

Fifth Report of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee

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Evaluations by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee ("IORC," or "the Committee") are reported here for a total of 137 records, including 101 accepted records of 63 species, and 36 unaccepted records of 30 species, plus two corrigenda records. A total of 86 observers contributed specimens, descriptions, photographs or video documenting the records included in this report. Included herein

are nearly all 1997 and 1998 reviewed species evaluations and four records prior to 1997. Some records are still in dispute and the Committee is, as of this publication, still reviewing those records. If a photograph was published in *Field Notes*, *North American Birds* or *Meadowlark*, we have referenced those publications for that bird record evidence. Any errors of omission are the fault of the authors. In the future the Committee will also attempt to

publish more judgments on historical bird records.

It should also be noted that the Committee has published an official list of bird species accepted for the state of Illinois. This publication is the Checklist of Illinois State Birds (Illinois Ornithological Records Committee, 1999). The checklist may be obtained from the Illinois Ornithological Society.

Format: The format of this report follows the conventions used in the first through fourth reports of the Committee (Goetz and Robinson 1988; Goetz 1989; Goetz 1990; Johnson, Deaton, and Clyne 1998). The records below are divided into two major groups: Accepted and Unaccepted. Each of these groups is then further divided into Review List Records and Other Records. The nomenclature and sequence of species conforms to that of the American Ornithologists' Union seventh checklist (1998) and its supplements.

An accepted record is entered with the locality including the standard abbreviation for the county, the date, and in parentheses the IORC record number (the first four characters of which give the year of the first observation), and the initials of the primary observer(s) who contributed specimens, descriptions, and/or photographs. Photographic evidence is noted following a contributor's name by an asterisk (*); when the photographic evidence is known to be a videotape, a "v" is appended (*v); *p,v indicates both photographic and video

evidence presented by same contributor. Many contributing photographers also submitted written descriptions—a practice the Committee encourages. If the observers who first discovered the bird submitted documentation, their initials are set off from the initials of other contributors by a semicolon. Initial observers who did not submit documentations are not always listed. For specimen records, a sharp (#) precedes an abbreviation for the institution holding the specimen, along with that institution's catalogue number of the specimen.

We have made an attempt to reference published photographs and brief accounts (such as seasonal highlights published in MJIB) by journal number and page. Articles are cited by author and date and are indexed in the list of references. Seasonal highlights in MJIB dealing with first state records are treated as articles.

Similar information is provided for Unaccepted Records, except the observers remain anonymous, and we give a brief explanation of why the record was not accepted.

Information on the age and sex

of the birds reported may be an opinion of the person(s) submitting the evidence and is not necessarily an accepted position of the Committee. All other remarks are the authors', although most of the information comes from the Committee files, which are now stored in Springfield, Illinois, as part of the Avian Ecology Program, Natural Heritage Section, Department of Natural Resources.

In several cases there are discrepancies between the details presented here vs. other published sources, especially regarding dates of occurrence. The data in this report provide the Committee's best assessment of all available information. We have not generally commented on records published elsewhere with more limited data than contained here, but we have made explicit note of apparent errors in published data. The Committee accepts responsibility for any inaccuracies or misrepresentations of information herein. Errors that come to our attention will be published as corrigenda in a future IORC report.