

Edwin G. Crocker  
720 E. First St.  
Storm Lake, Iowa 50588  
ph. 712-732-3313

November 28, 1984

Mike Newlon  
408 Wales St.  
Iowa City, IA. 52240  
Dear Mike,

Subject: Sighting - imm. Virginia Rail-11/26/84  
Rallus limicola

Place- Sec.29 T91N-R37W (Washington Twp.)  
Buena Vista County Iowa  
Within a cleaned out turkey brooder house on the Vilas farm. Entry gained through a 4" X 4" slot through which flushing passes when hosing down the floor in cleaning for the next turkey poults. Bird apparently sought shelter following injury to wing. It was discovered by Bilmar Foods personnel, captured and placed in a small cardboard box- (Glenn Schulz of Lakeside, Ia.). Schulz brought the bird to Virginia and Ed Crocker for identification and for recommendation regarding disposal. We did identify it and shared with Schulz the pictures and descriptions in Peterson's 1980 "Field Guide to the Birds", as well as the summary in IOWA BIRDS by Dinsmore, Kent, Koenig, Petersen & Roosa.

Disposal - Sec.5 T90N-R37W (Hayes Twp.)  
Buena Vista County Iowa - along the east shore of Little Storm lake, among its reeds. Time about 4:30 P.M. Nov. 26, 1984. Schulz reports, "The bird ran very well and flew a very short distance about a foot off the water, then landed and continued to run until out of sight." Except for the wing injury the bird was very strong, healthy and aggressive. We will never know but we can only hope it will heal itself, move on and survive another year.

Merry Christmas from

Virginia & Ed Crocker

*by Ed*