

DETAILS FOR UNUSUAL BIRD SIGHTING

SPECIES: Brewster's hybrid warbler (Gray)

OBSERVER: Jim Fuller, 6 Longview Knoll, Iowa City, Iowa, 52240

DATE: May 2, 1991, early morning, approximately 7:30 AM for five minutes.

LOCATION: Field with scattered saplings at Croton Unit of Shimek State Forest, Lee County.

BACKGROUND: Blue winged warblers had been very common, and I had seen and heard at least a dozen in the previous hour. I heard another singing close by, and was surprised to see a bird with a brilliant golden yellow crown. I watched it for five minutes at distances of 20-30 feet. When I talked to my brother that evening, he indicated that he had seen a similar bird at that exact location in the spring of 1990.

DETAILS: The upperparts were gray, and the underparts were unstreaked and white, except for a yellow blush on the upper breast, The most outstanding feature of the bird was the golden yellow cap, which ended abruptly at the gray of the nape, and on the sides at a black eye line. There were two thin wing bars, which were light yellow in color.

SIMLARITIES TO:

GOLDEN WINGED: Gray upperparts
White underparts
Yellow cap of male
BLUE WINGED: Black eyeline
Thin light yellow wing bars