

1999 - 81

CFO-ORC FILE

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD FORM

NEW STATE RECORD _____ UNUSUAL RECORD X

ACCEPT 7-0

Red 11/2/99

apl

Species: Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)**Date:** 17 May 1999**Number seen:** one**Sex:** unknown**Plumage:** Basic**Locality:** Holly**Elevation:** 3397'**Nearest town:** Holly**County:** Baca**Time observed:** about 6:30 MDT**Duration of observation:** about 30 seconds

Description: While conducting another Big Day with Peter Gaede (again on 17 May!), we were coming into Holly from the south about to cross the railroad tracks, when I noticed a large, pale dove standing on the road at the railroad crossing. I called out to Peter, "Collared Dove," and we watched it for a bit before it flew off down the tracks to the west.

The bird was a large dove, larger than nearby Mourning Doves (about 10 meters away) and was mostly pale grayish-brown. It had a black bill and a black nuchal collar. The back and wings were somewhat browner than were the head and underparts and the primaries were nearly black. The legs were pink. When the bird took flight, I could see the typical wing pattern of this species (blackish primaries, pale gray secondaries, and brown wing coverts) and tail pattern (dark brown with wide, vague terminal white band).

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 and tail patterns.

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 behind me and to my right.

Optical equipment used: 20x10 eyeballs and 7x42 Zeiss

Distance, and how estimated: about 20 meters at closest

Other observers who saw the bird with you: Peter Gaede

Other observers who saw the bird independently: none

If photographed, type of equipment and film: not photographed

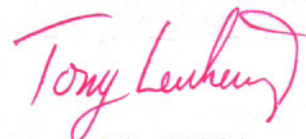
List books, illustrations, recordings, other birders, etc. consulted and how this influenced your identification:

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.