

*Common Redpoll at Morton Arboretum, DuPage County. Winter season 2007/2008. Photo by Paul Dacko.*



#### Northern Cardinal

**MC:** 769, Rockfd, 15 Dec (DTW, BCW); 264, Mercer Co, 21 Dec (KJM, TM, m.ob.); 246, McDonough & Fulton Cos, 15 Dec (LLH); 226, Rock Island Co, 5 Jan (KJM, JDC, JAS, m.ob.); 120, Alexander Co, 28 Dec (KJM, CAT); 101, Du Page Co, 15 Dec (GAW); 80, Carl.L., 8 & 15 Dec (DMK); 80, Ark., 27 Dec (DMK); 80, LShel, 5 Jan (DMK, MFD).

#### Red-winged Blackbird

**MC:** 311,500, Rend L, 30 Dec (KAM, CJL); 22,563, Ark., 27 Dec (KJM, RMR); 16,000, Carl.L., 18 Feb (DMK); 1000, Spfld, 3 Jan (HDB, et al.); 793, QC, 16 Dec (KJM, SBH); 95, IBSP, 1 Jan (EWW); 50, Fulton Co, 9 Jan (LLH). **Others** (central & north): 2, LShel, 5 Jan (DMK, MFD); Champaign Co, 15 Dec (EJC). Notably few reports outside south.

#### Eastern Meadowlark

**MC:** 57, Wayne, Clay, & Jasper Cos, 8 Dec (EWW); 44, Pulaski Co, 27 Dec (JDC, JAS); 40, Carl.L., 9 Dec (DMK); 31, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM); 6, Rock Island Co, 5 Jan (\*KJM, CM, JM, m.ob.); 6, L Bloomington (McLean Co), 3 Feb (MJW). **Others** (central & north): 4, Whiteside Co, 18 Dec (LB, \*KJM); 3, La Salle L, 7 Jan (CKM, JDM); 2, DeKalb Co, 27 Dec (DJS); 2, LShel, 5 Jan (DMK, MFD); Mercer Co, 21 Dec (TM, \*KJM).

#### Western Meadowlark

**MC:** 20, Carl.L., 24 Feb (DMK)—record high count for so. IL; 10, Santa Fe Bottoms (Clinton Co), 18 Feb (DMK). **Others:** Mermet L, 31 Dec (\*KJM).

#### Rusty Blackbird

**MC:** 840, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM); 400, Carl.L., 13 Jan (DMK, MS); 200, Rend L, 30 Dec (KAM, CJL); 75, Crawford Co, 18 Feb (CLH); 9, Andalusia Slough (Rock Island Co), 22 Dec (KJM, SBH). **Others** (central & north): 2, Port Louisa NWR, 21 Dec (KJM); Ottawa (La Salle Co), 7 & 18 Dec (CKM, JDM); Champaign Co, 15 Dec (SDB, GSL); Jo Daviess Co, 24 Dec (EWW).

#### Brewer's Blackbird

**MC:** 300, Carl.L., 1 Dec (DMK). **Others:** 2 (1 ad. male, 1 imm. male), Shirland (Winnebago Co), 14-16 Dec (\*DTW, RBt, JBt); 2, Mermet L, 31 Dec (\*KJM); male, Hamilton Co, 9 Dec (EWW).

#### Common Grackle

**MC:** 407,450, Rend L, 30 Dec (KAM, CJL); 18,000, Carl.L., 2 Dec (DMK); 15,000, New Athens (St. Clair Co), 19 Jan (TJD); 13,725, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM); 306, QC, 16 Dec (KJM, SBH). **Others** (central & north): 4, Fulton Co, 9 Jan (LLH); 2, Champaign Co, 15 Dec (EJC). Weak numbers outside south.



*Hoary Redpoll at Chicago Botanic Garden, Cook County. 20 January 2008. Photo by Greg Neise.*

#### Brown-headed Cowbird

**MC:** 6000, Carl.L., 1 Jan (DMK, MS); 700, Grand Ridge (La Salle Co), 3 Feb (EWW); 520, Rend L, 30 Dec (KAM, CJL, MS); 350, Wauponsee (Grundy Co), 21 Dec (EWW); 350, Spfld, 3 Jan (HDB, et al.); 87, LCal, 29 Dec (WJM, MLB, CDH, WSS); 60, Fulton Co, 9 Jan (LLH); 40, Hampton (Rock Island Co), 14 Feb (KJM).

#### Purple Finch

**MC:** 145, Mercer Co, 21 Dec (KJM, TM); 34, UCCA, 29 Dec (KJM); 28, Carroll Co, 18 Dec (KJM, LB); 20, Du Page Co, 15 Dec (UWG); 20, White Pines SP (Ogle Co), 24 Dec (EWW); 19, Sand Ridge State Forest (Macon Co), all winter (RGB, SNB); 16, Monroe Co, 2 Jan (CD, PD). **Others:** 19, Green R WA (Lee Co), 26 Dec (KJM, JDS, m.ob.); 10, Potomac (Vermilion Co), 14 Dec (SDB, SLD); 7, Champaign Co, 15 Dec (EJC, et al.); 7 (1 male, 6 female), Table Grove (Fulton Co), 10 Feb (KAM); 5, Richland Co, 19 Jan (CLH); 5 (1 male, 4 female), Boone Co, 20 Jan (AEB). Widespread in good numbers, with 2-4 birds at additional scattered sites.

#### House Finch

**MC:** 120, Carl.L., 9 Dec (DMK); 116, Carroll Co, 25 Dec (EWW); 81, Rock Island Co, 5 Jan (TM, WZ, m.ob.); 80, LShel, 5 Jan (DMK, MFD); 55, Lost Nation (Ogle Co), 23 Dec (EWW); 45, Rantoul (Champaign Co), 12 Dec (SDB); 40, Union Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 30, Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 21 Dec (KJM, TM); 8, Du Page Co, 15 Dec (UWG). Poorly reported from eastern half of state.

#### Red Crossbill

**MC:** 11, Sand Ridge SF (Mason Co), 26 Dec (AF); 7, Boone Co, 4-6 Dec (AEB); 7, IBSP, 21 Jan (EWW); 3, Worden (Madison Co), 25 Jan (JI). **Others:** Mundelein (Lake Co) (female @ feeder), 2 Dec (EL); Washington Co CA (Washington Co), 20-21 Jan (DMK, MS, KAM, m.ob.).

#### White-winged Crossbill

30, Genoa (DeKalb Co), 7 Dec (KL).

#### Common Redpoll

**MC:** 150, Binnie FP (Kane Co), 25 Jan (JD); 100, CBG, 26 Jan & 2 Feb (UWG & SDB, SLD); 25, Chi, 26 Jan (KAM, MS, DBJ, APS); 21, Ottawa (La Salle Co), 4 Jan (CKM, JDM). **Others:** 16, River Forest (Cook Co), 27 Jan (JSA); 12, Grant Woods FP (Lake Co), 3 Dec (SDB); 12, Chi, 26 Jan (MD); 12, Half Day FP (Lake Co), 12 Feb (JB, m.ob.); 9, Naperville Twp (DuPage Co), 25 Jan (JAS); 7, Naperville (Will Co), 9 Dec (JS); 6, Kane Co, 26 Jan (KAM, MS); 3, Forreston (Ogle Co), 9 Dec (AS); 3, JP, 26 Dec (PRC); 2, Knox Co, 30 Dec & 12 Feb (PR, DJM); female, Carl.L., 18 Dec (TH); Mundelein (Lake Co), 5 Feb (SDB); New Athens (St. Clair Co), 27 Feb (IUM). One to several birds at many other additional sites in the northeastern corner of state. Largest numbers since 1993-1994. More photos on page 90.

#### HOARY REDPOLL

CBG, 19-28 Jan (SG, \*DP, GN ph, m.ob. ph)..