

VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN UNUSUAL RECORD

Accepted:
JR 7/16/74

1. Species: European Widgeon | Mareca Penelope 2. Number: 1
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)

3. Location: Pond Southwest of Walsenburg, Colorado

4. Date(s): Oct 24, 1970 5. Time bird seen: during day of
examined skin several days later

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): Definitely a widgeon duck - appeared to be an immature male - definitely immature widgeon - the hunter James Bogard, Pueblo, Colo didn't know what it was as he was dressing it to eat so he brought the skin - all there but in 3 pieces for me to identify - I have handled literally hundreds of american widgeons in all plumages, ages, sex and this bird looked generally ruddier than most of them. Then as I looked at the axillars under the wing - I noted they were all mottled instead

7. Description of voice, if heard: none of white or partly white.

8. Description of behavior: none - dead

9. Habitat - general: pond & marsh
specific: grassland

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated 6, 7 and 8 above; Explain: American Widgeon

11. Distance (how measured?):

12. Optical equipment: eyes

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and observer): not known

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: much experience with american widgeon. I have seen several live in

15. What made you think this species was unusual or rare? also mounted and frozen specimens of European widgeon
It had never been recorded in the Pueblo, Walsenburg area

16. Other observers: Van Troman looked at the skin, also Don Bowman before

17. Did others agree with your identification? yes Don took one of the axillars to show to Dr. Bailey.

18. Other observers who independently identified this bird: Van Troman, Don Bowman

19. Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation: Kortwright's Ducks, Geese and Swans of North America - describes in detail the difference in axillars white to partly white in american widgeon, mottled dark in European

20. If bird was photographed, please attach pictures and describe equipment used:

Dave A Griffiths Street Address: 17 Solar Drive
Signature
Date Prepared: April 13, 1973 City and State: Pueblo, Colo 81005

VERIFYING DOCUMENTATION OF AN UNUSUAL RECORD

accepted
JR 1/16/74

1. Species: EUROPEAN WIDGEON | Mareca penelope 2. Number: 1
(Vernacular Name) (Scientific Name)

3. Location: near Walsenburg, Colorado

4. Date(s): October 25, 1970 5. Time bird seen: hunter saw it and shot it with other ducks

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): It was an immature widgeon-probsbly a male, but sex unknown. It had a generally more rusty appearance than an American Widgeon--the auxillars under the wings were all mottled--there were not any white areas on them.

7. Description of voice, if heard: none

8. Description of behavior: not seen--James Bogard, Pueblo, shot it, jump shooting pond ducks

9. Habitat - general: short-grass prairie, marshy area with spring
specific: small spring-fed pond and marsh

10. Similarly appearing species which are eliminated 6, 7 and 8 above; Explain: American Widgeon--Most convincing was all mottled auxillars under wing; American has

11. Distance (how measured?): not known all white or only partly mottled

12. Optical equipment: none

13. Light (sky, light on bird, position of sun in relation to bird and observer): not known

14. Previous experience with this species and similarly appearing species: Lots of experience with American Widgeon--both sexes in all plumages. I had one European

15. What made you think this species was unusual or rare? Widgeon female in my freezer
It was the first time it had been recorded in the Pueblo, Walsenburg area

16. Other observers:

Van Truan, Don Bowman

17. Did others agree with your identification?

yes

18. Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Don Bowman

19. Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation: Kortwright's Ducks, Geese, and Swans of North America--the illustrations of the comparisons of the auxillars as well as written description seemed most convincing to me.

20. If bird was photographed, please attach pictures and describe equipment used:

I still have one wing of this bird in my possession

Signature

Dave A. Griffiths Street Address: 17 Solar Drive

Date Prepared: March 8, 1973

City and State: Pueblo, Colorado

(USE THE REVERSE, OR ADDITIONAL PAGES, IF NECESSARY)