

Diane Porter

908 East Briggs
Fairfield, IA 52556
(515) 472-7256

Iowa Seasonal Report, Fall, 1993

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All records for Jefferson County unless otherwise specified. We had a hot and very wet August. Cool mornings in Sept. brought waves of warblers. First significant snow and cold weather began on Nov. 27.

12/2/93
Records: 81

ITEM	COMMON NAME	NUM	DATE	LOCATION	HABITAT
✓ 1	Eared Grebe One little grebe on the pond of mostly coots. In basic plumage--grey and white. The bird rode round and high in the water, like a ping-pong ball. Line between grey and white on face was not distinct: grey patch on side of cheek.	1	9/26/93	Kettleston Hogback, Dickenson Co., IA	Wetland
✓ 2	American White Pelican	1000	9/12/93	Red Rock Reservoir, Marion Co., IA	River
✓ 3	Double-crested Cormorant MAX	130	9/23/93	Chautauqua Pk, Fairfield, IA	Flyover
✓ 4	Cattle Egret	33	9/26/93	near Ruthven, Clay Co., IA	Pasture
✓ 5	Green-backed Heron First I saw this fall. Also saw imm. at Walton on 9/5, 9/13, 9/15	1	8/27/93	Walton Lake, Fairfield, IA	Lakeside
✓ 6	Turkey Vulture Last, and late. Flew quite close overhead. Wings two-tone from below: black underwing coverts; silvery flight feathers. Dihedral flight profile, rocking from side to side. Second latest was at Lake Darling, Washington Co., on 10/11.	1	10/22/93	Rural area, Jefferson, IA	Flyover
✓ 7	Osprey <i>also one osprey at Lake Darling, Wash. Co. on 10/10</i>	1	9/12/93	Red Rock Reservoir, Marion Co., IA	Flyover
✓ 8	Northern Harrier Immature: cinnamon underbody. At Jerre Stinson's land.	1	10/22/93	Rural area, Jefferson Co., IA	Flyover
9	Northern Harrier	1	11/30/93	In town, Fairfield, IA	Residential area
✓ 10	Northern Bobwhite I saw hardly any quail this season	1	8/24/93	Round Prairie Park, Jefferson Co., IA	Roadside

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11	Lesser Golden-Plover (split, 1993)	10	9/25/93	Lost Island Lake, Palo Alto Co., IA	Marsh
	A flock of about ten shorebirds flew over in formation while the IOU field trip was in the middle of the marsh. The birds were bigger and heavier than peeps, with seriously pointed wings; light underneath; bills not very long, plover-like. The light was good, and the birds were close enough that we would have seen black axillaries if the birds had been Black-bellied Plovers.				
12	Killdeer Maximum	6	9/18/93	Walton Lake, Fairfield, IA	Lakeside
13	Killdeer	1	11/13/93	Walton Lake, Fairfield, IA	Lakeside
14	Franklin's Gull First. Adult winter plumage	2	9/12/93	Red Rock Reservoir, Marion Co., IA	Field, flooded
15	Yellow-billed Cuckoo Calling from woods. Last.	1	8/22/93	In town, Fairfield, IA	Woods
16	Barred Owl I heard three calling in chorus and counterpoint at Jerre Stinson's land.	3	10/22/93	Rural area, Jefferson Co., IA	Woods
17	Common Nighthawk Last evening for the first time this season they were absent from their usual rooftops where they nest. But all afternoon today they swarmed over the town like monarch butterflies. I made a careful estimate of 385 in town at 4:30 P.M. LAST: one bird on 9/23	385	9/21/93	In town, Fairfield, IA	Sky
18	Chimney Swift This chimney has been used by migrating swifts since the early 40's. Last fall, the swifts did not use the chimney, and I thought it had been blocked. This fall it's in use again. 3420 went down the chimney between 7:25 P.M. and 7:35 P.M. on 9/19/93. Max: 4000 on 10/2. There were still 1000 on 10/9. Last: 45 on 10/11 circled in a tight flock like a toy airplane on a string.	45	10/11/93	Fairfield HS Chimney, Fairfield, IA	Chimney
19	Ruby-throated Hummingbird One was preening after a bath in a stream. Another was at Walton Lake on 9/15. Another at Jerre Stetson's land on 9/17	1	9/8/93	Rural area, Fairfield, IA	Forest edge
20	Belted Kingfisher Also saw a female at Walton Lake 9/13,15, 19. And 10/20.	2	9/5/93	Waterworks Park, Fairfield, IA	Lakeside

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21	Belted Kingfisher Last	1	11/13/93	Walton Lake, Fairfield, IA	Pond
22	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Last. Also seen in my yard on 11/5 and 11/13/93.	1	11/28/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees
23	Eastern Wood-Pewee Last. It sang "pee oh wee" and ate a small orange moth.	1	9/20/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
24	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher This bird appeared in my yard, where no empid is a steady visitor. It had a yellow throat and breast, lighter on belly and undertail coverts. A distinct though narrow ivory eyering; not-bright white wingbars; short tail, with primaries extending just to the start of tail; lower mandible entirely dull orange. It was silent.	1	9/5/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Tree, hawthorne
25	Acadian Flycatcher In the trees over the stream at Ely Ford. Another in the campground. Both calling "Pizza!"	2	8/8/93	Lacey Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., IA	Woods
26	Eastern Phoebe Last.	1	9/12/93	Walton Lake, Fairfield, IA	Trees
27	Great Crested Flycatcher Heard on 8/30. Saw a single in the same place on 9/1, 9/4, 9/7 (last).	2	9/7/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Railroad easement
28	Black-capped Chickadee Maximum for one bush: twenty chickadees, making a lot of noise.	20	9/18/93	Walton Lake, Fairfield, IA	Bush
29	Red-breasted Nuthatch My earliest Iowa fall record. Also in my yard regularly from October 19 to November 29.	1	9/2/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees, conifer
30	Carolina Wren They've been around all summer	2	8/14/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Residential area

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31	Carolina Wren They sing loudly every morning at dawn. They apparently nested in the area and were constantly around all summer and in fall at least through 10/25/93. I saw one in my back yard on 11/13/93.	1	9/2/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Residential area
32	Winter Wren	1	9/23/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
33	Golden-crowned Kinglet There were several around my yard for three days, October 24-26. Then this one appeared briefly on November 7.	1	11/7/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees
34	Ruby-crowned Kinglet MAX	25	9/23/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
35	Ruby-crowned Kinglet Last	1	10/30/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Tree, hawthorne
36	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher First and last I saw this fall.	1	8/24/93	Round Prairie Park, Jefferson Co., IA	Trees
37	Swainson's Thrush Buffy spectacles; no reddish apparent on upperparts. I see Swainson's much more often in spring than in fall, so this is noteworthy to me.	1	9/2/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Viburnum berries
38	Hermit Thrush	1	10/18/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees
39	American Robin Last. A very subdued bird.	1	11/27/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Hawthorne tree
40	Gray Catbird Maximum	11	9/7/93	Chautauqua Pk, Fairfield, IA	Trees

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41	Gray Catbird <i>Last was one on 10/4/93</i>	3	9/20/93	Chautauqua Pk, Fairfield, IA	Trees
42	Brown Thrasher Last	1	10/29/93	Jefferson Co. Park, Fairfield, IA	Forest edge
43	Solitary Vireo This is a pretty good morning in my yard.	1	9/23/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Hawthorne tree
44	Yellow-throated Vireo My only fall record in Iowa.	1	9/10/93	Chautauqua Pk, Fairfield, IA	Trees
45	Philadelphia Vireo First one I've ever found in Jefferson County. Line through eye. Yellow below, including undertail coverts; no wing bar. LAST: 9/23, in my yard!	1	9/8/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
46	Golden-winged Warbler WOW! In my yard!	1	9/23/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Hawthorne tree
47	Tennessee Warbler First in Fairfield this fall on 9/5; also 1 on 9/6, 9/8, 9/15, 9/16.	1	9/5/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Railroad easement
48	Tennessee Warbler My latest fall record. I got good, clear, closeup video footage of this bird, showing yellowish underparts with white undertail coverts, thin black eye stripe, supercilium.	1	10/20/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Tree, hawthorne
49	Orange-crowned Warbler My earliest fall record in Iowa by 2 days. Drab olive green; murky breast streaks; dingy, pale yellow undertail coverts; no wing bars; face quite plain, without conspicuous eyebrow; a fleck of yellow on the side of upper breast, where it sort of peeks out from under the edge of the wing. (I have noticed this on many orange-crowns, have never seen it described in print as a field mark.)	1	9/1/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
50	Orange-crowned Warbler Last.	1	10/20/93	Rural area, Fairfield, IA	Forest edge

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51	Nashville Warbler	2	9/5/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Railroad easement
	First on 9/5. Also saw one, same place, on 9/7. Saw one in my back yard on 9/22/93. (White between yellow breast and yellow undertail coverts; eyering; grey hood, yellow throat.)				
52	Nashville Warbler	1	10/19/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees
	Last. Also saw one in the same place on 10/17/93. These are my latest dates for this species.				
53	Northern Parula	1	9/9/93	Chautauqua Pk, Fairfield, IA	Trees
	Very bright yellow throat and breast, but a sort of waist between throat and breast; blue grey above; wide white wing bar; broken eyering; crescents above and below eye. I couldn't see the greenish patch on back because of angle. LAST: 9/23				
54	Yellow Warbler	1	9/7/93	Waterworks Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
	These warblers breed in Fairfield, but this is the only one I've seen this fall				
55	Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	8/31/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Railroad easement
	Chartreuse on top, white eye ring. Pretty bird! Saw 2 more at same place on 9/5, 9/7, 9/9, 9/15. Another one in Fairfield on 9/16				
56	Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	10/17/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Tree, hawthorne
	Last. In a tree, close and at eye level from my second-storey living room window. Chartreuse crown, conspicuous eye ring. Not quite so brightly colored as most fall chestnut-sideds.				
57	Magnolia Warbler	1	9/4/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Railroad easement
	Bright yellow below, except for undertail coverts, which were white; and streaks on flanks and lower back; grey head; back greener; eyering; wing bars; yellow rump.				
58	Cape May Warbler	1	9/4/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
	A male. Reddish and pale yellow on cheek; streaks below, esp on flanks; yellow rump.				
59	Cape May Warbler	1	9/11/93	Lisa Messenger's pond, Fairfield, IA	Trees
	imm. Cape May: yellow lower border to cheek; fine streaks on yellowish breast; wide white wing bar; song high faint ts ts ts ts. In willows growing out of small cattail pond.				
60	Yellow-rumped Warbler	1	10/30/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Trees
	Last. Also seen in Fairfield 10/18, 19, 20, 22. Two on 10/26.				

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61	Black-throated Green Warbler	1	9/5/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
	This was a beautiful male. It was the first I saw this fall, and a warbler I have not very often found in Jefferson County. Saw another in my back yard on 9/22/93. Last one: 10/7/93, in my back yard.				
62	Blackburnian Warbler	1	9/2/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
	FIRST, on 9/2/93: Deep orangy yellow (but not quite orange) throat; dark back; light breast; white belly and undertail coverts; black streaks on flanks; dark grey line through eye and sort of a messy cheek patch, with yellow going around behind the patch on face, and a bit of pale yellow right below the eye; wing bars. High in trees. MAX: 2 at same place on 9/7; LAST: 1 on 9/9.				
63	Bay-breasted Warbler	1	9/5/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Railroad easement
	FIRST: 9/5 - Greenish uppers, lightly streaked on back but not on breast; white wingbars; suggestion of dark line through eye; whitish belly and undertail coverts. MAX: 2 on 9/9 (1 with chestnut flanks); singles in Fairfield on 9/6, 9/10, 9/15, and 9/16. LAST: 9/23 in Fairfield				
64	Black-and-white Warbler	1	8/31/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Railroad easement
	Saw 1 in same place, 9/1; 9/2; 9/4 (beautifully crisp female); 9/6; 2 on 9/7 and 9/8 and 9/9				
65	American Redstart	2	9/2/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Railroad easement
	Also saw 1 at same location on 9/5; 2 on 9/6; 1 on 9/7; 1 on 9/10 LAST: 9/23				
66	Ovenbird	1	8/31/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Forest floor
	Also saw one along railroad easement through Chautauqua Park on 9/5/93, which was a morning of many warblers. One in same place but up in a tree on 9/7; 1 in undergrowth on 9/8				
67	Northern Waterthrush	1	9/11/93	Lisa Messenger's pond, Fairfield, IA	Pond
	In cattails in pond; bobbing tail; throat finely streaked on sides, not at center; eyebrow was white but did not widen behind eye; white underparts; bill smaller than Louisiana.				
68	Common Yellowthroat	3	9/11/93	Lisa Messenger's pond, Fairfield, IA	Pond
	Maximum. I thought yellowthroats were pretty scarce this year.				
69	Wilson's Warbler	1	9/4/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
	First of season. Yellow warbler with yellow face and yellower supercilium, remains of a black cap. LAST: 9/23				
70	Canada Warbler	1	9/2/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Railroad easement
	Yellow eyering; solid olive-grey upperparts, with no wingbars; bright yellow underparts, except undertail coverts, which were white; short grey streaks on upper breast below throat formed a broad "necklace." LAST: 9/23/93.				

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71	Summer Tanager	2	8/8/93	Lacey Keosauqua, Van Buren Co., IA	Forest Edge
	A male and female were in the campground at the park. The male perched briefly on what appeared to be a nest under construction (in August!?). Seen with Gabriel Hartman				
72	Scarlet Tanager	1	9/23/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Hawthorne tree
	Yellow with black wings. Eats a berry				
73	Northern Cardinal	1	11/28/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Feeding station
	An ivory-colored cardinal, with red in crest and wings, has been at my feeder for several days. I believe it's a partially albino female, which is lacking the black pigmentation. There is no black on the face and no dark shading in the wings. Yet the red is in the same places it is found in the normal females. This is an ethereally beautiful bird.				
74	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1	9/12/93	Walton Lake, Fairfield, IA	Trees
	Last				
75	Indigo Bunting	1	8/28/93	Chautauqua Park, Fairfield, IA	Trees
	Young male, splotchy patchy dark on 8/28. Female at same place on 9/6 (LAST)				
76	Chipping Sparrow	1	9/12/93	Red Rock Reservoir, Marion Co., IA	Roadside
	Two immature cowbirds pursued a Chippy on foot at the picnic area by the south tail waters.				
77	White-throated Sparrow	7	10/30/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Residential area
	Max. Two were still frequenting my yard on 11/30/93.				
78	Eastern Meadowlark	1	10/20/93	Walton Lake, Fairfield, IA	Roadside
	Singing "Oh sweet Róse-marie" from fence. Last.				
79	Common Grackle	1	11/13/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Residential area
80	Purple Finch	1	9/9/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Tree, hawthorne
	First this fall, and unusually early for my yard.				

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81	Pine Siskin	1	11/3/93	My back yard, Fairfield, IA	Feeder, niger
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Finally showed up in Fairfield on November 3, long after the first reports of it in other parts of the state.