

## VERIFICATION OF UNUSUAL SIGHT RECORD FOR UTAH

Common Name: LARK BUNTING

Scientific Name: *Calamospiza melanocorys*

Date: MAY 13, 1986

Time: 8:10 AM

Length of time observed: 7 min.

Number: 1

Age: 2

Sex: ♂

Location: 2500 W. Gentile

Layton Utah

Latilong: # 2

Elevation (if known): 4230

Distance to bird: 20 feet

Light conditions: morning sun to my back

Optical equipment: 8x30 binos

very good lighting

Weather: warm (70°F) sunny clear

Description: (Write a detailed description of the bird's appearance, including size, shape, plumage pattern, color, and any unique features.)

Sparrow sized bird (5½-6") first seen in flight. Plumage was totally black except for large patches of white on each wing. Bird landed on fence and allowed thorough examination. Bird was entirely black except for large white patch at each wing and a grayish bill.

Voice or call notes and method of delivery: *none heard*

Behavior: *Flight, then lit on fence wire, then to ground to forage in Corral.*

Habitat: *Short grass and greasewood pasture land, also foraged on ground in a horse Corral.*

What similar species might it have been and how were these eliminated:

*Bobolink - but had no white on nape of neck or rump*

*Starling, Cowbird, Brewer's B.B. - had white on wings*

*Crested mynah - tail had no white at tip, had no crest, small*

What experience have you had with this and similar species:

*I have seen this species on one other occasion at my farm in West Point on June 8<sup>th</sup> 1978 - similar habitat*

Books, illustrations, and advice consulted, and how did these influence this description:

*I knew what it was immediately, but had it been a ♀, I would have needed help.*

Significance of record in this area or the state:

*Rare summer resident, but probably more unusual from this latitude*

Additional material: (attach drawing, photograph, tape recording if available)

*none*

Description from notes taken at time of sighting ☒ notes made later ☐ from memory ☐

Observer: *CRAIG L. KNEEDY*

Signature:

Address: *344 S. 4500 W.*

*WEST POINT, Utah 84015*

*Craig Kneedy*

Other observers who independently identified this bird:

Date prepared:

Return this form to:

Ella Sorensen  
3868 Marsha Drive  
West Valley City, Utah 84120