

House Finch
28 Mar 1985

Record Number: 85-10

Classification: A-P

Iowa City, Johnson Co., IA

*J. Fuller, *T. Kent, *T. Staudt

photos taken; IBL 55:70; 56:44, P-0183

DOCUMENTATIONS

Jim Fuller

Thomas H. Kent

Tom Staudt

PHOTOGRAPHS

T. H. Kent, P-0183

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 55:70

Records Committee: IBL 56:44, 64:70

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Tom Kent to Records Committee, 13 Sep 1993

VOTE (without photograph): 1-I-P, 5-II, 1-III

III, well described.

REVOTE (1993): 7 A-P

A-P, I agree.

85-10

13 September 1993

To: IOU Records Committee
From: Tom Kent
Re: Request for reconsideration of record

Record: 85-10 House Finch

Reason for request: Photo not reviewed.

Comment: Photo shows a female at Jim Fuller's feeder. Should be A-P.



House Finch P-0183
Iowa City, River Heights, John
28 Mar 1985 T. H. Kent

111-019 389 RNNV 491 88 >

85-10

Summary of Review of an Ornithologic Observation
by the Records Committee
of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union

SPECIES: House Finch

DATE SEEN: 28 March 1985

SITE OF OBSERVATION: Johnson County

OBSERVERS: Jim Fuller, Tom Kent, Tom Staudt

DATE OF REVIEW: October 1985

METHOD OF REVIEW: Committee mail vote

CLASSIFICATION OF RECORD: II

COMMENTS: More than two Class III documentations were received for this bird, resulting in a Classification of II. The information provided was adequate for identification.

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:

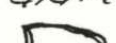
- I: labeled, diagnostic specimen, photograph, or recording available for review by the Committee
- II: acceptable sight record documented independently by 3 or more observers
- III: acceptable sight record documented by 1 or 2 observers
- IV: probably correct record, but not beyond doubt
- V: record 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.

What species? HOUSE FINCH How many? 1 (FEMALE)Location? HOME NORTH OF IOWA CITYType of habitat? SUNFLOWER FEEDER IN SUBURBAN YARDWhen? date(s): 3/28/85 time: 7:45 AM to 5:10 PMWho? your name and address: JIM FULLER, 6 LONGVIEW KNOLL, RR#6, IOWA CITYothers with you: T. STAUDT, C & B. KNIGHT, J & J SANDROCK, T. KENT

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

THE BIRD'S GENERAL SIZE WAS THE SAME AS THE PURPLE FINCHES ALSO AT THE FEEDER AND ITS SHAPE WAS ALSO VERY SIMILAR, ALTHOUGH IT WAS SLIGHTLY SLIMMER, ESPECIALLY THE HEAD. THE BIRD WAS ALSO GENERALLY LIGHTER IN COLOR THAN THE FEMALE AND IMMATURE PURPLE FINCHES. THE HEAD TOP, NECK, AND BACK WERE ALL A UNIFORM LIGHT BROWN COLOR WITH VERY FINE STREAKING. THE SIDE OF FACE WAS ALSO THIS BROWN COLOR ABOVE THE EYE. THE EYE WAS DARK WITH NO PERCEPTIBLE EYE RING. THERE WAS NO EAR PATCH LIKE THE PURPLE FINCHES HAD. THE WING AND TAIL WERE SLIGHTLY DARKER BROWN THAN THE REST OF BODY. THE TAIL HAD A SLIGHT NOTCH. THE WINGS HAD TWO FAINT TAN WING BARS, WHICH BECAME DARKER CLOSER TO THE BREAST. THE BREAST AND THROAT WERE WHITE WITH LIGHT BROWN STREAKING. THE STREAKING WAS MUCH LESS PROMINENT, BOTH IN DARKNESS AND WIDTH THAN THE STREAKING OF THE PURPLE FINCHES. THE LEGS WERE GRAYISH. THERE WAS A VERY FAINT ORANGE-RED WASH ON THE SIDE OF FACE BELOW THE EYE, THE THROAT & UPPER BREAST, AND THE RUMP. THIS COLOR WAS ONLY VISIBLE IN GOOD LIGHT AND WHEN BIRD TURNED JUST RIGHT. THE BILL WAS THICK AT BASE, GRAY COLOR AND BOTH MANDIBLES WERE CURVED → 

Similar species and how eliminated: THE BIRD WAS MORE AGGRESSIVE THAN PURPLE FINCHES.

PURPLE FINCH - NO EAR PATCH, BACK WAS ONLY FINELY STREAKED, AND BREAST AND BELLY STREAKING MUCH LESS PROMINENT.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

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

VIEWED THROUGH A WINDOW AT 15-20 FEET DISTANCE. WEATHER CLEAR TO PARTLY CLOUDY. VIEWING TOWARD NORTH BINOCULARS WERE 9X36 BUSHNELL

Previous experience with species and similar ones:

SEEN NUMEROUS TIMES IN EASTERN & WESTERN U.S., INCLUDING LAST WEEK IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

References and persons consulted before writing description:

NATIONAL GEOG. FIELD GUIDE. PHOTOGRAPHED BY TOM KENT

How long before field notes made? IMMEDIATE this form completed? 3 HOURS

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240

What species? House Finch ♀ How many? 1Location? River Heights, Iowa City, IAType of habitat? Yard feeder, along riverWhen? date(s): 28 March 1985 time: 12⁰⁰ to 12¹⁵Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City, IA 52240others with you: Jim Fullerothers before or after you: Tom Stuedt, Jim Sandvick

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.

About same size as Purple Finch. Much paler overall than ♀ Purple Finch. Smooth slight flat head (compared to Purple Finch). Dark gray bill, slight more curved above than Purple Finch. Head overall pale with very fine streaking and dark eye. No eye-line, eye ring or ear patch. Streaked breast and underparts pt lighter and somewhat less bold than Purple Finch. Wings plain brown with 2 faint wing-bars. Slight orangish color below bill and on neck. Tail long with slight notch. Legs dark. Photos taken with female Purple Finch.

Similar species and how eliminated: Female Purple Finch - see above

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

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

overcast, 20 ft 10x binoculars

Previous experience with species and similar ones: have seen many

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? 1/2 hr this form completed? same

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240

What species? House Finch female How many? 1Location? Jim Fuller's house 6 Langview Knoll Iowa City, Ia.Type of habitat? yard bird feeder - sunflower, house on hillside above bend in river mixed trees.
9:40 AM 9:45 AMWhen? date(s): March 28 time: and 10:05 am to 10:15 amWho? your name and address: Thomas J. STAUDTothers with you: noneothers before or after you: Jim Fuller, Col & Bernie Knight, Tom Kent

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.

Feeding with Purple Finch, slightly smaller, beak and leg color appeared to be the same on both species. Overall the House Finch upperparts ~~was~~ appeared evenly soft gray-brown in coloration as opposed to streaky brown of the Purple Finch. The face on the House Finch was soft brown with no earpatch or eyebrow. The House Finch had fine streaking on the breast that continued evenly on down through to belly. The streaking was slightly heavier on the flanks. The rump & belly color was dull gray as opposed to a whitish color on the Purple Finch. The House Finch had a slight orange tint on its rump and a hint of rose on its breast.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
viewed from indoors, 20-25 ft est. 8x binoculars

Previous experience with species and similar ones:
none with House Finch, numerous and frequent sightings of Purple Finch

References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? during observation this form completed? 10 days