

861-01-1991

PORC

Brewer's Blackbird - Jan 12, 1991

This single bird was seen about 2:30 on 1/12/91 on a fresh manure strip near McAlevey's Ft, Huntingdon Co. I observed it from my car at a distance of 30-40 yards. There was bright sunshine at a 90° angle (on my right) from my line of vision to the bird.

The bird had a very light white or yellow eyes. Thus it had to be grackle, rusty blackbird, or Brewer's.

I ruled out common grackle due to size. The bird had a short tail (in comparison to grackles). I was able to compare its length directly with starlings and horned larks in the field in my binoculars at the same time as I observed this bird. Its length was very similar to starlings and slightly longer than horned larks.

I ruled out rusty blackbird based on plumage. This bird was black, not "rusty". On the bright sunlight, its head had a distinct purple sheen and its body had a green-blue sheen.

The bird kept mostly to itself although starlings, horned larks, mourning doves, rock dove and 1 water pipit were also on the manure strip.

I observed the bird for 25 minutes through 8.5 x 44 Swift Audobon binoculars.

Greg Grove  
RR 1, Box 483  
Petersburg 16669

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Brewer's Blackbird  
Huntingdon County  
Greg Grove

although starlings,  
Horned Larks, Mourning  
Doves (*Zenaida  
macroura*), Rock Doves  
(*Columba livia*), and  
one American Pipit  
(*Anthus rubescens*)  
were also on the  
manure strip.

This single bird  
was seen about 2:30  
p.m. on 12 January  
1991 on a fresh manure  
strip near McAlevy's  
Fort, Huntingdon  
County. I observed it  
from my car at a  
distance of 30-40  
yards. There was  
bright sunshine at a  
90° angle (on my  
right) from my line of  
vision to the bird.

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bird for 25 minutes  
through 8.5X44 Swift  
Audubon binoculars.

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Pennsylvania 16669

The bird had very  
light white or yellow  
eyes. Thus it had to  
be a Common Grackle  
(*Quiscalus quiscula*),  
Rusty Blackbird  
(*Euphagus carolinus*),  
or Brewer's Blackbird  
(*Euphagus  
cyanocephalus*).

I ruled out  
grackle due to size.  
The bird had a short  
tail (in comparison to  
grackles). I was able  
to compare its length  
directly with European  
Starlings (*Sturnus  
vulgaris*) and Horned  
Larks (*Eremophila  
alpestris*) in the  
field in my binoculars  
at the same time as I  
observed this bird.  
Its length was very  
similar to the  
starlings and slightly  
larger than the larks.

I ruled out Rusty  
Blackbird based on  
plumage. This bird was  
black, not "rusty." In  
the bright sunlight  
its head had a  
distinct purple sheen  
and its body had a  
green-blue sheen.

The bird kept  
mostly to itself,

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # of

Species: **Brewer's Blackbird**

Date of Sighting: **January 12, 1991**

Observer(s): **Greg Grove**

Date of Submission: **1991 Huntingdon**

Submitted by: **Greg Grove**

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V		
					A	B	C
E. Kwater			X				
B. Haas			X				
F. Haas			X				
R. Leberman			X				
G. McWilliams			X				
S. Santner			X				
P. Schwalbe			X				
TOTALS			7				
DECISION			X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

*Bon Haas*

Date:

*11-6-91*