

December 4, 1962

AFN Fall Migration, Des Moines, Iowa

*Weather*

Sept. was both cool and dry, with rainfall nearly an inch below normal. Oct. made up the lack, averaging 2.5° above normal, and an excess precip of 1.16". Nov. was also warm, nearly 3° above normal, but with only .8" precip vs. a normal of 1.6"

There have been a few loons at the Impounding Res. and several Horned and one Eared Grebe. There have been few Pied-billed.

No migration of herons has been reported.

While there were numerous reports of geese being heard going over, few were actually seen. There have been only a fraction of the usual numbers of ducks, due perhaps to mild weather further north.

No hawk migration was noticed, but an immature Golden Eagle was seen at Walnut Woods State Park by Mrs. Margaret Brooke, Mary Ellen Warters and the writer. A Bald Eagle was reported by the custodian at the Impounding Res. on Nov. 24.

There were 450 coots at the Impounding Res. on Oct. 20. A Black-bellied Plover on Aug. 26 was six weeks early, and a snipe on Aug. 3 was early by three weeks. The shorebird migration on the whole was poor.

There were an estimated 200 E. Kingbirds seen around Des Moines Aug. 31.

A Barn Swallow on Oct. 28 was a late date.

There were many Robins and Bluebirds, but probably fewer than usual of the other thrushes.

There was an unusually large migration of Ruby-crowned Kinglets.

The warbler migration was about normal with many more Myrtles than in the past few years. A Black-throated Blue was in the yard of Mrs. Brooke on Oct. 3.

The migration of finches was not heavy, but Mrs. Brooke had a Pine Grosbeak, either female or immature on three of four successive days in mid-Nov. A Snow Bunting at the Impounding Res. on Oct. 20 was the first seen in several years in this area.

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