

REQUEST FOR MORE INFORMATION

To: Mark Proescholdt

From: Tom Kent, Field Reports Editor, Iowa Bird Life, 211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA 52246

Sometimes I am on the fence as to whether to include a bird sighting in the report or not, usually because I don't have enough information or the sighting is so unusual that I would like to check on it. I have a choice of making a decision or seeking more information. This form is an attempt to do the latter.

I would appreciate it if you would return this form in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope as soon as possible so that I can make alterations in the report before it is published. Thanks.

Record: Warbling Vireo, 27 Sep, Grammer Ave

Significance: record latest

Information requested:

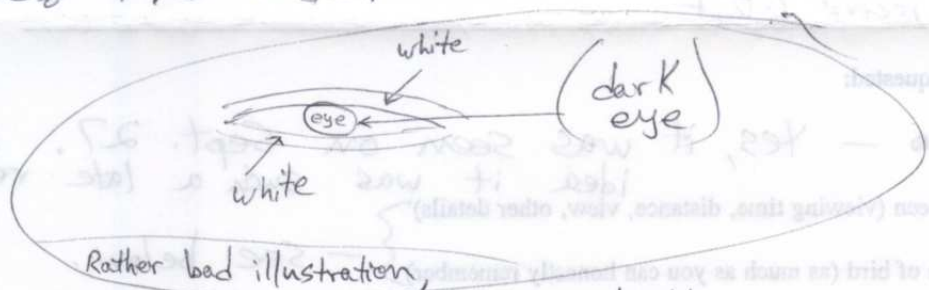
- confirm date — Yes, it was seen on Sept. 27. I had no idea it was such a late record.
- how well seen (viewing time, distance, view, other details)
- description of bird (as much as you can honestly remember) } — see below.
- voice (heard?, what was heard?) — No song was heard.
- can other observers also provide details?

I was birding the woods and edges at Grammer Grove and had lots of bird action that morning. I ended up with 4 Vireo species and 9 Warbler species as well as 4+ winter wrens, 2+ sapsuckers, R-cr. Kinglets, lots of flickers and other birds. It was sunny and 100% clear according to my notes.

I did not make notes of the warbling vireo because I was unaware how late it was. As I recall, it was in a cottonwood tree near the river. I had good looks at it with the sun at my side or at my back. Viewing time was probably 15 sec. to 30 sec. range. Distance is estimated as 20 yards away with the bird 15-25 feet off the ground, as I recall.

(over)

The vireo was dark-backed and off-white on its breast. I don't remember if this bird had a slight yellowish tinge on its flanks like some birds I've seen. The most identifying mark was its face pattern around its eye. It had a "blank look" around its eye.



Rather bad illustration,
But trying to show the dark eye surrounded somewhat by white borders.

This is definitely different from a Phil. Vireo with dark line through its eye and the Philadelphia's "dark loreal spot".

I've seen many warbling vireos (and have heard more) and I'm sure that it was a warbling vireo that I saw.

(The four vireo species that day were 1 Red-eyed Vireo, 1 Solitary vireo, 1 warbling vireo, and 1 Phil. vireo.)