



UNUSUAL SIGHTING DOCUMENTATION

Person Submitting: August Mirabella
Species: Western Tanager
Observers: Found by Devich Farbotnik
Seen by: Many including myself

Date Seen: Dec.20 thru 29, 1997

Where Observed: Nockamixon State Park, Bucks Co. (North Side)

Conditions:

Description: This record (782-01-1997) was indicated as a Class III in PB 14:225. Nick Pulcinella, in a personal communication indicated that although a picture was submitted, it was not identified as to which of two Western Tanagers the picture applied since a second was seen at NSP on the south side on Dec. 21, 1997. Alan Brady has provided a copy of the picture he took of the north side bird to clarify the documentation and it is enclosed. I assume this will allow this record to be upgraded to Class I. Thank you.



WESTERN TANAGER

12/21/1997

Nockamixon SP, Bucks Co

782-01-1997

782-01-1997

Unusual Bird Report

Person submitting data Devich Farbatnik Date 1-16-98

Address PO Box 134 Revere MA 18953 Phone 847-2215

Observers Devich Farbatnik Date(s) Seen Dec 20, 1997

Stephen Farbatnik How long observed 10 min

Conditions of observation 2:00pm, sunny, 30 feet to bird, bauschtomp

(Time of day, weather, distance

binsenbars

to bird, optics, etc)

Bird was studied for about 10 min. before it flew out of sight

Behavior & Habitat

(what was the bird doing,

what habitat was it in.)

Perched on multi-flora rose bush

resting off the shoulder of Rt. 563

sapling deciduous trees, some covered with wild grapes
Crab apple, gray dogwood, red cedar & multi-flora

Species

Western Tanager

Number seen

1

Description

(Describe size, color & pattern

above & below, head, bill, wings,

tail, sex, age, etc. as needed -

use drawings on reverse side

if helpful.)

~~Yellow~~ yellow overall, wings olive green
with 2 white wing bars

→ mostly → in the following days, the bird was observed eating
wild grapes, gray dogwood, and cedar berries

Last known date seen Dec. 29th

Similar Species

(what similar species might it be -

how did you eliminate them

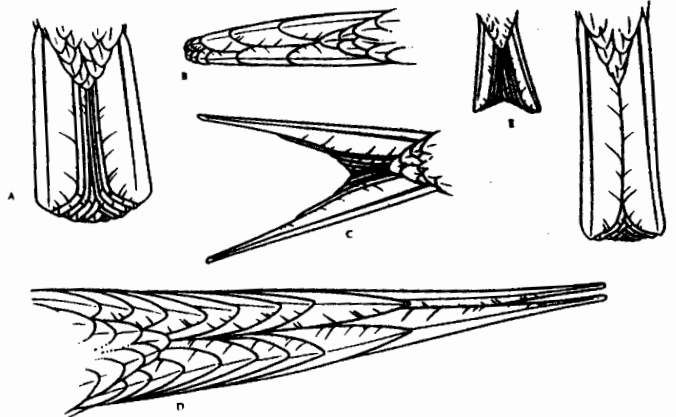
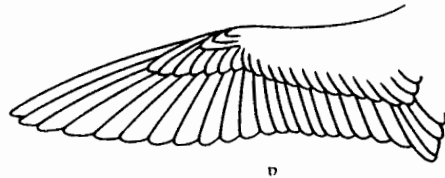
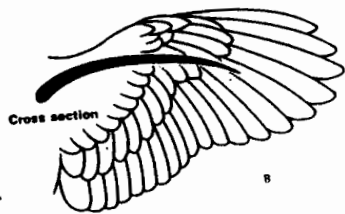
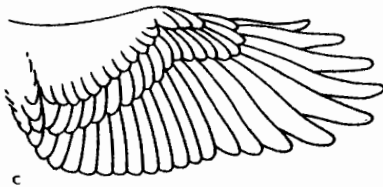
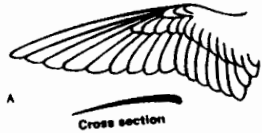
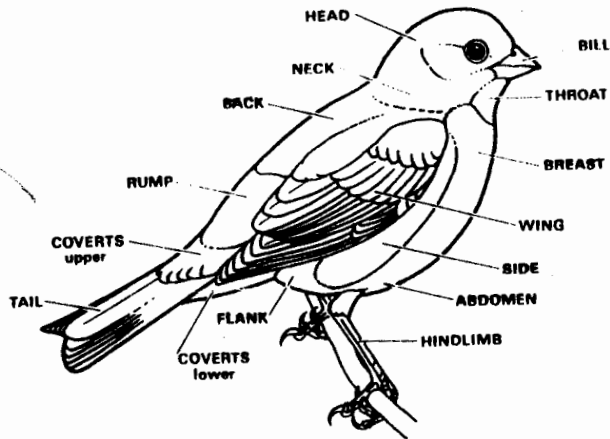
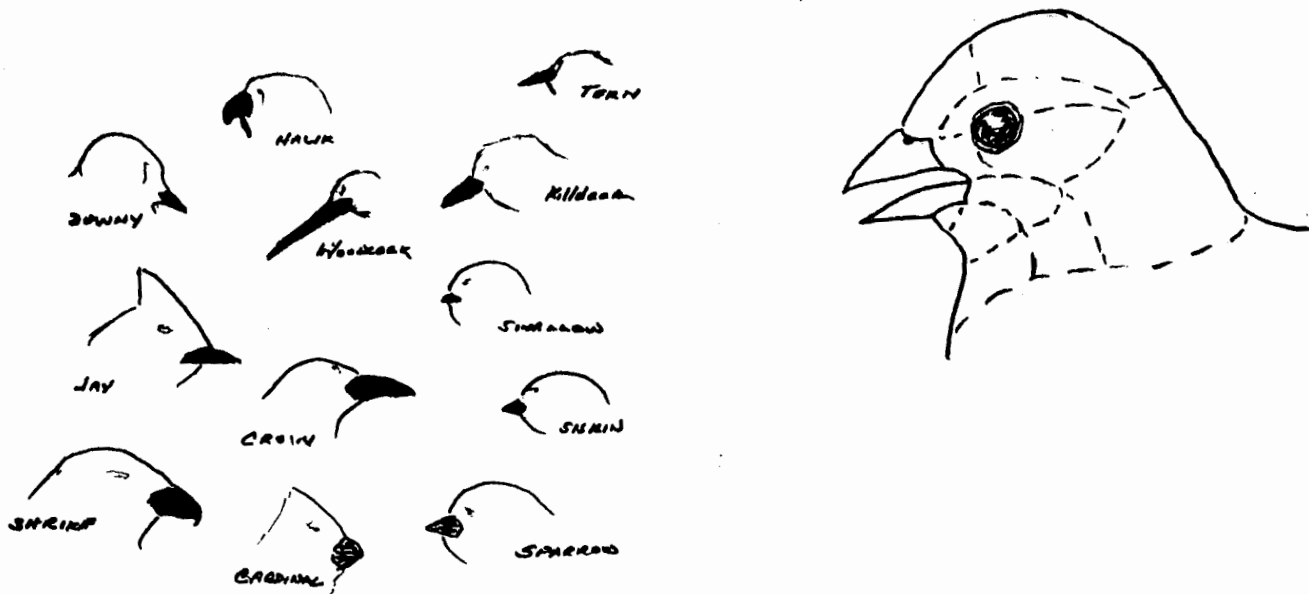
from consideration.)

Scarlet Tanager - Eliminated by
the 2 white wing bars which appeared
on this bird (and orange lower mandible)

↳ possibly stained by wild grapes

Baltimore Oriole - Eliminated by the
bill size and shape. Oriole's bill pointed,
this bird's bill was more ~~pointed~~ parallel

Call was like T-R-R-P-R-R-T unlike scarlet tanager:
rolled "rs"



SUPPORTING DETAILS: UNCOMMON OR RARE SPECIES/HIGH NUMBERS

CBC Name Upper Buckle Date ^{12/21/1997} ~~19 Dec~~ Compiler ~~Conroy~~ Rufe
Observer writing this account & date Sally Conyne

SPECIES Western Tanager NUMBER, AGE, SEX 1 - Winter, im? ♀?
Distance from bird(s) 30 ft Relative size of bird larger than Hermit Thrush
Smaller than Teal on

HEAD & NECK (Describe forehead, crown, auricular, malar region, median
line, etc.) Head & neck yellow with green tinge,
malar area slightly yellowish

EYE & LORES (Describe supercilium, ring, stripe, color, etc.) Irides dark
yellow with green/olive tinge

UPPER & LOWER MANDIBLES heavy, slightly decurved culmen grayish otherwise - orange
LEGS & FEET gray (not well observed) orange

UPPERPARTS (Describe nape, back, rump, upper tail coverts, etc.)
Olive-yellow but not well observed

UNDERPARTS (Describe throat, belly, side, flanks, crissum, etc.)
yellow - dullish

RECTRICES (Describe inner, middle, outer tail feathers, color pattern, shape,
etc.) Dark yellow olive

WING (Describe color, length, shape, linings, bars, coverts, leading &
trailing edges, etc.) yellow olive with two
strong yellowish wing bars

VOCALIZATION None

BEHAVIOR Feeding in fruiting trees (Choke cherry,
etc.) 35 feet to 3 ft. Aggressive chasing
Hermit Thrush & Purple Finches

Date of observation 19 Dec 97 Time 8:30 Weather ^{Calm} 32° Sky Clear

Duration of observation 20 min Bird - Sun orientation behind left - good light

Exact location 1901 Mailbox (just east) N. of Noximiksan (sp)

Habitat Roadside Scrub Other observers Andy Bauer & Diana Morris-Bauer

Optical equipment binoculars / scope

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS Originally found by Steve Farbotnik
Subsequently observed closely by
numerous observers. Also heard - vocalizing
AN ACCOMPANYING SKETCH OR PHOTOGRAPH CAN BE MOST HELPFUL western

"thurrp"

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Tabulation Form - Round One

Species: Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

Date of Sighting: 20 December 1997 to 29 December 1997

Location: NOCKAMIXON STATE PARK

County: BUCKS

Observer(s): Devich Farbotnik, Stephan Farbotnik, Sally Conyne, Alan Brady

Date of Submission: 2001

Submitted by: August Mirabella

Written Description: Yes

Photo: Yes

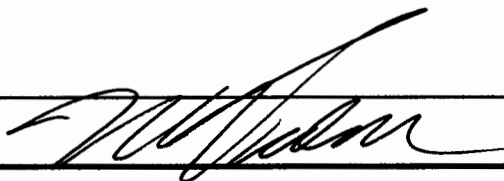
Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
G. Armistead	X							
D. H. Cothran D. Couchman	X							
P. Hess	X							
J. Stanley	X							
B. Reid E. Witman	X							
B. Leberman P. Rodewald	X							
M. Sharp	X							
TOTALS	7							
DECISION	X							

Comments: Previously accepted as Class III. Resubmitted now with further documentation. Copies of previous ballots included.

Signature (Secretary):



Date:

11/1/02