

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: Hooded Oriole (Icterus cucullatus)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): One female-plumaged (age and sex not certain)
3. Locality: LOUISIANA: (parish) Lafourche Par
Specific Locality: Maniscalco residence, Thibodaux
4. Date(s) when observed: 17 January 2022 (originally noted by Beth Maniscalco in mid-Dec).
5. Time(s) of day when observed: about 8:30-11am off and on
6. Reporting observer and address: Dan Lane, LSU Museum of Natural Science, Baton Rouge
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): Beth Maniscalco, Van Remsen
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): clear sky, good light. Bird seen in full sun and inside foliage.
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Zeiss 10x40 binocular
11. Distance to bird(s): 20-200 feet or so
12. Duration of observation: All total, perhaps 30-40 min
13. Habitat: Suburban neighborhood, mostly in Maniscalco yard which has extensive plantings for birds.

14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Originally seen coming to feeding station, but wary when there. Once we were outside, we detected it as it moved around the neighborhood, often stopping in open small trees nearby and preening or resting on one leg for extended periods within the foliage. Calling minimal, when it gave single “tic” calls while cocking its tail. Response to playback limited to craning its neck and hopping up in the tree, occasionally flying in curiously, but never calling in response. I tried both Orchard Oriole and Hooded Oriole playback, and noted response only to the latter.

15. Description (include only what was actually seen, *not what "should" have been seen*; include if possible: 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): A smaller *Icterus* oriole that was female-plumaged (no obvious black feathering at all). Head, rump, and underparts a warm yellow with faint orange wash, strongest on the chest. Head was unpatterned and showed no greenish color. Tail long, dull orange. Mantle was grayish (not green) and contrasted strongly with head. Wings with weak wingbars and edging to secondaries, grayish. In flight, long tail gave it a distinctive shape unlike Orchard Oriole.

16. Voice: Single “tic” notes given upon landing at one point, when it tugged tail up with each note. Beth Maniscalco said she heard it “chittering” at the feeder while we were outside without a view of the feeder, but unclear to me what vocalization this description referred to. I hope she is able to record the sound.

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): The long tail, narrow, slightly decurved bill, and patternless face eliminate all other likely *Icterus* except Orchard Oriole. The lack of lemon yellow-green tones to the upperparts and head, the long tail, and the noticeably orange-washed head and underparts all struck me as unlike the coloration of any Orchard and more like Hooded. I think the calls I heard also are not generally given by Orchard, although I wouldn’t consider them definitive vocalizations.

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): Yes, both, uploaded to:

<https://ebird.org/checklist/S100972452>

Also click on the “page” icon beside Van Remsen’s name to see his photos of the bird.

Also attaching photos below.

19. Previous experience with this species: Reasonably extensive, mostly during breeding season, in Arizona, Texas, and Mexico.

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

a. at time of observation: none

b. after observation: eBird photo galleries of both Hooded and Orchard orioles (filtered for dates between Dec-Feb).

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, this bird simply didn't bring Orchard Oriole to mind as I watched it, but did agree with what I know of Hooded Oriole. I am comfortable eliminating Orchard Oriole as a candidate.

23. Signature of reporter: __Dan Lane__ Date: _18 Jan 2022__ Time: __3:30pm__

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? __Yes_____

If yes, may we include your name with the report? __Yes_____















