



## Key to Tables

| Code            | Description  |
|-----------------|--|
| cw              | <u>c</u> ount <u>w</u> eek only (3 days before or after) |
| dd              | <u>d</u> etails <u>d</u> esired                          |
| ed              | <u>e</u> xcellent <u>d</u> etails                        |
| gd              | <u>g</u> ood <u>d</u> etails                             |
| hc              | <u>h</u> igh <u>c</u> ount for that circle               |
| HC              | All-time <u>H</u> igh <u>C</u> ount for the state        |
| imm             | immature   |
| nc              | <u>n</u> ew species to that circle's <u>c</u> ount       |
| NC              | <u>N</u> ew to the state's <u>C</u> ount species list    |
| nd              | <u>n</u> o <u>d</u> etails                               |
| ps              | <u>P</u> resent for <u>s</u> ometime                     |
| ph              | <u>P</u> hotographed                                     |
| qd              | <u>q</u> uestionable <u>d</u> etails                     |
| rn              | <u>r</u> emarkable <u>n</u> umber                        |
| rr              | <u>r</u> emarkable <u>r</u> ecord                        |
| ud              | <u>u</u> nconvincing <u>d</u> etails                     |
| y,nn-c          | young, <u>n</u> o <u>n</u> eck <u>c</u> ollars           |
| *               | Documented species                                       |
| <b>boldface</b> | Species/number/item of note                              |

evidence such as a photograph or video may be necessary to properly document a wintering Osprey in Illinois.

Careful scrutiny and descriptions must also accompany Brewer's Blackbird reports for winter in Illinois. Descriptions in the field are required for this species' acceptance and other notable extreme departures and rarities on all Illinois CBCs.

### Acknowledgments and Comments on Documentation

Thanks to all compilers and observers who noted highlights this year for their respective counts. You made our job a lot easier! Any errors of omission or any inaccuracies of the data herein are the authors. As a general note to compilers the "sp." or species data of CBCs is sometimes excessive on some counts often to the point where too many birds are being unidentified. This information is discouraged from submission. We recommend the use of these sp. references only: duck, scaup, merganser, accipiter, buteo, falcon, hawk, gull, owl, sparrow, meadowlark, and blackbird sp. All other sp. that are

not identified in the future count reports will be dropped from publication, unless the compiler states a good argument to include the data.

The 99th Christmas Bird Count will be held Friday, 18 December 1998 through Sunday, 3 January 1999. Until then, good birding!

—David B. Johnson,  
504 Crown Point Drive,  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

—Alan F. Stokie,  
174 E. Kathleen Drive,  
Park Ridge, IL 60068

**Editor's Note:** With this issue of Meadowlark we adopt the sequence of birds as published in the seventh edition of the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds, issued July of 1998. A complete listing of Illinois birds following the updated taxonomy is being prepared by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee.