

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 pertinent information is accounted for). Attach additional pages as necessary. Please print or type. Attach xerox of field notes, drawings, photographs, or tape recordings, if available. Include all 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.

1. **English and Scientific names:** Black-headed Grosbeak Pheucticus melanocephalus
2. **Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage** (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1 first year male
3. **Locality: LOUISIANA:** St. Tammany
(parish)
162 Elm St., Lewisburg, near Mandeville
(specific locality)
4. **Date(s) when observed:** 17 December 2002 (although apparently present at nearby home from 14-17 December 2002)
5. **Time(s) of day when observed:** 1600-1605 hours
6. **Reporting observer and address:** Christopher G. Brantley
162 Elm St. Lewisburg
Mandeville, LA 70448
7. **Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):**
G. B. Brantley first notified me of the bird at her home from 14-17 Dec 02. I attempted to locate the bird at her home on 17 Dec 02, later to observe it.
8. **Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):**
9. **Light conditions** (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Good Light
10. **Optical equipment** (type, power, condition):
11. **Distance to bird(s):**
Bausch and Lomb 10X42 good conditions.
7-10 m
12. **Duration of observation:**
5 minutes
13. **Habitat:** Suburban Yard - the bird was present underneath a seed feeder but also spent time perching in a Rubus bramble and appeared to feed on some Ligustrum sinense seeds.

14. **Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation** (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation):

Bird spent a few minutes feeding on ground underneath a seed feeder, then flew to a nearby ligustrum bush to feed.

15. **Description** (include only what was actually seen, *not what "should" have been seen*; include if possibly: total length/relative size compared to other familiar species, body bulk, shape, proportions, bill, eye, leg, and plumage characteristics. Stress features that separate it from similar species):

The bird was the approximate size of nearby northern cardinals. There were 2 faint white wing bars. The chest and belly area were a burnt orange color and no streaking on the breast was noticed. The back was streaked. Bill was large, conical shaped, white stripe over the eye and a dark cheek patch on the head. During flight, underwing coverts were noticed to be pale yellow.

16. **Voice:** None noticed.

17. **Similar species** (include how they were eliminated by your observation):

Rose-breasted Grosbeak were eliminated by the pale yellow underwing coverts and no streaking on the orange breast.

18. **Photographs or tape recordings obtained?** (by whom? attached?):

None.

19. **Previous experience with this species:**

Yes, bird found on Baton Rouge CBC, collected by Chris Witt, specimen in LSUMNS.

20. **Identification aids:** (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):

- a. **at time of observation:**

Sibley Guide to Birds, 2000

- b. **after observation:**

21. **This description is written from:** ___ notes made during the observation
(___ notes attached?); ___ notes made after the observation (date: ___);
__X__ memory.

22. **Are you positive of your identification** If not, explain:

Yes

23. **Signature of reporter:** Christopher C. Brantley 12 Mar 03 1600 hrs.
(date) (time)