

## Host List, continued

• **Vesper Sparrow**, *Pooecetes gramineus* — Host. Common in open areas. BBS: 3.6. G&G: 250,000 — 390,000. REF: Blocher 1924; Clark 1901; Friedmann 1963. SETS: 1 from FMNH.

• **Lark Sparrow**, *Chondestes grammacus* — Host. Rare to locally common in open areas or sandy soil. BBS: 0.5. G&G: 500,000 — 80,000. REF: Kleen 1979/80; J. B. Milosevich in Kleen 1993. SETS: 7 from FMNH.

• **Le Conte's Sparrow**, *Ammodramus leconteii* — Host. Formerly very rare in northeast Illinois. One set taken 20 May 1934 from Cook Co. by James G. Suthard had 2 sparrow eggs plus a cowbird chick (WVZ 114204).

• **Grasshopper Sparrow**, *Ammodramus savaanarum* — Host. Common in open grasslands. BBS: 4.4. G&G: 700,000. SETS: 1 from DMNH.

• **Henslow's Sparrow**, *Ammodramus henslowii* — Victim. Very local in grasslands. BBS: +. REF: Friedmann 1963; Friedmann and Kiff 1985. SETS: 2 from WFVZ.

• **Song Sparrow**, *Melospiza melodia* — Host. Common in brushy areas, woodland edges and open areas. BBS: 19.7. G&G: 180,000 — 250,000. Set with 2 sparrow and 7 cowbird eggs (Blocher 1924, 1926). A total of 56 cowbird eggs were laid in 32 of 54 nests found at Morton Arboretum (B. M. Strausberger, unpubl.). REF: Bodensten 1932; Cory 1909; Du Bois 1918a, 1918b; Ford 1956; Friedmann 1929, 1963; Goelitz 1915a; Kleen 1995, Nehrling 1880-85; Paul 1969; Peer and Bollinger 1997; Thompson 1960. SETS: 19 (WFVZ, FMNH, ChAS).

• **Lincoln's Sparrow**, *Melospiza lincolnii* — Host. Not known to breed in Illinois. A supposed Illinois record is of a set in the Chicago Academy of Sciences (ChAS 2387) which includes the note "questionable record—Very early nesting and large egg." This set was taken 11 May 1896 near Kenilworth, Cook Co., by J. A. Sears.

• **Swamp Sparrow**, *Melospiza georgiana* — Host. Uncommon in moist habitats. BBS: +. REF: Friedmann et al. 1977; Nehrling 1880-85. SETS: 1 from WFVZ.

• **Bobolink**, *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* — Host. Fairly common in openfields. BBS: 4.5. G&G: 1,200,000 — 1,900,000. One northern Illinois set found with 5 + 4 eggs (Abbott 1907). REF: Cory 1909; Friedmann et al. 1977; Goelitz 1915a. SETS: 11 (WFVZ, S, FMNH, DMNH, APM, ChAS).

• **Red-winged Blackbird**, *Agelaius phoeniceus* — Host. Abundant in open habitats. BBS: 191.7. G&G: 5,100,000 — 8,400,000. Goelitz (1916) tells of taking 11 cowbird eggs from a 25 pair red-wing colony on 17 June 1916 and another 6 eggs 10 days later. A total of 52 cowbird eggs were laid in 42 of 114 nests found at Morton Arboretum (B. M. Strausberger, unpubl.). Blocher's (1924) description of a nest found with 3 + 1 young casts doubt on his observation: he wrote that "... in a couple days the Cowbird was twice the size of the Red-wings and in a week he had in some way crowded them out as he was the sole owner." REF: Blocher 1924, 1937; Friedmann 1929, 1963; Kleen 1995; Paruk 1992; Peer and Bollinger 1997; Smith 1943, 1949; Thompson 1960. SETS: 5 (WFVZ, MVZ, FMNH, SBM).

• **Eastern Meadowlark**, *Sturnella magna* — Host. Common in pastures, hayfields and fallow fields. BBS: 41.3. G&G: estimates for both meadowlark species 4,000,000 — 3,800,000. Nest with 4 + 1 + 1 Bobolink eggs (Barnes 1914a). REF: Blocher 1924; Eifrig 1915, 1919; Friedmann 1929, 1963; Goelitz 1915a; Gross in Bent 1958; Thompson 1960; Silloway 1906. SETS: 6 (WFVZ, DMNH, ChAS, FMNH).

• **Western Meadowlark**, *Sturnella neglecta* — Victim. Uncommon locally in open habitats in northern and central Illinois. BBS: 6.7.

• **Yellow-headed Blackbird**, *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus* —

Victim. Uncommon in marshes in northern Illinois. BBS: +. REF: Friedmann 1929, 1963; Friedmann et al. 1977; Loucks 1893b.

• **Brewer's Blackbird**, *Euphagus cyanocephalus* — Host. Rare in open habitats of northeast corner of the state. BBS: 0.1. The one set documenting cowbird parasitism (FMNH 2898) was taken by G. Pearsall near Waukegan, Lake Co., on 21 May 1940 and included 4 + 1 eggs.

• **Common Grackle**, *Quiscalus quiscula* — Victim. Abundant in edge, agricultural and residential habitats. BBS: 131.5. G&G: 4,100,000 — 3,600,000. REF: Barnes 1918; Friedmann 1929, 1963; Strumberg 1879; Thompson and Robinson 1963. SETS: 2 at FMNH.

• **Orchard Oriole**, *Icterus spurius* — Host. Common in open wooded habitats. A total of 15 cowbird eggs were laid in all 9 nests found at Morton Arboretum (B. M. Strausberger, unpubl.). BBS: 0.7. G&G: 400,000 — 120,000. REF: Friedmann et al. 1977; Kleen 1993; Trine et al., in press. SETS: 2 (FMNH, WFVZ).

• **Baltimore Oriole**, *Icterus galbula* — Host. Common in woodlands. Cowbird eggs were laid in 2 of 8 nests found at Morton Arboretum (B. M. Strausberger, unpubl.). Baltimore Orioles are known to eject cowbird eggs (Rothstein 1975). BBS: 2.4. REF: Du Bois 1918a.

• **American Goldfinch**, *Carduelis tristis* — Host. Common in weedy, shrubby habitats. BBS: 9.7. G&G: 880,000. REF: Friedmann 1929, 1963.

• **House Finch**, *Carpodacus mexicanus* — Host. Uncommon and increasing in residential habitats. Cowbird eggs were laid in 4 of 6 nests found at Morton Arboretum (B. M. Strausberger, unpubl.). In Coles Co., cowbirds laid 9 eggs in 7 of 12 House Finch nests (Peer and Bollinger 1997).

• **House Sparrow**, *Passer domesticus* — Host. Abundant in agricultural and residential habitats. BBS: 235.7. G&G: 5,300,000 — 6,100,000. SETS: 1 at WFVZ.