

31 Aug. 1994

Tom Kent
211 Richards
Iowa City, IA 52246

Dear Tom,

My records show that I found the Yellow Rail on 20 October 1987 at the Cherokee County Fair Grounds. It was in good condition indicating to me that it was probably killed after midnight on the 19th or in the early hours of the 20th.

I took the carcass to Hank Zalatel in Ames so he could give it to Jim Dinsmore. I'm sure that I received a thankyou from Jim. He indicated that it would be prepared for use as a study skin at the university.

Sincerely,

Dick

Dick Bierman
901 Harris
Cherokee, IA 51012-1546

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Yellow Rail How many? 1Location? Found dead AT The Cherokee Fair Grounds

Type of habitat? _____

When? date(s): Oct 20, 1987 time: _____ to _____Who? your name and address: Dick Bierman 901 Harris Cherokee In
others with you: — 51012others before or after you: —

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, eye, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

Barred Breast, brown, white wing patches. 6" Long.SHORT THICK bill. THE BACK has black stripes with white crossbars. (The bird is in my hand so identification is positive.)~~By~~ I will get this bird to Jim Dinsmore, ISU Ornithology Prof. Hopefully by 25 Nov.Similar species and how eliminated: other Rails are too large.Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No.

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
In hand, 1 foot.Previous experience with species and similar ones: I've seen many forms of Virginia Rail.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? _____ this form completed? 3 weeks

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240