

Chestnut-collared Longspur

WI 1933

Emmet Co., IA

Wolden

DuMont 1933

Record Number: 81-HP
Classification: NA

REFERENCE

DuMont 1933

Youngworth, W. 1955. Longspurs in Iowa, past and present. IBL
25:12-12.

VOTE (1981): 2-III, 3-IV, 2-V

IV, good observer.

IV, no details.

III, The only record that contains plumage details.

IV, very likely III, but at this time very scarce in Minnesota
and eastern S. Dakota -- see Youngworth.

Youngworth, W. 1955. Longspurs in Iowa, past and present. IBL 25:12-13

The nicely colored Chestnut-collared or Black-bellied Longspur graced our fair state for about 30 years longer than McCown's. It seems to be able to live on the fringes of prairie land. Since about 1920 it has not been reported, except for one report by B. O. Wolden of Estherville during the winter of 1932-33. Since that time nothing has come to light about this species in Iowa. It is probable that it will never again be found in our state as a breeding bird. To my knowledge it is not found breeding in extreme eastern Nebraska at present and has deserted the immediate southeast part of South Dakota opposite Sioux City. It can still be found, in sadly depleted numbers, in the Fort Sisseton country of northeast South Dakota. Just across, on the Minnesota side of the headwaters of the Red River of the North, a few isolated pairs still summer.

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Calcarius ornatus (Townsend). Chestnut-collared Longspur

A fairly rare migrant in the western part of the state. Anderson (1907) listed it from Howard, Linn, Van Buren, Poweshiek, Jefferson, Pottawattamie, and Winnebago counties. He stated that M. Earle Halverson shot one at Forest City, Winnebago County, in 1903.

Lynds Jones recorded (Wilson Bull., IV, p. 27) that during 1887 several hundred remained for several weeks at Grinnell, Poweshiek County. Spurrell (1919) recorded two seen at Wall Lake, Sac County, during the fall of 1912. Fenton (1923-24) recorded that a specimen taken at Charles City, Floyd County, and contained in the Miles collection, was identified as this species by B. H. Bailey. Wolden reported that he observed a large flock of these birds in Emmet County late in the winter of 1932-33. He wrote that he was able to make out the whitish throats and the dark breasts, although the birds were not in full breeding plumage. The writer has examined no Iowa specimens.

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