Records Committee, Iowa Ornithologists' Union Printed: 08/19/93

Record Number: 81-DH Classification: NA

1896 Linn Co., IA Morten E. Peck Anderson 1907

Prairie Warbler

REFERENCE

Anderson 1907 DuMont 1933

VOTE (1981): 5-IV, 2-V

IV, no detail.

V, no data - sight record, attempted to collect. No documentation.

IV, Observer had experience with this species in Missouri, in view several hours.

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Anderson 1907 p 357 310. (672). Nendroica discolor (Vicill.). Prairie Warbler.

The Prairie Warbler is not, as its name implies, a true prairie bird, but usually inhabits bushy clearings, thickets and old fields. It is a bird of the eastern United States, chiefly the middle and southern districts, and only occurs in Iowa as a rare straggler. The species has been accredited to Iowa by various authors, from W. W. Cooke (Bird Migr. in Miss. Val., 1884–85, p. 255) to R. Ridgway (Birds of N. and Mid. Amer., ii, 1902) on the strength of a specimen said to have been taken by Dr. E. H. King at West Liberty, Iowa. Through the kindness of Dr. B. H. Bailey, I examined the original mounted specimen in the Coe College collection at Cedar Rapids and found it to be a female Kentucky Warbler (Geothlypis formosa). The original label on bottom of stand reads, "Dendroica discolor, Prairie Warbler, West Liberty, Iowa, May 21, 188 [1(?), last figure blurred]; L. 5.25; W. 1.75; Ts. .75; Toe .75."

Morton E. Peck writes: "I once spent several hours trying to secure one of these birds while collecting in Linn county in 1896. While I did not succeed in taking it I could not have been mistaken as to its identity, as I have observed the species in abundance in southern Missouri." G. H. Berry states that he has never seen the Prairie Warbler in Linn county, but in 1893 found both old birds and newly-fledged young in June, near Des Moines.

In Nebraska, "Bruner has noted it at West Point and Omaha, and L. Skow at the latter locality also" (Rev. Birds Neb., p. 104).