

PENNSYLVANIA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE
210 Welcome Ave. Norwood, PA 19074

7 February 2002

Arlene Brown
RR 2 Box 187
Millerton, PA 16936

Dear Arlene,

Thank you for submitting documentation on the Western Tanager in Jackson Township on 8 June 1999. After careful review, the Committee regrets that it has voted not to accept this record.

The vote against acceptance was unanimous and placed the record in the Committee's Class IV-B: "a record for which there exists insufficient evidence for evaluation."

Individual members expressed a variety of concerns, mainly that the description offered only a few very general elements to evaluate: "It was a female tanager" (why?). It had "very distinct wing bars" (what color or colors?). It had a "tanager beak" (what made it so?). In addition, the description that it was "yellow with dark wings and tail" raised concern, because a female Western Tanager has a prominent gray back.

One member felt that the description did not conclusively eliminate a first-spring female Scarlet Tanager with pale wing coverts forming bars.

The Committee emphasizes that non-acceptance does not mean the bird was not a Western Tanager, but rather that the description was insufficiently detailed for us to identify it conclusively.

We hope this does not discourage you from submitting documentation on any rarities you may find in the future.

Sincerely,



For the Committee:
Paul Hess, Chairman

Record No. 782-02-1999

782-02-1999

RARE BIRD REPORT

Species: WESTERN Tanager FEMALE Date of this Observation: 6-8-99

Date Found: 6-8-99 Last Date Seen: 6-8-99

Location: JOBS CORNERS

Township/City: JACKSON County: TIOGA

Person Writing this report: ARLENE BROWN

Address: RR 2 Box 187

MILLERTON, PA. 16936 Phone: 570-537-2730

Other Observers: _____

Who found the bird first: _____

Other documentation Included: (Circle all appropriate items)(Make sure all attached items are fully labeled)

Photograph

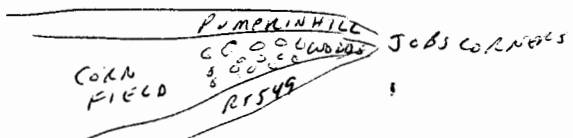
Audio Recording

Video Recording

If a Specimen, where is it stored? _____

Description: (Attach additional pages as needed—Please do not write on back of this form)

It was a female tanager, but with very distinct wing bars. It was yellow with dark wings + tail. Tanager beak - not oriole. I was watching a flock of chickadees when I spotted the tanager in a tree. The area is by a corn field, with an old orchard plus many berry bushes + cherry trees by a creek. It is a path of woods with st. 549 on one side, Pumpkin Hill Rd on the other side + open fields leading into it + this was just at the edge of the field + by the creek. There was a small patch of long needle pines nearby. It was up in the tree going branch to branch, but not as erratic as warbler probably feeding on insects.



It looked like the picture of western tanager plate 434 in the AUDUBON SOCIETY FIELD GUIDE TO N. AMERICAN BIRDS WESTERN REGION EIGHTH PRINTING 1977.

6-11-99 MUTE SWAN COWANESQUE LAKE JACKSON TWP. TIOGA COUNTY
LARRY + ARLENE BROWN - JOANNE STICKLER
RR 2 Box 187
MILLERTON, PA. 16936 537-2730 LAWRENCEVILLE PA. 537-6522

It was with Canada Goose - larger in size. White with orange beak, black neck. Neck was curved - S-shape not straight. We took pictures but they went good.

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Ballot - Round One

Species: Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviiana*)

Date of Sighting: 8 June 1999 to 8 June 1999

Location: JOBS CORNERS

County: TIOGA

Observer(s): Arlene Brown

Date of Submission: 1999

Submitted by: Arlene Brown

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

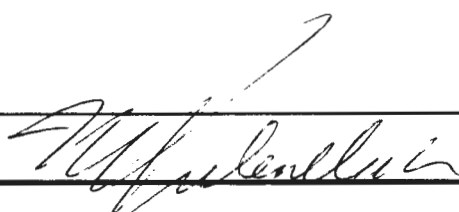
Specimen: No

Recording: Video

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A				Abstain
					Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	
G. Armistead					X			
D. Couchman					X			
P. Hess					X			
R. Ickes				X				
B. Reid					X			
P. Rodewald					X			
M. Sharp					X			
TOTALS				1	6			
DECISION					X			

Comments: 0/7/0

Signature (Secretary):



Date: 11/15/00