

FIRST RECORD, continued

trix 5 was adult), 3.5 mm. The tips of both webs of rectrix 2 were emarginated. Most of these measurements were indicative of either species, but the width of rectrix 5 was at the high end of measurements for immature male rufous (range: 2.7 mm - 3.6 mm), and outside the range for immature male Allen's (range: 1.7 mm - 2.6 mm) (Stiles 1972). In addition, the very emarginated rectrix 2 was diagnostic for Rufous (Stiles 1972).

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with copious information. We also sincerely appreciate the identification assistance from Peg Walsh, David Johnson, and Joe Milosevich who came four times to photograph the bird. Finally, thanks to the assistance and care from Dr. David Willard and Thomas Schulenberg in preparing the specimen and housing it at the Field Museum.

Ellen B. and Sherwin Strauss
20424 Achilles Ave.
Olympia Fields, IL 60461



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SECOND RECORD, continued

seconds when the bird flew directly into the cage. Like a precision SWAT team, we immediately began measuring and photographing the bird. In 10 minutes, we measured bill length and wing chord, then plucked three tail feathers, two gorget feathers, and two mantle feathers. Numerous photographs crucial to specific identification were taken. The bird was released and continued to use our feeders, appearing unharmed by the experience.

Identification

Photos showed rufous coloring on all the tail feathers. This eliminated both Calliope (*Stellula calliope*) and Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*) of any sex or age and all other hummingbird species except for Rufous (*Selasphorus rufus*) or Allen's Hummingbirds (*S. sasin*) (Stiles 1972).

Our next step was to age and sex the bird. We noticed there were no spotted feathers in the intramammary region (the upper throat bordering the

base of the bill). This area was clean white. The spotted feathers farther down the sides of the throat had pale edgings restricting the color to the feather shaft, which is indicative of an immature female of either species.

In most cases, the widths of rectrices 1 (central tail feathers) and 5 (outer tail feathers) will prove a bird's identity (Goetz 1987), but there is a zone of overlap between the largest Allen's and smallest Rufous. Measurements above 8.4 mm for rectrix 1 and 3.3 mm for rectrix 5 indicate Rufous Hummingbird.

In our specimen, both rectrices were almost 9 mm wide. Rectrix 5 appeared to be at least 4 mm wide. The wing chord measured 46 mm. These measurements fit the immature female Rufous Hummingbird. Other features including feather shape and proportion of colors on the tail feathers, point secondarily to the bird's identity.

This is the second record for Rufous Hummingbird in Illinois. Our bird was last seen 15 January 1994.

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Robert F. Danley
2201 Clay St.
Murphysboro, IL 62966



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Editor's Note: Only persons with special banding permits are allowed to band and examine birds. IOS does not encourage haphazard trapping or handling of birds to determine identification.