

WV BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT FORM

Please Type or Print Legibly

Species: Number: (leave blank)
Location: Date: Time:
Bird Seen: To: Age/Sex:

Description: In lieu of physical material substantiating a record (e.g., specimen, diagnostic photograph, vocal recordings) a complete written description can serve as verification for the biological record. Please be as thorough as your field notes allow. Do not feel constrained by the space provided. Additional supporting descriptions/illustrations may be attached. Note that photographs or recordings WILL NOT BE RETURNED but become part of the permanent record for the observation.

Structure: (Overall size and shape plus details on the head, feet, tail, etc.)

N/A; Bird was not seen.

Plumage: (e.g. markings, coloration, molt)

N/A; Bird was not seen

Description of any vocalizations, if heard:

Bird sang several series of hollow "Hoo-hooo hoo" songs over roughly 15 minutes. Second note of the song was longer than the other two. Last note ended sharply. Each series generally had four repetitions of the song. Clearly different than song of Mourning Dove, which was also heard during this time. Second note lacked trill of African Collard-Dove.

Description of behavior:

Heard bird calling on-and-off for about fifteen minutes. Sounded like it was calling from an elevated perch, either a tree, building, or possibly a powerline.

Habitat: (General and Specific)

Rural. Bird was calling from an agricultural feedlot surrounded by cattle pastures. A few small suburban patches nearby. Closest contiguous forest was about 300 - 400 yards from where the bird sounded like it was calling from.

Circumstances of observation: (Include details of distance to bird, optics employed, lighting in relation to observer and the bird)

Incidental observation. Heard only. Scanned distant trees along road and fenceline with binoculars briefly, but did not find the bird. Bird was relatively distant (estimated 300 - 400 yards), but was heard clearly. Weather was mild for early March, which was encouraging birds to sing that morning.

Previous experience with this species:

I recall hearing Eurasian Collared-Dove vocalize a couple other times in Union, WV and Myrtle Beach, SC. I have visually observed Eurasian Collared-Dove in MS, SC, UT, and WV.

Experiences with similarly appearing species which are eliminated by your description: (Please be specific)

I have personal audio experience with Mourning Dove, Rock Pigeon, and Eurasian Collared-Dove. A Mourning Dove was calling during the same time as the Eurasian Collared-Dove and had a much longer and variable song than the Eurasian Collared-Dove. Rock Pigeons sound completely unique from either of the other species.

I have personal audio experience with most of the owls of WV, which are sometimes confused with doves by some. The most similar owl vocalization to the bird I heard would be Great Horned Owl, which typically has at least four notes and is generally deeper than the vocalization I heard. Lastly, though not always reliable, the vocalization I heard was during daylight hours.

Other observers: (Names, Addresses, E-mail please)

If the others agree with your identification they can sign this form here. If they care to provide additional details they can submit their own report.

N/A; I was the only observer.

Additional observer signature:

Additional observer signature:

Additional observer signature:

Books, illustrations and advice consulted, and especially how did these influence this description:

I used The Sibley eGuide to the Birds of North America to compare vocalizations of Eurasian Collared-Dove and White-winged Dove to the call I heard in the field. I also compared eBird recordings of African Collared-Dove. I determined that typical vocalizations of White-winged Dove were less repetitive than Eurasian Collared-Dove and the cadence resembled Barred Owl.

How long after observing this bird did you first write this description?

Five days, though report was officially submitted much later.

Name:

Address:

Date:

Signature:



Mail to: WV Bird Records Committee
Attn: Wil Hershberger
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Hedgesville, WV 25427
Or E-mail to:
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Please use the space below to add any appropriate details you feel were missing from the above form or to expand on any answers whose allotted space was insufficient for a complete response:

I found an eBird report submitted August 10, 2019 of an Eurasian Collared-Dove in Fairlea, WV (Greenbrier County) with a song recording.