



Common redpoll

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EARLY RECORD OF REDPOLL NESTING IN SOUTHERN ALBERTA

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Recently Lister and Godfrey have documented the nesting of Common Redpolls in Alberta.^{1 2} Godfrey expressed the opinion that nesting of this species in southern Alberta and Saskatchewan is more likely an overlooked situation of long standing than a recent development.² Recently while compiling a bibliography of Alberta birds, I found an untitled note by C. H. Snell which supports Godfrey's view, at least to the extent that such southern breeding records are not

infrequent.³ On May 19, 1924 Snell observed a female Common Redpoll feeding three young at Red Deer, Alberta. Snell's identification appears not to have been confirmed, but his description of the female's black chin patch and dull red cap leaves little doubt as to its accuracy. This record is further south in Alberta than any of the records mentioned by Lister and Godfrey, and also almost two decades earlier.^{1 2}

¹GODFREY, W. E. 1976. Breeding status of the Common Redpoll in Alberta and Saskatchewan. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 90:199-200.

²LISTER, R. 1975. Common Redpolls nested at Edmonton, Alberta. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 89:64-65.

³SNELL, C. H. 1926. (untitled note). *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 40:18.