

RJH
Field Reports for Spring 1987 (March, April, + May)

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Species	Date	#	Location, County	Comments, etc
Black-crowned Night-Heron	4/12	2	Cone M Louisa	
Common Night Hawk	5/12	1	laCy Johnson	1 st of year
Chimney Swift	4/28	2	laCy Johnson	1 st of season
Cliff Swallow	5/4	~20	laCy Johnson	return to nesting colony 1 st of season @ 5
Amer. Robin	4/10	1	laCy Johnson	bird was carrying nesting material seems awfully early to be nesting.
Brewer's Blackbird	3/4	~10	Cone M Louisa	
House Finch	3/3	1 ♂	laCy Johnson	see 2nd ^{below} page for details
Pine Siskin	5/30	1	Sioux City Woodbury	Carol Thompson saw

House Finch details on 3/3 I observed ♂ House Finch on my feeders, before I left for work in the morning. I look at my feeders during breakfast every morning and I am sure I would have seen it 3/2 had it been there. It was not present 3/4, as I deliberately looked for it.

It caught my eye as it was not the same color as a purple finch. It looked more to brick than to wine and the color was more restricted than in a purple finch.

The following are quotes from notes taken at the time. "Color was more brick-red than wine.

"Striped on flanks."

I have considerable exp. w HoFinches, seeing them by the 100's every December in Maryland.

Bob

Please Excuse my lack of an official (Tom Kent Approved) form.

I wish you had been with us Sunday @ Five Ridges Prairie - someone caught a big toad + in looking at the rear feet wondered if it was a Spadefoot. I wasn't able to look at a guide til I returned to Iowa City, which will help me next time, but didn't help me at all there, as I looked at the toad. As I read it, we could have seen any one of 3 true toads plus one or more Spadefoots.

I took my E. Kingbird into school + let my daughter show it with her Kindergarten class. It was a great success! It may have been the Sharing Hit of the Year. This week I'm going in and talking about birds. It probably won't be as exciting as I won't have a live bird to share.

Good Birding,

Rick