

Black-headed Grosbeak

1 Dec 1978

Cedar Rapids, Linn Co., IA

*Sara Millikin, many others
through 11 Dec; Millikin 1979

Record Number: 81-EL

Classification: A-P

DOCUMENTATION

Sara A. Millikin

PHOTOGRAPH

Sara L. Millikin, 1 Dec 1978, P-0002 (IBL 49:64)

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 49:25

Millikin, S. 1979. Black-headed Grosbeak at Cedar Rapids. IBL
49:64-65.

Photograph: IBL 49:64 (P-0002)

VOTE (1981): 6-I, 1-II

I, diagnostic photo, seen by several competent observers.

I, diagnostic photo.

I, Too bad no one outside C. R. learned of this one!

I, Picture diagnostic in color. Picture in IBL no good, good
documentation by observer.

II, Well documented and seen by several observers, thus II
rather than III.

Black-headed Grosbeak

81-EL

Millikin, S. 1979. Black-headed Grosbeak at Cedar Rapids. Iowa Bird Life
49:64-65

3

Black-headed Grosbeak at Cedar Rapids -- The bird came to our feeder from December 1 to 11, 1978 and always lit on a tree limb before it flew to the ground to eat seeds. It came several times each day and I could always see it at daylight and again about 4:00 p.m. Other times it was more irregular. I had seen them in



Yellowstone Park previously. The following people were able to see it while it was here, Dr. and Mrs. Goellner, Lillian Serbousek, Roberta Oppedahl, Lucile Liljedahl, Weir Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nissen and Pete Wickham. I am sorry I couldn't notify more people of its presence, but since I live with my daughter and her family, I didn't want to publicize it too widely. -- SARA MILLIKIN (MRS. FORREST), 1128 Ingleside Drive S. W., Cedar Rapids.

81-EL



imm Black-headed Grosbeak
1-10 Dec 1978, Cedar Rapids
Sara L. Millikin P-0002

Middlewestern Prairie Region
(Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio)

good color photo #3 81-EL

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

Species: Green Black Headed Grosbeak 2. Number: one

Location: usually on the ground where I had thrown seed

Date: Dec 1st to 10th, 1978 5. Time Bird seen: at daylight to 4 p m

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):

Heavy beak but not as heavy as the Cardinals
Black & white wing markings, brownish orange on sides
and breast, clear light yellow underneath.
Head striped like female. Slightly larger than Junco & Song Sparrows.
Am enclosing picture taken with telephoto lens from
inside the house. Also have color slides.

Description of voice, if heard:

Description of behavior: quite tame - ate with sparrows and juncos. Ate sunflower seed.

Habitat - general: along railway right of way near my home and on ground near house and feeders

Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:

Distance (how measured)? usually too close to use binoculars. 12. Optical equipment: 7 p m binoculars.

Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):
at times of day & in different light conditions, snow on ground

Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: Have seen them in Yellowstone National park

Other observers: see list on back

Did the others agree with your identification? Yes

Other observers who independently identified this bird:
Mr. & Mrs. Neil Hellmer, Lillian Grommet, Lucille Liedahl, Robert Appedahl.

Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:
The best picture in any book I saw was in the field guide, Birds of North America p 292. The books did not influence my description. I only used them to narrow the identification possibilities. Also have Petersons Eastern bird guide and Pearson's Birds of America

Signature: Sara L. Millikin Address: 1126 Ingleside Dr SE

Date: April 10, 1979 Cedar Rapids City, State: Iowa 52404

Names -

Mr & Mrs Karl Haellner.
1764 Shubert Ave. N.E. E.R.

Mrs Lucile Lige Dahl
1088 3rd St, Marion, Ia.

Walter Nelson R R# 1 - Ely, Iowa

Mr & Mrs Fred Nissen

2823 Henry Court N.W., E.R.

Mrs Roberta Appidahl
904 Suburban St. N.E., E.R.

Mrs Lillian Serbousek
1226 - 2nd St SW., E.R.

Pete Frickham

2201 - 5th Ave. S.E., E.R.