

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS - SIGHT RECORD REPORT  
 RARE OR UNUSUAL RECORD  NEW STATE RECORD

CFU-ORU FILE NO. 54-76-76  
 ACCEPTED  REJECTED

Species: EASTERN MEADOWLARK

*Discuss*  
Sturnella magna

(Vernacular Name)

(Scientific Name-use binomial)

Date(s): 30 May 76

Time Bird Seen: 16:30

to 16:45

Locality: Red Lion State Wildlife Area

Nearest Town: Crook

County: Logan

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPI

Optical Equipment: Bushnell 10x50

If photographed, type of equipment used: none

Light Conditions: Fair, late Afternoon, Cloudy conditions

Distance from bird (how measured): 60 yds Est.

Number of Birds Seen: 1 Sex: Male Plumage: Spring

Describe the bird's overall behavior and demeanor:

Bird was calling (not singing) and flew onto a tall  
Weed stem.

Describe in great detail the bird's size, overall shape, plumage and color-pattern.  
Include details on shape of bill, wings and tail. Give particular emphasis to the marks  
you used to identify the bird. Reference to its resemblance in field guide descriptions  
is not enough. Describe what you actually saw in the field:

Meadow lark in all respects, size and shape.

Cheek seemed somewhat yellower than typical Western  
Meadowlarks,

(OVER)

Describe the bird's song or call, if heard, including method of delivery, i.e., from perch, in flight, etc:

call was brrrrrt (drawn out), heard several times before the bird flew onto the weed stem and thus into view and several times while on the weed stem

Describe the habitat in which you observed this bird:

Marshy meadow with deep grass and weeds next to a creek and several large ponds.

How were similarly appearing species eliminated?

The call note was ~~not~~ not the Western Meadowlark prrrreet but rather the brrrrt call which I have only heard at red lion area from the Eastern Meadowlarks found there. Yellower cheek also helped, but only to confirm ~~not~~ what the call note denoted.

Prior experience with this and similarly appearing species:

Limited Experience with the Eastern species and also with call notes of both species.

Books, illustrations and advice consulted and how did these influence this documentation?

None.

This report was written from notes made during        after        observation; from memory

PRINT NAME: William A Lybarger SIGNATURE: William A Lybarger DATE: 28 Jun 76  
 Street Address: 2415 S. Memphis Way Town and State: Aurora, Colo ZIP: 80010

Return to: JACK REDDALL - 4450 South Alton Street, Englewood, Colorado 80110