

**Lark Bunting Sighting  
at Huntington Beach State Park, S.C.**

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On 24 September 1988, I saw a male Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*), in basic plumage at the north end of Huntington Beach State Park, Georgetown County.

I discovered the bird at approximately 1600 h, on the road that cuts through the dunes to the jetty. When it first flew, the distinctive white wing patches were obvious. I was also able to observe the bird on the ground, where it appeared to eat grass seeds. The bird was grayish-brown in color, with streaked undersides. It was noticeably larger than the surrounding Savannah Sparrows, (*Passerculus sandwichensis*). The bill was a heavy, seed-eating type, and was blueish-gray.

I watched the bird for over an hour, using 7.5x binoculars and 20-45x zoom telescope. Viewing conditions were under an overcast sky, so I observed the bird from many angles and at a minimum distance of 30 m.

When flushed, the bird circled a 75 m section of road several times before returning to the grasses along the roadside. It appeared reluctant to leave the area, but I couldn't find it the following day. I did not hear the bird vocalize. This appears to be the fifth report for this species in South Carolina (Post and Gauthreaux, Contributions Charleston Museum: 18, 1989).

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**CBC Rare Bird Alert  
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