

Eurasian Collared-Dove

Record Number: 97-44

30 Aug 1997

Classification: A-P

Grinnell, Poweshiek Co., IA

\*Fuller, \*Kent, \*M. Proescholdt

\*Edwards, \*Cecil; P-0571, IBL 68:14, 86

DOCUMENTATION

Jim Fuller (30 Aug), 6 Longview Knoll, Iowa City 52240

Thomas H. Kent (30 Aug), 211 Richards St., Iowa City 52246

Mark Proescholdt (30 Aug to 24 Nov), Box 65, Liscomb 50148

Chris Edwards (1 Sep), 85 Whitman Ave., North Liberty 52317

Robert Cecil (21 Sep), 1315 41st St., Des Moines 50311

PHOTOGRAPHS

Reid I. Allen, 30 Aug, P-0571

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 68:14

Records Committee: IBL 68:86

Fuller, J. 1999. First state record for Eurasian Collared-Dove. Iowa Bird Life 69:100-102.

VOTE: 7 A-P, 1 A-D

A-P, Nice photo of undertail. Although this is a bird held in captivity, the pattern of recent records indicates a rapid range expansion. Colorado has had a resident population for a couple of years. Since this report, Kansas and Nebraska have also added sightings. Not an unexpected addition to the state list. (Note: should be Poweshiek Co.)

A-P, I understand that there is a specimen. If we could get photos of it that would be nice.

A-D, photos NA, I don't believe photos are diagnostic. Under tail coverts in shadow both photos. Gray undertail coverts and distinctive calls noted by some observers. I don't believe tricolored upper wing pattern and bicolored tail are different from RT Dove.

Western Sandpiper, Laughing Gull, Common Tern, and Pine Warbler, all regular species for which descriptions should be provided. The most troublesome of these for me is Western Sandpiper. Reports usually give a few field marks and rarely provide the full description that I would like to see to substantiate the occurrence of alternate-plumaged adults in Iowa in spring and early fall. I was gratified by the response to my plea for early dates on Eastern Meadowlarks and indication of whether they were identified by song or call.

#### CONTRIBUTORS (\* = documentation only)

Pam H. Allen (PHA), West Des Moines; Reid I. Allen (RIA), West Des Moines; Dennis Carter (DeC), Decorah; Robert I. Cecil (RIC), Des Moines; Raymond L. Cummins (RLC), Centerville; James J. Dinsmore (JJD), Ames; Michael C. Dooley (MCD), Iowa City; Dan C. Dorrance (DCD), Rock Island, IL; Chris Edwards (CE), North Liberty; Bery Engebretsen (BE), Urbandale; Carolyn J. Fischer (CJF), Mason City; James L. Fuller (JLF), Iowa City; Rita Goranson (RGo), Mason City; Douglas C. Harr (DCH), Larchwood; \*Kevin Healy (KHe), Ames; Bill F. Huser (BFH), South Sioux City, NE; Ann M. Johnson (AMJ), Norwalk; Thomas N. Johnson (TNJ), Mystic; Matthew C. Kenne (MCK), Algona; Thomas H. Kent (THK), Iowa City; Dave Killman (DKi), Fairfield; Darwin Koenig (DK), Paullina; Fred Leshner (FL), La Crosse, WI; \*Josh Obrecht (JO), Minden; Michael D. Overton (MDO), Ames; Babs K. Padelford (BKP), Bellevue, NE; Loren J. Padelford (LJP), Bellevue, NE; Marietta A. Petersen (MAP), Walnut; Diane C. Porter (DCP), Fairfield; Beth Proescholdt (BPr), Liscomb; Mark Proescholdt (MPR), Liscomb; \*Roger U. Schlaefter (RUS), Waukee; Lee A. Schoenewe (LAS), Spencer; \*Rick Schmid (RSc), Omaha, NE; Jim Sinclair (JSi), Indianola; Ed Thelen (ETH), Spirit Lake; Rob Thelen (RTh), Carroll; Dennis Thompson (DT), Johnston; Marie Tiemann (MT), Shenandoah; John Van Dyk (JV), Sioux Center; Connie Van Ervelde (CV), Grinnell; Robert Van Ervelde (RV), Grinnell; Phil J. Walsh (PJW), Des Moines; Jan L. Walter (JLW), Mason City; C. L. Winterwood (CLW), Dubuque; and Hank Zaletel (HZ), Nevada.

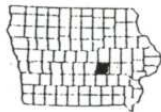
211 Richards Street, Iowa City, IA 52246

#### FIRST STATE RECORD FOR EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE

JIM FULLER

It was a serendipitous combination of factors that resulted in the first sighting of Eurasian Collared-Dove in the state. First, it was Labor Day weekend (1997), and who could forget the Reddish Egret, Long-tailed Jaeger, and White Ibis that had occurred on or near that date in recent years.

I had met Fritz Brock, a city planner from Allentown, Pennsylvania, while on a wild Tern (Whiskered) chase in Delaware two years previously. Fritz is a birder and a golfer, and he and his wife, Ann, are native Iowans, hailing from Grinnell. And so while visiting family and playing a round of golf at the Grinnell Country Club on 29 August, he heard and saw what he considered to be Eurasian Collared-Doves, a species he was familiar with in Florida. The result was an early morning call from Fritz on 30 August, and later that morning we met at Grinnell and immediately saw



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three doves sitting on utility wires on the north side of the golf course. For the next hour we observed as many as five birds in that area.

Generally, the doves were larger, lighter, and with shorter and blunter tails than a Mourning Dove. However, they were darker gray than escape Ringed Turtle-Doves I had seen. Overall the birds were a light gray color, with a typical short, dark-gray bill that drooped slightly at the end. There was a black line on the hindneck that continued onto the side of the neck where it ended. Just above the black line there was a parallel white line. The tail was shorter and more squared off than that of a Mourning Dove, and in flight the undertail was white in its terminal half, and dark on the inner portion, except for a light area in the middle. Also in flight, the upperwing showed a three-toned effect, with dark primaries, a lighter silvery area at the wrist, and a brownish gray area on the coverts next to the mantle. The uppertail had a thin white terminal area, and there was also a light, almost silvery area at the bend of the wing on the perched bird. The birds were regularly calling with a series of three loud coos, and on several occasions, an individual bird would make a raspy mewing sound just as it alit on the utility wire. The cooing itself sounded somewhat reminiscent of a Barred Owl call.

These birds differed from Mourning Dove in their larger size, overall lighter color, two-toned undertail and three-toned upperwing, as well as a very different cooing call. Ringed Turtle-Dove is generally lighter, lacks the white above the black neckline, lacks the two-toned undertail and three-toned upperwing, and gives a softer rolling coo.



Eurasian Collared-Dove at Grinnell,  
18 June 1998. Photo by Reid I. Allen.

Evidently, the doves had been at this location at least since the spring of the year, as a neighbor indicated he had heard them since then. During the succeeding months, from one to four birds were seen by many observers, but never as many as the five originally found. One bird was subsequently found dead in October of 1997 (Proescholdt 1999).

Eurasian Collared-Dove was an expected species in the state. It has an interesting history of rapid range expansion, both in the Old World and the Americas (White 1986). A native of India and central Asia, it first entered Europe in 1932. In another 20 years it had advanced to Great Britain, and shortly thereafter to Russia and Iceland. At present it is found north of the Arctic Circle in Scandinavia. On this side of the Atlantic, birds were found in the Bahamas in 1975, from whence they spread to Florida. They have rapidly advanced north and northwest in this country, with almost all states east of the Rocky Mountains exhibiting records. In Iowa, two doves were located in Osceola County during the summer of 1998 (Padelford and Padelford 1999), and as many as ten birds have been recently sighted at Grinnell. If it follows its historical trend or the precedent of the House Finch, Eurasian Collared-Dove should be an abundant bird in the state in the near future.

LITERATURE CITED

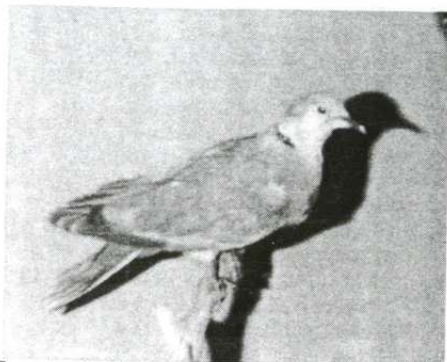
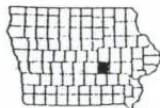
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 Padelford, L., and B. Padelford. 1999. Eurasian Collared-Dove in Osceola County. *Iowa Bird Life* 69:103.  
 Proescholdt, M., and M. Stegmann. 1999. Eurasian Collared-Dove specimen for Iowa *Iowa Bird Life* 68:102.  
 Ramsey, S. 1988. Letter to the Editor: More on Eurasian Collared-Doves. *Birding* 20:343-344.  
 White, T. 1986. Collared-Dove: The next North American species? *Birding* 18:150-152.

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EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE SPECIMEN FOR IOWA

MARK PROESCHOLDT AND MIKE STEGMANN

On 15 October 1997, the Central Iowa Ornithologists' of the Marshalltown region travelled to Grinnell on one of their regular field trips. There, they visited 16th Street in north Grinnell to see if the Eurasian Collared-Doves which had first appeared in August 1997 (see note by Fuller, this issue), were still present. Along the road they noticed a dead Eurasian Collared-Dove which was retrieved by Ed Savage and brought back to Marshalltown. There it was turned over to Mike Stegmann of the Marshall County Conservation Board. Mike prepared the bird as a display mount (see photo) which is now on display at the conservation board's headquarters in Marshalltown. The bird, a male with molt evident on the head and tail, seemed to be in good condition and clearly was killed in a collision with a car. There are several photographs of the birds at Grinnell and Osceola County, this is the first specimen of this species for Iowa.



Eurasian Collared-Dove specimen at Marshalltown  
Photo by Mark Proescholdt.

Box 65, Liscomb, IA 50148 and 1929 Vine Street, Marshalltown, IA 50158

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE IN OSCEOLA COUNTY

LOREN AND BABS PADEFORD

We were on our way to do some birding in northwestern Iowa on 20 August 1998. It was near lunch time so we stopped in Willow Creek Park, on Highway 9 about six miles east of Highway 60, to have our lunch. When we got out of the car we heard a dove calling - a series of "hoos" - "hoo - hoo - hoo" without any of the bubbling notes associated with the call of the Ringed Turtle-Dove. As it continued to call we went to look for it. It flew to the top of a large dead tree where we studied it for several minutes through our binoculars at a distance of about 30 yards. It was a dove, larger than a Mourning Dove with a pale brown back and a light gray breast. It had a narrow black crescent on the nape of the neck. It had a Mourning Dove-like small head and small bill. In flight the tail appeared rather square at the tip. The tip of the tail was white. This combination of characteristics identified it as a Eurasian Collared-Dove, a species first reported in Iowa in 1997 (Fuller, *Iowa Bird Life* 69: , 1999).



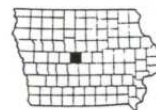
During the time we were in the park, from about 1130-1230 hours, we heard the bird call many times.

1405 Little John Rd., Bellevue, NE 68005 (lpdlfrd@juno.com)

WHITE-FACED IBIS AT HARRIER MARSH IN BOONE COUNTY

ED THELEN

On 15 August 1997, while driving back to Spirit Lake from Des Moines, I decided to stop and check out Saylorville reservoir for some fall migrant shorebirds. While at Saylorville I met Eugene and Eloise Armstrong who were also out birding. After we introduced ourselves and checked out some nearby shorebirds, it was soon time for me to continue my drive home. Knowing that I was headed north, Eugene suggested I stop at Harrier Marsh, a wetland complex just south of Ogden in Boone County. He said it had some good mudflats and should hold a few shorebirds. He also requested I call him if I happen to see an ibis this fall while birding the sloughs of northwestern Iowa. I told him I had never seen one before but nevertheless would call him if I happened to see one.



As I headed home I thought about what Eugene had said about Harrier Marsh and decided to check it out. Imagine my surprise when I saw an ibis less than 100 yards from the east-west gravel road adjacent to Harrier Marsh. Standing before me was a dark, long-legged bird with a thick, decurved, gray-colored bill that appeared as long as the bird's neck. It was feeding actively next to some Mallards which seemed a third the size of the ibis. The body, back, wings, and rump were mostly iridescent green-black with a tinge of purple sheen. Its neck, throat, nape, and forehead were brown with slight streaks of white. Its legs appeared dark with no hint of color. Its facial skin was dark with no white or light coloring. With a 30-power spotting scope, I could clearly see the red eyes of the ibis on several occasions. Because of the red eyes I identified this ibis as an adult White-faced Ibis in basic plumage. According to Kaufman (*Advanced Birding*, 1990) "If you can see the red eyes the bird is a White-faced Ibis".



Eurasian Collared-Dove P-0581  
Grinnell, Poweshiek Co., IA  
18 Jan 1998 Reid I. Allen 97-44

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Eurasian Collared-Dove P-0571  
Grinnell, Mahaska Co., IA  
30 Aug 1997 Reid I. Allen 97-44

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Eurasian Collared-Dove P-0571  
Grinnell, Mahaska Co., IA  
30 Aug 1997 Reid I. Allen 97-44

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97-44

DOCUMENTATION OF RARE BIRD

SPECIES: Eurasian Collared Dove

NUMBER: 5

LOCATION; Grinnell Country Club Golf Course and adjoining residential area. (Poweshiek County)

DATE & TIME: 30 August, 1997 (10:10-11:30 AM)

OBSERVER: Jim Fuller, 6 Longview Knoll NE, Iowa City, Iowa, 52240

OTHERS: Reported by Fritz Brock. With me was Karole Fuller. Seen later by M. Ob.

BACKGROUND: I had a call early morning 30 August from Fritz Brock, Allentown, PA, who was visiting family in Grinnell. He had been playing golf on the Country Club course there and two days in a row had heard and seen what he considered to be Eurasian Collared Doves, a species he knew from Florida. After arriving at the location, I immediately observed three doves on a utility wire along the golf course, and later saw two more doves at the same time. After Fritz Brock arrived about ten minutes later, we watched as many as four birds almost constantly for nearly an hour.

DESCRIPTION: Generally the doves were larger, lighter colored, and blunter tailed than Mourning Doves. However, they were a darker gray than Ringed Turtle Doves I have seen. Overall, the birds were a light gray color, with a typical short dark gray bill that drooped slightly at the end. There was a black line on the hindneck that continued to the side of the neck where it ended. Just above this black line, there was a white line. The tail was more squared off than a Mourning Dove, and in flight, the undertail was white in its outer half, and dark in the inner portion, except where it was light in the middle between the dark areas. Also in flight, the upperwing showed a three-toned effect, with dark primaries, a lighter silvery area at the wrist, and a brownish gray area next to the mantle. The uppertail appeared to have a thin white terminal area, and there was also a light, almost silvery area at the bend in the wing on the perched bird. The birds were regularly calling with a series of three loud coos, and on three occasions I heard one of the birds make a raspy mewling sound just as they were alighting on the utility wire. The birds were rather skittish.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Differences from a Mourning Dove are lighter overall color, larger size, blunt tail, black neckline, in flight two-toned undertail and three-toned upperwing, as well as a very different cooing call. Ringed Turtle Dove is generally lighter, lacks the obvious white line above the black neckline, and in flight does not show the two-toned undertail nor three-toned upperwing. Call is a softer rolling coo.

OPTICS & VIEWING CONDITIONS: It was mid-late morning on a partly cloudy day. I watched the birds with Swift Audubon (8.5 X 44) binoculars while they were sitting on utility wires, in trees, on top of buildings, and on the ground at distances from 30-120 feet.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCES: I have seen a number of these birds in Florida.

FIELD NOTES & GUIDES: Field notes were made in car after viewing. I also looked at National Geographic Field Guide, and read article in "Birding", October, 1988, pages 311-12. This form was typed on 3 September.

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DOCUMENTATION OF EXTRAORDINARY BIRD SIGHTING

**Species:** Eurasian Collared-Dove; **Number:** 1, possibly 2

**Location:** Grinnell, Poweshiek Co., IA

**Date:** 30 August 1997; **Time:** 3:15 to 5:30 p.m.

**Name and address:** Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA 52246.

**Others before/with/after:** Reported to Jim Fuller by Fritz Brock (1424 Sage St., Allentown, PA 18103) who heard the bird while playing golf on 29 August. Seen earlier by Jim Fuller. Present at the time I was there were Eugene and Eloise Armstrong, Pam and Reid Allen, Jim Scheib, Mark and Beth Proescholdt, Chick Fuller, Tom Stone, Tim Gedler, Ken Lowder, and John Daniel. We talked with homeowner William Smith (1117 16th Ave., Grinnell, IA 50112) who said that the doves had been present all spring and summer. His golfing partners often mentioned hearing owls, which he pointed out were doves. He recalls hearing them at the time of Larry Stone's article on the White-winged Doves in Iowa (late April).

**Habitat and circumstances:** Along road between golf course and a few estates on the north edge of town.

**Description of bird:** We heard the bird making a hoo-hoo-ho-hooo song, which was reminiscent of a Barred Owl call. It was loud and carried a long distance. It was often repeated several times. When first seen, the bird was perched high on a dead limb of a large tree in a homestead east of Smith's new house. The bird was larger than a Morning Dove and much chunkier. It was overall a light gray. The bill was dark gray and the eye dark on a light head. There was a black collar on the hind neck. It was a thick black line, and at times I saw a white edge to the black. The primaries were dark, not quite black, with a very thin gray edge. The back and coverts were gray. The tail was moderately long and rounded at the tip. From below the distal tail was white with black at the proximal outer edge and gray undertail coverts. The underparts were uniform gray. In flight the white tail with black at the base was even more evident. The upper wing showed dark primaries, gray secondaries, and a light brown over the mantle. The legs were pink. The bird flew to the golf course several times and then back to the grove. It sang intermittantly. Several people heard the coarse call note. Some said that a second bird was singing while we watched the first. Jim Fuller reported seven birds in the morning, but we could not locate them.

**Voice:** see above.

**Similar species:** Ringed Turtle-Dove is smaller and has white undertail coverts, among other differences.

**Any one have reservations?:** no.

**Light:** partly overcast; **Distance:** as close as 15 yards; **Optics:** 10x binocular; 20x scope.

**Previous experience:** I have seen this species in Florida.

**References before/after viewing:** Looked at table and photos in article in American Birds that Mark Proescholdt brought.

**Time of notes:** During observation; **Final typing:** 2 days.

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

97-44

What species? Eurasian Collared-Dove How many? 1+Location? Grinnell golf course - (Poweshiek County)Type of habitat? Overhead power lines along golf course, trees aroundWhen? date(s): August 30, 1997 time: 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. approximatelyWho? your name and address: Mark Proescholdt, Box 65, Liscomb, Iowa 50148others with you: Beth Proescholdt, Tom Kent, Tim Gedler, Tom Stone, Ken Leudar,others before or after you: Jim Fuller, Chuck Fuller, Armstrongs, Allens, others

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, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

Mom and I met Tom Kent who took us to the tree where the dove was. We watched this one and heard another one calling on the golf course. Later, we saw a dove on the overhead wires and then on the ground.

We heard the distinctive call "Kuk-Koo'-Koo'" quite a few times. The bird had a wide black bar on the nape or back of the neck and was a light grayish bird. It was bulkier than a Mourning Dove. On the undertail of the bird from the tail tip there was a wide whitish band and then black to the base of the tail with dark grayish undertail coverts over the black band on the undertail. Saw fly once and could see white showing near tail's tip very distinctly. Real good looks at bird.

## Additional sightings:

Sept. 8 - 3

Sept. 25 - 2

Oct. 2 - 1

Oct. 16 - 1

Sept. 11 - 1

Sept. 29 - 1

Oct. 6 - 2

Oct. 20 - 1

Sept. 22 - 1

Oct. 9 - 1

Nov. 17 - 1

Nov. 24 - 2

## Similar species and how eliminated:

A Ringed turtle Dove has a different call - "Kooek-Kooekoo(aw)" and has whitish vent and undertail coverts unlike the gray for the Eur. Collared Dove

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Marshalltown birders in October 1997 or Sept. 1997 found a dead Eurasian Collared Dove along road in Grinnell and gave to Marshall County Conservation Board for a specimen.

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

Sunny, good light.

Distance estimated

up in tree → 40-50 yards away  
on wires → 15 yards away  
on ground → 15 yards away

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

Saw 2 in South Florida in June 1989.

References and persons consulted before writing description:

Excellent article in American Birds - winter 1987.How long before field notes made? Made 10:00 p.m. this form completed? Nov. 23, 1997

on Aug. 30, 1997



97-44

## DOCUMENTATION FORM

For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

**Species:** Eurasian Collared-Dove

**Number:** 1

**Location:** Grinnell, Poweshiek Co.

**Habitat:** Suburban yard and golf course.

**Date and time:** September 1, 1997, 12:00 noon - 12:45 p.m.

**Name and address:** Chris Edwards, 85 Whitman Ave., North Liberty, IA 52317

**Others with you:** Chris Caster.

**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.**

Size and shape similar to a Mourning Dove, but slightly larger and with a bulkier head and neck and a square tail. Bill gray, short, thin, and slightly downcurved. Eye reddish. Legs appeared gray. Head and body pale gray, with a whitish chin and forehead. The thin black hindneck collar was bordered on the top edge with a very thin white line. On the folded wing, the feathers of the wing coverts had very thin white edges, creating a scalloped appearance. The folded primaries were dark brown with very narrow light edgings. The underside of the tail was white and black: the distal 1/2 white and the basal 1/2 black, with the black on the central feathers mostly obscured by the gray undertail coverts. Seen briefly in flight, the upperside of the wings and body had a three-toned appearance, with dark brown primaries, a whitish stripe near the wrist, and gray coverts and back in the center.

The bird called frequently, a three-noted *coo,coooo,coo*, with the accent on the second syllable and given in a series of four or five calls every few minutes.

The bird was seen perched on dead branches in several large trees in a yard, and flew several times to trees in the golf course across the street, where it was heard but not seen. The residents of the house stated that they had heard the bird's distinctive call throughout the summer, but had thought it was a Mourning Dove.

**Similar species eliminated:** Ringed Turtle-Doves have a very different call.

**Did anyone disagree or have reservations about the identification?** No.

**Viewing conditions:** 10 - 30 yards away; viewed with 8 x 40 binoculars and 15x - 60x telescope.

**Previous experience with species and similar ones:** No experience with this species.

**References and persons consulted before writing description:** National Geographic (no illustration); *All the Birds of North America*; *Stokes Field Guide to Birds*; *Stokes Field Guide to Birdsongs*; and several articles in *Birding*; consulted before observation.

**How long before field notes made:** During observation.

**How long before this form completed:** Four hours.

97-44

Sp.: Eurasian Collared Dove (1 bird)  
Obs.: Robert Cecil  
1315 431st St. DSM, IA  
Loc. Grinnell, IA. (Country Club on 16th St.)  
Date: Sept. 21, 1997 at about 3:00 PM

Description:

The bird was almost the size of a Rock Dove although it seemed somewhat sleeker, less chunky. It was clearly larger than a Mourning Dove. Overall, its color was pale gray -almost white. This included head, breast, belly, and what I could see of the back. Exceptions included the collar which was a narrow band with dark below and white above, and dark primaries that were conspicuous in flight. The base of the tail was also dark, producing a dark-light tail pattern dividing it about in half. Eye and bill dark. In flight, the tail was squarred or rounded, not pointed as in Mourning Dove.

The bird vocalized frequently. The call involved single and doubled "coo" notes... coo....coo..coo....coo, etc. Some of the notes were a little higher in pitch, cracking like the voice of a teenage boy.

The bird flew around a lot, but always landed in trees when I was there.

Also viewed by Sue Spieker, Francis Moore, and a few others.

Similar Species:

Ringed Turtle Dove is smaller than a Mourning Dove, and has a black collar instead of a black and white collar.

Previous experience:

I have seen this species in S. Florida and in Dallas, Texas. I have also seen presumably escaped Ringed Turtle Doves in Keokuk.

Document completed Sept. 22 from notes taken at time of observation