

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

EA: 15 Apr, Ft Massac (KAM); 18 Apr, New Athens (St. Clair Co) (TJD); 19 Apr, Sgmn Co (HDB)—ties for record early arrival for central IL; 24 Apr, Montrose H (GAW); 27 Apr (singing), LeVasseur P (JBH); 1 May, Boone Co (AEB); 1 May, Rockfd (BCW). MC: 57, Siloam Springs, 6 May (EWW); 33, Bureau Co, 6 May (DFS); 24, Chinq. Bluffs, 6 May (MEF); 20, Carl.C, 6 & 13 May (DMK); 16, Iroquois Co CA, 14 May (GAW); 16, Ldn-Mlr, 26 May (SDB); 15, Hennepin I, 20 May (SDB, m.ob); 14, Union Co, 6 May (SDB); 11, Linc.P, 17 May (GAW). LD: 4 Jun, Grant P (DFS); 4 Jun, Linc.P (LGM).

Blue Grosbeak

EA: 21 Apr (3), Jackson Co (KAM); 23 Apr (male), Pyramid SP (Perry Co) (VMK et al.); 28 Apr (male), Richland Co (CLH); 3-6 May, HL (FRH); 8 May (2 males), Nachusa Grasslands (Ogle Co) (EWW); 10 May (female), Lyons Wds FP (Lake Co) (EWW); 15 May, s. of Victoria (Knox Co) (MJB, DJM, PR). MC: 16, Wayne Co, 1 May (DFS)—record IL high count; 15, Union Co, 6 May (SDB)—ties for second highest IL count; 4, Crab Or., 23 Apr (KAM); 4, Sand Ridge SF (Mason Co), 6 May (SAC, SNB); 4, Monroe Co, 6 May (TUM); 4, E. St. Louis (St. Clair Co), 9 May (DMK). Other: 29 Apr (male), Red Hills SP (Lawrence Co) (CLH); 6 May (3), Jasper Co (RES, CLH); 7 May, Carl.F (DMK); 9 May (male and female), South Farms (SDB, m.ob); 25 May, Chau (KAM); 26 May, Siloam Spring SP (Adams/Brown Cos) (KAM); 26 May (2), HL (JPZ).

LAZULI BUNTING

14 May 2006, Carpenter P, Springfield (Sgmn Co) (*HDB)—fourth accepted IL record.

Indigo Bunting

EA: 9 Apr, Massac Co (FKB); 21 Apr, Sgmn Co (HDB); 21 Apr (4), n. of Coulterville (Washington Co) (TJD); 23 Apr, Wabash Co (CLH); 1 May (2 males), Urb (SDB, SLD); 1 May, Rockfd (BCW); 1 May (male), JP (KDA); 3 May, GrtLakes (EWW). MC: 141, Union Co, 6 May (SDB); 60, Carl.C, multiple dates in May (DMK); 43, Henry Co, 10 May (DFS); 31, Siloam Springs, 6 May (EWW); 7, Iroquois Co CA, 14 May (GAW); 5, Linc.P, 17 May (GAW). LD: 7 Jun, Linc.P (GAW et al.); 6 Jun (2), Rainbow Beach, Chi (DFS).

Painted Bunting

EA: 17 Apr (male at feeder), Charleston (Coles Co) (D&FR:ph)—record early IL arrival. Other: 28-29 May (1st year male), E. St. Louis (St. Clair Co) (DMK, KAM).

Dickcissel

EA: 23 Apr, E. Cape Girardeau (Alexander Co) (KAM); 28 Apr, Despain Wetland (St. Clair Co) (TJD); 29 Apr, Donnelley SFWA (Putnam Co) (UWG); 2 May, Wabash Co (CLH); 6 May, e. Macon Co (TAM, MFD); 29 May, Linc.P (GAW et al.). MC: 151, Union Co, 6 May (VMK); 75, Carl.C, 6 May (DMK); 50, Grand Tower (Jackson Co), 5 May (SDB); 16, Jasper Co, 6 May (RES, CLH). LD: 6 Jun, Linc.P (RDH); 4 Jun (2), Northerly I (DFS).

Bobolink

EA: 26 Apr (5), AMAX Wabash Mine (CLH); 28 Apr (3 males), Sexton Creek Rd (Alexander Co) (TAM); 29 Apr, I. Kalkusha (Ia Salle Co) (JEH); 30 Apr (3), Carl.C (DMK); 1 May, Montrose H (GAW); 3 May (2), Garden Prairie (Boone Co) (DTW). MC: 40, Massac Co, 29 Apr (KAM, FKB, JDC); 40, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co), 17 May (JS); 20, LShelbyville (Moultrie Co), 12 May (JSS); 17, Nachusa Grasslands (Ogle Co), 8 May (EWW); 8, Montrose H, 9 May (GAW); 7, LeVasseur P, 12 May (JBH); 5, Carl.C, 15 May (DMK). LD: 13 Jun, IBSP (EWW); 7 Jun (2 males), Montrose H (RDH); 30 May, Clinton/Washington Co (DMK); 25 May (6), Horseshoe LCA (Alexander Co) (SDB).

Red-winged Blackbird

EA: 15 Feb (2 males), JP (PRC); 15 Feb (2 males), South Farms (SDB); 21 Feb (3), Argonne National Accelerator Laboratory (Du Page Co) (UWG); 26 Feb (4), Pecatonica Wetlands FP (DTW). MC: 50,000, Santa Fe Btms, 26 Mar (DMK); 1258, Heidecke I (Grundy Co), 26 Mar (GAW); 382, McDonough Co, 6 May (LLH); 250, LeVasseur P, 4 Mar (JBH); 142, Linc.P, 15 May (GAW). LD: 3 May (17 migrants), JP (PRC).

Eastern Meadowlark

EA: 25 Feb, Pit Rd (Macon Co) (TAM); 26 Feb, Fermilab National Accelerator Laboratory (Du Page Co) (UWG); 4 Mar (2), McDonough Co (LLH); 4 Mar (6), Carl.C (DMK); 9 Mar, Linc.P (GAW); 12 Mar, Boone Co (AEB). MC: 104, Wayne Co,

1 May (DFS); 81, Ford Co, 22 Apr (DFS); 60, PrRdg (Marion Co), 19 Mar (DMK); 52, PrRdg, 8 Apr (KAM); 43, Midewin Pr, 6 May (CMA, GJ); 38, Union Co, 6 May (SDB); 30, Santa Fe Btms, 19 Mar (DMK); 25, McDonough Co, 6 May (LLH); 14, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co), 12 Apr (JS). LD: 2 May, Montrose H (GAW); 20 Apr, JP (KMC).



Dickcissel, Midewin National Tall-grass Prairie, Will County. 27 May 2006. Photo by Emil Martinec.

Western Meadowlark

EA: 27 Mar-17 May (male), Urbana (Champaign Co) (SDB); 1-12 Apr (singing), Decatur (TAM et al.); 2 Apr, Brink Rd (Clinton Co) (DMK); 6 Apr (male), Milledgeville (Carroll Co) (SDB); 9 Apr, Durand (Winnebago Co) (DTW); 10 Apr, Clin I (RD); 14 Apr, Momen Sod Farm (Kankakee Co) (JBH); 17 Apr, Montrose H (GAW). MC: 6, Ford Co, 22 Apr (DFS); 6, Henry Co, 10 May (DFS); 2, Kaneville (Kane Co), 30 Apr (SAC); 2, Midewin Pr, 6 May (CMA, GJ). Other: 29 Apr, Senachwine Co P (Putnam Co) (UWG); 1 May, Wayne Co (DFS); 24 May, Du Page Co Airport (KAM).

Yellow-headed Blackbird

EA: 14 Apr (ad. male), Eggers Wds FP, ICal (CAM); 16 Apr, Hennepin I (fide ABA); 18 Apr (4 males), Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (JS). MC: 35 (males), Spring I (Carroll Co), 13 May (DTW)—record spring high count; 23, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co), 26 May (JS); 30 (22 males, 8 females), Hennepin I, 19-20 May (SDB, m.ob); 3 (at feeder), Wolf I, LCal, 4 May (AO, CAM). Other: 10-23 May, McHenry Dam (McHenry Co) (ADF, KAM); 6 May (banded male at feeder), near Wolf I, LCal (CAM, AO:ph)—"This male was banded [by MPW] 8 Jul 2002 at Ruddy Marsh, which is part of Rollins Savanna...When it was banded, it was aged as an after second-year male, so this male is at least seven years old (MPW fide ABA)".

Rusty Blackbird

EA: 25 Feb (15), Calamus I NPSv (Macon Co) (TAM); 4 Mar, LeVasseur P (JBH); 4 Mar (5—2 males, 3 females), se. of Bushnell (McDonough Co) (LLH); 8 Mar, Mennet L (CLH); 11 Mar (11), IBSP (EWW); 11 Mar (200), Carl.C (DMK); 12 Mar, Hennepin I (WJM, JSA); 13 Mar (9—5 males, 4 females), JP (PRC). MC: 4000, Santa Fe Btms, 26 Mar (DMK)—unprecedented spring high count, with previous maxima to 1000 birds (Jackson Co, 8 Apr 1996); 400, Carl.C, 2-9 Apr (DMK); 100+, Durand (Winnebago Co), 12 Mar (DTW); 78, Des Plaines FWA (Will Co), 26 Mar (GAW); 52, Massac Co, 10 Apr (KAM); 40, LeVasseur P, 5 Mar (JBH). LD: 19 May, Sgmn Co (HDB)—second latest spring departure date and latest for central IL by ten days; 6 May (female), Midewin Pr (CMA, GJ); 6 May, Bowen P, Wauk. (JS); 29 Apr (15), Oakwood Btms (Jackson Co) (KAM, FKB, JDC); 13 Apr (60), Santa Fe Btms (DMK); 9 Apr (8), Four Lakes FP (Winnebago Co) (DTW).

Brewer's Blackbird, Fayette County. 15 April 2006.

Photo by Travis A. Mahan.

Brewer's Blackbird

EA: 9 Mar (400), Carl.C (DMK); 12 Mar (10), Pecatonica (DTW); 16 Apr, IBSP (AFS). MC: 6000, Carl.C, 11 Mar (DMK)—record IL high count, shattering previous high of 1500 set on 27 Mar 2004; 300 (feeding in a freshly plowed field), Carson Twp (Fayette Co), 15 Apr (TAM); 16, IBSP, 29 Apr (AFS); 15+, AMAX Wabash Mine, 28 Mar (CLH); 7, PrRdg (Marion Co), 1 Apr (DTW, IOS). LD: 21 May, Pecatonica (LGB)—record late date away from ne. IL; 15 Apr (40), Carl.C (DMK). Other: Multiple tallies of 200+ near Carl.C through March and early April (DMK).

Common Grackle

EA: 18 Feb, Wolf I, LCal (WJM); 23 Feb (3), Winthrop H (EWW); 26 Feb (male), Spoon R Btms (Fulton Co) (LLH); 1 Mar (16), Rockfd (DTW); 2 Mar, Linc.P (GAW); 2 Mar (3), Argonne National Accelerator Laboratory (Du Page Co) (UWG). MC: 70,000, Santa Fe Btms, 26 Mar (DMK)—third highest spring count; 106, Linc.P, 8 Apr (GAW); 96, LeVasseur P, 30 May (JBH). LD: 6 May (44), JP (PRC).

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE

13 May 2006 (ad. male), Spring I (Carroll Co) (*DTW)—eighth IORC-accepted record.

Brown-headed Cowbird

EA: 25 Feb, Zion (Lake Co) (EWW); 4 Mar (5), Grayslake (Lake Co) (SDB); 12 Mar (10), Carl.C (DMK); 12 Mar, HL (ERH). MC: 400, Carl.C, 13 Apr (DMK); 300, Heidecke I (Grundy Co), 26 Mar (GAW); 73, JP, 31 Mar (PRC); 64, LeVasseur P, 16 Apr (JBH); 40+ (at feeder), Bushnell (McDonough Co), 21 Mar (LLH). LD: 8 Jun, Linc.P (GAW)—latest date among very limited data on spring departures; 1 May (23 migrants), JP (PRC).

Orchard Oriole

EA: 14 Apr, Oakwood Btms (KAM)—ties for third earliest IL arrival date; 19 Apr,