

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

REALLY CONFUSING FALL WARBLER- ANOTHER GYNANDROMORPH

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On 19 Aug 1998 I found a dead Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Dendroica caerulescens*) in Altamont, Albany County, New York. The specimen displayed plumage characteristics of both the male and the female of the species. The right side had a blue back, black throat, and white undersides. The left side was dull grey/brown above and yellow/olive below.

The specimen was taken to Dr. William Cook at Columbia-Greene Community College in Hudson, NY, who prepared a laboratory specimen. Although the specimen was fresh, there were no signs of trauma and the cause of death was not apparent.

Preliminary results show that the internal organs corresponded with the plumage characteristics, i.e. testis on the right side and ovary on the left. Organ and tissue samples were submitted for DNA analysis and other tests. The results are not back yet, but will be published when complete.

A color photograph of the specimen placed between male and female Black-throated Blue Warbler specimens can be seen on the Columbia-Greene Community College web site at <http://www.sunycgcc.edu/~mathsci/slide6.html>.