

Baird's Sparrow  
24 Mar 1886  
Grinnell, Powesheik Co., IA  
Lynds Jones  
to 20 Apr; Jones 1886

Record Number: 81-GT  
Classification: NA

REFERENCE

Jones, L. 1886. Baird's Sparrow in Iowa. Ornithologist and  
Oologist 11:117.

Jones 1889

Kelsey 1891

Jones 1892

Savage 1894

Anderson 1907

DuMont 1933

Bent 1968

VOTE (1981): 5-IV, 2-V

IV, No details of plumage - observer also reports having heard  
the bird.

Jones, L. 1886. Baird's Sparrow in Iowa. Ornithologist and Oologist 11:117

Baird's Sparrow in Iowa.

(*Ammodramus bairdii*.)

BY LYNDS JONES, GRINNELL, IOWA

I first found this very interesting little bird on April 25, 1885, when I shot one and saw four or five more. It was very shy and kept so close to the ground that a momentary glimpse was all that I could get of it. This was doubtlessly the latest date of its visit with us, as but few if any were seen later. It entirely escaped my notice in the fall, but on March 21, 1886, three or four were seen

in company with the Savanna Sparrow. I noticed that it often perched rather higher than I had ever seen the Savanna Sparrow, but I never heard its song, although I watched and waited many long hours for that purpose. Its diet seems to be the same as that of the Savanna, as is its manner of feeding. Although the year appeared so early, it was not seen again until March 29th, and no perceptible increase in numbers until April 8th, when as many as fifty were found in a mile drive. After April 10th I was seen until the 21st, when none could be found, and not one since, so I consider April 20th the date of "last individual seen." Whether or not it returns south of this

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Jones, L. 1889. A list of birds found in eastern Jasper and western Poweshiek Counties Iowa. The Curlew 1:50-53, 57-60

103. *Ammodramus bairdii*, Baird's Bunting. Tolerably common t. v. ] 2-4

Kelsey, C. 1891. Birds of Poweshiek County Iowa. Ornithologist and Oologist 16:131-134

545. *Ammodramus bairdii*, Baird's Bunting, " No T. V. ] 2-4

Jones, L. 1892. Report of the committee on migration and distribution. The Wilson Quarterly 4:29

545. *Ammodramus bairdii*. Baird's Bunting.

For this interesting bunting there are but two records. Mr. Donald considers it a common migrant in Texas, and I have found it at Grinnell, Iowa. It is another of our birds which inhabit the plains.

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241. (545). *Centronyx bairdi* (Audubon). Baird Sparrow.

Anderson 1907 p 316

The Baird Sparrow is a common but locally distributed species of the western plains, sometimes occurring in Iowa during migration. W. W. Cooke states: "It was noted in migration at Grinnell, Iowa, April 25. At Grinnell it occurs in fall as well as spring" (Bird Migr. in Miss. Val., 1884-85, pp. 189-90). Carl Kelsey reported it as a "tolerably common transient visitant" and Lynds Jones as a "rare transient visitant" in Poweshiek county. Dr. I. S. Trostler gives the Baird Sparrow as a "common migrant in Pottawattamie county April 10 to May 10, never recorded in fall."

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On June 14, 1899, I took a set of five slightly incubated eggs, with female parent, in Nelson county, North Dakota. The nest was placed in thick grass on high upland prairie.

*Ammodramus bairdi* (Audubon). Baird's Sparrow

Anderson (1907) included this species on the basis of observations in Poweshiek County by Kelsey and Jones, and in Pottawattamie County by Trostler. Recently it has been reported as observed in Polk County and in the Sioux City region. There are no specimens.

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DuMont 1935 pp 157-158

Bent, A. C.: Life Histories of North American Cardinals, Grosbeaks, Buntings, Towhees, Finches, Sparrows and Allies. Bull 237 Part 2 US Nat Museum, Washington, 1968. pp 764-765

*Migration.*—Early dates of spring arrival are: Arkansas—Winslow, March 23. Missouri—St. Louis, March 17. Ohio—Ottawa County, April 22. Iowa—Grinnell, March 24. Minnesota—White Earth, Becker County, May 5. Oklahoma—Inola Prairie, April 12. Nebraska—Holstein, March 28. North Dakota—Billings County, April 25; Jamestown, May 5; Cass County, May 6 (average, May 17). Manitoba—Treesbank, April 21; Whitewater Lake, average May 9. Saskatchewan—Dinsmore, April 19. New Mexico—Rodeo, April 9. Arizona—Tucson, April 21. Colorado—Fort Lyon, April 1. Wyoming—Torrington, May 2. Montana—Missoula, April 20; Fallon, April 24. Alberta—Castor, May 10.

Late dates of spring departure are: Missouri—St. Joseph, May 25. Texas—Gainesville, April 24. Arizona—Cochise County, May 4; base of Huachuca Mountains, May 3.

Savage, D. L. 1894. Notes on the birds of Iowa. Iowa Ornithologist 1:1-17

515-(233.) *Ammodramus bairdii*. (Aud.)

#### BAIRD'S BUNTING.

Not reported by any of the members of the I. O. A.; but Mr. Kelsey reports it as a tolerably common transient visitor in Poweshiek County.