

Rufous Hummingbird
Nov. 12, 2002

495-04-2002

Location:
Babe Webster
5568 Stump Rd.
Pipersville, Pa. 18947
Bucks Co.

Band # R54757
Species: RUHU
Age/sex: HY-M
Wing: 40.97
Tail: 26.5
Culmen: 16.96
Percentage of bill grooving: 75 (indicative of HY bird)
Most of gorget feathers missing, possibly as a result of impact with an object .
Weight: 3.84 g
Fat: 2

R5 width: Not critically measured (host did want me to pull a rect, was worried it would harm the bird) but was at least 3.75mm wide based on in-hand measurement, putting it well above Allen's threshold.

Distinguished from Allen's primarily by strong notching in R2, which is visible even in the poor photo (flash failed). Wing measurement is inconclusive as it is in overlap zone between RU/AL.

UNUSUAL SIGHTING DOCUMENTATION

Person Submitting: August Mirabella
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North Wales, PA 19454
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215-368-0594

495-64-2002

Species: Rufous Hummingbird (11/11/02-11/21/02)
Observers: Found by: "Babe" Webster (prefers her nickname)
Seen by: A. Mirabella and many others

Date Seen: 11/14/02 **Time:** mid-day

Where Seen: Plumstead Twp., Bucks Co.

Conditions: The bird was viewed with 7x42 Zeiss Binoculars and Leica APO77 Zoom Scope. It was a bright sunny day with mild temperatures. It was as close as 20 ft. but most views were at 40 - 50 ft.

Behavior & Habitat: Seen perched on high branch, feeding at feeder, and hawking insects at top of tree. Some flowers were still alive including Trumpet Honeysuckle but I didn't see it go to flowers.

Description: It was Ruby-throated Hummingbird size with mostly green upper parts except some rufous on the supercilium area. When sitting on the perch in bright sun, it appeared to have rufous on the rump and tail as well but I am not sure this did not show at all in a side view on the video. There also was rufous on the flanks, a white upper breast and lower belly, and throat with dark streaks. It had a depression on its lower throat/upper breast, which in the hand was apparently the result of missing feathers (see below). The folded wing primaries appeared dark. There was white crescent at the eye. Since this was apparently a young bird, the proof of species was obtained by capture and banding by Scott Wiedensaul and this is what he said: "This afternoon I banded an immature male rufous hummingbird, which had just appeared this morning at Babe Webster's house in Pipersville, Bucks County. The bird was feeding regularly at a feeder in Babe's yard despite the pouring rain, and was there at least through 4 p.m., a couple hours after we finished processing it and Babe released it. The hummer has a mostly green back with a lot of rusty flecking, and is missing most of the feathers on its lower throat (which my friend Mary gustafson at the Banding Lab thinks may have been a result of flying into a wire or other obstruction). The presence of a cleft on the R2 tail feather (a feature generally invisible except in the hand) cinched the ID."

Differentiation from Similar Species: See quote above.

Previous Experience: Have seen several over many years.

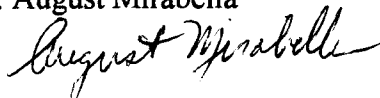
References during ID: Sibley Guide to Birds

References after ID: Sibley Guide to Birds & my videotape

Other Documentation: Videotape submitted with this report by A. Mirabella & Photos by Alan Brady

Date of report: 12/16/02

Signature of Observer: August Mirabella



Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Tabulation Form - Round One

Species: Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*)

Date of Sighting: 12 November 2002 to 21 November 2002

Location: PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP

County: BUCKS

Observer(s): Scott Weidensaul, Devich Farbotnik, Alan Brady and multiple observers

Date of Submission: 2002

Submitted by: Scott Weidensaul, Devich Farbotnik, Alan Brady

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

Specimen: No

Recording: Video

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
<i>[Signature]</i>								
G. Armistead	X							
D. Heathcote	X							
P. Guris	X							
J. Stanley	X							
E. Witmer	X							
B. Leberman	X							
M. Sharp	X							
TOTALS	7							
DECISION	X							

Comments:

Signature (Secretary): Date:

[Signature]

2/14/02