

Sandhill Crane
19 Apr 1980
south of Boone, Boone Co., IA
*D. Newhouse
to 19 Apr; IBL 50:46-47, 52:41

Record Number: 80-07
Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

David A. Newhouse

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 50:46-47

Records Committee: 52:41

VOTE: 6-Yes, 1-No

Yes, Poor description, but easy to identify.

Yes, Based on calls and daily contact by observer with this species.

Yes, Despite poor description: "call and flight diagnostic" is not sufficient. But flight posture, calling with captive sandhills, observer experience suggest acceptance.

Yes, Description a bit brief but doubtful if this sp. needs doc. in c. or w. Iowa

Yes, Definite setup--attracted to captive bird. Similar situation has occurred in Minnesota (see Green and Janssen).

REVOTE (at meeting, 20 Sep 1980): 6 yes, 1 no

- 1. Species Sandhill Crane (grus canadensis)
- 2. Number 205-206?
- 3. Location Harold Adams field near Wildl. Res. Sta., 4 mi S of Boone (lat 4159/Long 9352)
- 4. Date: 11 through 19 April 1980
- 5. Time Bird Seen: mornings & ~~to~~ evenings
- 6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):

Large, long-legged gray bird. Call and flight diagnostic.

- 7. Description of voice, if heard: Typical rattling cackle
- 8. Description of behavior: Feeding in corn stubble; flying overhead (toward Des Moines River)
- 9. Habitat - general: Prairie/Riparian-upland forest ecotone
specific: corn stubble field near oak-hickory timber
- 10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:
Great blue heron is much smaller, different habitat, doesn't fly with neck extended.
- 11. Distance (how measured)? 50 m to 300 m
(known landmark)
- 12. Optical equipment: 7 x 35 binocs
205 mm telephoto
(Photos in flight, not yet processed)
- 13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you): Several sightings on several mornings and evenings had strong east and west light at right angles to observation plane.
- 14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: I have two sandhill in the Exhibit, which I have handled for 3 years. They and this bird traded calls.
- 15. Other observers: Bruce Ehresman and Gary Silver saw it first on 11 April, et seq.
- 16. Did the others agree with your identification? yes
- 17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: see 15
- 18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? 16 Apr-

Signature: David A. Newhouse Address: Wildlife Research Station

Date: 21 April 1980 City, State: Boone, Iowa 50036