

Ibis species
16 May 1958
Little Wall Lake, Hamilton Co., IA
M. W. Weller
Weller 1961

Record Number: 81-JA
Classification: A-D

REFERENCE

Weller, M.W. 1961. General notes. IBL 31:44-45.
VOTE (1981): for sp. 5-III, 1-IV; for White-faced 3-III, 2-IV,
1-V; for Glossy 1-V, 4-VI
Better description needed.
Description plausible for White-faced -- III.
III -- White area probably eliminates Glossy (but see plate in
Cramp et al).

Ibis sp.

Weller, M. W. 1961. Cattle Egret and other uncommon Iowa waterbirds. IBL 31:44-45.

Cattle Egret and other uncommon Iowa water-birds. —Incidental to field work on marsh ecology, several species of uncommon Iowa birds were observed during 1958-1961.

Common Loon (*Gavia immer*). Three birds in immature plumage were observed at Trumbull Lake in Clay County on June 23, 24, 26, and July 7, 1958. Two were present on July 30 and three were again seen on August 19 of that year. King (*Ia. Acad. Sci.*, 51:467-470, 1944) observed two loons on West Okoboji Lake in 1942. Presumably these were immature birds summering south of the present breeding area.

Cattle Egret (*Bulbucus ibis*). A single bird was observed and collected at Little Wall Lake in Hamilton County on April 21, 1961. The bird was an adult male in breeding condition. It was feeding in a burned-over River Bulrush area. All identifying characters were conspicuous: the delicate tan crown and nape, back, and ruff of the lower neck; the yellow bill and yellowish legs; and the conspicuous throat pouch. This is a short stocky bird compared to the Snowy Egret and quite easily identified even at long range. This appears to be the first record for the state. The amazing spread of this bird since its entry into the United States in 1952 has been documented by Sprunt (*Ann. Rept. Smithsonian Inst. for 1954*: 259-276, 1955).

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*). A lone bird was observed on May 16, 1958, feeding in a shallow pool at the south end of Little Wall Lake. There was an extensive white area at the base of the bill but precise identification was impossible. However, there are no authentic records for the Glossy Ibis (*P. falcinellus*) in Iowa. Because records of ibises in Iowa have increased during the last ten years, some should be collected during the spring for identification.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*). A female with a brood of six to eight downy young was seen on Goose Lake near Jewell, Iowa on June 26, 1960.

Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*). A female or immature male was observed at Little Wall Lake on May 16, 1958 with a group of Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*). The bird was observed again on May 17 by Peter Petersen Jr. DuMont (*Univ. Ia. Studies*, 15:42, 1934) lists this species as a "rare late fall straggler" as only two of nine specimens he noted were observed in the spring. However, these records may reflect the fall shooting season when most duck specimens are taken.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*). Two or three were observed on June 24, 1954 on Trumbull Lake. Five were observed on July 7, 1958 and another was seen on July 29, 1958 in the same area. These birds all appeared to be immature. Whether these were young of the year or summering yearlings was not ascertained. Several nests have been reported in Iowa recently (*Iowa Conservationist*, 15:52, 1956, and *Iowa Bird Life*, 29:7-9, 1959).

Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*). Two were observed on July 14, 1960 at the state-owned Sweetwater Marsh near Tripoli. Although this species is not rare during spring and fall migration, midsummer records are unusual. —MILTON W. WELLER, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa.

8 *dup*