

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Blue Grosbeak How many? (1)

Location? Hartman Reserve, Nature Center, Cedar Falls, IA.

Type of habitat? Deciduous Brush, 20-30 Ft. in height.

When? date(s): 5/7/86 time: 12:30 to 12:50

Who? your name and address: George Bebout 4231 George Drive, W,loo IA

others with you: Viola Bebout, Everett Alton, Iowa City, IA

others before or after you: \_\_\_\_\_

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.

First seen in silhouette, then in bright sun, bird was approx. 6-6 1/2 inches in length, dark blue almost violet in color with (2) brownish wing bars. Short stubby beak with no other visible markings. Did not hear voice, bird spent 5-8 minutes preening itself with occasional "bobbing" of its tail.

Similar species and how eliminated: Blue Bird, Indigo Bunting and Cowbird were eliminated by virtue of comparisons of features to pictures in Golden Guide to Birds Of North America.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? No

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:  
Bright sunlight, distance varied from 15-35 Ft. (using car as a blind)  
7x35 Binoculars (2 pair) 7x50 Binoculars (1 pair)

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Cowbirds & Bluebirds nest near our home and Indigo Buntings are frequent visitors to our birdbath.

References and persons consulted before writing description:  
Francis Moore

How long before field notes made? immediately this form completed? 3 weeks

MAIL TO: T. H. Kent, Field Reports Editor, 211 Richards Street, Iowa City IA 52240