

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF
AN "EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD"

slightly.

WILSON

1. Species Bay-breasted Warbler 2. Number 1

3. Location Wilson Farm, NE Mills County

4. Date: 23 Sept 1980 5. Time Bird Seen: 8:15 am to about 10 minutes

6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern (describe in great detail all parts of the plumage, and beak and feet coloration, in addition, to the diagnostic characteristics, but include only what actually was seen in the field):

Little, warbler size. Green above. Back with dark streaks. Sides a warm reddish tan. Under tail coverts tan. 2 bold white wing bars. Center of underparts white.

7. Description of voice, if heard:

8. Description of behavior: Flitted around in an elm sapling feeding on thin horizontal branches.

9. Habitat - general: edge of woods.

specific: Oak dominant.

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8. Explain:

Blackpoll warbler eliminated by tan sides + under tail coverts. (I couldn't see leg color). Pine warbler - eliminated by back streaks, sides

11. Distance (how measured)?

± 35 feet. Guess.

12. Optical equipment:

8.5 x binoculars

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you):

Bird NW of me., sun behind + to the east. Bright sun, but leaf shadows often hid the bird.

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:

I've seen these in spring, but have never knowingly seen a fall Blackpoll or Bay-breasted.

15. Other observers:

none

16. Did the others agree with your identification?

17. Other observers who independently identified this bird:

18. Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

None until after description was written. Then Peterson + Birds of North America

19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description? Description written immediately, the rest, 2 months later.

Signature: Barb Wilson Address: RT 1 Box 41

Date: Nov 24, 1980 City, State: Hastings, Ia 51540