

Forum: Outdoor Activities+
Subj : Southwest Iowa Trip Rept

Section: Birding

To : Ann Johnson/IA, 71634,221 Tuesday, April 25, 1995 10:57:01 PM
From : Steven Matherly/TX, 76562,23 #103043

The Gray Partridge was seen at 5:00 pm on 4/22/95. It was a female (no dark breast spot). Go west on State Hwy 2 from Shenandoah, Iowa to the county road that goes south to Riverton, Iowa. Proceed west to the next county road (gravel) (approx. one mile) and turn south. Proceed one-quarter of a mile to first farm house (right or west side). Bird was seen along fencerow north of the house.

Bird was observed at close range (15 yards) in good sunlight by Steve Matherly, Carl Matherly, and Maribel Matherly. Bird initially flew to roadside, and then sat in full view for about one minute, then ran back into plowed corn field. Orangish face pattern and fine barring on gray breast was clearly visible without binoculars (plus I had really good looks via my 10x42s). Bird easily distinguishable from other possibilities such as hen pheasant, bobwhite quail, and prairie chicken both by size and colorization. There was no vocalization noted. Both my father and I have previously observed gray partridge in northern Iowa (plus in Washington state for myself).