

Records Committee, Iowa Ornithologists' Union

Printed: 11/24/00

Chestnut-collared Longspur  
12 Apr 1997  
220th St. & K-42, Woodbury Co., IA  
\*Wm. F. Huser  
IBL 67:92, 68:86

Record Number: 97-32  
Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Wm. F. Huser, 140 Oakmont Dr., S. Sioux City, NE 68776

[\*10/1/97]

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 67:92

Records Committee: 68:86

VOTE: 7 A-D

A-D, 1 male.

97-32

DOCUMENTATION FORM

For extraordinary bird sightings in X\_IA, \_\_NE or \_\_SD

Species: Chestnut-collared Longspur                      Number seen: 1 male

Location: 220th St & K-42, Woodbury County, IA

Habitat: flat, open ground with short stubble fields, gravel road, snow

Date: 4/12/97    Time: approx 8AM

Bill Huser            140 Oakmont Dr., S. Sioux City, NE 68776

Others with me: none  
Others before/after me: none known

Description: flocks of Lapland Longspurs were present feeding along gravel roads where the new snow covered least. Within one of these flocks was a similar sized (sparrow sized) bird that perched, fed and flew with them. It contrasted from the Laplands in having: a white face w/ yellow chin/throat, a black horizontal bar behind the eye and another lower on the cheek. Extensive black on the breast, belly and flanks. The crown was black; the nape, chestnut. The tail was white with central retrices black and outer ones black at their tips.

I concluded from these field marks that the bird was an alternate plumaged male Chestnut-collared Longspur.

Similar species & differentiation: As described above, the white face and tail and extensive black ventrum eliminated Lapland Longspurs, which were present for direct comparison. The yellow chin, black ventrum and chestnut nape eliminated McCown's Longspur. Extensive white tail and black ventrum also eliminated the Smith's Longspur. No sparrows have white retrices to this extent.

Disagreeing identifications: none

Conditions - light, distance & optics: Minolta 10X50 binocs, Celestron 32X60 scope; about 40 meters, in bright, diffuse light.

Previous experience with species: Seen previously in NE and SD in alternate plumage with females.

References: N. Geo.

Notes taken, with bird in view: yes later:

Documented: 7/22/97

*Wm. F. Huser*