

House Finch

Sep 1982

Mason City, Cerro Gordo Co., IA

*Mildred L. Moore

female; P-0093, IBL 52:125; 53:36

Record Number: 82-34

Classification: A-P

DOCUMENTATION

Mildred L. Moore

PHOTOGRAPH

Mildred L. Moore, P-0093

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 52:125

Records Committee: IBL 53:36

VOTE: 7-I-P

I-P, Could the bird be an escape?

I-P, Extreme tameness suggests possibility of an escaped cage bird.

I-P, Streaked underparts, bill shape (curved upper mandible) clearly show female House Finch.

Summary of Review of an Ornithologic Observation

by the Records Committee

of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union

SPECIES: House finch, Carpodacus mexicanus

DATE SEEN: late Sept 1982

SITE OF OBSERVATION: Mason City, Cerro Gordo Co., IA

OBSERVERS: Mildred L. Moore, 1225 N. Jefferson Ave,
Mason City, IA

DATE OF REVIEW: mail vote prior to spring meeting 2/22/83

METHOD OF REVIEW: mail vote

CLASSIFICATION OF RECORD: I-P.

COMMENTS: This sighting represents the fourth record
of this species for the state, all in 1983.It was classified I-P, a fully substantiated
record backed by a photograph.The Committee would like to thank you for
sending in the record. Best regards + good birding.

— Mike Newton

The opinions expressed here are based on the information available to the Committee and should not necessarily preclude an alternate interpretation by those who observed the bird firsthand.

Any action may be re-reviewed upon submission of additional evidence.

Explanation of Classification:

- I = labeled, diagnostic specimen, photograph, or recording available for review by the Committee
- II = acceptable sight record documented independently by 3 or more observers
- III = acceptable sight record documented by 1 or 2 observers
- IV = probably correct record, but not beyond doubt
- V = record with insufficient evidence to judge
- VI = probably incorrect identification, escapee, or otherwise unacceptable record

Classification is based on the highest category agreed upon by six of seven committee members.

1225 N. Jefferson Ave.,
Mason City, Iowa
Dec. 6, 1982

Dr. W. Ross Silcock
R R #2
Malvern, IA 51551

Dear Sir:

Gladys Black has suggested that we send the enclosed pictures to you.

Last of September, two men were painting the house next door and this bird would fly on to their shoulder. In a few days it came over and would light on my husband's shoulder. We fixed a pan with some bird see and finch feed. It would go to finch feed first but never to our finch feeder. It seemed tamed. A neighborhood cat frightened it twice. Soon it was colder days and it never came back to our feeding station. We hope it went South with the finch family and not lunch for the cat. This was our first experience of having a bird come to us. Whenever we stepped outside it would appear from no where and light on one of our shoulders.

Miss Black has identified the bird as a House Finch female but wanted you to identify the bird. We enjoyed her article in the Sunday Register.

If the pictures are of any use to you--you may keep them, otherwise return.

Seasons' Greetings and the best in 1983!

Sincerely,

Mildred L. Moore

Mildred L. Moore
(Mrs. Lyell J.)

82-34

27 Jan 1983

Dear Mr. Silcock,

I just had another roll of film developed and here was another picture of the House Finch. I thought it very good so thought you should have it for your record. It is on my husband's shoulder.

Sincerely
Mrs. Lyell J. Moore

Tom - received this letter recently - additional (much-needed??) documentation -
Sounds like a very nice lady.

Ross.