

Diane Porter

908 East Briggs  
Fairfield, IA 52556  
(515) 472-7256

# Fall 96 Bird Report

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All records are from Jefferson County unless otherwise specified.

12/2/96  
Records: 29

ITEM	COMMON NAME	NUM	DATE	LOCATION	HABITAT
1	Turkey Vulture	150	9/30/96	Lacey Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., IA	Overhead
	At 4:30 P.M. on 9/30/96, at Lacey Keosauqua's Ely Ford, 150 TVs flew in from the south very low. They crossed the Des Moines River, then rode thermals rising from a bean field until they gained high altitudes, and peeled off in the direction from which they had come, south. I saw the same behavior again on 10/12, same place, late afternoon, for a count of 140 TVs.				
2	Osprey	1	9/10/96	Lacey Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., IA	River
	Flying over the Des Moines River. I also saw one at the same place on 10/6.				
3	Peregrine Falcon	1	10/12/96	Lacey Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., IA	River
	Adult. In rapid pursuit of a killdeer. The bird's pointed falcon wings had significantly larger wingspan than the killdeer's. Falcon facial pattern, looked like a football helmet. (Anatum race, I think.) Dark grey head and back. Belly and flanks pale red with dark bars. This was a brief but thrilling sighting. Birds left field of view before I could see the outcome of the chase.				
4	Wild Turkey	7	9/29/96	Lacey Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., IA	Clearing in trees
	I don't see turkeys all that often, so I'm including them in this report. Seven hens were taking their breakfast at the crest of the hill in the park.				
5	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	9/30/96	Lacey Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., IA	Trees
	Last				
6	Common Nighthawk	1	10/9/96	Fairfield, IA	Residential area
	Last one in town, as far as I know. It was seen by Therese Cummisky, naturalist at Jefferson County Park, and I vouch for her ability to id a nighthawk. The bird was perched on her porch railing in the morning.				
7	Chimney Swift	1000	10/10/96	Fairfield High School, Fairfield, IA	Chimney
	Last. Unusual because of the sudden drop-off in numbers at the end. There were 1900 on 10/8. No data on 10/9. 1000 on 10/10. Zero on 10/11 and thereafter. It usually tapers down to 20-50 at the end. I've never seen a big crowd on the last night before (in records going back to 1988). Numbers are from counts made while swifts go down the chimney. MAXIMUM: 5050 on 9/17.				
8	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	9/29/96	Lacey Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., IA	Trees
	First was this one on 9/29. Last was in my back yard in Fairfield 10/7.				
9	Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	9/30/96	Lacey Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., IA	Trees
	First, last, and maximum. Chunky dark grey flycatcher with short tail, long primaries nearly to end of tail, longer than on pewee or phoebe; no wing bars. No trace of yellow on underparts, which had dusky flanks, with unmarked center of breast. (White tufts were not visible in this sighting.)				
10	Eastern Phoebe	3	10/18/96	Rural area, Jefferson Co., IA	Trees
	Last. One was an immature with very yellow underparts, suggestion of wingbars, but indistinct. Conspicuous white tertial edges. All-black bill. Tail occasionally bobbed up and down several times in quick succession. My latest recorded observation for Jefferson County.				

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11	Eastern Kingbird Last	1	9/2/96	Walton Lake, Fairfield, IA	Trees
12	Brown Creeper First this fall were these two together 9/26. Last one was seen in my back yard on 10/15.	2	9/26/96	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees
13	Winter Wren Only one I saw this fall.	1	10/26/96	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Garden
14	Ruby-crowned Kinglet On 10/21/96 one bathed in rainwater on leaves, then preened w/ red crown feathers conspicuous. Last one seen 11/4/96.	1	11/4/96	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees
15	Solitary Vireo Last. It is my latest date for Jefferson County. Previously I also saw one in my back yard on 10/7.	2	10/16/96	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees
16	Red-eyed Vireo Last	1	9/30/96	Lacey Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., IA	Trees
17	Tennessee Warbler 10/21 is my latest date for Jefferson County, by one day. Whitish breast (whiter than most fall Tennessees) and white undertail coverts, no streaks on breast, greenish bird with warbler bill, light supercilium, dark eye line, no wingbars or tail spots. Two seen on 10/15/96 were my third latest date for Jefferson County.	1	10/21/96	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees
18	Orange-crowned Warbler First on 9/10/96 Last on 10/22/96, in my back yard, Fairfield, had dingy yellow breast with blurry indistinct breast streaks, a hint of a wingbar, bit of white above and below eye but no supercilium. A drab olive warbler with very thin sharp bill.	1	9/10/96	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
19	Chestnut-sided Warbler Last. Chartreuse top on front end, tiny white eye ring. Bathing on dewy leaves of tree.	2	9/30/96	Chautauqua Park, Van Buren Co., IA	Trees
20	Magnolia Warbler Last. Yellow throat and belly with black streaks on flanks; big white wing bars on dark wings; white undertail coverts. I didn't see tail spots, but neither did I see that there were none.	1	10/7/96	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees

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21	Yellow-rumped Warbler Last 10/21/96 Maximum was 20 at Jefferson County Park on 10/13.	1	10/21/96	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees
22	Black-throated Green Warbler Last.	2	10/7/96	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees
23	Bay-breasted Warbler The only one I saw this fall. I usually see many at Lacey Keosauqua, but I saw none there this year. Odd.	1	9/10/96	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
24	Black-and-white Warbler Last	2	9/30/96	Lacey Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., IA	Trees
25	Wilson's Warbler Last. Bright yellow below. Black cap. Some dusky diffusion around black cap.	1	9/29/96	Lacey Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., IA	Trees
26	Canada Warbler The two birds were associating with each other. I see this species infrequently, so I'm including it even though the date is unremarkable.	2	8/31/96	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
27	Rose-breasted Grosbeak Last	1	9/10/96	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
28	Vesper Sparrow Last. White eyering. White outer tail feathers. One bird was showing well the rufous patch on the wing.	2	10/12/96	Rural area, Jefferson Co., IA	Roadside fence
29	Harris's Sparrow One immature, seen by Dave Killman.	1	11/7/96	Jefferson Co. Park, Fairfield, IA	Feeding station

EXTRA:

Terri Diers of Fairfield told me she saw a SHRIKE near her rural Jefferson County home. I know Terri can recognize a shrike when she sees one. She did not report any details that would tell which shrike she saw, although I suppose Northern is more likely.