

Pleasantville Ia
50225

April 27, 1977

Dear Nicholas, - Just had a letter from Bob Moats at Estherville. They have an Egyptian Goose on an open body of water on west side of Iowa Lake in Emmett County, first seen April 15, 1977, still there Apr 23.

Bob thinks it is not an escapee. No bands on it and the wings are not clipped.

Should I send Bob a Rare Bird form or would you just consider it a probable escapee? He has taken photos of it, too!

Phoebes surely are scarce. Only pair I've seen is in Elk Rock State Park under a ^(nest) new bridge on a Nature Trail. None at the usual culverts + small bridges.

No Bluebirds except 1 banded by Mary Felsing.

So far very few Yellow-Rumped Warblers + few Ruby Crowns.

Saw 1 Osprey yesterday while touring Red Rock with a group
over

from Mason City.

One of my two active L Shrike nests has been predated. Had to be a bird as no mammal could survive a climb up that A sage A sage. There's a pair of Great Horned Owls with fat + sassy young a half mile east also a pair of Barred Owls and Red tailed Hawks in that area also Crows + few Blue jays. In 15 years the Shrikes have nested in that tree of the one just across the road and never been predated down!

A pair of Horned Owls successfully reared 2 young in Prairie City in a big hole in a Silver maple right beside the busy noisy highway to Des Moines. One has fledged and the other one probably has by now. Neighbors all enjoyed the Owl babies. Two notified me.

Sincerely,
Gladys Block