 7-13 [ 20 ]					June 11-17 [ 25 ]					July 9-15 [ 29 ]				
total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing									
Mar. 12-18 [ 12 ]					Apr. 16-22 [ 17 ]					May 14-20 [ 21 ]					June 18-24 [ 26 ]					July 16-22 [ 30 ]				
total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing									
Mar. 19-25 [ 13 ]					Apr. 23-30 [ 18 ]					May 21-27 [ 22 ]					June 25-30 [ 27 ]					July 23-31 [ 31 ]				
total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing									
Mar. 26-31 [ 14 ]										May 28-31 [ 23 ]														
total hours observing										total hours observing														

AUGUST					SEPTEMBER					OCTOBER					NOVEMBER					DECEMBER				
WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J	WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J	WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J	WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J	WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J
Aug. 1-5 [ 32 ]					Sept. 1-9 [ 37 ]					Oct. 1-7 [ 41 ]					Nov. 1-4 [ 45 ]					Dec. 1-9 [ 50 ]				
total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing									
Aug. 6-12 [ 33 ]					Sept. 10-16 [ 38 ]					Oct. 8-14 [ 42 ]					Nov. 5-11 [ 46 ]					Dec. 10-16 [ 51 ]				
total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing									
Aug. 13-19 [ 34 ]					Sept. 17-23 [ 39 ]					Oct. 15-21 [ 43 ]					Nov. 12-18 [ 47 ]					Dec. 17-23 [ 52 ]				
total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing									
Aug. 20-26 [ 35 ]					Sept. 24-30 [ 40 ]					Oct. 22-31 [ 44 ]					Nov. 19-25 [ 48 ]					Dec. 24-31 [ 53 ]				
total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing					total hours observing									
Aug. 27-31 [ 36 ]														Nov. 26-30 [ 49 ]										
total hours observing															total hours observing									

Note:  
You can record 2-3 species on this form. Please copy if needed.  
M = male  
F = female  
J = juvenile  
Record unknowns as shown.

Example:

MARCH				
WEEK OF	SPECIES	M	F	J
Mar. 1-7	RTHU	3		
	BCHU	1		
	UNKN		4	
total hours observing				

Use these abbreviations:

RTHU = Ruby-throated	CAHU = Calliope
BCHU = Black-chinned	GRMA = Green-breasted Mango
RUHU = Rufous	BBLH = Broad-billed
BUFH = Buff-bellied	WEHU = White-eared
LUHU = Lucifer	VCHU = Violet-crowned
BLUH = Blue-throated	COHU = Costa's
MAHU = Magnificent	ALHU = Allen's
BTLH = Broad-tailed	R/A = Rufous/Allen's type
BEHU = Berylline	GRVE = Green Violet-ear
ANHU = Anna's	UNKN = Unknown



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