

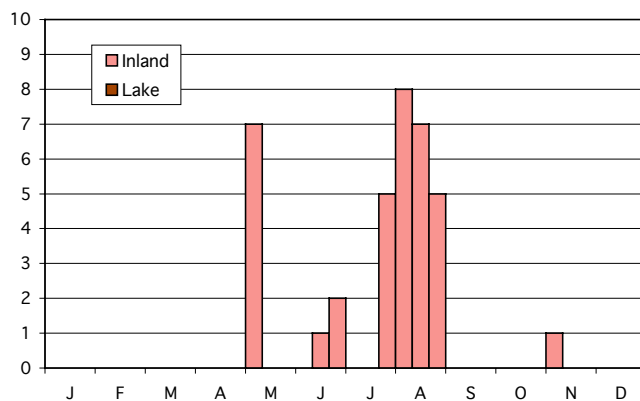
White Ibis

Eudocimus albus

Historical Information

First Published Record: According to Bruner (2004) one was killed in Knox County around 1847. However, the earliest completely dated report occurred about 8 May 1878 when William Brewster saw a “considerable flock” on the Wabash River, near Mt. Carmel, Illinois (Butler 1898).

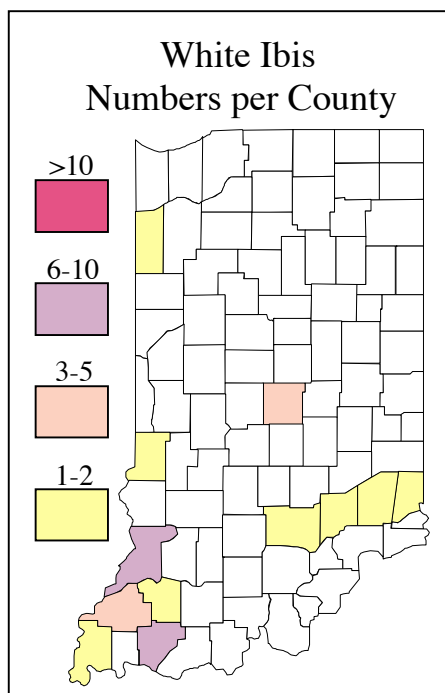
Butler (1898) deemed the White Ibis a rare summer visitor. Keller (1966) considered it accidental and Keller et al. (1979) simply mentioned the absence of recent records. Noting an absence of records between about 1925 and 1980, Mumford and Keller (1984) characterized this ibis as accidental.



Status

Physical Evidence: Two skeletons are housed in the National Museum of Natural History (S.F. Jackson unpublished list). Bruner (2004) also lists five reports that are documented by photographs.

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
National Museum of Natural History				2
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	n	10	n
Central Tier	n	n	n	n
Southern Tier	n	n	10	10
Entire State	n	n	10	10



Current Status

With only three records in the last two decades the White Ibis remains Accidental (10) in summer and fall.

Occurrence

This ibis is primarily a late summer visitor to southern Indiana; the largest numbers have occurred in the southwestern corner of the state. There are no accepted records for the lake district. The anomalous spring report involved the “considerable flock,” (taken as seven birds for this treatment) referred to in the above Historical section.

Virtually all of the dozen or so Indiana records involved immature birds; indeed, adults were reported only twice: two near Mt. Vernon, Posey County 18 August 1925 (Mumford and Keller 1984) and one in Dearborn County 4-7 November 1995 (Brock 1997).



Immature White Ibis TNC Kankakee Sands 27 June 2002.
Photo by J.J. McCoy.

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring				
No	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
7*	08-May-1878	Knox Co	Wm Brewster	BU2
2	18-Aug-1925	Posey Co	???	REM
1-2	27-Jul-17-Aug 1980	Patoka Riv. Bottoms	Sue Owens	DNR
1-2	2-13-Aug-1980	Marion Co	Larry Peavler	IAQ
2	02-Aug-1980	Warrick Co	J.H. Campbell	REM
1	05-Aug-1980	Pike Co	T.C. Cable	IAQ
2-5	2-21-Aug-1980	Warrick Co	J.H. Campbell	REM
1	27-Jul-1982	Vigo Co	Eugene Muench	IAQ
1	11-Aug-1984	Muscatatuck NWR	R.B. Berger	IAQ
1	4-7-Nov-95	Dearborn Co	Frank Renfrow	NAB
1	17-20-Jun-2002	Ripley Co	J.P. Lewis	IAQ
1	25-27-Jun-2002	Kankakee Sands	Jed Hertz	NAB
*This number was arbitrarily substituted for “considerable numbers.”				

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Bruner, A. W. (2004) From the Archives – Part 5, CICONIIFORMES CONTINUED – FAMILY THRESKIORNITHIDAE (Ibis, Spoonbill), CICONIIDAE (Wood Stork), CARTHARTIDAE (Vultures), and PHOENICOPTERIDAE (Flamingo), *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 82:19-43.

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