

Prairie Warbler

1893

Des Moines, Polk Co., IA

G. H. Berry

Anderson 1907

Record Number: 81-DG
Classification: NA

REFERENCE

Anderson 1907

DuMont 1933

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

V, nesting seems unlikely.

V, no data.

V, DuMont considers this record 'entirely unsatisfactory', but gives no reasons (again, a E. H. Berry record).

Prairie Warbler

310. (672). *Dendroica 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).

Anderson 1907
p 357

Cooke, W. W. 1888. Bird Migration in the Mississippi Valley 1884-5.
US Dept Agriculture. Division of Economic Ornithology. Bull 2. p255.

673. *Dendroica discolor* (Vicill.). [114.] *Prairie Warbler*.

The Prairie Warbler winters in Florida and the West Indies, proceeds up the Mississippi Valley to Illinois (and accidentally to Wisconsin), and extends west to eastern Kansas and eastern Nebraska. It is not yet known from Minnesota, though it has been taken by Dr. King at West Liberty, Iowa. In the spring of 1884 it was observed at one station only, namely, Pierce City, Mo., where it arrived April 27. It is quite rare in all the northern portions of its range.