

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Use of Conifers as Nest Sites by Yellow Warbler in New York: The Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*) usually nests in shrubs, deciduous saplings, and briars (Harrison, H., 1975. *Field Guide to Birds' Nests*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston; Griscom, L. and A. Sprunt, Jr. (Ed.), 1957. *Warblers of North America*. Devin-Adair Co., N.Y.). A. C. Bent (1963. *Life Histories of North American Wood Warblers*. Dover Publications, New York) describes nest sites used in eastern United States by over 145 Yellow Warbler and none were located in conifers. Bull (1974. *Birds of New York State*. Doubleday-Natural History Press, New York) lists nest locations of Yellow Warbler in New York State, which include poison ivy, bayberry, bushes, shrubs, and trees but there is no mention of conifers as a nest site choice. Information on Yellow Warbler nests documented for the North American Nest Record Card Program at Cornell University's Laboratory of Ornithology indicates that of approximately 2300 Yellow Warbler nests studied in the United States, only 23 were built in conifers. Of a total of 583 Yellow Warbler nests recorded in New York State, just five were located in conifers. A summary of these five New York nests is shown in Table 1. These five nestings show that although less than 1% of New York Yellow Warbler nests reported to the North American Nest Card Record Program were located in conifer, in habitat where that is the predominant vegetation, the Yellow Warbler may indeed choose conifers as their nest site.

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Table 1. New York State Yellow Warbler Nests Located in Conifers.

Year	Height above ground (ft.)	Conifer specified	Young fledged	Location (County)	Documenter
1966	5.0	conifer sp.	3	Wyoming	J. E. Bacon
1974	2.5	pine	5	Oswego	P. M. Lawrence
1979	7.0	yew	4	Oswego	G. R. Maxwell
1982	2.3	yew	0	Allegany	V. M. Pitzrick
1992	3.2	White Spruce	4	Allegany	E. W. Brooks