

DOCUMENTATION FORM
For Extraordinary Bird Sightings in Iowa

What species? Smith's Longspur How many? 150

Location? Cone M., Louisa Co, IA

Type of Habitat? grassy field - low grass - other field in stubble

When? date(s): 6 Apr 1988 time: 4⁰⁰ to 4²⁰ est

Who? 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, undertail, legs, feet). Also mention voice and behavior.

I saw birds flying up from grassy field where they were last year. As I walk in field they flew ahead of me. Heard tic-tic very well (unusual for me). I saw white outer tail feathers, white wing patch, yellow to buff underparts, triangular face patch on various birds as they flew ahead of me. No Lapland Longspurs were present.

Similar species; how eliminated: Size, behavior, location, time, call all typical of Smith's.

Did any one disagree or have reservations about the identification? _____
If yes, explain:

Viewing conditions: give lighting, distance (how measured), optical equipment.
heavy wind, sunny, 10x binocs, 10-100 yds.

Previous experience with species and similar ones: Seen every year since 1981

References and persons consulted before writing description: none

How long before field notes made? _____ this form completed? 2 1/2 hours

Send completed form to Field Reports or CBC editor (address on back cover of Iowa Bird Life).