

## Comments on White-winged Dove

I talked to Ron Bartelt of Grimes on 7 July 2000. He had reported a White-winged Dove to his brother earlier. I asked him to describe the bird, behavior, etc without putting words in his mouth.

Ron saw the bird for about 5 minutes at his farm near Grimes on 27 June. I believe that he said he saw it in the evening but not sure on that. The bird was about 100 feet away but he apparently had a good look at the bird. He first became aware of the bird when he heard it. He recognized the call as dove like but the call was different from that of a Mourning Dove, a species that he is familiar with. He saw the bird perched on a nearby wire and noted the following:

1. The bird appeared slightly larger than a Mourning Dove and somewhat plumper in appearance.
2. He noticed immediately that the tail was shorter than that of a Mourning Dove and appeared rounded rather than the long, pointed appearance of a Mourning Dove tail.
3. The overall color was basically brown and it was immediately apparent that the bird had a neat band of white feathers across the wing.
4. He also noticed that there was a crescent or half-moon shaped black-colored marking behind the eye on the side of the head. He said he distinctly saw this marking.

After watching the bird for about five minutes, it flew. When the bird was in flight, again noticed that the tail feathers were relatively short and the tail had a rounded appearance like that of a Rock Dove rather than the elongated, thin tail of a Mourning Dove. He also distinctly saw the white wing bars on the bird's wings as it flew.

I got the impression that Ron was not familiar with White-winged Doves but knew that this bird was different from a Mourning Dove. When he looked in a field guide, he immediately recognized the former species as the bird he had seen.

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These are compiled from notes that I took while I talked to Ron Bartelt  
on the phone on 7 July.