

33 Hillcrest Court
Webster City 505095
August 24, 1976

Dear Dr. Halmi,

I'm not sure of the format that you wish for the field reports, but will try to submit any thoughts as I have to Woody over the past years and if you desire a different type of report please inform me.

Generally the summer was not that significant. I did observe some 73 species while making 9 breeding bird survey, down 3 species from last year's similar runs. Weather conditions may have been the major contributing factor (wind). The best observations, as far as I was concerned, were 8 blue grosbeaks on 3 surveys along with 4 western kingbirds on 2 surveys in northwest Iowa.

Other comments:

- Ducks - Very few during summer, best observation was 150 blue-wings last Sunday morning on a pond near Kamrar.
- Hawks - Fair number of red-tails, kestrels fewer, and only one marsh all summer. A nesting broad-wing near Webster City.
- Game birds - Pheasants in good numbers in northwest, west central and north central parts of the state. Large numbers of bobwhite below U. S. 30. Partridge about usual.
- Sandpipers - Upland in Sioux and Kossuth during BBS along with a few spotted and yellowlegs.
- Cuckoos - Nothing unusual. More yellows than black-bills.
- Owls - Good numbers of horned and barred near Webster City.
- Flycatchers - Impressed with the number of peewees in rural areas throughout the summer, never really had observed that before.
- Swallow - One cliff near Fort Dodge on June 16 seemed out-of-place. Flocks of cliffs first week in August as usual.
- Mimics - More catbirds than previous summers.
- Thrushes - One bluebird near Algona in June-my only observation.
- Blackbirds - No orchard orioles this spring or summer.
- Tanagers - None
- Sparrows, etc. - few rose-breasted, large number of goldfinches the past few weeks. Lark sparrow in Warren co. on 7/19 was my first summer observation.

Just a note. During the summer I hold a job as a crop insurance adjustor, so do get a fair chance to see quite a bit. During the rest of the year I am a classroom teacher.

Sincerely,

Ron Muilenburg
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