

PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE
2469 Hammertown Road
Narvon, PA 17555

June, 10, 1996

Ron French
3469 Limekiln Pike
Chalfont, PA 18914

Dear Ron,

Thank you for submitting details on the Clay-colored Sparrow you saw in Bedminster, Bucks County on 1 January 1995 to P.O.R.C. After careful review, we regret that we are unable to accept this record. The committee felt that the details submitted did not adequately rule out a winter plumaged Chipping Sparrow. Most members felt that a more detailed description of the head pattern would have been helpful. This does not mean of course, that the bird was not a Clay-colored Sparrow, merely, that the details did not allow for a concrete determination.

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.

Sincerely,

Nick Pulcinella
Chairman

Record # 814-01-1995

P.S.

If it is any consolation, I personally voted for acceptance

1-1-95

814-01-1995

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW - SPIZELLA PALLIDA

Small sparrow; light central crown stripe, pinkish bill; rump brownish drab, even-colored with back of bird; pinkish legs; overall impression light/pale overall, sitting and in flight; facial markings pale with darker cheek patch (brown). No gray anywhere on the bird.

Bill Bemer

LIGHT COLOR OF THIS SMALL SPARROW FIRST BROUGHT MY ATTENTION TO IT. I QUICKLY REALIZED IT WAS NOT A CHIPPING SPARROW (ONE IS COMING TO MY FEEDER AND WAS STUDIED IN DETAIL ON 12/29/94). I NOTED THE BIRD HAD A LIGHT-COLORED CROWN STRIPE, AND A LIGHT-COLORED BILL. THE RUMP WAS HARD TO SEE AT FIRST BUT AFTER CLOSE SCRUTINY I REALIZED IT WAS NOT GRAY BUT BROWN LIKE THE BACK OF THE BIRD.

Ron French

Bedminster, PA Bucks Co.

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: **Clay-colored Sparrow (Spizella pallida)**

Date of Sighting: **1 January 1995 to 1 January 1995**

Location: **BEDMINSTER**

County: **BUCKS**

Observer(s): **Ron French**

Date of Submission: **1995**

Submitted by: **Ron French**

Written Description: **YES** Photo: **NO** 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	4		1	1	
DECISION				X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

F. C. Haas

Date:

9-19-95