

Ornithological Observations



An electronic journal published by BirdLife South Africa and the Animal Demography Unit at the University of Cape Town



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Editor: Arnold van der Westhuizen

UNUSUAL DECORATIONS ON A COLLARED SUNBIRD *Anthreptes collaris* NEST AT TALA GAME RESERVE – KWAZULU-NATAL

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Recommended citation format:

Anderson, N 2011. Unusual decorations on a Collared Sunbird *Anthreptes collaris* nest at Tala Game Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal. Ornithological Observations Vol 2:40.

URL: <http://oo.adu.org.za/content.php?id=22>

Published online: 29 June 2011

- ISSN 2219-0341 -



**UNUSUAL DECORATIONS ON A COLLARED SUNBIRD
Anthreptes collaris NEST AT TALA GAME RESERVE –
KWAZULU NATAL**

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Collared Sunbirds *Anthreptes collaris* are well known for adorning their nests with decorations which range from bark, fibres, plant materials, leaves and cobwebs (Tarboton 2001). During December 2010 I observed a nest with the usual collection of decorations but also including a snake skin woven intricately throughout. Judging from the length and thickness of the skin I assume it was from one of the common bush snakes found in the Tala Game Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal.

Dr Warwick Tarboton has not previously observed the use of snake skins on Collared Sunbird nests (pers comm).

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References

Tarboton W 2001. A guide to nests and eggs of Southern African Birds. Stuik Publishers (Pty) Ltd, Cape Town.



Figure 1: Collared Sunbird nest using snake skin for decoration