

*Data Entered*

Diane Porter  
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# Summer 1989 Seasonal Report

Weather has been moderate, with some rains relieving the drought. No shorebird habitat because Walton Lake has been pumped full from underground reservoir. This report was created using the Bird Brain Data Base.

8/2/89  
Records: 27

ITEM	COMMON NAME	NUM	DATE	LOCATION	HABITAT
1	Great Egret	1	7/8/89	Mississippi River, Burlington, IA	Slough
	I don't see these very often, but I don't go to the Mississippi very often. Big white bird with black feet, yellow bill with black tip.				
2	Green-backed Heron	1	7/8/89	Mississippi River, Des Moines Co., IA	Slough
	At Sullivan Slough, near Burlington. In past years I've seen these in Fairfield daily in summer, but this year none. Drought and the filling of Walton Lake from underground reservoirs resulted in very disrupted habitat conditions.				
3	Black-crowned Night-Heron	4	7/8/89	Mississippi River, Des Moines Co., IA	Slough
	3 adults and 1 immature, at Sullivan Slough, near Burlington. I was looking for yellow-crowned night herons. These were some consolation.				
4	Wood Duck	7	6/18/89	Walton Lake, Fairfield, IA	Pond
	A nest box set up in the pond by Pete Tollinaire had wood ducks this spring. Today I saw an adult followed 6 puff-ball ducklings, all weaving in and out amongst the emergent weeds. So the nesting was successful.				
5	Mississippi Kite	2	6/9/89	Benton Co., IA	Pond
	We walked back along power line easement through dense woods to edge of pond, near Vinton. See documentation for more details.				
6	Ring-necked Pheasant	12	7/30/89	Rural area, Van Buren Co., IA	Roadside
	A dozen rather scraggly prepubescent pheasants ran around in the road.				
7	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	7/30/89	Lacey Keosauqua SP, Van Buren Co., IA	Wooded Stream
	Heard near stream at Ely Ford. I've seen few this year.				
8	Alder Flycatcher	1	7/30/89	Lacey Keosauqua SP, Van Buren Co., IA	Wooded Stream
	In trees around stream at Ely Ford. Empid: small erect flycatcher; wingbars; conspicuous eye ring. Olive; warm tones in primaries. Call was like the "quick-beers" part of Olive-sided Flycatcher's call, but all one slur, not so loud, not two distinct syllables. 1st half of call higher & more explosive, but without sharp start or finish. Jim Sandrock showed me				
9	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	1	7/3/89	Washington Co., IA	Open Farmland
	Near Crawfordsville. A beautiful bird, shaped rather like a great crested flycatcher, but no crest. White head. Deeply-forked tail longer than body! Red under wings where they join the body.				
10	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	1	6/24/89	Rural area, Jefferson Co., IA	Pond
	I don't often see them here in midsummer.				

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11	Sedge Wren	3	7/30/89	Shipley's Pasture, Van Buren Co., IA	Pasture
	I think there were perhaps 6, but I saw 3 for sure. Tiny wrens with ratty tails; buffy undertail; streaked crown (white flecks/stripes on one); white streaks on backs; whitish supercilium. A funny little crackling song, less squeaky than marsh wrens'. They stayed down in tall grasses, flew low when flushed, appeared briefly but weren't really too hard to see.				
12	Wood Thrush	1	6/16/89	Brinton Woods, Washington Co., IA	Deep Woods
	Heard in the woods. Also not a bird I encounter a lot of near where I live.				
13	Wood Thrush	1	6/27/89	Livingston Timber, Jefferson Co., IA	Edge Woods
	Only time I heard one near Livingston Timber this year, though it seems ideal habitat, and I should have found them breeding.				
14	Loggerhead Shrike	2	6/16/89	Rural area, Washington Co., IA	Roadside
	One on nest in scraggly tree by side of gravel road. Bird A sat for about 10 minutes; Bird B approached and fed A. A left nest but stayed close while B inspected nest, ate something from inside it, sat on it briefly but did not settle down. A took over and seemed much cosier. This is the only shrikes' nest I've seen this year. Bill Reha showed it to me.				
15	Loggerhead Shrike	2	7/30/89	Rural area, Van Buren Co., IA	Roadside
	Two sitting on fences south of Lacey Keosauqua State Park.				
16	Bell's Vireo	1	6/19/89	Railroad Tracks, Jefferson Co., IA	Edge Row
	Heard its question-and-answer song, but did not see it. I heard Bell'ses at Jefferson County Park, near Fairfield on two occasions, but not all the time, as I did last year. Perhaps the white pine trees planted several years ago have grown too tall now, or what I don't know.				
17	Yellow-throated Vireo	1	6/6/89	Livingston Timber, Jefferson Co., IA	Deep Woods
	It may not be all that unusual for Jefferson County, but I have not seen or heard them here often. This one picked a worm off a leaf and shook the worm out of it before eating it.				
18	Yellow Warbler	1	6/19/89	Railroad Tracks, Jefferson Co., IA	Edge Row
	North of Fairfield. A pretty adult male with nice red stripes on his breast. He was carrying food and very agitated by my presence. Finally I saw him feed "his" baby - a fledgeling cowbird.				
19	Ovenbird	1	6/6/89	Livingston Timber, Jefferson Co., IA	Deep Woods
	Fairly unusual for Jefferson County. It was singing, "Cha cha cha chá chá chá CHA CHA" - not really two notes. Well, maybe slightly two. Gets louder toward end. Very chantlike. Also saw it on 7/4.				
20	Ovenbird	1	6/16/89	Brinton Woods, Washington Co., IA	Deep Woods
	Heard in the woods. I don't encounter a lot of these near where I live, though there are scads of them down at Lacey Keosauqua.				



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21	Summer Tanager (At home of Bill and Gloria Reha.) Resembled a scarlet tanager, but wings not black, just a little darker than body, like a little black paint mixed in the red paint. Light-colored bill. Song sort of like a robin's, but hoarser. It sang in bursts, then was silent a few minutes. Made circuit of tops of tall trees in 1/4 mile radius. No female in evidence.	1	6/16/89	Rural area, Washington Co., IA	Edge Woods
22	Dickcissel Here is the place where I watched a female dickcissel carry nesting material to a swale in a soybean field, while male sang from fence. I guessed young should be hatched by now. But today there were no dickcissels, and the usual grasshopper sparrow was silent also. The low damp place that grew only grass has been mowed short like a bad haircut. Very tidy	0	6/24/89	Livingston Timber, Jefferson Co., IA	Open Farmland
23	Chipping Sparrow Adult feeding cowbird fledgeling.	1	6/21/89	MIU Campus, Fairfield, IA	Near houses
24	Lark Sparrow I've never seen them in Jefferson County before this year. But because I was often in Livingston Timber area doing breeding bird survey, I saw them on several occasions.	1	6/24/89	Livingston Timber, Jefferson Co., IA	Open Farmland
25	Grasshopper Sparrow Hopping along the road. They are quite abundant in farm and pasture area this year. Assuming they have stable territories, I must have seen at least six birds in one breeding census block. And they were nearly always there, so I do believe they were breeding.	1	6/2/89	Livingston Timber, Jefferson Co., IA	Roadside
26	Henslow's Sparrow Clinging to top of grass stalk in mid-pasture. "Tsf-lick" carried a long way. 1st syllable sometimes with very short quick extra note in front, making 3 notes. Flat-topped, olive green head; (almost) rusty back w/ mahogany stripes. White throat, brown streaks on breast, longer at sides. Lighter crown stripe. Sides of neck not striped. Saw 3 on 7/30/89.	1	7/16/89	ShIPLEY'S Pasture, Van Buren Co., IA	Pasture
27	Bobolink I don't see many near where I live. These were near a nice little park with woods and stream, but the birds were along the road by farmland.	2	6/16/89	Brinton Woods, Washington Co., IA	Open Farmland