

Louisiana Ornithological Society's

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Report Form

This form is intended as a convenience in reporting observations of species on the Louisiana Bird Records Committee (LBRC) Review List. The LBRC recommends the use of this form or a similar format when submitting records for review (to assure that all information involving an observation is accounted for). Attach additional pages as necessary. Please print or type. Attach photocopy of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include complete series of photos for more obscurely marked species. When completed mail to Secretary, Louisiana Bird Records Committee, c/o Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3216. (If you use this form as a computer template; please submit on archival quality = 100% cotton paper.)

1. English and Scientific names: Black-headed Grosbeak / Pheucticus melanocephalus
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage: One male / black-spotted with white, orange under & yellowish on breast
3. Locality: Platform window-feeder. (Geographic location is 3 miles south of city limits of Houma LA)
4. Date(s) when observed: 1-17-02, 1-21-02, 1-22-02, 1-24-02, 1-25-02,
and March 11, 14, 17 2002.
5. Time(s) of day when observed: 7 AM, mid-morning, afternoons (time varied)
6. Reporting observer and address: Jo Ledet, 229 Hidalgo Drive,
Houma, LA 70363
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s): Kelli Ledet
8. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s): Lanny Ledet,
Kelli Ledet
9. Light conditions: daylight, warm days + very cold days
10. Optical equipment: naked eye, video-camera (tinted)
11. Distance to bird(s): between the grosbeak + window pane (few inches)
and about 12' or so in yard
12. Duration of observation: 10 minutes at each time, approximately
13. Habitat: Closely housed subdivision, oak woods to the
south, maple, cypress & holly trees around.
(Place of observation?)
14. Behavior of bird/circumstances of observation: Very calmly and slowly
cracking safflower seeds + eating them
at window feeder. Didn't startle easily.
Came + went off + on through out the
days observed.

15.) Description: About 7" to 8" in size, thick bill, mannerisms of the Northern Cardinal while eating. Coloring: Black head, tawny-orange breast, yellowish belly; black wings & tail with lots of white speckles or streaky patches

16.) Voice: Didn't hear it

17.) Similar species and how they were eliminated: My first thought was the rufous-sided Towhee because of the coloring, but the cardinal-like beak on the Grosbeak quickly eliminated that.

18.) Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): ^{Jo Lefet} No I do have a very short video of the Grosbeak at feeder

19.) Previous experience with this species: None.

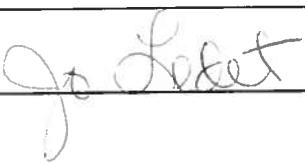
21.) Identification aids:

a. at time of observation: National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Birds

b. after observation: went on Internet to Brick-headed Grosbeak

22.) This description is written from: notes made during the observation; notes made (immediately) after the observation (date: 3-23-02); or _____ memory. Please attach copy of field notes.

23.) Are you positive of your identification if not, explain: Yes

24.) Signature of reporter:  3-23-02 6:30 AM
(date) (time)

March 11

roughly 3 miles south of the

I wanted to report that I had Houma city limits. It really was a most unusual "visitor" at my window-feeder this year. A Black-headed Grosbeak. I really didn't know what he was, so I went straight to my field guides & found a picture of him on the Internet. It's definite! I have safflower seeds out on a small platform feeder at my window & he devoured so many. His visits were on January 17, 2002 at 7 am, the 1st sighting! He came off & on & all day for the next couple of days. I didn't see him again until January 21, 22, 24 & 25th.

Then on March 3rd when our temperatures dipped very low, he showed up again at the window-feeder. My

sightings, I also had 4 male painted-buntings & 3 females at my window-feeder this year — for them I have white millet to eat. They are such beautiful little birds, they are regulars!! But never-the-less I still happy to see them. Could you send me some information on the La. Ornithological Society? Thanks ever so much,

JO LEDET

HOUma, LA 70363