

Notes

A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher nesting attempt in Kern County — On 14 May 2000 Dean DiThomaso noticed a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) in the vicinity of South Belridge, Kern County, on the west side of the southern San Joaquin Valley. The bird, presumably a female due to the equal tail length to body length ratio, was observed flycatching from a telephone wire, a fence, and from sprinkler heads in an adjacent cotton field (see Figure 1).

On 31 May I observed the bird constructing a nest on a transformer high up on a telephone pole adjacent to the cotton field. It appeared to have paired up with a Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) and, although there was no observations of mating on that date or subsequently, Mark Chichester observed the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher sitting on the nest on 6 June.

No young birds were ever detected and the last known observation of this bird occurred on 9 July when the bird was seen at (but not sitting on) the nest (*vide* Joe Morlan). — *John Wilson, 1425 Alta Vista Drive Bakersfield, California 93305.*



Figure 1. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) in the company of a Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) near South Belridge, Kern County, on 31 May 2000.

photo by John Wilson