

Records Committee, Iowa Ornithologists' Union

Printed: 11/22/00

Palm Warbler

9 Dec 1996

southeast of Boone, Boone Co., IA

*S. Dinsmore

IBL 67:62, 82

Record Number: 96-73

Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Stephen J. Dinsmore, 4024 Arkansas Dr., Ames 50014 [6/15/97]

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 67:62

Records Committee: IBL 67:82

VOTE: 7 A-D

A-D, Western subspecies. Yellow vent and tail, bobbing distinctive.

A-D, All characteristics of Palm Warbler were noted.

96-73

DOCUMENTATION FORM

Species: Palm Warbler

Number: 1

Location: se of Boone, Boone Co.

Habitat: rural yard

Date: 9 December 1996

Time: 8:10-8:14 a.m.

Observer: Stephen J. Dinsmore 4024 Arkansas Dr. Ames, IA 50014

Others who saw bird: Karl Jungbluth

Description of bird(s): In early December, I received a call about a Palm Warbler frequenting a rural garage south of Boone. I arrived on the 9th, and after about 20 minutes a small warbler flew into a tree adjacent to the garage. The bird was very small, smaller than a junco. The most conspicuous features were the yellow vent and continuous tail bobbing. The bill was very thin and pointed. The crown, mantle, and upperwings were dark brown. There was also a thin white eyebrow, and the remainder of the head was also brown. The throat was white. The rest of the underparts were also white with some thin streaks across the upper breast and flanks and a faint hint of yellow on the upper breast. The tail and legs were dark. The uppertail coverts were olive-colored. The bird did not vocalize. I suspect the bird was a fall female or immature of the western subspecies D. p. palmarum because of the drab appearance and largely white underparts.

Similar species and how eliminated: The combination of tail-bobbing, yellow vent, white eyebrow, unmarked wings, and streaked underparts eliminates all other warblers, especially Yellow-rumped, Prairie, Pine, and Cape May warblers.

Viewing conditions and equipment: Viewing conditions were good with overcast skies. Estimated viewing distance was 5m. I used 10x42 binoculars.

Previous experience with species: I have seen many Palm Warblers, especially in Iowa and North Carolina. Also familiar with other warblers which could be confused with Palm Warbler.

References consulted:

NGS Field Guide to the Birds of North America

Curson, Quinn, and Beadle Warblers of the Americas

How long before field notes made: written immediately after observation

How long before this form completed: written 5 January 1997