

Eastern Phoebe
19 Dec 1997
5 miles east of Lost Nation, Clinton Co., IA
*Rene Dietrich
IBL 68:53, 86

Record Number: 97-63
Classification: NA

DOCUMENTATION

Renee Dietrich, 2950 Iowa St., Davenport 52802 [6/9/98]

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 68:53
Records Committee: IBL 68:86

VOTE: 5 A-D, 2 NA

A-D, Black-capped Chickadee, which has a superficially similar song, is eliminated by call note, size, and plumage.

NA, Reluctantly. Call is right, but description makes me a little nervous. Wouldn't a late fall phoebe look really lemon-yellow underneath? That should jump out at an observer.

A-D, Not unexpected in a mild winter.

NA, Probably correct but the description is not enough to confirm such a rare bird in winter. The song and appearance of Black-capped Chickadee are so different from Eastern Phoebe that it surprises me that they are compared. Fly catching or tail pumping would have convinced me.

NA, Although this species is likely at this date, 'phoebe' could also be a rendering of an empidonax call. 'Dark dull green' does not describe E. Phoebe very well.

RE-VOTE (at meeting 4/19/98): 5 NA, 2 A-D

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

97-63

What species? Eastern Phoebe How many? 1

Location? Five miles East of Lost Nation

Type of Habitat? Woodland

When? date(s): Friday, December 19th time: 10:30 to 10:45

Who? your name and address: Renee Deitrich 2950 Iowa St. Davenport 52802

Others with you: Karen Brix, Gloria Friederichsen

Others before or after you: —

Describe the bird(s) including only what you observed. Include size, shape, details of all parts (bill, eye, head, neck, back, wing, tail, throat, breast, belly, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

The call of this bird was heard from the woodlands. Phoe-be was repeated as well as the short chip. The size of the bird resembled that of a sparrow. Dark ^{dull} green in coloration, with white on the belly and under tail.

Similar species; how eliminated: Due to the lack of a black cap the chickadee was eliminated. Size of the bird also eliminated this possibility as well as coloration.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? no
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.

Bright light, using binoculars

Previous experience with species and similar ones: —

References and persons consulted before writing description: Kelly McKay

How long before field notes made? Immediately this form completed? 2 weeks

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).