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Kale, H. W., II, B. Pranty, B. M. Stith, and C. W. Biggs. 1992. The atlas of the breeding birds of Florida. Final Report. Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Florida.

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American Robin *Turdus migratorius*

Among the most familiar of North American birds, the orange-breasted American Robin has only recently extended its breeding range into Florida.

It commonly breeds from northern Alaska to southern California, Mexico, the northern Gulf coast, and a few locations in north and central Florida.

It is a common to abundant wintering species in Florida in open habitats that support fruiting shrubs and trees. Indeed, it is these same habitat features, often associated with live oaks in yards and gardens, that now seem to attract the few American Robins that remain in Florida each year to breed.

Habitat. In Florida the American Robin is found in woodlands as well as in residential areas with plentiful insects and wild and cultivated berries. During the breeding season, Robins feed their young primarily on earthworms, snails, and soft-bodied insects taken from the ground. During the winter much of the American Robin's diet is comprised of fruit.



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Like the Wood Thrush, the American Robin requires muddy substrates for nest construction. Nests are typically cup-shaped, mud structures in shrubs or at moderate heights in trees. The nest itself consists of twigs and thick grasses, lined with fine grass. Three or 4 unmarked "robin's egg blue" eggs are laid. Incubation lasts 12 to 14 days, and the young fledge at 14 to 16 days of age.

Seasonal Occurrence. The first Robins usually reach Florida in October and leave before April. Breeding occurs from mid-April to mid-July. More than 1 brood may be raised, but the exact range of egg dates and the number of broods in Florida is unknown. Nesting has been observed in May, June, and July (Stevenson and Anderson 1994).

Status. Breeding has been confirmed for the American Robin in 6 quadrangles. Almost all Atlas records are located in suburban areas of north Florida, from Escambia and Duval counties south to Levy County. However, Hillsborough County, confirmed breeding occurred in 1 quadrangle, probable breeding in 1 quadrangle, and a "possible" breeding record occurred in Sarasota County.

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Sponsored by Esther W. Freeman

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