

Red Knot

6 Sep 1937

Goose Lake [now Anderson L.], Hamilton Co., IA

T.C. Scott, R.L. Roudabush

to 10 Sep; specimen, photo, Scott 1937

Record Number: 93-ED

Classification: A-S

SPECIMEN

Iowa State University #520

PHOTOGRAPH

T. H. Kent, of specimen, P-0117

REFERENCE

Scott, T.G. 1938. American Knot in Iowa. Auk 55:275-276.

VOTE: 5 A-S

A-S, The photo is of a bird in juvenile plumage that looks rather worn to me. The dark tipped tertials with light distal fringe provide the most clear-cut juvenile feathers. The breast, flank, and head streaking appears more prominent than would be expected for basic plumage. There is a white area on the wing, but it doesn't provide a very neat wing bar. The overall shape and bill size are good for Red Knot. There appears to be a little reddish coloration in the belly and vent area. Is that artifact?
/thk

A-S, I'm accepting this on faith, since I'm unable to identify the specimen from the photo. Presumably, the first voter's study of the specimen led to the A-S vote. /ric

A-S, Reddish color = "foxing" from fat in skin. /jjd



J. S. G. No. _____
Calidris canutus
Sept 10, 1937
Jewell, Paulson, & Lowndes (coll.)
Lowndes & Wash

Red Knot P-0117
Jewell, Hamilton Co.
10 Sep 1937 collected by R. L.

93-ED

510-111 185 NNNNN 981 111-015

Scott, T. G. 1938. American Knot in Iowa. Auk 55:275-276.

American Knot in Iowa.—The observations which make this record possible were made at Goose Lake, Hamilton County, Iowa. Goose Lake, a typical Wisconsin Drift marsh, is located one-half mile east of Jewell, Iowa. It is about eighty acres in area, largely grown up to marsh vegetation. Three hundred yards of shore along the east margin of the marsh are kept open by the activity of cattle and domestic waterfowl. In addition, it is probable that shade from nearby trees contributes toward elimination of the usual sedge and cat-tail growth along a portion of the length. This open shore line forms an attractive feeding ground for many migrant shorebirds.

On September 6, 1937, the writer observed an American Knot, *Calidris canutus* (Wilson), at the water's edge on this open beach. In a listless manner the bird alternately feeding and looking about. It apparently preferred to keep its own company to that of eight Lesser Yellow-legs (*Totanus flavipes*), twelve Semipalmated Sandpipers (*Ereunetes pusillus*), three Least Sandpipers (*Pisobia minutilla*), and one Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*), that were feeding at another point along the shore. The Knot was seen again on September 8. This time, 'great-deep,' it was attempting to accompany seven Lesser Yellow-legs in feeding. The Knot was noticeably more conspicuous by frequent bathing which seemed to be encouraged by its efforts to feed with the longer-legged birds. On September 10, the bird was collected by Dr. R. L. Roudabush of the Department of Zoology and Entomology at Iowa State College. The specimen proved to be a male. A museum specimen was prepared and deposited in the Iowa State College collection. The measurements in inches are as follows: length, 9.56; wing, 6.50; wings extended, 20.00; tail, 1.50; tarsus, 1.50; and culmen, 1.38. Dr. Logan J. Bennett, Associate Biologist for the U. S. Biological Survey, and Dr. Geo. O. Hendrickson, Assistant Professor in the Department of Zoology and Entomology at Iowa State College, agree with the writer in recognizing the specimen as the American Knot.

DuMont (Univ. of Iowa Studies, p. 15, 1934) placed this bird in his hypothetical list and wrote: "It was listed by J. A. Allen, and John Krider stated that he had found it during May in Northern Iowa. It has occurred in all the states surrounding Iowa and might be collected here." The only recent sight record known to the writer is by Bennett (Iowa State College Journ. Sci., 9: 609-616, 1934) who reported: "Dr. Paul L. Errington and the writer observed fourteen of these birds May 21 on the rocky shore of Lost Island Lake, Palo Alto County." None was recorded during intensive investigation of shorebird migration by Spawn (Iowa State College Journ. Sci., 9: 617-624, 1935) in Clay and Palo Alto Counties during the fall of 1934 or by Scott and Sooter (Iowa State College Journ. Sci., 11: 247-252, 1937) at Goose Lake, Hamilton County, during the fall of 1936.

On the basis of the specimen now contained in the Iowa State College collection it is recommended that the American Knot be removed from the hypothetical list and placed in the state list for Iowa.—THOMAS G. SCOTT, *Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.*

Knot *Calidris canutus* (Linnaeus)

Casual

Anderson (1907) and DuMont (1933) considered this hypothetical. Recent records are: 21 May, 1934, Clay and Palo Alto Cos. (Bennett, 1938); 10 September, 1937, Goose Lake, Hamilton Co., specimen in ISUMZ (Scott, 1938); 5 May, 1967, Goose Lake, Greene Co. (JF, pers. comm.); 20 May, 1967, Big Wall Lake, Wright Co. (RM, pers. comm.).