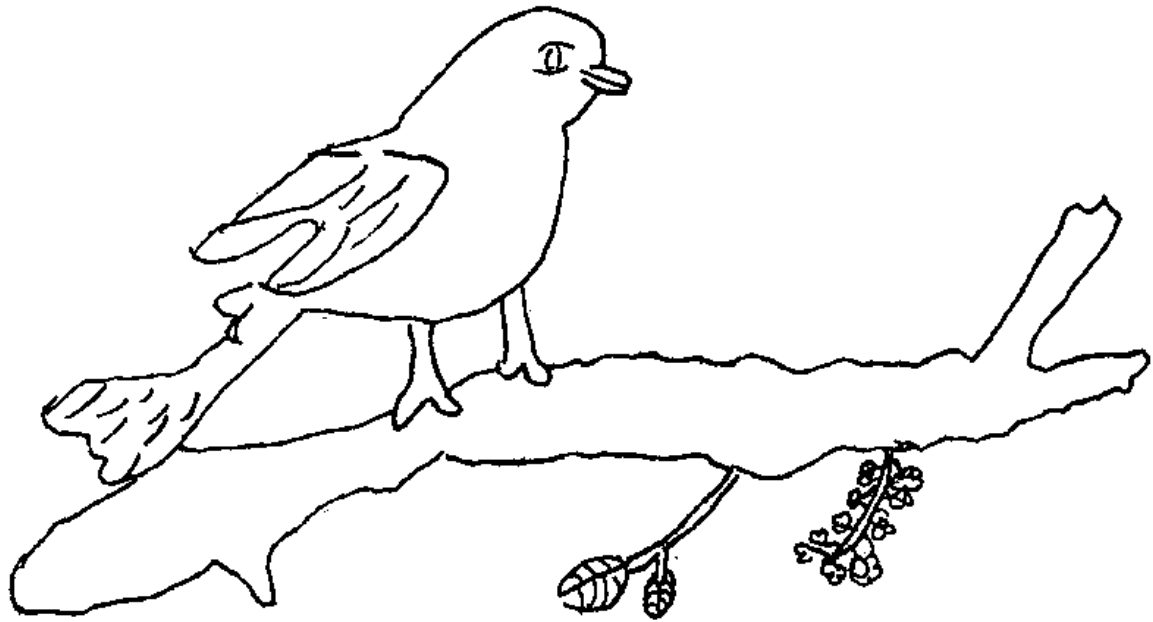


Scarlet Tanager Migration Map



Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*):

On the wintering grounds in South America the scarlet tanager joins mixed species flocks with flycatchers, antbirds, wood creepers, and resident tropical tanagers.

The female scarlet tanager sings a song similar to the males song and while she is gathering nesting material.

The response of the scarlet tanager to habitat fragmentation varies from place to place. Results from the Cornell Labs project tanager indicate that in the heart of the species range in the northeast, it can be found in small forest patches. In the Midwest similar sized forest patches tend to have no tanagers.

Scarlet tanagers often play host to eggs of the brown-headed cowbird, particularly where the forest habitat has been fragmented. When a pair of tanagers notice a female cowbird approaching, they aggressively drive her away. If they don't notice, the cowbird gets rid of a tanager egg and replaces it with one of her own. The tanagers apparently can't tell the difference, either before or after the egg hatches, and they raise the imposter along with the rest of their brood.

The oldest scarlet tanager on record was a male, and at least 11 years, 11 months old. He was banded in Pennsylvania in 1990 and found in Texas in 2001.

