

Purple Sandpiper
12 May 1946
New Albin, Allamakee Co., IA
C. A. Stewart
Stewart 1946

Record Number: 81-AQ
Classification: NA

REFERENCE

Stewart, C.A. 1946. A sight record of the Purple Sandpiper.
IBL 16:70.

Brown 1971

VOTE (1981): 4-III, 1-V, 2-VI

III, description weak, probably competent observer.

III, Good observation of field marks by a good observer.

III, single observer, minimal details.

III, Good detail for the 'state of field .i.d.' in 1946.

IV, single observer - one occasion. description is sketchy & except for 'white under parts' the description might just as well apply to a Dipper as to *C. maritima*.

VI, I consider the description inadequate as follows: (1) Does not eliminate Spotted Sandpiper - has yellow legs & in water they would appear short. Purple Sdp. is not really 'slate-colored' on the back; (2) All records from nearby states are in late fall, except for Wisconsin, which has some spring records. However, when seen in spring, may be when late - one at Chicago June 30, 1979 (AB 33:865). Wisconsin spring records also in late May.

REVOTE (1981): 3-III, 3-IV, 1-VI

IV, habitat and description better than # 3.

III, details sparse but seem to fit. Habitat OK.

III, only one obs.

VI, Refer to my previous comments. Additionally note that Purple Sdp. legs are 'never' bright yellow (Wilds).

87-AQ

Purple Sandpiper

Stewart, C. A. 1946. A sight record of the Purple Sandpiper in Iowa. IBL 16:70.

A Sight Record of the Purple Sandpiper in Iowa.—On May 12, 1946, I took the spring bird census for the Iowa Ornithologists' Union and covered the vicinity of New Albin, Allamakee County, in the extreme northeast corner of the state. I was working along the north mouth of the Upper Iowa River, an area of overflow land that is free from timber. About one-half mile from where the north fork opens into the Mississippi there is a low, rocky waterfall, surrounded by a sand flat. Wading in the shallow water as it flowed over the rocks was a lone sandpiper. No other sandpipers were near by. The bird's slate-colored back and breast with white underparts made me think of the Purple Sandpiper at once, and also the fact that it was feeding among the rocks below the small waterfall. I was able to approach within 50 feet of the bird, and with the glasses the short orange legs were apparent. No other observers were with me, but in my own mind I am satisfied that the identification was correct.—CHAS. A. STEWART, New Albin, Iowa.

Purple Sandpiper Erolia maritima (Brünnich)

Accidental

There was a sight record on 12 May, 1946 in Allamakee Co. (Stewart, 1946). There is no Iowa specimen extant.

Brown 1971
p 416