

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-speckled with white, orange under it 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: 7AM, 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? ^{Jo Ledet No} (by whom? attached?): 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: Jo Ledet 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 a great experience to see this
window-feeder this year. A Black-bird. I've been bird-watching for
headed Grosbeak. I really didn't ever & have had lots of good
know what he was, so I went sightings, I also had 4 male
straight to my field guides & found painted-buntings & 3 females at
him. I also double-checked a my window-feeder? this year — for them
picture of him on the Internet. I have white millet to eat. They

Its definite! I have safflower are such beautiful little birds, the
seeds out on a small platform first time I saw one, I was
feeder at my window & he devoured so speechless — now they are
them. His visits were on regulars!! But never-the-less I still
January 17, 2002 at 7 Am, the am so happy to see them. (Could
1st sighting! He came off & on you send me some information on
all day & for the next couple of the la. Ornithological Society?
days. I didn't see him again
until January 21, 22, 24 & 25th.
Then on March 3rd when our temp-
eratures dipped very low, he showed
up again at the window-feeder. My
prediction is: the birds will be here

Thanks ever so much,
JO LEDET

229 HIDALGO DR,
HOUMA, LA 70363