

DOCUMENTATION FORM  
Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

Species: Pine Warbler - adult male

Location: My Yard - small acreage in northern Warren County, IA

Habitat: Mixed open woods and field edge with creek and many shrubs

Date(s): 8/27-29/89

Time: 8:30 am to 7:45 pm

Name and Address: Ann Johnson, 532 120th Ave., Norwalk, Iowa 50211

Other observers: none

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 behavior and voice.

This was a large warbler with a large warbler bill. The wings were black with two white wing bars. The throat and breast were bright yellow, fading to a white belly and undertail coverts. Distinct dark streaking was noticeable on the sides. Above the bird was an olive drab with a pale yellow, incomplete eyering. The back was unstreaked. Small white spots on the outer tail feathers were discernible when it flew. I was able to observe the bird periodically for approximately one-and-one-half hours in the morning and again for about forty-five minutes in the evening on the first day. After that it was observed only in the evening. It would actively feed in the dogwood and Russian olive and then fly across the yard to the Scotch pines. The bird would often times drop low in the shrubbery to allow me good looks at the back from my deck above it.

**Similar species and how eliminated:**

Unstreaked back eliminated bay-breasted and blackpoll

White wing bars, belly, and undertail coverts; yellow eyering eliminate prairie White belly and undertail coverts, olive head, no yellow rump eliminate magnolia and Cape May

Olive drab above and lack of cheek patch eliminate Blackburnian

Bill shape eliminates yellow-throated vireo

Did anyone disagree or have reservations about identification? NA

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment: Sunny in the am to light rain in the pm; bird was observed from all angles and positions so lighting not an issue. Observed from 25 to 100 feet through 7x26 Bushnells.

**Previous experience with species and similar ones:**

Many years total; this year in April in Mississippi and in July in Minnesota

**References and persons consulted before writing description:**

None

How long before field notes made? One hour      How long before this form completed?  
One week