

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

Species Glossy IBIS 2. Number: 1

3. Location 1/2 mile North Eldridge, Scott County Iowa

4. Date: September 2, 1981 5. Time Bird seen: 1:00 AM to 1:10 AM

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):

Bird was immediately recognized as an IBIS by the dark coloration and shape. A Look with the scope dictated it as an adult. We were close enough to see the iridescent plumage. We were able to see the blue coloration at the base of the bill. This being the difference between the Glossy and the white faced Glossy. Fortunately the bird had retained its breeding plumage making identification much easier.

7. Description of voice, if heard: None heard

8. Description of behavior: Bird was feeding in flooded field

9. Habitat - general: wading bird area.
specific:

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:

The only other species offering same characteristics would be the white faced Glossy IBIS. This was eliminated by answer question 6.

11. Distance (how measured)? 250 feet (estimated)

12. Optical equipment: 32 Power
(Surveyors instrument)

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
Bright sunny day with the sun directly overhead.

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
Have observed the white faced Glossy Ibis at Great bend KANSAS

15. Other observers:
MEMBERS OF SURVEY CREW.

16. Did the others agree with your identification?
They are untrained in bird identification.

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
Checked Petersens Field Guide when I arrived home.

Also checked an article in Birding Volume 8 Number I, JANUARY FEBRUARY 1976 page 1-5
(Field Identification of IBIS)

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 6 hrs

Signature

Lewis D Blevins Address: 2003 East 12th

Date: September 3, 1981 City, State: Davenport, Iowa, 52803