

Benedictis 1994), hence the quotation marks around the Latin species name 'risoria.' It may also have been partially derived from the European Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) (American Ornithologists' Union 1983). While the Brookfield birds undoubtedly arose from escaped or released domestic Ringed Turtle-Doves, it is unclear which of these two possible wild progenitors are their ancestors. A comparison of the field marks of the African and European Collared Doves with the birds observed in Brookfield yields conflicting results (Table 1, page 16). While more of the evidence points to an African origin for the Brookfield birds (neck collar, primaries, lower belly, undertail coverts, and lack of call) there is also some evidence for European origins (body, upper side of tail, size). Finally, the fact that both songs have been heard in this population over time adds to the confusion, and suggests that at least where the Brookfield birds are con-

cerned both the African and European Collared doves have contributed genetically to the ancestors of the Ringed Turtle-Dove.

Regardless of the ultimate origin of the Ringed Turtle-Dove, it is now an entirely domestic bird and no natural populations are found anywhere (DeBenedictis 1994), though numerous naturalized populations have been established around the world from escaped or deliberately released birds. In the United States these populations have been found in California, Florida, and Alabama (Long 1981, Lever 1987). It should be noted that both Long and Lever mix accounts of Barbary doves (Ringed Turtle-Doves) in with their more general accounts of "Collared Doves" (which both identify as *Streptopelia decaocto*), further demonstrating the taxonomic uncertainty surrounding these species. In fact, the Ringed Turtle-Doves in Florida are apparently being replaced by European Collared Doves, and there is some

evidence of hybridization at St. Petersburg (DeBenedictis 1994).

The continuing appearance of white and pied birds hints at the ongoing release of captive bred birds, though it should be noted that the Brookfield Zoo does not keep any *Streptopelia* species in its collection (and has not for at least 20 years) so the birds did not originate at the zoo. However, the Brookfield population appears to be at least partially self-sustaining. Nests have been observed for years at Brookfield Zoo, and juveniles have appeared at feeders in the village of Brookfield. Time will tell whether this bird is persistent enough to form a breeding and fully self-sustaining population in Illinois, and therefore become a "countable" species. Meanwhile, when on a visit to Brookfield Zoo or to the village of Brookfield, be sure to examine each "Mourning Dove" you see — you may actually be observing a Ringed Turtle-Dove.

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