

Sprague's Pipit
11 Oct 1949
Ogden, Boone Co., IA
Jim Keenan
Brown 1962, 1971

Record Number: 81-CR
Classification: NA

REFERENCES

- Brown, W. 1962. Sprague's Pipit in Iowa. IBL 32:20.
- Brown 1971
- VOTE (1981): 3-IV, 4-V
 - V, no detail, second hand.
 - V, no details.
 - IV, no data.
 - IV, no description.

Brown, W. 1962. Sprague's Pipit in Iowa. IBL 32:20.

Sprague's Pipit in Iowa. Jim Keenan of Ogden raises an interesting question regarding the abundance in Iowa of the Sprague's Pipit. Jack Musgrove's check-list published in 1949 as a supplement to the Iowa Conservationist lists the species as "Rare" and the Iowa Distributional Check-list in 1954 calls it an "Accidental or Straggler." Dr. F. L. Roberts reported it from Spirit Lake in 1949, Dr. Laude has a 1950 record at Amana, it was found at Brenton's Slough near Des Moines on an I.O.U. Spring Meeting field trip in 1954, and one was seen at the same place in 1958 by Albert Berkowitz and the writer.

The A.O.U. Check-list, 5th Ed., shows its breeding range as generally northwest of Iowa, but says it sometimes winters to the southeast so that some individuals should go through the state in migration. The four records referred to are all spring dates, but Mr. Keenan's records in 1949, 1950, 1959, and 1961 are all fall dates. He says he sees almost as many Sprague's as Water Pipits, and would like to know what other records the members of the I.O.U. may have. The species has been recorded regularly in recent winters by Richard Graber in southern Illinois. WOODWARD BROWN, 4815 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines.

Brown 1971
p 538

Sprague's Pipit Anthus spragueii (Audubon)

Rare migrant

Anderson (1907) cited a 1895 record, and DuMont (1934), with no record other than Anderson's, said "The present status is undetermined."

There are these recent records: 23 April, 1949, "northwest Iowa" (Roberts, 1949); 16 April, 1950, Amana, Johnson Co. (PPL); 16 May, 1954, Polk Co. (GOH); 4 May, 1958, Polk Co. (Brown, 1958); 27 May, 1962, near LaPorte City, Black Hawk Co. (Burk, 1962); 4 April, 1968, Shenandoah, Page Co. (FMB). Fall dates are all from Ogden, Boone Co.: 11 October, 1949, 29 September, 30 October, and 1 November, 1959, 13 and 22 September, 1961 (JK). There is no Iowa specimen extant.

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