

FIRST RECORD OF THE GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER IN IDAHO

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On 1 June 1980 at 1115 I discovered a male Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) in my neighbor's yard in Shoshone, Lincoln Co., Idaho. Its song first drew my attention—a familiar song after my many years of birding in Wisconsin where this warbler is a common spring migrant. I studied the warbler for about an hour as it foraged in deciduous trees. It continued to sing in bouts of 4-7 songs roughly every 15 minutes. Several times the warbler came within 2 m permitting unmistakable identification with the unaided eye. I also watched it through 15x binoculars and obtained the following description: Plumage: crown, bright yellow; eyeline extending through the eye, black; chin and throat, black; back grayish; wingbars, broad, deep yellow; underparts, grayish white. Song: four buzzy notes, the first longer in duration and higher in frequency than the last three which were of the same length and frequency; length of song 1-1.5 seconds; variation consisted of shortening the song to three or two buzzes by omitting terminal notes. Call notes: a "chip" note which was noticeably briefer and higher in frequency than that of a Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*) which was in the area; also a longer series of wren-like notes was sung once.

I observed the warbler periodically until 1430 when Larry Mangan also saw and identified it. On 2 June I again observed and heard the warbler and Steve Langenstein heard it. The golden-wing was last heard at 1700 on 3 June 1980.

This is the first known occurrence of the Golden-winged Warbler in Idaho. The avifauna of Idaho is poorly known because of the state's sparse population. As the number of ornithologists in Idaho increases, more records of vagrants are to be expected. The Snake River Plain which stretches the width of southern Idaho should be an especially fruitful area for unusual migrants. Species such as eastern warblers are likely to avoid the large expanses of Basin Sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*) and stop to rest and forage in more heavily vegetated regions around towns.

I thank Larry Mangan for traveling some distance on a moment's notice to verify my identification and Steve Langenstein for his attempts to get a photograph. I also thank Chuck Trost for checking warbler records and commenting on the manuscript.

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