

## Sparrows of the Low Country

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***Aimophila*** - “thicket loving” Medium size, long rounded tail, dull plumage.  
Bachman’s Sparrow \* *Aestivalis* - “like the summer.”

***Spizella*** - “a little finch” Small size, long square tail, no breast streaking, small bill, rounded head, tend to hang out in flocks.

Chipping Sparrow \* *Passerina* - “of or for sparrows”  
Clay-colored Sparrow *Pallida* - “pale, colorless”  
Field Sparrow \* *Pusilla* - “very small, tiny, wee”  
American Tree Sparrow (accidental) *Arborea* - “of or belonging to trees”

***Pooecetes*** - “grass dwelling” Medium-large, long square tail, streaked breast, white eye-ring, often perches high.

Vesper Sparrow *Gramineus* - “grassy, covered with grass”

***Chondestes*** - “grain eater” Long rounded tail, central breast spot, white tail corners.

Lark Sparrow *Grammacus* - “a line or stroke in drawing”

***Passerculus*** - “little sparrow” Small size, streaked breast, short tail, yellow in face, open country.

Savannah Sparrow \* *Sandwichensis* - “Sandwich Bay, Labrador”

***Ammodramus*** - “sand runner” Flat head, large bill, short thin tail, secretive, grasslands (wet & dry)

Grasshopper Sparrow \* *Savannarum* - “of the meadows”  
Henslow’s Sparrow *Henslowii* - “John Steven Henslow - Prof. of Botany, Cambridge, Eng.”  
LeConte’s Sparrow *Leconteii* - “Dr. John LeConte, GA Physician”  
Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow *Caudacutus* - “have a sharp tail”  
Nelson’s Sharp-tailed Sparrow *Nelsoni* - “Edward W. Nelson, Chief of US Biol. Survey”  
Seaside Sparrow \* *Maritimus* - “of the sea”

***Passarella*** - “little sparrow” Large size, very red, gray in face and nape, heavily streaked breast.

Fox Sparrow *Iliaca* - “side of body”

***Melospiza*** - “song finch” Medium size, long rounded tail, don’t form large flocks, scrubby habitat.

Song Sparrow \* *Melodia* - “pleasant song”  
Swamp Sparrow *Georgiana* - “of Georgia, state where type specimen was collected”  
Lincoln’s Sparrow *Lincolnii* - “Thomas Lincoln accompanied Audubon to Labrador”

***Zonotrichia*** - “banded thrush” Large, chunky birds, distinct head patterns, join mixed flocks.

White-throated Sparrow *Albicollis* - “white necked”  
White-crowned Sparrow *Leucophrys* - “white eyebrow”  
Harris’s Sparrow (Accidental) *Querula* - “full of complaints, fretful”

***Junco*** - “reed bunting” mostly gray, pale bill and white belly, white outer tail feathers.

Dark-eyed Junco \* *Hyemalis* - “of or belonging to winter”

***Pipilo*** - “to chirp, cheep, twitter” Larger, kick around in leaf litter, distinct call.

Eastern Towhee\* *Erythrophthalmus* - “red-eyed”

\* - Breed in Georgia & South Carolina