

one examines the feet of a Mourning Dove, some missing toes may be found (pers. obs.), likely caused by frostbite. Also, there has been a report of one of Missouri's Inca Dove reports that "was found huddled by a clothes-dryer vent in December 1987" (Wilson 1997).

### Inca Dove expansion

The Inca Dove was originally confined to arid habitats in Mexico and northern Central America, but has extended its range northward into the southwestern United States and southward into central Costa Rica. In these areas it is often a common to abundant suburban and urban year-round resident, often occurring at bird feeders, on lawns and in gardens, empty lots and other short-grass areas, with a seeming affinity for human dwellings, apparently due to the easy access to water in such areas (Mueller 1992, Sibley 2000). The United States population as a regular resident species is currently restricted to southeast California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. Early explorers did not report the species in Arizona, and the first reports were from Tucson in 1872, increasing rapidly until the species was well-established in the Phoenix area by 1885. The first report from New Mexico was in 1924, and in Texas in 1866, where it was common in San Antonio by 1904. With continued range expansion the Inca Dove has become common in Lubbock and is breeding in Wichita Falls in extreme north Texas (Mueller 1992). California's apparent first record was in 1948 (Monson 1954). The species has been slowly increasing in southern Nevada and southwestern Utah during the past decade (Fridell and Summers 2004). Just within the last few years, this species has made considerable inroads into the southeastern corner of Colorado (Lamar, Rocky Ford and Pueblo), which is just fewer than 100 miles, almost due west "as the dove flies," from the town of Garden City (Finney County) in southwestern Kansas where the breeding avant-garde for this species currently resides. In fact, one yard in Garden City has attracted up to 18 (including several pairs) Inca Doves and 106

(including many young birds) White-winged Doves (as well as numbers of Mourning and Eurasian Collared-Doves). The owners of this yard and one other a couple blocks away feed more than 700 pounds of sunflower chips in just two or three months, no doubt a big part of why these birds have a continuous population in that area (T. Shane, pers. comm.). As of 31 May, 2004, there had been at least 76 records of Inca Dove in Kansas from 26 counties, with 68 of these having been recorded since 1990 and with 40 of those between January



*Inca Dove, St. Charles County, Missouri. Charlene Malone took this photo in January 2004. This photo represents the third state record of Inca Dove in Missouri.*

2000 through May 2004, showing the movement into that state from areas to the south (Moore 2004).

Prior to Illinois' recent Inca Dove record, the species had been recorded in several other surrounding Midwestern states including Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, and Michigan. Tennessee's first, said-to-be long-overdue Inca Dove was found 21-22 May, 2005 (Sloan and Palmer-Ball, Jr. 2005). It then was quickly followed by the state's second, 28 August 2005 (Sloan and Palmer-Ball, Jr. 2006). Kentucky's first record is of a specimen, shot by a dove hunter on 1 October 2000 (McNeely 2003); its second was found and photographed 9-11 Feb. 2002 near grain-storage bins with several Eurasian Collared-Doves (Yandell 2003). A bird photographed at Whitefish Point Bird Observatory was the first record for Michigan and the upper Great Lakes region 7-11 October 2004 (Svingen 2005). Missouri's first Inca showed up at a

feeder and stayed from mid-December – 6 February 1987-88 (Robbins and Easterla 1992), within ten miles of the Kansas-Nebraska-Missouri state line. This record fits the post-breeding dispersal pattern in areas to the south of Missouri where the species is more common. Missouri's second record occurred at a feeder in north-central Missouri 5-11+ March 1995 (Hazelwood 1995), with the third not arriving until 1-29 January 2004, coming to feeders (Rowe 2004), within ten miles of the southern tip of Calhoun County, Illinois. This was followed by Missouri's fourth bird, again at a feeder, near Springfield from at least 8-18 February 2006 (Mayo 2006). There are currently no accepted records for Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Indiana or Ohio.

### White-winged Dove expansion

The White-winged Dove has a very similar range as the Inca Dove, both in and outside the United States, but also includes much of the West Indies as well as much of south Florida. However, this dove has historically had a resident population in the southern regions of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California, with the lower Rio Grande Valley likely being the area of greatest abundance in the United States, at least prior to the 1980s (Schwertner et al. 2002). The distribution of this species has expanded dramatically during the late twentieth century with a resident population in south Florida likely established in 1959 through the release of captive raised birds from the West Indian population, as well as a range expansion beginning in the 1970s from the Trans-Pecos region of Texas to now include much of Texas and into Oklahoma. Since the 1980s, nesting has occurred along the entire Gulf Coast and most of Florida, with extralimital records indicating a possible continued expansion northward along both the Pacific and Atlantic Coasts (Schwertner et al. 2002, Brinkley and Baicich 2004). Southwest Kansas and southeastern Colorado seem to be the northern edge of an increasing