

HARMS

RONALD HARMS, D. D. S.

LAURENS, IOWA 50554

20 May '81

Dear Mr. Lent;

✓ Raymond Cummins advised that I report this Blue Crossbeak as being found outside its normal range.

It was found in my yard in Laurens, Iowa, Pocahontas County 13 May 1981. It was during the noon hour in full sunlight and in view for about 10 min.

I was taking pictures of warblers from my open upstairs window when this bird flew up. I took two pictures & then checked Peterson's guide, then took the remaining 9 exposures. The brown wing bars were clear; there were brown blotches on the blue breast otherwise it matched the illustration.

The bird was calm and singing and gave a full front view and a right side. It was about 18 ft. away as measured by the 400 mm lens focus.



I have taken pictures of Indigo buntings and Bluebirds
but this is the first blue goosbeek I've seen.

There were no other observers and Ray has
not seen my remaining 9 better slides nor confirmed
my identification. You may keep these slides and if you
need better ones I ~~can~~ can send one, or by the Ray will
have seen them and can confirm.

My original written notes were written within one
hour of the sighting.

Ronald Harner

