Records Committee, Iowa Ornithologists' Union Printed: 08/19/93

Record Number: 81-CP Classification: NA

Sprague's Pipit 14 Sep 1895 Lake Manawa, Pottawattamie Co., IA I. S. Trostler Anderson 1907

REFERENCE

Anderson 1907 VOTE (1981): 1-II, 3-IV, 3-V

IV, ? good observer, shot so well seen.

V, hearsay.

IV, specimen taken, implying close examination, but now lost, without description published.

NOTE from Newlon [applies to 81-AS through 81-dg]: I don't really know how to rate these -- all are probably correct, but none has the rigor appropriate to a 1st state record. Probably better be conservative here. Vesper Sparrow also has pale legs (pinkish).

Sprague's Pipit

Anderson 1907 p 365

DuMont 1934 p 114

Brown 1971 p 538 .

325. (700). Anthus spraguei (Aud.). Sprague Pipit.

The Sprague Pipit is a bird of the Great Plains region but has been taken rather commonly in western Minnesota (Hatch) and as far east as Omaha, West Point and Lincoln, Neb. (Rev. Birds Neb., 1904, p. 106). The only Iowa record I have is that of Dr. I. S. Trostler, who reports it as a straggler in Pottawattamie county,—one killed near Manawa Lake, September 14, 1895.

Anthus spraguei (Audubon). Sprague's Pipit

The present status is undetermined. Anderson (1907) stated that the only Iowa record was that of I. S. Trostler, who reported it as a straggler in Pottawattamie County; one killed near Manawa Lake, September 14, 1895. The writer has been unable to learn what became of this specimen. There are no further records.

Roberts (1932) listed this as a common summer resident in the Red River Valley region of northwestern Minnesota. Before the breaking up of the prairie it was a nesting bird in the southwestern part of that state. It is possible that migrants of this species through the Missouri River Valley have been confused with the American Pipit. A series of skins is needed.

Sprague's Pipit Anthus spragueii (Audubon)

Rare migrant

Anderson (1907) cited a 1895 record, and Du Mont (1933), with no record other than Anderson's, said "The present status is undetermined." There are these recent records: 23 April, 1949, "northwest Iowa" (Roberts, 1949); 16 April, 1950, Amana, Johnson Co. (PPL); 16 May, 2 1954, Polk Co. (GOH); 4 May, 1958, Polk Co. (Brown, 1958); 27 May, 4 5 1962, near LaPorte City, Black Hawk Co. (Burk, 1962); 4 April, 1968, 6 Shenandoah, Page Co. (FMB). Fall dates are all from Ogden, Boone Co.: 11 October, 1949, 29 September, 30 October, and 1 November, 10 12 1959, 13 and 22 September, 1961 (JK). There is no Iowa specimen 37.8,9 extant.