

## DOCUMENTATION FORM for extraordinary bird sightings in Iowa

What species? Chipping Sparrow How many? 1Location? Home patio feeder - 1 mile west fo Hiawatha, Iowa (Linn County)Type of habitat? Low bushes and trees around a cement patioWhen? date(s): 2-9-88 time: 3:50 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. Following dayWho? your name and address: Robert Bradley 4291 Ridge Road N.E., Cedar Rapids, IA 52402others with you: Wife - Karen Bradleyothers before or after you: None

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.

Bird was captured in a Potter's Trap, banded and examined. Released the next morning. Length - 4 7/8", 123 mm. Wing Cord - 2 3/4", 70 mm. Eye ring broken by black eyeline. Supercilliary line - buff. Crown stripped with some rufous. Throat - white. Breast - gray. Rump - gray. Brownish gray ear patch. Tail had one badly worn feather left. Wing bars not clean white. Nape - gray becoming brownish with dark streaks at base of neck. Flesh legs and feet. Bill dark on top, light underneath. Repeatedly scolding with "chip" during time of confinement. Tree sparrows were caught along with the chipping sparrow and could be compared side by side.

Similar species and how eliminated: Tree sparrow too large. Cap with only a few rufous feathers. No central breast spot. No black eyeline. Buff supercilliary line. Breast was gray as compared with buff on clay colored sparrow also gray rump instead of brown. Did any one disagree or have reservations about identification? NO

If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), and optical equipment:  
Viewed both in daylight and night under all varieties of light.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Have banded 586 chipping sparrows in various stages of plumage since April of 1985.  
References and persons consulted before writing description: Steve Dinsmore

How long before field notes made? Same day this form completed? Same day