

295-01-1976

REPORT OF AN UNCOMMON OR RARE SPECIES AND/OR HIGH NUMBERS

SPECIES: Marbled Godwit, Limosa fedoa,

OBSERVER(S) WRITING ACCOUNT: Paul Schwalbe

DATE OF OBSERVATION: 11 - 13 October 1976

DATE OF REPORT: 9 November 1995

LOCATION: South Avis, Clinton Co., PA.

SIGNIFICANCE OF OBSERVATION: The first and only record for Clinton Co., Pa.

CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH OBSERVATION WAS MADE: Notes on weather conditions before and during the observations are not available - it was too long ago to remember.

HABITAT: The bird was seen for the three day period in the agricultural fields found at South Avis. At this date the fields only contained crop-stubble.

DESCRIPTION: The description as it exist can be found on the attached sheet of paper. This is a carbon copy of the fall Season Report, for 1 Aug. to 30 Nov. 1976, which was sent to George Hall, the compiler for the Appalachian Region section of American Birds, on 9 December 1976. Fortunately, enough was included in the report to eliminate the other three godwits.

SLIDES: The bird is too small for a detailed plumage inspection, but on a screen the upcurved bill can be seen.

ELIMINATION OF OTHER SPECIES: See attached report to George Hall.

EXPERIENCE (with this and similar species): At that time I had seen this species on several occasions, during migration on the east coast and in North Dakota.

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT: Either 7 X 50 binoculars or 8 X 40 Leica Trinovid, I don't remember which.

REFERENCES/LITERATURE CITED: None.

Paul Schwalbe

This is page 2 of report for American Birds sent to
 Dr. George Hall, 9 Dec 1976, for the fall season of 1976.

- North. Harrier - 1 @ BESP 6 Oct, Schwalbe; 3 @ BESP 17 Oct, Claster & Hazlett.
 Osprey - 1 @ BESP 5 & 25 Aug., Claster & Hazlett.
 Peregrine Falcon - 1 adult @ BESP 2 Oct, no markers seen on bird, Claster & Hazlett
 Turkey - reported as down in numbers this year by the hunters. 12 at Lock
 Haven 16 Oct, Claster & Hazlett.
 Virginia Rail - 2 @ Antis Fort week of 15-21 Sept, James Vanemon.
 Sora - 3 @ Antis Fort 11 - 24 Sept, J. Vanemon.
 Am. Coot - common at BESP this fall.
 Am. Golden Plover - 24 @ Avis 16 Sept, J. Vanemon; 10 @ Avis 21 Oct, Schwarz &
 Schwalbe.
 Black-bellied Plover - 5 @ Avis 17 Sept, Vanemon.
 Solitary Sandpiper - 1 @ BESP 5 Aug, Claster & Hazlett.
 Pectoral Sandpiper - 20+ @ Avis 10 - 13 Oct, Schwalbe et.al.
 Semipalmated Sandpiper - 1 @ Avis 9 Oct, Schwalbe; 1 @ Lock Haven 10 Oct, Claster
 & Hazlett.
 Short-billed Dowitcher - 1 @ Lock Haven 17 Oct., Claster & Hazlett.
MARBLED GODWIT - The best bird of the year in our area. 1 bird present from the
 11 - 13 Oct. at Avis. Leisurely studied and photographed.
 However, when I first saw it I was somewhat puzzled since it was
 much more brownish underneath than the typical Marbled Godwit.
 It was seen well in flight on two occasions and it had no white
 wing-stripe or rump. The tail barring was dark brown on light
 brown, and the wing linings were cinnamon. Thus the other three
 (Hudsonian, Bar-Tailed and Black-tailed) were excluded. Merrill
 Wood said he knew of no other central Penna. record. First seen
 by Vanemon. Schwalbe et al.
 Bonapartes Gull - 1 @ BESP 5 Aug, Claster & Hazlett; 1 @ McElhattan 30 Nov, Vanemon.
 Caspian Tern - 1 @ BESP 22 Aug., Claster & Hazlett.
 Barn Owl - 1 @ BESP 11 Sept., many.
 Com. Nighthawk - no big migration noted, Claster & Hazlett.
 Red-headed Woodpecker - 1 @ Belles Springs 4 Aug, Claster & Hazlett.
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 3 & 5 Oct., Claster & Hazlett.
 Tree Swallow - 1 @ Lock Haven 10 Oct, Claster & Hazlett.
 Red-breasted Nuthatch - only one reported this fall. Present at Mackeyville last
 week of Nov.
 Brown Thrasher - 1, 24 Sept., Claster & Hazlett.
 Hermit Thrush - 1 @ Lock Haven 9 Nov., Hazlett.
 Eastern Bluebird - "large numbers" late Sept., Charles Schach.
 Golden-crowned Kinglet - 17 & 17 Oct., Claster & Hazlett.
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 7 Oct, Claster & Hazlett.
 Water Pipit - another good flight this year. 30 @ Avis 17 Sept, Vanemon; 150+
 @ Lock Haven 10 Oct, Claster & Hazlett; 15 @ Avis 10-12 Oct Schwal
 Cedar Waxwing - good flight this fall. 200 @ BESP 17 Oct, Vanemon.
 Philadelphia Vireo - 12 Sept @ Lock Haven, Claster & Hazlett.
 WARBLERS - started moving thru 28 Aug., Claster & Hazlett. The following were
 seen in Lock Haven during Sept. & Oct. : Tennessee, Nashville,
 Magnolia, Cape May, Yellow-rumped, Bl-th Green, Bay-breasted,
 Pine, Ovenbird, Wilson's & Canada. Claster & Hazlett.

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*)

Date of Sighting: 11 October 1976 to 13 October 1976

Location: SOUTH AVIS

County: CLINTON

Observer(s): Paul Schwalbe

Date of Submission: 1995

Submitted by: Paul Schwalbe

Written Description: YES Photo: YES 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							X
S. Feldstein			X					
TOTALS	5		2					
DECISION	X							

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

F. C. Haas

Date:

5-1-96