

More Gray Jays in Iowa. In response to Gladys Black's Des Moines Register article on Gray Jays, written after this species was believed to have been first seen in Iowa (IBL ~~XIV~~ ^{XVII}:23, 1977), two more records of Gray Jays were submitted, with documentation, bringing the total for the fall-winter 1976-77 period to three.

Fern L. Tanner saw a Gray Jay in Mason City in early November, from 11 feet. A good comparison could be made with a Blue Jay on the other side of the same bird bath. Mrs. Tanner's brother, Albert Ewers, and his wife, had seen the jay nearby a couple of weeks earlier (before the Decorah bird was first seen?). Mr. Ewers had no doubt that the bird was the "meat robber" familiar to him from many hunting and fishing trips to Canada.

The other Gray Jay was seen by Marilyn H. Lilja at Cedar Falls, also in November 1976. She observed it from about 20 feet as it made several trips to her feeder. Next day it was found dead, but the specimen was unfortunately not preserved. It did give her an opportunity to verify the bird's identity. She states that she was familiar with the species from time spent in Colorado.

In a recent conversation, George Schrimper, Curator for Natural History at the University of Iowa Museum, brought to my attention that a specimen obtained in Linn Co. on December 2, 1918 by George Berry exists in the museum's collection (no. 32540). Attached to the bird's leg is a somewhat enigmatic tag bearing a note in the hand of John Rohner, late curator of the museum, in which he appears to question the site of collection of the specimen. It can therefore not be decided with certainty whether the Gray Jay seen near Decorah in 1976-77 was indeed the first or the second observation for the state. N.S. HALMI, R #6, Iowa City.