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HARR

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May 28, 1981

Thomas H. Kent  
211 Richards St.  
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Dear Dr. Kent:

Attached is my list of field observations for the spring season, for possible use in the Field reports section of IOWA BIRD LIFE.

One sighting was of a Merlin in Osceola Co., and I have attached a verifying document for that observation.

Finally, I am also enclosing a short contribution for consideration for the General notes section, concerning the Orange-shafted Flicker we rescued from our yard this past winter. I wasn't sure whether articles for that section were edited by you or by Pete Peterson, so have also sent Pete a copy. Thus if it should go to him you will not have to forward the piece.

Sincerely,

Douglas C. Harr  
Wildlife Biologist  
Box 65  
Larchwood, Iowa 51241

enclosures

Spring, 1981, field observations--submitted by Doug Harr,  
Larchwood, Iowa 51241

- ✓ Cinnamon Teal--(1 drake), May 6, 1981, Spring Run Wildlife Mgmt. Area, Dickinson Co. Also observed by three other people on same date.
- ✓ Merlin--(1), March 17, 1981, 3½ mi. west of Ocheyedon, Osceola Co. Verifying document enclosed.
- ✓ American Avocet--(2), May 11, 1981, Smith's Slough Wildlife Mgmt. Area, Clay Co. Reported by Wildlife Biologist Tom Neal. I also sighted one just across state line in S.D. from Lyon Co. on May 10; must be good year for Avocets migrating in our region.
- Semi-palmated Plover--(3) On marsh mudflats 3 mi. SE of Lake Park, Dickinson Co., May 9, 1981. Also 1 at Smith's Slough WMA, Clay Co., May 22, 1981.
- ✓ Lesser Golden Plovers--Numerous flocks in Dickinson Co., Osceola Co., and Lyon Co. between May 9 and May 15, 1981. Best year for golden plover observations I've had in 10 years.
- ✓ Hudsonian Godwit--(5), May 11, 1981, at Smith's Slough WMA, Clay Co., reported by Wildlife Biologist Tom Neal
- ✓ Upland Sandpiper--Numerous throughout Lyon, Osceola, Dickinson, and O'Brien counties all during May. Pair on pasture 8 mi. W of Milford, Dickinson Co. on May 6, 1981
- Dunlin--(5), May 9, 1981, on marsh mudflats 3 mi. SE of Lake Park, Dickinson Co.
- ✓ Water Pipit--(2), May 6, 1981, in newly-planted cornfield, 9 mi. E of Melvin, Osceola Co. Readily identified by continuous tail bobbing, field marks, walk, and call.
- ✓ Golden-winged Warbler--(2 males, 1 female) May 13, 1981, at Little Swan Lake WMA, 2mi. N of Superior, Dickinson Co. Observed for about 10 min. in brush and low trees. Characteristic strong marking patterns made for easy identification. One photograph taken, but not yet returned from processor at time of this report, so do not know what results may look like.
- ✓ Cape May Warbler--(1), May 9, 1981, Horseshoe Bend Co. Park, 3 mi. SW of Milford, Dickinson Co. Also observed by several other members of Lakes region Audubon chapter.
- Savannah Sparrow--(2), May 6, 1981, at edge of newly planted cornfield and alfalfa field, 9 mi. E of Melvin, Osceola Co.
- Swamp Sparrow--Numerous at Dewey's Pasture WMA, Clay Co., and at Spring Run WMA, Dickinson Co., May 6, 1981