Tenth 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 46 records, including 42 accepted records of 33 species plus a hybrid, and four unaccepted records of three species. A total of 54 observers contributed descriptions or photographs documenting the records included in this report. Included herein are reviewed species evaluations by the current committee from 2002 though 2004, plus some earlier records that had not beeen previously evaluated, as well as records that earlier incarnations of the committee evaluated, but never published. The committee is examining the archives of IORC to bring the publications of the committee up-to-date. We will publish early records that the committee has already evaluated without further evaluation by the committee. Records assigned an IORC reference number, but that have not been evaluated previously by the committee, will be evaluated by the current committee. We anticipate being current with the historical records within two to three years.

Format: The format of this report follows the conventions used in the first through ninth reports of the committee (Goetz and Robinson 1988; Goetz 1989; Goetz 1990; Johnson, Deaton and Clyne 1998; Johnson and Stotz 1999; Stotz and Johnson 2000; Stotz 2001; Stotz and Johnson 2002; Stotz and Johnson 2003). 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 sequence of species conforms to that of the seventh edition of the American Ornithologists' Union's checklis, (1998) and its supplements, through the 44th (Banks et al. 2003).

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. Similar information is provided for unaccepted records, except the observers remain anonymous, and a brief explanation of why the record was not accepted is given. 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 observer(s) 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 (#) follows 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 the *Meadowlark*) by journal number and page. Articles are cited by author and date and are indexed in the list of references. Seasonal highlights in the *Meadowlark* dealing with first state records are treated as articles. If a photograph was published in *North American Birds* or the *Meadowlark*, an attempt has been made to reference the publication of those photographs. Any errors of omission are the fault of the authors.

Several records that were seen by several to many observers were documented by only one or two of these observers. The committee would like to encourage all observers to document all the review list species they see. Documentation by multiple observers can provide additional evidence and support for the identity of rarities. Often records that have not been accepted suffer from incomplete information, a problem which additional documentation by other observers could help overcome.

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 Chicago, Illinois, in the Bird Division of the Field Museum.

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 that are published elsewhere with more limited data than contained here, but we have made explicit note of apparent errors in published data. The