

24 May 82

Pete,

Preparing to a successful search for the Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Muskrat S. last Sunday (we found two and heard them sing), I went through the records. Perhaps we should target this bird as the next "Smith's Longspur" species.

In looking back over your account I found the following:

- F.W. Kent Iowa City Record Nov 26 Apr 1952 at Sun L., Johnson Co. (Brown 1971, IBL 29:69). I found the entry in his log, but no identification details given.
- Jun 1964 Ames record is 4 Jun not 6 Jun (IBL 34:67)
- 13 Sep 1971 E. Twin L - is this Hancock Co?
- 23 Sep 1973 Burlington record (IBL 43:70) - I can't find bird on this fall 100 list.
- 23 Sep 1969 Come M. (IBL 49:115) should be 1979

I'm impressed with the lack of information and documentation of this species. I wonder whether some of the early spring and fall sightings could be in error, or are there some aberrantly early birds?

I'm sure you have some more records - esp. Muskrat M. If you can supply them, I will update this list for the Records Committee file.

Tim