

IOWA BREEDING BIRD ATLAS DOCUMENTATION FORM

What species? HORNED LARK How many? 3-1 ADULT, 2 JUVENILESLocation: County CERRO GORDO Block 125Location in detail 2 MILES EAST OF US 65, 1 MILE SOUTH OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF BLOCKHabitat? GRAVEL ROAD, GRASSY DITCHES, CORNFIELDS WITH ± 15' SHORT GRASS STRIPS AT EDGESWhen? date? AUG. 4, 1986 Time: 7:35 PM to 7:40 PMObserver? Name: JAN & JIM WALTERAddress: 934-13TH SE, MASON CITY, IA 50401Telephone: 515-424-4413

Description of bird(s): include size, shape, detailed description of all parts including bill, eye, head, neck, back, wings, tail, throat, breast, belly, undertail, legs, feet; also voice and behavior. Use additional sheets if necessary.

ADULT - LARGER THAN HOUSE SPARROW, BILL LIGHT SMALLER & MORE POINTED THAN SPARROW, EYE DARK, "HORNS" SEEN. TOP OF HEAD BROWN, YELLOW FOREHEAD STRIPE EXTENDED TO NAPE. BLACK STRIPE FROM BILL TO EYE, BECOMING WIDER & CURVING DOWN. BACK, WINGS, & TAIL BROWN, TAIL SHORT, THROAT YELLOW. WIDE BLACK BAND ACROSS BREAST, BELLY & UNDERTAIL WHITE. LEGS AND FEET BROWN.

JUVENILES - SMALLER THAN ADULT, BILL SIMILAR TO ADULT, EYE DARK. HEAD, NECK, & BACK DARK GREYISH WITH WHITE SPECKLING. WINGS & TAIL DARK GREYISH. FACE WHITE WITH GREYISH CHEEK PATCH. UNDERPARTS DINGY WHITE

VOICE - NOT HEARD

BEHAVIOR - PECKING GRAVEL IN MIDDLE & TO SIDES OF ROAD

Similar species and how eliminated:

DON'T KNOW OF A SIMILAR SUMMER SPECIES

Did anyone have reservations about identification? If so, explain:

No

Viewing conditions: lighting, distance and how measured, optical equipment used. SUN TO THE RIGHT STILL WELL ABOVE HORIZON
BIRDS 20-25 FEET AHEAD OF CAR

7X35 BINOCULARS, 7X50 BINOCULARS

Previous experience with this species and other similar ones:
HAVE SEEN PROBABLY SEVERAL THOUSAND HORNED LARKS OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS IN NUMBERS FROM SINGLE INDIVIDUALS TO LARGE FLOCKS.

BREEDING BEHAVIOR: Give all details observed that indicate that the species breeds on the block. If nest, eggs, young, or courtship display were observed, describe in detail.

JUVENILES STAYED CLOSE TO ADULT, FOLLOWING IT AS IT RAN ABOUT THE ROAD, THEN INTO THE GRASS AT THE SIDE OF THE ROAD WHEN A CAR APPROACHED.

If books or other birders were consulted before writing up the documentation, please list them here:

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FIELD GUIDE - TO VERIFY JUVENILE PLUMAGE MENTION OF BRIEF JUVENILE PLUMAGE INDICATES THAT THE JUVENILES WERE HATCHED ON THE BLOCK.

How long after observation were field notes made? AT THE TIME

How long after observation was this form completed? 2 HOURS