

Summer Report -- 1985

Note: Due to my frequent absences and limited birding opportunities these past two months, my report is rather brief.

- American Kestrel: doing very well in northwest Iowa: several nests were found, and by July, Kestrels were extremely common throughout the County.
- Common Bob-white: to hear several individuals calling in Western Sioux Co. in June was a pleasant surprise.
- White-rumped Sandpiper: two individuals were in Sioux Center on June 5.
- Upland Sandpiper: individuals were present just across the border in South Dakota and in Minnesota in early June. None observed in Iowa proper.
- Black-billed Cuckoo: Gordon Brand reports that he considers this species exceptionally plentiful in the Hull area this summer.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch: one individual apparently summered in Sioux Center. We observed it on June 30, July 1, 2, 20, and 25. We could not find any evidence of nesting.
- Blue Grosbeak: an immature male was present in western Sioux Co. on June 12. On July 20 I discovered a nest with three young, neatly in the middle of a bushy thistle, in a roadside ditch six miles north of Sioux Center.
- Dickcissel: abundant population in June. Along a two-mile stretch in western Sioux Co. we counted over 40 singing males on June 12.
- Pine Siskin: several individuals were present in Sioux Center during the first two weeks of June.

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P.S. Thanks for your extensive reply (dated June 22) to my comments on reporting. Indeed, I hope we can continue the dialog.

John