

Bridled Titmouse  
13 Feb 1996  
Davenport, Scott Co., IA  
Pete Brachtel fide Pete Petersen  
to 26 Feb; IBL 66:57; 67:83

Record Number: 96-03  
Classification: NA

DOCUMENTATION

Pete Brachtel, 1328 E 11th St., Davenport [drawing and notes?]  
Pete Petersen [note and notes on drawing]

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 66:57  
Records Committee: IBL 67:83

VOTE: 1 A-D, 2 A-O, 1 A-E, 3 NA

NA, I cannot determine whether the drawing is Mr. Pete Brachtel's or someone's interpretation of a visit or telephone conversation with him. If this is his drawing made after seeing the bird many times at his feeder I would be inclined to change my vote to A-D.

A-O, Would like photo for first state record. Drawing could not be confused with any other species. Species has no vagrancy records; I would question the origin.

A-O, Based on nice drawing, this certainly appears to be a Bridled Titmouse -- a bird that would be hard to misidentify for even a novice birder. Troublesome, however, is that the bird is strictly a southwestern species and not known for wandering. I would throw this into same classification as the Yellow Grosbeak a few years ago. Where did it come from? Are Bridled Titmice kept in captivity in Mexico? We again have a record of a Mexican species seen in the Midwest near a major interstate highway. Without other extra-limital records upon which to base the probability, I have to question the origin.

NA, A black-and-white drawing is of a Bridled Titmouse. Notes on the page appear to be in 2 or 3 different handwritings. There are no comments on how the drawing was made or even for sure who made it. Identification of this species is not difficult. This species of the Mexican highlands, is known only in the United States from Arizona and a small part of New Mexico. There are 2 unaccepted records from Big Bend in Texas, which is not that far from the normal range in Mexico. The total lack of vagrancy pattern for this species makes it highly likely that it was an escaped cage bird or bird trapped in a truck or other vehicle. Perhaps it went to roost in a truck and 3 days later was in Iowa.

A-E, Drawing is definitely that of a Bridled Titmouse. This species is not a known vagrant away from the southwest, therefore origin of this bird could be questionable and should be discussed. I think we need more information on the vagrancy patterns and the possibility of this not being a truly wild bird that reached Iowa on its own.

NA, Origin questionable. It seems more likely that such a bird was released than that it made its own way to Iowa.

9602

REVOTE: 7 NA

NA, There is no previous vagrancy pattern for this species. It seems very unlikely that it arrived in Iowa unaided.

NA, Species has no vagrancy records away from the southwest U.S. and I question the origin.

NA, Due to the clarification of category A-O, I will change my vote as it is highly unlikely that this bird made its way to Iowa unassisted.

NA, Not a vagrant. No reason to believe that it got to Iowa on its own.

NA, Origin is the question here. Like most others I have doubts about the origin and the vagrancy of this bird.

NA, My vote for nonacceptance is based on the high if not certain likelihood that this bird is an escapee or release. The species has no history of vagrancy: Yellow Grosbeak is far more likely as a vagrant!

Ross -

3/1

Received this report 2/27.  
 Lewis Blevins (he lives  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile away)  
 & I have checked the feeder  
 several times since then - no  
 luck. I played tape of call in  
 the area also. It is an  
 incredible report of a bird  
 not known away from the  
 border areas of TX + NM -  
 once or twice at Big Bend, TX.  
 Mr. Braetel not a birder just  
 a feeder watcher - he has 3  
 feeders, one with suet.

Pete

