

PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE
2469 Hammertown Road
Narvon, PA 17555

June, 10, 1996

Barb and Frank Haas
2469 Hammertown Road
Narvon, PA 17555

Dear Barb and Frank,

Thank you for submitting details on the female Eurasian Wigeon you saw at Prawls Hollow Rd. Lancaster County on 18 December 1994 to P.O.R.C. After careful review, we regret that we are unable to accept this record. A few members felt that a more detailed description would have been helpful. This does not mean of course, that the bird was not a female Eurasian Wigeon, merely, that the details did not allow for a concrete determination.

We hope that this does not discourage you from submitting documentation on any rare birds you find in the future. Please be encouraged to send as much detail as possible.

Sincerely,


Nick Pulcinella
Chairman

Record # 135-02-1994

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*)
Lancaster County
Barbara and Franklin Haas

On 18 December 1994, while participating in the Southern Lancaster County Christmas Bird Count, we found two Eurasian Wigeons at a small pond on Prawls Hollow Rd. The drake was unmistakable and is a bird that has been found on the last several CBCs in our section, but at a different pond. That particular pond had been drained this year. That pond was significantly larger than the one in which we found the Eurasian Wigeon this year. In the past it has hosted ± 60 wigeon, numerous Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), and occasionally some other waterfowl. The "old" pond was some distance from a good viewing point, mainly because the property owners were not very cooperative about birders being there, and we were never certain (although we felt reasonably confident) that a hen Eurasian Wigeon was mixed in the flock.

On this day when we arrived to check out the small pond there were only nine (9) ducks on the pond, 7 Mallard and a drake and hen Eurasian Wigeon. This pond is no more than 30 yards from the road so viewing conditions were ideal from our vehicle. It became obvious when we looked at the pair that the hen was also of this species. First of all, it was definitely a female duck. It was with a male Eurasian Wigeon and was the same size and shape. Its overall coloration was uniform grayish, without the subtle contrast of the grayer head and rufous breast of the Am. Wigeon. When we tried to take a photograph all 9 ducks flew and the gray axillaries were noticed.

An interesting speculation. Since the first Eurasian Wigeon was found on this CBC in 1989 it has been annual. The fact that the pond on which it was first found is no longer extant, but that the species returned to the same general area votes strongly in favor of site fidelity for this bird. And, I also suspect that there may have been at least one female Eurasian Wigeon in the past, although unfortunately never documented due to the reasons cited above. One note of uncertainty exists, however. Can this new pond  nutritionally support these birds?

Barbara M. Haas

Franklin C. Haas

~~Photo of the photo sitting on the way by Bob Schwartz~~

~~7/8/95~~

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 2 of 2

Species: Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*)

Date of Sighting: 18 December 1994 to 18 December 1994

Location: PRAWLS HOLLOW RD

County: LANCASTER

Observer(s): Barb & Frank Haas

Date of Submission: 1995

Submitted by: Barb & Frank Haas

Written Description: YES Photo: NO Specimen: NO

Recording: NONE

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas			X					
N. Pulcinella			X					
E. Kwater				X				
R. Ickes			X					
G. McWilliams				X				
P. Schwalbe			X					
S. Feldstein				X				
TOTALS			4	3				
DECISION				X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

F. Haas

Date:

5-1-96

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: Eurasian Wigeon (Anas penelope)

Date of Sighting: 18 December 1994 to 18 December 1994

Location: PRAWLS HOLLOW RD

County: LANCASTER

Observer(s): Barb & Frank Haas

Date of Submission: 1995

Submitted by: Barb & Frank Haas

Written Description: YES Photo: NO Specimen: NO

Recording: NONE

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas			X					
N. Pulcinella			X					
E. Kwater						X		
R. Ickes			X					
G. McWilliams				X				
P. Schwalbe			X					
S. Feldstein			X					
TOTALS			5	1		1		
DECISION			X					

Comments:

Send for Second Round

Signature (Secretary):

F. C. Haas

Date:

9-19-95