

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*) How many? 1 ♂Location? E. side of Croton Unit, Shimek State Forest, 3 miles W. of Argyle, Lee Co., IowaType of habitat? Short second growth clear cut in woodland overgrown with Sumac + Poison Ivy.
and other saplings.When? date(s): August 25, 1984 time: 8:50 a.m. to 9:25 a.m.Who? your name and address: Francis L. Moore, 336 Fairfield St., Waterloo, IA 50703others with you: Bob Cecil, Keokukothers before or after you: None that I know of at this writing

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.

When we finally found the bird it was found about 4 feet above the ground foraging for insects in the small saplings, Sumac and Poison Ivy. The bird was not singing. I noticed the bird was ~~yellow~~ yellow below with blackish streaking at the base of the neck down along the sides below the wing. The throat, breast, belly and undertail coverts were yellow. The bird was an olive green color above, lighter on the head than the back. The wings and tail were darker grayish green with two yellowish wing bars. The upper tail coverts were an olive green color also. The face pattern was distinctive; the supercilium was yellow like the throat and breast. The bird had a blackish-gray eyeline from just ~~behind~~ behind the bill and lore to the edge of the auricular patch halfway to the nape. There was a blackish-gray tear shaped arc below, surrounding a yellow patch behind the throat. The bird might have been a young male since the face pattern was more of a blackish-gray than a true dark black color. The bird had a dark bill and dark legs. I saw no ~~reddish~~ reddish or rusty streaking on the back, like I saw on the bird in 1982. The bird had a habit of pumping its tail quite often, in an up and down fashion. The bird stayed close to the ground, below 10 feet, most of the time. Several times when it flew I noticed white in the webbing of the retrices. The bird was too boldly marked to be a female.

Similar species and how eliminated: No other warbler has the combination of yellow, blackish streaks on the sides and the head pattern this bird had.Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:
Excellent viewing conditions, sunny. Seen from approx. 10-12 feet at closest, mostly from 30 to 75 feet using 10x40 Leitz binoculars and Celestron C90 mounted on NIKKORMAT camera body at 20x.Previous experience with species and similar ones: Saw one ♂ Prairie Warbler in 1982 in Iowa, one ♂ and one ♀ Prairie Warbler in 1983 in Iowa. Saw many of them in Virginia prior to 1978.
References and persons consulted before writing description: NoneHow long before field notes made? 2 hours this form completed? 10 hours

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