

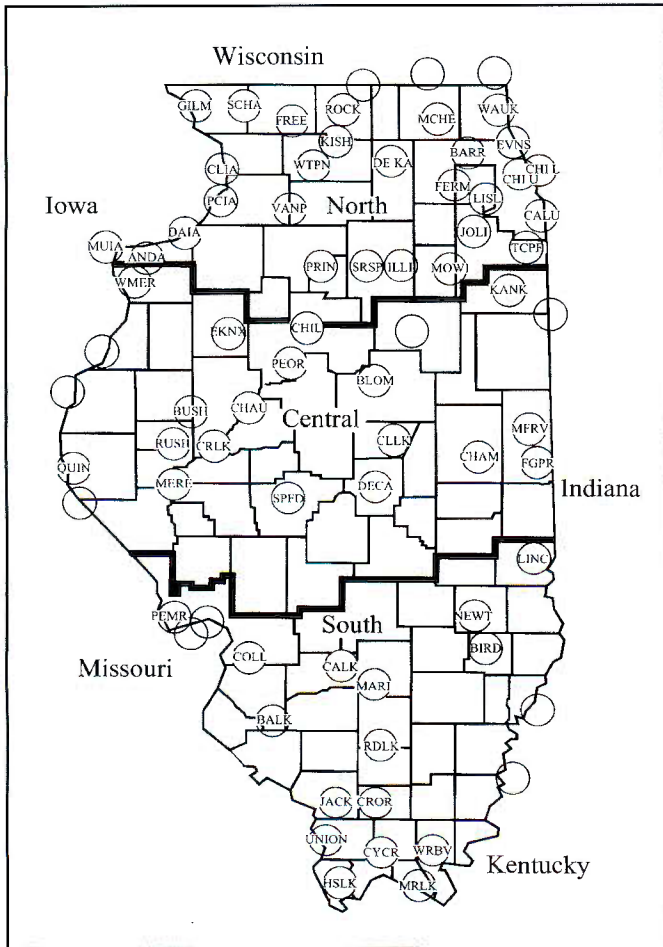


Spotted Towhee. Wheaton, DuPage County.
25 December 2003.
Photo by Eric Walters.

Acknowledgments

I must single out the effort of Kelly McKay, who through much diligent effort, craziness, and courage finally has managed to complete 23 counts as an observer and compiler of at least 6 circles, mostly inside Illinois but including Iowa, too. See separate article in this issue. Finally, thanks to all the compilers, observers, owlers, and feeder watchers for their continuing and inspiring efforts to contribute information on early winter bird populations and their distribution and for taking part in this grand birding tradition! Thanks to Robert A. Montgomery who helped review much of the data this year, ironing out many of the quirks and kinks and also placing the species tables in the new AOU taxonomic order. Thanks also to Steven D. Bailey who reviewed a final draft of this article.

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Key to Tables

Code	Description
dd	<u>details desired</u>
ed	<u>excellent details</u>
gd	<u>good details</u>
hc	<u>high count</u> for that circle
HC	All-time <u>High Count</u>
nc	<u>new species</u> to that circle's <u>count</u>
NC	<u>New</u> to the state's <u>Count</u> species list
nd	no details
ps	<u>Present</u> for <u>some</u> time
ph	<u>Photographed</u>
qd	<u>questionable details</u>
rn	remarkable number
rr	remarkable record
ud	unconvincing details
boldface	Species/number/item of note.

Note: 2003/2004 CBC count circles

The empty circles did not report to the Illinois CBC.
Some circles bordering Illinois report to other states.