

tics: a pinkish bill with a dark culmen, grayish toned underparts, white wing bars, a darker more pronounced eye line than that of the juvenile, fine dark streaking through the slightly rufous-colored crown, a gray nape, a slightly indistinct malar stripe, a buff to grayish supercilium, and a long notched tail.

The first basic bird is similar to a definitive basic Chipping Sparrow, but has less rufous on the crown. Also, its breast and sides are tinged with a buffy coloration.

Learning the juvenile and basic plumages of the Chipping Sparrow is useful as a basis for comparison with other confusing juvenile and basic *Spizella* Sparrows such as a Clay-colored Sparrow which might occur in Illinois in the fall and can look strikingly similar.

In the next issue of *Meadowlark*, we'll feature illustrations of juvenile and basic Clay-colored Sparrows. Then you'll be able to compare the illustrations and field marks you've learned from the benchmark juvenile to basic Chipping Sparrow plumages.

By all means, take a long hard look at the next juvenile Chipping Sparrow you see and also observe the adults during fall migration to see if any are acquiring their basic winter plumage.

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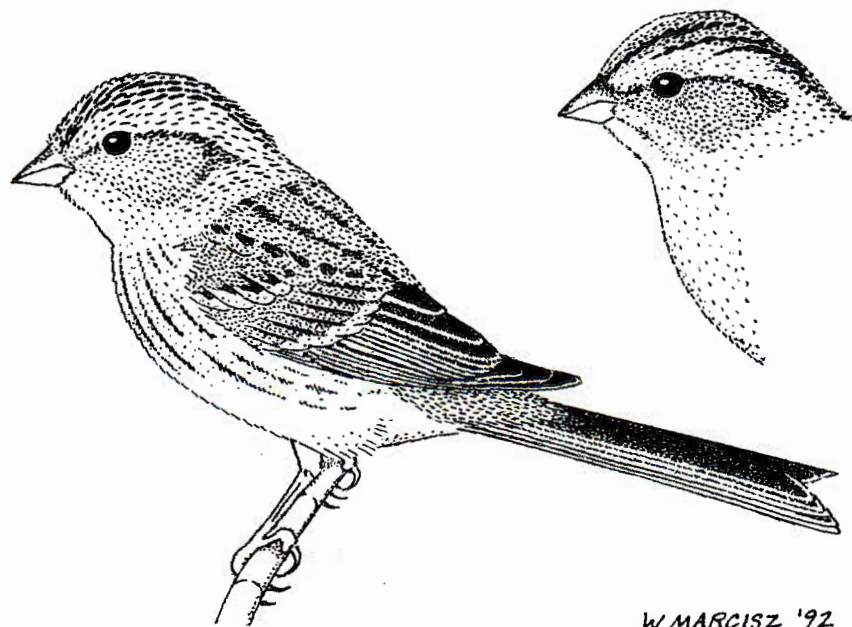
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1. Juvenile Chipping Sparrow. 2. (inset) Definitive basic Chipping Sparrow.