

Great-tailed Grackle
15 May 1984
Riverton Area, Fremont Co., IA
*T. Kent
IBL 54:50; 55:58

Record Number: 84-14
Classification: A-D

DOCUMENTATION

Thomas H. Kent

REFERENCES

Field Reports: IBL 54:50
Records Committee: IBL 55:58

VOTE: 6-III, 1-abstain
III, calls diagnostic.

What species? Great-tailed Grackle How many? 1 maleLocation? River-ton A, near headquarters, Fremont Co., IAType of habitat? open area with a few trees near water areaWhen? date(s): 15 May 1984 time: 6:30 to 6:32 (est)Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City, IA 52240others with you: Ross Silcock

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, under tail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

"In shrub -- twice the size of a red-wing. All black.

Very large, long tail. Uttered a raucous noise and flew into hedge. Not seen again."

Over the next week we looked for this bird 4 times and would not find it.

Similar species and how eliminated: The large size, long tail and voice convinced me it was not a Common Grackle. Unfortunately, we were not able to study the bird for more than a minute.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? no

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
mostly back lighting, about 50 yds., 10x binocs

Previous experience with species and similar ones: have seen many in Texas

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? 1 hr this form completed? 2 weeks

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