

FIELD REPORTS

SUMMER 1982

Thomas H. Kent, Field Reports Editor
211 Richards Street
Iowa City, IA 52240

WEATHER AND HABITAT CONDITIONS

(James P. Sandrock)

June 1982 was cool and dry. Temperatures averaged about 4.5 degrees F. below normal, and precipitation averaged about 65% of the normal 5.13 inches. Precipitation was variable, spotty, and occasionally excessive which portended the conditions in July. The weather for July is easily described--wet, hot, humid.

Heavy rains in mid-June and through the first three weeks of July resulted in much crop damage and erosion. Fifteen counties, mostly in southern Iowa, were considered disaster areas. The excessive precipitation caused state-wide flash flooding, high river and reservoir levels, and much standing water in farm fields.

GENERAL TRENDS

Hérons were present in good numbers with many more Cattle Egrets summering than ever before. Usual numbers of lingering waterfowl were seen but Greater White-fronted Goose, Ring-necked Duck x Lesser Scaup hybrid, a pair of Greater Scaup, and a Common Goldeneye were unusual. Osprey and Rough-legged Hawk were unusual raptors. Shorebirding areas were particularly good for returning July birds. Several sightings of Piping Plover and Least Tern are encouraging. Some unusual summer warblers were found: Black-and-white, Northern Parula at Ledges SP, Chestnut-sided, Prairie, Hooded, and Canada.

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

Accidentals included Great Black-backed Gull, Black-headed Grosbeak, and Iowa's first House Finch. Casual species were Plegadis sp., King Rail, Burrowing Owl, and Prairie Warbler. An exotic was Ringed Turtle Dove.

LOONS THROUGH DUCKS

Common Loon: 1 was at L. Meyer, Winneshiek Co., on 1 Jun (RPB, CAB) and 1 was at Saylorville Res. on 17 Jun (JD, SD, KD).

Eared Grebe: A number lingered in SW Iowa with a peak of 18 at Forney L. on 11 Jun (CJB, WRS) and 2 there on 25 Jul (TB et al); up to 15 were at Willow S. to 17 Jul (BLW). Six at New L., Woodbury Co., on 6 Jun (JPSc) may have been late migrants. On 25 Jun only 1 was at Eagle L., Emmet Co., where nesting occurred last year (JD).

Pied-billed Grebe: Nesting was noted at Louisa Preserve, Louisa Co. (PP), Goose L., Clinton Co. (PP), New Albin (PW), and Willow S. (BLW).

American White Pelican: 6 lingered at Red Rock Res. on 22 Jun (CJB, RT) and 8-200 were near the Minnesota line in Dickinson Co. all summer (DHa).

Double-crested Cormorant: 1-3 were seen along the Missouri R. in Fremont, Pottawattamie, Harrison, Monona, and Woodbury Cos.; 8 were at Red Rock Res. on 22 Jun (CJB, RT); 5 were at Louisa Preserve on 12 Jun (PP, LL), and 1 was at Dewey's Pasture on 19 Jul (BH).

Great Blue Heron: 14 nests were found at West Swan L., Emmet Co., on 15 Jul (Rick Hay fide JD). On 19 Jun 25 were noted in Allamakee Co. (CJB) and 30 were at Red Rock Res. on 22 Jun (CJB, RT). Late July concentrations were reported at many locations.

Green Heron: 20 were seen in Allamakee Co. on 19 Jun (CJB, TK, TSta).

Little Blue Heron: 1-2 immatures were at Forney L. from 18 to 31 Jul
(m. ob.)

Cattle Egret: There were more summer records than for all previous years combined suggesting that nesting may soon be discovered:
3-10 from 19 Jun to 31 Jul at Forney L. (m. ob.), 1 on 22 Jun at Red Rock Res. (CJB, RT), 5 on 26 Jun at Riverton WA (FM), 2 on 6 Jul near Early, Sac Co. (DBi), 1 on 7 Jul at Amana (LH fide CJB), 1 on 10 Jul at Swan L., Johnson Co. (RHo, CJB), and 18 on 15 Jul at Runnells (RMO fide HZ).

Great Egret: June records of 3-9 birds were from Louisa Preserve, Red Rock Res., and Mills Co.

Black-crowned Night Heron: Rookeries were found in Dickinson and Osceola Cos. (DHa, BH).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron: 1 adult and 6 immatures were at Forney L. on 21, 29 Jul (TB, BPa).

Least Bittern: 1-2 were reported from Forney L., Willow S., Cone M., Louisa Preserve, ^{Otter Creek M.,} ~~D~~ Little Prairie (Story Co.), New Albin, Jemerson S., and Grover's L.

American Bittern: 1-2 were at Forney L. on 4 Jun and 21 Jul (TB, BPa).

Plegadis species: 1-4 on 29, 31 Jul were at Forney L. but not described (TB, BPa, TK, WRS).

White-faced Ibis: A late report of 1 in Palo Alto Co. on 15 May (+Rex Johnson) and excellent photos submitted by Michelle Connors.

Canada Goose: 2 at Amana on 14 Jun were unusual for that location (CJB).

Greater White-fronted Goose: 2 at McFarland P., Story Co., on 31 Jul (HZ) are very unusual for summer.

Snow Goose: Only 3-4 lingered at Forney L. and Harrison Co. (TB, BPa, JR).

Lingering Ducks: 1-5 were noted as follows: American Widgeon (Anderson L., Hamilton Co., and Willow S.), Gadwall (Anderson L.), Green-winged Teal (Riverton WA), Common Pintail (Louisa Preserve, Nashua), Northern Shoveler (L. Meyer, Riverton WA), Canvasback (Eagle L., Wright Co., and New L., Woodbury Co.), Redhead (Goose L., Clinton Co., and Forney L.), and Lesser Scaup (New L., Forney L., Willow S.).

Ring-necked Duck: A hybrid Ring-necked Duck x Lesser Scaup was reported from New L., Woodbury Co., on 26 Jun (+JPSc).

Greater Scaup: A pair on 6 Jun at New L., Woodbury Co. (+JPSc) represents the first summer record for this species in Iowa.

White-winged Scoter: A late report of 4 at Lake Anita on 6 Nov 1981 (+RCH).

Common Goldeneye: A male at Davenport from 16 Jun to 17 Jul (PP et al) appears to be a first summer record for this species.

Hooded Merganser: 3 broods were found at Louisa Preserve on 30 Jun (PP et al) and 1 at Lock and Dam 9 on 19 Jun (TK, CJB, TSta); 1-3 individuals were noted at Coralville Res. on 4 Jul (CJB, TK) and Yellow River F. and Lansing on 9, 18 Jul (DK).

Ruddy Duck: Up to 13 were at Forney L. and Willow S. during the period and 1 was at Goose L., Clinton Co., on 19 Jun (PP, LL).

VULTURES THROUGH TURKEY

Osprey: 1 was n. of Missouri Valley on 3 Jun (BH) and possibly the same one at DeSoto NWR on 9 Jun (JR); another was at Lansing on 15 Jul (Ken Utterson fide JD).

Bald Eagle: 1 was seen at New Albin on 11 Jul (DK, JPSc) and a fledgling was seen on 26 Jul next to a nest near the confluence of the Upper Iowa and the Mississippi, several miles south of previous nest (Jim Ripple fide BH). An immature near DeWitt on 21 Jun (CB fide PP) was unusual.

Northern Harrier: Pairs were noted in O'Brien Co. on 9 Jun (DHa) and Linn/Delaware Cos. on 19 Jun (MN). Singles were seen in Cedar Co. on 23 Jun (PP, LL) and Fayette Co. on 13 Jul (JPSc). Perhaps nesting is occurring.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 at Hickory Hill P., Iowa City, on 4 Jun (JPSc) was unusual.

Cooper's Hawk: 1 was n. of Effigy Mounds on 19 Jun (DK).

Red-tailed Hawk: Nests were noted from Mills and Cass Cos. (BLW, RCH).

Red-shouldered Hawk: 1-2 were seen at 3 Allamakee Co. locations (DK, BH, PW, FT).

Broad-winged Hawk: 1-2 were seen at Ledges SP, Yellow River Forest, and Bank's Tract, Woodbury Co. (JD, DK, JPSc).

Swainson's Hawk: A pair was near Inwood, Lyon Co., on 28 Jun (DHa).

Rough-legged Hawk: 1 was reported on 13 Jun in Pocahontas Co. (+RC, WJ) which would be only the second summer record.

American Kestrel: 1-10 were reported from many locations.

Gray Partridge: 2 were at Sweet M. on 23 Jul (RKM).

CRANES THROUGH TERNS

King Rail: 1 was seen at Hendrickson M. on 2 Jun (+SD, KD).

Sora: A pair with young were noted at Forney L. on 25, 29 Jul (TB et al).

Common Gallinule: An adult with 11 young was at Lansing on 18 Jun (DK, JPSc); 1-2 were at New Albin on 19 Jun (TK, CJB, TSta), Eagle L., Wright Co., on 9 Jun (JD, SD, MD), and Goose L., Clinton Co., on 4 Jul (PP, CS, DG).

American Coot: Residents were noted at Forney L. and Willow S.

American Avocet: 3 were at Amana on 7 Jul (CJB), the second earliest date.

Semipalmated Plover: The first migrants were noted at Forney L. on 29 Jul (TB et al) and Colo, Story Co. on 30 Jul (HZ).

Piping Plover: 2 were at Louisville Bend, Monona Co., on 4, 5, 19 Jun (JPSc, LF, BH) and 2-3 at IPL Settling Ponds, Pottawattamie Co., on 10, 18 Jul (BPa, LPa).

Lesser Golden Plover: No details were given for a very early fall record.

Upland Sandpiper: 1-5 were reported from 11 widely scattered counties.

Greater Yellowlegs: No details were given for a very early fall date.

Lesser Yellowlegs: The earliest date was 1 Jul with 10 at Nashua (JPSc).

Willet: Record early arrivals were 6 at Willow S. on 25 Jun (BLW) and 20 were at Colo on 5 July (HZ). Singles were at Forney L. on 21, 25 Jul (TB et al) and Waterloo on 30 Jul (RKM).

Wilson's Phalarope: Singles, possibly early migrants, were at Riverton WA on 26 Jun (FM) and Colo on 4 Jul (HZ).

American Woodcock: An adult with 4 young was at DeSoto NWR on 25 Jun (JR).

Common Snipe: 1 at Forney L. on 21 Jul (TB, BPa) is the second earliest date.

Dowitcher sp.: The earliest dates were 14 on 5 Jul at Colo (HZ) and 10 on 10 Jul at Coralville Res (RHo, CJB).

Long-billed Dowitcher: 1 was described and heard at Riverton WA on 11 Jun (WRS), a very unusual date.

Short-billed Dowitcher: Details were given for 4 at Forney L. on 21 Jul (TB, BPa).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: 1 at Forney L. on 19 Jun (RKM, WRS) is an unusual summer record.

Western Sandpiper: One report without details.

Least Sandpiper: 10 Jul at IPL Settling Ponds (TB et al) was the earliest date.

Baird's Sandpiper: 1-3 on 28-31 Jul e. of Tabor, Fremont Co. (WRS, TK, RC).

Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 at Nashua on 1 Jul (JPSc) is a record early date.

Stilt Sandpiper: 7 at IPL Settling Ponds on 10 Jul (BPa, LPa, AG) is the second earliest date.

Greater Black-backed Gull: An adult was reported at West Okoboji L. on 14 Jul (+DHa, +LH, m. ob.) which would be the second record for the state.

Herring Gull: 2 at Bettendorf on 19 Jun (PP, LL) appears to be the second summer record.

Ring-billed Gull: More than usual were reported for summer from widely scattered locations: 1-3 in Jun from Little Wall L., Allamakee Co., Smith's S. (Clay Co.), and Bettendorf; 1-3 in Jul from Nashua, Bettendorf, and Forney L.; 15 at Lansing on 17 Jul (PW, FT).

Franklin's Gull: 2 were Bettendorf on 17, 19 Jun (PP) and 1 at Riverton WA on 26 Jun (FM). Adults and juveniles were seen in Dickinson Co. on 17-19 Jul (BH).

Forster's Tern: 1-2 were noted at Little Wall L., Clay Co., Johnson Co., and Pottawattamie Co.; 15 were at Lock and Dam 9 on 18 Jul (DK, JPSc).

Common Tern: There was one report without details.

Little Tern: Reports from four western counties are encouraging: 2 at Decatur Bend, Monona Co., on 3-6 Jun (+JPSc), 1 s. of Westfield, Plymouth Co., on 24 Jun (+JPSc), 2 at IPL Settling Ponds on 17 Jul (BPa, LPa), and an immature at Riverton WA on 31 Jul (TK, WRS, RC).

Caspian Tern: 4 on 19 Jun at Bettendorf (PP, MLP, CS), 4 on 23 Jun, 10 Jul at IPL Settling Ponds (AG, BPa, LPa) and 9 on 15 Jul at Runnells (RMo fide HZ).

Black Tern: Jun reports of 2-10 from Amana L., Red Rock Res., New Albin, Riverton WA, IPL Settling Ponds, Willow S., and Dickinson Co. Jul concentrations of 25 at Forney L. on 16-25 Jul (TB, BPa) and 115 at Lock and Dam 9 on 18 Jul (DK, JPSc).

PIGEONS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Ringed Turtle Dove: 1 at Davenport on 26 Jun was said to have been present several weeks (Bart Ashford fide PP). Three were present in the summer of 1981 at Clinton (Paul Van Nieuwenhuyse fide PP).

Burrowing Owl: A pair was discovered by Dean Roosa in Monona Co. and seen from 3 Jun to 10 Jul (BH).

Long-eared Owl: 4 young reached adult size and were last seen at the nest in Winneshiek Co. on 28 Jul (RPB, CAB).

Short-eared Owl: A late report of a nest with 7 eggs at Hayden Pr. on 16 May 1981 (Jon Van Loon fide Joel Dunnette).

Chuck-will's-widow: Up to 5 were at the usual location at Waubonsie SP (m. ob.) and 4 including 1 young were seen at Johnson's Tree Farm near Eddyville, Wapello Co. (TSta, TD).

Whip-poor-will: 1 was heard in NW Iowa 4 mi. w. of Inwood, Lyon Co. (DHa).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 1-6 were reported from at least 10 widely scattered counties with the greatest numbers from NE Iowa.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: A nesting pair feeding young was photographed at Wexford, Allamakee Co. (TK, CJB, TSta). Darwin Koenig found 17 in Allamakee and Clayton Cos. from 12-19 Jun. One n. of Keosauqua in Van Buren Co. on 4 Jun was unusual for SE Iowa (JPsa).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH STARLINGS

Western Kingbird: On 1 Jun there were 2-4 per mile w. of Larchwood, Lyon Co., compared to 6-8 Eastern Kingbirds/mile. The Western Kingbird appears to be common in the western ^{file} ~~part~~ of counties, especially along the Missouri and Big Sioux Rivers, but is only sporadic in more easterly counties.

Say's Phoebe: The only report was from the usual location in Plymouth Co. (*JPSc).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: There were three undocumented reports of this species which is not known to occur in Iowa in summer.

Acadian Flycatcher: Singles reported from Waubonsie SP (WRS), Coralville Res. (MN), and Pictured Rock P., Jones Co. (CJB) as well as the usual locations of Amana, White Pine Hollow, Wildcat Den SP, and Ledges SP.

Willow Flycatcher: Reportedly common in SW Iowa at Riverton WA, ~~F~~orney L., and Willow S. (WRS, BLW); 11 n. of Marquette in NE Iowa on 18 Jun (DK); 4 at Big M., Butler Co., on 4 Jun (BPr, MPr, RS). More data is needed on this Blue-listed species, but it appears to be widely resident in Iowa.

Alder Flycatcher: An early Jun migration was noted in W. Iowa with 9 in Harrison Co. on 1 Jun, 3, 14, and 2 in Monona Co. on 2, 3, and 4 Jun, 1 in Mills Co. on 5 Jun, 2 and 1 in Plymouth Co. on 7 and 8 Jun, and 1 in Mills Co. on 10 Jun (JPSc, BLW). One was heard on 3 Jun in Iowa City (+CJB).

Least Flycatcher: 1-3 were at three Allamakee Co. sites in Jun (DK, CJB, et al) and 1 was in Davenport at Petersen's from 9 Jun to 21 Jul.

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Singles in Monona Co. on 3, 5 Jun (JPSc) and Davenport on 12, 13 Jun (PP, MLP) may have been late migrants. The latest previous date was 11 Jun and there is only one mid-summer record.

Rough-winged Swallow: According to Pete Wickham "seem to be getting much more widespread and can easily be found in most areas now."

Cliff Swallow: Noted to be abundant north of Cedar Rapids nesting in every culvert (PW, MN).

Brown Creeper: 1 was seen n. of Lansing on 18 Jun (DK).

Bewick's Wren: 1 was at Marshalltown on 4, 23 Jul (+FM, RHa, HZ). *One was banded and photographed at Pioneer Ridge Conservation P., Wapello Co., in May (DJ).*

Northern Mockingbird: A nest with tiny young was found at Amana on 12 Jun (FM, TK). Other Jun sightings were from Muscatine, Van Buren, Poweshiek, Mills, Montgomery, Woodbury, and Plymouth Cos.

Wood Thrush: Little data is available on the summer distribution and frequency of this species. Mike Newlon reported 9 at several Coralville Res. locations on 3, 11, 12 Jun.

Veery: 10 in Amana Woods (PW, FT), 2 at Ledges SP (JD), and 12 at White Pine Hollow (DK) during Jun and Jul.

Eastern Bluebird: 26 nests in Polk Co. was the best in 10 years (DMos); 16 of 26 nests were successful in NE Mills Co (BLW); young in only one of 36 boxes in Muscatine Co. (PP); "good nesting" in S. Hardin and N. Marshall Cos. (BPr).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Nests were found at Ledges SP on 5 Jun (HZ) and Coralville Res on 3 Jun (MN).

Cedar Waxwing: Nest building was noted in Marshall Co. on 19 Jun (BPr); 75 were seen in Bank's Tract, Plymouth Co. on 8 Jun; several other observers noted the presence of this species which is not common in summer.

Loggerhead Shrike: 1-6 were noted from 16 counties. This species appears to be widely distributed in Iowa in small numbers and may well be on the increase. Reporters should estimate the number of different birds seen per county.

VIREOS THROUGH WARBLERS

White-eyed Vireo: Reports were from Montezuma and Searsboro, Poweshiek Co. (DK), Amana Woods (CJB), Vinton (RKM), and n. of Marquette and Yellow River F., Allamakee Co. (DK).

Bell's Vireo: 7 were noted in Poweshiek Co. (DK). Mention of this species from four other locations does not adequately reflect its wide distribution in the state.

Yellow-throated Vireo: Koenig noted 61 sightings this season.

Red-eyed Vireo: Koenig's 59 sightings seem low, especially when compared with 61 Yellow-throated.

Black-and-white Warbler: Males were noted on 3 Jun in Monona Co. and 23 Jun in Plymouth Co. (JPSc).

Prothonotary Warbler: Noted in W. Iowa at Riverton WA (WRS) and Little Sioux Scout Camp in Monona Co. (JPSc). E. Iowa locations were Louisa Preserve (PP), Princeton WA (PP), near Conesville (PW) and n. of Marquette (PW).

Worm-eating Warbler: 1-2 at Lacey-Keosauqua SP (DK), Amana (TK), and White Pine Hollow (CJB, TSta).

Blue-winged Warbler: Koenig found only 5 in traditional areas, but forest is maturing. Other locations were Ledges SP (JD, SD), Vinton (RKM), Amana (RKM), Coralville Res. (MN), Shimek F. (JPsa), White Pine Hollow (BH), and Clayton Co. (BH). A Brewster's hybrid was found at Lansing WA on 17 Jul (+PW, FT).

Tennessee Warbler: Singles were late n. of Missouri Valley on 1 Jun (JPSc) and near Nichols on 12 Jun (PW, FT).

Northern Parula Warbler: 1-3 at Ledges on 5 Jun, 5 Jul (JD, SD, HZ); 1 at Wildcat Den SP on 6 Jun (PW, FT).

Yellow Warbler: Koenig counted 41 n. of Marquette.

Yellow-throated Warbler: A late report of 1 at Clear L. on 7 May (James Hansen); 1 at Pictured Rock P., Jones Co., on 29 Jul (CJB); usual reports from Lacey-Keosauqua SP.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: 1 was found at Yellow River F. from 12 Jun to 11 Jul (DK).

Blackpoll Warbler: 1 was late at Bank's Tract, Plymouth Co., on 7 Jun (JPSc).

Prairie Warbler: The bird reported earlier from Lansing WA was still territorial on 19 Jun when it was photographed and recorded (+CJB, TK, TSta).

Ovenbird: 16 were noted at Coralville Res. locations on 3, 11, 12 Jun (MN).

Louisiana Waterthrush: Noted from White Pine Hollow (DK), n. of Keosauqua (JPSa), and Amana Woods (FM).

Kentucky Warbler: Noted from Lacey-Keosauqua SP (JPSa), Pictured Rock P. (CJB), Coralville Res. (MN), Amana Woods (CJB), Brown's Woods, Polk Co. (RMO fide HZ), and Bank's Tract, Plymouth Co. (JPSc).

Connecticut Warbler: One was reported from Amana Woods on 6 Jun (PW).

Mourning Warbler: A late migrant was in Monona Co. on 3 Jun (JPSc).

Yellow-breasted Chat: Chats were quite common this summer with 1-3 noted from 12 locations in E. Iowa: Shimek F., Lacey-Keosauqua SP, Louisa Preserve, Cone M., Iowa City, Amana Woods, George Wyth SP, SE Hardin Co., Yellow River F., Hawthorn L., Searsboro, and Dolittle Pr., Story Co.

Hooded Warbler: At least 3 males and a female were resident in Amana Woods from 4 Jun to 4 Jul (+CJB, m. ob.). Two were said to be at Brown's Woods, Polk Co. (RMO fide HZ). A male was described at *Pellet Wildlife Refuge, Cass Co., on 15 May (ARCH)*. This species has occurred more frequently in Iowa in the last ten years. Western Iowa records are of particular interest. It will be a challenge to find a nest of this species.

Canada Warbler: 1 was late at Bank's Tract, Plymouth Co., on 8 Jun (JPSc).

2 were found again this year at White Pine Hollow on 20 Jun (DK).

American Redstart: Except for 31 n. of Marquette on 18 Jun (DK), there were reports of 1-3 from only three locations: Willow S. (BLW), Hills, Johnson Co. (MN), and Coralville Res. (MN).

MEADOWLARKS THROUGH BUNTINGS

Orchard Oriole: Many more than usual were reported from E. Iowa this year (they are common in W. Iowa): 12 at Lock and Dam ⁹ (DK), 5 in Hardin Co. (PH, GS fide BPr), an immature male at Amana (TK, FM), 7 pairs in Poweshiek Co. (DK), a pair in Polk Co. (DMos), and an immature male at Sheeder Pr., Guthrie Co. (RL, CL).

Northern Oriole: Ron Harms photographed a female with partial features of a Bullock's subspecies.

Summer Tanager: Sightings were from Waubonsie SP (RKM, WRS, FM) and Slip Bluff P., Decatur Co. (FM).

Black-headed Grosbeak: Another female with unstreaked yellow-tan breast was reported from Little Swan L., Dickinson Co. (+DHa).

Blue Grosbeak: A nest with 4 eggs was found near Paullina, O'Brien Co., on 24 Jun (Gwen Hedin fide DHa). Two were at Pellett WA⁹, ^{Lucas Co.} on 5 Jun (RCH).

House Finch: A male at a feeder in July at Perry, Dallas Co., became the first official state sighting ^{mid-} (+TK, +WRS, +RC, +PP, m. ob.) It was photographed on 31 July (TK). Another male finch, probably of this species, stopped briefly at a feeder in Pocahontas on 3 Jun (+WJ). *A third male was caught, photographed, and banded at Ottumwa on 26 Jul (D+EJ).*

Pine Siskin: Young fledged in Davenport on 23 Jun (Mrs. F. L. Smith fide PP). Last dates at feeder locations were 10, 19 Jun in Davenport (PP, Blevins), 19 Jun at Pocahontas (WJ), and 24 Jun at Iowa City (Ann Kent fide TK).

Rufous-sided Towhee: 2 nests, one with 4 eggs, were found in Lyon Co. on 25 Jun (DHa).

Henslow's Sparrow: A late report of 1 at Ventura M., Cerro Gordo Co., on 17, 19 May (+Fred Heinz, +James Hansen).

Sharp-tailed Sparrow: ~~1~~ late reports of 1 at McIntosh WA, Clear L., on 22 Apr (+Fred Heinz) and 1 at Hitchcock Recreation A., Cass Co., on 17 Oct 1981 (photograph submitted, RCH).

Lark Sparrow: Reports were from SE Hardin Co. (GS fide BPr) and W. Johnson Co. (TSta).

Swamp Sparrow: Noted to be common at Eagle L., Wright Co., and in Ruthven area (JD); 1 was at Cone M. on 11 Jun (TK) and 2 at Goose L., Clinton Co., on 19 Jun (PP, LL).

+ = Documented.

CONTRIBUTORS

Eugene Armstrong, Booneville;
 Russell P. Baldner, Calmar; Carl J. Bendorf, Iowa City; Dick Bierman, Cherokee; Jean B. Bradley, Shenandoah; Tanya Bray, Omaha, NE; Raymond Cummins, Centerville; James Dinsmore, Ames; Ronald V. Harms, Linda Hinshaw, Spirit Lake; Laurens; Douglas Harr, Larchwood; R. Craig Hensley, Atlantic; Rick Hollis, Iowa City; Bob Howe, Des Moines; Wallace E. Jardine, Don and Elaine Johnson, Ottumwa; Pocahontas; Thomas Kent, Iowa City; Darwin Koenig, Montezuma; Rene Laubach, Des Moines; Francis L. Moore, Waterloo; Dean Mosman, Elkhart; Robert K. Myers, Waterloo; Michael Newlon, Iowa City; Babs Padelford, Bellevue, NE; Loren Padelford, Bellevue, NE; Peter Petersen, Davenport; Beth Proescholdt, Liscomb; John Robinson, Ames; James P. Sandrock, Iowa City; Joe P. Schaufenbuel, St. Lucas; W. Ross Silcock, Malvern; Thomas Staudt, Iowa City; Barbara L. Wilson, Hastings; Hank Zaletel, Ames.
 Pete Wickham, Cedar Rapids;

OTHER OBSERVERS

Carolyn A. Baldner (RPB); Brian Blevins (PP); Corey Blevins (PP); Lewis Blevins (PP); ~~Ray Cummins (WJ, TK)~~ Barbara Cunningham (JB); Mark Dinsmore (JD); Steve Dinsmore (JD); Mark Dixon (RL); Kraig Downs (JD); Timothy L. Dwyer (TSta); Larry Farmer (JPSc); Don Graves (PP); Ruth Green (TB); Alan Grenon (TB); Lanny Haldy (CJB); Phyllis Harris (BPr); Russell Hays (FM); Gwen Hedin (DHa); James Kovanda (TB); Sandy Kovanda (TB); Larry Linder (PP); Christyna Laubach (RL); Richard Mooney (HZ); Dick Nuss (HZ); Mary Lou Petersen (PP); Ruth Phipps (JB); Mark Proescholdt (BPr); Clark Scott (PP); Garnita Seward (BPr); Ramona Sommerlot (BPr); Fred Thompson (PW); Robert Thornburg (CJB); Mary Beth Vaughn (JB); Betty Walters (JB).

COMMENTS

Summer coverage of the state was good again this year with more than usual amount of data from Western Iowa. New contributors R. Craig Hensley from Atlantic (where a new bird club has been formed) and Bob Howe from Des Moines are particularly appreciated. ~~Unrecoverable~~ ^{which produce unreadable photocopies} Documentations written in pencil, and undocumented, difficult-to-identify species greatly out of season continue as problems. For the latter I have simply indicated that they were reported without giving details.

With the next issue, Field Reports will adopt the new A.O.U. names and taxonomic order as presented earlier in this issue. Over the next year we hope to get out more specific guidelines for reporting particular species. In this report I have experimented with summarizing data on some species, leaving out dates and names of individuals. The listing of all sightings for species such as Upland Sandpiper and Loggerhead Shrike consumes a lot of space, yet it is desirable to monitor their occurrence in Iowa. For this type of species, I suggest that contributors try listing the number of different individuals observed in

a county for the reporting period.

The 1982 Blue List (American Birds 36:126-135) departs from previous Blue Lists in two ways. First, only species where there is good evidence for decline are numbered. Species of special concern as determined by opinion are included but not Blue-listed. Local problem species are separated at the end. Second, the Blue List will be revised every other year instead of annually. The reduction of the list to 30 species, of which only 23 are regular in Iowa, will make it easier to gather and report data on these species. The less frequent revision will make it easier to remember the species on the list. [#] I would suggest reporting all sightings of the 2 casual, 1 extirpated, and 7 of the regular Blue-listed species: Western Grebe, Least Bittern, Red-shouldered Hawk, Swainson's Hawk, King Rail, Piping Plover, Long-billed Curlew, Least Tern, Short-eared Owl, and Bewick's Wren. The following 13 ^{Blue-listed} species could be reported as the number of different individuals seen by county for the period: American Bittern, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Northern Harrier, Upland Sandpiper, Black Tern, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Hairy Woodpecker, Willow Flycatcher, Eastern Bluebird, Loggerhead Shrike, Bell's Vireo, Golden-winged Warbler, and Yellow Warbler. In addition, all nests ^{of these species} ~~discovered~~ should be reported. Evaluation of the following three ^{Blue-listed} species, which are widespread in Iowa, should be left to Breeding Bird Surveys: Eastern Meadowlark, Dickcissel, and Grasshopper Sparrow.

Legends for Figures

Bewick's Wren, Wapello Co., May 1982, photo by Don Johnson.

House Finch, Ottumwa, 26 July 1982, photo by Don Johnson.

(insert after unusual sightings, page 2)

CORRECTIONS

The reports of Semipalmated Plover, Hudsonian Godwit, Marbled Godwit Willet, and Dunlin for 7 Apr 1982 from s. of Forney L. should have been 30 Apr (TB).