

VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN UNUSUAL RECORD

1. Species: Golden-winged Warbler Vermivora chrysoptera
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)
2. Number: _____
3. Location: 330 Dittmer - John Gardner residence - Pueblo, Colo.
4. Date(s): 10 May 1975
5. Time bird seen: 2:30 pm 2:33 pm
6. Description of size, shape and color-pattern. (Describe in great detail all parts of the plumage including beak and feet coloration in addition to the diagnostic characteristics; however, include only what actually was seen in the field.):
Beak & feet - no. Clearly saw bright yellow wing-patch white underneath, yellow forehead and top of head, and black check and throat. White in face obvious also.
7. Description of voice, if heard: none
8. Description of behavior: Foliage gleaner type as Yellow-rumped, etc.
9. Habitat - general: Deciduous + semi-residential
specific: Maple
10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated 6, 7 and 8 above; Explain:
Brewster's Warbler is mathematically eliminated - chance of Hybridization in Colo near 0
11. Distance (how measured?):
estimation 50 feet
12. Optical equipment:
9 x 40 Bushnell Carbons
13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and observer):
Sun behind bird and to my right.
14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species:
None
15. What made you think this species was unusual or rare? yellow wing, primarily
16. Other observers: Eddie Blatnick, who first noticed unknown bird
17. Did others agree with your identification? yes
18. Other observers who independently identified this bird: none
19. Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation:
upre, other than Birds of N. Am. which was consulted between brief periods of observation. I called off prominent marks and then none. Both checked with Field Guide
20. If bird was photographed, please attach pictures and describe equipment used:

Jerry C. Fugate
Signature

Date Prepared: 14 Sept 75

Street Address: 2608 Vinewood

City and State: Pueblo, Colo 81005

Ed Blotnick first observed bird and I immediately saw it. I called off marks and whatal + looft it was. It flew to another part of tree, higher up and disappeared for about 1 minute. During this interval I turned to Golden-winged Warbler and repeated to my field marks. Bird was then observed again for approximately 30-45 sec when he then flew to another tree farther off and in the opposite direction. Our obvious excitement brought several from ~~the~~ house and we observed us into back-yard but we could not spot bird again. I left for my home and explained that we were on Riebler's Spring Bird Count and if the bird in the field guide was seen again to call. No follow-up so am assuming it was not sighted again.

Ed is a senior high school student with a definite potential in professional ornithology and has shown repeatedly his talent as a field observer.

He feels his written documentation is only repeating unnecessarily the essential facts and that my verification would carry more weight per my longer exposure to rarities and their status. Others in my party but unable to spot bird numbered six. They heard me call off marks as I had the bird under observation and later agreed that I had given all details properly.

Any further questions, please verify. I'm definite about this observation, but I guess everyone is when sighting a rarity so good luck in flipping coins or what ever else you do to determine guilt or innocence. I'm sure of this too.

Jeroy C. Ligon