

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2018-01-29 15:38:31
Observer's Name	Nick Pulcinella
E-mail	npulcinella@gmail.com
Phone	6107160321
Observer's Address	613 Howard Road West Chester PA 19380 United States
Names of additional observers	Nick Pulcinella
Species (Common Name)	Western Tanager
Species (Scientific Name)	Piranga ludoviciana
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	Adult Female ?
Observation Date and Time	01-24-2018 1:30 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S42229094
County	Bucks
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Ottsville
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	733 Rolling Hill Road
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.432464, -75.169914
Habitat	Backyard Feeding Station
Distance to bird	20 yards
Viewing conditions	Partly sunny, Temp 35F
Optical equipment used	Leica 8x42 Ultravid

Description

Present in this yard since 1/16/18 and seen daily since. A female tanager similar in size and shape to a Scarlet Tanager (SCTA) but with these differences: overall green-gray color with the mantle a noticeably darker gray, wings blackish with a two distinct wingbars. Upper wing bar shorter, wider and yellowish-green. Lower wingbar thinner, longer and more white. Tertiaries were also edged with pale white. Head and rump were a brighter greenish-yellow than the mantle. Throat, breast and belly were the same greenish-yellow color. The undertail coverts were a bright yellow. The tail was mostly dark with some greenish feathers. The beak was similar in shape to a SCTA with the upper mandible grayish orange and lower mandible a pale orange. Eyes and legs were black. No vocalizations heard. Separation from female SCTA: SCTA has dark wings but lacks noticeable wingbars and has mostly uniform dark green upperparts from head to tail. Separation from female Summer Tanager (SUTA): SUTA is a larger bird, overall more yellow, with a larger pale colored bill. Separation from female Hepatic Tanager (HETA): HETA is accidental in eastern North America but with records from Quebec, Ontario and currently Michigan it needs to be considered. Female HETA is larger, heavier looking with a dark bill and a noticeable grayish check patch.

Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)

Feeding on suet and resting in a tree.

Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)

See Description Section

Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)

Yes. This bird's field marks eliminate similar species.

During

None

After

None

Supporting evidence (check all that apply)

Photograph

Upload images, audio, video or drawings

[Western Tanager 2018-01-24 Ottsville, Bucks Co., PA-11.jpg](#)



[Western Tanager 2018-01-24 Ottsville, Bucks Co., PA-113.jpg](#)



[Western Tanager 2018-01-24 Ottsville, Bucks Co., PA-58.jpg](#)



[Western Tanager 2018-01-24 Ottsville, Bucks Co., PA-73.jpg](#)

PA Rare Bird Report

Submission Date	2018-03-23 18:32:38
Observer's Name	August Mirabella
E-mail	augustmirabella@aol.com
Phone	2153680594
Observer's Address	1443 Wheaton Lane North Wales PA 19454 United States
Names of additional observers	Judy Mirabella
Species (Common Name)	Western Tanager
Species (Scientific Name)	Piranga ludoviciana
Number of individuals	1
Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)	adult female
Observation Date and Time	01-19-2018 2:30 PM
Did you submit this sighting to eBird?	Yes
Link to eBird checklist	https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S42084190
County	Bucks
Location (City, Borough, Township)	Bedminster Twp.
Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)	733 Rolling Hills Rd.
GPS coordinates of sighting	40.431817, -75.170751
Habitat	Suiet Feeder close to house with lawn and shrubbery.
Distance to bird	55
Viewing conditions	Sunny -looking west. Feeder in shade of houst
Optical equipment used	Zeiss 7x42 bins

Description	A smaller tanager about the size of Scarlet Tanager. Pale yellow underparts and yellowish tones to head and back but more gray on back and less gray on head. Wings and upper tail were blackish. Wings had two wingbars, with forward bar yellowish, the other whitish. Photos are definitive.
Behavior (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing)	Sitting in shrubbery near feeder or feeding at the suet feeder.
Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)	All other tanagers do not have the bright orange bill this bird had. Other tanagers do not have wingbars. This alone should be enough.
Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:	I saw it again on 2/12. Last was seen 2/17. Not sure if first seen 1/16 or 1/17. Scott Weidensaul posted it late 2/18 and said seen last couple of days. I took that to be 1/17 but others thought 1/16. I am going to ask the homeowners.
Are you positive of your identification ? (Why or why not)	Yes, easily separated from other tanagers when seen well by experienced observers.
During	none
After	Sibley Guide
Supporting evidence (check all that apply)	Photograph

Upload images, audio, video
or drawings



[Western Tanager 1-19-2018 Bedminster \(2\).JPG](#)



[Western Tanager 1-19-2018 Bedminster.JPG](#)

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