

Middlewestern Prairie Region
(Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio)

BIRDS: VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT RECORD.

1. Species Pine Warbler 2. Number: two
3. Location Brookside Park in Ames, Story County, Iowa
4. Date: 18 May 1983 5. Time Bird seen: 8:00 am to 8:10 am
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): My first impression was yellow throated vireo. ~~These birds seemed slightly smaller and slimmer than a Solitary Vireo in same tree - also with thinner beak; dark olivish rump, back, & head; No yellow or white spectacles: had a yellowish eye ~~rim~~ brow line; throat & breast yellow; with extremely faint streaks on upper breast. yellow breast fading to white on belly. two prominent white wing bars. tail dark with some white on bottom side. the birds appeared to be exactly alike.~~
7. Description of voice, if heard: not heard
8. Description of behavior: foraging - but much more active than any vireos I've seen.
9. Habitat - general: forested park with some open area and some area with all underbrush
specific: tree in part without undergrowth. removed.
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated by questions 6, 7 & 8, Explain:
Yel Thr Vireo-has yellow spectacles, thicker beak, heavier build, no streaking on breast. fem Cape May W has much heavier streaking below, yellowish rump patch; wing bar(s) more or less ~~run~~ together. Palm has chestnut cap & wags tail. fem Blackburnian has dark streaks below, streaks on back, more prominent head markings. Even faintly marked Magnolias
11. Distance (how measured)? have all yellow breast & belly & rump. 12. Optical equipment: 7 x 35 bino
20-40 ft fem Blackpoll isn't yellow breasted. fem Blk Thr Grn is yellow on
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and you): side of face & black light not good; overcast between chin & breast & some dk streaks on
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: sides.
not seen before
15. Other observers:
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:
description under 6 written before consulting any books.
A Field Guide to the Birds Peterson
Birds on North America Golden Press
I pretty quickly realized they weren't Yel Thr Vireos, and thinking they were Pine Warblers looked them over very well documentation would be required.
19. How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?
description under 6 about 5 minutes after ^{last} seeing birds; rest typed up 2 hours later.
- Carl Martens Address: 1120 Marston
- Signature _____
- Date: 18 May 1983 City, State: Ames, Iowa 50010