

What species? Scissor Tailed Flycatcher How many? 1
 Location? Centerville - 2 miles ~~west~~ west, 2 miles north
 Type of Habitat? Fence post, hayfield
 When? date(s): May 19, 1996 time: 5:00pm to 6:30pm
 Who? your name and address: Thomas N. Johnson
 Others with you: son, Boyan Johnson age 9
 Others before or after you: Dot Carver, Mary Montgomery, Bill Cummings, others

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

I was taking my son to ball practice and we saw a bird with a long tail on the fence post. It was white with a long forked black tail. The tail was hanging down and was about twice the length of the bird. I pulled next to it and noticed the pink sides and white belly. This last view was about 15 feet away without binoculars. I took my son to practice and he was impatient saying we saw 100 of these in Texas last summer. I told him I had never seen one in Iowa but he wasn't impressed. I took him

Similar species; how eliminated:

None similar

(over)

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? NO
 If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.

15 ft. to 250 ft. own eyes, 2 x 35 binocs

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Iowa scope
last year was 1st I had seen - Texas, had seen immature - captured bird - raised 1986 by Judge Arves m. d. 1986

References and persons consulted before writing description:

Nat. Geographic Field Guide

How long before field notes made? same day this form completed? July 31, 1996

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).

to farm. Called 4 different people who all came
within the next hour or two and saw the bird.

It fly caught from numerous exposed fence lines, for
the ~~the~~^{whole} time. With 8-35 binoculars I observed
the grey back and I could see there was white on the tail
and black outer tailfeathers. The bill was black
along with the legs. I determined it was a male
scissor tail.