

DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Brewer's Blackbird How many? 3 male, 1 femaleLocation? Cove M., Louisa Co., IAType of habitat? Feed lotWhen? date(s): 6 Apr 1988 time: 4:30 to 4:45Who? your name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St, Iowa City, IA 52240

others with you: _____

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.

I was checking large flock of Rustys in feed lot when the Brewer's flew in. The males were very iridescent - purplish on head, greenish on body & wings. Bright yellow eye. Female all uniform brown, slight darker on wing. Dusk eye. These 4 birds were easy to pick out from Rustys & they staid together. Female was smaller than males.

Rusty females were gray & darker wing and had bright yellow eye. Male Rusty were more opaque black with retained edging of wing feathers and some barring on flanks. Rustys much more variable than Brewers.

Similar species and how eliminated:

Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? _____

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:

Sun behind me, used 20x scope at 20 yds. Able to study birds in detail in comparison to Rustys.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: seen many

References and persons consulted before writing description:

How long before field notes made? ✓ this form completed? ~~2~~ hrs

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