

PENNSYLVANIA RARE BIRD REPORT FORM

This form is presented as a convenience and guide. It can be used if desired, but is not necessary for submitting a report. Species requiring documentation are those on the Review List or not on the Official List of Birds of Pennsylvania. Send documentation to:

Nick Pulcinella, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee  
613 Howard Ave.  
West Chester, PA 19380  
nickpulcinella@comcast.net

788-01-2606

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SPECIES (common and scientific name) Black headed grosbeak  
Subspecies, if known \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1 SEX(ES) male - adult

AGE(S) AND PLUMAGE(S) (e.g. immature; adult in breeding plumage; year for gulls; basic or alternate if you prefer those terms; state of molt if applicable): adult in breeding plumage

DATE OF OBSERVATION May 13, 2006 TIME 5:15 PM

LOCATION (city, borough, township) Williams Twp, Northampton County

EXACT SITE (e.g. name of park, lake, road) Koch residence, 1375 Roubouille Road

OBSERVER REPORTING:

Name Celine Koch  
Address 1375 Roubouille Road  
City Easton State PA ZIP 18042  
e-mail (optional) celine@verizon.net phone (optional) 610 253-6377

OTHER OBSERVERS (only those who saw and identified the bird with you): husband David

HABITAT (e.g. mowed field, woodland edge, any other details) backyard feeding area

DISTANCE TO BIRD 25 feet

VIEWING CONDITIONS (sky, weather, position of sun relative to you) Pouring rain

OPTICAL EQUIPMENT USED Brenton 10.5 x 43 Epoch's

DESCRIPTION (Include as much detail as you observed - size relative to other species present; "jizz" = e.g. posture, body shape, and proportions; colors and patterns of plumage; bill, eye, and leg characteristics; other features relevant to this individual):

This bird was perched in a Buddleia alternifolia/rombling rose thicket a few feet behind a sunflower seed feeder. It was fully visible from the front, albeit it was also frenched. I therefore looked at it extremely closely to be sure wet feathers weren't misleading me. Even my husband recognized it as a grosbeak but said it didn't look like a rose-leaved. The orange went all the way down its sides and was uniform - not very blotchy. Orange also creased across both sides of its neck bordering its all-black head. Its lower head was darker on top, lighter on bottom mandible. The

only thing this bird ~~could~~ could've been other than a BHGR was a BHGR/RBGR hybrid, but its coloring was uniform. Forgot to say that orange covered its whole breast.

(Please use an additional page if necessary.)

BEHAVIOR (be as detailed as possible about what the bird was doing) It sat still for the whole minute I saw it. Then it turned, hopped into the bushes, flew out the back + left.

VOCALIZATIONS NONE

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE IF ANY: - couldn't even get a camera.  
Photograph  Video recording  Audio recording  Drawing

Photographer/recorder/illustrator:  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ @ 1 minute view

Please include a copy of the photograph or recording with your report, and accompany it with a complete written documentation if the identification is obvious to you. If you made a drawing, please include it.

IF THIS IS A DEAD BIRD:  
General condition No  
If collected (by permit), location of specimen if known \_\_\_\_\_

SEPARATION FROM SIMILAR SPECIES (how you eliminated others) color of head, chest, head.

DISCUSSION - Anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:  
All I can say is it was the right time (if ever there is any) for migrant Grosbeaks & other species.

(Please use an additional page if necessary)

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH THIS AND/OR SIMILAR SPECIES  
I've seen 100's of rose-breasted's, yellow grosbeaks and BLUEGR's in the West. in the Tropics

ARE YOU POSITIVE OF YOUR IDENTIFICATION? (why or why not)  
Yes - 30 years birding.

REFERENCES CONSULTED:  
During observation \_\_\_\_\_  
After observation \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF THIS REPORT: June 2, 2006  
SIGNATURE OF OBSERVER Arlene F. Koch

## Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

### Voting Tabulation – Round One

Species: Black-headed Grosbeak *Pheucticus melanocephalus*

Date of Sighting: 13 May 2006 to 13 May 2006

Location: WILLIAM'S TOWNSHIP

County : NORTHAMPTON

Observer(s): Arlene Koch

Date of Submission: 2006

Submitted by: Arlene Koch

Written Description: Yes

Photo: No

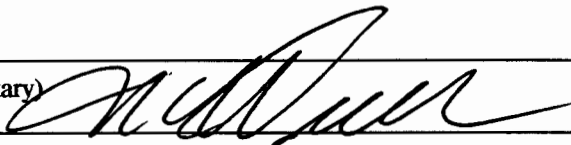
Specimen: No

Recording: No

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV-A	Class IV-B	Class IV-C	Class V	Abstain
R. Wiltraut			X					
A. Guarente			X					
T. Johnson				X				
J. Stanley			X					
E. Witmer			X					
J. Heller			X					
G. Malosh			X					
TOTALS			6	1				
DECISION			X					

Comments: 6/1

Signature (Secretary)



Date:

11/16/06