

## PA Rare Bird Report

<b>Submission Date</b>	2019-02-02 23:20:19
<b>Observer's Name</b>	Dave DeReamus
<b>E-mail</b>	becard@rcn.com
<b>Phone</b>	4847889280
<b>Observer's Address</b>	3339 Allen Street Easton Pennsylvania 18045 United States
<b>Names of additional observers</b>	The actual contributor who provided the photos didn't want his name or address publicized.
<b>Species (Common Name)</b>	Harris's Sparrow
<b>Species (Scientific Name)</b>	Zonotrichia querula
<b>Number of individuals</b>	1
<b>Age(s) and Plumage(s) and Sex (if known)</b>	1st-winter bird transitioning into breeding plumage.
<b>Observation Date and Time</b>	04-11-2018 11:40 AM
<b>Did you submit this sighting to eBird?</b>	Not yet (please do, eBird is great!)
<b>County</b>	Lancaster
<b>Location (City, Borough, Township)</b>	Quarryville area (the exact location was not given).
<b>Exact Site (E.g. Name of park, lake, road)</b>	The yard of the anonymous property owner.
<b>Habitat</b>	The feeder in the observer's backyard, which appears to be a normal grass-covered yard.
<b>Distance to bird</b>	In the best and closest photo, it appears to be about 10-15 feet away.
<b>Viewing conditions</b>	It appears overcast but good lighting.
<b>Optical equipment used</b>	Photos were taken with a camera through the window. No other details were given.
<b>Description</b>	Photos of the bird are attached. It is obviously a Harris's Sparrow. The only question would be whether the sighting and accompanying information is authentic or not. I have no reason to doubt the authenticity of the reports and photos.

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

Feeding on cracked corn at a table-top feeder.

**Separation from similar species (How you eliminated others)**

Photos of the bird are attached.

**Discussion – anything else relevant to the observation that will aid the committee in evaluating it:**

I am submitting these two photos that were sent to me through E-mail. They were sent to me by an observer who wishes to remain anonymous. At the time, I asked if he would allow permission for birders to view the bird, but he didn't want his location made public. He E-mailed me a few more times with an additional photo and a video. He first noticed the bird in mid-January. The close photo was sent to me on April 11th and the distant photo was received on April 25th. He later told me that his last sighting was on May 3rd and that the bird was close to breeding plumage at that time. I have no reason to doubt the authenticity of the reports and photos. The observer found my E-mail on my website through a search and wrote me to confirm the identification. In his first E-mail, he asked, "How unusual is a Harris Sparrow in Pennsylvania?" The conversation continued from there and he later sent the attached photos and a video.

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

Yes. The photos clearly show a Harris's Sparrow.

**During**

He identified the bird using the Merlin ID app.

**Supporting evidence (check all that apply)**

Photograph

**Upload images, audio, video or drawings**



[2018-04-11 Harris's Sparrow \(JB\).jpg](#)



[2018-04-25 Harris's Sparrow \(JB\).jpg](#)

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