



Female White-winged Crossbill at Decatur's Fairlawn Cemetery, Macon County. 1 February 2009.
Photo by Travis A. Mahan.

Co), 1-2 Dec (AS); Urb., 6-20 Dec (GSL ph, *SDB, RK); imm., Carl. L, 6 Dec (*WMR); male, Carl.L, 15 Dec (*RSH). The largest number ever reported in a winter season.

Red-winged Blackbird

MC: 110,300, Rend L, 20 Dec (KAM, MSS); 7023, Alexander Co, 28 Dec (SDB, PM); 6000, Carl.L, 28 Feb (DMK); 5165, East Moline (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (KJM, SBH, SC); 5000, Ten Mile Creek FWA, Eads Unit (Jefferson Co), 24 Feb (SDB); 5000, St. Libory (St. Clair/Washington Cos), 27 Feb (SDB); 3103, Union Co, 29 Dec (SDB, PM); 3000, Madison Co, 18 Jan (DMK, MSS); 2083, Grundy Co, 28 Feb (CAT); 350, Kank., 10 Feb (JBH); 300, Spoon L (Knox Co), 14 Dec (MJB, KBR); 126, IBSP, 31 Dec (EWW). Far fewer reported this winter, especially at concentration sites in s. IL.

Eastern Meadowlark

MC: 469, PrRdg, 22 Dec (fide JWW, m.ob.); 89, Effingham Co, 31 Jan (MAH); 37, Coles Co, 20 Dec (LBH, m.ob.); 30, Carl.L, 8 Feb (DMK, MSS); 27, White Co, 15 Dec (RES); 27, Cypress Creek NWR (Union & Pulaski Cos), 5 Jan (KAM); 26, Clin. L, 27 Dec (fide RLJ, m.ob.); 12, Clin.L, 27 Dec (GSL); 12, Ten Mile Creek FWA (Jefferson Co), 24 Feb (SDB); 5, La Salle Co, 6 Feb (CAT). **Others** (central & north): 6, LShel., 3 Jan (DMK, MSS); 3, Sand Rdg, 27 Dec (DMK, MSS); 2, Kankakee Co, 27 Feb (JBH); 2, McDonough Co, 28 Dec (LLH); De Kalb Co, 25 Dec (DJS); Chi, 7-8 & 12 Dec (MJH, KH, GAW); Tazewell Co, 27 Dec (CAT, TLK).

Western Meadowlark

Carl.L, 8 Feb (DMK, MSS).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD

ad. male, Richland Co, 28 Feb (RES, CLH); Whittington (Franklin Co), 11 Dec (LS).

Rusty Blackbird

MC: 30, Iroquois Co CA (Iroquois Co), 25 Feb (JBH); 25, Richland & Wayne Cos, 13 Feb (CLH); 15, Tilden (Randolph Co), 11 Jan (TJD); 12, Penfield (Champaign Co), 13 Feb (EJC); 3, Carroll Co, 18 Dec (KJM, LB, JS, DF). **Others:** 3, Carl.L, 8 Feb (DMK, MSS); 2, HomerL., 11 Feb (BP); 2, Rend L, 20 Dec (CAT, TLK); 2, Crab Or., 21 Dec (KAM, CAT, TLK); 2, Alexander Co, 28 Dec (SDB, PM); Rockfd, 20 Dec (DTW); Du Page Co, 21 Dec (UWG); East Moline (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (KJM, SBH, SC); Champ., 20 Dec (GSL); Columbia (Monroe Co), 25 Jan (DMK). Lowest numbers since 1992-1993.

Brewer's Blackbird

4, Union Co, 29 Dec (PM); 2, Kank., 8 Feb (JBH). Worst season since the mid-1990s.



Female White-winged Crossbill. Allerton Park, Piatt County. 24 January 2009.
Photo by Greg Lambeth.

Common Grackle

MC: 440,370, Rend L, 20 Dec (KAM, MSS); 50,000, Peabody FWA, 10 Jan (TJD); 40,000, St. Libory (St. Clair Co), 27 Feb (SDB); 7640, Union Co, 29 Dec (SDB, PM); 6000, Carl. L, 28 Feb (DMK); 1450, Mazonia-

Braidwd, 11 Dec (JBH); 821, Alexander Co, 28 Dec (SDB, PM); 641, East Moline (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (KJM, SBH, SC); 150, Spoon L (Knox Co), 14 Dec (MJB, KBR); 47, Grundy Co, 28 Feb (CAT). **Others** (central & north): 14, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (SDB, GSL, RK); 2, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co), 7 Feb (CAT, TLK); 2, Mercer Co, 23 Dec (WAB, KJM, SBH); Vermilion Co, 1 Jan (EJC).

Brown-headed Cowbird

MC: 2000, Rend L, 20 Dec (DMK); 800, Carl.L, 8 Feb (DMK, MSS); 526, East Moline (Rock Island Co), 14 Dec (KJM, SBH, SC); 170, Oglesby (La Salle Co), 30 Jan (DFS); 42, Grundy Co, 28 Feb (CAT); 30, Kankakee Co, 3 Dec & 4 Feb (JBH); 25, Warren Co, 24 Jan (CAT); 25, Marietta (Fulton Co), 7 Feb (LLH). Rather modest numbers, but widely distributed.

PINE GROSBEAK

Male, Kinnikinnick Creek CA (Boone Co), 14 Feb (*ABA).

Purple Finch

MC: 44, Champaign Co, 20 Dec (SDB, EJC, m.ob.); 42, Sand Rdg, 19 Jan (KAM); 31, no. Vermilion Co, 1 Jan (SDB, SLD); 26, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 17 Dec (SDB); 24, Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 2 Jan (KJM, SV, MJR); 23, Hennepin L, 17 Feb (DFS); 21, Jasper Co, 22 Dec (SDB, MPW, m.ob.); 21, UCCA, 29 Dec (SDB, PM); 17, Carroll Co, 18 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 15, Mercer Co, 23 Dec (KJM, SBH, WAB); 13, Iroquois Co CA (Iroquois Co), 25 Feb (JBH); 12, QC, 14 Dec (KR, CR, m.ob.); 12, Red Hills SP (Lawrence Co), 7 Feb (CLH); 11, Winthrop H, 28 Jan (EWW); 10, Crab Or., 21 Dec (KAM, CAT, TLK). **Others:** 10, LShel., 3 Jan (DMK, MSS); 9, Walnut Point SP (Douglas Co), 14 Feb (EWW); 9, New Athens (St. Clair Co), 20 Dec (TJD); 9, Pomona (Jackson Co), 7 Dec (RMR); 8 (5 male, 3 female), Grant Woods FP (Lake Co), 11 Jan (JSS); 8, Clin. L, 27 Dec (GSL); 8, Middlefork FWA (Vermilion co), 4 Jan (SDB); 8, Edwards Co, 26 Jan (RES); 6, Bald.L, 18 Jan (TJD); 6, Alexander Co, 28 Dec (SDB, PM); 4-5, Woodlawn Cemetery, Urb., 4-12 Feb (SDB); 4, Carl.L, 1-2 Jan (DMK, MSS, KAM); 3, Heller NC, Highland Park (Lake Co), 23 Jan & 27 Feb (JSS). Widespread in good numbers.

House Finch

MC: 806, Rockfd, 20 Dec (DTW, m.ob.); 75, Carroll Co, 18 Dec (EAA, JH, m.ob.); 68, Downers Grove (Du Page Co), 3 Dec (REF, KDF); 60, Kank., 26 Jan (JBH); 40, De Soto (Jackson Co), 13 Dec (KAM); 39, Zion (Lake Co), 1 Jan (EWW); 38, Langley Bottoms (Vermilion Co), 17 Dec (SDB); 33, Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co), 20 Dec (EWW); 31, Galena (Jo Daviess Co), 23 Feb (EWW); 30, no. Vermilion Co, 1 Jan (SDB, SLD); 26, Rock Island Co, 22 Dec (KJM, EAA, JH, RBg); 25, Urb., 12 Feb (SDB); 20, Carl.L, 28 Jan (DMK).

Red Crossbill

MC: 25 & 13, Lowden-Miller SF (Ogle Co), 26 Jan & 14 Dec (AA & EWW resp), w/smaller numbers several dates thru 4 Feb (m.ob.); 20, Sand Rdg, 19 Jan (KAM); 12, Rockfd, 27 Jan (MK); 7, Kennekuk CP (Vermilion Co), 1 Jan (MJE). **Others:** "a few"; Morton Arboretum (Du Page Co), 22 Feb (PM); Kishwaukee River FP (Winnebago Co), 30 Jan (fide GAW); Lakewood FP (Lake Co), 18 Jan (SDB, SLD); Mettawa (Lake Co), 19 Jan (SDB, SLD); Mackinaw Bluffs, 12 Dec (MEF).