

PA Rare Bird Report

<b>Submission Date</b>	2014-11-01 10:08:14
<b>Observer's Name</b>	August Mirabella
<b>E-mail</b>	augustmirabella@aol.com
<b>Phone</b>	2153680594
<b>Observer's Address</b>	Street Address: 1443 Wheaton Lane City: North Wales State / Province: Pennsylvania Postal / Zip Code: 19454 Country: United States
<b>Names of additional observers</b>	Judy Mirabella. Later in the morning Devich Farbotnik.
<b>Species (Common Name)</b>	Cattle Egret
<b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>	Bubulcus ibis
<b>Number of individuals</b>	1
<b>Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)</b>	Probably adult basic due to obvious yellow bill.
<b>Observation Date and Time</b>	10-26-2014 9:00 AM
<b>Did you submit this sighting to eBird?</b>	Yes
<b>Link to eBird checklist</b>	<a href="https://ebird.org/admin/reviewSub.htm?subID=S20358123">https://ebird.org/admin/reviewSub.htm?subID=S20358123</a>
<b>County</b>	Bucks
<b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>	Uhlerstown, Tinicum Twp.
<b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>	Giving Pond, part of Delaware Canal State Park
<b>GPS coordinates of sighting</b>	40.5389168, -75.070138
<b>Habitat</b>	Former quarry, now state park lake for fishing/boating. Adjacent horse pasture with three horses present may have attracted bird to the area.
<b>Distance to bird</b>	200-250 ft. at closest
<b>Viewing conditions</b>	Clear sunny
<b>Optical equipment used</b>	Zeiss Binoculars, Leica Scope
<b>Description</b>	Small white egret, with short neck, dark relatively short legs, and smaller bright yellow bill.

**Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)**

First saw flying up and down the lake. Joined a flock of gulls when an eagle approached and soared for awhile before going with the gulls to the Delaware River. Later returned and sat in various trees.

**Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)**

Small size, short legs, short neck, and short bright bill made it clearly not a Great Egret The same features plus the bright yellow color of the bill and black leg color eliminated the Snowy Egret adult (yellow feet on black legs, black bill with yellow lores) or juv. (Pale or partially black bill and legs) or Little Blue heron juv. (dark tip with gray base to bill, yellow-green legs).

**Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:**

Devich Farbotnik arrived later in morning after being advised and also saw it. I assume he got pictures and will submit them.

**Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)**

Yes. See above.

**During**

None

**After**

Sibley

**Click to edit**

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