



409A-03-2006

Documentation for the PORC

Species: Eurasian Collared-Dove

Name: Cameron Rutt

Address: PO Box 223, Blooming Glen, PA 18911

Email: cr1193@messiah.edu

Phone Number: 215-453-9585

Other Observers: none

Location: The bird was observed perched on a telephone wire along route 89, 0.4 miles south of the intersection with Kimball Road. This is in Venango Township, Erie County.

Date and Length of time observed: June 13, 2006. The bird was observed for about 20 minutes from 9:55 AM-10:15 AM. I checked the area multiple times later that day and in subsequent days but I never was able to relocate the bird.

Optics: The bird was seen through both my Swarovski 8.5 by 42 EL binoculars and my Swarovski ST-80 scope with a 20x-60x zoom eyepiece. At the closest distance, I was probably only about 50-75 meters away from the bird.

Habitat and Behavior: During the course of the observation, I primarily observed the dove preening although it did become alert several times, perhaps due to nearby traffic. Route 89 is a fairly major road and at this specific location is bordered by a hayfield on the west side of the road and residential housing on the east side.

Weather: This particular morning was overcast as it was challenging to get sufficient lighting for pictures, but other than that I cannot remember weather specifics.

Description: The large chunky size, small head, and small thin bill all pointed to a dove or pigeon. This specific individual was noticeable even as I was driving by, mostly by its large size in relation to a Mourning Dove. The tail was also shorter and squared off at the tip. Overall, the bird was sandy colored with dark sooty brown primaries that were edged with buff. The wing coverts were also all tipped with a lighter buff color than the overall wing color. I don't know if this is present on all Eurasian Collared-Doves or if this feature is indicative of a juvenile.

The bird had a dark eye, black bill and an obvious black collar on its hindneck that was bordered with white. It appeared to have a pale, possibly light blue, orbital ring. The tail had a wide light band at the tip of the tail with a dark blackish base. When folded, a view from underneath gave the dove a white-tailed appearance with black outer webbing visible only along the base of the outer retrices. The upperside of the tail essentially was the same sandy coloration as the rest of the dove.

Similar Species: Ringed Turtle-Dove - Although not a wild species, this is a potential cause for confusion. However, the dark primaries, sandy coloration, and especially the dark outer web to the tail feathers clinches the identification as a Eurasian Collared-Dove. A Ringed Turtle-Dove would show paler primaries that are not contrasting with the rest of the wing, a generally whiter appearance, and white outer webs to its tail feathers.

Mourning Dove - This dove was easily separated from Mourning Dove by its larger size, squared tail tip, black neck collar, and lack of black wing spots among other characteristics.

Note: Included are two pictures that were digiscoped with a Sony Cyber-shot camera. The pictures have not been touched up at all. The tail pattern and especially the black outer webs to the outer tail feathers can be seen well in the picture of the dove preening its tail feathers. Even the light buff tips to the coverts can be seen in the picture of the bird just sitting on the wire.

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Eurasian Collared-Dove (Streptopelia decaocto)

Date of Sighting: 13 June 2006 to 13 June 2006

Location: VENANGO TOWNSHIP

County : ERIE

Observer(s): Cameron Rutt

Date of Submission: 2006

Submitted by: Cameron Rutt

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

Specimen: No

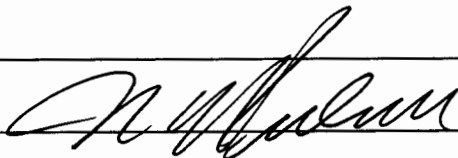
Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
R. Wiltraut	X							
A. Guarente	X							
T. Johnson	X							
J. Stanley	X							
E. Witmer	X							
J. Heller	X							
G. Malosh	X							
TOTALS	7							
DECISION	X							

Comments:

7/0

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

4/10/07