

DOCUMENTATION FORM  
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? "Brewster's" Warbler How many? 1

Location? Greenwood Park, Des Moines, Polk Co.

Type of Habitat? Woodland

When? date(s): 16 May, 1999 time: 9:10AM to 9:15 AM

Who? your name and address: Bob Cecil 1315 41st DSM, IA 50311

Others with you: Sue Speiker

Others before or after you: No

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, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

We encountered a group of Warblers and I heard a Blue-winged singing it's usual be-buzz song. Since I had not seen this species here before, I searched it out. After a couple of minutes of continuous singing, I was able to find it. I noticed the generally yellow underparts and dark eyeline characteristic of the Blue-wing, but also noted the conspicuous yellow wing bars of a Golden-wing. I knew it was a hybrid, but since I had never seen one of them before, I was unsure which I had.

I noted the yellow underparts, whitish throat, black eyeline, and wing bars. I could not see the entire cap well, but what I could see was gray/green.

I returned to the car and looked it up in Peterson's Eastern Birds but there was not a picture that matched well. I looked it up in the new Warblers (Dunn/Garrett) and found it at the top of plate 3.

Similar species; how eliminated: Pure Blue-winged does not have wing bars. The song is distinctive for Blue-wing.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? No  
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.  
Zeiss 10-40s at perhaps 30 feet.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: First hybrid of this group. Seen many Blue and Golden-wings, including this Spring.

References and persons consulted before writing description:  
See above

How long before field notes made? none this form completed? 1 week

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).