

PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE

2469 Hammertown Road

Narvon, PA 17555

September 25, 1997

Jeff Payne
RR 3 Box 87
Berlin, PA 15530

Dear Jeff,

Thank you for submitting documentation on the Rufous Hummingbird you saw in Berlin, Somerset County on 4 October 1996 to P.O.R.C. After careful review, we regret that we are unable to accept this record. The documentation and photographs submitted clearly show a female/immature Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird. In all probability this bird was a Rufous Hummingbird, but female/immature Rufous/Allen's Hummingbirds are very difficult if not impossible to identify in the field without in hand measurements. A small number of Allen's Hummingbirds have been documented in the southeast and gulf states and though extremely rare it is a possibility. The committee would rather err on the side of caution than to accept this type of record without in hand documentation.

This of course, does not mean the bird was not a Rufous Hummingbird, merely, that the record is not beyond reasonable doubt for acceptance

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 when submitting a report.

Sincerely,

Nick Pulcinella
Chairman

Record # 495-02-1996

cc. Scott Bastian











Tonight. White-throated blue

495-02-1996

Rufous on sides tail, rump

rufous on lower "eyebrow"
area w/ green on top of head

10/4/96
Berlin, PA
Somerset, CO



reverse white strip
showing between
wings and back

rufous $\frac{1}{2}$
way up back
at sides of face
tail and flanks
few iridescent
spots on throat
not speckled

left in camera which will try to
get at feeder. While watching a
ruffed grouse spent a lot of time
in front lawn and a fox squirrel
came



has 1 iridescent feather
on the side of gorget, central
~~is~~ tongue darker fire
hires

imm ♂ salpitrarius

Jeff Payne

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*)

Date of Sighting: 4 October 1996 to 4 October 1996

Location: BERLIN

County: SOMERSET

Observer(s): Jeff Payne

Date of Submission: 1996

Submitted by: Jeff Payne

Written Description: YES

Photo: ~~NO~~ 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				
S. Feldstein				X				
TOTALS			1	5				1
DECISION								

Comments: *Another Rufous/Allen's.*

Signature (Secretary):

J C Haas

Date:

8-16-97