

LBRC Report Form

1. English and Scientific names: Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage):
1
3. Parish:
Jefferson
4. Specific Locality:
Lot at corner of Birch and Orleans, Grand Isle, LA
5. Date(s) when observed: May 3, 2025
6. Time(s) of day when observed: 3:30pm
7. Reporting observer: Kathy Rhodes
8. Other observers accompanying reporter who also identified the bird(s):
Liz Sigler
9. Other observers who independently identified the bird(s):
None
10. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): Plenty of light, sunny with partial clouds
11. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): Nikon Coolpix B600 camera and Nikon Prostaff 3s Binoculars
12. Distance to bird(s): 75 feet about
13. Duration of observation: 2 or 3 minutes
14. Habitat: grassy lawn next to lawn. Property owner had seed on the street nearby.
15. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): Birds flushed from the road to the lawn. This bird stood out to me and first thought was shiny cowbird so I started shooting pictures.

16. 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):

The bird was black, didn't have any wing markings, eye was dark. It had a gleam of blue on it's back.

17. Voice: None heard

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

Bronzed or red winged blackbirds. The bird was black, didn't have any wing markings, eye was dark. It had a gleam of blue on it's back.

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

By me, Kathy Rhodes

20. Previous experience with this species: I've seen this bird once on Grand Isle a few years ago, near Ludwig and Medical Lane.

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

I sent the photos to Jane Patterson and James Smithers. Both agreed as Shiny Cowbird.

22. Identification aids used when?

After observation

23. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain:

Yes

24. Date report completed:

5.5.2025

25. May the LBRC have permission to display in whole or in part this report and accompanying photos on the LOS-LBRC website and LBRC Facebook page?

Yes

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

Yes





