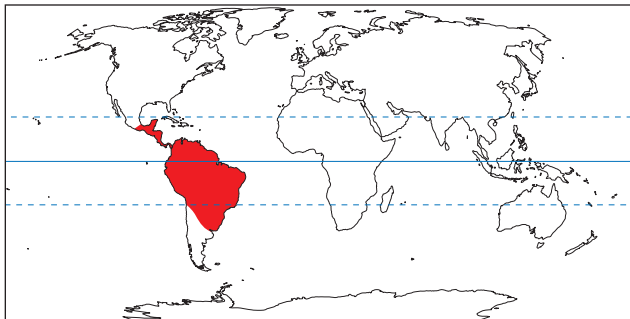

Birds of the World V: Woodcreepers through Thrushes

ORDER PASSERIFORMES

All passerines have anisodactyl feet (three unwebbed toes pointing forward and one backward) with all four toes on the same plane; the hind toe is strong and well developed. Unique palate structure, spermatozoa, and many other anatomical features. The young are altricial and nidicolous. This order is divided into two suborders: the Tyranni, collectively known as suboscine passerines (including the woodcreepers, antbirds, tyrant flycatchers, and manakins presented here, plus approximately eight other families), and the Passeres, collectively known as the oscine passerines (including all the other passeriform families). Members of the Tyranni have 1–4 pairs of syrinx muscles, while members of the Passeres have 5–9 pairs.

Family Dendrocolaptidae, Woodcreepers (13/49)



DISTRIBUTION.— Neotropical: northern Mexico to northern Argentina.

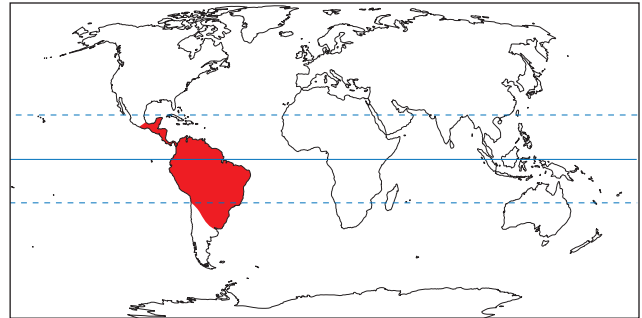
CHARACTERISTICS.— 20–40 cm. Medium to large slender birds with long tails (the shafts of the rectrices are stiffened), longish, rounded wings, and strong feet with the front toes joined at the base. The bill ranges from stout and upturned to very long and decurved, and is usually laterally compressed. Most species are rufous or olive above and often streaked or barred below. Sexually monomorphic. Two pairs of syrinx muscles.

HABITAT.— Found in tropical forests and open woodlands.

HABITS.— Nonmigratory. Mainly insectivorous. Most species forage in a manner convergent on the woodpeckers: they climb spirally up tree trunks gleaning invertebrates and small vertebrates from the bark. Strong, undulating flight. Generally solitary, but will join mixed-species foraging flocks. Some species follow swarms of army ants (see antbirds below). Very vocal.

BREEDING.— Nests in various types of cavities including old woodpecker holes, behind loose bark, and between the leaves of epiphytes. Eggs 2–3, whitish, incubated for 15 days by both sexes. The young are usually cared for by both sexes. Some are territorial.

Family Thamnophilidae, Typical Antbirds (45/190)



DISTRIBUTION.— Neotropical: Southern Mexico to northern Argentina.

CHARACTERISTICS.— 9–30 cm. Stout bill, often with a hook at the tip. The tail is usually rounded and shorter than the wings. Front toes joined slightly at the base. One pair of syrinx muscles. Loosely webbed plumage mostly colored in drab tones. Most species are sexually dimorphic: males are variously patterned with dark gray and black, while females are more rufous or olive. The typical antbirds are a morphologically diverse group, reflected in the range of common names applied of the family: antshrike, antvireo, antwren, antbird, etc.

HABITAT.— Found in tropical forests, open woodlands, and brushlands.

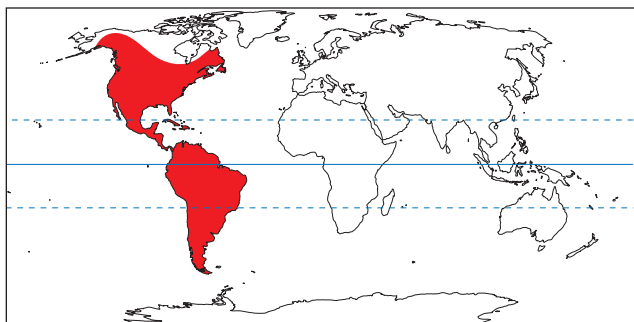
HABITS.— Some are terrestrial but most are arboreal. Antbirds can be found from the understory to the canopy. Mainly insectivorous. Many are “professional” army ant followers, obtaining most of their food by following ant swarms and capturing insects flushed by the ants. Some are solitary, while others join or lead permanent mixed-species foraging flocks that wander through the forest in groups. Often flick tail when alarmed. Nonmigratory.

BREEDING.— Many species form lifelong pair bonds. Pairs defend territory jointly. Both sexes build the nest which may be an open-cup built on a tree branch, a dome-shaped nest with a lateral opening, or a cavity nest. Nests are generally built low to the ground. 2–3 eggs incubated for 14 days by both sexes. Young are fed by both adults and fledge in 9–15 days, leaving nest early before they can fly well. Some fledglings remain with parents from three to twelve months.

NOTE.— Previously grouped with the “ground antbirds” (antpittas and antthrushes) in the family Formicariidae.

Family Tyrannidae, Tyrant Flycatchers, Tityras, and Becards (103/416)

DISTRIBUTION.— New World only: the Arctic treeline south through southern South America.



CHARACTERISTICS.— 7–35 cm. Most species are relatively big-headed and have a triangular, dorsoventrally flattened bill that is wide at the base and slightly hooked at the tip, well-developed rictal bristles, weak legs and feet, and moderately short wings. The two front toes are partially joined at the base. Most have an upright posture when perched. Some species are brightly colored, but most are gray, brown, or olive-green, and are sexually monomorphic. Many groups of species are morphologically so similar that the only certain way to identify them in the field is by voice.

HABITAT.— Found in woodlands, brushlands and savannas.

HABITS.— Most are insectivorous but some will eat vertebrates and fruit. Usually solitary, territorial, and arboreal. Many catch insects in the air by sallying: they watch from an exposed perch, fly out to capture an airborne insect, then return to the perch to kill and eat it (one can often hear their bills snap when they suddenly clamp down on their prey). Temperate species are migratory: some migrants that are strictly insectivorous on the breeding grounds are mostly frugivorous on the wintering grounds (e.g. Kingbirds).

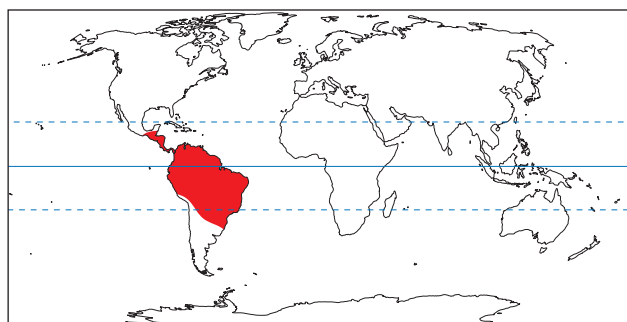
BREEDING.— Nests range from extremely frail platforms to bulky mass but are usually open cups; a few (e.g. Myiarchus, including the Great-Crested Flycatcher in Illinois) nest in tree cavities. Eggs (2–6) are generally incubated only by the female for 2–3 weeks. Both sexes feed the young.

ILLINOIS SPECIES:

- [] **Olive-sided Flycatcher** (*Contopus cooperi*) Uncommon migrant
- [] **Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) Common migrant and summer resident / Breeds [M79]
- [] **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** (*Empidonax flaviventris*) Common migrant
- [] **Acadian Flycatcher** (*Empidonax virescens*) Common migrant and summer resident (C and S) / Breeds [M80]
- [] **Alder Flycatcher** (*Empidonax alnorum*) Fairly common migrant
- [] **Willow Flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii*) Common migrant and common summer resident (N and C) / Breeds [M81]

- [] **Least Flycatcher** (*Empidonax minimus*) Common migrant and uncommon summer resident (N) / Breeds [M82]
- [] **Eastern Phoebe** (*Sayornis phoebe*) Common migrant and summer resident, uncommon winter resident (S) / Breeds [M83]
- [] **Great Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus crinitus*) Common migrant and summer resident / Breeds [M84]
- [] **Eastern Kingbird** (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) Common migrant and summer resident / Breeds [M85]

Family Pipridae, Manakins (12/53)



DISTRIBUTION.— Neotropical: southern Mexico to northern Argentina.

CHARACTERISTICS.— 7–14 cm. Small compact birds with short tails (usually) and short rounded wings. Bill short, broad, and slightly hooked. Some of the front toes joined at base. Webs of 4 outermost primaries often very narrow which creates a rattling or buzzing noise in flight. Males often very colorful, females drab.

HABITAT.— Found in tropical forest and brushland, most species in the understory

HABITS.— Nonmigratory. Solitary or in small groups. Omnivorous, but many are frugivorous. Often capture insects flushed by army ants.

BREEDING.— Polygamous. Males perform displays to attract mates: some species do so solitarily, while others will display in groups (leks). Female builds a frail cup nest on horizontal branch, incubates 2 spotted eggs for 19–21 days, and cares for young without help from the male.

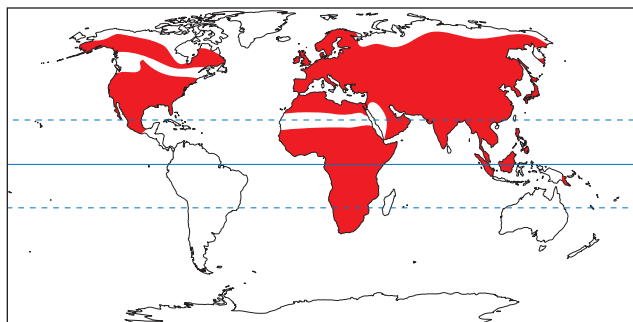
Family Laniidae, Shrikes (3/30)

DISTRIBUTION.— Africa, Eurasia, and North America.

CHARACTERISTICS.— 13–30 cm. Raptorial. Strong legs and feet with sharp claws. Tarsi scutellate. Big-headed with a heavy, hooked beak. True shrikes usually black, white, gray and/or brown; African shrikes are more colorful.

HABITAT.— Prefer open habitats and forest edge.

HABITS.— Northern species migrate. Usually solitary. Strong flight. Forage in open areas for large insects, and small vertebrates. Many species cache prey items by impaling them on thorn trees or



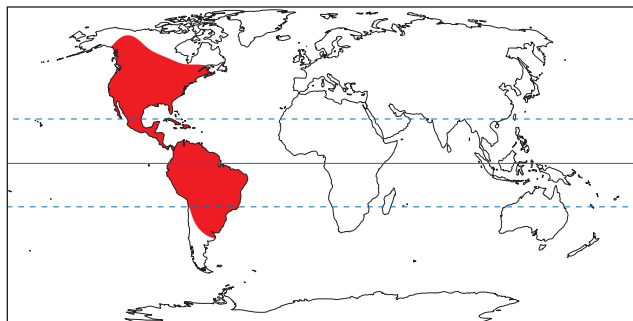
barbed wire. Very territorial. Poor songsters. The Loggerhead Shrike is listed as threatened on Illinois Endangered Species List.

BREEDING.— Bulky cup nest of sticks placed in dense vegetation. 2–8 spotted eggs incubated chiefly; by female for 14–16 days.

ILLINOIS SPECIES:

- [] **Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) Regular / Breeds (**threatened**) [M86]

Family Vireonidae, Vireos (4/52)



DISTRIBUTION.— New World only. Possibly central American in origin.

CHARACTERISTICS.— 9–18 cm. Small birds usually marked plainly with dull olive green, gray, or yellow; some have wingbars, eye-stripes, or eye-rings; none have streaking or spotting. Beak is fairly short, stout, and hooked at the tip. Many appear rather large-headed with stocky bodies. Irides often colored conspicuously. Vestigial tenth primary. Short, stout legs.

HABITAT.— Inhabit forests and forest edge.

HABITS.— Northern species highly migratory. Forage for insects (and some fruit) by deliberate, slow searching of leaves of trees and shrubs. Have melodious, warbling songs and harsh calls; some species sing short phrases almost continuously during the day.

BREEDING.— Nest is a pendulant cup placed in the fork of a branch. Eggs (2–5) are pale and speckled; incubated 12–16 days by both sexes; male may sing from nest when incubating. Young fledge in 10–15 days.

ILLINOIS SPECIES:

- [] **White-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo griseus*) Common migrant and fairly common summer resident / Breeds [M87]
- [] **Bell's Vireo** (*Vireo bellii*) Uncommon migrant and local summer resident / Breeds [M88]

- [] **Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) Common migrant and summer resident / Breeds [M89]

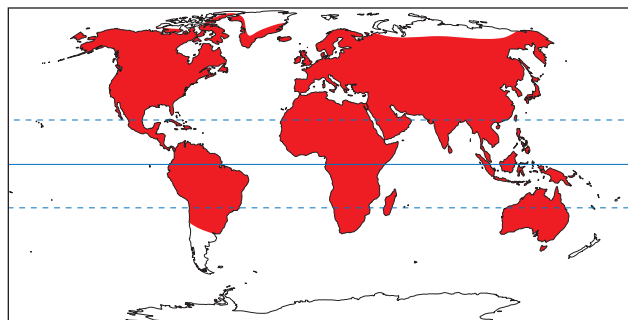
- [] **Blue-headed Vireo** (*Vireo solitarius*) Uncommon migrant

- [] **Warbling Vireo** (*Vireo gilvus*) Common migrant and summer resident / Breeds [M90]

- [] **Philadelphia Vireo** (*Vireo philadelphicus*) Fairly common migrant

- [] **Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) Abundant migrant and common summer resident / Breeds [M91]

Family Corvidae, Crows, Jays, and Magpies (25/118)



DISTRIBUTION.— Cosmopolitan except for New Zealand (now introduced there), Antarctica, and some oceanic islands.

CHARACTERISTICS.— 18–77 cm. The largest passerine is in this Family (Common Raven). Strong legs and feet. Scutellate tarsus on front, booted behind. Stout, longish bill, sometimes with slight hook at tip. Wings large and rounded. Nostrils feathered. Rictal bristles present. Ten primaries. Loud, harsh voices. Crows are generally black or black, gray, and/or white; jays are often brightly colored.

HABITAT.— Various.

HABITS.— Most are nonmigratory. Typically gregarious, but some species solitary. Can be quite aggressive. Omnivorous: eat fruit, insects, carrion, eggs, nestlings, etc.

BREEDING.— Many species have a lifelong pairbond. Open-cup nest of sticks placed on cliffs or in trees or bushes. 3–10 speckled eggs incubated principally by the female for 16–21 days. Some species nest cooperatively (e.g. Scrub Jay).

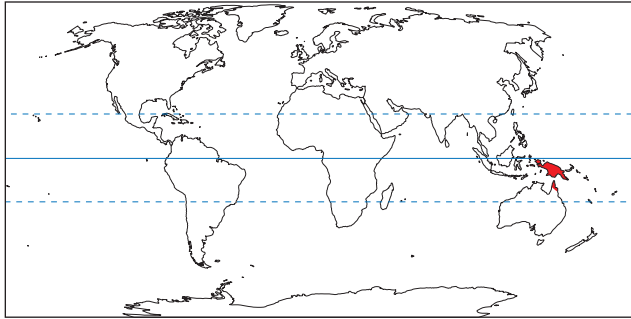
ILLINOIS SPECIES:

- [] **Blue Jay** (*Cyanocitta cristata*) Common resident / Breeds [M92]

- [] **American Crow** (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) Common resident / Breeds [M93]

- [] **Fish Crow** (*Corvus ossifragus*) Uncommon migrant and summer resident along Mississippi and Ohio Rivers (S) / Breeds [M94]

Family Paradisaeidae, Birds of Paradise (17/46)



DISTRIBUTION.— New Guinea, Australia, and a few small nearby islands.

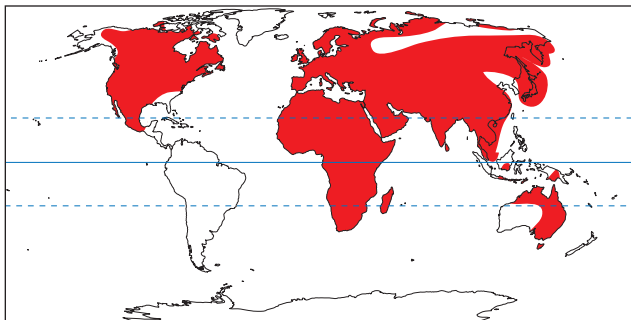
CHARACTERISTICS.— 11–90 cm. Highly variable, but in most species males have spectacular iridescent plumage; many have fancy erectile feathers arising from various parts of plumage. Some males do not acquire full adult plumage for up to six years. Females are usually dull brown and streaked. Some species have wattles or bare spots on the head. Have short, stout legs and feet. Bills variable, but usually rather jay-like.

HABITAT.— Generally found in forests.

HABITS.— Nonmigratory. Mostly solitary and arboreal. Omnivorous. Males of species displaying strong sexual dimorphism perform elaborate courtship displays; those species with less dimorphism are more conservative and form long term pairbonds.

BREEDING.— Nests are open cups. Usually 2 eggs are laid and incubated by the female. Only the female cares for young in promiscuous species, whereas both sexes do so in monogamous species.

Family Alaudidae, Larks (19/91)



DISTRIBUTION.— Worldwide except for oceanic islands. Africa is the center of diversity, but many species found in Europe. Only one New World species (Horned Lark).

CHARACTERISTICS.— 9–20 cm. Head often has tufts or crests. Usually brownish dorsum and lighter venter. Five pairs of syrinx muscles. Wings long and pointed. Rear claw usually long and straight. Tarsi rounded posteriorly. Bill somewhat conical.

HABITAT.— Terrestrial inhabitants of open country, grasslands, and deserts.

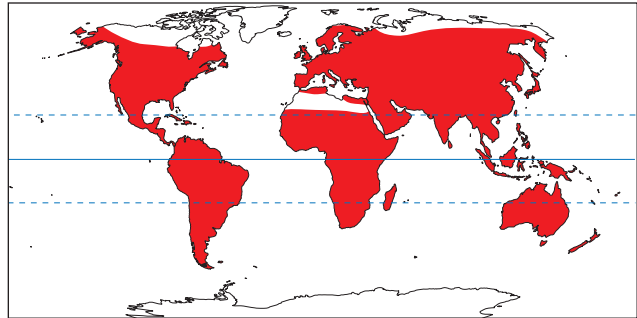
HABITS.— Walk or run, but do not hop. Song usually given during elaborate aerial display. Many form flocks outside of the breeding season. Forage on ground for plant matter and invertebrates.

BREEDING.— Female builds nest, lays 2–7 cryptic eggs, and incubates for 11–12 days. Young hatch thickly covered with down, but nidicolous; cared for by both sexes. Fledge in 10–11 days.

ILLINOIS SPECIES:

- [] **Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*) Common resident / Breeds [M95]

Family Hirundinidae, Swallows (14/89)



DISTRIBUTION.— Cosmopolitan except poles and some oceanic islands.

CHARACTERISTICS.— 10–23 cm. Tail usually emarginate or forked. Wings long and pointed. Body “teardrop shaped”: large chest tapers down to narrow posterior. Small visible bill, wide gape with rictal bristles. Twelve rectrices (Swifts have ten). Nine primaries. Usually metallic green or blue, or brown above; paler venter. Short legs with small feet; toes united at base. Strong pectoral muscles. A very distinctive group.

HABITAT.— Typically found in open country.

HABITS.— Fly often, quickly, and with agility. Forage for flying insects while in flight; will eat fruit during migration. Flight more erratic, with deeper wingbeats than swifts. Temperate species are very migratory; often gather in large flocks during migration. Tropical species nonmigratory.

BREEDING.— Most breed in colonies. Many nest in cavities or bank burrows which they stuff with grasses, feathers, moss, and hair before laying 3–7 eggs; others build mud nests (e.g. Barn Swallows build open-cup mud nests; Cliff Swallows build gourd-shaped mud nests). Female incubates for 14–16 days and both adults feed young. Two broods per year.

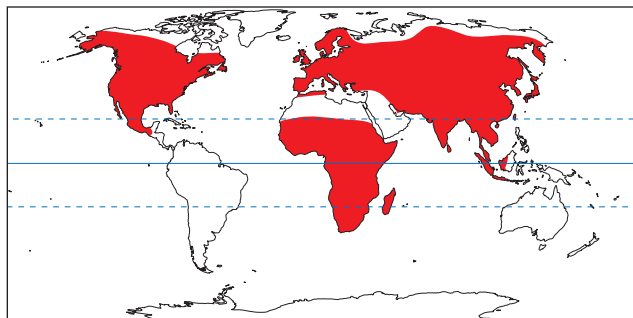
ILLINOIS SPECIES:

- [] **Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*) Common migrant and summer resident / Breeds [M96]
- [] **Tree Swallow** (*Tachycineta bicolor*) Common migrant and summer resident (N and C) / Breeds [M97]
- [] **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) Common migrant and summer resident / Breeds [M98]
- [] **Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*) Common migrant and summer resident / Breeds [M99]

[] **Cliff Swallow** (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) Fairly common migrant and local summer resident / Breeds [M100]

[] **Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) Abundant migrant and summer resident / Breeds [M101]

Family Paridae, Titmice (7/65)



DISTRIBUTION.— North America south to Guatemala; Eurasia, Philippines, and Africa.

CHARACTERISTICS.— 10–20 cm. Small birds with stumpy bodies and big heads. Generally plainly colored, but often with several bold patches of contrasting color. Some have crests. Stout, roughly conical bill. Nostrils concealed by bristles. Short, rounded wings. Strong legs and feet.

HABITAT.— Found in forests and brushland.

HABITS.— Arboreal and gregarious, they typically roam through forests in small foraging groups. During breeding season, however, they are more solitary and usually only forage in pairs. Hang upside down readily to feed. When cracking food item, hold it between feet and hammer it open with bill. Omnivorous. Most are nonmigratory.

BREEDING.— Fill nest cavities with moss, hair, grass. Female incubates 4–15 streaked eggs for about 12 days. Both adults feed young.

ILLINOIS SPECIES:

[] **Carolina Chickadee** (*Poecile carolinensis*) Common resident (East C and S) / Breeds [M102]

[] **Black-capped Chickadee** (*Poecile atricapillus*) Common resident (N and C) / Breeds [M103]

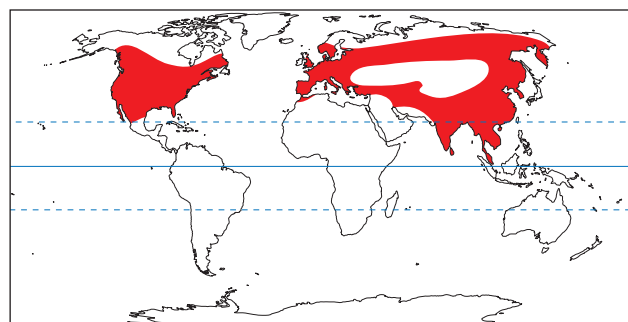
[] **Tufted Titmouse** (*Baeolophus bicolor*) Common resident / Breeds [M104]

Family Sittidae, Nuthatches and Wall Creeper (2/25)

DISTRIBUTION.— Holarctic and alpine areas of Eurasia.

CHARACTERISTICS.— 7–15 cm. Compact body and short tail. Strong feet with long hallux and claws. Longish, straight, tapered bill. Often with black cap or eyeline, blue-gray back, and pale underparts.

HABITAT.— Usually found in forests.



HABITS.— Forage on tree trunks and large limbs (some also explore rocky cliffs) for insects. Do not use tail for support as do woodpeckers and creepers, so move in all directions while foraging; not uncommon for them to start at top of tree and spiral down to ground. Gather with mixed-species flocks in winter. Eat vegetable matter in winter. Crack food open by wedging into bark then hammering it to pieces. Most species nonmigratory.

BREEDING.— Nest in natural tree cavities, old woodpecker holes, or rock crevices. Some reduce size of entrance hole by packing mud around entrance. 4–10 eggs are incubated by both sexes for 14–15 days.

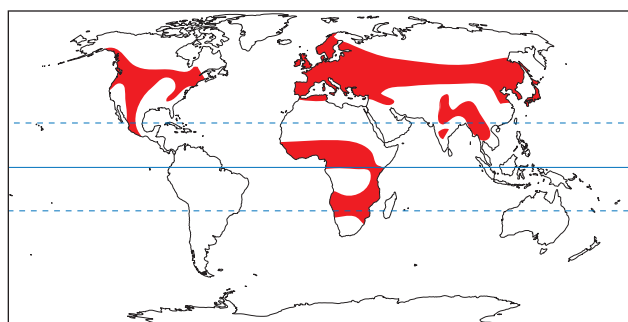
NOTES.— Two species are tool-users: use twigs to draw grubs out of concealment.

ILLINOIS SPECIES:

[] **Red-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta canadensis*) Uncommon migrant and winter resident, rare summer resident / Breeds [M105]

[] **White-breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) Common resident / Breeds [M106]

Family Certhiidae, Creepers (2/7)



DISTRIBUTION.— North America south to Nicaragua; Eurasia and Africa through India to China and Japan.

CHARACTERISTICS.— 10–15 cm. Short legs with strong claws. Stiff short tails. Bill slender, decurved, and laterally compressed. Generally brown or blackish above with streaking, and whitish below. During molt the central rectrices are retained until the remainder of the rectrices are fully grown (this is a unique among passerine families). Voices high and thin, not loud.

HABITAT.— Prefer mature, especially coniferous, forest.

HABITS.— Fairly weak, undulating flight. Forage for insects on tree trunks by spiraling up trunk then flying to base of another tree and

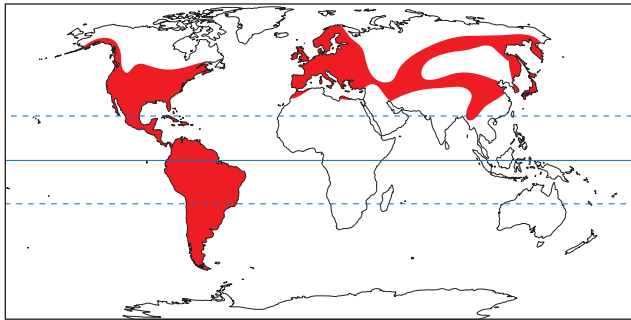
repeating process. Usually solitary, but often join winter foraging flocks of other forest passerines. Most species are nonmigratory.

BREEDING.— Nest in cavities or behind loose bark; both sexes fill crevice with twigs and grasses. Female usually incubates the 5–7 brownish eggs for 13–15 days. Both sexes feed young for 2 weeks until fledging.

ILLINOIS SPECIES:

- [] **Brown Creeper** (*Certhia americana*) Common migrant and winter resident, occasional summer / Breeds (threatened) [M107]

Family Troglodytidae, Wrens (17/75)



DISTRIBUTION.— Northern Africa, Eurasia, and North and South America. Very diverse in the New World; only one species in the Old World (Winter Wren).

CHARACTERISTICS.— 9–22 cm. Small, chunky birds with short tails (often held vertically), short, rounded wings, and strong feet. Generally brownish, often with barring or streaking. Sexually monomorphic. Bill slender, slightly decurved. Front toes partially joined at base. Many species have musical, beautiful voices.

HABITAT.— Variable habitat preferences, but most species are associated with dense undergrowth.

HABITS.— Usually somewhat solitary, but strongly territorial. Hold tail down when singing, but up at other times. Generally forage on or near the ground for insects and other invertebrates. Most species are nonmigratory, but some species are short-distance migrants.

BREEDING.— Nest built by both sexes; variable, but normally a bulky mess. Some species build several nests within a territory; only one is used for nesting, but the others may be used as sleeping chambers (these “extra” nests are referred to as dummy nests). Nest placed in cavities or built as a dome. Polygamy is common. Some have several broods per year. 6–10 eggs incubated by female for 12–15 days.

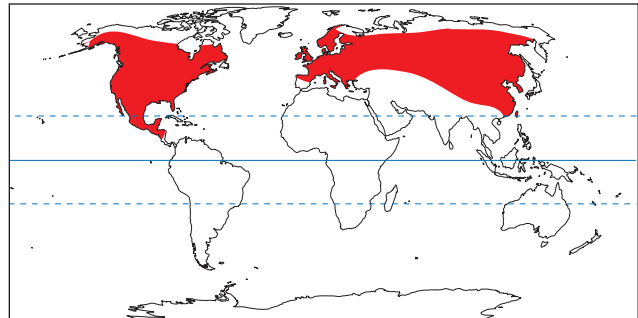
ILLINOIS SPECIES:

- [] **Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) Common resident (S) / Breeds [M108]
- [] **House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) Common migrant and summer resident / Breeds [M109]
- [] **Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes troglodytes*) Common migrant and uncommon winter resident

- [] **Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) Uncommon migrant and summer resident, rare winter resident / Breeds [M110]

- [] **Marsh Wren** (*Cistothorus palustris*) Fairly common migrant, uncommon summer and rare winter resident / Breeds [M111]

Family Regulidae, Kinglets (1/6)



DISTRIBUTION.— North America and Eurasia south through the Mediterranean and southern Asia.

CHARACTERISTICS.— Small (9–11 cm), fluffy, generally plain birds with red, yellow, or orange markings on the crown. Primaries ten. United by distinctive feather-covered nostrils.

HABITAT.— Mostly in coniferous forests.

HABITS.— Mostly migratory, insectivorous and arboreal, often joining feeding flocks during the non-breeding season. Forage with flocks of Brown Creepers, chickadees, and titmice during the winter, and warblers during migration. Fairly active, and forage primarily by gleaning insects off leaves and twigs, but consume hibernating insects and seeds during the winter.

BREEDING.— Nest deep, thick, and pendulous, built of spider web, mosses, lichens, and hair, usually built in a conifer. Eggs 7–10, incubated by the female alone. Both adults feed the young.

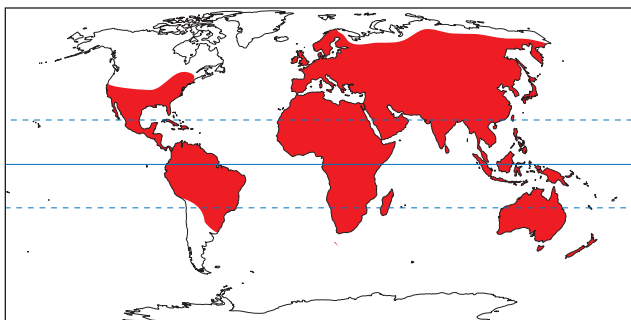
ILLINOIS SPECIES:

- [] **Golden-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus satrapa*) Common migrant and winter resident
- [] **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** (*Regulus calendula*) Common migrant and uncommon winter resident (S)

Family Sylviidae, Old World Warblers, Gnatcatchers, and Gnatwrens (54/338)

DISTRIBUTION.— Worldwide except the poles, southern South America, and some oceanic islands. Widely distributed in the Old World. Gnatcatchers and gnatwrens are restricted to the New World: gnatcatchers from southern Canada to Central America, gnatwrens in South America.

CHARACTERISTICS.— 9–20 cm. Ten primaries (New World warblers have 9). Small, active birds with generally dull plumage patterns. Medium length, rounded wings. Bill slender and weak, pointed. Culmen sharply ridged. Longitudinally operculate nostrils. Rictal bristles present. Songs distinctive. Gnatcatchers are



slender birds with long tails and thin pointed bills, generally blue-gray above, white below, with white-edged dark tails.

HABITS.— Mostly insectivorous. Most are solitary and arboreal, but some gather in feeding flocks during the winter. Many are migratory. Gnatcatchers are very active, constantly flicking and fanning the tail, flitting from branch to branch, flushing insects, then pursuing them in flight. They will also hover at branch tips and glean insects from leaves.

BREEDING.— Nest varies but most build open cup or domed nest; one genus (tailorbirds) sews two leaves together. 2–10 eggs incubated by both sexes for 11–15 days. Both parents care for young. Gnatcatchers build a delicate cup nest woven with lichens and spider webs so that it looks like a knot on a tree branch. They will tear a nest apart and re-use the materials to build another nest if the first is discovered.

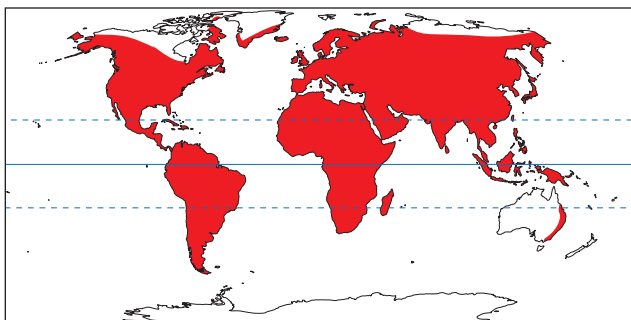
ILLINOIS SPECIES:

- [] **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (*Poliptila caerulea*) Common migrant and summer resident (S) / Breeds [M112]

ILLINOIS SPECIES:

- [] **Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) Common migrant and summer resident, common winter resident (S) / Breeds [M113]
- [] **Veery** (*Catharus fuscescens*) Common migrant and rare summer resident (N) / Breeds [M114]
- [] **Gray-cheeked Thrush** (*Catharus minimus*) Common migrant
- [] **Swainson's Thrush** (*Catharus ustulatus*) Common migrant
- [] **Hermit Thrush** (*Catharus guttatus*) Common migrant and uncommon winter resident (S)
- [] **Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) Common migrant and summer resident / Breeds [M115]
- [] **American Robin** (*Turdus migratorius*) Abundant migrant and summer resident, common winter resident / Breeds [M116]

Family Turdidae, Thrushes (21/179)



DISTRIBUTION.— Worldwide except for some oceanic islands. Introduced to New Zealand.

CHARACTERISTICS.— 11–33 cm. Bill of medium length, slender, and notched near the tip of the upper mandible. Tarsi booted. One annual molt. Young spotted in juvenile plumage. Most have elaborate songs. Hop when on the ground. Highly variable in size and plumage pattern.

HABITS.— Eat fruit and invertebrates which are usually gathered from the ground. Often solitary and very territorial, but many form flocks during migration and on the wintering grounds. Only temperate species are migratory.

BREEDING.— Nests are usually open cups placed in vegetation or on the ground. 2–7 eggs incubated largely by female for 12–15 days. Both sexes feed the young.