

1999 - 79

CFO-ORC FILE # _____

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD _____ UNUSUAL RECORD XACCEPT 7-0Rcd 11/2/99
WPL**Species:** Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)**Date:** 28-29 November 1998**Number seen:** 12**Sex:** ?**Plumage:** Basic**Locality:** Springfield**Elevation:** 4365'**Nearest town:** Springfield**County:** Baca**Time observed:** about 17:00 MST**Duration of observation:** about 5 minutes

Description: I went with Dan Svingen on the 28th to look for the large number of Eurasian Collared-Doves that Ila Svingen had found a couple days before. She had found them at the abandoned motel near dusk, evidently coming into roost in the trees around the motel. As soon as we got there, Dan found one then another and we eventually counted 12 of them (Ila had had 13 or 14). They were all pretty similar in appearance, so I describe them below as one.

The birds were large doves, larger than Mourning Doves (MODO), which were also in the trees. They were also obviously paler than the MODOs, with shorter, squarer tails. Their bills were black and they had obvious black nuchal collars. Occasionally, when one would change perches, I could see the distinctive wing and tail patterns - tricolored wings (black primaries, very pale gray secondaries, and brown wing coverts) and bicolored tail (brown with wide, white terminal band only vaguely delineated. On one or two, I could discern red irides. They were considerably more skittish than the MODOs.

Dan and I also went driving around the southern part of town looking for them on the morning of the 29th, to try to figure out where they were hanging out. Since Dan had seen some flying in from the west on the evening of the 27th, we started by looking around the grain elevators west of US 285 on the south end of town. We didn't have to drive much, because there they were (9 of them) perched in short trees and on the ground.

Similar species eliminated: Mourning Dove by shorter, squared-off tail, upper wing pattern, eye color, and head pattern; Ringed Turtle-Dove by size (too large for Ringed) and upperwing pattern.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): none heard

What is your prior experience with this and similarly-appearing (and -sounding) species? I have seen 100s of Eurasian Collared-Doves in Florida, where I spent one whole winter. I have been urging birders everywhere to look for the beast and document its spread. I have seen uncountable bazillions of Mourning Doves (all over North America), and quite a lot of Ringed Turtle-Doves (in captivity).

Light conditions: Sun was setting behind me.

Optical equipment used: 7x42 Zeiss

Distance, and how estimated: about 6 meters at closest

Other observers who saw the bird with you: Dan Svingen

Other observers who saw the bird independently: none

If photographed, type of equipment and film: not photographed

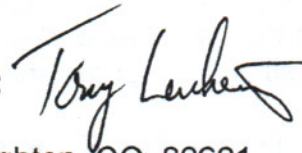
List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

a) at time of observation: none

b) after observation: none

Reporting observer: Tony Leukering

Signature:



Address: Colorado Bird Observatory, 13401 Picadilly Road, Brighton, CO 80601

Date report was written: This report was written from memory on 28 October 1999.

1999-79

CFO-ORC FILE # _____

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD _____ UNUSUAL RECORD XRcd 11/2/99
wpl**Species:** Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)**Date:** 7,8,9,10, & 16 May 1999 **Number seen:** two **Sex:** female, male**Plumage:** Basic**Locality:** Springfield**Elevation:** 4365'**Nearest town:** Springfield**County:** Baca**Time observed:** about 07:30 MDT**Duration of observation:** about 5 minutes

Description: One of the seasonal crew that I hired to work for me at Colorado Bird Observatory (Harry Kahler), while waiting for me to show up to meet with him and Doug Faulkner on 6 May 1999, decided to check out the Eur. Collared-Doves (EUCD) that had been hanging around the abandoned motel at the south end of Springfield. Harry found a EUCD sitting on a nest in incubation posture, thus finding the first nest of the species in Colorado. The next day, Harry and Doug took me back to the site to show me the nest. The female was incubating and I photographed her doing so (photo submitted). A male (presumably, the male) was nearby (~3 meters) and sang occasionally. I checked on the nest on four other dates in May. On both the 8th and 9th, the female was still incubating, but on the 10th and 16th, the birds were no longer attending the nest and it was disheveled and was leaning out of the crotch in which it had been placed.

The birds were large doves, larger and bulkier than the nearby incubating female Great-tailed Grackles. They were pale gray-brown with browner backs and wings. They each had black bills and black nuchal collars. Their tails were squared-off, not long and tapered as on Mourning Doves. When the birds flew, they showed off their distinctive wing patterns -- black primaries, very pale gray secondaries, and brown upper wing coverts.

Similar species eliminated: Mourning Dove by shorter, squared-off tail, upper wing pattern, and head pattern; Ringed Turtle-Dove by size (too large for Ringed) and upperwing pattern.

Describe the bird's song and call, if given, including method of delivery (i.e. from perch, in flight, duration): The male sang a few times on the 7th and once or twice on the 8th. It was the typically distinctive "ku-COO-cu."

What is your prior experience with this and similarly-appearing (and -sounding) species? I have seen 100s of Eurasian Collared-Doves in Florida, where I spent one whole winter. I have been urging birders everywhere to look for the beast and document its spread. I have seen uncountable bazillions of Mourning Doves (all over North America), and quite a lot of Ringed Turtle-Doves (in captivity).

Light conditions: Sun was mostly behind me.

Optical equipment used: 7x42 Zeiss

Distance, and how estimated: about 6 meters at closest

Other observers who saw the bird with you: Harry Kahler, Doug Faulkner, Dan Svingen

Other observers who saw the bird independently: none

If photographed, type of equipment and film: Canon rig with 300mm lens w/ 1.4 converter;
Fujichrome

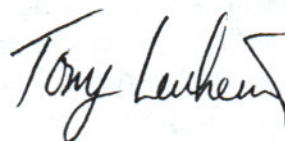
List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

a) at time of observation: none

b) after observation: none

Reporting observer: Tony Leukering

Signature:



Address: Colorado Bird Observatory, 13401 Picadilly Road, Brighton, CO 80601

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