

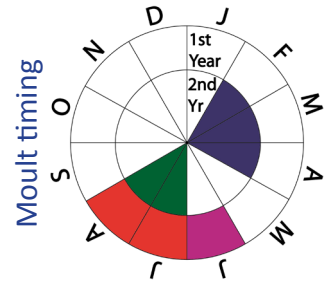
# Lincoln's Sparrow

*Melospiza lincolnii*

Account #: 9852



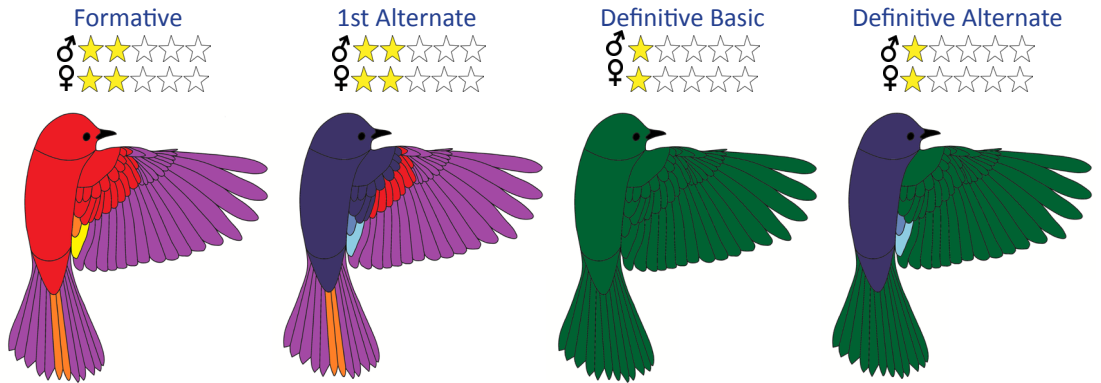
Species code: LISP  
 Band size: 0  
 Skull: 15 Nov (May retain small windows for up to 1 year)  
 Pyle: p584  
 Sibley: p499



## Moult

Juvenile		
Formative		
Basic		
Alternate		

95% 50% 5%  
 likelihood moulted  
 9 visible primaries  
 9 secondaries  
 12 tail feathers



Juvenile plumage is distinctive. Subsequent generations are very similar. Presence of moult limits in formative and 1st alternate plumage generations more obvious than absence of moult limits in basic and definitive alternate plumage generations.

## Ageing

♀ ★★☆☆☆☆

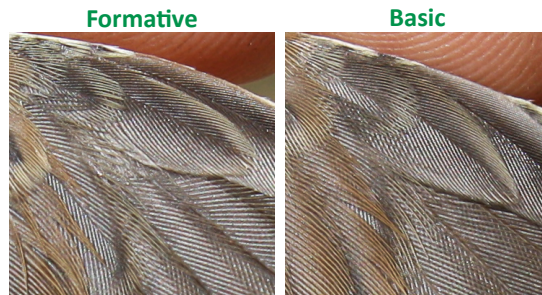
♂ ★★☆☆☆☆

Few reliable ageing techniques known. Use skull when possible. Tail shape appears of limited use.

## Alula covert vs. lesser alula moult limit

Subtle and not clear on every individual. Good light conditions & magnification are needed.

Using this character to identify non-formative plumages is not recommended. The reliability of this character is untested.



## Juvenile plumage

Similar to adult, but with less distinct streaks on the breast and wing bars more distinct.



## Sexing

Juvenile ☆☆☆☆☆

Formative ☆☆☆☆☆

Basic ☆☆☆☆☆

No plumage techniques known. Use cloacal protuberance and brood patch during breeding season.



# 9852 Identification Similar species: Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow

## Adults

LISP: Buffy malar, fine streaks on buffy chest.

SOSP: Coarse streaks on whitish chest

SWSP: Grey chest, reddish edge to greater coverts

## Wing formula

## Juveniles

LISP: Crown streaked

SOSP: White malar

SWSP: Crown solid

Lincoln's Sparrow



Point: P8 ~ P7  
P9 < P5 by 4-12 mm

Song Sparrow



Point: P7 ~ P6  
P9 ~ P5, P9 ≥ P4

Swamp Sparrow



Point: P8 ~ P7 ~ P6  
P9 < P5 by 2-9 mm

Lincoln's Sparrow



Song Sparrow



Swamp Sparrow

