

Bullock's Oriole  
21 Nov 1987  
Maysville, Scott Co., IA  
\*Peter C. Petersen  
IBL 58:23, 66:97

Record Number: 95-AE  
Classification: NA

DOCUMENTATION

Peter C. Petersen, 235 McClellan Blvd., Davenport 52803

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 58:23  
Records Committee: IBL 66:97; 68:?  
see also internet communications under 96-AB

VOTE: 4 A-D, 3 NA

NA, A female, evidently. I don't think we have enough to go on here. The field marks as described seem highly subjective and are inadequate for separating from very similar Baltimore.

NA, The different shades of orange, yellow, and gray are hard to communicate in writing. Documentations of this species have been all or mostly females making these color interpretations critical to the ID. Although the probability is high that 95-AE is a Bullock's Oriole I think more info as more Iowa sightings, pictures, and documents of male birds are required before sighting documentations in general can be accepted.

A-D, This description matches the photograph of a female in the Master Guide to Birding (Farrand 1983).

NA, Somewhat contradictory -- eliminates Baltimore 'has some orange yellow on all underparts' but description says 'head, throat, etc.... pale orange'. Also, Bullock's undertail coverts are not 'orange' as stated in description. I suspect this is a pale 1st fall female Baltimore, but no mention of any facial pattern. Late date is intriguing, however.

RE-VOTE (at meeting of 20 Sep 1997 with internet communications):  
7 NA.

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DOCUMENTATION FORM  
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

95-AE

What species? Northern "Bullock's" Oriole How many? 1

Location? 1/2 mi. W. Maysville, Scott Co. IA

Type of Habitat? small apple orchard

When? date(s): Nov. 21, 1987 (lost seen <sup>11/22 by Howard</sup> time: 3:40 PM to 3:50 P.M.

Who? your name and address: Peter C. Petersen, 235 McLellan Blvd. Davenport, IA.

Others with you: Marylou Petersen, Bill Erps, Everett Howard (at his home) 52803

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, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

Redwinged blackbird sized bird as compared to Stailbug & House Sparrows nearby, typical oriole shape with oriole bill. Head, throat, upper breast & undertail coverts pale orange; belly & legs (feathered portions) whitish grey. sides to top of head somewhat darker than throat. One heavy white wing bar, other wing coverts edged with white. Back pale grey with light featheredging, tail grey. Bill silver grey darker out top. Legs silver grey.

Similar species; how eliminated: Baltimore race has some orange or yellow on all underparts, darker back.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? no  
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.  
Late afternoon sun behind observers, bird est. to be 40' away, 7x10x binoculars.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have seen this race frequently in the western U.S.

References and persons consulted before writing description: Audubon Society Master Guide.

How long before field notes made? 1 hr this form completed? 1 hr.

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).