

Western Tanager  
10 May 1999  
near Meservey, Cerro Gordo Co., IA  
Bethel Lemke fide Jan Walter  
IBL 69:98, 70:145

Record Number: 99-15  
Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Jan Walter (note with field report) [9/17/99]

Letter: Jan Walter to Tom [Kent], 934 13th ST. SE, Mason City  
50401

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 69:98

Records Committee: IBL 70:145

VOTE: 7 A-D

A-D, It's deja vu all over again--the second documentation of a photo in this batch. Since we don't yet have the photo, all we have to archive is the documentation.

A-D, Do we need to have the photo to view in order to classify as A-P?

A-D, Willing to accept on the basis of Jan's seeing photos and talking to observer.

A-D, Evidence concerning photo with occurrence is acceptable. Description adequate for distinctive species (ad., alt., male).

A-D, How about a look at that photo?

99-15

I saw colored snapshots that clearly showed a male Western Tanager (alternate plumage) taken by Bethel Lemke in the yard of her farm home near Meservey. She didn't remember the exact date, but it was around May 10<sup>th</sup>. I know this isn't sufficient for acceptance as a record. I'm sending it as just general information.

Jan Walter

1999  
TK4

Tom,

I've been trying unsuccessfully to reach Bethel Lemke about a picture of the Western Tanager. Apparently they are away on vacation. I'll keep trying and send you a print if I can get one.

I didn't take notes on the prints I saw, but these are the details I can remember. The bird was on green lawn grass in bright sunshine. The head and chin were solid, clear, bright red. The underparts were a strong, clear yellow; and back, wings, and tail were black. There were two yellow wing bars, the upper one much wider. I can't remember the rump area or if it was covered by the wings, or anything specific about the bill other than it was tanager shape.

This was my first experience reporting a bird from a snapshot I'd seen. If it happens again, I'll be careful to take as complete notes about the bird as I can.

Jan

Janice Walter  
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