

Documentation
Third State Record
Cinnamon Teal
(Anas cyanoptera)

Vic Fazio

I was at Magee Marsh in Ottawa County, Ohio on May 11, 1980 at 1:35 P.M. watching American Coots for any lurking Common Callinules when Mary Lou Culp exclaimed, "What's that brick red duck out there?" Linda Blotchett, having experience with the bird in Oklahoma immediately but with some reservation, identified it as a Cinnamon Teal. Doug Overacker and I, both having seen the bird in the West, confirmed the identification. Eric Durner, Boyd Holsapple, John Pogacnik and Bruce Peterjohn were among the dozen or so that also agreed with the identification.

The bird was a male. It had rich cinnamon coloration on the breast and sides extending high up on the sides. The head was noticeably darker being a dark chestnut color. The blue in the wing as pictured by Birds of North America was not visible. The large, all dark bill was more spatulate than the Blue-winged Teal. Also the white rump area of the Blue-winged Teal was absent. The bird lacked a vertical white line on its side that is a characteristic of a male Green-winged Teal.

Observations were made for 20 minutes at a distance of 20 meters with the aid of a Celestron 90 at 45x. Photographs were obtained by Doug Overacker by use of his Celestron 90 at 20x. (Bruce Peterjohn has seen the photo or photos. He says they verify this record. The details will probably not reproduce in this type of publication. Editor.)

To my knowledge, this is the third record of Cinnamon Teal for Ohio. The two previous being a specimen collected April 4, 1895 at Buckeye Lake (Troutman, 1940) and a sight record from Cincinnati March 20-31, 1951 (Kemsies and Randle, 1953).

Literature Cited

- Robbins, Chandler S. 1966. Birds of North America. Western Publishing Co. Inc., Racine, Washington.
- Troutman, Milton B. 1940. The Birds of Buckeye Lake. University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, Michigan. p. 184.
- Kemsies, E. and W. Randle. 1953. Birds of Southwestern Ohio. Edwards Bothers Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan.

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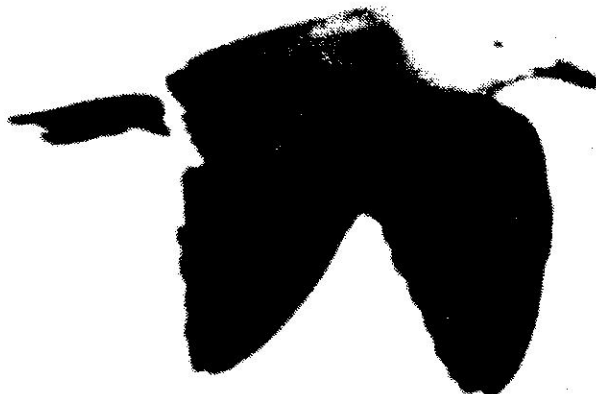
Kyle Jones

I watched the Cinnamon Teal at Magee Marsh on May 11, 1980 from 2:56 P.M. to 3:10 P.M. It was the approximate size of Blue-wing Teal which were associated with it in the immediate area. It was approximately 40 meters from me. When I first saw the bird it was resting with its bill tucked in its scapulars. After two minutes, its posture became erect. Then it flew a short distance and settled.

Shortly, it flew approximately two meters and settled. I noticed that the angle where the forehead and the bill meet was much greater than the sloping profile of the Ruddy Duck. At rest, the bird was entirely cinnamon red on the head and underparts. It was more brownish on the dorsal portion of the trunk. Some blue of the upperwing coverts showed. The iris of the eye was red. Its bill was dark. In flight, large powder blue shoulder patches were conspicuous. Its speculum was green. There was a white line between the speculum and shoulder. The underwing was white. I observed the bird with 8 x 40 Bushnell Sportview binoculars and a 20x Bushnell Sentry II scope. The light was diffused. The sky overcast. The sun was at my back and slightly past noon position.

(Editor's note: Mr. Jones was in the enviable position of seeing two Ibis fly past in the distance as he was watching this Teal.)

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Heerman's Gull at Lorain, Ohio, 1980. Photo by John Pogacnik. Reproduction by Don Tumblin.