During this period, Jones divided the spit into three areas: the Bar, the Dunes, and the Ridge. The narrow Bar section ran some 4.75 miles from the mainland, and was covered with "straggling individual trees, none of any considerable size." However, along the entire length of the marsh border was a growth of bushes, mostly willow and buttonbush, which served as a natural corridor for migrating birds. Heading west out the spit for the next two miles was the Dune section, covered with larger trees (mostly cottonwoods), underbrush, and a variable width of grass-covered dunes, the highest of which, according to Francis and Francis's *Cedar Point—The Queen of American Watering Places* (1988), reached 27 feet. The furthest mile of the spit was known as the Ridge, and expanded to one-half mile in width, covered in a dense deciduous and cedar forest. The Ridge section's distance from the mainland, combined with the thick vegetation, made a natural migrant trap of outstanding character. According to Jones, the spit's "great length as compared with its width causes a crowding of birds all along the western half during the great days of migration, such a crowding, in fact, that every species is found in normally impossible places." Sounds good to me.

But of course the Cedar Point peninsula has seen some development since the days of Prof. Jones. Actually, a modest beer-garden resort had already existed on a small portion of the Ridge section as early as the 1870s. The Cedar Point Pleasure Resort, situated a mile east of the tip, attracted more free-spenders in the late 1880s. The Grand Pavilion was built in 1888, and although the first semblance of a roller-coaster was installed in 1892, rides and amusement attractions did not become an area attraction until the period from 1905 to 1920. Instead, the resort was best known for its bathing beaches, dining, and various stage productions. With a daily attendance som etimes reaching 10,000 by the early 1900s, expansion was inevitable. The lagoons were dug into the Ridge section west of the Pavilion in 1904, expanding into previously undeveloped natural areas. In 1905, the famous Breakers Hotel opened, hosting celebrities ranging from several US Presidents to John Philip Sousa, John D. Rockefeller, and Annie Oakley. But keep in mind that everyone visiting the resort arrived by water—Henry Ford hadn't introduced his Model-T until 1908. With the advent of the auto, resort owners soon recognized the need for a permanent roadway serving the area. Thus, in 1914 the "Chaussee" was opened, stretching from the mainland to nearly three-fourths the distance of the entire peninsula. This, of course, paved the way for development of the rest of the area, and although substantial development of the Bar section did not occur until the 1950s, the damage had been done.

One more quote from Prof. Jones: "There seems little reasonable doubt that a continuous study of the birds [of the Point]...would result in the discovery of species which have hitherto eluded observation, and would discover movements as yet hardly suspected." Based on the developments he must have witnessed, I suspect Prof. Jones had more than an inkling of what was to become of his precious birding haven, and his determination to establish its grandeur in the historical record speaks for itself. Crusader for a cause or not, his articles speak eloquently of what was and what might again be, if given the chance. I'm not holding my breath, but it seems a lot can happen in a hundred years. *A Paradise Mislaid. I'm sure we must have put it somewhere for safekeeping—if we could only remember where...*

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Eurasian Collared-Dove: The Next New Ohio Species?

by Joseph W. Hammond

Paralleling the American Birding Association's recent forecasts of new bird species for North America, Ohio birders have speculated which species were most likely to be discovered next in our state. In a recent debate on one of Ohio's Internet discussion groups, several active and knowledgeable birders shared opinions on the Buckeye State's next additions to the official checklist. Many species were mentioned, and none of the forecasts was without merit. Although predicting bird occurrences is like trying to gauge the outside weather from within a cave, a clear trend emerged—Columbids were very popular candidates for imminent arrival. Eurasian collared-dove *Streptopelia decaocto*, white-winged dove *Zenaida asiatica*, and common ground-dove *Columbina passerina* appeared on many lists, mainly due to the family's tendency for wandering and recent records in nearby states and provinces. Often, Eurasian collared-dove topped the list of anticipated arrivals. Ohio birders still have to wait for one dove species, but the other two foreseen have become realities. On 5 November 1999, Jared Mizanin discovered the first new addition to the official checklist since the online tarot reading in the form of a common ground-dove in Cuyahoga County (Mizanin 2000). Then, Rosalyn Rinehart discovered the next new Ohio species by finding a white-winged dove in Logan County on 10 June 2000 (see related article in this issue). To date, the only species added to the Ohio checklist since these predictions have been doves—Columbids expected by Ohio birders. This leaves us with only one—the Eurasian collared-dove.

Eurasian Collared-Doves, Past and Present

The Eurasian collared-dove is a recent invader into North America. Native to the Indian subcontinent, this species at first expanded its range fairly slowly over the course of several hundred years until it began to blitzkrieg Europe in the 1930s (Smith 1987, Youth 1998). There, the birds began a rapid expansion, taking the continent by storm. By 1952 they had reached Great Britain, and began to nest there just three years later (Smith 1987, Youth 1998). They reached Iceland by 1971, and by the early 1980s the population in West Germany exceeded a million (Cramp and Simmons 1985, as cited in Smith 1987). Although the population in northwestern Europe seems to be at equilibrium, Eurasian collared-doves are still expanding their range northeast into the former Soviet republics and to the southwest (Smith 1987).

Eurasian collared-dove dispersal tends to occur in the spring and generally moves in a westward direction; however, there are differing opinions as to whether the dispersers are adults looking for nest sites away from an already saturated area (Smith 1987) or year-old birds looking to establish new territories (Youth 1998). At any rate, dispersing individuals tend to establish new colonies several hundred miles away from their originating points. As time goes by, other dispersing individuals fill in the range gap created by the original wanderers.

In the early 1970s, a bird breeder in Nassau, Bahamas received a delivery of doves supposed to be domestic (ringed) turtle-doves *Streptopelia 'risoria'*. Instead, the breeder received Eurasian collared-doves. In December 1974, several teenagers broke into the breeder's aviary looking for parakeets, and in the process released some of the Eurasian collared-doves. This discouraged the breeder and caused him to release the

remaining doves, bringing the total number of escaped prisoners to approximately 50 (Smith 1987). These 50 doves quickly bred and expanded their range in the Bahamas, and at some point during the late 1970s spread their wings, pointed themselves west, and headed to the Sunshine State.

It is unknown when Eurasian collared-doves first occurred in Florida because of the confusion between this species and the commonly-kept ringed turtle-dove (domestic strain of the African collared-dove *Streptopelia roseogrisea*). No pre-1990 North American field guides illustrated the Eurasian collared-dove, instead illustrating the ringed turtle-dove, then considered established near St. Petersburg, Florida and Los Angeles, California. Because of this oversight, immigrant Eurasian collared-doves were at first passed off as ringed turtle-doves. It is certain, though, that Eurasian collared-doves were nesting near Homestead, Florida by 1982 (Smith and Kale 1986). Throughout the 1980s they spread across peninsular Florida, reaching outposts as far away as Tampa by 1986.

Dispersing Eurasian collared-doves continued their march north and west in the 1990s, crossing state lines and putting hundreds of miles between them and their source population. In 1992, the American Birding Association removed ringed turtle-dove from its official checklist, having determined there were "no self-sustaining populations of this 'species'...anywhere in North America" (DeBenedictis 1994). Essentially, ringed-turtle dove populations once considered established were declining (due in Florida to competition from expanding Eurasian collared-doves), were highly dependent on feeding by humans, and needed bolstering from additional releases to sustain themselves. With the ringed turtle-dove's removal from the checklist, a new species, the Eurasian collared-dove, took its place among North American's avifauna with a vote of 7-0 (DeBenedictis 1994).

Eurasian collared-doves are now common to abundant in Florida, Louisiana, east Texas, and Montgomery, Alabama (Youth 1998). The species has been reported and/or recorded in at least 32 states and three Canadian provinces thus far, and—closer to Ohio—is on the official state lists of Illinois, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, New Jersey, and Wisconsin. It has also been reported in New York, and sightings from 1999 and 2000 are currently under review by the Indiana and Kentucky bird records committees. In effect, there is a donut of Eurasian collared-dove records around Ohio and we are the left-over hole. In fact, Eurasian collared-doves are nesting as close as Kentucky and Illinois. As of 20 July 2000, four "established" colonies were present in Kentucky—seven birds in Graves County, five birds in Todd County, and an unknown number of birds in both Ballard and Fulton Counties (Kentucky Bird Line, 20 July 2000). In Joliet, Illinois, there is a sizeable colony of Eurasian collared-doves, ringed turtle-doves, *and* their hybrids (Youth 1998). The Illinois population could be the source for future establishments in states to its north and west; however, the Kentucky population may well be that from which Ohio adds its first Eurasian collared-dove to the official state checklist.

Identifying Eurasian Collared-Doves

With the burgeoning population of Eurasian collared-doves in North America, Ohio birders need to be aware of their imminent occurrence and what to look for. First, observers should concentrate on the general aspects of the species in order to determine if there is the possibility of Eurasian collared-dove. Eurasian collared-doves

are light-colored with larger, fuller bodies than mourning doves *Zenaida macroura* and have slightly shorter, squared-off tails. They are also smaller and slimmer than rock doves *Columba livia*, but have proportionately longer tails. If a bird matching this general description is observed, it may well pay off to investigate it further.

Given a decent look, collared doves are easily distinguishable from mourning and rock doves. (Unhyphenated, "collared dove" indicates a dove with a collar as opposed to an individual species of "collared-dove".) The confusion lies in separating Eurasian collared-dove and ringed turtle-dove. Both species have light-colored bodies and a dark crescent (the collar) on the nape. There are strains of ringed turtle-dove, however, which lack dark collars. In addition, there are various color-morphs ranging from snow white to tangerine (Smith 1987). In this discussion we will focus on the more common, original (fawn) phenotype of ringed turtle-dove. Ringed turtle-doves are smaller and slimmer than the robust Eurasian collared-doves, with body proportions akin to a mourning dove, except that they have shorter tails. Ringed turtle-doves tend to be creamy-white in color with a hint of tan, whereas a Eurasian collared-dove is "pale sandy brown with [a] buffy gray neck, head, [and] underparts" (Smith 1987). These characteristics are somewhat subjective in nature in the field and if a lone bird is observed, it might be difficult to ascertain size and relative color.

There are, however, other characteristics defining Eurasian collared-doves and these require seeing the bird's wings and undertail. When perched, a Eurasian collared-dove's primaries will appear very dark brown to almost black, contrasting strongly with the sandy-colored wing coverts (Photo 1). A ringed turtle-dove's primaries will appear to be not much darker, but more silvery than the wing coverts (Photo 2). In flight or while stretching, a Eurasian collared-dove will exhibit a three-toned wing pattern on the upper surface. Its sandy shoulder area is separated from the dark primaries by a silvery patch at the wrist (greater and lesser primary coverts) (Blackshaw 1988). On the other hand, a ringed turtle-dove shows a uniformly-colored or slightly two-toned pattern to the upper wing because the primaries are only slightly darker than the secondaries and wing coverts (Photo 3).

The undertail coverts of the species differ markedly. On a Eurasian collared-dove, this area will appear grayish, similar to the rest of the bird's underparts (Photo 1). A ringed turtle-dove's undertail coverts are white, sometimes contrasting with the rest of the bird's underparts (Photo 4). Both species have dark portions to the undersides of the tail feathers extending out from the body. On a Eurasian collared-dove, this dark area reaches approximately to the tip of the undertail coverts (Photo 1). On a ringed turtle-dove, this area tends to not even approach the tip of the undertail coverts (Photo 4). In addition, the outer webs of the outer tail feathers are diagnostic. This area is mostly dark on a Eurasian collared-dove (Photo 1) and mostly white on a ringed turtle-dove (Photo 4).

The white border surrounding the black collar on Eurasian collared-doves is variable in thickness, often difficult to observe in the field, and varies in appearance depending on viewing conditions. Although the presence of a prominent white border is sometimes mentioned as a field characteristic of Eurasian collared-dove (e.g., the 1987 National Geographic Society *Field Guide to North American Birds*), it should not be used as a basis for identification. In fact, the ringed turtle-dove photographed for this article had a fairly noticeable white border around its black collar.

Another distinguishing trait of the Eurasian collared-dove is its call/song, which is given while perched. Smith (1987) described it as a series of unrolled "kuk-kooooooó-kook"s with brief pauses between the individual phrases. The ringed turtle-dove's call/

Photo 1. This Eurasian collared-dove furnished Missouri with its first record. Note the dark primaries, gray undertail coverts, dark undertail area reaching the tip of the undertail coverts, and dark outer webs of the outer tail feathers. Photo by Paul Johnson, St. Louis, MO.

Photo 2. When perched, a ringed turtle-dove's primaries will appear to be only slightly darker than the wing coverts. They sometimes have a silvery cast. Photo by Joe Hammond.

Photo 3. During flight or while stretching, a ringed turtle-dove's upperwings will appear one-colored or slightly two-toned (like the above). This is in contrast to the Eurasian collared -dove's three-toned wing pattern. Photo by Joe Hammond.

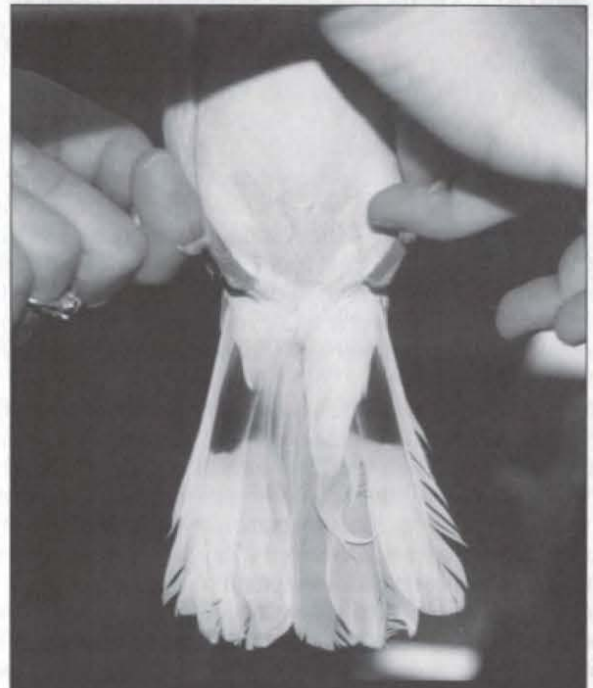

Photo 4. The undertail coverts of a ringed turtle-dove are white and extend past the dark portion of the tail feathers. Also, the outer webs of the outer tail feathers are white. Photo by Joe Hammond.

song was described as a rolled "kooeek-krrrrooooo(aw)" with longer pauses between phrases (Smith 1987). The call/song of the Eurasian collared-dove can be heard on the Internet at <http://www2.birdersworld.com/birders/birdaudio/collareddove/collareddove.html>. Additionally, the call notes of these species differ. Although ringed turtle-doves give their call notes while perched, Eurasian collared-doves do this only while in flight and while landing. The Eurasian collared-dove's call note is a harsh one-note scream which sounds somewhat like a loud gray catbird *Dumetella carolinensis*. The ringed turtle-dove's call notes are soft, repeated laughing sounds.

Behavior can also be a clue toward identifying collared doves. If the bird allows a close approach, it is probably a ringed turtle-dove. If the bird seems wary and flies away at the slightest sign that someone is getting close, it is probably a Eurasian collared-dove. Again, these characteristics are just clues. One cannot base an identification solely on the approachability of the bird in question.

Recent Collared Dove Reports in Ohio

Because ringed turtle-doves are commonly kept in captivity and occasionally escape from or are released by their owners, collared dove reports are not new to Ohio birders. Prior to the advance of the Eurasian collared-dove in the United States, these reports were almost always known to involve ringed turtle-doves. The first well-known Ohio record of ringed turtle-dove came from Wayne County on 3-6 September 1965. The observer, L. Hubbard, was able to obtain a photo of this bird. Ten years later, another ringed turtle-dove was documented in Cleveland on 11 August 1975 by O. Davies. In 1980, one of two reports actually involved an attempted nesting in the Dayton area. A ringed turtle-dove was first observed on 11 March and remained in the area throughout the spring and summer seasons. Unfortunately for the turtle-dove, its chosen nest companion was a genus-crossing mourning dove and no eggs or young were produced. The other 1980 report was of a single bird in Lucas County on 15 August. Three ringed turtle-doves were tallied on the 19 December 1982 Lakewood Christmas Bird Count, furnishing the first multiple report for Ohio. This record did not last, however, as six birds nested in the Toledo area in 1984 before leaving in December. Finally, a single bird lingered at a Lucas County feeder from 6 January-1 October 1985 and another single was observed in Lorain County from early August-September 1990.

Recently, collared dove reports have piqued the interests of many Ohio birders due to the fact that a new species could be involved. To date, however, none of these recent reports have conclusively confirmed that Eurasian collared-doves have ever occurred in Ohio. This is not to say this species has never been found here, but that factors involved in the observation and documentation of these doves have lent themselves to ambiguous interpretations. Oftentimes, key features are poorly seen or not seen at all, resulting in dove observations indeterminable as to species. In June 1998, Ella Perkins photographed an odd bird at her Carroll County feeder. This photograph was posted to the "Birding News Around Ohio" website managed by Vic Fazio, and several people offered opinions on the identity of the bird. Based on color, shape, and proportions relative to the adjacent mourning dove, it was determined that this sighting involved a ringed turtle-dove. It was much too white for a Eurasian collared-dove and did not appear any larger than the mourning dove. In addition, its shape seemed about the same as the mourning dove. These features rule out the larger, stockier, and browner Eurasian collared-dove.

In July 1999, a collared dove appeared at a dairy farm in Adams County and stayed for approximately seven days. This bird was originally identified as a ringed turtle-dove by the property owners and they eventually notified ODNR's Martin McAllister. He was able to view the bird several times and, based on field marks and call, identified it as a Eurasian collared-dove. Although McAllister had no previous experience with either species, it was a cooperative bird and allowed excellent looks, permitting him to make a most-likely correct identification. By the time McAllister was able to take another observer to the location and ask if the property owners would agree to having this sighting spread throughout the birding community, the bird had disappeared. Unfortunately, this sighting was not documented for the Ohio Bird Records Committee, and therefore the species was not added to the official state list.

Another collared dove photograph was posted to the "Birding News Around Ohio" website on 30 December 1999, and once again opinions were offered. This bird, found by Blayne Hoerner and Paul Murray, visited a yard just west of downtown Cleveland for two days in November 1999 and a photograph was taken. Unfortunately, the photograph was inconclusive as to which species was involved. In a subsequent interview, the observers stated that the bird was no larger than a mourning dove ("Birding News Around Ohio" website, December 1999).

The most recent collared dove report, which was submitted to the Ohio Bird Records Committee, involved a bird in Washington County. There, Julie Zickefoose described a single light-colored collared dove flying past her on 26 March 2000. Unfortunately, the conditions and brevity of the sighting prevented the observer from noting the distinctive undertail pattern and produced several ambiguities. Although no mourning doves were flying with the collared dove to provide a direct size comparison, the collared dove appeared 1/3 larger than this experienced observer's mental image of a mourning dove. Several mourning doves flew past once the collared dove had gone and she stated that the mourning doves appeared smaller than the just-seen collared dove. This size reference would seem to indicate Eurasian collared-dove. On the other hand, plumage characteristics of the upperparts did not seem consistent with Eurasian collared-dove. According to the observer, the upperparts were a "pale bluish-gray" color fading to "pinkish-buff below." In addition, the primaries and secondaries were described as only "slightly slatier" than the remainder of the upperparts. These characteristics are more indicative of ringed turtle-dove. Lighting could have been a factor in judging color tones of this bird and a brief sighting such as this limits one's ability to study thoroughly the bird's details. So, this could very well have been a Eurasian collared-dove, but circumstances prevented it from being conclusively identified. With these reasons in mind, the Ohio Bird Records Committee did not accept this sighting as Ohio's first Eurasian collared-dove.

Conclusion

Although Eurasian collared-dove reports remain enigmatic in Ohio, birders throughout the state should be aware of their imminent arrival and be ready to do what needs to be done to add this species to the official Ohio checklist. Now that Eurasian collared-doves have been in North America for at least 20 years and have been spreading with all the vigor exhibited in Europe during the 1930s, the chances of a collared dove seen in Ohio being a Eurasian collared-dove are much greater than those for ringed turtle-dove. Any collared dove seen in Ohio should be documented and submit-

ted to the Ohio Bird Records Committee for review with the following points in mind: 1) A picture is worth a thousand words. Photographs showing the bird's upperparts and wingtips while perched, the outstretched wing showing the color patterns, and the underparts showing the undertail coverts and rectrices would provide necessary details for species identification; 2) A recording of the bird's call/song or call note is worth a whole lot more than the picture; 3) Both pictures and recordings at the same time would be priceless. (With the increasing affordability of video cameras, rare bird documentation can be taken to new levels. A video camera allows a better zoom, especially held up to the eyepiece of a spotting scope, provides evidence of behavior, and can capture any sound the bird might make. All the operator has to do is push the record button.) Many readers are probably uttering foul words at this point. Do not fret. If a birder has a collared dove in view and no camera or tape recorder available, detailed notes and sketches will suffice. The key factors involved in separating Eurasian collared-doves from ringed turtle-doves are size, shape, overall color, primary color, wing pattern, undertail covert color, undertail pattern, and call. Noting these will go a long way toward identifying the bird and adding a new species to the Ohio list.

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The Breeding Birds of Sandy Ridge Reservation

by Sean T. Zadar and Ted Gilliland

Sandy Ridge Reservation (SRR) is a mitigated wetland located in the northeast corner of Lorain County, and part of the Lorain County Metro Parks. Opened to the public in Fall 1999, the approximately 310-acre wildlife preserve offers habitat for a variety of forest and wetland avifauna. To the north, a gravel path guides visitors southward through a seasonally flooded oak/maple forest that attracts several breeding species from the neotropics, including Acadian flycatcher, great crested flycatcher, yellow-throated vireo, wood thrush, scarlet tanager, ovenbird, and rose-breasted grosbeak (see Table for complete list). Further south, the forest gives way to a diked wetland of over 100 acres. Here a trail atop the dikes grants access to the wetland, and a centrally located observation mound provides a panoramic view of the surroundings.

At Sandy Ridge, the wetland is the center of avian activity. Throughout migration an assortment of waterfowl frequents the area, on occasion arriving on the scene in good numbers. Eight northern shovelers, for example, were reported here for spring of 2000 (*The Cleveland Bird Calendar* 96:2). Other waterfowl using SRR as a stopover site include wood duck, American black duck, mallard, blue-winged teal, green-winged teal, American wigeon, ring-necked duck, hooded merganser, ruddy duck, and American coot. Shorebird movements in the area, on the other hand, have been rather unremarkable, with only a smattering of sightings, mostly of greater and lesser yellowlegs, killdeer, and spotted sandpipers.

During a breeding bird survey between 7 June and 19 July 2000, 64 avian species were recorded in the forest and wetland regions. The survey was conducted along the main trails and restricted-access trail with permission (Table). Standard point counts were conducted during seven scheduled weekly visits involving 22.8 hours and 14 foot miles. As a supplement, spot mapping was implemented to plot out the approximate territories of selected species such as least bittern, American bittern, Virginia rail, sora, and marsh wren. The census discovered two summering ruddy duck males and two nesting pairs. Peterjohn in *The Birds of Ohio* (1989) calls this species a rare but regular summer resident along west-