

861-01-1997

602 Sunset Road
St. Marys, PA 15857-3438
September 22, 1997

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee
2469 Hammertown Road
Narvon, PA 17555

Dear Committee:

On September 21, 1997 at 12:45 pm, my husband, John and I were sitting at the kitchen table when he spotted what he thought were starlings coming in to the scratch food in the yard. I wasn't paying much attention, thinking they were starlings, but when I looked out, I noticed purple heads on some of them. I thought that there were grackles with them. We talked about how the grackles would leave, but the starlings would stay around for the winter. I suddenly noticed how small the birds were and started paying attention to them. I thought they looked like birds I had seen in Texas when visiting my son. Yes, they were Brewer's Blackbirds!

This is what I wrote down: Purple head, yellow eye, but not bright yellow, dark bill, greenish on back of neck, etc. dark legs, starling size, very striking birds, also other birds were dirty brown with dark eyes. There were 16 of them! They flew in, ate some food, including popcorn, and left after about 10 minutes. The day was sunny and the birds' colors stood out.

Possibly more of these are around, but, like me, people just don't look! I was glad I did look closely.

Sincerely,



Linda G. Christenson

Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee

Voting Tabulation - Round # 1 of

Species: Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*)

Date of Sighting: 21 September 1997 to 21 September 1997

Location: ST MARYS

County: ELK

Observer(s): Linda Christenson

Date of Submission: 1997

Submitted by: Linda Christenson

Written Description: YES

Photo: NO

Specimen: NO

Recording: NONE

Member	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V			Abstain
					A	B	C	
F. Haas				X				
P. Schwalbe				X				
K. Parkes			X					
R. Ickes				X				
P. Hess						X		
J. McWilliams				X				
T. Floyd				X				
TOTALS			1	5		1		
DECISION				X				

Comments:

Signature (Secretary):

F. C. Haas

Date:

4-19-99