

Hoary Redpoll  
27 Jan 1982  
Pocahontas, Pocahontas Co., IA  
\*Wallace Jardine  
IBL 52:28, 53:37

Record Number: 82-03  
Classification: NA

DOCUMENTATION

Wallace E. Jardine

REFERENCE

Field Reports: IBL 52:28  
Records Committee: IBL 53:37

VOTE: 4-III, 2-IV, 1-V

Documentation did not mention crissal area, did not mention area of unstreaking on rump. Bill was not mentioned. 'Red' rump? -a Hoary should be pink.

Not a great description-- but unstreaked rump diagnostic. Did not see undertail coverts, however.

Record would be better if undertail coverts had been described.

? Two features (white rump, overall color) enough. Not a complete description.

Didn't see rump.

Description not detailed enough for this species.

No description of undertail coverts.

REVOTE (at meeting, 20 November 1982): 3-III, 4-IV

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

SPECIES: Hoary redpoll

DATE SEEN: 27 Jan. 1982

SITE OF OBSERVATION: Pocahontas, Pocahontas Co., Iowa

OBSERVERS: W. Jardine

DATE OF REVIEW: November 1982

METHOD OF REVIEW: discussion followed by secret ballot

CLASSIFICATION OF RECORD: IV

COMMENTS: The records committee regretfully classed this record as a IV for two reasons. First, several diagnostic features, most notably the size and shape of the bill, and the pattern of the undertail coverts, were not discussed in the report. Second, the need for a conservative policy in the acceptance of records of a species so difficult to identify.

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.

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF  
AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD

82-03

1. Species HOARY REDPOLL 2. Number 1

3. Location RURAL POCAHONTAS, IA.

4. Date: 2-27-82 5. Time Bird Seen: 7:30 AM to 7:31 AM

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):

1. GENERAL SIZE & COLORATION OF COMMON REDPOLL.
2. APPEARANCE. MORE WASHED OUT & PALE THAN COMMON REDPOLL.
3. RUMP WAS UNSTREAKED WITH A DEFINATE RED WASH.

THIS BIRD WAS OBSERVED IN THE PRESENCE OF TWO COMMON REDPOLLS AS ALL THREE WERE FEEDING FROM A THISTLE FEEDER. A GOOD VIEW OF THE BACK & RUMP WAS POSSIBLE.

7. Description of voice, if heard: NOT HEARD.

8. Description of behavior: FEEDING FROM THISTLE FEEDER.

9. Habitat - general: RURAL BACK YARD (ABOUT 1 ACRE), YOUNG TREES & SHRUBS. BOUNDED ON THREE SIDES BY 100+ ACRE FIELDS.

specific: THISTLE FEEDER LOCATED NEXT TO A 20' LINDEN TREE ABOUT 30' NORTH OF HOUSE.

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7, & 8. Explain: COMMON REDPOLL, THIS BIRD WAS PALER & HAD A RED WASHED UNSTREAKED RUMP.

11. Distance (how measured)?  
30' EYEBALL,

12. Optical equipment:  
10X BINOCULARS,

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):  
BIRD → • ← SUN EARLY MORNING SUN, CLEAR SKY,

ME → •  
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:  
NO PREVIOUS EXP. WITH HOARY REDPOLL, MANY PREVIOUS SIGHTINGS OF COMMON REDPOLL,

15. Other observers:  
NONE.

16. Did the others agree with your identification?

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird: NONE.

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description: PETERSON'S FIELD GUIDE & BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA TO CONFIRM OBSERVATION.

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?  
2 HRS.

Signature: Wallace E. Jardine Address: RR 2 BOX 9

Date: 2-27-82 City, State: POCAHONTAS, IA. 50574