

FIELD REPORTS--FALL 1984

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WEATHER AND HABITAT CONDITIONS

August 1984 could be summarized in two words: hot and dry, the driest August in the 112 years of state records. Statewide precipitation was less than one-quarter of normal. September was first hot and dry, then cool and dry; statewide rainfall was about two-thirds of normal. The first killing frost was on the 16th, and frost was statewide by the 26th. Precipitation showed a pronounced gradient across Iowa: the northwest continued very dry but rainfall was nearly normal in the southeast. The dry weather caused reservoirs and other bodies of water, swollen by the rains of spring and early summer, to drop rapidly. Flooded areas regained some vegetation by summer's end but, at least in eastern Iowa, probably did not develop much in the way of food supplies to attract many birds: sparrows and buteos, for example, were scarce in the floodplain of the Coralville Reservoir. The berry crop appeared good but most were gone by late October. The acorn crop appeared poor. Water birds, on the other hand, appeared to find the pickings good. October was first warmer and then colder than normal but, in contrast to the preceding months, was among the wettest on record. Some snow fell in the northwest. Early November was warm, but by the 20th temperatures were in the teens. Precipitation was again above average, except in the west, and some snow fell over much of the state.

GENERAL TRENDS

It was a good fall for water birds. The heron concentration in southwest Iowa continued into September, and Great Blue Herons, Double-crested Cormorants, and Ring-billed Gulls appear to be on the increase. Nesting activity of Double-crested Cormorants continued at the Coralville Reservoir, and Western Grebes apparently nested at Rush Lake, Osceola Co. Tundra Swan numbers were high. The hawk migration was thought poor in some areas of eastern and central Iowa, but good in the northwest. Large numbers of Broadwings and more large falcons than usual were seen. Goshawk numbers were down from the two previous invasion winters, but the proportion of immatures was up, indicating better reproductive status of the population. The dry fall produced poor shorebirding in the northwest and some but not all species were abundant in the southwest; however the same weather produced good habitat in eastern Iowa. The drying flats of the Coralville Reservoir in Johnson Co. produced large counts of dry-field shorebirds, including unprecedented numbers of Buff-breasted Sandpipers. The migration of passerines was generally felt to be lackluster, except perhaps in extreme eastern Iowa. Brown thrushes were sparsely reported, as were many species of warblers: the maximum count of Tennessees was two! A territorial male Prairie Warbler in Shimek State Forest raises hopes of nesting there. Winter finches, Snow Buntings, and Longspurs arrived in force in November.

Perhaps because of the dry summer and mild fall weather, many migrants arrived early and others, especially shorebirds and insectivores, stayed late. See the species accounts for the many record early and late dates.

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

The bird of the season was the Rufous Hummingbird at a northern Iowa feeder; if accepted by the Records Committee it will become the first state record of this species. Other notable sightings were the Ruff at Hendrickson Marsh, Red Knots at Hendrickson Marsh, Coralville Reservoir, and the Illinois side of the Mississippi River opposite Pleasant Valley, the Black-legged Kittiwake at Saylorville, the Black Scoters on the Mississippi, and the Sprague's Pipit at Sioux Center. Thirteen of the sixteen casual species were recorded, reflecting the increased pace of fieldwork in the state; many of them will likely move from

casual to regular status soon.

SPECIES DATA (* = documented)

COMMON LOON: A summering bird was reported from Big Creek S.P. on 23 Aug (SD). Migrants were reported from 31 Oct through the end of the period, with high counts of 11 at Little Wall L. on 3 Nov (JD), 11 at L. MacBride and the Coralville Res. on 4 Nov (CJB), and 20 at the same location 20 Nov (JF).

PIED-BILLED GREBE: Most reports were from Willow Sl., Mills Co.; 69 were there on 20 Sep, and a single bird was still there on 29 Nov (BW); 11 were at Saylorville Res. 25 Nov (SD).

HORNED GREBE: Two at Rush L., Osceola Co., on 16 Aug are, if migrants, the earliest on record (MMB). There are old nesting records of this species from Jackson Co., Minnesota, just to the N, so it will be worthwhile to look for breeding activity in this area in the future. Migrants were widely reported between 20 Sep and 11 Nov, with a maximum of 42 at Saylorville Res. on 8 Nov (SD).

EARED GREBE: Reported only from Willow Sl., where the first (and most) were 10 on 20 Sep (BW), the latest was 1 on 16 Nov (BW); and one was found shot on 23 Nov (BW), and from Cherokee Co., where a single bird was seen on 1-5 Nov (MMB).

WESTERN GREBE: An adult with two half-grown young at Rush L., Osceola Co., on 11 Aug (FLM) represents only the second breeding record of this species for the state. Migrants were reported only from the Coralville Res./Lake MacBride area, where what may have been the same bird was reported 18 Oct-4 Nov (TK, JF, TJS), and from Saylorville Res./Big Cr. S.P., 20 Oct-8 Nov, with a maximum there of 11 on 1 Nov (BE, E&EA, MD, SD, BPr, HZ).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: Large flocks were reported from several locations: 200-300 were at Forney's L. 5 Sep-16 Oct (B&LP, TB); 900 were at Ingham L., Emmet Co., on 13 Sep (DH); 280 were at Willow Sl. 20 Sep and 8 were still there 27 Oct (BW); 400 were at Sunken Grove, Pocahontas Co. on 27 Sep (MMB); 650 at Saylorville Res., 28 Sep (HZ) and 7 remained 24 Oct (SD); 54 were at L. Rathbun 23 Sep (RC). Late reports were of 7 over Keokuk on 3 Nov (RC), and 1 at Saylorville Res. 11 Nov (EM), for the third-latest report ever; this was eclipsed by the report from the same location 22 Nov, a new record late date (SD).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT: The earliest report was of 12 8 Aug in Fremont Co. (TB, WRS), and the latest 18 at Saylorville 25 Nov (SD). Two nests at the Coralville Res. were still occupied on 17 Sep (BG). High counts were 150 at Forney's L. on 6 Oct (TB, BPa), 750 at the Coralville Res. on 7 Oct (TK), 350 at Hendrickson M. on 15 Oct (SD), and 600 at Saylorville Res. 24 Oct (SD). The rapid increase in this species over the last few years can be seen by comparing these numbers with the high counts for the fall of 1980: 50 at Red Rock Res. and 25 at Coralville!

AMERICAN BITTERN: The only report was of 1 on 21 Sep in Mills Co. (EN fide BW).

LEAST BITTERN: A late report was received of 4 at Snake Cr. M, Greene Co., on 25 Jul (LS). Single birds were seen at Folsom L., Mills Co., 4 Aug-4 Sep by several observers, one was at Big Cr. S.P. on 17 Aug (EM), and 3 were at Big Wall L. on 25 Sep (SD).

GREAT BLUE HERON: High counts of migrants were 443 at the Coralville Res. on 16 Sep (MN) (the high count there in 1980 was 55) and 300 at the Runnels W.A. 20 Sep-1 Oct (JSi). In western Iowa there were 200 in Fremont Co. on 5 Aug (TK) but numbers declined rapidly: 39 on 12 Aug (BW) and 35 on 18 Aug (TB, WRS) were the most reported after that. The only report received for Folsom L. was of 4 on 4 Aug (TB, WRS). Latest report was of 3 at the Coralville Res. 25 Nov. (MN).

GREAT EGRET: Abundantly reported from Fremont and Mills Cos. until mid-September: 74 on 5 Aug in Fremont Co. (TK), 23 near Nebraska City Bridge 12 Aug (BW), 66 at Forney's L. 18 Aug (TB, BPa), 77 in s Fremont Co. 3 Sep (BPa, TB), 40 at Waubonsie Access 12 Sep (MP). Only 9 were reported from Fremont Co. 15 Sep (BPa, TB), and the last report was of 3 at Forney's L. on 6 Oct (BPa, TB). Reports

from elsewhere were later and mostly of small numbers: 1 was in Sioux Center on 21 Aug (JV), 18 were at Hendrickson M. on 15 Sept (HZ, SD), 2 were at Lk Rathbun on 13 Oct, and 1 was in Fairfield on 18 Oct. The high count for the Coralville Res. was 83 on 16 Sept and 9 were still there 14 Oct (MN). One seen n of Iowa City on 19 Nov (JF) is the second-latest sighting on record.

SNOWY EGRET: All reports of this species were from the heron concentration in Fremont Co.: 8 in on 12 Aug (B&LP*, BW*); 7 on 18 Aug (TB, WRS); 10 on 26 Aug (SD), and 2 on 3 Sep (B&LP*). The last dates are the second- and third-latest on record. SD

LITTLE BLUE HERON: All reports were from Fremont and Mills Cos.. An incredible 125 were at Folsom Lake on 4 August (B&LPa, TB, WRS); only once before, in 1934, have comparable numbers been reported. In Fremont Co., reports of 1-15 birds were received from several observers, 5 Aug-15 Sep, the last the third-latest date on record.

CATTLE EGRET: 350 were at the Folsom L. colony on 4 Aug (B&LP, TB, WRS), 150 (all imm.) were there on 18 Aug (TB, WRS) and on 15 Sep (B&LP); only 2-4 birds were present the next day (BW, B&LP). In Fremont Co. 150 were reported 5-12 Aug (TK, BW) and 300 were there on 26 Aug (SD, JD, EM). Elsewhere the only reports were of 1 at Saylorville Res. on 15 Aug (SD, JD, EM), 1 w of the city of Spirit Lake on 15 Oct (DH), and 3 at the Coralville Res. on 21 Oct (MN).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON: Few reports: 10 on 19 Aug at the Coralville Res. (CB), 2 18 Sept at Hendrickson M. (SD), and 1 n of Iowa City on 4 Nov (JF), the last a record late date.

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON: There were 7 reports from Fremont and Mills Cos. 5 Aug-15 Sept, mostly of 1-2 birds; 14 imm. and 2 ads. were there on 18 Aug (TB, WRS) and 9 were reported on 26 Aug (SD, JD, EM). A more unusual report was of 2 at Rush Lake, Osceola Co., on 11 Aug (FLM).

IBIS SP.: One was at Nashua, Chickasaw Co., on 29 Sep (SD*, BPr*, MPr*).

TUNDRA SWAN: The traditional concentration above Lock and Dam 9 in Allamakee Co. held an estimated 800 birds on 3 Nov (FLM, BM). This may be the largest number on record. 150 were there 4 Nov (BPr) and 108 17 Nov (TJS, TK, FLM). Elsewhere 15 were seen at Blue Wing M., Palo Alto Co., on 30 Oct (HB fide RH); 9 were at Saylorville Res. on the same date, and 5 were there on 24 Nov (SD); 1 was at the Coralville Res. 31 Oct (TK); 2 were at Keokuk 2 Nov (RC); 1 was at Big Spirit

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DICKINSON CO. 17 NOV (DH); and one was at Dale Hottell Res., SW of Des Moines 11 Nov (E&EA).
MUTE SWAN: One was at the Runnels W.A. on 23 Oct (JSi), for the 14th state record. The source of these birds remains unknown.
GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE: Only 3 reports: 5 at Hendrickson M. 11 Oct (SD), 80 in Lyon Co. 13 Oct (DH), and 23 at Lake Odessa 20 Oct (GW).
SNOW GOOSE: 5 Blue-phase birds were at the Coralville Res. 23 Sep, tying the third-earliest fall date (MN); 1000 were at Forney's L. on 6 Oct (TB,B&LP). "Huge numbers" were in the Council Bluffs area on 25-26 Nov, but not after that (CFS).
✓ ROSS' GOOSE: 10 were at De Soto NWR 10 Nov (EK fide JD).
CANADA GOOSE: Few reports received. 100 were at Forney's L. 6 Oct (TB,B&LP); 6000 at the Kettelson Hogback WMA, Dickinson Co., on 3 Nov, was a record high number for the locality (DH).
WOOD DUCK: A large concentration of 386 was in beaver ponds at Saylorville Res. on 6 Oct (BE).
✓ GREEN-WINGED TEAL: 260 were at L. Rathbun on 27 Oct (RC).
AMERICAN BLACK DUCK: 1 was present on 17 Nov at De Soto NWR (BW); during Nov, 9 were at Saylorville Res. (SD) and 5-9 were observed in the Mallard flocks at the Coralville Res. (MN).
MALLARD: 300 were at the Coralville Res. on 7 Oct and 3000 were there on 25 Nov (MN).
BLUE-WINGED TEAL: A late bird was at Big Wall L. 10 Nov (SD).
CANVASBACK: 2000 were on the Mississippi R. in Lee Co. on 31 Oct (CB) and

several thousand were on the Mississippi above Harper's Ferry on 24 Nov (E&EA).
GREATER SCAUP: 7 were seen on 10 Nov on the Mississippi at Montrose (FLM*), for the 15th fall record.
LESSER SCAUP: 1500 were at Saylorville Res. on 30 Oct (SD); 5000 were on the Mississippi in Lee Co. on 31 Oct (CJB).
OLDSQUAW: 2-4 were at the Coralville Res. 11-18 Nov (RJH,TK,CJB,TJS,JF,FLM); 2 were on the Mississippi above Lock and Dam 9 on 17 Nov (FLM,BM,TK,TJS,RC).
BLACK SCOTER: 6 were on the Mississippi at LeClaire, Scott Co. 26-29 Oct (CJB*PCP*,MLP,FLM*,BM*,JF,GW*). Two of these birds were observed shot by hunters (JF).
SURF SCOTER: 5 imm. or females were seen on 27 Oct at Saylorville Res. (MD*).
✓ WHITE-WINGED SCOTER: 1 was on the Mississippi at Keokuk 31 Oct (CJB); 1 was at Dog Cr. Pk. in O'Brien Co. 1-10 Nov (MMB*,DB); 1 was at Big Cr. S.P. on 7 Nov (BPr*,MPr*). Two female or imm. scoters, either White-winged or Surf, were at Big Spirit L., Dickinson Co., on 4 Oct (CFS); this would be a record early date for either species.
COMMON GOLDENEYE: 125 were at Saylorville Res. on 25 Nov (SD).
HOODED MERGANSER: Recorded from Saylorville Res. 8-25 Nov; maximum count was 13 (SD); 20 were at the Coralville Res on 22 Nov (TK).
COMMON MERGANSER: 400 were at Saylorville Res. on 25 Nov (SD).
RED-BREASTED MERGANSER: 1 on 23 Sep at the Coralville Res. was the earliest (MN); 100 were there on 11 Nov (TK); 125 were at Saylorville Res. on the same date (SD).
RUDDY DUCK: 500 were on the Coralville Res. 24 Oct (CJB).
TURKEY VULTURE: Few reports received. 12 were in Mills Co. on 15 Sep (BPa,TB); 2 were at the Coralville Res. 29 Sep (MN); 25 were at the Runnels WA 30 Sep-1 Oct (JSi); 1 was at Forney L. 6 Oct. The 6 in Lee Co. on 20 Oct (RC) tie the third-latest date on record.
OSPREY: 15 reports, mostly of 1-2 birds, were received from widely scattered localities. The high count was of 12 on 22 Sep in Luther, Boone Co. (SD). The latest, 19 Nov, in Lee Co. (RC), is the second-latest date on record.
BALD EAGLE: 16 reports were received, of 1-7 birds, ranging from 7 Oct to 25 Nov.; in addition 30 were in Allamakee Co. on 3 Nov (RKM) and 52 were seen along the Mississippi between Princeton and Sabula on 11 Nov (PCP). A total of 21 ads. and 51 imms. were reported; this ratio is the reverse of that found later in the winter on the Mississippi R. Eagle Survey.
NORTHERN HARRIER: 9 Reports received, of 1-12 birds. The earliest was 11 Aug, from Spring Run WA in Dickinson Co. (BL fide JDG), a date so early it suggests possible breeding in the area. The latest was at L. Manawa on 29 Oct (BPa,TB). They were "especially plentiful" in migration in NW Iowa (DH).
SHARP-SHINNED HAWK: The earliest was 1 at Ames on 11 Sep (SD); 8 in Mills Co. between 16 Sep and 27 Oct was considered abundant for the locality (BW); 43 were at Grammer Gr. W.A. on 22 Sep (BPr); 23 were at Luther 22 Sep and 36 were seen there the next day (SD). The latest were 2 at L. Manawa on 29 Oct (BPa,TB).
COOPER'S HAWK: Reports received were of 6 22 Sep at Luther and 11 there the next day (SD), 2 22 Sep at Oak Gr. S.P., Sioux Co. (JV), 5 at Hendrickson M. 16 Oct (SD), and 5 on 20 Oct at Big Wall L. (SD).
NORTHERN GOSHAWK: 1 was at Waterloo on 3 Oct (FLM*), 1 at the Coralville Res. Dam on 4 Nov (TJS*), 1 at Sweet M. 10 Nov (RKM), and 1 at Red Rock on 25 Nov (JSi). In contrast to the past two 'invasion' winters, when almost all of the birds seen were adults, all four of this fall's birds were immatures.
✓ RED-SHOULDERED HAWK: Single birds were seen on 8 and 9 Sep in Muscatine Co. (MPr,TK,m.ob.).
BROAD-WINGED HAWK: 2 in Stone Pk., Sioux City, on 23 Aug (JAH) provide a record early date. Large numbers are all from the third week of Sep: on the 16th 764 were counted in Hickory Hill Pk., Iowa City (MN,C&BK), where large flights have been seen before, and 400 were near Oxford, Johnson Co. (EF fide MN); on the

21st, 65 were at Ames (PM), 80 were over Hickory Hill Park, Iowa City (RJH), and 'hundreds' of hawks, presumably of this species, were observed migrating down the Iowa R. Valley at Marshalltown (BS fide BPr); on the 22nd, 31 were at Grammer Gr. W.A. (BPr) and 125 were at Luther (SD); on the 23rd, 36 were at Grammer Gr. (MP) and 115 at Luther (SD). A very late bird was at Sioux Center on 28 Nov (JV).
SWAINSON'S HAWK: DH considered them "plentiful" in NW Iowa; elsewhere, few were reported: 1 was at IPL Ponds, Pottawattamie Co., on 20 Aug (BW), 1 was in Fremont Co. on 3 Sep (B&LP), 9 were e of Bellevue, Mills Co., on 16 Sep (B&LP), and 1 was at Colo on 10 Oct (HZ).
RED-TAILED HAWK: Not many reports and no large flights. FLM had two dark-phase birds and one partial albino in NE Iowa.
FERRUGINOUS HAWK: 1 was at Liscomb, Marshall Co., on 22 Sep (BPr*,MPr*); another was e of Laurens, Pocahontas Co., on 25 Oct (JC*,RH*).
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK: 7 reports of 1-2 birds were received; the earliest was for L. Rathbun on 13 Oct (RC).
GOLDEN EAGLE: An adult and 2 imm. were seen in the Upper Iowa R. Valley in Allamakee Co., on 17 Nov (FLM,BM,TK,TJS,RC,JF); an adult and an imm. were observed playing, grappling each other and cartwheeling in the air, and an imm. was seen playing with a stick, dropping it only to swoop down and catch it in the air. The only other report was of 1 in Mills Co. on 23 Nov (BW*).
MERLIN: Unusually abundant this fall: 13 reports, all of single birds. Birds at Larson M., Story Co., on 2 Sep (PM*) and at Ames on 4 Sep (EM*) provide the second- and third-earliest dates on record; others were in Louisa Co. on 8 Sep (MN*,TK*,m.ob.), at Jester Pk. Polk Co. on Sep (SD,EM), at Saylorville Res. on 20 Sep (SD*), at Grammer Gr. W.A. on 22 Sep (BPr*MPr*), at Sabula on 23 Sep (PP*), at the Coralville Res. on 23 Sep (MN*), at Luther on 23 Sep (SD*), at the Runnels G.A. on 30 Sep (JSi), at Hendrickson M. on 5 Oct (JF), and north of Iowa City in Johnson Co. on Oct 12 (JF). One at the Volga R. W.A. on 16 Nov (TK*) provides a new record late date. Only three of these birds were documented as to age or sex; all were females or imm.
PEREGRINE FALCON: 10 reports, about twice as many as have been typical over the past five years. Single birds were seen on 10 Sep at Waterloo (ad.) (RKM*), McFarland Pk., Story Co., on 15 Sep (SD*), on 18 Sep at Union Sl. N.W.R. (banded imm.) (J. Sidel fide BT), on 23 Sep at the Coralville Res. (ad.) (MN*), on 23 Sep at Luther (SD*), on 25 Sep at Oakville (PCP*), on 28-29 Sep at the Coralville Res. (ad., but a different bird than the first) (MN*,JF), on 30 Sep at the Runnels G.A. (ad.) (JSi*), on 5 Oct at Hendrickson M. (JF), and on 10 Oct at the Coralville Res. (imm.) (RJH*). Brad Tordoff of the Univ. of Minnesota reports that the Minnesota hacking program succeeded in fledging 15-16 birds this year; birders, particularly in NE Iowa, should be on the lookout for banded immature birds. This species seems to be on the increase locally. Perhaps populations are finally recovering from pesticide-induced reproductive failure. For an ominous note, however, see the article on dicofol in the November issue of Audubon.
PRAIRIE FALCON: Five reports, again somewhat more than usual. An injured juv. was brought to the Homer Calkins Center at Iowa Falls on 27 Oct (RH), and one was seen on 29 Oct at L. Manawa (BPa,SK). More striking was a report of three in WC Iowa in Nov by E. M. Martin, a vacationing U.S.F.W.S. Biologist who is familiar with the species: 1 NE of Goose L., Greene Co. on 14 Nov, 1 NE of Lehigh, Webster Co. on 16 Nov, and 1 E of Moorland, Webster Co. on 24 Nov. (EMM*) There are about half a dozen recent records from this part of the state; perhaps Prairie Falcons are more regular there than the record would indicate.
RUFFED GROUSE: The only report was of 1 in Allamakee Co. on 17 Nov (TJS).
NORTHERN BOBWHITE: Statewide populations were down an estimated 57%, as a result of last year's hard winter, which reduced survival, and cold, wet spring, which reduced nesting success (TL, Iowa Farm Bureau Spokesman, 3 Nov, p3A).
RING-NECKED PHEASANT: Statewide populations were down an estimated 25% (TL, ibid.).

GRAY PARTRIDGE: 20 were at Union, Hardin Co. on 5 Nov and 24 were in W Grundy Co. on 19 Nov (PH fide BPr); 1 was found dead in e Story Co. on 22 Nov (BPr); 12 were in NE Marshall Co. in early Nov (fide BPr, who feels that the species is expanding its range to the SE).
KING RAIL: Heard at Jemerson Sl., Dickinson Co. between 25 Jul and 9 Aug (LW fide JD). An adult and two imm. were seen at Folsom L., Mills Co., on 15 Sep (B&LP*,WRS), and one was seen there the next day (TB).
✓ VIRGINIA RAIL: 1 was at Big Wall Lk on 25 Sep (SD). Single birds, one observed flushed and shot at Big Wall L. on 4 Nov (SD) and one, injured, found taking refuge in a turkey brooder house in Washington Twp., Buena Vista Co., on 26 Nov (V&EC), provide the two latest dates on record.
SORA RAIL: Three reports of 1-9 birds were received from 3-29 Sep; one seen on 19 Oct at Big Wall L. (SD), ties the second-latest date on record.
AMERICAN COOT: Large concentrations were 1500 at Big Wall Lk on 20 Oct (SD), 5000 on the Mississippi in Lee Co. 31 Oct (CJB), and 1500 at Saylorville Res. 1 Nov

(SD). SANDHILL CRANE: The only report was of a single bird seen 20-24 Oct in NE Mills Co. (BW).

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER: Reports were received from only a few localities. 1 at Amana L., Iowa Co., is the second-earliest on record (CJB); 1 was in Fremont Co. 18 Aug (TB,WRS) and 4 were there on 26 Aug (EM). Birds were present on the Coralville Res. 24 Aug (CJB) to 21 Oct (MN) with a maximum of 24 there on 27 Aug (JF). 6 at L. Rathbun on 10 Nov (RC) are the third-latest on record.

LESSER GOLDEN-PLOVER: Unusually numerous, mostly in E Iowa. The only report from W Iowa was of 4 in Fremont Co. 18 Aug (TB,WRS). They were reported from Hendrickson M. from 4-11 Oct (SD) with a maximum of 75 there on the 3rd (PM). At the Coralville Res. they were present from 26 Aug (CJB) to 28 Sep (JF) with a high count of 320 on 16 Sep (MN). 25 were at the Runnells G.A. 20 Sep (JSi), and 1 at Credit Is., Scott Co. on 3 Sep (PCP).

SEMPALMATED PLOVER: 7 at the Coralville Res. 26 Aug (MN) provide the third-earliest date on record; 9 were at Hendrickson M. on 1-4 Sep (HZ,PM,SD) and 1 was still there on 3 Oct (PM). The latest were 3 at Saylorville Res. 14 Oct (SD).

PIPING PLOVER: The only report was of 6 birds at the IPL settling ponds in Pottawattamie Co. on 4 Aug (CJB,JF).

KILLDEER: High counts were all from major reservoirs: 83 at Coralville 28 Sep-10 Oct (MN), 70 at Saylorville 14 Oct (SD), and 27 at Rathbun 10 Nov (RC).

AMERICAN AVOCET: 8 were at Badger Cr. L. in Madison Co. on 15 Sep (E&EA) and 3 were at Colfax, Jasper Co., on 24 Oct (CJB).

GREATER YELLOWLEGS: Scarce in W Iowa: 1 on 18 Aug (TB,WRS) and 2 on 6 Oct (TB,BPa) at IPL Ponds, and 1 on 14 Nov at L. Manawa (TB,BPa). More common in C and E Iowa, where 16 reports of 1-6 birds were received from between 1 Aug (PM) and 14 Nov (BPr). Larger numbers were 72 at Union Sl. N.W.R. on 13 Sep (DH), 16 at the Coralville Res. 16 Oct (MN), and 12 at Saylorville 24 Oct (SD). 2 at Riverton W.A. on 17 Nov (SD) and 1 at Big Cr. S.P. 25 Nov (SD) are new record late dates.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS: Earliest and most were 100 at Colo 1 Aug (PM); 60 were in Fremont Co. on 18 Aug (TB,BPa), and 59 were at the Coralville Res. 29 Sep (MN) and 30 were there 21 Oct (CJB). Later reports were of small numbers: 1 at Saylorville Res. 24 Oct (SD), 3 in Cherokee Co 1 Nov (MMB), 4 at L. Rathbun 4 Nov (RC), and 4 at Big Cr. S.P. 8 Nov (HZ); 2 lingered at the Coralville Res. until 11 Nov (CJB,RJH,TK). The last two dates are the second- and third-latest on record.

SOLITARY SANDPIPER: 3 in Davis Co. on 27 Sep (RC) and 1 at Ames on 2 Oct (SD) were late; 1 at Lk Rathbun on 6 Oct and 2 at the Coralville Res. 7 Oct (MN) are the second- and third-latest on record.

WILLET: Most were reported in W Iowa: 1 at Oakland, Pottawattamie Co., on 5 Aug (CJB) and 3 in Fremont Co. the same day (TB,WRS), 2 at IPL Ponds and 1 in Fremont Co. on 26 Aug (SD,EM), for the third-latest reports. Coralville Res. provided one on 5 Aug (TK) and one on 20 Oct (CT*), a record late date.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER: 1 S of Ames on 6 Oct (EM) was late; 1 at Hendrickson M. on 9 Oct (SD) is the third-latest on record.

UPLAND SANDPIPER: More were seen in NW Iowa than elsewhere; 1 was in Wayne Co. 3 Aug (JF), a pair with 4 young were in Lyon Co. 10 Aug (BF fide DH), 7 were in Woodbury Co. 13 Aug (DH), 4 were at the Colo Ponds 19 Aug (MPr), and 2 were at the Ankeny Ponds 20 Aug (SD); 1 on the Coralville Res. flats 1-9 Sep (MN,SD) was unusual there. One heard at night, migrating south over Ames on 20 Sep (JAH) is the third-latest on record.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT: 1 was at Riverton W.A. on 4 Aug (JF) for the 7th recent fall record.

MARBLED GODWIT: 1 was at the Runnells G.A. on 1 Oct (JSi), for the 11th recent fall record and a record late date.

RUDDY TURNSTONE: 1 was at Oakland, Pottawattamie Co., on 5 Aug (CJB,TK) and 1 was at the Coralville Res. on 20 Aug (JF), for the second- and third-earliest fall dates on record. The Coralville bird lingered until 11 Sep (FLM,CJB). 1 was at Cone M., Louisa Co., on 27 Aug (GW,LH), and another at L. Rathbun on 13 Sep (RC).

RED KNOT: This species staged a 'mini-invasion' this year with three birds sighted: One present at Hampton, on the Illinois side of the Mississippi 31 Aug-9 Sep, was observed flying over the Iowa portion of the river on 1 Sep (PCP*,MLP,KM,LLi). One was at Hendrickson M. on 15 Sep (SD*,HZ*,JD*,PM*,MPr*), and another was at the Coralville Res. 15-27 Sep (MN*,TK*,CJB*,TJS,RJH,C&BK,JF). There are only two previous accepted records of this species in Iowa.

SANDERLING: Widely reported in small numbers. The earliest were 8 at Union Sl.N.W.R. on 11 Aug (FLM); 15 were at the Coralville Res. 11 Aug (TK) and 8 were still present 23 Sep (MN); 1 was at Sioux Center 21 Aug (JV); 1-2 were at Hendrickson M. 1-15 Sep (PM,HZ,SD); they were present at Credit Is., Scott Co. 3-9 Sep, with a maximum of 22 on 5 Sep (PCP); 2 were S of Cherokee on 4 Sep (MMB,DB); 7 were at Saylorville 14 Oct (SD); 2 at L. Rathbun 4 Nov (RC) and 1 at Hickory Gr. L. Story Co., on 7 Nov (PM) provide the second- and third-latest dates ever.

SEMPALMATED SANDPIPER: The only report from W Iowa was of 2 in Fremont Co on 18 Aug (TB,WRS). 120 were at Colo on 1 Aug (PM) and 65 were at the Coralville Res. 1 Sep (MN). 1 at Saylorville Res. 14 Oct (SD) was late; and 3 at Hickory Gr. L., Story Co., (PM), are the second-latest on record.

WESTERN SANDPIPER: Most Westerns were eastern. In W Iowa the only reports were of 3 at Sioux Center 10 Aug (JV) and 1 in Mills Co. 16 Sept (TB,BJR). At the Coralville Res. they were present 19 Aug (CJB) to 17 Sep (TK) with a high count of 3 on 26 Aug (MN); at Credit Is. they were present 25 Aug-5 Sep, with a high count of 3 on the latter date (PCP); 1 was at Cone M. on 27 Aug (GW,LH).

LEAST SANDPIPER: Not widely reported. 20 were in Fremont Co. 18 Aug (TB,WRS); 33 were at the Coralville Res 1 Sep and 18 were still there 14 Oct (MN); at Hendrickson M. there were only 1-3 birds 10-15 Oct (PM,SD); 1 at Big Cr. S.P. on 8 Nov (HZ) is the third-latest on record.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER: 1 at Saylorville on 13 Oct was flushed to show its white rump (SD); another was reported from Waterloo without details (FLM). There are only six previous acceptable fall records of this species, so it should always be documented at this season.

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER: A good year for Baird's, but only in E and C Iowa. The only western Iowa report was of 1 at Riverton W.A. 26 Aug (EM). At Credit Is. they were reported 19 Aug-11 Sep, with a maximum of 5 on 25 Aug (PCP); at the Coralville Res. they were present 21 Aug (TK) to 23 Sep, with an unusually high peak of 18 on 26 Aug (MN); at Hendrickson M. they were seen 1 Sep (PM) to 18 Sep (SD), with a maximum of 4 on 5 Sep (BPr); 4 were at Colo 9 Sep (BPr); and 5 at Nashua 29 Sep (SD).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER: Large numbers were present in Aug and Sep: 265 at Hendrickson M. on 1 Aug (PM); 230-300 at the Coralville Res. 12 Aug-17 Sep (CJB,MN,TK,JF,TJS); 500 in Fremont Co. 18 Aug (TB,WRS) and 1000 there on 29 Sep (EM); 125 at Nashua 29 Sep (SD). Thereafter numbers dwindled rapidly: 3 at Cherokee 16 Oct (MMB); 5 at Coralville Res. 28 Oct (TK); 1 at Waterloo 28 Oct (RKM); 4 at L. Rathbun 4 Nov (RC); 2 at Hickory Gr. L. 7 Nov (PM,SD); and 3 at Saylorville Res. 8 Nov (SD).

DUNLIN: They were 'numerous' at the Runnells G.A. on 20 Sep (JSi); 2 were at Hendrickson M. 5 Oct (SD); the first at the Coralville Res. appeared 7 Oct and the peak was 67 on 28 Oct (MN); 3 were still there on 22 Nov (TK) and 2 were at Big Cr. S.P. 25 Nov (SD), for record late dates.

STILT SANDPIPER: Most were reported from the Coralville Res. where they were present 16 Aug (CJB) to 29 Sep (MN), with a peak of 80 on 19 Aug (CJB,TK); 10 were at Colo 1 Aug (PM), 60 were in Fremont Co. 18 Aug (TB,WRS), 3 were at Hendrickson M. 5 Sep (MPr), and 1 was at the IPL Ponds on 6 Oct (BPa,TB), for a third-latest fall date.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER: A banner fall for this species, again mostly in C and E Iowa. 7 were in Fremont Co. on 5 Aug (CJB,TK) and 4 were there on 18 Aug (TB,WRS); 2 were at Waterloo on 16 Aug (FLM); 1 was at Nashua 18 Aug (FLM,RKM); 1 was at Hendrickson M 1-3 Sep (PM*,JAH); present at the Coralville Res. from 17 Aug (JF) to 17 Sep (TJS) with a high count of a locally-unprecedented 18 on 1 Sep (MN); 1 at Credit Is. on 28 Aug was the first PCP had seen in Scott Co. in over thirty years of birding.

RUFF: A juv. Ruff was reported from Hendrickson M. on 1 Sep (MPr*,PM*,BPr*), for the third state record.

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER: Reports with diagnostic details: juv. birds were at the Coralville Res., where 1-2 birds were present 18 Aug (CJB)-1 Sep (MN), and 12 were there 26 Aug (TK); Amana L., 8 on 19 Aug (CJB), Big Cr. S.P., 3 on 20 Aug (SD); Credit Is., 28 Aug-9 Sep, with a maximum of 6 on 7 Sep (PCP). A bird in basic plumage was at Hendrickson M. on 15 Sep (PM), for a second late date.

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER: Records with diagnostic details supplied: a bird in alternate plumage was at Oakland, Pottawattamie Co. on 5 Aug (TK); a single juv. was at the Coralville Res. 15 Sep (TK) and 10 were there 23 Sep (MN); a bird was identified by call at Nashua on 29 Sep (SD).

COMMON SNIPE: The first report was of 6 on 22 Aug at Cone M (GW); the most reported were 28 at Hendrickson M. on 29 Oct (SD).

AMERICAN WOODCOCK: 2 were reported S of Muscatine on 8 Sep (PCP).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE: 1 was at Hendrickson M. on 4 Aug (PM) and 6 were there on 1 Sep (PM,HZ); 1 was at Amana L. 16 Aug (CJB); and 1 was at Credit Is 25 Aug (PCP).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE: 1 was at Waterloo 17 Aug (FLM); 1 was at the Coralville Res. 24-26 Aug (m.ob.); 1 was at Credit Is. 25 Aug (PCP,MLP,LLi); 1 at Hendrickson M. 25 Aug (MPr); 2 S of Cherokee 4 Sep (MMB); 1 on 29 Sep at Hendrickson M. (PM) ties the third-latest date on record.

FRANKLIN'S GULL: Most were in W Iowa: 8 at Forney's L. 15 Sep (BPa,TB), 25 in Mills Co. on 6 Oct (BW), and 1 at L. Manawa on 14 Nov (BPa,TB). Elsewhere 1 was at Hendrickson M. on 15 Sep (SD), birds were present at the Runnells G.A. on 20 Sep (JSi), and 1 was present at the Coralville Res. from 14 Oct to the end of the period (MN,TK), for a record late date.

BONAPARTE'S GULL: The largest numbers were from Saylorville Res.: 175 on 30 Oct and 275 on 11 Nov; 1 was still present 25 Nov (SD); 40 were at L. MacBride 2 Nov (JF) and 25 were at the Coralville Res. 11 Nov (TK). Numbers were small elsewhere: on the Mississippi 6 were in Lee Co. 31 Oct (CJB) and 2 were at Davenport 26 Oct (PCP); 5 were at L. Rathbun 10 Nov (RC).

RING-BILLED GULL: The earliest were 10 at the Coralville Res. on 16 Sep (MN); 20 were at Forney's L. and 75 were in Mills Co. on 6 Oct (TB,BPa). Large numbers were reported in late Oct and early Nov: 1000 at Saylorville 24 Oct (SD), 1000 at L. Manawa 4-14 Nov (BPa,TB), 1000 at Red Rock 25 Nov, 2000 at the Coralville Res. 26 Nov (MN).

HERRING GULL: One was at Davenport on 3 Sep (PCP), the second-earliest date on record; Singles were at the Coralville Res. 14 Oct (MN) and L. Manawa 3-14 Nov

(TB,L&BPa). Migrants did not arrive in numbers until the end of the period, with 100 at the Coralville Res. 25 Nov (MN).
GLAUCOUS GULL: An imm. bird was with the Ring-bill flock on the Coralville Res. 25 Nov (MN*). This ties the earliest-ever fall date.
BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE: An imm. bird was seen feeding below the Saylorville Dam on 21-22 Nov (DT*,FLM*,BPr*,MPr*,E&EA,P&DM,MB). This is the 6th state record; all are of imm. birds in fall.
CASPIAN TERN: The earliest were 22 at Hendrickson M. on 15 Sep (SD,PM); smaller numbers were seen there until 3 Oct (PM); 73 were at the Coralville Res. 16 Sep (MN); 225 were at Saylorville 20 Sep (SD,E); 77 were at L. Rathbun on 23 Sep (RC); few were reported from the Mississippi: 3 at Oakville on 26 Sep (PCP) and 1 at Keokuk 15 Oct (RC) provided a third-latest report.
COMMON TERN: Details were submitted for 1 at Hendrickson M. on 2 Aug (PM), a record early date, and 6 on the Mississippi R. at Oakville on 25 Sep (PCP), the third-latest report on record.
FORSTER'S TERN: Few reports. 9 were at Hendrickson M. 1 Aug (PM), 1-3 were in Fremont Co. 18 Aug-6 Oct (TB,WRS,BPa), 1 at Credit Is. 2 Sep (PCP); 15 at Saylorville 20 Oct (SD) are the second-latest ever reported.
LEAST TERN: All reports were from the extreme SW: 3 on the Missouri R. from Omaha to Sioux City (BW); 5 were at IPL Ponds on 4 Aug (L&BP) and 2 there the next day (CJB,TK); singles in Fremont Co. on 18 Aug (TB,WRS) and 26 Aug (SD,EM).
BLACK TERN: Only reports: 6 at Colo 1 Aug (PM), 50 in Pottawattamie Co. 5 Aug (TK), and 20 at Big Wall L. 25 Sept (SD).
MOURNING DOVE: Most birds left Mills. Co. by late Oct. because of the poor food supply (BW).
BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO: Latest report was 1 on 3 Oct at Hendrickson M. (BPr, who thought them scarce this fall)
YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO: Last reported was 1 13 Oct in Shimek S.F. (RC).
COMMON BARN-OWL: One was observed at close range at Lake Odessa on 18 Oct (LH fide GW). The carcass of one killed and eaten by a predator was found in Mills Co. on 5 Sept (BW). The legs were not recovered so it could not be told whether this was one of the banded birds that had recently been released in the area.
EASTERN SCREECH-OWL: 1 reported from Forney's L. on 6 Oct (TB,BPa).
SNOWY OWL: One was reported from Saylorville Res. 17 Nov (E&EA). BPr provides an account of one found by a farmer in N Marshall Co. on 28 Nov, in his duck pen, where it had killed and was eating one of his ducks; he tried to shoo it out, but the bird refused to fly, so he picked it up (-MN) and carried it out of the pen. When it still refused to leave, he thought it might be injured, so he caged it and took it to Garry Branden, executive officer of the Marshall Co. Conservation Commission. The bird was banded and released the next day at Carl Kurtz's prairie near St. Anthony. The owl was emaciated, with a prominent breastbone and weighing only 3 pounds (about 20% less than normal, even for a male -MN).
LONG-EARED OWL: 2 were s of Washta in Ida Co. on 30 Oct (MMB); 1-3 birds were reported from Big Cr. S.P. 21-29 Nov (m.ob.).
SHORT-EARED OWL: 2 were at Badger Cr. L. on 15 Nov (E&EA); 5-7 birds were at Tieg's M., Story Co., on 23-24 Nov (FLM,HZ); 1-2 were reported from Big Cr. S.P. 11-29 Nov (m.ob.).
COMMON NIGHTHAWK: JV considered them abundant on migration in NW Iowa; in E Iowa the only large concentrations noted were 73 at Coralville 10 Sep (TJS) and 150 at Iowa City 13 Sep, rising up and leaving to the south on a thermal (RJH). Late birds were 4 on 9 Oct at Ames (PM) and 3 14 Oct at Centerville (RC), the last for a second-latest date ever.
WHIP-POOR-WILL: The resident bird at BW's Mills Co. farm called for the last time on 9 Sep. One seen at very close range n of Harper's Fy. in Allamakee Co. on 3 Nov (FLM,RKM) is two weeks later than the previous record late date.
CHIMNEY SWIFT: The only large concentration noted was 2500 at Ames on 28 Aug (EM). There were many late reports of this species, probably due to the mild Oct

weather; late birds were 7 at Ames 15 Oct (SD) and 2 there the next day (EM); 10 at Centerville on 17 Oct (RC); 3 at Ames on 18 Oct (PM); later than the previous late date were an amazing 200 at a roost in downtown Keokuk on 21 Oct (RC), with 13 still there on 27 Oct (RC); and 1 above downtown Iowa City on the unprecedented date of 26 Nov (MN*). (Such late birds should be scrutinized with care, for they are not always the common, to-be-expected, species. This bird was not observed with binoculars but was thought too large to be a Vaux's Swift and was not heard to call.)
RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD: One was seen over Amana L. on 1 Aug, attacking a Forster's Tern (CJB). 3 were at Hendrickson M. 3 Sep (PM) and singles were at Ames 20 and 29 Sep (PM,SD) and Iowa City 4 Oct (RJH). One in Johnson Co. N of Iowa City on 19 Oct (JF) is the third-latest on record.
RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD: A Selasphorus hummingbird identified as a Rufous Hummingbird was present at the feeder of Eleanor and Sanford Tyler in Chester, Howard Co., from 25 Sep to 2 Oct, and was photographed and seen by many observers (E&ST*,RKM*,FLM*,TK*,SD*,BPr*,MPr*). See separate article. If accepted by the Records Committee, this will be the first Iowa record of this species.
RED-HEADED WOODPECKER: Most left Mills Co. because of the poor acorn crop, and the few that remained were caching corn kernels for winter stores (BW).
YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER: 8 reports, of 1-2 birds each, were received from 17 Sep (BW) to 16 Oct (DPO).
NORTHERN FLICKER: 50-100 were seen in Hickory Hill Pk. Iowa City, on 22 Sep (RJH). A hybrid 'orange-shafted' bird was seen at Hickory Hill Pk., Tama Co. (RKM).
PILEATED WOODPECKER: The only report was of 1 at Grammer Gr. W.A. on 10 Oct (BPr).
OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER: 9 reports of single birds on dates ranging from 5 Aug (PM) to 19 Sep (PM); 7 were seen during the fall in SE Iowa (RC).
EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE: The latest reports were of 1 at Ames on 19 Sep (PM) and 2 at Sharon Bluffs S.P., Appanoose Co., on 23 Sep (RC).
YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER: Details were provided for sightings, all of single birds, at Davenport 3 Sep (PCP,MLP), at Mark Twain N.W.R., Louisa Co., on 9 Sep (PCP,MLP), at Saulsbury Br. R.A. on 9 Sep (TK,BW), at Ames 12 Sep (PM), and at Davenport 21 Sep (PCP). This species is difficult to distinguish from Acadian Flycatcher in fall and the two should be reported with diagnostic details.
WILLOW FLYCATCHER: The only report was of two heard at Hendrickson M. on 1 Aug (PM).
EASTERN PHOEBE: Six reports of 1-6 birds, the latest at Red Rock on 1 Nov (JSi).
GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER: The last reported was at Ames 15 Sep (JAH).
EASTERN KINGBIRD: 35 were in NE Mills Co. on 4 Sep in a large patch of berry-laden gray dogwood, a favorite fall food of this species (BW). 11 were in one tree in Johnson Co. on 11 Sep (CJB).
WESTERN KINGBIRD: 1 was at Forney's L. 4 Aug (JF), and another was seen in Muscatine Co. on 9 Sep, on one of the I.O.U. Fall Meeting field trips (PCP,RC); this is only the 5th record for extreme eastern Iowa. A late bird was at Ames on 3 Nov (BS*).
SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: An imm. bird was NE of Cherokee on 27 Oct (VB*); this is six weeks later than the previous record late date.
PURPLE MARTIN: A huge roost was in Keokuk from the last half of Jul to mid-Aug; peak count was 6000 on 15 Aug; numbers declined rapidly thereafter (RC). 500 were at L. Manawa on 2 Sep (L&BP). The latest were 2 in Boone Co. 22 Sep (SD).
TREE SWALLOW: The usual concentration at the Coralville Res. was present, with 700 there 12 Aug, 1000 on 16-29 Sep, 2500 on 7 Oct, and 250 on 14 Oct (MN); 1 was still there on 28 Oct (TK). Numbers declined westward, with 250 at Big Cr. S.P. on 24 Oct and 3 still present on 30 Oct (SD); 20 were at L. Manawa 6 Oct (BPa,TB).
NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW: 3 were late at Hendrickson M. 16 Sep (PM); 30 at L. Manawa on 30 Sep (B&LP) were the second-latest on record.
BANK SWALLOW: 100 were in Fremont Co. 26 Aug (EM); the last report was of 6 on

30 Sep at Hendrickson M. (PM).
CLIFF SWALLOW: 1300 were NE of Cherokee on 13 Aug (MMB), and 200 were at Hendrickson M on 6 Oct (EM).
BARN SWALLOW: 1000 were at Forney's L. on 6 Oct (TB,B&LP); Hendrickson M. had 50 on 3 Oct and 3 on 16 Oct (PM,SD); 1 in Mills Co. 27 Oct (BW*) is the third-latest record.
AMERICAN CROW: A roost of some 17,000 was discovered on Commercial St., Keokuk, on 27 Nov, drawing birds from Illinois, Missouri, and Iowa (BC).
TUFTED TITMOUSE: A flock of 17 at L. Rathbun on 11 Nov (RC) is large for Iowa.
RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH: All reported were from C and NW Iowa: single birds were seen at Ames on 15 Sep, 29 Sep, and 7 Oct (JAH,PM); a small flock was at Sioux Center on 22 Oct (JV), and 1 was E of Larrabee, Cherokee Co. 24 Oct (MMB).
BROWN CREEPER: An early bird was at Oakville on 29 Aug (PCP).
CAROLINA WREN: Three reports of single birds: 29 Aug at Oakville (PCP), 3 Sep at Pammel Woods, Ames (JAH), and 28 Sep in downtown Iowa City (RJH).
HOUSE WREN: Late reports were of 1 in NE Mills Co. 20 Oct (BW), 2 at Ames 21 Oct (PM), and of an unreported number in Warren Co. 24 Oct (JSi).
WINTER WREN: 9 reports of 1-2 birds from widely separated locations; the first were 2 at Ames 21 Sep (PM) and the latest was 1 at Big Wall L. 3 Nov (SD). The most seen was 15 at Ames 29 Sep (EM).
SEDGE WREN: 3 were in Orange City 4-18 Aug (KH,DR fide JV); 2 were at Lk Rathbun 23 Sep (RC); 12 at the Coralville Res. 28 Sep (TK); 2 were at Hendrickson M. 3 Oct (PM) and the last birds were seen there 11 Oct (SD).
MARSH WREN: 6 reports of 1-2 birds, from scattered locations; the earliest was 11 Sep at Sioux Center (JV) and the last 25 Oct from Doolittle Pr., Story Co. (SD).
GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET: 5 reports of 1-2 birds from 29 Sep at Ames (PM) to 17 Nov at Centerville (RC); 15 were at Ames 28 Oct (PM) and 12 were in Cass Co. (L&BPa).
RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET: The earliest was 1 29 Aug at Sioux Center (JV); small numbers were reported until 21 Oct, when 23 were at Ames (PM), also the latest report.
BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER: The only W Iowa report was 1 at Waubonsie S.P. 3 Sep (L&BPa). Four reports, 3 of single birds, were from E and C Iowa: 2 Sep at Ames (PM), 9 Sep at Mark Twain N.W.R. (PCP,MLP,m.ob.), 2 at Davenport 9 Sep (PCP,MLP), and 9 Sep at Wildcat Den S.P. (SD). (The peak on 9 Sep is likely an artifact of the I.O.U. Meeting rather than a genuine migratory phenomenon.)
EASTERN BLUEBIRD: Reproduction in Mills Co. was considered poor (BW). Reports were: 13 in Appanoose Co. 13 Oct (RC), 24 in Johnson Co. 2 Nov (JF), 3 in Fairfield 9 Nov (TKI fide DPO), and 10 at the Coralville Res 11 Nov (CJB).

(PM).
SWAINSON'S THRUSH: All reports were from Ames: 2 on 3 Sep, 3 on 12 Sep, and 1 on 13 Sep (PM).
HERMIT THRUSH: The first was in Ames 29 Sep (JAH); 1 was there on 3 Oct and 3 on 21 Oct (PM); 1 was at Sharon Bluffs S.P. Appanoose Co., on 13 Oct (RC); JV had only 1 all fall in NW Iowa; 1 was at Iowa City on 21 Oct (TK).
AMERICAN ROBIN: 117 were at Sharon Bluffs S.P. 13 Oct (RC).
GRAY CATBIRD: The latest report was on 20 Oct at Ames (PM).
NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD: None reported for the fall; a late report was received of 1 on 27 May at Bronson, Woodbury Co. (JAH).
BROWN THRASHER: The last was at Forney's L. 6 Oct (BPa,TB).
WATER PIPIT: The earliest were 4 on 16 Sep in Mills Co. (TB,BJR); they were at Hendrickson M. from 19 Sep (PM) to 3 Nov (the latest observed) (PM) with a maximum of 35 there on 6 Oct (SD,EM); 2 were in Cherokee Co. on 28 Sep (MMB); 15 were at the Coralville Res. 7 Oct and 46 there 14 Oct (MN).
SPRAGUE'S PIPIT: A bird identified as this species was observed at the water's edge at the lagoon of the Sioux-preme packing plant s of Sioux Center, on 10 Aug (GB fide JV). The bird was described as being lighter brown than a water

pipit, with a distinctly striped crown and back; unfortunately the leg color could not be seen. The report has been forwarded to the Records Committee, as there is but a single accepted sighting of this species for Iowa. All sightings of this species should be fully documented.
CEDAR WAXWING: The only report was of flocks of several hundred at the Coralville Res. on 11 and 25 Nov (RJH,MN).
BOHEMIAN WAXWING: 1 was present at Laurens 2-12 Nov, and was netted and banded (RH); 1 was on the N side of the Hawkeye W.A. at the Coralville Res. on 11 Nov. (CB*,RJH*,TK*,TJS).
NORTHERN SHRIKE: Not many reports. 1-2 birds were seen in Cherokee Co. on 25 and 30 Oct and 25 Nov (MMB); 1 imm. was in Winneshiek Co. on 17 Nov (TK,TJS); 1 ad. was in N Marshall Co. on 30 Nov (BPr*,PH).
LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE: 6 were seen in Appanoose Co. during the period (RC); they were considered scarce at Lamoni, where 3 were seen for the period (JDG); singles were at Hendrickson M. on 4 Aug and 15 Sept (PM); a late report was of 1 at Alton, Sioux Co. on 18 Jul (BF fide DH).
WHITE-EYED VIREO: 1 was at Waterloo on 10 Sep (RKM); 3 were at Pioneer Ridge in Wapello Co. on 14 Sep (RC).
BELL'S VIREO: 1 was at Ames on 15 Sep (PM); a late report was of 1 on 26 May at Stone Pk. in Woodbury Co. (JAH). A very late report was of a single bird in Johnson Co. n of Iowa City, on 19 Nov (JF*), beating the previous late date by some two months.
SOLITARY VIREO: The first were 2 at Ames 3 Sep; 12 were there on 15 Sep for the maximum count (PM); there were five reports of single birds 11-21 Oct, from scattered locations. 1 at Liscomb, Marshall Co., on 7 Nov (MPr) and 1 at Marshalltown Cem. 11 Nov (MPr) are record late dates.
YELLOW-THROATED VIREO: The latest report was of 1 at Ames on 27 Sep (PM).
WARBLING VIREO: One was singing at Ames on 5 Sep (PM).
PHILADELPHIA VIREO: The earliest was one at Ames 8 Sep (JAH); the most were 10 at Hickory Hill Pk. Iowa City, 15 Sep (TK); and the latest was 1 at Lake Ahquabi on 23 Sep (JSi).
RED-EYED VIREO: Latest was 1 at Ames 27 Sep (PM).
GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER: Single birds were at Iowa City 1 Sep (RJH,MN); Davenport 2 and 14 Sep (PCP); Ames 15 Sep, and Pioneer Ridge, Wapello Co., 26 Sep (RC), the last the third-latest date on record.
TENNESSEE WARBLER: The earliest was 1 at Big Cr. S.P. on 20 Aug (SD); the maximum count, and latest report, was 2 at Ames on 3 Oct (PM, who considered them scarce this year).
ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER: The earliest was 1 at Ames on 7 Sep (PM), the second-earliest date recorded; 9-10 were seen at Ames 30 Sep, 3 Oct, and 21 Oct (PM,SD); six later reports were all of single birds, with the last 1 at Ames 4 Nov (JAH) for a third-latest date.
NASHVILLE WARBLER: The first (4 3 Sep), most (16 26 Sep), and latest (1 4 Nov) were all at Ames (all PM). The last is the second-latest recorded date.
NORTHERN PARULA: A total of 11 birds reported. The earliest was 1 at Ledges S.P. on 18 Aug (SD) and the latest was 1 at Davenport 3 Oct (PCP).
CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER: Earliest was 1 in Dallas Co. on 19 Aug (RC); most were 16 at Ames 15 Sep (PM); last was 1 26 Sep at Ames (PM).
MAGNOLIA WARBLER: Few reports: 3 at Ames 15 Sep and 1 there 27 Sep (PM); 1 at Forney's L. on 6 Oct (TB,BPa).
CAPE MAY WARBLER: 1 was at Liscomb, Marshall Co., 16 Sep (MPr); 2 females were in Mills Co., also on 16 Sep, where the species is very uncommon (B&LPa).
BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER: Four of the five reports were from Ames: a male on 2 Sep (PM), a female on 3 Sep (EM), a female on 8 Sep (JAH), and a male on 9 Sep (EM). It is possible only two birds were involved. An ad. male was at Davenport 30 Sep-1 Oct (PCP,MLP,BB).
YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER: Singles at Ames on 3 Sep (PM) and 6 Sep (JAH) provide the second- and third-earliest fall dates on record; 25 were at Ames 17 Oct

and 30 on 21 Oct (PM); the last was 1 at Ames on 4 Nov (PM).
BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER: 20 were seen at Ames during the fall (PM); few were reported elsewhere; the latest was 1 at Shimek S.F. on 3 Nov (RC), for the third-latest date on record.
BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER: 3 were at McFarland Pk., Story Co., on 15 Sep (EM); one at Ames 18 Oct (EM) is the second-latest on record.
YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: The only report was of 1 in Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. on 20 Aug (RC).
PINE WARBLER: 1 was reported from Centerville Res. on 30 Aug (RC). Details were provided for four birds: 1 at Ames on 3 Sep (PM*,JH*), 1 at Waterloo on 5 Sep (RKM*,FLM*), 1 at Laurens on 7 Sep (JC*,RH*), and 1 at McFarland Pk., Story Co., on 15 Sep (HZ*,SD*,EM*).
PRAIRIE WARBLER: A territorial male was present in the Croton Unit of Shimek S.F. from 24 Aug to 15 Sep (RC*,FLM*,RC). The area, an overgrown brushy clearing with saplings and tall weeds, appears to be good nesting habitat; perhaps this area will produce Iowa's first nesting record. (There is a questionable nesting record from Lee Co., dating from the last century.)
PALM WARBLER: The first was 1 at Hendrickson M. on 23 Sep (PM); the peak was 3 at Ames on 3 Oct (PM), and the latest was 1 at Ames on 21 Oct (PM), for a new second-latest date.
BAY-BREASTED WARBLER: One of the more abundant warblers this fall. 42 were seen at Ames during the fall, with a high count of 12 on 15 Sep (PM); the latest was 1 on 22 Sep, at Iowa City (TK).
BLACKPOLL WARBLER: 7 were seen at Ames 4-29 Sep (PM).
CERULEAN WARBLER: 3 were in Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. on 20 Aug (RC).
BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER: Earliest was 1 at Davenport 21 Aug (PCP); peak was 7 at Ames on 16 Sep (PM); last were singles at Davenport and Ames on 30 Sep (PCP,PM).
WORM-EATING WARBLER: 1 was at the Croton Unit of Shimek S.F. on 15 Sep (RC*), for a new record late date.
OVENBIRD: Two ads. and a fledgling were in Stone Pk., Woodbury Co., on 23 Aug (JAH); 23 were seen at Ames during the fall (PM).
NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH: Few reported. Earliest was 1 at Ames 24 Aug (SD); 4 were there 29 Aug-6 Sep (PM); 1 was at the Coralville Res. 7 Oct (MN).
LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH: 1 was in Lacey-Keosauqua S.P. on 20 Aug (RC).
KENTUCKY WARBLER: Late birds were at Shimek S.F. on 13 Sep (RC) and at Pioneer Ridge, Wapello Co., on 14 Sep (RC).
CONNECTICUT WARBLER: 2 were at Hickory Hill Pk., Iowa City, on 21 Aug (TK), for the second-earliest date recorded; singles were at Ames 30 Aug and 3 Sep (EM*,PM); 2 were at Grammer Gr. W.A. on 3 Sep (BPr); and 1 was at Hickory Hill Pk., Iowa City, on 21 Sep (RJH).
MOURNING WARBLER: Single birds were at Hickory Hill Pk., Iowa City, on 26 Aug (TK), Davenport on 2 Sep (PCP), and Mark Twain N.W.R. on 9 Sep (PCP,m.ob.).
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT: Single birds at Ames on 14 Oct (PM) and at Hendrickson M. on 15 Oct (SD) are the second- and third-latest on record.
WILSON'S WARBLER: Earliest and latest were single birds at Davenport, 24 Aug and 22 Sep (PCP); 25 were seen at Ames during the fall (PM).
CANADA WARBLER: Six reports of a total of 7 birds. Earliest was 1 at Iowa City on 19 Aug (TK); latest was 1 at Ames on 20 Sep (PM).
YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: Three reports, all from the SE: 1 was in Appanoose Co. on 3 Aug (JF), 1 at Mark Twain N.W.R. on 9 Sep (PCP,m.ob.), and 1 at Pioneer Ridge, Wapello Co., on 14 Sep (RC).
SUMMER Tanager: 1 was at Waubonsie S.P. on 5 Aug (JF); another in Cedar Co. on 3 Sep (JF).
SCARLET Tanager: Latest report was of 1 at Davenport on 20 Oct (PCP).
ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK: Latest was 1 at Ames 3 Oct (PM).
BLUE GROSBEAK: All reports from the W and NW: 4 in Fremont Co. on 4 Aug (JF) and 5 there 26 Aug (SD,EM); 1 in Cherokee Co. 7 Aug and 2 there on 21 Aug (MMB); 5

in Woodbury Co. on 9 Aug (JAH).
INDIGO BUNTING: 4 at Forney Lk on 6 Oct (BPa,TB) and 1 at L. Rathbun on the same date (RC) were late. 1 at Big Cr. S.P. on 4 Nov (JSc*) is a record late date for Iowa.
DICKCISSEL: Latest was 1 found dead in Mills Co. on 2 Oct (BB,BW).
RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE: Few reports. Present at L. Ahquabi 23 Sep-23 Oct (JSi); 1 at Ames 3 Oct and 20 Oct (PM,JAH); 2 of the spotted western race were at Forney's Lake on 6 Oct (TB,BPa); one of the eastern race was at the Coralville Res. on 7 Oct (MN).
AMERICAN TREE SPARROW: First report was 14 Sep in Warren Co. (JSi).
CHIPPING SPARROW: Latest were 10 at Ames on 31 Oct (PM).
CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: Only report was of 1 at Hendrickson M. 31 Oct (PM).
FIELD SPARROW: Latest report: 2 at Ames on 31 Oct (PM).
VESPER SPARROW: Latest was 1 at Hendrickson M. 17 Oct (PM).
LARK SPARROW: Both reports from W. Iowa: 7 in Woodbury Co. on 9 Aug (JAH) and 3 at Sioux Center on 13 Sep (JV).
LARK BUNTING: A late report was of 2 males in Sioux Co. on 14 Jun (CT*). Lark Buntings are presently classified as 'casual' but are probably of regular occurrence in W Iowa.
SAVANNAH SPARROW: Latest were 6 at L. Rathbun on 4 Nov (RC).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: 1 was singing at Hendrickson M. on 4 Aug (PM); this was the only report.
LE CONTE'S SPARROW: A good fall for this species at Hendrickson M., with reports from many observers. First report was of a single bird there on 16 Sep (PM, JAH); 30 were there on 4 Oct (EM); last report was of 15 on 24 Oct (SD). The only other report was also from Story Co., 1 at Doolittle Prairie on 21 Oct (PM).
SHARP-TAILED SPARROW: 1-2 birds were at Hendrickson M. 22 Sep-10 Oct (HZ*, PM*, MPr*, JF). There are only 19 previous records of this species in Iowa; it undoubtedly occurs more regularly than this, and more regular coverage of marsh habitat would raise its status from 'casual' to 'regular'.
FOX SPARROW: Earliest was 1 at Ames 3 Oct (PM); maximum was 9 there 31 Oct (PM); last was 1 at Centerville 25 Nov (RC).
LINCOLN'S SPARROW: Earliest was 1 at the Coralville Res. 23 Sep (MN); maximum counts were 10 at Forney's Lk on 6 Oct (BPa, TB) and at the Coralville Res. 7 Oct (TK), also the latest.
WHITE-THROATED SPARROW: First were 1 at Davenport 14 Sep (PCP), 2 at Ames (PM) and 1 at Iowa City (TK) on 15 Sep; 100 were at Ames on 3 Oct and 21 Oct (PM). Only report from W Iowa was 2 at Forney's L. on 6 Oct (TB, BPa).
WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW: 2 were at Hendrickson M. on 3 Oct and 21 at Ames on 21 Oct (PM).
HARRIS'S SPARROW: The first birds seen in Mills Co. were on 29 Sep (BW). In C and E Iowa numbers were small: 2 at Ames on 3 Oct (PM), 1 at Cone M. 13 Oct (GW), 10 at Hendrickson M. 13 Oct and 7 at Ames on 20 Oct (PM), the maximum counts, 2 in Linn Co. 21 Oct (JF), and 1 in Floyd Co. on 28 Oct (TJS), the latest.
DARK-EYED JUNCO: First were 17 in Mills Co. on 20 Sep (BW) and 1 at Swaledale, Cerro Gordo Co., on 27 Sep (LG); first reports from other areas were between 30 Sep and 4 Oct (m.ob.).
LAPLAND LONGSPUR: Most reports were from C Iowa. Earliest were seen on 10 Oct: 5 at Doolittle Prairie (SD) and 23 at Larson M., Story Co. (PM). Mid-Nov brought a massive invasion with 2500 at Colo Ponds on 10 Nov (HZ), 350 in Story Co. on the same date (SD), and four flocks totalling 3100 in Story Co. on 11 Nov (PM). 50 were at Hendrickson M. on 17 Nov (HZ) and the last report was of 40 at Booneville, Dallas Co., on 27 Nov (E&EA). Several flocks of 20 to 70 were in Cherokee and Buena Vista Cos. 14 Nov (DB).
SNOW BUNTING: A flurry of reports in early to mid-Nov: 2 at the Coralville Res. 2 Nov (JF); 2 at Hickory Gr. L. in Story Co. on 4 Nov (PM); 22 in Wright Co. on 10 Nov (SD); 3 in Grundy Co. 13 Nov (MPr); 6 on 19 Nov in O'Brien Co. (MMB); and 4 in Tama Co. on 19 Nov (MPr).

BOBOLINK: Latest were 4 on 9 Sep at Mark Twain N.W.R. on 9 Sep (PCP, m.ob.).
RUSTY BLACKBIRD: 40 were at Tieg's M., Story Co., on 22 Nov (SD) (only report).
BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: Seen in Warren Co. 24 Oct (JSi); 18 were observed at close range near Lamoni on 8 Nov (JDG, who states that this species is regular in the area, in small groups, in Apr and Nov).
GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE: 2 were at Riverton W.A. on 4 Aug (JF).
BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD: A flock of 2500 was in Mills Co. on 6 Oct (TB, B&LPa).
NORTHERN ORIOLE: Latest was 1 at Ames on 13 Sep (PM), tying the third-latest date on record.
PINE GROSBEAK: An imm. male was at Lamoni on 8 Nov (JB*, JL*), and an imm. or female was in Cass Co. on 11 Nov (L&BPa*).
PURPLE FINCH: Very few reports and no large numbers.
RED CROSSBILL: Widespread in small numbers from early Nov on, mostly in the E half of Iowa. Earliest were 2 in the Yellow R. S.F., Allamakee Co., on 3 Nov (RKM, FLM); 8-10 were in Fairmont Cem., Davenport 6-19 Nov (PCP); 5 were at Liscomb, Marshall Co., on 6 Nov (BPr); 1 was at Sweet M. and 30 at Waterloo on 10 Nov (RKM); 1 was on the Davis/Appanoose Co. line 11 Nov (FLM); 12 were at Union 11 Nov (PH fide BPr) and 7 at Waterloo the same day (BPr); 8 were in Greenwood Cem, Muscatine, on 12 Nov and 2 were still there on 17 Nov (GW; TD fide GW); 3 were in Bangor Cem, Marshall Co. on 17 Nov (BPr); 6 were in High Amana Cem. on 22 Nov (CJB); and 2 in Iowa City at the U.I. Medical Center on 22 Nov (JF). In NW Iowa 6 were in Sioux Center on 22 Nov (JV) and 6 at Big Spirit L., Dickinson Co., on 24 Nov (LF fide DH).
WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL: Not so numerous as the Reds. 2 in E Amana on 11 Nov, and 1 in High Amana the next day (CJB); 5 in Fairmont Cem., Davenport, on 11 Nov (PCP); 1 was at Union, Hardin Co., on 18 Nov (HZ).
COMMON REDPOLL: Small numbers, in the N third of the state: 1 in the Yellow R. S.F. 4 Nov (BPr); 6 ne of Larrabee, Cherokee Co., on 8 Nov and 1 in Cherokee 18 Nov (MMB); singles at Union, Hardin Co., 13 and 18 Nov (MPr, HZ, BPr).
PINE SISKIN: One was seen on the decidedly odd date of 30 Aug at Cherokee (DB, who thought that it had perhaps summered in the area). There are no previous Iowa summer records later than 30 Jun, and no previous fall records earlier than 22 Sep. A major fall flight to C and SE Iowa started with 15 at Ames on 2 Oct (SD) and 17 there on 21 Oct (EM); 48 were in Appanoose Co. on 27 Oct (RC); they arrived in the Quad-Cities area 14 Oct, with "hundreds" present later (PCP) and they were "numerous" in Nov in Johnson Co. (JF); 30 were at Iowa City on 18 Nov (TJS), and 300 were in Muscatine on 22 Nov (RC). In SW Iowa numbers reported were smaller: 5 in NE Mills Co. on 19 Oct and 2 there 2 Nov (BW); 35 in Council Bluffs on 14 Nov (BPa, TB) and 5 there 21-27 Nov (CFS). In NW Iowa 36 were in Cherokee on 22 Nov (DB); small numbers arrived at Sioux Center on 22 Nov (JV), and 8 were at Larchwood, Lyon Co., on 25 Nov (DH).
EVENING GROSBEAK: Few were reported: 3 were in Sioux Center on 30 Oct but did not linger (JV); 1 was in Bettendorf on 10 Nov (LLe fide PCP); and was at Sweet M. on 10 Nov (RKM).

CONTRIBUTORS

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COMMENTS

I would like to thank all 91 Iowa birders who submitted reports. As nearly as I can determine, at least one sighting was reported from 60 of Iowa's 99 counties; I wonder what we missed in the other 39? Some 1200 sightings were entered and processed by computer and the field reports were compiled from the fifty pages of printout. I apologize for any errors or omissions I have made; if you find one, please call it to the attention of the Field Reports Editor so that it can be corrected.

A few comments on reporting your records: they are most informative if they are complete, including number of individuals (even if estimated), date, and specific location. They are most easily processed if in check-list order, with a single record on each line, and on standard 8 1/2 by 11 paper. When documenting rare species or unusual dates, it is easiest for the editor if each is documented on a separate sheet. I should like to thank those many observers who followed these guidelines.

Coverage of many residents and common migrants was decidedly spotty, particularly for the passerines. I realize that it is often difficult to decide what to include; perhaps these can serve as temporary guidelines: For common migrants, first and last dates observed, as well as the dates and numbers of maximum counts. Uncommon or local residents such as Bell's Vireo and Pileated Woodpecker should be reported. Common and widespread residents such as Black-capped Chickadee and Downy Woodpecker should not be reported unless they are unusually abundant, or unusually scarce, for your area. Interesting behavioral accounts are always welcome.

This is my first, and unfortunately my last, stint as Field Reports Editor. I found it fascinating, and feel that I learned a lot about the birds and birders of Iowa. My thanks go to Carol Newlon and Tom Kent, for help with this report, and to all of the birders of Iowa who helped to make my stay here so pleasant.

Winter season field reports should be sent, by 1 March, to: W. Ross Silcock, Box 300, Tabor IA 51653.