

Eurasian Wigeon

Oct 1933

North Twin L., Calhoun Co., IA

George Van Wyngarden

DuMont 1934, Hasbrouck 1934, IBL 61:83

Record Number: 89-AF
Classification: A-S

SPECIMEN

Iowa State University #

PHOTOGRAPH

T. H. Kent, P-0037 (IBL 61:83)

REFERENCES

DuMont, P. A. 1935. Specimen of European Widgeon taken in northwestern Iowa. Wilson Bull. 47:236.

Hasbrouck, E. M. 1944. Apparent status of the European Widgeon in North America. Auk 61:93-104. p 101.

Musgrove, J. W., and M. R. Musgrove. 1961. Waterfowl in Iowa. Des Moines: State Conservation Commission. p. 26.

Photograph: IBL 61:83 (P-0037)

Records Committee: IBL 61:83-84

VOTE: 5 A-S, 1 A-P

A-P. Confirmed by DuMont.

A-S. According to Iowa Birds, we have a photo of this specimen. Regardless, I'll take DuMont's word for it regarding the identification.

A-S. Specimen has been verified, and nothing seems to indicate bird could have been an escapee.

A-S. Ross Silcock, Tom Staudt, and I viewed and photographed the specimen at Mr. Van Wyngarden's home. His specimens were beautifully mounted and carefully labeled on the bottom of the mount.

A-S. Date and circumstances (except for fact that all 4 birds were males) tends to support this record as being of a wild bird.

REPORT OF THE RECORDS COMMITTEE FOR 1989

CARL J. BENDORF AND THOMAS H. KENT

The Records Committee reviewed 61 records from 1989 and 16 old records. Of the 1989 records, 44 were accepted (3 in the category of possible escaped or introduced) and 17 were not accepted. Of the old records, 1 was a review of a previously accepted record and remained accepted, 1 was an examination of a specimen and accepted, and 14 were reviews of old records of accidental species that had not been previously reviewed (9 accepted, 5 not accepted). Seven species were added to the state list in 1989: Tricolored Heron, Black-shoudered Kite, Laughing Gull, Little Gull, Common Black-headed Gull, California Gull, and Slaty-backed Gull. The Committee met once on 15 July 1989 in Des Moines. It was decided to write formal procedures for review of records and annual review of the secretary. It was decided to begin work on a revision of the state list to include records through 1989. Committee members for 1989 with years in which their terms expire were: W. Ross Silcock (1990), Raymond L. Cummins (1991), Francis L. Moore (1992), Carl J. Bendorf (1993), appointed secretary after Kent's resignation), Mark Proescholdt (1993), appointed to fill Bendorf's term), Stephen J. Dinsmore (1994, resigned November 1989), Eugene Armstrong (1994, appointed to fill Dinsmore's term), and Thomas H. Kent (secretary, resigned November 1989).

OLD RECORDS

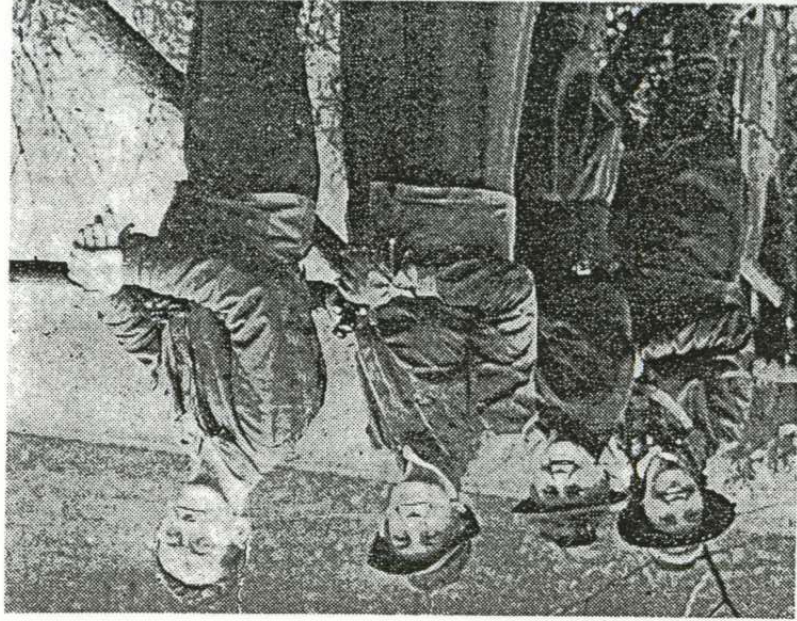
Brown Pelican: Three records were accepted: (1) A-D, one was shot in early July 1900 nine miles north of Boone in Boone Co. on the Des Moines R. (Hemming 1905), and the specimen, now lost, was examined by Dumont (1933); (2) A-D, one on 26 Apr and 2 May 1959 at Brenton St. in Polk Co. was observed plunge diving (Peasley and Peasley 1960); and (3) A-P, one on 10 May 1969 1 mile w. of Montpelier in Muscatine Co. was photographed (Petersen 1972a). Two records were not accepted: (1) the species was listed on Thomas Say's list for 1819-1820 without citation of a specific record (James 1923); and (2) one on 14 to 28 Sep 1963 at Twin Lakes in Calhoun Co. was listed in the Field Reports without further detail (IBL 33:86).



Eurasian Wigeon, North Twin Lake, Oct 1933 from Van Wynngarden collection. Photo by T. H. Kent taken in 1982.

Eurasian Wigeon: Two records were accepted: (1) A-S, a male was shot in Oct 1933 at North Twin L. in Calhoun Co. (Dumont 1935), and the mounted specimen in the Van Wynngarden

Members of the Des Moines Audubon met at Younkers Tea Room on 5 November 1948 to celebrate the club's 25th anniversary. Despite a heavy downpour outside, spirits were high inside. Joe Brown remembers that outside the dining room there were two glass counters filled with mounted birds, study skins, bird nests, eggs, bird books, an exhibit of nature photos by Helmut Wilk, a semi-professional photographer, copies of the *Warbler, Iowa Bird Life*, and publicity about field trips and meetings. Sixty-six members were present. Five of the eight living charter members were the honored guests. They were: Janetta Dumont, Olivia McCabe, Estelle Reynolds, Toni Wendelburg, and Minnie Youngerman. After dinner, members met in the cafeteria to hear the charter members recall earlier meetings and field trips. Ross and Florence Thornburg of Tucson, Arizona then presented a slide presentation "The Fascinating Southwest." At the April 1949 meeting, Ruth Binsfield was elected president for 1949-50. The annual report for 1948-49 was presented to the club at the May meeting. It was reported that two lecturers had been sponsored: Arthur Allen of Cornell University on 15 October and Ries Tuttle, columnist with the Des Moines Tribune on 14 January. At the October 1949 meeting, Albert Berkowitz distributed the new bird checklist sheets. He hoped that the experienced birders would fill in the sheets for the next two years so *The Birds of Polk County* could be updated, having last been done in 1931. This concludes part II of the history of the Des Moines Audubon club. The concluding part will describe May morning breakfasts, club publications, the Browns' Woods fight, and more member portraits.



715 West St., Colo., IA 50056

Des Moines Audubon Club members on a field trip in Greenwood Park. From left to right, Mrs. Harold Peasley, Mrs. H. L. Bump, Janetta Dumont, and Joseph Brown. Photo undated but probably taken in 1940s or early 1950s.

89-AF

89-af Eurasian Wigeon; Oct 1933; North Twin L., Calhoun Co., IA; George Van Wyngarden. P 0037

DuMont, P. A. 1935. Specimen of European Widgeon taken in northwestern Iowa. Wilson Bull. 47:236.

Specimen of European Widgeon Taken in Northwestern Iowa.—A fully plumaged male European Widgeon (*Mareca penelope*) was killed during October, 1933, by George Van Wyngarden while he was hunting ducks at North Twin Lakes, Calhoun County, Iowa. Mr. Van Wyngarden stated that this bird was one of a flock of four which flew over, and all appeared to be the same species. Only one specimen was secured.

The specimen was mounted by Mr. Van Wyngarden and is displayed in his private collection of water birds and upland game birds at Manson. While the European Widgeon has been taken in all states surrounding Iowa, this is believed to be the first and only specimen of this bird secured in Iowa. This collection was examined by the writer on May 2, 1935, when permission was kindly granted for the publication of this note.—PHILIP A. DUMONT, *Des Moines, Iowa*.

Hasbrouck, E. M. 1944. apparent status of the European Widgeon in North America. Auk 61:93-104. p 101.

IOWA.—Four records (1 sp.; 3 vis.). All Oct., 1933.

Locality:—North Twin Lakes, Calhoun Co., 4.

MISSOURI.—One record (sp.). April 10.

Musgrove, J. W., and M. R. Musgrove. 1961. Waterfowl in Iowa. Des Moines: State Conservation Commission. p 26.

EUROPEAN WIDGEON

136 *Mareca penelope* (LINNAEUS)

PLATE ON PAGE 30

The European widgeon is included in this book because of its irregular occurrence in Iowa and some of the surrounding states—Nebraska, Missouri, Illinois, and Wisconsin. Sportsmen have told the writer of one specimen shot in Washington county, Iowa, but no further information is available. A male European widgeon in full plumage was killed during October of 1933 by George Van Wyngarden while hunting ducks at North Twin lakes, Calhoun county. Mr. Wyngarden stated that this bird was shot from a flock of four which flew over and all appeared identical. One was observed in the spring of 1947 at Blackhawk lake by conservation officer Jerry Kelley. Another record of this species near Iowa is of the writer's study of an adult male on May 13, 1939. Though the specimen was actually in Minnesota, it could be classed as an Iowa record, as the writer stood on the boundary line between the two states, north of Spirit Lake in Dickinson county, and with highpowered glasses studied it for a considerable length of time while it fed with a mixed flock of red-heads, baldpates, and gadwalls. A total of 520 records of this species has been compiled for North America by Edwin M. Hasbrouck, and it is probable that more records will be established as hunters become better acquainted with it.

The adult male of this species is readily identifiable by its rusty red neck and head, crowned with a cream-colored patch, a grayish body shading into pinkish-gray on the breast, and white under parts. Females, however, might easily be confused with female baldpates. There is considerable difference in coloration between them, the European bird being browner. The main difference is in the axillary feathers, which on the baldpate are white or lightly mottled with gray, while those of the European bird are heavily mottled with gray. Of course this marking would be helpful in identification only if the birds were in the hand. Sportsmen and bird students might be on the watch for this species in order to establish more definite records for Iowa.