

Palmer-Ball, B.L., Jr. 1996. The Kentucky breeding bird atlas. The University Press of Kentucky, Lexington. 372 pp.

Parker, J.W. 1974. The breeding biology of the Mississippi Kite in the Great Plains. Ph.D. dissertation, University of Kansas, Lawrence. 207 pp.

_____. 1999. Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*). In The Birds of North America, No. 402 (A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.). The Birds of North America, Inc., Philadelphia, PA.

Robbins, M.B., and D.A. Easterla. 1992. Birds of Missouri. University of Missouri Press, Columbia. 399 pp.

Robinson, J.C. 1990. An annotated checklist of the birds of Tennessee. The University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville. 274 pp.

Robinson, T.S. 1957. Notes on the development of a brood of Mississippi Kites in Barber County, Kansas. Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Sciences 60: 174-180.

Robinson, W.D. 1996. Southern Illinois Birds. Southern Illinois University Press, Carbondale. 432 pp.

Skinner, R.W. 1962. Feeding habits of the Mississippi Kite. Auk 79:273-274.

Turcotte, W.H., and D.L. Watts. 1999. Birds of Mississippi. University Press of Mississippi, Jackson. 455 pp.

Wischusen, E.W. 1998. Rates of open-field foraging by the Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia Mississippensis*). Journal of Raptor Research 32: 246-247.

— Steven D. Bailey
Illinois Natural History Survey
607 E. Peabody
Champaign, IL 61820
sdbailey@mail.inhs.uiuc.edu

Eurasian Collared-Doves in a River Forest backyard with notes on a juvenile

by Jill Anderson



The Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) manifested an impressive range expansion out of India and throughout Europe in the early 1900s (Smith 1987). It was introduced in the Bahamas in the 1970s and expanded without assistance into Florida in the 1980s (Smith 1987). This initial expansion into the continental United States went largely unnoticed, due to the Eurasian Collared-Dove's resemblance to feral populations of Ringed Turtle-Doves (*Streptopelia risoria*) found in the state of Florida (Hochachka, 1998). By the mid-1980s, however, birders realized that they were witnessing yet another rapid and wide-reaching range expansion of the Eurasian Collared-Dove.

The first documented Illinois sighting of Eurasian Collared-Dove was in southern Illinois in 1997 and the first Chicagoland records (multiple locations) were in 1998. A mixed flock of *Streptopelia* doves, including hybrids, has existed in the Joliet area since 1982, and is believed to be the result of released birds (Bohlen 1998). The arrival of

A highly likely juvenile Eurasian Collared-Dove. 29 June 2003. River Forest, Cook County. Photo by Jill Anderson.

...The juvenile bird had bluish feet (not pink), a barely discernible collar, and overall pale coloring.

Eurasian Collared-Dove in my suburban backyard in River Forest, Cook County, occurred 21 May 1998. Following historical precedent, I initially misidentified the two large doves as Ringed Turtle-Doves; a flock of introduced Ringed Turtle-Doves reside approximately six miles away, in and around the Brookfield Zoo (Bent 1997).

The excitement over the Eurasian Collared-Doves' nesting attempts at The Magic Hedge (Montrose) in Chicago a few weeks later led to a reassessment of my identification. After studying the pair at Montrose, I concluded I had seen Eurasian Collared-Doves, not Ringed Turtle-Doves, in my backyard. The backyard birds were close to Rock Pigeon in size. They had dark primaries and grey undertail coverts. Subsequent backyard sightings occurred in September 1998 and December 2001, when two birds appeared at Christmas-time. These birds became regular backyard visitors throughout the winter. One bird was killed by a neighbor's cat in April 2002. The remaining bird demonstrated courtship behavior toward Mourning Doves in spring 2002, but narrowed its attention to a Ringed Turtle-Dove that appeared in early June 2002. I was able to get excellent comparison views of the two *Streptopelia* doves at that time, including the distinctive, 3-syllable "kuk-KOOOO-kook"