

RARE SPECIES REPORT

788-01-1999

SPECIES: Black-headed Grosbeak - male  
*Phoebe melanocephalus* NUMBER SEEN: One

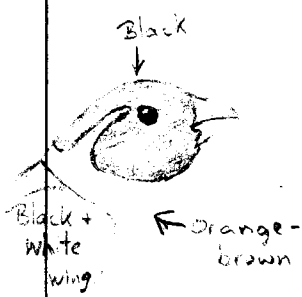
SIGHTING DATE: 7 May 1999 Friday SIGHTING TIME: 5:30pm to 5:40pm

LOCATION: COUNTY & STATE: Lancaster Co., PA.  
 DISTANCE & DIRECTION FROM NEAREST TOWN: 7 miles north of Manheim - 607 Woodland Dr., Manheim PA  
 DIRECTIONS, IF APPLICABLE:

HABITAT: Wooded 1 acre lot - mostly Poplar and Maples

SIGHTING CONDITIONS: LIGHTING: Partly sunny/ft.  
 DISTANCE: 20 to 30 ft.  
 EQUIP. USED: 10x50 Swifts  
 LENGTH OF SIGHTING: 10 min.

DESCRIPTION: VOICE: Not heard  
 SIZE: The same size as the Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and same shape.  
 PLUMAGE: Black head with partial orange-brown supercilium. Orange-brown collar and breast and belly. The upper breast was brighter, fading to the belly where white feathers were mixed in. White undertail coverts with no streaking. Large orange-brown rump patch. Black back w/ some orange-brown streaking. over →  
 ANATOMY (bill length, leg color, etc.): Conical Bill - Medium grey with the lower mandible slightly lighter. - Medium length legs black.  
 BEHAVIOR: Feeding on Black Oil Sunflower seeds with 2 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (3 adult males, 1 imm. male, 4 females) It was feeding for only 5-10 seconds at the feeder before the Rose-breasted Grosbeaks would chase it off the feeder and into a small tree.



FAMILIARITY WITH THIS & SIMILAR SPECIES: My last sighting of Black-headed Grosbeak was 1990 in Calif. where I saw 100+.

COMPARISON TO SIMILAR SPECIES: Imm. male Rose-breasted Grosbeak and red wing linings, white rump, some red feathers on a white breast. Wing and tail pattern similar.

HAS A PHOTOGRAPH BEEN TAKEN? NO IF SO, BY WHO?

Have any additional observers filled out a rare species report? If so, who? NO

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (Use back of form for more space):

SIGHTING & REPORT BY: Randy C. Miller

ADDRESS: 607 Woodland Dr. PHONE # (717) 664-3778  
 Manheim PA 17545-

SIGNATURE Randy C. Miller DATE: 9 May 1999

Plumage cont. - Wing linings yellow. Black wings with 2 white wing bars and with white upper primaries. Also white tipped tertials. The black tail was not seen well, but there was also white in the tail.

On Friday, 7 May 1999, I had been watching for approx. 1 1/2 hrs. 2 male Rose-breasted Grosbeaks at my bird feeder. If they saw any movement inside the house they would quickly fly off and perch out of sight only to return approx. 5-10 minutes later.

At 5:30pm I had 2 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks at my feeder, 3 adult males, 1 immature male, and 4 females. They were joined by a bird I recognized as a male Black-headed Grosbeak. I had my 10:50 Swifts already and my feeder is only 20 ft. away. We have big sliding glass doors to view the birds through.

The Black-headed Grosbeak would quickly fly in to my hanging bird feeder, only to be chased off after 5-10 seconds. He would fly 10 ft to a branch, face the feeder, then wait for an opening on the feeder and fly in again. After making mental notes on the field marks I slowly went for my camera in a back room.

When I came back there was only 2 male and 1 female Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. I watched until dark with no luck.

This should be Lancaster Co. 1st record of Black-headed Grosbeak.

788-01-1999

**Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee**

**Voting Ballot - Round One**

Species: Black-headed Grosbeak ( Pheucticus melanocephalus )

Date of Sighting: 7 May 1999 to 7 May 1999

Location: MANHEIM

County: LANCASTER

Observer(s): Randy Miller

Date of Submission: 1999

Submitted by: Randy Miller

Written Description: Yes

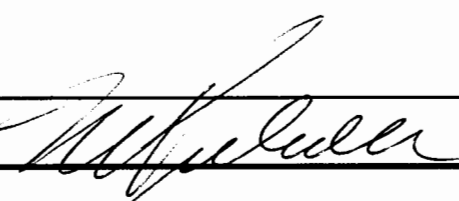
Photo: No

Specimen: No

Recording: ~~Yes~~ *NO*

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

Comments: 6/0/0

Signature (Secretary): 

Date: 11/15/00