

Only two people participated in the formal Smith's Longspur survey this year + reported results. Fields were checked 24 times in Boone, Appanoose, and Johnson Counties, from Feb. 5 through April 25. Horned Larks, Meadowlarks, and Hapland Longspurs were found frequently. An estimated 100 Smith's Longspurs were found in a flat, dry cornfield 5 miles west of Centerville. These birds were feeding mostly in the grass endrows by the fence. Seventeen were seen closely, and identified by the junco-like tail pattern, white shoulder patch, and buffy breast. Many Hapland Longspurs were using the field that day as well.

My thanks to Mrs. Russel Laub of Rippley and to Raymond Cummings of Centerville (who found the Smith's Longspurs) for their participation.

- Barb Wilson

Name and address Mrs Russell Lamb RR Rippey, Iowa  
 County where fields were checked Boone 50235

Fields

Date	3/16	3/17	3/18	3/19	3/20	3/21	3/22	3/23	3/24	4/9	4/13	4/16	4/20	4/21	4/23	4/24	4/25		
Time of day	10:30	9:30	9:30	1:45	1:15	11:00	10:00	8:30	10:30	10:30	11:00	2:30	10:00	7:30	12:00	4:00	3:00	10:00	4:00
Pasture																			
Hayfield	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Other																			
Flat																			
Sloping	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Steep																			
Dry																			
Damp	✓		✓	✓	5/10	5/10	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	5/10	✓	✓					
Very wet	✓	✓																	
Grass Height	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"	3/4"	3/4"			
Field Size	12A	12A	12A	12A	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12		
Horned Larks		7		3															
Labland Longspurs																			
Meadowlarks							3				1			2	2		2		1
Other																			
Other Bluebirds										2									
Other																			
Smith's Longspur																			

Please return the completed form to B. L. Wilson, Rt. 1,  
 Box 41, Hastings, Iowa 51540 by May 10. Thank you!

If you will need additional forms, please Xerox this one.

## SMITH'S LONGSPUR SURVEY

Smith's Longspur was once listed as a common wintering bird in southern Iowa and must migrate through the state regularly, but until very recently it was unreported. There is still too little known about it.

Please participate in a search for this species from March 15 to April 25, the presumed time of spring migration. The birds are thought to prefer fields of short grass. Walking back and forth at 20-yard intervals would efficiently detect any Longspurs present, but examining the field from the road with a telescope would be faster. Use the method you prefer.

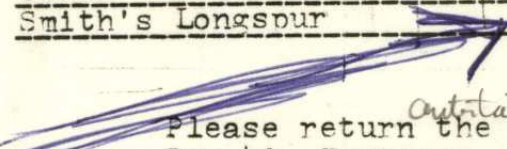
Fill in the questionnaire below for each field checked. Check boxes to describe each field. If possible, include grass height, in inches. Include number of birds seen, or an X if they were not counted. Do send in forms if you looked for but did not find Longspurs. Be sure to document (describe in detail) any Smith Longspurs seen.

Name and address Raymond L. Cummings  
 County where fields were checked Appanoose & Johnson Co.

	Fields							
	Weyer Park	3-11	3-20	3-27	4-4-2	4-9		
Date	2-25							
Time of day	8-12							
Pasture								
Hayfield								
Other	CORN							
Flat								
Sloping								
Steep								
Dry								
Damp								
Very wet								
Grass Height					SHORT			
Field Size								
Horned Larks	11	0	13	3	8	12	25	4
Lapland Longspurs						1000	15	
Meadowlarks	8	3	6	0	6	4	16	6
Other								
Other								
Other								
Smith's Longspur						100		

*Weyer Park*  
*Smith west of Centerville*  
*Cone Marsh AREA*  
*Lake Park AREA*

*SMITH'S LONGSPURS WERE MOSTLY FOUND IN SHORT GRASS ALONG FENCE ROW*



*17 positive ID's white juncos like outtail feather - white shoulder patch - Buff-breast*

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*814 S. Drake  
 Centerville, Ia 51544  
 5-1-25-44*

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Name and address T. H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City IA  
 County where fields were checked \_\_\_\_\_

	<i>Muskego Co</i>	<i>Jackson Co</i>	<i>Jackson Co</i>	<i>Jackson Co</i>	<i>Johnson Co</i>	<i>Johnson Co</i>
Date	3/17	3/12	3/13	3/13	3/20	4/27
Time of day	10:30 AM	12:30	9:30 AM	9:00 AM	AM	8:30 AM
Pasture	✓				4 hrs	
Hayfield				✓	driving	
Other		<i>some stubble</i>	<i>some stubble</i>			<i>some stubble</i>
Flat	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Sloping		+/-	+/-			
Steep						
Dry	✓			✓		✓
Damp		✓	✓		<i>11 snow</i>	
Very wet						
Grass Height	3"	4" stubble	4"	6"		stubble
Field Size	large	large	large	large		large
Horned Larks	4	4	15	4	100	2
Lapland Longspurs	250	2	100+	50	550	0
Meadowlarks			4	2		
Other						
Other						
Other						
Smith's Longspur	0	200	100+	0	1	30
	①	②	③	④		

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1. 4.7 s, 12 N. Hills Muskego Co
2. 2e, 1s. Hills Johnson Co
3. same as 2
4. across from 2