# **GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER**



## **Physical characteristics**



The golden-winged warbler is a predominantly grey bird with patches of yellow on the head and wings. While males and females share a similar appearance, the males can be distinguished by their darker throats and eye patches. This species crossbreeds with the bluewinged warbler, which can make it difficult to differentiate between the two.

#### Diet



The golden-winged warbler's diet consists mainly of insects found on the ground, such as certain moth species (including their larvae) and spiders.





This bird's habitat consists of a mosaic of herbaceous openings, shrubs, and trees that borders a forest. It likes to nest on or near the ground, often at the base of a small shrub.

## **Periods of vulnerability**



- The nesting period extends from mid-May to early August.
- This species can be found in Quebec from May to late September.



## **GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER**

Vermivora chrysoptera

#### **Threats**



- Significant habitat loss caused by the disappearance of shrubland due to reforestation and the intensification of agricultural activities and urbanization.
- Increased mortality rate due to the risk of ingesting pesticide-contaminated prey.
- Declining populations due to hybridization and competition with blue-winged warblers.





### **Sustainable practices**

- Create or maintain succession environments: areas with shrubs, herbaceous plants, and trees that could
  potentially be inhabited by golden-winged warblers.
- Reduce grazing of the herbaceous layer by cattle or white-tailed deer to protect nestlings, since this species
  nests on the ground.
- Control invasive species such as buckthorn and reeds wherever possible to preserve the herbaceous layer required for nesting.
- Avoid performing agricultural or forestry work during the nesting period.
  - As of 2023, threatened species listed on Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act
  - Recovery strategy: wildlife-species.canada.ca/species-risk-registry/virtual\_sara/files/plans/Rs-GoldenWingedWarbler-v00-2016Aug05-Eng.pdf

#### **Sources**

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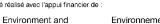
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