Records Committee, Iowa Ornithologists' Union Printed: 11/26/00

Green-tailed Towhee 5 May 1975 Storm Lake, Buena Vista Co., IA Virginia R. Crocker Crocker 1975 Record Number: 81-EY Classification: A-D

REFERENCE

Crocker, V.R. 1975. Green-tailed Towhee at Storm Lake. IBL 45:61.

VOTE (1981): 1-II, 5-III, 1-IV

III, adequate detail, VC has an unusual number of state records, observer ability not known to me.

III, description brief but sufficient.

IV, Sight record, 6 observers, in yard. Description roughly OK. Don't know observer.

III, Well-described and seen for sometime. Diagnostic marks noted.

REVOTE (at meeting, 1 May 1981): no vote change.

Green-tailed Towhee

Crocker, V. R. 1975. Green-tailed Towhee at Storm Lake. Iowa Bird Life 45:61

Green-tailed Towhee at Storm Lake -- On May 5 around noon, Mrs. Barney Campbell of 306 W. Ninth St., Storm Lake, telephoned me to say she had a bird in her yard that she had never seen before. She had consulted Birds of North America, and determined it could not be anything else but a Green-tailed Towhee. Of course, I hurried over. Their backyard is entirely in grass, and at the back of their property is an Alpine Currant hedge. The bird was scratching around in dead leaves underneath the hedge. From time to time, it would come out in the open, and in the sunlight, we could distinctly see the olive green back, rufous crown, and conspicuous white throat as described in Peterson's Field Guide to Western Birds. Since the bird was obliging enough to stay around most of the day, it was seen and identified by Mr. and Mrs. Barney Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Verne Campbell, my husband and me. My husband came home around 5 P.M., and upon hearing of our exciting news, rushed out to photograph the bird. Unfortunately, he was not successful in getting a good photograph, and the bird left. He did see it long enough to verify our identification. VIRGINIA R. CROCKER, 720 E. 1st St., Storm Lake.