

Mountain Bluebird
Apr 1914
Charles City, Floyd Co., IA
C.L. Fenton
Fenton 1923-24

Record Number: 93-FY
Classification: NA

REFERENCE

Fenton, C.L. 1923-24. The birds of Floyd County Iowa. Amer. Midl. Nat. 8:189-208, 230-256; 9:63-69. p. 256.

VOTE: 5 NA

NA, Fenton's credibility was questioned. We have no way of knowing whether he was correct, but nesting does seem to be unlikely. He make a sketchy and checked specimens, but did not leave us with a description of the birds or eggs. /thk

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Fenton, C. L. 1923-24. The birds of Floyd County Iowa. Amer Midl Nat
8:189-208, 156-²³⁰⁻²⁵⁶, 9:63-69. p 256

8. *Sialia currocoides* (Bechst.) Mountain Bluebird. A pair of birds that I feel certain belonged to this species nested in the extreme southern part of Charles City in 1914. I watched them for considerable lengths of time, and was able sketch the male. Both birds correspond to descriptions and figures of the Mountain Bluebird, and to specimens which I have examined later at the Field Museum and the Chicago Academy of Sciences. The nest was in an old woodpecker hole, about three and one-half feet from the ground. It was deserted by the birds when a flock of sheep were let into the pasture in which it was located, and before I could secure the eggs all but one of them were damaged by a Red Squirrel. The first egg was laid the 26th of April; the fourth, five days later. The nest, one egg, and fragments of two others are in my collection.

Regarding this record Miss Sherman says: "I do not see how you can possibly be mistaken in the Mountain Bluebird," and I am quite sure that I am not. But Mr. Gabrielson comments: "This is almost certainly a case of mistaken identification, as the species has never been known to nest east of the Black Hills." Unfortunately, the eggs, which I showed to Dr. Bailey, do not seem to settle the question.