



EAST MEETS WEST

*The western "spotted" and eastern races of the Rufous-sided Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) were seen northwest of Springfield, Illinois, the winter of 1995. Dennis Oehmke took these photos of two males on 9 Feb. 1995.*

*Notice the spotted feathers and two white wing bars of the left-facing photograph indicating western race and the lack of spots on the right-facing photograph of the eastern race. Western race (*P. e. arcticus*) normally occurs in the northwest United States and occasionally in Illinois. A photographed western race Rufous-sided Towhee was seen 8 May 1993 in Decatur, Illinois (Bohlen, H.D. *Birds of Illinois*. 1989. Indiana University Press.)*