

# DUTCH BIRDING

VOLUME 33 • NO 4 • 2011



# Dutch Birding



Internationaal tijdschrift over  
Palearctische vogels

## REDACTIE

Dutch Birding  
Duinlustparkweg 98A  
2082 EG Santpoort-Zuid  
Nederland  
editors@dutchbirding.nl

## FOTOREDACTIE

Dutch Birding  
p/a René Pop  
Postbus 31  
1790 AA Den Burg-Texel  
Nederland  
rene.pop@dutchbirding.nl

## ABONNEMENTENADMINISTRATIE

p/a Gerald Oreel  
Deurganck 15  
1902 AN Castricum  
Nederland  
circulation@dutchbirding.nl

## WWW.DUTCHBIRDING.NL

webredactie@dutchbirding.nl

## BESTUUR

Dutch Birding Association  
Postbus 75611  
1070 AP Amsterdam  
Nederland  
dba@dutchbirding.nl

## COMMISSIE DWAALGASTEN

NEDERLANDSE AVIFAUNA  
CDNA  
Duinlustparkweg 98A  
2082 EG Santpoort-Zuid  
Nederland  
cdna@dutchbirding.nl

## COMMISSIE SYSTEMATIEK

NEDERLANDSE AVIFAUNA  
CSNA, p/a George Sangster  
csna@dutchbirding.nl

INSPREEKLIJN  
010-4281212

INTERNET  
www.dutchbirding.nl

# Dutch Birding

HOOFDREDACTEUR Arnoud van den Berg (023-5378024, arnoud.van.den.berg@dutchbirding.nl)

ADJUNCT HOOFDREDACTEUR Enno Ebels (030-2961335, enno.ebels@dutchbirding.nl)

UITVOEREND REDACTEUR André van Loon (020-6997585, andre.van.loon@dutchbirding.nl)

FOTOGRAFISCH REDACTEUR René Pop (0222-316801, rene.pop@dutchbirding.nl)

REDACTIEAID Peter Adriaens, Sander Bot, Ferdy Hieselaar, Gert Ottens, Roy Slaterus, Roland van der Vliet en Rik Winters

REDACTIE-ADVIESRAAD Peter Barthel, Mark Constantine, Dick Forsman, Ricard Gutiérrez, Killian Mullarney, Klaus Malling Olsen, Magnus Robb, Hadoram Shirihai en Lars Svensson

REDACTIEMEDEWERKERS Max Berlijn, Harvey van Diek, Nils van Duivendijk, Steve Geelhoed, Marcel Haas, Jan van der Laan, Hans van der Meulen, Kees Roselaar, Vincent van der Spek, Jan Hein van Steenis, Pieter van Veelen en Peter de Vries

PRODUCTIE EN LAY-OUT André van Loon en René Pop

ADVERTENTIES Leon Boon, p/a Dutch Birding, Postbus 75611, 1070 AP Amsterdam  
advertising@dutchbirding.nl

ABONNEMENTEN De abonnementsprijs voor 2011 bedraagt: EUR 39,50 (Nederland en België), EUR 40,00 (rest van Europa) en EUR 43,00 (landen buiten Europa). Abonnees in Nederland ontvangen ook het dvd-jaaroverzicht.

U kunt zich abonneren door het overmaken van de abonnementsprijs op girorekening 01 50 697 (Nederland), girorekening 000 1592468 19 (België) of bankrekening 54 93 30 348 van ABN•AMRO (Castricum), o.v.v. 'abonnement Dutch Birding'. Alle rekeningen zijn ten name van de Dutch Birding Association. Het abonnement gaat in na ontvangst van de betaling.

Dutch Birding is een tweemaandelijks tijdschrift. Het publiceert originele artikelen en mededelingen over morfologie, systematiek, voorkomen en verspreiding van vogels in de Benelux, Europa en elders in het Palearctische gebied. Het publiceert tevens bijdragen over vogels in het Aziatisch-Pacifische gebied en andere gebieden.

De volgorde van vogels in Dutch Birding volgt in eerste instantie een klassieke 'Wetmore-indeling'. Binnen dit raamwerk worden voor taxonomie en naamgeving de volgende overzichten aangehouden: *Dutch Birding-vogelnamen* door A B van den Berg (2008, Amsterdam; online update 2011) (taxonomie en wetenschappelijke, Nederlandse en Engelse namen van West-Palearctische vogels); *Vogels van de wereld – complete checklist* door M Walters (1997, Baarn) (Nederlandse namen van overige vogels van de wereld); *The Howard and Moore complete checklist of the birds of the world* (derde editie) door E C Dickinson (redactie) (2003, Londen) (taxonomie en wetenschappelijke namen van overige vogels van de wereld); en *Birds of the world: recommended English names* door F Gill & M Wright (2006, Londen; online update 2010) (Engelse namen van overige vogels in de wereld).

Voor (de voorbereiding van) bijzondere publicaties op het gebied van determinatie en/of taxonomie kan het Dutch Birding-fonds aan auteurs een financiële bijdrage leveren (zie Dutch Birding 24: 125, 2001, en www.dutchbirding.nl onder 'The Journal').

## www.dutchbirding.nl

WEBREDACTIE Garry Bakker, Gijsbert van der Bent, Kasper Hendriks en Ben Wielstra.  
FOTOREDACTIE Menno van Duijn en Chris van Rijswijk. WEBMASTERS Albert van den Ende en Peter Weiland.

## Dutch Birding Association

BESTUUR Arjan van Egmond (voorzitter, 071-4010656; 06-21585788), Wietze Janse, Thierr Jansen (penningmeester) en Han Zevenhuizen (secretaris); tevens is de redactie van Dutch Birding met een zetel vertegenwoordigd. BESTUURSMEDEWERKERS Debby Doodeman, Thomas van der Es, Rob Gordijn, Remco Hofland, Arnold Meijer, Gerald Oreel, Marc Plomp, Henk van Rijswijk, Pieter van Veelen, Jeroen van Vianen, Ruben Vlot, Kees de Vries en Steven Wytema.

## Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA)

LEDEN Rob van Bemmelen, Dick Groenendijk (voorzitter), Frank Neijts, Arjan Ova, Willem van Rijswijk, Roy Slaterus, Laurens Steijn en Arend Wassink. MEDEWERKER Max Berlijn (archivaris). De CDNA is een commissie van de Dutch Birding Association en de Nederlandse Ornithologische Unie.

## Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (CSNA)

LEDEN Arnoud van den Berg, André van Loon, Kees Roselaar en George Sangster (secretaris). De CSNA is een commissie van de Dutch Birding Association en de Nederlandse Ornithologische Unie.

© 2011 Stichting Dutch Birding Association. Het copyright van de foto's en tekeningen blijft bij de fotografen en tekenaars. ISSN 0167-2878.

Drukkerij robstolk®, Mauritskade 55, 1092 AD Amsterdam, Nederland

# Dutch Birding

**CHIEF EDITOR** Arnoud van den Berg (+31-235378024, [arnoud.van.den.berg@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:arnoud.van.den.berg@dutchbirding.nl))

**DEPUTY CHIEF EDITOR** Enno Ebels (+31-302961335, [enno.ebels@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:enno.ebels@dutchbirding.nl))

**EXECUTIVE EDITOR** André van Loon (+31-206997585, [andre.van.loon@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:andre.van.loon@dutchbirding.nl))

**PHOTOGRAPHIC EDITOR** René Pop (+31-222316801, [rene.pop@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:rene.pop@dutchbirding.nl))

**EDITORIAL BOARD** Peter Adriaens, Sander Bot, Ferdy Hieselaar, Gert Ottens, Roy Slaterus, Roland van der Vliet and Rik Winters

**EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD** Peter Barthel, Mark Constantine, Dick Forsman, Ricard Gutiérrez, Killian Mullarney, Klaus Malling Olsen, Magnus Robb, Hadoram Shirihai and Lars Svensson

**EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS** Max Berlijn, Harvey van Diek, Nils van Duivendijk, Steve Geelhoed, Marcel Haas, Jan van der Laan, Hans van der Meulen, Kees Roselaar, Jan Hein van Steenis, Pieter van Veelen and Peter de Vries

**PRODUCTION AND LAY-OUT** André van Loon and René Pop

**ADVERTISING** Leon Boon, c/o Dutch Birding, Postbus 75611, 1070 AP Amsterdam  
[advertising@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:advertising@dutchbirding.nl)

**SUBSCRIPTIONS** The subscription rate for 2011 is: EUR 39.50 (Netherlands and Belgium), EUR 40.00 (Europe) and EUR 43.00 (countries outside Europe). Subscribers in the Netherlands also receive the DVD year review.

Subscribers in Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Norway and Sweden are kindly requested to pay the subscription fee to our local bank accounts in these countries. Details can be found on the internet ([www.dutchbirding.nl](http://www.dutchbirding.nl)).

British subscribers are requested to pay exclusively by Sterling cheque. Cheques should be sent to Dutch Birding, c/o Gerald Oreeel, Deurganck 15, 1902 AN Castricum, Netherlands. Subscribers in other countries can make their payment by credit card (Access, Eurocard, MasterCard or Visa). Please send an e-mail indicating your credit card type, account number, the expiry date and full address details to [circulation@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:circulation@dutchbirding.nl). The subscription starts upon receipt of payment and already published issues will be sent.

Dutch Birding is a bimonthly journal. It publishes original papers and notes on morphology, systematics, occurrence and distribution of birds in the Benelux, Europe and elsewhere in the Palearctic region. It also publishes contributions on birds in the Asian-Pacific region and other regions.

The sequence of birds in Dutch Birding basically follows a classic 'Wetmore sequence'. Within this framework, the following lists are used for taxonomy and nomenclature: *Dutch Birding bird names* by A B van den Berg (2008, Amsterdam; online update 2011) (taxonomy and scientific, Dutch and English names of Western Palearctic birds); *Vogels van de wereld – complete checklist* by M Walters (1997, Baarn) (Dutch names of remaining birds of the world); *The Howard and Moore complete checklist of the birds of the world* (third edition) by E C Dickinson (editor) (2003, London) (taxonomy and scientific names of remaining birds of the world); and *Birds of the world: recommended English names* by F Gill & M Wright (2006, London; online update 2010) (English names of remaining birds of the world).

For (preparation of) special publications regarding identification and/or taxonomy, the Dutch Birding fund can offer financial support to authors (see Dutch Birding 24: 125, 2001, and [www.dutchbirding.nl](http://www.dutchbirding.nl) under 'The Journal').

## [www.dutchbirding.nl](http://www.dutchbirding.nl)

**WEB EDITORS** Garry Bakker, Gijsbert van der Bent, Kasper Hendriks and Ben Wielstra.  
**PHOTOGRAPHIC EDITORS** Menno van Duijn and Chris van Rijswijk. **WEBMASTERS** Albert van den Ende and Peter Weiland.

## Dutch Birding Association

**BOARD** Arjan van Egmond (president, +31-714010656; +31-621585788), Wietze Janse, Thierry Jansen (treasurer) and Han Zevenhuizen (secretary); the editors of Dutch Birding also have one seat in the board. **BOARD ASSISTANTS** Debby Doodeman, Thomas van der Es, Rob Gordijn, Remco Hofland, Arnold Meijer, Gerald Oreeel, Marc Plomp, Henk van Rijswijk, Pieter van Veelen, Jeroen van Vianen, Ruben Vlot, Kees de Vries and Steven Wytema.

## Dutch rarities committee (CDNA)

**MEMBERS** Rob van Bemmelen, Dick Groenendijk (president), Frank Neijts, Arjan Ova, Willem van Rijswijk, Roy Slaterus, Laurens Steijn and Arend Wassink. **ASSISTANT** Max Berlijn (archivist). The CDNA is a committee of the Dutch Birding Association and the Netherlands Ornithologists' Union.

## Dutch committee for avian systematics (CSNA)

**MEMBERS** Arnoud van den Berg, André van Loon, Kees Roselaar and George Sangster (secretary). The CSNA is a committee of the Dutch Birding Association and the Netherlands Ornithologists' Union.

© 2011 Stichting Dutch Birding Association. The copyright of the photographs and drawings remains with the photographers and artists. ISSN 0167-2878.

Printed by drukkerij robstolk®, Mauritskade 55, 1092 AD Amsterdam, Netherlands

# Dutch Birding



*International journal on  
Palearctic birds*

## EDITORS

Dutch Birding  
Duinlustparkweg 98A  
2082 EG Santpoort-Zuid  
Netherlands  
[editors@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:editors@dutchbirding.nl)

## PHOTOGRAPHIC EDITOR

Dutch Birding  
c/o René Pop  
Postbus 31  
1790 AA Den Burg-Texel  
Netherlands  
[rene.pop@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:rene.pop@dutchbirding.nl)

## SUBSCRIPTION ADMINISTRATION

c/o Gerald Oreeel  
Deurganck 15  
1902 AN Castricum  
Netherlands  
[circulation@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:circulation@dutchbirding.nl)

## WWW.DUTCHBIRDING.NL

[webredactie@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:webredactie@dutchbirding.nl)

## BOARD

Dutch Birding Association  
Postbus 75611  
1070 AP Amsterdam  
Netherlands  
[dba@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:dba@dutchbirding.nl)

## DUTCH RARITIES COMMITTEE

CDNA  
Duinlustparkweg 98A  
2082 EG Santpoort-Zuid  
Netherlands  
[cdna@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:cdna@dutchbirding.nl)

## DUTCH COMMITTEE FOR

AVIAN SYSTEMATICS  
CSNA, c/o George Sangster  
[csna@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:csna@dutchbirding.nl)

## INTERNET

[www.dutchbirding.nl](http://www.dutchbirding.nl)



**Artikelen /  
papers**

- 223 Seabirding off southern Portugal *R J W (Roef) Mulder*  
229 Cricket Longtail breeding in southern Morocco *Mohamed Amezian, Mohamed Radi, Mohamed Ibn Tattou, Mohamed Laghdaf Khayya, Mohamed Lamine Samlali & Abdeljebbar Qninba*  
233 Daurische Spreeuw op Vlieland in oktober 2005 [DAURIAN STARLING ON VLIELAND IN OCTOBER 2005] *Max Berlijn & Jan van der Laan*  
239 Oriental Plover, Franklin's Gull, Syrian Woodpecker and Masked Shrike new to Kazakhstan *Arend Wassink, Ross Ahmed, Simon Busuttill & Albert Salemgareev*  
245 Hybrid Eurasian x Red-knobbed Coot successfully breeding with Red-knobbed Coot in Morocco in April 2009 *Peter Adriaens*  
247 Knob-billed Duck at Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania, in December 1984 *Cornelis J Hazevoet, Marcel Haas & Pierre-André Crochet*  
248 Spread of Eurasian Collared Dove in Libya and first breeding in Tripolitania *Jaber Yahia & Abdulmaula Hamza*

**Brieven / letters**

- 251 Paleornithology, *Bubo insularis* and deletion of putative records of Brown Fish Owl in the western Mediterranean *Antoine Louchart*  
253 Status of Rock Bunting in Poland *Lukasz Ławicki*  
253 Crested Honey Buzzard has occurred in sub-Saharan Africa *Guy M Kirwan*

**Corrigenda**

253

**Aankondigingen & verzoeken /  
announcements & requests**

- 254 Natur Eussa; The birds of Libya

**DBA-nieuws**

- 254 Nieuwe bestuursmedewerkers

**WP reports**

- 254 late May–mid-July 2011 *Arnoud B van den Berg & Marcel Haas*

**Recente meldingen / recent reports**

- 268 mei-juni 2011 *Roy Slaterus & Vincent van der Spek*

**Voorplaat / front cover**

- Grote Vale Spotvogel / Upcher's Warbler *Hippolais languida*, Muntasar, Oman, 15 april 2010 (*René Pop/The Sound Approach*)

# Seabirding off southern Portugal

R J W (Roef) Mulder

The Algarve in southern Portugal has traditionally been a popular destination for birders in autumn. The international airport of Faro can be reached with inexpensive flights and holiday packages from many European airports. Sagres peninsula is the most south-westerly point of mainland Europe and is a real migration hotspot. With favourable winds, raptor migration can be impressive; for instance, in autumn 2009, 27 raptor species were counted. The rare Spanish Imperial Eagle *Aquila adalberti* is regular in low numbers (with up to three together in 2010) while Griffon Vultures *Gyps fulvus* can occur in exceptional numbers; in 2010, concentrations in excess of 1000 together were observed on several occasions. Furthermore, at least three different Rüppell's Vultures *G rueppellii* were observed in both 2009 and 2010 between 10 October and 5 November (Simon Wates in litt).

The sparsely vegetated coast can hold massive numbers of migrating passerines and the few

coastal marshes have produced many records of Nearctic waders. Other vagrants have included a White-winged Snowfinch *Montifringilla nivalis* in winter 1998/99 and an unconfirmed report of five Chimney Swifts *Chaetura pelagica* on 28 October 1999 (preceding the first accepted record for Portugal three days later; Simon Wates in litt). The area has also produced a few vagrant passerines from North Africa, including Moussier's Redstart *Phoenicurus moussieri* and White-crowned Wheat-ear *Oenanthe leucopyga* (Tipper 2001, Tipper & Wilson 2007).

## Seabirds

Since a few years, it has become more widely known that the area is also excellent for seawatching. Seabirds can be viewed well from Cabo de São Vicente – watching from the northern side of the headland in the morning being the preferred strategy (Walker 1997). Most northern Atlantic seabirds can be seen here and specialties record-

271 Trawler surrounded by seabirds, off southern Portugal, 23 September 2010 (Roef Mulder)





**272** Cory's Shearwater / Kuhls Pijlstormvogel *Calonectris borealis*, off southern Portugal, 23 September 2009  
(Roef Mulder)

**273** Great Shearwater / Grote Pijlstormvogel *Puffinus gravis*, off southern Portugal, 23 September 2009  
(Roef Mulder)





**274** Balearic Shearwater / Vale Pijlstormvogel *Puffinus mauretanicus*, off southern Portugal, 25 September 2010 (Roef Mulder) **275** Scopoli's Shearwater / Scopoli's Pijlstormvogel *Calonectris diomedea*, off southern Portugal, 4 October 2009 (Ray Tipper) **276** Great Shearwater / Grote Pijlstormvogel *Puffinus gravis*, off southern Portugal, 23 September 2009 (Roef Mulder)





277 British Storm Petrel / Stormvogeltje *Hydrobates pelagicus*, off southern Portugal, 23 September 2010 (Roef Mulder) 278 Wilson's Storm Petrel / Wilsons Stormvogeltje *Oceanites oceanicus*, off southern Portugal, 23 September 2010 (Roef Mulder) 279 Great Shearwater / Grote Pijlstormvogel *Puffinus gravis*, off southern Portugal, 23 September 2010 (Roef Mulder) 280 Sooty Shearwater / Grauwe Pijlstormvogel *Puffinus griseus*, off southern Portugal, 23 September 2010 (Roef Mulder)

ed include Barolo Shearwater *Puffinus baroli* (eg, in September 2010). Yelkouan Shearwater *P yelkouan* is suspected to occur in very small numbers but there have not yet been any confirmed records (Magnus Robb in litt). The cape can especially be productive if the wind blows from a westerly direction. The southern headlands in the vicinity of Sagres is often even better when calm conditions prevail or the wind comes from the south, particularly for close-up views of shearwaters. The critically endangered Balearic Shearwater *P mauretanicus* can occur in numbers exceeding 200 birds per hour, representing a considerable percentage of the world population (in the Balearic Islands, breeding numbers have decreased severely over the last years and are estimated to stand as

low as c 1500 breeding pairs, although recent counts (summer 2010) have revealed high numbers (locally up to 5000) off the French coast; cf Yésou 2003; Dutch Birding 32: 334, 2010). Balearic can be seen best around Sagres during peak passages in May-June (post-breeding) and October-December (on their return to the Mediterranean) but these birds can be seen every month of the year. Cory's Shearwaters *Calonectris borealis* are by far the most abundant shearwaters around Sagres, best seen from October to March – although birds can be found outside this period, presumably non-breeding individuals. Very large numbers pass by, feed and roost off the Sagres headlands with rafts of 100s regularly assembling in the area, often in the company of smaller num-



bers of Balearic, especially just south or west of Cabo de São Vicente ([www.algarvebirdman.com](http://www.algarvebirdman.com)). Scopoli's Shearwaters *C diomedea* probably occur in small numbers and may have been overlooked in the past; at least two were photographed off Sagres in 2008 and 2009 (plate 275) and several more have been suspected (Magnus Robb in litt).

### Seabirding

Although seawatching from the mainland can be productive, there is a better option to get close views of the pelagic wildlife: to go offshore. Fishing is popular in the area and most skippers will rent their ship also for offshore birding trips. Chartering a ship, however, requires good planning, some luck with the weather and a significant budget. In late September 2009, I (Roef Mulder) visited the area with Mark Schuurman. Our main target was to observe and photograph shearwaters and storm petrels. We searched and found an alternative, more flexible option compared with a chartered fishing vessel: Mar Ilimitado, a small company led by two experienced marine biologists and currently the only one in the Algarve led by qualified marine biologists. In addition, there are many dolphin trip companies. Mar Ilimitado operates a fast zodiac daily and because of the speed it will take only c 15 min to get more than 10 km offshore. The birding trip normally takes from 09:00 to 11:00 and with at least six people the price is c 40 Euro per person. Individual (extended) trips can also be arranged.

We booked trips in advance on three different days to spread our chances. The first trip was on 22 September, when we left Sagres harbour at 09:00; after a short but high-speed journey, the engine was stopped and the chumming began. Very soon we were rewarded with stunning views of our main target species: Wilson's Storm Petrel *Oceanites oceanicus*. At least three Wilson's and two presumed British Storm Petrels *Hydrobates pelagicus* (we could not exclude Mediterranean Storm Petrel *H meliitensis*...) circled the small boat and gave us ample photographic opportunities. The birds left as suddenly as they had appeared, and it is amazing how easily they can blend into the low waves, even at short distance. Wilson's is one of the few southern ocean seabirds that actually migrate into northern hemisphere waters (Great Shearwater *P gravis* and Sooty Shearwater *P griseus* are other notable examples). Taking a circular route around the Atlantic in a clockwise direction, they pass Portugal from May to October on their way back to their austral breeding

grounds. It seems that significant numbers spend a considerable amount of time feeding in southern and western Portuguese waters where groups of up to 300 individuals have been noted. Off Sagres, it is possible to see 10s of birds on a half-day trip ([www.algarvebirdman.com](http://www.algarvebirdman.com)). During our first day trip, Cory's Shearwaters were abundant and several Balearic Shearwaters and Great Skuas *Stercorarius skua* showed well. The next day, we were not able to find storm petrels but this was compensated by the close company of Great Shearwaters. We followed a fishing vessel for half an hour and had very close views of c 10 birds; additional chumming made them approach our boat to less than 10 m.

On 24 September, the wind increased, resulting in a mild swell. The ride was bumpy and viewing conditions were more difficult than in previous days. Still, we were able to catch up with a single British Storm Petrel. A fishing vessel was spotted on the horizon and after 10 min of full speed we were enjoying close views of Great Shearwaters. Some Balearic Shearwaters and Great Skuas showed but we failed to find more storm petrels.

In September 2010, I visited the area again, this time together with Sietse Bernardus and Rommert Cazemier. Our first pelagic was in calm weather on 23 September. Although wind is needed for optimal drift of the smell of the chum, we had an excellent morning with close views of three Wilson's Storm Petrels and up to 10 British Storm Petrels. A single Great Shearwater was found feeding in the wake of a fishing vessel accompanied by several Sooty Shearwaters and Great Skuas.

In the morning of 25 September, the conditions were less calm and we learned that active fishing vessels are less frequent during the weekend. The sea looked rather empty as we started chumming but soon we were surrounded by large numbers of gulls and Northern Gannets *Morus bassanus*. Several Balearic Shearwater showed very close and despite the waves we managed to identify c 10 British Storm Petrels. The highlight of the day was, however, not a bird but a stunning hammerhead shark *Sphyrna*.

The sea area that we visited is also good for cetaceans. Short-beaked Common Dolphins *Delphinus delphis* were seen on each trip and were often bow riding. Unfortunately we did not have the time to explore the deep canyon south-west of Cabo de São Vicente; it looks very promising, not only for pelagic birds but also for various species of cetaceans.

Useful websites for birders planning to make seabirding trips in this area include [www](http://www).



**281** Wilson's Storm Petrel / Wilsons Stormvogeltje  
*Oceanites oceanicus*, off southern Portugal,  
22 September 2009 (Roef Mulder)



**282** Arctic Jaeger / Kleine Jager *Stercorarius parasiticus*,  
off southern Portugal, 22 September 2009  
(Roef Mulder)

algarvebirdman.com, www.birdwatching-algarve.com and www.marilimitado.com. More information on sightings of Wilson's Storm Petrels in the area can be found at [www.club300.de/articles/008\\_wilsons/index.html](http://www.club300.de/articles/008_wilsons/index.html) (with many links to related websites about Wilson's Storm Petrel and pelagic trips off coastal Europe).

### Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Simon Wates ([www.algarvebirdman.com](http://www.algarvebirdman.com)) and Magnus Robb for their help in preparing this note.

### Samenvatting

ZEEVOGELS KIJKEN VOOR DE PORTUGESE ZUIDKUST De Portugese zuidkust (Algarve) staat bekend als een goede plek om vanaf land naar langstreckende of foeragerende zeevogels te kijken. De kansen om zeevogels van nabij te observeren en vooral te fotograferen zijn echter aanzienlijk groter als men per boot de zee op gaat. In dit artikel wordt verslag gedaan van een aantal zeevogeltrips aan boord van kleine en snelle boten (zodiacs) in september 2009 en 2010 vanuit Sagres. Deze bootjes kunnen in korte tijd (c 15 min) c 10 km uit de kust gera-

ken en snel in de buurt van concentraties zeevogels komen, bijvoorbeeld nabij vissersschepen. Soorten die tijdens dergelijke trips (kunnen) worden waargenomen zijn Kuhls Pijlstormvogel *Calonectris borealis*, Grote Pijlstormvogel *P. gravis*, Grauwe Pijlstormvogel *P. griseus*, Vale Pijlstormvogel *Puffinus mauretanicus*, Wilsons Stormvogeltje *Oceanites oceanicus*, Stormvogeltje *Hydrobates pelagicus* en Grote Jager *Stercorarius skua*. Scopoli's Pijlstormvogel *C. diomedea* komt mogelijk in klein aantal voor en werd voor het eerst fotografisch gedocumenteerd in 2008 en 2009. Het gebied is tevens goed voor het observeren van zeezoogdieren.

### References

- Tipper, R P 2001. White-crowned Wheatear in Algarve, Portugal, in March 2001. Dutch Birding 24: 198-201.
- Tipper, R P & Wilson, K M 2007. Moussier's Redstart at Cabo de São Vicente, Portugal, in November 2006-January 2007. Dutch Birding 29: 297-302.
- Walker, F J 1997. Seabirds passing Cape St Vincent, Algarve, Portugal. Seabird Group Newsl 78: 6-11.
- Yésou, P 2003. Recent changes in the summer distribution of the Balearic shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus* off western France. Sci Mar 67 (Suppl 2): 143-148.

R J W (Roef) Mulder, Schoolstraat 3, 9844 PE Pieterzijl, Netherlands (roefmulder@home.nl)

# Cricket Longtail breeding in southern Morocco

Mohamed Amezian, Mohamed Radi, Mohamed Ibn Tattou, Mohamed Laghdaf Khayya, Mohamed Lamine Samlali & Abdeljebbar Qninba

**C**ricket Longtail *Spiloptila clamans* is a small bird of the Cisticolidae family which breeds in a narrow band from southern Mauritania and northern Senegal across northern Nigeria and Chad to Sudan and Eritrea (Perrins 1998, del Hoyo et al 2006). Inside the boundary of the Western Palearctic (WP) (as defined in Cramp & Simmons 1977) it was until recently only recorded from an isolated area around Atâr in northern Mauritania (Lamarche 1988, Urban et al 1997, Perrins 1998, Snow & Perrins 1998). In recent years, there have been numerous more northern records and breeding evidence in Saharan Mauritania with, for instance, 15 individuals found near Choûm on 4 December 2006, three near Boû Lanouâr on 9 December 2006, and six near Teïchot, Banc d'Arguin, in December 2007 (van den Berg 2005, Demey 2006, van den Berg & Haas 2007, Isenmann et al 2010). In February 2008, it was

discovered in Oued Jenna along the Aousserd (Awserd) road in Western Sahara, Morocco (van den Berg & Haas 2008, Pettersson et al 2008). Since then, it was reported regularly from this area in most months (eg, van den Berg & Haas 2009, Bergier et al 2010a, 2011a, 2011b).

The species breeds almost throughout the year: in June-September in Mauritania, from January to November but mainly in September-October in Senegal and in January-April and August in former Sudan (Urban et al 1997, Perrins 1998, Snow & Perrins 1998, del Hoyo et al 2006, Isenmann et al 2010). In the Sahel zone, it may be partially migratory at the northern edge of the range, since some move south in the dry season (April-May in Mali), returning north during the rains (July-September) (Perrins 1998, Snow & Perrins 1998). However, no sign of seasonal movement was noted for Mauritania (Isenmann et al 2010).

**283** Cricket Longtail / Kreckelprinia *Spiloptila clamans*, Oued Jenna, Aousserd, Oued Ed-Dahab, Morocco, 15 March 2011 (David Monticelli)





**284** Cricket Longtails / Krekelpinia's *Spiloptila clamans*, adult male with recently fledged juvenile, Aousserd, Oued Ed-Dahab, Morocco, 25 October 2010 (Mohamed Radi). Note yellowish gape-flanges in juvenile. **285** Cricket Longtail / Krekelpinia *Spiloptila clamans*, recently fledged juvenile, Aousserd, Oued Ed-Dahab, Morocco, 25 October 2010 (Mohamed Radi). Note yellowish gape-flanges and less black greater coverts. **286-287** Cricket Longtail / Krekelpinia *Spiloptila clamans* with nest material, Aousserd, Oued Ed-Dahab, Morocco, 3 February 2010 (Fabian Schneider)

Because of the geopolitical situation of the region, the southernmost Western Sahara (region of Oued Ed-Dahab-Lagouira) and especially the Aousserd region used to be one of the less birded areas in the WP, although it later proved to hold a much sought-after assemblage of desert and subtropical species, some of which are not easy to see inside the WP. One of these, African Dunn's Lark *Eremalauda dumni dumni*, is probably different enough to be considered a potential future split (Lees & Moores 2006, cf Svensson et al 2009). Following the political stabilisation of the region, the number of visiting naturalists has increased considerably in recent years. As a consequence, some significant ornithological discoveries have been made. Since the old records of the 1950s, Black-crowned Sparrow-lark *Eremopterix nigri-*

*ceps* had not been reported from the region until 1999 (Thévenot & Bergier 2008). African Dunn's Lark was first discovered by Lees & Moores (2006) and its subsequent breeding was recorded by Copete et al (2008). Desert Sparrow *Passer simplex* has only recently (since 1999) been discovered in this region where it was absent in the 1950s (Thévenot & Bergier 2008), and later it proved to be an abundant species in the area. Sudan Golden Sparrow *P luteus* was first found on 21 April 2009 (van den Berg & Haas 2009, Bergier et al 2010a, 2011a). Cricket Longtail was not discovered until February 2008 (Pettersson et al 2008), although Charlton (2011) claimed to have recorded a pair feeding at least two, probably three or more young on 19 September 2007.

### Breeding records

Apart from Charlton (2011) in September 2007, Pettersson et al (2008) also reported a breeding record as they watched one singing male and one female seemingly collecting nest material at km 176 of the Dakhla-Aousserd road on 17 February 2008. Fabian Schneider photographed a male with nest material on 13 February 2010; he also found and photographed a nest located at the base of an *Acacia* tree (Fabian Schneider pers comm; Bergier et al 2011b). Two singing males and an adult feeding a young bird were observed on 17 April 2009 by Carlos Gutiérrez Expósito, José Luis Copete and Dave McAdams. In addition to these records, Bergier et al (2010a, 2010b, 2011a, 2011b) listed several observations made by various visiting birders in the years 2009 and 2010; some of these observations concerned singing or displaying birds.

In October 2010, we went on an exploratory naturalist (botanical and ornithological) survey to southern Western Sahara after the rainy season (for the map of the itinerary and list of species recorded, see Qninba et al (2011)). On 24 October, we arrived at Oued Jenna late in the day after exploring other parts of the region. Soon after arriving, a single Cricket Longtail was noted; it was restless and moved from one bush to another. As darkness fell, we went to sleep in a small Zaouia in Laglat, a few kilometers to the south-west of the Aousserd road. The next morning, we first explored the Laglat massif, then returned to Oued

Jenna in the afternoon. As soon as we arrived, we found a family of five Cricket Longtails in an *Acacia* bush. The birds were flying around following each other from one *Acacia* tree to another. An adult female was seen on the ground with a caterpillar. The adults were feeding the juveniles that were easily recognised by their begging behaviour and the conspicuous yellowish gape-flanges. Another family of three Cricket Longtails was observed c 200 m away from the first site and other birds were seen or heard in the area. As only a small portion (c 1.5 km) of the Oued Jenna was surveyed on our trip and considering the extensive potential breeding habitat, the area probably holds a considerable population.

### Status

The species is apparently resident in this region as birds were recorded by various birders in December-May, July, September and October (our observations). However, we feel that labelling the species as 'resident breeder' in the region (Bergier & Thévenot 2010, Bergier et al 2010c) is premature as we still do not have sufficient information on its occurrence throughout the year. Visiting birders are encouraged to pay attention to the species' activity in all seasons and to record and document any breeding activity in this newly discovered population.

### Other breeding species

During our survey we recorded the breeding ac-

**288** Breeding habitat of Cricket Longtail *Spiloptila clamans* in Oued Jenna, Aousserd, Oued Ed-Dahab, Morocco, 25 October 2010 (Mohamed Radi)



tivity (adults collecting nesting material, eggs, broods, juveniles) of several Saharan bird species (Qninba et al 2011), such as African Dunn's Lark, Desert Lark *Ammomanes deserti*, Thick-billed Lark *Ramphocoris clotbey*, Fulvous Babbler *Turdoides fulva*, Desert Sparrow and Trumpeter Finch *Bucanetes githagineus*. Other birds were observed singing, flight-displaying or alarming, such as Black-crowned Sparrow-lark, Bar-tailed Lark *A cinctura*, Hoopoe Lark *Alaemon alaudipes* and Desert Grey Shrike *Lanius elegans*. For some of these species, autumnal breeding has never been recorded in the WP.

### Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Fabian Schneider for sharing his photographs and observations. Carlos Gutiérrez Expósito, José Luis Copete and Dave McAdams sent us their records. José Luis Copete and Alexander Lees kindly provided us with their respective papers. Arnoud van den Berg helped in updating the published records of the species in southern Morocco and Mauritania.

### Samenvatting

KREKELPRINIA BROEDEND IN ZUID-MAROKKO Krekelpriņa *Spiloptila clamans* broedt overwegend in een smalle zone van Zuid-Mauretanië en Noord-Senegal via Noord-Nigeria en Tsjaad tot voormalig Soedan en Eritrea. Binnen het West-Palearctische gebied was hij ook vastgesteld rond Atâr, Noord-Mauretanië. In recente jaren zijn elders in het noorden van Mauretanië meer waarnemingen gedaan en broedgevallen geconstateerd. Vanaf september 2007 en februari 2008 zijn ook in de Westelijke Sahara in het zuiden van Marokko meerdere exemplaren waargenomen langs de weg naar Aousserd (Awserd), waarbij aanwijzingen voor broeden werden genoteerd. In 2009 werden juveniele gezien die werden gevoerd en in 2010 werd een nest gevonden. Dit artikel documenteert de waarnemingen in oktober 2010 van ten minste twee families (vijf en drie exemplaren) met adulte en juveniele, terwijl in de omgeving toen nog andere exemplaren werden gezien of gehoord. De soort lijkt daarmee behoorlijk algemeen op deze plek en is in bijna alle maanden van het jaar vastgesteld, waarbij broeden zowel in september-oktober als in februari-april plaatsvond.

### References

van den Berg, A B 2005. WP reports: late November 2004-late January 2005. Dutch Birding 27: 56-67.  
van den Berg, A B & Haas, M 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010. WP reports: late November 2006-early January 2007; February-early March 2008; late March-mid-May 2009; late November-mid-January 2010, late January-mid-March 2010. Dutch Birding 29: 43-58; 30: 123-132; 31: 186-198; 32: 52-62, 134-142.

Bergier, P & Thévenot, M 2010. Liste des oiseaux du Maroc. Mise à jour février 2010 (rév. 3.0). Go-South Bull 7: 15-55.  
Bergier, P, Franchimont, J, Thévenot, M & CHM 2010a. Les oiseaux rares au Maroc. Rapport de la Commission d'Homologation Marocaine 15 (2009). Go-South Bull 7: 1-14.  
Bergier, P, Qninba, A, El Agbani, MA & Dakki, M 2010b. Notes naturalistes au Sahara Atlantique marocain - 2. Go-South Bull 7: 56-88.  
Bergier, P, Thévenot, M & Qninba, A 2010c. Liste des oiseaux du Sahara Atlantique marocain. Mise à jour février 2010 (rév. 1.0). Go-South Bull 7: 109-120.  
Bergier, P, Franchimont, J, Thévenot, M & the MRBC 2011a. Rare birds in Morocco: report of the Moroccan Rare Birds Committee (2007-2009). Bull Afr Bird Cl 18: 40-60.  
Bergier, P, Franchimont, J, Thévenot, M & CHM 2011b. Les oiseaux rares au Maroc. Rapport de la Commission d'Homologation Marocaine 16 (2010). Go-South Bull 8: 1-20.  
Charlton, T D 2011. First record of Cricket Warblers in South Atlantic Morocco, September 2007. Go-South Bull 8: 38-40.  
Copete, J L, López, F, López Velasco, D, Castelló, J, Armada, R & Mariné, R 2008. Breeding of Dunn's Lark in Western Sahara. Alula 14: 132-137.  
Cramp, S & Simmons, K E L (editors) 1977. The birds of the Western Palearctic 1. Oxford.  
Demey, R 2007. Recent reports. Bull Afr Bird Cl 14: 217-229.  
del Hoyo, J, Elliott, A & Christie, D A (editors) 2006. Handbook of the birds of the world 11. Barcelona.  
Isenmann, P, Benmergui, M, Browne, P, Ba, A D, Diagana, C H, Diawara, Y & Ould Sidaty, Z E A 2010. Oiseaux de Mauritanie / Birds of Mauritania. Paris.  
Lamarque, B 1988. Liste commentée des oiseaux de Mauritanie. Etudes Sahariennes et Ouest-Africaines. Nouakchott.  
Lees, A C & Moores, R D 2006. Identification and status of Dunn's Lark in northwest Africa. Br Birds 99: 482-484.  
Perrins, C (editor) 1998. The complete birds of the Western Palearctic on CD-ROM. Oxford.  
Petterson, T, Mild, K & Wærn, P 2008. Trip report: Western Sahara and Southern Morocco, 14-21 February 2008. Website: [www.go-south.org/09\\_TripReports/R196-2008\\_02\\_petterson.pdf](http://www.go-south.org/09_TripReports/R196-2008_02_petterson.pdf).  
Qninba, A, Radi, M, Amezian, M, Ibn Tattou, M, Khayya, M L, Samlali, M L, Khalil, M L & Hammia, A 2011. Nidifications automnales d'oiseaux sahariens dans la région d'Oued Ad-Dahab - Lagouira (Maroc méridional). Go-South Bull 8: 21-34.  
Snow, D W & Perrins, C M (editors) 1998. The birds of the Western Palearctic. Concise edition. Oxford.  
Svensson, L, Grant, P J, Mullarney, K & Zetterström,

D 2009. Collins bird guide. Second edition. London.  
Thévenot, M & Bergier, P 2008. Considérations sur les récentes découvertes avifaunistiques dans les environs d'Awserd (région d'Oued Ad-Deheb,

Sahara Atlantique marocain). Go-South Bull 5: 98-103.  
Urban, E K, Fry, C H & Keith, S (editors) 1997. The birds of Africa 5. London.

Mohamed Amezian, University of Abdelmalek Essaadi, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Biology, PO Box 2121, Tétouan, Morocco (mohamed.amezian@gmail.com)

Mohamed Radi, Ecole Normale Supérieure, BP 2400, Marrakech, Morocco

Mohamed Ibn Tattou, Université Mohammed V – Agdal, Institut Scientifique de Rabat, BP 703, Agdal, Rabat, Morocco

Mohamed Laghdaf Khayya, Association Nature Initiative, Avenue Mohamed Fadel Semlali, BP 79, 73 000 Dakhla, Morocco

Mohamed Lamine Samlali, Association Nature Initiative, Avenue Mohamed Fadel Semlali, BP 79, 73 000 Dakhla, Morocco

Abdeljebbar Qninba, Université Mohammed V – Agdal, Institut Scientifique de Rabat, BP 703, Agdal, Rabat, Morocco

# Daurische Spreeuw op Vlieland in oktober 2005

Max Berlijn & Jan van der Laan

Op 11 oktober 2005 ontdekten Christiaan Giljam en Rutger van Ouwerkerk een Daurische Spreeuw *Agropsar sturninus* (destijds *Sturnus sturninus*) op Vlieland, Friesland. De vogel bevond zich in een groep Spreeuwen *S vulgaris* met daarin twee Roze Spreeuwen *Pastor roseus* (destijds *S roseus*), die neerstreek in duindoorns in de zeereep langs terrein De Kaap. Nadat hij ook aan de grond goed was gezien, werd de waarneming met enige voorzichtigheid bekend gemaakt via de Dutch Birding-vogellijn en Dutch Bird Alerts. Al

snel waren andere vogelaars die op het eiland hun jaarlijkse Vlielandweek hielden ter plaatse maar de vogel werd die dag niet meer teruggevonden. Ontevreden over deze 'verdwijning' besloten CG en RvO de volgende ochtend (12 oktober) alle overvliegende Spreeuwen te controleren en werd de vogel opnieuw waargenomen. Hij vloog richting camping Stortemelk waar Leon Edelaar hem in een groep Spreeuwen terugvond. Een 10-tal vogelaars kreeg de kans hem te zien en de determinatie te bevestigen voordat hij wegvloog en uit

**289-290** Daurische Spreeuw / Daurian Starling *Agropsar sturninus*, eerstejaars mannetje, De Kaap, Vlieland, Friesland, 12 oktober 2005 (Jan van der Laan)



beeld verdween. LE maakte een korte video-opname (Plomp et al 2006). 's Middags werd hij voor de laatste keer gezien toen Jan van der Laan rond 16:30 de plek van de waarneming bij De Kaap toonde aan Max Berlijn en Ted Hoogendoorn, die samen als enige 'vasteland-twitchers' met de boot van 14:15 waren overgestoken. Zij zagen de vogel toen tot hun verrassing plotseling los van de groep Spreeuwen in een rozenbottelstruik zitten. Hij liet zich op c 20 m afstand goed zien en fotograferen totdat hij om c 17:30 wegvloog. Tijdens dit verblijf kon hij soms verdwijnen in de struik en was dan onzichtbaar voor de waarnemers. Enkele vogelaars die met de avondboot waren gekomen om op 13 oktober met het eerste licht te kunnen posten en c 25 vogelaars die met de volgende ochtendboot arriveerden vonden hem ondanks intensief zoeken niet terug (Giljam & van Ouwkerk 2005).

### Beschrijving

Onderstaande beschrijving is opgesteld op basis van foto's van Jan Bisschop, JvdL en Sander Lagerveld gemaakt in de middag van 12 oktober (cf Dutch Birding 27: 433, plaat 543, 2005, 29: 369, plaat 530-531, 2007).

**GROOTTE & BOUW** Bouw als Spreeuw en Roze Spreeuw (waarmee direct vergelijkbaar) maar iets kleiner. Vleugel puntig, snavel lang, smal en iets gebogen; staart relatief kort.

**KOP & HALS** Geheel lichtgrijs, met op kruin donkere veeg. Teugel iets lichter, op sommige foto's met gelige tint (in het veld geen verschil waargenomen).

**BOVENDELEN** Mantel donker grijsbruin, rug iets lichter. Lange schouderveren met donkere schacht en witte toppen, in zit niet sluitende 'V' vormend. Stuit lichtgrijs. Bovenstaartdekveren niet goed gezien (in zit verborgen, in vlucht slecht zichtbaar).

**ONDERDELEN** Borst, buik en flank lichtgrijs. Op onderstaartdekveren enige lichtoranje veren, duidelijk zichtbaar toen vogel opvloog.

**VLEUGEL** Bovenste twee tertials zwartachtig met kleine wit punt aan top. Onderste tertial bruin, zonder witte punt. Handpennen zwartachtig, buitenste op foto bruin likkend. Armpennen bruin, duidelijk contrasterend met handpennen. Basis (ongeveer helft) van buitenste (vier?) armpennen licht zeemkleurig, in zit vleugelvlek vormend. Grote dekveren zwartachtig, buitenste twee armpendekveren bruin, contrasterend met binnenste armpendekveren. Bij twee (andere) armpendekveren witte punt waarneembaar. Grote handdekveren zwartachtig, waarvan op één mogelijk witte buitenvlag aanwezig (volgens sommige foto's). Middelste dekveren zwartachtig met ronde witte top, klein vleugelstreepje vormend. Ondervleugeltekening niet vastgesteld.

**STAART** Bovenstaart zwart met duidelijke witte buitenste staartpennen. Onderstaart lichter.

**NAAKTE DELEN** Snavel aan punt zwart, halverwege lichter wordend, rozeachtig aan basis. Poot bruinig. Oog zwart, als opvallend kraaloojie zichtbaar van redelijke afstand.

**GELUID** Eenmaal gehoord bij opvliegen, tweedelig *tsiet-tsiet*, op video-opname hoorbaar.

**GEDRAG** Op 11 oktober in groep Spreeuwen, alleen stilzittend en vervolgens wegvliegend. Op 12 oktober eveneens waargenomen tussen Spreeuwen (en twee Roze Spreeuwen) en zich daarbij in gedrag niet onderscheidend. Wel enkele malen Spreeuwen naar hem pikkend. In middag van 12 oktober langdurig stilzittend op rozenbottelstruik, om zich heen kijkend. Onrustig wordend bij benadering door fotografen onder dekking van zomerhuisje op c 15 m.

**SLEET** Niet waargenomen. Zowel staart als vleugelpunten gaaf.

### Determinatie

De combinatie van kenmerken past alleen op Daurische Spreeuw. Slechts één andere spreeuwensoort kan voor verwarring zorgen, Roodwangspreeuw *A philippensis*. Deze heeft ook een lichte kop, lichte onderdelen, donkere mantel en vleugels en lichte stuit maar mist de witte toppen aan de tertials, heeft geen donkere vlek op de bovenkop en heeft donkere in plaats van witte buitenste staartpennen. Mannetjes hebben een roodbruine wangvlek maar vrouwtjes niet (Feare & Craig 1998).

De bruine tertial die contrasteert met twee verse adult-type tertials en de bruine binnenste armpennen die contrasteren met de zwarte handpennen wijzen bij de vogel van Vlieland op een eerste-winter vogel. Ook de lichte snavelbasis duidt op een onvolwassen exemplaar (Riddiford 1989, Feare & Craig 1998). Op grond van de zwartachtige handpennen, tertials en vleugeldekveren en de zwarte veren op de achterkruin betrof het een mannetje (cf Cramp & Perrins 1994, Feare & Craig 1998). De vogel was ongeringd, iets wat door meerdere waarnemers met aandacht werd vastgesteld omdat er discussie over de status te verwachten was.

### Verspreiding, voorkomen en status

Daurische Spreeuw is een broedvogel van Oost-Siberië, Rusland. De vanuit Europa gezien dichtstbijzijnde broedgebieden liggen net aan de westkant van het Baikalmeer, Siberië, Rusland (Feare & Craig 1999), hoewel de soort daar zeer schaars is (Mark Beaman pers meded). Brazil (2009) geeft echter als meest westelijke verspreiding een gebied c 600 km ten oosten van het Baikalmeer aan. De overwinteringsgebieden liggen onder andere in Maleisië en Sumatra, Indonesië (Feare & Craig 1998). In oostelijke delen van India is de soort schaars tot zeld-



zaam. De eerste waarneming voor de zuidelijke deelstaat Tamil Nadu was op 29 december 2008 ([www.birdguides.com/iris/pictures.asp?v=1&f=214886](http://www.birdguides.com/iris/pictures.asp?v=1&f=214886)). Er is een aantal meer westelijke waarnemingen, bijvoorbeeld in westelijk Mongolië (8 juni 2010; Hugues Dufourny in litt; gefotografeerd); in Noord-Pakistan en Nepal (Grimmett et al 1998, Rasmussen & Anderton 2005); in Goa, westelijk India (25 december 2004 en 24 december 2010; mannetjes, beide samen met Roze Spreeuwen; Preddy & Hall 2008; [www.netfugl.dk/pictures.php?id=showpicture&picture\\_id=38276](http://www.netfugl.dk/pictures.php?id=showpicture&picture_id=38276)); en een mannetje op Christmas Island (10°N, 115°O; staatkundig gezien onderdeel van Australië maar in geografisch opzicht dichterbij Java, Indonesië; 4 juni 1996; Palliser 1999).

#### *Status in Europa*

De status in Europa is omstreken. De waarneming op Vlieland betreft de zevende die bekend is voor Noordwest-Europa en de derde waarneming voor Nederland. Van deze zeven zijn er twee aanvaard (onvolwassen, geschoten bij Lillestrøm, Akershus, Noorwegen, op 29 september 1985 (Bentz 1987), en de vogel van Vlieland). Drie waarnemingen komen uit Brittannië. De eerste betrof een mannetje dat van 7 tot 28 mei 1985 verbleef op Fair Isle, Shetland, Schotland (Riddiford et al 1989). Dit geval kwam aanvankelijk op de Britse A-lijst maar werd later 'gedegradeerd' naar de D-lijst ('soorten waarbij er redelijke twijfel is dat ze ooit als natuurlijk dwaalgast zijn opgetreden'; cf Snow & Perrins 1998, British Ornithologists' Union 1999). Het tweede Britse geval betrof een mannetje te Ponteland, Northumberland, Engeland, van 26 augustus tot 5 september 1997. Dit geval is eveneens op de Britse D-lijst geplaatst, met als commentaar 'een verre van ongewone soort in de kooivogelhandel' (Rogers & Rarities Committee 1998). Het derde Britse geval was van 24 tot 27 september 1998 te Durness, Highland, Schotland; ook dit geval werd op status afgewezen (Rogers & Rarities Committee 2001).

#### *Status in Nederland*

Er zijn twee eerdere meldingen in Nederland: te Den Oever, Noord-Holland, op 15 mei 1999 en te Duiven, Gelderland, op 5 november 1999. Beide vogels worden door de Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA) als vermoedelijke 'escapes' beschouwd; voor beide geldt dat de determinatie is aanvaard (van der Vliet et al 2001, Ebels 2004, Ovaal et al 2010). Voor meer details over beide waarnemingen in 1999, zie bijlage 1.

In Nederland was er veel discussie betreffende

de Daurische Spreeuw van Vlieland. Doordat er inmiddels twee gevallen op status waren afgewezen gingen veel potentiële waarnemers er vanuit dat het zelfde lot de vogel van Vlieland zou treffen. De leeftijd van de vogel, tijd van het jaar, plek en omstandigheden (in een groep Spreeuwen met daarin eveneens twee Roze Spreeuwen) plaatsten dit geval voor de CDNA echter in een ander daglicht dan de eerdere twee waarnemingen. De CDNA besloot om zich eerst te verdiepen in de vraag of de soort daadwerkelijk op eigen kracht in Nederland kon komen. Vervolgens rouleerde het geval binnen de CDNA samen met de twee eerder afgewezen gevallen voor de volledige drie beoordeelronden en ten slotte hebben de eerder afgewezen gevallen nog eens drie ronden gerouleerd.

#### *'Vagrancy potential'*

Op basis van trekgedrag wordt de soort door de CDNA in staat geacht op eigen kracht Nederland te bereiken. Hij werd ruim 30 jaar geleden al voorspeld als mogelijke dwaalgast in West-Europa door Wallace (1980). Vinicombe & Cottridge (1996) noemen in hun verhandeling over dwaalgasten Daurische Spreeuw echter als extreem onwaarschijnlijke dwaalgast in Brittannië en Ierland vanwege het (te) ver oostelijk gelegen broedgebied - voorbij de in hun betoog cruciale 'Lake Baikal Watershed' - en de overwegend noord-zuid gerichte trek. De verspreidingskaart in Feare & Craig (1999) laat daarentegen een verspreiding zien waarbij de soort ten westen van het Baikalmeer broedt en wat verspreidingsgebied betreft niet veel verschilt van soorten als Kroonboszanger *Phylloscopus coronatus*, Daurische Kauw *Corvus dauuricus*, Rosse Gors *Emberiza rutila*, Geelbrauwgors *E chrysophrys* en Maskergors *E spodocephala*, vijf soorten die ook op de Nederlandse lijst staan. Ten opzichte van voornoemde soorten liggen de overwinteringsgebieden van Daurische Spreeuw veelal zuidelijker en is dus sprake van een langere trekroute.

Het voorkomen ten westen van het Baikalmeer en de gevallen op het Indisch Subcontinent geven aan dat de soort sporadisch afdwaalt naar het westen. De vogel van Vlieland viel, samen met twee andere West-Europese najaarsgevallen, precies in de periode dat de soort op trek in Hong Kong, China, wordt gezien (midden-september tot eind oktober; Harrop 2007). De vogel van Vlieland vertoonde geen aanwijzingen van herkomst uit gevangenschap zoals beschadigingen of ringen. Het feit dat de vogel een eerste-winter was en dat er in de periode van zijn verschijning geen officiële en, naar alle waarschijnlijkheid, weinig ille-

gale handel was in Aziatische soorten vanwege een strenge controle in verband met het gevaar van uitbreken van vogelgriep, werden door de CDNA als aanvullende positieve punten gezien.

#### *Beoordeling vogel van Vlieland en herbeoordeling eerdere gevallen*

Het oordeel van de CDNA over de vogel van Vlieland was uiteindelijk positief en het geval werd in 2006 aanvaard als eerste geval voor Nederland; hij is aanvaard als eerste-winter mannetje (van der Vliet et al 2007). Nadat dit nieuwe geval was aanvaard moest de CDNA zich opnieuw buigen over de vraag of met dat gegeven ook aanvaarding van de twee gevallen uit 1999 aan de orde zou zijn. De herroulatie van deze twee gevallen resulteerde echter niet in een ander oordeel voor wat betreft status. De voornaamste reden hiervoor was dat bij beide gevallen de CDNA meer informatie had willen hebben over de conditie van het verenkleed en naakte delen van de vogels en hun gedrag. De CDNA hechtte hier veel waarde aan, temeer omdat in de periode van deze twee gevallen wel volop handel en import gaande was van Aziatische (zang)vogels (waaronder waarschijnlijk Daurische Spreeuw). De CDNA heeft bij de beoordelingen mee laten wegen dat de waarnemingsduur bij de vogel van Den Oever kort was en dat er van de vogel van Arnhem slechts één (matige) foto beschikbaar is, zodat het niet goed mogelijk was om iets over sleet, beschadigingen of afwijkend gedrag vast te stellen. De overwegingen van de CDNA zijn uitvoerig verwoord in Ova et al (2010), voor de vogel van Den Oever: 'identification accepted; however, because this species is such a rare vagrant in north-western Europe (and was, at the time, known to be frequently held in captivity), the CDNA wanted to be absolutely sure about the state of the bird's plumage and bare parts; this bird was seen for 3-4 min sitting in a bush and was not photographed. The CDNA is not convinced that all critical details regarding the bird's plumage and state of the bare parts have been seen and so, after extensive discussion, this record was rejected'; en voor de vogel van Duiven: 'identification accepted; however, because this species is such a rare vagrant in north-western Europe (and was, at the time, known to be frequently held in captivity), the CDNA wanted to know more about the state of the bird's plumage and bare parts and its behaviour towards humans, which proved impossible to retrieve; only one poor photograph is available of this individual'.

Overigens heeft de CDNA niet besloten om

voor deze soort de 'omgekeerde bewijslast' van toepassing te verklaren ('gevallen zijn alleen aanvaardbaar als positief is gedocumenteerd dat een vogel ongeringd is en geen andere tekenen van niet-wilde herkomst vertoont'), hoewel de redenen voor de afwijzing van de twee gevallen uit 1999 daar wel op zouden kunnen wijzen. De reden om de 'omgekeerde bewijslast' niet toe te passen is gelegen in het feit dat er van Daurische Spreeuw geen bewezen gevallen van ontsnapte exemplaren in Nederland zijn.

De CDNA heeft zich ingespannen om deze moeilijke kwestie zo objectief mogelijk te benaderen maar realiseert zich uiteraard dat het volledig uitsluiten van een herkomst uit gevangenschap bij de vogel van Vlieland onmogelijk is, en dat de twee vogels van 1999 in principe toch van wilde herkomst zouden kunnen zijn.

#### *Status in gevangenschap*

Daurische Spreeuwen worden in Nederland tot op de dag van vandaag gehouden en verhandeld. Op 19 februari 2006 zag Gert Ottens (in litt) bijvoorbeeld c 20 adulte exemplaren bij enkele handelaren op een vogelbeurs in Zwolle, Overijssel. Het afspeuren van via het internet te koop aangeboden vogels in de periode oktober 2005 tot december 2010 gaf echter een beeld dat de soort toen niet vaak in gevangenschap voorkwam. In met name Azië was deze soort algemeen in gevangenschap tot in ieder geval 2006 (Shepherd 2006).

#### **Dankzegging**

Enno Ebels, Ted Hoogendoorn, Gert Ottens en Willem van Rijswijk (CDNA) worden bedankt voor hun hulp bij het samenstellen van dit artikel.

#### **Summary**

DAURIAN STARLING ON VLIELAND IN OCTOBER 2005 On 11-12 October 2005, a first-year male Daurian Starling *Agropsar sturninus* was observed on Vlieland, Friesland, the Netherlands. It was mostly seen with a large group of Common Starlings *Sturnus vulgaris* which also held two Rosy Starlings *Pastor roseus*. Ageing was based on the brown juvenile tertials and inner secondaries contrasting with two black adult-type tertials, as well as the pale bill base. Sexing was based on the blackish primaries, tertials and wing-coverts, and black nape-patch.

After much debate concerning its status, the bird was accepted as the first record for the Netherlands and the second for Europe and the Western Palearctic (after one in Norway on 29 September 1985). The Dutch rarities committee (CDNA) considered natural vagrancy to Europe possible for this species (which probably breeds west to Lake Baikal, Siberia, Russia, and undertakes fairly long-distance migration). Two previous records in

the Netherlands (15 May 1999, Den Oever, Noord-Holland, and 5 November 1999, Duiven, Gelderland) which had been regarded as presumed escapes (identification accepted) by the CDNA were reviewed. After several rounds, the rejection (on status) of both 1999 records was reconfirmed for the following reasons: (Den Oever) 'identification accepted; however, because this species is such a rare vagrant in north-western Europe (and was, at the time, known to be frequently held in captivity), the CDNA wanted to be absolutely sure about the state of the bird's plumage and bare parts; this bird was seen for 3-4 min sitting in a bush and was not photographed. The CDNA is not convinced that all critical details regarding the bird's plumage and state of the bare parts have been seen and so, after extensive discussion, this record was rejected'; (Duiven): 'identification accepted; however, because this species is such a rare vagrant in north-western Europe (and was, at the time, known to be frequently held in captivity), the CDNA wanted to know more about the state of the bird's plumage and bare parts and its behaviour towards humans, which proved impossible to retrieve; only one poor photograph is available of this individual'.

Three records in Britain (May 1985, August-September 1997 and September 1998) have all been rejected as presumed escapes, based on the presumed low 'vagranacy potential' and status in captivity.

## Verwijzingen

- Bentz, P-G 1987. Sjeldne fugler i Norge i 1985. Vår Fuglefauna 10: 91-95.  
British Ornithologists' Union 1999. The British list. Tring.  
Cramp, S & Perrins, C M (redactie) 1994. The birds of the Western Palearctic 8. Oxford.  
Ebels, E 2004. Probable escapes in the Netherlands: part 2. Dutch Birding 26: 305-313.  
Feare, C & Craig, A 1998. Starlings and mynas. Londen.  
Giljam, C & van Ouwkerk, R 2005. DB Actueel: Daurische Spreeuw op Vlieland. Dutch Birding 27: 446.  
Grimmett, R, Inskipp, C & Inskipp, T 1998. Birds of the

- Indian subcontinent. Londen.  
Harrop, A H J 2007. Eastern promise. Br Birds 100: 105-110  
Ovaa, A, Groenendijk, D, Berlijn, M & CDNA 2010. Rare birds in the Netherlands in 2009. Dutch Birding 32: 363-383.  
Palliser, T 1999. Case summary for submission no 213: Purple-backed (Daurian) Starling *Sturnus sturninus*, Christmas Island, 4 June 1996. Website: www.zipworld.com.au/~palliser/barc.  
Plomp, M, Menkveld, E, van der Maat, G, Sponselee, R, van der Bent, G, Half, R, Jonker, M, van Rijswijk, M, de Waard, H & Wytema, S 2006. Dutch Birding jaar-overzicht 2005. Dvd. De Cocksdorp.  
Preddy, S & Hall, M 2008. Purple-backed Starling in Goa, India, in December 2004. Dutch Birding 30: 314-315.  
Rasmussen, P C & Anderton, J C 2005. Birds of South Asia: The Ripley Guide. Washington.  
Riddiford, N 1989. Ageing and sexing of Daurian Starling. Br Birds 82: 621-622.  
Riddiford, N, Harvey, P V & Shepherd, K B 1989. Daurian Starling: new to the Western Palearctic. Br Birds 82: 603-612.  
Rogers, M J & Rarities Committee 1998, 2001. Report on rare birds in Great Britain in 1997; in 2000. Br Birds 91: 455-517; 94: 452-504.  
Shepherd, C R 2006. The bird trade in Medan, north Sumatra. Birding Asia 5:16-24  
Snow, D W & Perrins, C M (editors) 1998. The birds of the Western Palearctic. Concise edition. Oxford.  
Vinicombe, K & Cottridge, D M 1996. Rare birds in Britain and Ireland: a photographic record. Londen.  
van der Vliet, R E, van der Laan, J & CDNA 2001. Rare birds in the Netherlands in 2000. Dutch Birding 23: 315-347.  
van der Vliet, R E, van der Laan, J, Berlijn, M & CDNA 2007. Rare birds in the Netherlands in 2006. Dutch Birding 29: 347-374.  
Wallace, D I M 1980. Possible future Palearctic passerine vagrants to Britain. Br Birds 73: 388-397.

Max Berlijn, Wilhelminastraat 9, 6285 AS Epen, Nederland (max.berlijn@ing.nl)  
Jan van der Laan, Brouwerstraat 19, 1814 HX Alkmaar, Nederland (j.vdlaan@xs4all.nl)

BIJLAGE 1 Op status afgewezen gevallen van Daurische Spreeuw *Agropsar sturninus* in Nederland

### Den Oever, 15 mei 1999

Op 15 mei 1999 rond 13:25 ontdekten Roy de Haas, Leo Heemskerk, Wil Leurs en Jan van der Laan tijdens hun landelijke *big day* een mannetje Daurische Spreeuw in de bosjes aan de zuidzijde van de Stevinsluizen bij Den Oever, Noord-Holland. RdH, WL en JvdL joegen de vogel op, die vervolgens in een bosje ging zitten. Hij liet zich 1-2 min goed bekijken op een afstand van 20-30 m en vloog toen naar een ander bosje, waarna LH werd gewaarschuwd die c 100 m verderop liep. Met zijn vie-

ren konden ze de vogel nog 1-2 min bekijken op c 20 m. Hierna vervolgden ze hun zoektocht naar Patrijzen *Perdix perdix* (een beruchte *big day*-soort!) en nadat ze deze gevonden hadden verlieten ze de plek om de *big day* voort te zetten. Omdat ze aannamen dat het hier een ontsnapte kooivogel betrof werden niet veel mensen gewaarschuwd en diegenen die wel werden gebeld waren niet thuis of hadden hun voicemail geactiveerd. Wel werd anderhalf uur later Ruud Brouwer geïnformeerd toen hij de vier waarnemers in Friesland tegenkwam. De volgende dag is tevergeefs gezocht. De beschrijving is gebaseerd op notities en een schets die een dag na de waarneming werden gemaakt door JvdL (figuur 1).



FIGUUR 1 Daurische Spreeuw / Daurian Starling *Agropsar sturninus*, mannetje, Den Oever, Noord-Holland, 15 mei 1999 (Jan van der Laan)

**GROOTTE & BOUW** Typische spreeuw met puntige vleugels en vrij korte staart, grote kop en relatief lange dunne snavel.

**KOP** Kop geheel grijswit, waarbij donker oog opvallend afstekend. Geen donkere vlek op bovenkop opgemerkt, of te klein of niet aanwezig.

**BOVENDELEN** Nek grijswit, opvallend afstekend tegen zwarte mantel. Mantel en rug glimmend zwart. Geen groene glans op mantel opgemerkt, waarschijnlijk door lichtval. In zit witte schouderstreep zichtbaar als duidelijke 'V' op bovendelen, in vlucht smalle vleugelstreep vormend. Lichte stuit alleen tweede keer in vlucht gezien (toen op gelet). Geen lichte vlekjes op tertials opgemerkt.

**VLEUGEL** Bovenvleugel glimmend zwart. Alleen op vleugels mogelijk iets van groene glans op te merken.

**ONDERDELEN** Kin, keel, borst en buik grijsig wit.

**STAART** Bovenstaart donker.

**NAAKTE DELEN** Snavel en oog zwart. Pootkleur niet opgemerkt.

**VLUCHT** Formaat en silhouet als Spreeuw *S vulgaris*; lichte kop en stuit en witte kleine dekveren als streep opvallend.

**GEDRAG & CONDITIE** Opvliegend bij benadering en dan in ander bosje landend. Verenkleed zonder zichtbare



291 Daurische Spreeuw / Daurian Starling *Agropsar sturninus*, Duiven, Gelderland, 5 November 1999 (A J Meeuwissen)

slijtage of ontbrekende veren; snavel niet beschadigd, vergroeid of tweekleurig. Poten niet goed zichtbaar tussen bladeren, maar geen afwijkingen zichtbaar.

Duiven, 5 november 1999

Op 5 november 1999 nam A J Meeuwissen in de Steenstraat te Duiven, Gelderland, gedurende c 15 min een haar onbekende vogel waar. Zij slaagde erin één foto van de vogel te maken en gaf de waarneming als 'raadselvogel' door aan Gert Ottens van het Vogel Informatie Centrum (VIC) van Vogelbescherming Nederland. GO vroeg de foto op en determineerde de vogel als Daurische Spreeuw. Via GO werd de waarneming ingediend bij de CDNA. De beschrijving is gebaseerd op de foto (plaat 291) en mededelingen van AJM.

**KOP** Grotendeels grijswit, donker oog opvallend afstekend. Zwarte vlek op achterkop (niet op foto zichtbaar). Opvallende witte oogring.

**BOVENDELEN** Mantel, bovenste schouderveren en vleugelbocht donker lijkend. Duidelijke brede witte 'vleugelstreep' gevormd door witte onderste schouderveren.

**VLEUGEL** Bovenvleugel glimmend zwart. Onduidelijke vleugelstreep door witte (toppen van) kleinste dekveren. Middelste en grote dekveren en tertials donker met groene glans; tertials met witte top. Stuit en bovenstaartdekveren lichtbruin, van achteren gezien zichtbaar tussen vleugels.

**ONDERDELEN** Keel, borst en buik zelfde grijze kleur als kop. Anaalstreep en onderstaartdekveren zelfde lichtbruine kleur als stuit en bovenstaartdekveren.

**STAART** Bovenstaart donker, zwart lijkend.

**NAAKTE DELEN** Snavel en oog zeer donker (zwart). Poot zeer donker. Ongeringd.

# Oriental Plover, Franklin's Gull, Syrian Woodpecker and Masked Shrike new to Kazakhstan

Arend Wassink, Ross Ahmed, Simon Busuttill & Albert Salemgareev

After the publication of *The birds of Kazakhstan* (Wassink & Oreel 2007), seven new taxa have been described for the country: Indian Pond Heron *Ardeola grayii* (Kovalenko & Dyakin 2009), Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* (Mischenko 2009, Wassink 2010), Baltic Gull *Larus fuscus fuscus* (Wassink 2010), Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaceus* (Wassink 2009), Large-billed Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus orinus* (Svensson et al 2009, Wassink 2009), Western Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros gibraltariensis* (Gistsov 2007) and White-capped Redstart *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus* (Dyakin 2008, 2009, Wassink 2009). Recently, four species were added to the Kazakh bird list which are documented here. Three of these, Franklin's Gull, Syrian Woodpecker and Masked Shrike, are also new to Central Asia.

## Oriental Plover

As part of the Altyn Dala project to find locations where Saiga *Saiga tatarica* drop their young, Albert Salemgareev and Klaus Nigge visited the Atanbaschik semi-desert (48°15' N, 63°43' E), Aqtöbe province. On 9 May 2009, they found an adult male Oriental Plover *Charadrius veredus* (Salemgareev 2010). The bird was vigorously attacked by a male Caspian Plover *C. asiaticus*, defending its territory and female.

In plumage, the only wader reminiscent of Oriental Plover is Caspian Plover. However, the almost completely white head, gradually merging into the orange-brown breast bordered by a broad black band below, ruled out the latter. In addition, the dark underwing and larger size (plate 293) also excluded Caspian.

292 Oriental Plover / Steppeplover *Charadrius veredus*, adult male, Atanbaschik semi-desert, Aqtöbe province, Kazakhstan, 9 May 2009 (Klaus Nigge)





293 Oriental Plover / Steppeplover *Charadrius veredus*, adult male, with Caspian Plover *C. asiaticus*, adult male, Atanbaschik semi-desert, Aqtöbe province, Kazakhstan, 9 May 2009 (Klaus Nigge)

The relatively fresh primaries in combination with the well-developed breast pattern indicated that the bird was an adult. First-summer males show very worn primaries and usually attain a dull breast band (Prater et al 1977).

There are two previous (unreviewed) records of Oriental Plover from Central Asia, at Samarkand and Tashkent, Uzbekistan (Mitropolskiy et al 1990). A report of a bird collected at Shushkakol lake (43°00' N, 68°33' E), South Kazakhstan province, on 16 September 1910 has been omitted from the national list. The skin is lost (Dolgushin 1962) and hence the identification cannot be verified (Wassink & Orel 2007).

Oriental Plover breeds from southern Siberia, Russia (Tuva and Transbaikal regions), through western, northern and eastern Mongolia to extreme north-eastern China, and winters from the Greater Sundas to mainly northern parts of Australia. Migration mainly takes place much further east of Central Asia, through eastern China, with small numbers occurring east to Korea, Japan and the Philippines and in South-east Asia (del Hoyo et al 1996).

### Franklin's Gull

As part of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) search for Slender-billed Curlew *Numenius tenuirostris*, Ross Ahmed, Simon Busuttill

and Albert Salemgareev set out on an expedition to Kazakhstan in July-August 2010. They arrived at Kushmurun lake, Qostanay province (52°30' N, 64°34' E), in the early evening of 14 July. At 20:30, whilst scanning through waders on the partially wet saline mud, SB picked up an unusual gull amongst the Black-headed Gulls *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*. The observers' first reaction was 'adult Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla*' but they soon began to favour adult Franklin's Gull *L. pipixcan*.

They were able to approach the bird to within c 300 m. Although skeptical and fully aware that the bird was nearly as far from the normal range of Franklin's Gull as it could possibly be, they struggled to find any other explanation for the bird's appearance. At 20:50, the bird took flight and was lost amongst the Black-headed Gull flock. It was still present the following early morning, when different light conditions allowed, for example, the presence of white eye-crescents to be noted. It again took flight fairly soon after having been found and was not seen again.

The following description is based on field observations, photographs and field notes.

**SIZE & STRUCTURE** Size relative to Black-headed Gulls difficult to ascertain both in field and from photographs. At times, posture appearing quite upright, with deep-

breasted feel. Head proportionately small relative to body. Bill short looking and fairly stout, not slender or droopy.

**PLUMAGE** Head clearly darker than that of nearby Black-headed Gulls, being jet-black as opposed to brown. Loral area showing much white flecking. White crescents above and below eye. Upperparts at least as dark as in Common Gull *L. canus heinei*, if not darker (although no nearby Common Gulls for comparison). Prominent broad white trailing edge to wing. Relatively small amount of black in primary tips (see moult). Pink flush noted on breast.

**BARE PARTS** Bill black, or at least dark. Leg dark red (exact coloration thought to be affected by covering of mud – red in legs of many neighbouring Black-headed Gulls not apparent).

**FLIGHT & BEHAVIOUR** Not noted as being different from Black-headed Gulls.

**MOULT** In active moult, with at least two primaries still growing (seemingly p7 and p8). Therefore, amount of black in wing-tips reduced. At least one secondary dropped. Some old feathers very worn, particularly rectrices.

It was when the photographs were checked, particularly those of the bird in flight, that some doubts were raised. The flight photographs suggested that it was slightly larger than Black-headed Gull (5-10%), which we felt may have refuted the identification as Franklin's Gull. However, size illusion may be creating a false impression of the bird's size in relation to the accompanying Black-headed. Indeed, in photographs of the bird on the ground, it appeared typically smaller than nearby Black-headed. If the bird was actually larger than Black-headed, one explanation is that many Franklin's are, in fact, larger than Black-headed (Killian Mullarney in litt).

Two other features that raised concerns were the apparently all-white tail (lacking any grey) and the less familiar wing-tip pattern. However, both of these features can be explained by moult and feather wear; the bird was missing at least two pri-

**294-295** Franklin's Gull / Franklins Meeuw *Larus pipixcan* (left), with Black-headed Gull / Kokmeeuw *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*, Kushmurun lake, Qostanay province, Kazakhstan, 14 July 2010 (Ross Ahmed) **296-297** Franklin's Gull / Franklins Meeuw *Larus pipixcan*, Kushmurun lake, Qostanay province, Kazakhstan, 14 July 2010 (Ross Ahmed)



maries and the rectrices were heavily worn, meaning grey coloration would have been lost. Laughing Gull can be ruled out by the wing-tip pattern (too little black and too much white in the primaries, even when compensating for the missing primaries) and bill length (too short). The bird did not match any known hybrids either (cf Pullan & Martin 2004).

Other species that were taken in consideration were Saunders's Gull *L saundersi* and Relict Gull *L relictus*. Saunders's would show paler wings/upperparts, little or no white trailing edge to the primaries (a pattern more like Black-headed Gull) and a smaller size than the adjacent Black-headed. Relict would show paler wings/upperparts and a noticeably larger size than adjacent Black-headed, as well as a narrower white trailing edge to the primaries.

The bird appeared adult-like in all respects, and indeed there was little to suggest that the bird was of a younger age. However, as the full primary pattern was not visible due to moult and as the black hood appeared to be in a transitional state, ageing the bird with certainty was not possible.

The only previous record of any Nearctic *Larus* in the Middle East and Central Asia region concerned another Franklin's Gull in Israel on 3-6 June 2003 (Smith 2004, Blair et al 2009). In Egypt, an adult summer was photographed at Luxor, Egypt, on 12 March 2011 (Birding World 24: 152, 2011, van den Berg & Haas 2011a). Possibly the same individual at Fujairah, United Arab Emirates, from 17 May 2011 onwards was the first for the Arabian peninsula and at c 56°21' E almost as far east as the preceding Kazakhstan record (van den Berg & Haas 2011b, Birding World 24: 198, 2011). There are very few other species with a predominantly North American breeding range which have occurred in the Middle East and Central Asia. These species do however include Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens* and eight species of wader (Blair et al 2009).

That a Franklin's Gull should occur in Central Asia seems largely inexplicable. The species breeds an enormous distance away from Kazakhstan, on inland prairies in Canada and the USA, and migrates through central USA to winter along the western coasts of South America (Olsen & Larsson 2004). Furthermore, populations declined by up to 90% between 1960 and 2000 (Olsen & Larsson 2004).

### **Syrian Woodpecker**

During the same aforementioned expedition in search of Slender-billed Curlew, SB, RA and AS were counting waterbirds, in particular waders, in

the early afternoon of 16 July 2010 at Naurzum nature reserve, Qostanay province (c 51°28' N, 64°26' E), when a medium to large woodpecker *Dendrocopos* flew in and landed on a nearby pine tree – just some 20 m away. They were able to approach to within 10 m, but soon the bird flew off. The views obtained were therefore very short (c 1 min) but very close and clear – both perched and in flight.

The following description is based on field observations and field notes.

**SIZE & STRUCTURE** Initial impression of Great Spotted Woodpecker *D major*, therefore medium to large *Dendrocopos*, too large for Lesser Spotted Woodpecker *D minor* or Middle Spotted Woodpecker *D medius*, and lacking bulkiness of White-backed Woodpecker *D leucotos*.

**PLUMAGE** Main coloration black and white. Fairly fine streaking detected on lower flanks, clearly not dense or prominent enough nor extending far enough on underparts for White-backed Woodpecker. White patch on side of neck extending unbroken to cheek and eye, not divided by black, as in Great Spotted Woodpecker. White scapular patch as in Great Spotted. Pale reddish undertail-coverts.

**VOCALIZATIONS** Noted once in flight, gentle *chup*, archetypal of *Dendrocopos*.

SB, RA and AS did not know which species of *Dendrocopos* were present in the area. Between them, they had experience with all relevant possible alternatives. The smaller species – Lesser Spotted Woodpecker and Middle Spotted Woodpecker – were ruled out on size and structure as well as the pattern of black and white. It was also immediately obvious that the bird was not a White-backed Woodpecker, lacking the bulk and heaviness of that species. Although essentially similar to a Great Spotted Woodpecker, it was clear that it was not that species. Based on the distribution of black and white, and particularly the unbroken white neck-to-cheek patch, SB concluded that the bird was indeed a Syrian Woodpecker. RA quickly picked up on streaking on the flanks which, in hindsight, ruled out all ages of Great Spotted.

Although there was no doubt that the bird was a Syrian Woodpecker, Svensson et al (2009) was checked upon return to the vehicle. White-backed Woodpecker and White-winged Woodpecker *D leucopterus* were considered, the latter being a species SB had seen on previous trips to Uzbekistan and eastern Kazakhstan. White-backed could be ruled out by the head pattern and white scapular patches which were thought to be about the same size as in Great Spotted Woodpecker. White-





**298** Masked Shrike / Maskerklauwier *Lanius nubicus*, adult female, Fetisovo, Mangghystau province, Kazakhstan, 31 August 2010 (Arend Wassink)

winged could be excluded by the presence of streaked flanks and the pattern of black and white on the face and neck. At this point SB, RA and AS were still not aware of the status of Syrian Woodpecker in Kazakhstan, and presumed it was a resident breeder at Naurzum nature reserve. It was only after checking Wassink & Oreel (2007), almost two days after the sighting, that it was realized that the species would be an addition to the national list. This caused the observers to further investigate the identification of the bird once back at home. After more research there, the bird was firmly identified as a Syrian Woodpecker.

Zavialov et al (2008) detailed an expansion of Syrian Woodpecker eastwards from its primary breeding range of Turkey, European Russia and Ukraine. They showed that by the late 1990s, the species was breeding in Russia very close to the Kazakh border in, for example, the Volgograd region. They commented that 'it seems only a matter of time before the species turns up in neighbouring parts of Kazakhstan'. Zavialov et al (2008) did not conclude with certainty why the species has undergone a range expansion. They did, however, offer several suggestions, including the disappearance of ecological barriers due to anthropogenic changes of the environment and colonisation of a postglacial vacuum.

#### **Masked Shrike**

From 21 August to 8 September 2010, Patrick Palmen and Arend Wassink were conducting a survey of migrating birds at Kenderli resort, situated at Fetisovo, Mangghystau province, along the Caspian coast (42°47' N, 52°37' E). The resort is a small oasis amidst a desert environment, with green gardens and lawns being watered daily, attracting large numbers of birds, mainly passerines.

In the early evening of 30 August, AW heard a shrike *Lanius*-like call coming from a row of *Acacia* trees. The call initially did not sound familiar to him, at least not from shrike species known to occur in Kazakhstan. It was not until he found the bird uttering its characteristic rattling alarm call and repeatedly turning its tail, that he realized that it was a Masked Shrike *Lanius nubicus*, a species he had become familiar with in the Middle East. Realising the importance of the record, being a first for Kazakhstan and even Central Asia, AW alerted PP immediately, and record shots were taken in the quickly diminishing light. Early in the following morning, the bird was still present in the same row of trees, enabling much better photographs to be taken. It was not seen again after the morning of 31 August but, to their great surprise, they relocated the bird again on 8 September, at another site within the resort. The fact that the small resort was searched daily for a

week without glimpsing the bird or hearing a single call, affirms the species' often shown behaviour of remaining silent within cover.

Identification was straightforward. The combination of an extensive white forehead, dark upperparts, long tail, and orangey breast-sides and flanks ruled out any other shrike species. The pale lores, dark grey crown, grey-brown neck, mantle, back and rump, as well as the pale orangey breast-sides and flanks indicated that it was a female. The wing showed two generations of feathers: new, blackish primaries, most secondaries, tertials and greater coverts and some old, brown secondaries and median coverts. This, together with the unbarred plumage and orangey breast-sides and flanks, indicated that the bird was an adult.

Masked Shrike has a rather small breeding range, mainly centered in the eastern Mediterranean, from the Balkans to Israel. Some populations occur further east, as far as Iran, breeding at least from the Zagros mountains to Fars, possibly also north of Tehran along the Caspian Sea coast. The species winters in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in the eastern part and rarely south of 10°N. Although post-breeding dispersal begins as early as the second half of July, autumn migration does not start before the second week of August (Lefranc & Worfolk 1997). The date of the record coincides with the known migration period.

#### *Acknowledgements*

Arnoud van den Berg and Killian Mullarney commented on the identification of the Franklin's Gull. Klaus Nigge kindly allowed us to publish his photographs.

#### **Samenvatting**

STEPPEPLEVIER, FRANKLINS MEEUW, SYRISCHE BONTE SPECHT EN MASKERKLAUWIER NIEUW VOOR KAZAKHSTAN In dit artikel worden de waarnemingen van vier nieuwe soorten voor Kazachstan gepresenteerd, Steppeplevier *Charadrius veredus* (Atanbaschik-halfwoestijn, provincie Aqtöbe, 9 mei 2009), Franklins Meeuw *Larus pipixcan* (Kushmurun-meer, provincie Qostanay, 14-15 juli 2010), Syrische Bonte Specht *Dendrocopos syriacus* (Naurzum-reservaat, provincie Qostanay, 16 juli 2010) en Maskerklauwier *Lanius nubicus* (Kenderli, Fetisovo, provincie Mangghystau, 30 augustus tot 8 september 2010). De drie laatstgenoemde soorten zijn tevens nieuw voor Centraal-Azië.

#### **References**

- van den Berg, A B & Haas, M 2011a, 2011b. WP reports: February-late March 2011; late March-late May 2011. *Dutch Birding* 33: 134-143; 33: 201-211.
- Blair, M, Porter, R, Preddy, S & Aspinall, S 2009. OSME Region List of birds. A consultative document. The formal edition of the OSME Region List of bird taxa – Version 2.1. Non-passerines. Website: [www.osme.org/orl/orl.shtml](http://www.osme.org/orl/orl.shtml).
- Dolgushin, I A 1962. [Birds of Kazakhstan. Volume 2.] Almaty. [In Russian.]
- Dyakin, G U 2008. [White-capped Redstart – a new species for Kazakhstan.] *Selevinia* 2008: 252. [In Russian.]
- Dyakin, G U 2009. [White-capped Redstart – a new species for Kazakhstan.] *Kazakhstan Ornithol Bull* 2008: 227. [In Russian.]
- Gistsov, A P 2007. [A record of European Black Redstart in the northern Caspian Sea region.] *Kazakhstan Ornithol Bull* 2006: 237. [In Russian.]
- del Hoyo, J, Elliott, A & Sargatal, J (editors) 1996. *Handbook of the birds of the world* 3. Barcelona.
- Kovalenko, A V & Dyakin, G U 2009. [*Ardeola grayii* – a new species of the Kazakhstan avifauna.] *Selevinia* 2009: 236. [In Russian.]
- Lefranc, N & Worfolk, T 1997. *Shrikes: a guide to the shrikes of the world*. Mountfield.
- Mischenko, V 2009. *Black-legged Kittiwake*. Website: [www.birds.kz](http://www.birds.kz)
- Mitropolskiy, O V, Fotteler, E R & Tretyakov, G P 1990. [Birds of Uzbekistan. Volume 2.] Tashkent. [In Russian.]
- Olsen, K M & Larsson, H 2004. *Gulls of Europe, Asia and North America*. Second edition. London.
- Prater, A J, Marchant, J H & Vuorinen, J 1977. *Guide to the identification and ageing of Holarctic waders*. Tring.
- Pullan, G & Martin, J 2004. From the Rarities Committee's files: Presumed hybrid gull resembling adult Franklin's Gull. *Br Birds* 97: 264-269.
- Salemgareev, A 2010. [Record of Oriental Plover *Charadrius veredus* in Kazakhstan.] *Russian J Ornithol* 19: 222-223. [In Russian.]
- Smith, J P 2004. The first Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan* in Israel and the Middle East. *Sandgrouse* 26: 65-67.
- Svensson, L, Grant, P J, Mullarney, K & Zetterström, D 2009. *Collins bird guide*. Second edition. London.
- Wassink, A 2009. *Birds of Kazakhstan: new and interesting data*, part 2. *Dutch Birding* 31: 101-110.
- Wassink, A 2010. *Birds of Kazakhstan: new and interesting data*, part 3. *Dutch Birding* 32: 128-130.
- Wassink, A & Oreeel, G J 2007. *The birds of Kazakhstan*. De Cocksdorp.
- Zavialov, E V, Tabachishin, V G & Mosolova, E Y 2008. *Expansion of Syrian Woodpecker in European Russia and Ukraine*. *Dutch Birding* 30: 236-238.

*Arend Wassink, Postweg 64, 1795 JR De Cocksdorp, Texel, Netherlands (a.wassink@texel.com)*  
*Ross Ahmed, 23 Rede Avenue, Hebburn, Tyne and Wear, NE31 1QT, UK (rossahmed@gmail.com)*

*Simon Busuttill, East Scotland Regional Office, 10 Albyn Terrace, Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire AB10 1YP, UK (simon.busuttill@rspb.org.uk)*

*Albert Salemgareev, Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK), Beybitshilik Street 18, office 406 010000, Astana, Kazakhstan (albert.salemgareev@acbk.kz)*

## Hybrid Eurasian x Red-knobbed Coot successfully breeding with Red-knobbed Coot in Morocco in April 2009

On 25 April 2009, Peter Adriaens, Davy De Groot, Kevin Lambeets and Pieter Vantiegheem visited the lake of Sidi Bou-Rhaba near Kénitra, Rhab, Morocco. The lake held a good selection of waterbirds, including 10s of Eurasian Coots *Fulica atra* and Red-knobbed Coots *F. cristata*. DDG was the first to notice an unusual coot among the latter, which looked very much intermediate between the two coot species and therefore was quite likely a hybrid. As the bird was near the opposite shore, we decided to go round and have a closer look. Here, we had views down to 20 m and soon became convinced that it was a hybrid indeed. It was paired with a Red-knobbed and was feeding two chicks – blissfully unaware of the ‘rule’ that hybrids (between two full species) ought to be infertile! It is very likely that both chicks were backcrosses (second-generation hybrids), although

there is a theoretical possibility that the hybrid was feeding chicks which were not its own offspring. We were unable to check for the morphological differences between chicks of both species (cf van Bemmelen & Groenendijk 2003).

The hybrid bird clearly showed characters of both Eurasian Coot and Red-knobbed Coot (cf Forsman 1991, Keijl et al 1993). The intermediate features are illustrated in the photographs and accompanying captions. We also heard an alarm call of this bird, which again sounded intermediate, a bit like the typical *kowk* call of Eurasian but clearly with the nasal and plaintive quality of Red-knobbed. Unfortunately, no sound-recording was made.

Little appears to be known about hybridisation between Eurasian Coot and Red-knobbed Coot. There have been no previous records from Morocco or Spain. A year after our observation, a mixed nesting pair was filmed near Ifrane, Morocco, on 28 April 2010 by Marc Zevenbergen (cf <http://forum.waarneming.nl/smf/index.php/topic,110266.0.html>). In January-February 2005, Bird-tours reported two hybrids from Oman, where

**299** Hybrid Eurasian x Red-knobbed Coot / hybride Meerkoet x Knobelmeerkoet *Fulica atra* x *cristata*, with chick, Sidi Bou-Rhaba, Morocco, 25 April 2009 (*Peter Adriaens*). Note pointed shape of black feathering on side of bill (as in Eurasian) and vestigial red knobs on top of bill shield (showing influence of Red-knobbed). Basal part of bill pinkish (as in Eurasian) but outer half blue (as in Red-knobbed).





**300** Hybrid Eurasian x Red-knobbed Coot / hybride Meerkoet x Knobbelmeerkoet *Fulica atra x cristata*, Sidi Bou-Rhaba, Morocco, 25 April 2009 (Peter Adriaens). Upper edge of frontal shield is straight and slightly notched (as in Red-knobbed) but shield is pinched at base due to pointed black feathering (as in Eurasian). **301** Hybrid Eurasian x Red-knobbed Coot / hybride Meerkoet x Knobbelmeerkoet *Fulica atra x cristata*, Sidi Bou-Rhaba, Morocco, 25 April 2009 (Peter Adriaens). Close-up of head and bill. Note mixed bill colours, vestigial red knobs and pointed wedge of black feathering. **302** Hybrid Eurasian x Red-knobbed Coot / hybride Meerkoet x Knobbelmeerkoet *Fulicatra atra x cristata* (foreground), with Red-knobbed Coot and two chicks, Sidi Bou-Rhaba, Morocco, 25 April 2009 (Peter Adriaens). In comparison with Red-knobbed, hybrid shows thicker neck and flatter head, reminiscent of Eurasian.

Red-knobbed is a vagrant and Eurasian a winter visitor. Diskin (2005) reported a Red-knobbed breeding at Al Warsen lake near Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 'perhaps mated with *Fulica atra*'. Two years later, on 5 December 2007, a hybrid was photographed at Al Warsen lake, which looked very similar to the Sidi Bou-Rhaba bird (Wilby 2007). Al Warsen Lake is the only site in Asia where Red-knobbed occasionally breeds. McCarthy (2006) does not report any case of hybridization between Eurasian and Red-knobbed.

The western Mediterranean population of Red-knobbed Coot has been in severe decline for sev-

eral decades, primarily as a result of habitat loss and degradation due to changes in hydrological regime, overexploitation of catchments and sedimentation (which are altering the periods of wetland flooding), agricultural, industrial and domestic pollution, overgrazing (cattle herds), burning of reeds, and introduction of alien species (eg, Louisiana Swamp Crayfish *Procambarus clarkii* and *Ciprinidae* fish which both reduce the availability of food and hence increase competition) (BirdLife International 2010). It seems unlikely, however, that hybridisation will become another of the many threats facing this species.



**303** Hybrid Eurasian x Red-knobbed Coot / hybride Meerkoet x Knobbelmeerkoet *Fulica atra x cristata*, Sidi Bou-Rhaba, Morocco, 25 April 2009 (Peter Adriaens). Unlike Eurasian, white trailing edge to secondaries is (almost) absent.



**304** Red-knobbed Coot / Knobbelmeerkoet *Fulica cristata*, Sidi Bou-Rhaba, Morocco, 25 April 2009 (Peter Adriaens)

### References

- van Bemmelen, R S A & Groenendijk, D 2003. Masters of Mystery. Solutions in first round 2003 1: Red-knobbed Coot. *Dutch Birding* 25: 116-117.
- BirdLife International 2010. Species factsheet: *Fulica cristata*. Website: [www.birdlife.org](http://www.birdlife.org). [Accessed 1 October 2010.]
- Diskin, D A 2005. The breeding birds of Al Warsen Lake, Dubai, UAE. *Phoenix* 21: 18-20.
- Forsman, D 1991. Aspects of identification of Crested

- Coot. *Dutch Birding* 13: 121-125.
- Keijl, G O, Eggenhuizen, A H V & Ruiters, P S 1993. Identification of Red-knobbed Coot. *Dutch Birding* 15: 22-23.
- McCarthy, E M 2006. Handbook of avian hybrids of the world. Oxford.
- Wilby, D 2007. Eurasian/Red-knobbed Coot hybrids. Online gallery. Website: [www.smugmug.com/gallery/7671261\\_Q7ZqQ](http://www.smugmug.com/gallery/7671261_Q7ZqQ).

Peter Adriaens, Volmolenstraat 9, 9000 Gent, Belgium ([peter.adriaens@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:peter.adriaens@dutchbirding.nl))

## Knob-billed Duck at Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania, in December 1984

On 7 December 1984, c 08:30, members of a Sirius bird tour (Hazevoet 1985) were sailing on a small boat c 75 m off Iwik at Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania (c 19.87°N; 16.30°W), when they noticed a large duck flying in a northward direction between them and the shore. The bird was seen by all members of the group, among them Kees Hazevoet, Gerard Ouweneel and Gerard Steinhaus. The following notes were taken directly after the c 30 s long observation.

**SIZE & SHAPE** Large duck, about size and proportions of Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*.

**PLUMAGE** Head and neck white, possibly with some dark speckles. Upperparts and underwing black; underparts white.

**BARE PARTS** Bill dark grey, no visible knob.

**BEHAVIOUR** Flying with rather slow wingbeats, recalling goose.

The combination of large size, dark upperparts and underwing and white underparts only fits Knob-billed Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos*. It could be identified as a female because of the lack of a knob on its bill. A young male should still show a knob, albeit a much smaller one than in adult male (cf Madge & Burn 1988).

Knob-billed Duck breeds in Africa south of the Sahara and in Madagascar; it also breeds in southern Asia (del Hoyo et al 1992). The closely related taxon *sylvicola* occurs in South America and is now generally treated as a distinct species (Comb Duck *S sylvicola*). In Mauritania, the species is a regular visitor to the south during the rainy and dry seasons but proof of breeding is absent (Isenmann et al 2010). Large numbers are occasionally seen, with totals varying between 700

and 7000 individuals, counted during nearly exhaustive winter counts in the Sahelian parts of Mauritania. A total of 10 475 individuals was reported from the Hodh El Gharbi area (southern Mauritania) in January 2001 (Isenmann et al 2010). Lake Aleg, which is regularly visited (with as many as 3600 individuals in January 2001; Isenmann et al 2010), is only 400 km south of Iwik, so the occurrence of the species at Banc d'Arguin is not totally unexpected. Movements during the rainy season are also demonstrated by birds ringed in Zimbabwe recovered in Chad and Sudan, at distances of c 3880 km and 3600 km from the ringing site, respectively (Madge & Burn 1988). An adult male present in Dhofar, Oman, from August 1990 to November 1998 was the first for the Middle East (Eriksen et al 2003).

The record in December 1984 constituted the first for northern Mauritania and the Banc d'Arguin area (cf Isenmann et al 2010). As the bird was seen in flight at sea and was clearly noted to fly offshore, it was seen within the Western Palearctic (WP) lim-

its as defined by Cramp & Simmons (1977). In early 2011, it still stands as the only WP record.

Isenmann et al (2010) erroneously refer to Hazevoet (1985) for this record but it was not included in that paper because of the lack of photographic evidence.

## References

- Cramp, S & Simmons, K E L (editors) 1977. The birds of the Western Palearctic 1. Oxford.
- Eriksen, J, Sargeant, D E & Víctor, R 2003. Oman bird list. Sixth edition. Muscat.
- del Hoyo, J, Elliott, A & Sargatal, J (editors) 1992. Handbook of the birds of the world 1. Barcelona.
- Hazevoet, C J 1985. Bird records from Mauritania in December 1984. *Dutch Birding* 7: 26-27.
- Isenmann, P, Benmergui, M, Browne, P, Ba, A D, Diagana, C H, Diawara, Y & Ould Sidaty, Z E A 2010. Oiseaux de Mauritanie / Birds of Mauritania. Paris.
- Madge, S & Burn, H 1988. Wildfowl: an identification guide to the ducks, geese and swans of the world. London.

*Cornelis J Hazevoet, Instituto de Investigação Científica Tropical – Jardim Botânico Tropical, Unidade de Zoologia, Rua da Junqueira 14, 1300-343 Lisboa, Portugal (cjhazevoet@gmail.com)*

*Marcel Haas, Helmweg 12 C, 1759 NE Callantsoog, Netherlands (zoodauma@gmail.com)*

*Pierre-André Crochet, CNRS-UMR 5175 Centre d'Ecologie Fonctionnelle et Evolutive, 1919, route de Mende, 34293 Montpellier cedex 5, France (pierre-andre.crochet@cefe.cnrs.fr)*

## Spread of Eurasian Collared Dove in Libya and first breeding in Tripolitania

Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* is recently colonizing North Africa, with an expanding distribution in the region (Isenmann & Moali 2000). In Libya, the first known occurrence was as recent as 2005 at the oasis of Ghadames, Fezzan, south-western Libya, near the southernmost border with Tunisia (Essghaier et al 2009). It was assumed that the species had moved through the network of oases in central and southern Tunisia to western Libya. Since then, the species has been reported from other Libyan sites. The exact direction of spreading is not known, as the species may have had other starting points along the Libyan coast. However, the population in the south-west is thought to have originated from the southern Tunisia-Ghadames route. Table 1 summarizes the sightings of Eurasian Collared in Libya since the first record in 2005. The first sightings in the province of Tripolitania were from 2007 onwards.

In this note, we present the first report of breed-

ing Eurasian Collared Dove in Tripolitania, north-western Libya, and new reports from Cyrenaica, north-eastern Libya, in the summer of 2010.

### *Overview of sightings in Lybia*

Table 1 summarizes sightings of Eurasian Collared Dove in Libya since the first record in 2005 (excluding breeding records in western Libya). The first sightings in Tripolitania (north-western Libya) were in January 2007 and in Cyrenaica (north-eastern Lybia) in January 2008.

### *Breeding record in Tripolitania*

On 24 April 2010, a pair of Eurasian Collared Doves was seen on electricity wires and roosting in palm trees at Awlad Margham village (32°19'N, 13°06'E), c 65 km south of Tripoli, Tripolitania. On 8 August 2010, three adults were seen at the same site, and breeding was suspected as a pair was showing territorial behaviour. On 20 August 2010, two juveniles were seen in a palm tree and another pair was building a new nest in a shrub located c 100 m from the palm tree.

This is the first breeding record in Tripolitania.



**305** Eurasian Collared Dove / Turkse Tortel *Streptopelia decaocto*, fledgling, Awlad Margham, Libya, 18 August 2010 (*Jaber Yahia*)



**306** Eurasian Collared Doves / Turkse Tortels *Streptopelia decaocto*, fledglings, Awlad Margham, Libya, 19 August 2010 (*Jaber Yahia*)

Breeding can be expected in other areas where good numbers of the species have been observed (see table 1). The possible impact of the spread of Eurasian Collared Dove through Libya on European Turtle Dove *S turtur* and Laughing Dove *S senegalensis* needs further investigation, as they are likely to compete for the same resources such as food and breeding sites.

#### *Spread within the Western Palearctic*

The original range of Eurasian Collared Dove at the end of the 19th century was from Turkey east to southern China and south through India to Sri Lanka. In the 20th century, the species expanded across Europe, appearing in the Balkans in 1900-20 and then spreading rapidly north-west, reaching, eg, Hungary in c 1930, the Czech Republic and Slovakia in 1938, Austria in 1943 (breeding), Poland and the Baltic states in 1943, Germany in 1945, Italy in 1947 (breeding), Denmark and the Netherlands in 1950 (possibly 1947 in the latter country), Sweden in 1951, France in 1952, Switzerland in c 1952, Britain and Finland in 1953 (first breeding in 1956 and 1966, respectively), Norway in 1955, Ireland in 1959, the Channel Islands in 1961 and the Faroes in 1969 (first breeding in early 1970s). Subsequent spread was 'side-ways' from this fast north-west spread, reaching north-east to north of the Arctic Circle in Norway and east to the Urals, European Russia, south-west to the Canary Islands and northern Africa from Morocco (first record in 1986), and south-east to Jordan (1979) and Egypt, by the end of the 20th century. In the east of its range, it has also spread north-east to most of central and northern China,

and locally (probably introduced) in Japan. It has also reached Iceland as a vagrant (41 records up to 2006; breeding in 1971-72) but did not (yet) colonize this country (Snow & Perrins 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 2001, see also Ullman 2010). In the Azores, the first two were recorded in September 2006 and numbers have increased annually, with 120 individuals reported up to November 2010, the majority in a colony on Terceira ([www.birdingazores.com](http://www.birdingazores.com)). In Egypt, the species entered the country from the north and north-east and has spread south, using the many resorts along the Red Sea as a green corridor. Numbers increased steadily in Hurghada, from two pairs in spring 2005 to 47 in spring 2007; further south, it reached Wadi Lahami and even Bir Shalatin at the North Sudanese border from where it went into North Sudan (Moldován István pers comm).

Interestingly, in Lybia, the species may complete its circle around the Mediterranean Sea, with birds colonizing from the west (Tunisia) as well as from the east (Egypt).

The authors thank Hichem Azafaf of AAO-Tunis for providing sightings and Mike Smart for his revision of the first manuscript.

#### References

- van den Berg, A B & Bosman, C A W 2001. Zeldzame vogels van Nederland – Rare birds of the Netherlands. Avifauna van Nederland 1. Second edition. Haarlem.
- Brehme, S, Hering, J & Fuchs, E 2009. Beginnende Ausbreitung der Türkentaube *Streptopelia decaocto* im Westen Libyens. Vogelwelt 130: 195-199.
- Essghaier, M F A, Elhosk, M A & Etayeb, K S 2009. Notizen zu den Vögeln in der Ghadames-Oase/Libyen. Ornithol Mitt 61: 237-242.

*Spread of Eurasian Collared Dove in Libya and first breeding in Tripolitania*

TABLE 1 Sightings of Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* in Libya in 2007-10 (excluding breeding records) / waarnemingen van Turkse Tortel *S decaocto* in Libië in 2007-10 (exclusief broedgevallen)

Date	Site	District	Coordinates	Number of birds	Reference
January 2007	Ghadames	Tripolitania	30°07'N, 09°30'E	25	Etayeb et al (2007)
January 2007	Al Rabta	Tripolitania (Jebel Nefusa)	32°09'N, 12°51'E	1	Etayeb et al (2007)
January 2008	Qaser Ahmed	Tripolitania (Misuratah)	32°22'N, 15°13'E	5	Hamza et al (2008)
January 2008	Shatt Elbadin	Cyrenaica (100 km south of Benghazi)	31°05'N, 20°10'E	6	Hamza et al (2008)
January 2008	Sebkhet Elkuz (Elsahel)	Cyrenaica (40 km north-east of Benghazi)	32°25'N, 20°25'E	2	Hamza et al (2008)
28 January 2009	Ain Wadi Kaam	Tripolitania	32°31'N, 14°26'E	2	Hichem Azafzaf (pers comm)
31 January 2009	Sebkhet Karkoura	Cyrenaica (70 km south of Benghazi)	31°25'N, 20°03'E	2	Hichem Azafzaf (pers comm)
1 February 2009	Sebkhet Ganfouda	Cyrenaica (5 km south of Benghazi)	32°01'N, 20°00'E	2	Hichem Azafzaf (pers comm)
March 2009	Wadi Berduj	Fezzan (south-western Libya)	26°00'N, 12°58'E	2	Brehme et al (2009)
March 2009	Wadi Maknusa	Fezzan (south-western Libya)	26°16'N, 13°22'E	2	Brehme et al (2009)
27 January 2010	Um Elgendeel village	Tripolitania (c 95 km east of Sirte)	30°55'N, 17° 47'E	23	Hichem Azafzaf (pers comm)
28 January 2010	Qaminis and Jarruta	Cyrenaica (55 km south of Benghazi)	31°49'N, 19°56'E	4	Hichem Azafzaf (pers comm)
28 January 2010	Sebkhet Ajdabiyah	Cyrenaica (Ajdabiyah)	30°45'N, 20°08'E	2	Hichem Azafzaf (pers comm)
28 July 2010	north of Elmarj	Cyrenaica	32°31'N, 20°49'E	2	this paper
28 July 2010	Al-Kouz	Cyrenaica	32°28'N, 20°29'E	3	this paper
31 July 2010	Derna	Cyrenaica	32°45'N, 22°38'E	6	this paper
3 August 2010	Ajdabiyah, waste-water treatment plant	Cyrenaica	30°41'N, 20°15'E	27	this paper

Etayeb, K, Essghaier, M F A, Hamza, A, Smart, M, Azafzaf, H, Defos du Rau, P & Dlensi, H 2007. Report on an ornithological survey in Libya from 3 to 15 February 2007. EGA-AEWA-RAC/SPA-MAP-UNEP.  
 Hamza, A, Saied, A, Bourass, E, Yahya, J, Smart, M, Baccetti, N, Defos du Rau, P, Dlensi, H & Azafzaf, H 2008. Final report on a fourth winter ornithological survey in Libya 20-31 January 2008. EGA-AEWA-

RAC/SPA-MAP-UNEP.  
 Isenmann, P & Moali, A 2000. Oiseaux d'Algérie / Birds of Algeria. Paris.  
 Snow, D W & Perrins, C M (editors) 1998. The birds of the Western Palearctic. Concise edition. Oxford.  
 Ullman, M 2010. Europakarten ritas om Turkduva. Vår Fågelvärld 69 (6): 26-28.

*Jaber Yahia, Nature Conservation Department, Environment General Authority (EGA), Tripoli, Libya  
 Abdulmaula Hamza, School of Biological Sciences, University of Hull, HU6 7RX Hull, UK  
 (A.Hamza@2008.hull.ac.uk)*



# Brieven

## Paleornithology, *Bubo insularis* and deletion of putative records of Brown Fish Owl in the western Mediterranean

Bird paleontology, or paleornithology, has recently gained visibility in the scientific community as well as a wide public, in particular when dealing with 'feathered dinosaurs' and the origin of birds, or spectacular giant extinct birds like the New Zealand Moa *Dinornis*. It is rewarding to see that this study area is increasingly taken into account by ornithologists, who are most interested by the unique temporal and historical dimensions that it provides. It is therefore embarrassing for my colleagues and me when misleading or frankly erroneous avian paleontology literature is cited by biologists, which happens recurrently. Such flawed data recently found its way in van den Berg et al (2010). These authors unfortunately cited Mlikovsky (2003) to summarize what we know of the past distribution of *Bubo zeylonensis* (formerly *Ketupa zeylonensis*) in the Western Palearctic since the early Pliocene (c 5 million years ago).

Here, I wish to restore the real knowledge that we have of the past distribution of *B zeylonensis*. Mlikovsky (2003) wrote that *B zeylonensis* was known from the early Pliocene from the Gargano peninsula (then an archipelago), Italy, the early Pleistocene from 'Ubeidiya, Israel, and the late Pleistocene from Corsica, Sardinia, Tavolara (islet off Sardinia) and Crete. The records from Crete and Israel reliably refer to the original descriptions respectively by Weesie (1988) and Tchernov (1980). In contrast, the remaining records from the western Mediterranean are falsified and result from earlier systematic synonymizations (Mlikovsky 2002) to which Mlikovsky (2003) exclusively referred. Mlikovsky (2002) synonymized both the extinct *Strix? perpasta* from Gargano (transferred to *Bubo* by Mlikovsky 1998), and the extinct *Bubo insularis* from Corsica, Sardinia and Tavolara with *B zeylonensis* on account of general size alone: according to Mlikovsky (2002) these taxa 'fall in the same size class as the modern *Bubo zeylonensis*' (although the author did not provide any quantitative data). Apart from this, Mlikovsky (2002) provided no other comment in support of his synonymizations: no illustration, description, explicit comparison nor any measurement.

Concerning the Gargano record, even if *per-*

*pasta* indeed belongs in *Bubo* (despite its poor documentation in Mlikovsky (1998) who considered only the holotypical partial tibiotarsus) there is no argument to synonymize the species with *B zeylonensis*. The possible concordant size class alone cannot be sufficient for such an action, as it disregards all the osteological differences in shape, details and proportions that exist between genera, and between species, especially on postcranial bones of Strigiformes (Louchart 2002). The material of *Strix? (Bubo?) perpasta* awaits a proper reassessment (Marco Pavia pers comm). Pending that, the putative occurrence of *B zeylonensis* in the Gargano record is invalidated.

Concerning Corsica, Sardinia and Tavolara, the same applies, and size class alone cannot be cited in support of a synonymization of *B insularis* with *B zeylonensis*. In addition, Mlikovsky (2002) stated that *B insularis* had not been compared originally with *Ketupa* (now a subgenus of *Bubo*) species. However, Mourer-Chauviré & Weesie (1986) did compare *B insularis* with *Ketupa* in their original description, and Louchart (2002) added comparisons of more material with *B (K) blakistoni*, *B (K) zeylonensis* and *B (K) ketupa* (contra Mlikovsky 2002, 2003). All differences observed between *B insularis* and *Ketupa* were explicated in Mourer-Chauviré & Weesie (1986) and Louchart (2002) and the main ones can be summarized as follows. In *B insularis* (as in other *Bubo* species *sensu stricto* in most cases), in comparison with *Ketupa*, mandible and rostrum differ – for instance the width of the articular part of each caudal end of the mandible is proportionately lower; the processus acromialis of the furcula is thinner (except compared with *B (K) blakistoni*); the distal humerus is less flared dorso-ventrally; the distal femur bears a small tuberosity proximal to the popliteal fossa at the proximal end of the internal condyle; the distal tibiotarsus is narrower, relative to the depth of the internal condyle; the tarsometatarsus is less elongated (except compared with *B (K) blakistoni* whose tarsometatarsi are as robust as in many *Bubo* species *sensu stricto*); a bridge delimiting a second foramen between the trochleae metatarsi III and IV (just proximal to their base) is rarely ossified or on a much more reduced width.

In addition to these features, many of them shared with other *Bubo* species *sensu stricto*, *B insularis* displays several autapomorphic characteristics, including osteological details and inter-segment proportions (Louchart 2002). As an example,

its distal wing elements were slightly reduced proportionately, an incipient evolution toward reduction of flying ability that is widespread in island endemics. *B insularis*, likely an insular 'dwarf' offshoot of a Eurasian Eagle-Owl *B bubo*-like lineage, is known from the middle Pleistocene to the early Holocene of the Corso-Sardinian block where it was endemic (Louchart 2002).

Therefore, the extinct *B insularis* is readily differentiated from *Ketupa*, especially from *B (K) zeylonensis*, and the putative records of the latter species from Corsica, Sardinia and Tavolara are deleted. These corrections have consequences on the perception of the past distribution of the Brown Fish Owl, as it is not known to have lived in the western Mediterranean, and its westernmost locality is in Crete (Weesie 1988). They also rehabilitate precious data on past diversity and extinct endemism.

Incidentally, the use of the name '*lamarmorae*' was revived by Mlikovsky (2002, 2003), in his view to designate a subspecies of *B zeylonensis*, which was all the more unwarranted since even the subgeneric and specific allocations by this author were unfounded and wrong. In any case, the name '*B lamarmorae*' should not even/never be used to designate the Corso-Sardinian eagle owl instead of *B insularis* (although it refers to the same species) for nomenclatural reasons (Pavia 1999). In addition, the use of the name '*lamarmorae*' could reactivate the nomenclatural confusion with the primate fossils to which it was originally applied. Hence, this name should not be used for the owl anymore, and neither for the primate, as it is now considered a 'nomen oblitum' (Pavia 1999).

Systematic revisions of fossils by Jiri Mlikovsky have often been a problem because they introduced similar distortions of the record, loss of information, and addition of false data. This culminated in his self-edited book 'Cenozoic birds of the world, part 1: Europe' cited above (Mlikovsky

2002), presented as a catalogue but full of such idiosyncratic and arbitrary modifications of what earlier authors had often carefully demonstrated (see Mourer-Chauviré 2004 for a few examples). As Cecile Mourer-Chauviré wrote in that book review, I can only hope that the present clarification will also 'convince readers to be very cautious when using it [the Mlikovsky (2002) book]', and when using subsequent literature directly citing it, such as Mlikovsky (2003).

## References

- van den Berg, A B, Bekir, S, de Knijff, P & The Sound Approach 2010. Rediscovery, biology, vocalisations and taxonomy of fish owls in Turkey. *Dutch Birding* 32: 287-298.
- Louchart, A 2002. Les oiseaux du Pléistocène de Corse, et de quelques localités Sardes – écologie, évolution, biogéographie et extinctions. *Docum Lab Géol Lyon* 155: 1-287.
- Mlikovsky, J 1998. Two new owls (Aves: Strigidae) from the early Miocene of the Czech Republic, with comments on the fossil history of the subfamily Striginae. *Buteo* 10: 5-22.
- Mlikovsky, J 2002. Cenozoic birds of the world. Part 1: Europe. Prague.
- Mlikovsky, J 2003. Brown Fish Owl (*Bubo zeylonensis*) in Europe: past distribution and taxonomic status. *Buteo* 13: 61-65.
- Mourer-Chauviré, C 2004. Review: Cenozoic Birds of the World, Part 1: Europe. *Auk* 121: 623-627.
- Mourer-Chauviré, C & Weesie, P D M 1986. *Bubo insularis* n. sp., forme endémique insulaire de grand-duc (Aves, Strigiformes) du Pléistocène de Sardaigne et de Corse. *Rev Paléobiol* 5: 197-205.
- Pavia, M 1999. Un cranio di *Bubo insularis* Mourer-Chauviré & Weesie 1986 (Aves, Strigidae) nelle breccie ossifere del Pleistocene di Capo Figari (Sardegna, Italia). *Acc Sc Torino – Atti Sc Fis* 133: 1-10.
- Tchernov, E 1980. The Pleistocene birds of 'Ubeidiya, Jordan Valley, Jerusalem, Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities.
- Weesie, P D M 1988. The Quaternary avifauna of Crete, Greece. *Palaeovertebrata* 18: 1-94.

Antoine Louchart, IGFL, Université de Lyon, CNRS, UMR 5242, INRA, Université Lyon 1, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon, 46 Allée d'Italie, 69364 Lyon Cedex 07, France (antoine.louchart@ens-lyon.fr)

## Status of Rock Bunting in Poland

In their article about the second Rock Bunting *Emberiza cia* for the Netherlands, Kers & Ebels (2011) give the number of records in north-western Europe outside Germany. Five records of this species are mentioned for Poland. However, currently only four records have been accepted by the Polish rarities committee (Tomiałojc & Stawarczyk 2003): 9 June 1915, singing male, near Tarnow, southern Poland; 14 April 1985, male, near Gdansk, northern Poland; 9 August 1986, male, near Stronie Slaskie in the Sudety mountains, southern Poland; and 15 July 1987, male, near Strzelno, Bydgoszcz province, central

Poland. The report of an adult female on 29 September 1982 near Krapkowice, southern Poland, was considered as uncertain by the Polish rarities committee and, therefore, not accepted (Komisja Faunistyczna 1995, Tomiałojc & Stawarczyk 2003).

### References

- Kers, B & Ebels, E B 2011. Grijze Gors op Schiermonnikoog in april 2011. Dutch Birding 33: 188-193.  
 Komisja Faunistyczna 1995. Rare birds recorded in Poland in 1995. Notatki Ornitol 37: 301-317.  
 Tomiałojc, L & Stawarczyk, T 2003. [The avifauna of Poland. Distribution, numbers and trends.] Wrocław. [In Polish].

Lukasz Ławicki, Flisacza 35e/6, 74-100 Gryfino, Poland (izuza@interia.pl)

## Crested Honey Buzzard has occurred in sub-Saharan Africa

In their generally useful review of the identification, hybridisation and western occurrence of Crested Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*, Faveyts et al (2011: 159-160) state that at least some 10s of this species must winter in Africa, especially given numbers recorded in Israel during the last two decades, but that the only records from the continent are three from Egypt (two of them yet to be validated). They seem unaware of a record published by Clark & Christy (2006) of an adult male photographed near Tchimbélé, Monts de Crystal, Gabon, on 13 August 2004. This record was circulated to some 13 referees for comment,

the majority of whom concurred with the identification as claimed, although one stated that he considered the bird to be a hybrid with European Honey Buzzard *P. apivorus*. As both European and Crested occasionally over-summer on their wintering grounds, the date of this, the only sub-Saharan record of Crested, should not give significant grounds for concern.

### References

- Clark, W S & Christy, P 2006. First record of Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus* for Gabon and sub-Saharan Africa. Bull Afr Bird Club 13: 207-210.  
 Faveyts, W, Valkenburg, M & Granit, B 2011. Crested Honey Buzzard: identification, western occurrence and hybridisation with European Honey Buzzard. Dutch Birding 33: 149-162.

Guy M Kirwan, 74 Waddington Street, Norwich NR2 4JS, UK (guymkirwan@gmail.com)

Wouter Faveyts (in litt) responded: 'The authors of the article were not aware of this bird from Gabon. Many thanks to Guy Kirwan for pointing out this reference, which further adds to clarifying the status of Crested

Honey Buzzard outside its core Asian range. We hope that more such records from Africa will show up in the future, and we would be happy to learn more about them.' EDITORS

## Corrigenda

In het bijschrift bij de plaat op de omslag van het vorige nummer (Dutch Birding 33, 2011) werd niet de juiste fotograaf vermeld. De foto werd gemaakt door Arend Wassink.

In het bijschrift bij plaat 250 (Dutch Birding 33: 210, 2011) werd een verkeerde genusnaam gebruikt. De volledige juiste naam luidt: Mongolian Finch / Mongoolse Woestijnvink *Bucanetes mongolicus*. REDACTIE

In the caption of the plate on the cover of the previous issue (Dutch Birding 33, 2011) the wrong photographer was mentioned. The photograph was taken by Arend Wassink.

In the caption of plate 250 (Dutch Birding 33: 210, 2011) a wrong genus name was used. The complete correct name is: Mongolian Finch / Mongoolse Woestijnvink *Bucanetes mongolicus*. EDITORS

# Aankondigingen & verzoeken

---

**Natur Eussa** In March 2009, l'Association Naturaliste d'Ouessant (ANO) was founded, to create a platform for the collection, analysis and interpretation of data on fauna and flora of Île d'Ouessant, Finistère, France, and the small islands between Ouessant and the coast of Bretagne, such as Molène. In September 2010, the first issue of *Natur Eussa* appeared, an annual journal in which results of studies on fauna and flora of the islands will be published. The articles are in French with a summary in English.

This first issue contains the following subjects: bird report of 2008; a list of the grasshoppers and crickets Orthoptera of Ouessant (including an identification key); reports of Pechora Pipit *Anthus gustavi* and Olive-backed Pipit *A hodgsoni* on Ouessant in October 2009; a survey of breeding seabirds on Ouessant and Keller in 2009; a study of the Ouessant breeding population of

Red-billed Cough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*; and results of pelagic trips and surveys around the archipelago in 2008-10.

The ANO can be reached as follows: Association Naturaliste d'Ouessant, c/o Romain Morin, Run Kerc'Here, 29242 Ouessant, France, e-mail ano.asso@yahoo.com. For more information, please visit the ANO website at <http://ano.ouessant.free.fr>.

**The birds of Libya** A book in English on the birds of Libya with an annotated checklist is in active preparation. Ornithologists are invited to send their unpublished records to Paul Isenmann, CEFE/CNRS, 1919 route de Mende, F-34293 Montpellier Cedex 5, France (paul.isenmann@cefe.cnrs.fr) or Jens Hering, Wolkenburger Straße 11, D-09212 Limbach-Oberfrohna, Germany (jenshering.vso-bibliothek@t-online.de).

## DBA-nieuws

---

**Nieuwe bestuursmedewerkers** Het bestuur van de Dutch Birding Association is verheugd om te melden dat Debby Doodeman en Rob Gordijn het bestuur gaan ondersteunen. Debby neemt de portefeuille van advertenties (en banners) van Leon Boon over. Via deze weg willen wij Leon bedanken voor zijn jarenlange enthousiaste en gedreven inzet. Mede door zijn inzet zijn de inkomsten uit advertenties de afgelopen jaren

substantieel gegroeid. Rob zal zich gaan bezig houden met de organisatie en invulling van activiteiten, zoals het Texelweekend (vrijdag 30 september tot en met maandag 3 oktober 2011) en de jaarlijkse Dutch Birding-Vogeldag (eerste zaterdag van februari). Wij wensen hen veel succes met de invulling van deze voor de DBA belangrijke taken. **BESTUUR DBA**

## WP reports

---

This review lists rare and interesting birds reported in the Western Palearctic mainly from **late May to mid-July 2011**. The reports are largely unchecked and their publication here does not imply future acceptance by a rarities committee. Observers are requested to submit their records to each country's rarities committee. Corrections are welcome and will be published.

**GEESE TO DUCKS** In *Ardea* 99: 103-112, 2011, a mitochondrial and morphological study of historical taxa of the **bean goose** complex *Anser middendorffii/fabalis/serrirostris/brachyrhynchos* was published. It appears that aberrant individuals were once classified as separate taxa but that, now, no support was found for the recognition of *neglectus*, *mentalis*, *oatesi*, *johanseni* and *curtus*. In Scotland, searching in large scoter *Melanitta* flocks resulted in male **American Scoters** *M americana* at Murcar, Aberdeenshire, from 27 June until at least 19 July and at Burghead, Moray & Nairn, on 2-3 July. Also at Murcar, a first-summer male **American White-winged Scoter** *M deglandi deglandi* on 11-24 June was a first for Britain

(*Birding World* 24: 239-245, 2011). If accepted, the first for the Faeroes was a second-year photographed at Vestmanna on 1 July. The first **Asian White-winged Scoter** *M d stejneri* for Norway was a first-summer female photographed at Persfjordena, Finnmark, on 21-22 June. In Ireland, an adult male **American Eider** *Somateria mollissima dresseri* at Doagh Isle, Donegal, from 7 June was probably the returning adult first seen at Fanad Head, Donegal, in 2010 (cf *Dutch Birding* 32: 136, plate 165, 2010). In Scotland, a male **American Black Duck** *Anas rubripes* turned up at Camuschoirk, Loch Sunart, Highland, on 6 and 21 June. A pair with one or two juveniles were discovered on western Flores on 4 June, indicating that the species bred again in the Azores. In Finland, a male **Baikal Teal** *A formosa* was seen at Jyväskylä on 29-31 May. Remarkably, a **Green-winged Teal** *A carolinensis* at Hailuoto on 11 June was (already) the 104th for Finland.

**SEABIRDS** A preliminary analysis of datalogger results fitted to 12 **Zino's Petrels** *Pterodroma madeira* show that in



**307** Red-footed Booby / Roodpootgent *Sula sula*, adult, Lac de Sainte-Croix, Alpes-de-Haute-Provence, France, 5 July 2011 (*Richard Bonser*)

**308** Red-footed Booby / Roodpootgent *Sula sula*, adult, Lac de Sainte-Croix, Alpes-de-Haute-Provence, France, 7 July 2011 (*Frédéric Jiguet*)





**309** Greater Flamingos / Flamingo's *Phoenicopterus roseus*, breeding colony, Molentargius, Cagliari, Sardinia, Italy, 21 May 2011 (*Marcello Grussu*)

**310** Sora / Soraral *Porzana carolina*, Suðursveit, Iceland, 26 April 2011 (*Ómar Runólfsson*)  
cf Dutch Birding 33: 203, 2011





**311** Presumed Eastern Common Tern / vermoedelijke Oostelijke Visdief *Sterna hirundo longipennis*, with Common Tern / Visdief *S h hirundo*, Heist, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium, 22 June 2011 (*Peter Adriaens*) **312** Red Knot / Kanoet *Calidris canutus*, with Great Knot / Grote Kanoet *C tenuirostris*, Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, Iran, 18 May 2011 (*Maysam Ghasemi*) **313** Brown Noddy / Noddy *Anous stolidus*, Persian Gulf, Iran, 7 June 2011 (*Maysam Ghasemi*)



the breeding season, from April through September, these birds ranged widely between the coast of West Africa south to 10°N and the coasts of Portugal and Ireland in the north up to almost 60°N, but no further west than 45°W. In the non-breeding season, from late October to late March, they ranged further away, though not along the European coasts and not getting anywhere near the American coasts apart perhaps at 50°W east from Newfoundland, Canada; they stayed more in the centre of the Atlantic with just one bird north of the Azores, and all others appeared along the coasts of western Africa and north-eastern Brazil, south to the Tristan group (Birding World 24: 216-219, 2011). Off Cap Rhir, Morocco, a **Bulwer's Petrel** *Bulweria bulwerii* and a **White-faced Storm Petrel** *Pelagodroma marina* were seen on 16 June. A **Mediterranean Storm Petrel** *Hydrobates melitensis* ringed as a chick in the Mediterranean on Tabarca island, Alicante, on 8 August 2005 was recovered in the Atlantic off northern Spain on Izaro island, Euskadi, on 27 July 2008. A singing **Leach's Storm Petrel** *Oceanodroma leucorhoa* on Bugio, Deserta Grande, Madeira, in the second week of July was possibly the first ever sound-recorded in a Portuguese seabird colony. The first **Red-footed Booby** *Sula sula* for France was an adult inland at Lac de Sainte-Croix, Alpes-de-Haute-Provence, from 2 to at least 14 July. On 5 July, it was trapped, ringed and examined, and found to be in good health.

**HERONS TO GREBS** The **Yellow-crowned Night Heron** *Nyctanassa violacea* at Funchal, Madeira, from early February stayed into July. A second-year on Santa Maria, Azores, on 28 June might be the same as the one on Pico in the autumn of 2010. A visit to Barragem de Poilão, Santiago, Cape Verde Islands, on 12 June, produced a **Dwarf Bittern** *Ixobrychus sturmii* (photographed), five **Intermediate Egrets** *Mesophox intermedia*, one (sub) adult **Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea* and 18 adult and juvenile **Bourne's Herons** *A bournei*. A **Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis* at Tammiso, Uusikaupunki, on 5 July was (only) the third for Finland. A **Western Reef Heron** *Egretta gularis* stayed at Camargue, Bouches-du-Rhône, on, eg, 8 June and one was seen in La Rioja, Spain, from 14 June. In Morocco, not only the long-staying resident of Oued Ksob, Diabat, Essaouira, was seen through June but also another dark morph 21.6 km south of Sidi Abed, Qualidia, on 21 June. A **Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides* at Vestamager on 23-30 May was (only) the ninth for Denmark. Of the total of 2330 **Eurasian Spoonbills** *Platalea leucorodia* in the Netherlands this spring, at least 510 pairs were breeding on Texel, Noord-Holland, which included the country's largest colony at De Geul (416 pairs). The number of breeding pairs of **Greater Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus roseus* at the salt pans of Molentargius, Sardinia, increased to 5600 in three parts; the last time they had a colony at this site was in 2004, after which they bred for five years at 8.5 km distance at the salt pans of Cagliari (the first breeding for Sardinia occurred in 1993 but there was no colony in 2010).

**RAPTORS** An adult male **Crested Honey Buzzard** *Pernis ptilorhynchus* photographed at the Straits of Messina at

Villa San Giovanni, Calabria, Italy, on 18 May was the westernmost in the WP ever and the first for Europe (not taking into account Georgia, where seven have been migrating past Batumi in autumn in 2007-10; Birding World 24: 252-256, 2011, cf Dutch Birding 33: 149-162, 2011). The most westerly ever and first for sub-Saharan Africa was a bird photographed at Tchimbélé, north-western Gabon, on 13 August 2004 (Birding World 24: 252-256, 2011, Bull Afr Bird Club 13: 207-210, Dutch Birding 33: 253, 2011). A **Black Kite** *Milvus migrans* photographed at Akraberg, Suðuroy, on 31 May was (only) the second for the Faeroes. For the third consecutive year, the breeding pair in the Netherlands at Pietersplas, Maastricht, Limburg, successfully raised young this spring. Also in the Netherlands, for the sixth consecutive year, the wild-origin pair of **White-tailed Eagles** *Haliaeetus albicilla* at Oostvaardersplassen, Flevoland, produced young. In addition, one of the young fledged in Flevoland in previous years successfully raised a young at Lauwersmeer, Friesland/Groningen, for the first time. If accepted, an apparently unmarked third calendar-year **Bearded Vulture** *Gypaetus barbatus* photographed over Den Helder, Noord-Holland, on 20 June and probably the same (also photographed) over Biddinghuizen, Flevoland, on 29 June will be the second for the Netherlands. Since May 1997, there has been quite a number of late May and June records in the Netherlands and elsewhere in north-western Europe relating to marked individuals from reintroduction projects in central Europe; one such bird with white bleached remiges (a young male called 'Sardona') was seen in Zeeuws-Vlaanderen, Zeeland, the Netherlands, on 13 June and in Oost-Vlaanderen, Belgium, on 14 June, safely returning to its release site in Switzerland on 3 July. If accepted, an **Egyptian Vulture** *Neophron percnopterus* flying over Konvola on 20 May will be the seventh for Finland. An adult was present at Vestvågøy, Nordland, Norway, on 1-3 June. In the Netherlands, a flock of 17 **Griffon Vultures** *Gyps fulvus* was seen at 's-Heer Arendskerke, Zeeland, on 21 May and at Goes, Zeeland, and Chaam, Noord-Brabant, on 22 May. In a flock of 40 in Lorraine, north-eastern France, on 21 June two were carrying rings from Spain and they were accompanied by one **Cinereous Vulture** *Aegypius monachus*. In the Netherlands, no less than 27 **Short-toed Snake Eagles** *Circaetus gallicus* were reported this spring (obviously, it remains to be seen how many will be submitted to and accepted by the Dutch rarities committee). A **Levant Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter brevipes* photographed in Pomerania, Poland, on 8 September 2010 has recently been accepted as the species' northernmost record for Europe (Ptaki Pomorza 2: 141-143, 2011). On 11 June, a **Bonelli's Eagle** *Aquila fasciata* was photographed over Nexø, Bornholm, Denmark. An **Eastern Imperial Eagle** *A heliaca* migrating from Espoo to Raasepori on 2-3 June was the first twitchable for Finland (11th record). In Ornithos 18: 106-112, 2011, the identification pitfall of juvenile **Tundra Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus calidus* with **Lanner Falcon** *F biarmicus* and **Saker Falcon** *F cherrug* is discussed, following the misidentification of a bird in Camargue in February (cf





**314** Egyptian Vulture / Aasgier *Neophron percnopterus*, Zandvoorde, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium, 22 April 2011 (*Johan Buckens*) cf Dutch Birding 33: 203, 2011 **315** Crested Honey Buzzard / Aziatische Wespindief *Pernis ptilorhynchus*, adult male, Villa San Giovanni, Calabria, Italy, 18 May 2011 (*Angelo Scuderi*) **316** Western Reef Heron / Westelijke Rirfeiger *Egretta gularis*, Embouchure de l'oued Ksob, Diabat near Essaouir, Morocco, 19 June 2011 (*Suzanne Bonmarchand*) **317** Red-necked Stint / Roodkeelstrandloper *Calidris ruficollis*, adult, Utopia, Texel, Noord-Holland, Netherlands, 19 July 2011 (*Jos van den Berg*) **318** White-rumped Sandpiper / Bonapartes Strandloper *Calidris fuscicollis*, Comacchio, Po delta, Italy, 17 July 2011 (*Giuseppe Rossi*) **319** Long-toed Stint / Taigastrandloper *Calidris subminuta*, Braunschweiger Rieselfelder, Niedersachsen, Germany, June 2011 (*Stefan Pützke/green-lens.de*)



**320** Franklin's Gull / Franklins Meeuw *Larus pipixcan*, second-summer, Delitzsch, Sachsen, Germany, 2 May 2011  
(Jürgen Steudtner)

**321** Pectoral Sandpiper / Gestreepte Strandloper *Calidris melanotos*, Stintino peninsula, Sardinia, Italy,  
15 May 2011 (Venanzio Cadoni)





322 Franklin's Gull / Franklins Meeuw *Larus pipixcan*, second-summer, Delitzsch, Sachsen, Germany, 6 May 2011  
(Jürgen Steudtner)

323 Franklin's Gull / Franklins Meeuw *Larus pipixcan*, adult, Aghroud plage, Haha, Morocco, 16 June 2011  
(Suzanne Bonmarchand)





**324** European Roller / Scharrelaar *Coracias garrulus*, Zuidland, Zuid-Holland, Netherlands, 10 July 2011 (*Frank Dröge*) **325** River Warbler / Krekelzanger *Locustella fluviatilis*, Beijumerbos, Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands, 2 July 2011 (*Alwin Borhem*) **326** Lesser Grey Shrike / Kleine Klapekster *Lanius minor*, Houtave, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium, 2 June 2011 (*Filip De Ruwe*)



Dutch Birding 33: 53, plate 55, 133, 138, 140, plate 149, 222, 2011). A pale morph **Eleonora's Falcon** *F. eleonora* was photographed flying south over Helgoland, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, on 10 July.

**WADERS** For the first time since the mid-1980s, **Eurasian Stone-curlews** *Burhinus oediacnemus* bred again in (south-western) Germany, albeit unsuccessfully. In Sweden, a **Black-winged Pratincole** *Glareola nordmanni* was seen at Björken, Värmland, on 23-27 May. On 23 May, breeding of **Killdeer** *Charadrius vociferus* again occurred at Santa Maria airport, where two adults and two juveniles were seen; the first breeding for the Azores and the WP was at the same site in 2010. A **Greater Sand Plover** *C. leschenaultii* at Jurmo, Korppoo, on 14-16 June was the ninth for Finland. In Scotland, an adult summer stayed at Dornoch, Highland, on 15-24 June. In Norway, a female was present at Håstranda, Rogaland, on 3-10 July. If accepted, an **American Golden Plover** *Pluvialis dominica* photographed at Seewinkel, Burgenland, on 12 July will be the first for Austria. **Sociable Lapwings** *Vanellus gregarius* were seen, eg, in Uppland on 28 June (ninth for Sweden), in Bayern, Germany, from 5 July and at Kouvola on 13 July (eighth for Finland). In Germany, a **White-tailed Lapwing** *V. leucurus* stayed at Northeim, Niedersachsen, from 13 to at least 22 June. A rare **Red Knot** *Calidris canutus* was photographed in a flock of **Great Knots** *C. tenuirostris* in Bandar Abbas, Iran, on 18 May. The second for Kuwait was photographed at Jahra East Outfall on 2-3 June; the first was in July 1962. On 20 May, a **Sempalmated Sandpiper** *C. pusilla* was photographed at Westpolder, Groningen, the Netherlands. In Ireland, one was seen at Blackrock Strand, Kerry, on 9-14 June. An adult **Red-necked Sandpiper** *C. ruficollis* Børaunen, Ro, from 18 July was the fourth for Norway and another at Utopia on 19 July was the third for Texel and the sixth for the Netherlands. A **Long-toed Stint** *C. subminuta* at Braunschweiger Rieselfelder, Okeraue, Niedersachsen, on 22-23 June was the first for Germany and the seventh for north-western Europe (the previous one was a juvenile near Zwolle, Overijssel, the Netherlands, on 22-28 October 2009). A **Least Sandpiper** *C. minutilla* at Old Moor, South Yorkshire, England, on 26 May was the 34th for Britain. In the Po delta national park, Italy, a **White-rumped Sandpiper** *C. fuscicollis* was trapped for ringing at Comacchio salt ponds on 17 July. A **Pectoral Sandpiper** *C. melanotos* at Stintino peninsula on 15-18 May was the fourth for Sardinia and visited by quite a few twitchers. The first **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** *C. acuminata* for Hungary was an adult on 25-30 May at Hortobágy, where a **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** *Tryngites subruficollis* was also present. Out of 10 northern European male **Great Snipes** *Gallinago media* wearing a geolocator, three were retrapped and all three shared a similar migration strategy in which they flew non-stop to their wintering haunts in Africa (4680 to 6800 km in, respectively, 48 to 84 h); in spring, however, they flew at a lower speed non-stop to the Mediterranean after which they did short distances further north (<http://rsbl.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/early/2011/05/13/rsbl.2011.0343>). A male at Cley, Norfolk, England, on 11-16 May was the first-ever displaying in Britain

(Birding World 24: 202-207, 2011). The first **Short-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus griseus* for Iceland was an adult of the nominate subspecies discovered at Njarðvík on 18 July. The long-staying **Hudsonian Whimbrel** *Numenius hudsonicus* in the Azores was seen again at Cabo da Praia, Terceira, on 13 July. In England, the fifth **Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularia* for Lincolnshire was an adult-summer at Whisby on 17 June; it could be the same individual as recently seen in Worcestershire, Buckinghamshire and (on 30 May) Lancashire. From 13 July, an (or this) adult stayed at Rutland Water, Leicestershire. In the Netherlands, the **Greater Yellowlegs** *Tringa melanoleuca* first seen at Noord-Beveland, Zeeland, on 17 October 2010 (and almost daily from 9 December 2010) remained throughout the period. In Norway, a male **Wilson's Phalarope** *Phalaropus tricolor* was photographed at Håstranda, Rogaland, on 14 June.

**SKUAS TO TERNS** A **South Polar Skua** *Stercorarius macrormicki* was reported off Madeira on 30 May. In Sardinia, more than 4500 nests of **Slender-billed Gull** *Chroicocephalus genei* were counted in the salt pans of Molentargius. In Spain, the first **Laughing Gull** *Larus atricilla* for Extremadura was present at Valdecañas, Cáceres, from 14 June. At Aghroud beach north of Agadir, Haha, Morocco, an adult **Franklin's Gull** *L. pipixcan* and an adult **Great Black-backed Gull** *L. marinus* were seen on 16 June. The second-year **Franklin's Gull** at Delitzsch, Sachsen, Germany, from 30 April stayed until 19 May. In Spain, an adult-summer at Ria do Burgo on 25 June concerned the second for Galicia which, three days later, turned up 200 km away in Ria de Avilés, Asturias. In Norway, an adult at Adventfjorden on 26 June was the first for Svalbard; an **American Golden Plover** was present here that day as well. The first **Audouin's Gull** *L. audouinii* for Hungary was an adult at Dunatetőlen on 10 June. An adult **Glaucous-winged Gull** *L. glaucescens* photographed at Ytre Kiberg, Varanger, on 4 July was the first for Norway and the seventh for the WP; it was relocated at Vardø havn, Finnmark, on 14 July. From 3 to at least 15 June, a **Sooty Tern** *Onychoprion fuscatus* stayed again on Ilhéu da Praia, Graciosa, Azores. In Vendée, France, the **Elegant Tern** *Sterna elegans* paired with a Sandwich Tern *S. sandvicensis* produced two hybrid young, one having an orange bill. In Ireland, the returning adult **Forster's Tern** *S. forsteri* remained at Tacumshin, Wexford, from 11 May through June. Presumed adult **Eastern Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo longipennis* were found at Minsmere, Suffolk, England, on 14 May (Birding World 24: 211-215, 2011) and (possibly the same bird) at Heist, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium, on 22 June. In Austria, an adult **Arctic Tern** *S. paradisaea* paired with a Common Tern *S. hirundo* at Rheindelta, Bodensee, on at least 2 June, constituted the species' first breeding attempt in Central Europe. An **Arctic Tern** trapped on its nest with two eggs on Griend, Friesland, the Netherlands, on 5 July had been ringed as a nestling at the same site 31 years and 16 days before, constituting a longevity record. In Kuwait, one was photographed at Jahra East Outfall on 3 June; there may have been (only) one previous record, in June 2005. A **Brown Noddy** *Anous stoli-*



**327** Citrine Wagtail / Citroenkwikstaart *Motacilla citreola*, first-summer male, collecting food for young, Zeewolde, Flevoland, Netherlands, 16 July 2011 (*Arnoud B van den Berg*)

**328** Black-backed Citrine Wagtail / Zwartrugcitroenkwikstaart *Motacilla citreola calcarata*, first-summer male, Van marshes, East Anatolia, Turkey, 18 May 2011 (*Daniele Occhiato*)





**329** Trumpeter Finch / Woestijnvink *Bucanetes githagineus*, male, Lundy, Devon, England, 14 May 2011  
(Andy Jordan)

**330** White-throated Robin / Perzische Roodborst *Irania gutturalis*, female, Hartlepool, Cleveland, England,  
8 June 2011 (Kevin Du Rose)





**331** Sardinian Warbler / Kleine Zwartkop *Sylvia melanocephala*, male, Blåvandshuk, Vestjylland, Denmark, 15 June 2011 (*Henrik Knudsen*) **332** White-throated Sparrow / Witkeelgors *Zonotrichia albicollis*, second calendar-year, Helgoland, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, 30 May 2011 (*Tobias Epple*) **333-334** Collared Flycatcher / Withalsvliegenvanger *Ficedula albicollis*, male, 152 km north-east of Dakhla, Western Sahara, Morocco, 11 April 2011 (*Wouter Faveyts*) **335** Great Spotted Cuckoo / Kuifkoekeoek *Clamator glandarius*, juvenile, Evenreitster, Groningen, Netherlands, 10 July 2011 (*Guido Meeuwissen*) **336** Bimaculated Lark / Bergkalanderleeuwerik *Melanocorypha bimaculata*, Magadino, Tessin, Switzerland, 5 May 2011 (*Marco Thoma*) cf Dutch Birding 33: 207, 2011



*mus* photographed along the Persian Gulf/Arabian Sea in the first week of June may be the first for Iran.

**DOVES TO WOODPECKERS** At least six **Eurasian Collared Doves** *Streptopelia decaocto* were seen on Santiago, Cape Verde Islands. A **Namaqua Dove** *Oena capensis* at Oued Sayed near Guelmim on 9 April was the fourth for Morocco. With perhaps less than 10 proven breeding records listed for Morocco, two juvenile **Great Spotted Cuckoos** *Clamator glandarius* being fed by Maghreb Magpies *Pica mauretanicus* 79 km south of Safi on 19 June are of interest. Juveniles at Evenreitster, Groningen, on 9-11 July and Den Oever, Noord-Holland, on 20 July were the 20th and 21st for the Netherlands, and a juvenile at Harborøre Tange, Vestjylland, on 16 July was the seventh for Denmark. A **Eurasian Scops Owl** *Otus scops* trapped on Gotland on 31 May was the 11th for Sweden. One singing at Tuuloos, Hämeenlinna, from 3 to late June was the first for Finland. Yet another site for **Western Brown Fish Owl** *Bubo zeylonensis semenowi* became known for the Alanya and Antalya region of western Turkey (cf Dutch Birding 31: 268-270, 2009, 32: 210, 275, 2010) as one in a cavity of a cliff was discovered from a tourist boat on 17 June and seen again a month later in the south-east of Oymapinar Baraji ('green canyon'), Manavgat, a lake accessible for tourists using boat trips from Oymapinar dam ([www.netfugl.dk/pictures.php?id=showpicture&picture\\_id=41512](http://www.netfugl.dk/pictures.php?id=showpicture&picture_id=41512)). Apparently, another was present at the opposite end of the lake, indicating that this area a stronghold for the species. The taxonomic status of the four subspecies of **Fork-tailed Swift** *Apus pacificus* (nominat including *kurodae*, *kanoi* including *salimali*, *cooki* and *leuconyx*) has been changed based upon consistent plumage and structural differences; *kanoi* is now treated as a junior synonym of *kurodae* while, instead, *salimali* is a valid taxon meriting species status, as do *pacificus*, *leuconyx* and *cooki*, *pacificus* being widespread in the north and occurring as vagrant in Europe (Bull Br Orn Club 131: 81-93, 2011). If accepted, a **Fork-tailed Swift** at Spurn, East Yorkshire, and Gibraltar Point, Lincolnshire, on 9 July will be the sixth for Britain. In the Netherlands, a **Blue-cheeked Bee-eater** *Merops persicus* was photographed at Slikken van Flakkee, Zuid-Holland, on 22 July. Up to two **European Rollers** *Coracias garrulus* at Zuidland, Zuid-Holland, on 7-10 July were the first for the Netherlands since 2005. In Ornithos 18: 73-83, 2011, the variation of the plumages of **European Green Woodpecker** *Picus viridis* and **Iberian Green Woodpecker** *P sharpei* in their contact zone in Languedoc-Rousillon, France, was illustrated by photographs. In a genetic study, it was concluded that there is a narrow and probably stable hybridization zone in Aude, Hérault and southernmost Gard, where birds with intermediate characters were trapped. In Journal of Biogeography 38: 311-325, 2011, it was shown that the two taxa have been separated for c 1 million years (**Levaillant's Woodpecker** *P vaillantii* was separated for c 2 million years), which may confirm that all three taxa can be regarded as phylogenetic species and, depending on future research, as biological species as well. If accepted, a **Middle Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos*

*medius* at Kastelholm, Sund, Åland, on 8 July will be the second for Finland.

**SHRIKES TO WARBLERS** A **Lesser Grey Shrike** *Lanius minor* at Houtave, West-Vlaanderen, on 2 June was (only) the second twitchable for Belgium. The **House Crow** *Corvus splendens* at Cobh, Ireland, stayed throughout the period. The highest total recorded for Hoek van Holland, Zuid-Holland, in April-July was (only) 10, giving rise to speculations on a sudden high mortality rate. If accepted, a **Calandra Lark** *Melanocorypha calandra* flying past Gedser, Falster, on 3 June would be the first for Denmark; on 12 June, one was photographed at Simrishamn, Skåne, Sweden. On 21 May, a **White-winged Lark** *M leucoptera* reportedly flew past Slettnes, Finnmark, Norway. A pair of **Greater Short-toed Larks** *Calandrella brachydactyla* raising at least one young on Rømø, Denmark, in June constituted the northernmost breeding record for Europe. The fourth **Eurasian Crag Martin** *Ptyonoprogne rupestris* for Sweden was photographed at Onsala, Halland, on 5 July and, in England, one was seen for five minutes at Stanpit Marsh, Dorset, on 10 July. The fifth **Green Warbler** *Phylloscopus nitidus* for Israel was ringed at Ashdod on 4 June. A **Western Bonelli's Warbler** *P bonelli* at Anhalt on 21-30 May was the 11th for Denmark and (only) the second since 1991. On 12 June, the seventh **Sardinian Warbler** *Sylvia melanocephala* for Sweden was trapped at Himmelstrop, Skåne. A male trapped at Blåvandshuk, Vestjylland, on 15 June was the seventh for Denmark. A **Lanceolated Warbler** *Locustella lanceolata* singing at Alsen, Jämtland, from 19 June was the 12th for Sweden. In Finland, five were found between 26 June and 10 July. A **River Warbler** *L fluviatilis* sound-recorded 10 km south of Tomsk in the south-east of the western Siberia plain, Russia, was the first or second for the Tomsk province and, at 85°E, probably the species' north-easternmost record ever (its normal range is not further east than 70°E). This spring's north-westernmost may have been the one singing at Beijumberbos, Groningen, the Netherlands, on 2-14 July. Between 2 and 20 June, 30 singing **Booted Warblers** *I caligata* were found in eastern and southern Finland. On 2 June, the third for Lithuania was trapped at Ventės Ragas. A **Paddyfield Warbler** *Acrocephalus agricola* trapped in Västerbotten on 27 May was (already) the 26th for Sweden.

**THRUSHES TO BUNTINGS** The first **Pied Bush Chat** *Saxicola caprata* for Kuwait was found at Jahra pools on 20 May. On 17 June, a **Western Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin** *Cercotrichas galactotes galactotes* was photographed at Digue-à-la-Mer, Camargue, Bouche-du-Rhône, France. In Finland, (only) c 65 territories of **Red-flanked Bluetail** *Tarsiger cyanurus* were found between 10 May and 9 June, while three were in Finnmark, where the first breeding for Norway was confirmed at Kjerringneset. A first-summer female **White-throated Robin** *Irania gutturalis* at Hartlepool Headland, Cleveland, England, on 6-10 June was the third for Britain (the previous ones were in June 1983 and May 1990) and caused a major twitch (Birding World 24: 257-261,

2011). A male **Collared Flycatcher** *Ficedula albicollis* photographed 152 km north-east of Dakhla, Western Sahara, Morocco, on 11 April was the first for the Moroccan Atlantic coast. The **Black-headed Wagtail** *Motacilla feldegg* at Taravika, Rogaland, from 14 May was last seen on 30 May (third for Norway, if accepted). During a survey of farmland birds in Flevoland, the Netherlands, in July a first-summer male **Citrine Wagtail** *M. citreola* was found near Zeewolde. It was paired with a female Blue-headed Wagtail *M. flava* and together they were feeding three young, constituting the first breeding record of Citrine Wagtail for the Netherlands. A male **Black-backed Citrine Wagtail** *M. c. calcarata* photographed at Van in eastern Turkey on 17-18 May (Birding World 24: 239-245, 2011) represented the first record for the WP (a presumed hybrid *calcarata* x Black-headed Wagtail *M. feldegg* was photographed in eastern Bulgaria on 3 April 2011). A second calendar-year male **Trumpeter Finch** *Bucanetes githagineus* on Christiansø, Bornholm, on 4 June was the fourth for Denmark. The male on Lundy, Devon, England, was last seen at Morte Point on 2 June. Interestingly, in areas where **Saltmarsh Sparrow** *Ammodramus caudacutus* and **Nelson's Sparrow** *A. nelsoni* occur sympatrically in Maine and New York, USA, out of 426 sparrows identified as Saltmarsh on morphology, 8% had specific Nelson's mitochondrial DNA indicating a hybrid origin; this discrepancy in morphological and genetic data highlights the difficulties with accurate field identification when possible hybrids are involved (Wilson Journal of Ornithology 123: 316-322, 2011). A second calendar-year **White-throated**

**Sparrow** *Zonotrichia albicollis* on Helgoland on 30 May might be the first genuine record for Germany. A **Rustic Bunting** *Emberiza rustica* was seen at Longyearbyen, Svalbard, on 1 June. On 26 May, a male **Black-headed Bunting** *E. melanocephala* turned up at Ebro delta, Catalunya, Spain. In France, several were found in Saint-Denis, Alpes-de-Haute-Provence, during late May and June.

For a number of reports, Birding World, Birdwatch, Ornithos, Sovon-nieuws, www.birdguides.com, www.netfugl.dk, www.rare-birdalert.co.uk and www.trekellen.nl were consulted. We wish to thank Peter Alfrey, Ruud Altenburg, Patrick Bergier, Max Berlijn, Richard Bonser, Rolf Christensen, José Luis Copete, Andrea Corso, Pierre-André Crochet, Miguel Demeulemeester, Kris De Rouck, Eric Didner, Klaas van Dijk, Luuk Draaijer, Hugues Dufourny, Nils van Duivendijk, Enno Ebels, Lee Evans, Wouter Faveyts, Amine Flitti, Tommy Frandsen, Raymond Galea, Steve Gantlett, Sergey Gashkov, Rafael Gharaita, Maysam Ghasemi, Barak Granit, Geert Groot Koerkamp, Martin Gottschling, Marcello Grussu, Ricard Gutiérrez, Daniel Hegglin, Kenny Hessel, Johannes Jansen, Justin Jansen, João Jara, Frédéric Jiguet, Vytautas Jusys, Raymond Klaassen, Alan Knox, Henrik Knudsen, Daniel Kratzer, André van Loon, Date Lutterop, Paul Marcus, Pierfrancesco Micheloni, Gerbrand Michielens (Azores), Richard Millington, Dominic Mitchell (www.birdingetc.com), Geir Mobakken (Norway), Killian Mullaney, Gerald Oreeel, Gert Otters, Tommy Pedersen, Yoav Perlman (IRDC), Magnus Robb, Staffan Rodebrand (Azores), Giuseppe Rossi, René van Rossum, Luciano Ruggieri, Michael Sammut, George Sangster, Angelo Scuderi, Roy Slaters, Jürgen Steudtner, Kees Vliet Vlieland, Rinse van der Vliet, Peter de Vries, John van der Woude, Emin Yögürtuoğlu and Mark Zekhuis for their help in compiling this review.

Arnoud B van den Berg, Duinlustparkweg 98, 2082 EG Santpoort-Zuid, Netherlands  
(arnoud.vandenberg@planet.nl)

Marcel Haas, Helmweg 12C, 1759 NE Callantsoog, Netherlands (zoodauma@gmail.com)

## Recente meldingen

Dit overzicht van recente meldingen van zeldzame en interessante vogels in Nederland beslaat voornamelijk de periode **mei-juni 2011**. De vermelde gevallen zijn merendeels niet geverifieerd en het overzicht is niet volledig. Alle vogelaars die de moeite namen om hun waarnemingen aan ons door te geven worden hartelijk bedankt. Waarnemers van soorten in Nederland die worden beoordeeld door de Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna wordt verzocht hun waarnemingen zo spoedig mogelijk toe te zenden aan: CDNA, p/a Duinlustparkweg 98A, 2082 EG Santpoort-Zuid, Nederland, e-mail cdna@dutchbirding.nl. Hiertoe gelieve men gebruik te maken van CDNA-waarnemingsformulieren die verkrijgbaar zijn via de website van de DBA op www.dutchbirding.nl of bovenstaand adres.

EENDEN TOT IBISSEN Voor liefhebbers van **Sneeuwganzen** *Anser caerulescens* viel er genoeg te genieten. In mei werden op een 10-tal plekken exemplaren gemeld, zoals in de Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant/Zuid-Holland, waar een

vogel de nodige bekijks trok. Een **Ross' Gans** *A. rossii* werd op 9 mei waargenomen in de Oostvaardersplassen bij Lelystad, Flevoland. Voor het vierde jaar op rij overzomden vanaf 29 juni twee ongeringde **Dwergganzen** *A. erythropus* bij Zwolle, Overijssel. De laatste van een groepje van drie **Roodhalsganzen** *Branta ruficollis* dat sinds 1 april op Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, verbleef werd op 16 mei gemeld. Ook elders waren nagenoeg alle overwinteraars rond die datum verdwenen. De laatste twee **Zwarte Rotganzen** *B. nigricans* van het seizoen bevonden zich op 16 mei bij Westerland op Wieringen, Noord-Holland. De populairste **Witoogend** *Aythya nyroca* van deze periode zwom van 18 april tot 3 juni in de Engbertsdijkvenen, Overijssel. Waarschijnlijk hetzelfde mannetje **Ringsnaveleend** *A. collaris* als vorig voorjaar verbleef van 12 april tot 4 mei bij de Krammersluizen langs de Philipsdam, Zeeland. Een bijna adult mannetje **Koningsieder** *Somateria spectabilis* bevond zich op 13 mei kortstondig in de Kroonspolders op Vlieland, Friesland. Een onvolwassen mannetje **Ijseend** *Clangula*

*hyemalis* kreeg vanaf 4 juni redelijk wat aandacht bij 't Horntje op Texel, Noord-Holland. Op 27 juni werd hij hier helaas dood uit het water gevist. Het mannetje **Buffelkoopeend** *Bucephala albeola* werd voor het laatst op 14 mei gezien op de Gaatkensplas bij Barendrecht, Zuid-Holland. **Amerikaanse Wintertalingen** *Anas carolinensis* bevonden zich van 15 april tot 5 mei in het Harderbroek, Flevoland, en van 5 tot 12 mei in de Ezumakeeg, Friesland. Leuk was de waarneming van een langsvliegende **Kwak** *Nycticorax nycticorax* op 23 mei bij Midsland op Terschelling, Friesland. Op een 10-tal andere plekken werden exemplaren doorgegeven, al dan niet met een hoog dierentuin-gehalte. Op 25 mei werd een **Ralreiger** *Ardeola ralloides* gefotografeerd bij Tilburg, Noord-Brabant. Van 26 mei tot 1 juni verbleef een exemplaar bij Waal en Burg op Texel. Een exemplaar dat zich van 14 mei tot 6 juni ophield bij Boorseem in Belgisch Limburg (b)leek soms de landsgrens te passeren, getuige een waarneming op 5 juni nabij Meers, Limburg. **Koereigers** *Bubulcus ibis* werden gezien op 22 mei bij Cadzand-Bad, Zeeland; op 1 juni bij Hulst, Zeeland; op 9 juni bij het Zuidlaardermeer, Groningen; en op 15 juni mogelijk dezelfde twee 's middags in de Blauwe Kamer bij Rhenen, Utrecht, en 's avonds in de Ooijpolder bij Nijmegen, Gelderland. Een overvliegende **Zwarte Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* werd op 10 juni gemeld bij Maasland, Zuid-Holland. Van 11 tot 14 juni verbleef er één bij Schokland, Flevoland.

**ROOFVOGELS** Voor het derde jaar op rij broedde een paar **Zwarte Wouwen** *Milvus migrans* bij Maastricht,

Limburg; in juli werden er twee jongen waargenomen. Op 13 juni verplaatste een **Lammergier** *Gypaetus barbatus* met enkele gebleekte slagpennen zich van de Braakman bij Terneuzen, Zeeland, richting de Belgische grens. Bij Philippine werd hij 's middags enige tijd aan de grond gezien en een dag later dook hij net over de grens in België op. Het betrof een vogel genaamd 'Sardona' die op 1 maart 2010 werd uitgebroed in Tierpark Goldau in Zwitserland en in het kader van een herintroductieproject op 13 juni 2010 werd uitgezet. Op 3 juli 2011 werd hij weer gefotografeerd op de plaats van uitzetten (Calfeisental, Sankt Gallen, Zwitserland). Op 20 juni werd een exemplaar zonder gebleekte slagpennen gefotografeerd boven Den Helder, Noord-Holland, en op 29 juni werd mogelijk dezelfde gefotografeerd bij Biddinghuizen, Flevoland. Een groep van 17 **Vale Gieren** *Gyps fulvus* verscheen op 21 mei om 19:30 boven Heinkensand, Zeeland. De vogels brachten in de omgeving de nacht door en lieten zich de volgende ochtend door verschillende vogelaars bewonderen, alvorens omstreeks 10:15 in oostelijke richting weg te vliegen. Tot voorbij Goes, Zeeland, kon de groep worden gevolgd en tegen 12:00 bleken ze Chaam, Noord-Brabant, te hebben bereikt. Later die middag werden ten minste twee exemplaren gemeld boven Budel-Dorplein, Noord-Brabant. Op 25 juni werd een exemplaar gefotografeerd in een weiland bij Werkendam, Noord-Brabant. Van ten minste 18 plekken kwamen meldingen van **Slangenarenden** *Circaetus gallicus*, waarmee het totaal aantal waarnemingen dit voorjaar uitkwam op minimaal 27.

**337** Koningseider / King Eider *Somateria spectabilis*, derdejaars mannetje, met Eiders / Common Eiders *S mollissima*, Kroonspolders, Vlieland, Friesland, 13 mei 2011 (Nils van Duivendijk)



Recente meldingen



**338** Vale Gieren / Griffon Vultures *Gyps fulvus*, Bleeke Heide, Chaam, Noord-Brabant, 22 mei 2011 (Luuk van Oerle)

**339** Vale Gier / Griffon Vulture *Gyps fulvus*, Kapelsche Moer, Zeeland, 22 mei 2011 (Kris de Rouck)

**340** Lammergier / Bearded Vulture *Gypaetus barbatus*, onvolwassen, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 20 juni 2011 (Henk van Boeijen)





**341** Zwarte Zeekoet / Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle*, eerstejaars, De Cocksdorp, Texel, Noord-Holland, 7 mei 2011 (Arnold Meijer)

**342** Kleinst Waterhoen / Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla*, Schokland, Flevoland, 6 juni 2011 (Roland Jansen)





**343** Woestijnplevier / Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*, adult vrouwtje, Liendense Waard, Batenburg, Gelderland, 1 mei 2011 (*Co van der Wardt*)

**344** Woestijnplevier / Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*, tweede-kalenderjaar, Julianadorp, Noord-Holland, 4 mei 2011 (*Harm Niesen*)





**345** Grote Geelpootruiter / Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca*, eerste-zomer, Bokkegat, Wissenkerke, Zeeland, 26 juni 2011 (*Kris De Rouck*)

**346** Blonde Ruiters / Semipalmated Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis*, Polder Hardenhoek, Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant, 13 mei 2011 (*Hans Gebuis*)





**347** Lammergier / Bearded Vulture *Gypaetus barbatus*, onvolwassen, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 20 juni 2011 (Henk van Boeijen) **348** Ralreiger / Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*, Limietweg, Texel, Noord-Holland, 27 mei 2011 (Ruben Vermeer), **349** Lammergier / Bearded Vulture *Gypaetus barbatus*, tweede-kalenderjaar mannetje ('Sardona'), Philippine, Zeeland, 13 juni 2011 (Mark Hoekstein) **350** Grijsze Strandloper / Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla*, Westpolder, Groningen, 20 mei 2011 (Martijn Bot)

Goed gefotografeerde exemplaren werden vastgesteld op 5 mei bij Bennekom, Gelderland; van 6 mei tot in juli op de Hoge Veluwe, Gelderland; op 7 mei bij Kinderdijk, Zuid-Holland; op 22 mei boven Roosendaal, Noord-Brabant; van 30 mei tot 3 juni op de Delleboersterheide bij Oldeberkoop, Friesland; en van 4 juni tot in juli in het Drents-Friese Wold bij Vledder, Drenthe. Ter vergelijking: in de periode 1907-95 werden slechts acht gevallen aanvaard. Waarnemingen van deze soort worden nog steeds beoordeeld door de CDNA. Een nagekomen melding betrof die van een eerste-zomer **Steppekiekendief** *Circus macrourus* op 24 april bij Hardenberg, Overijssel. Andere exemplaren werden waargenomen op 1 mei bij Kampen, Overijssel (adult mannetje); op 1 mei bij Millingen aan de Rijn, Gelderland (adult mannetje); op 1 mei bij Slenaken, Limburg (eerste-zomer); op 2 mei een adult mannetje in Noord-Holland om 06:30 bij Heerhugowaard, om 08:28 bij de Dijkgatweide in de Wieringermeer en

om 10:30 bij Anna Paulowna; en op 3 mei bij Den Oever, Noord-Holland (adult mannetje). Het totale aantal waarnemingen dit voorjaar kwam hiermee uit op minimaal 20. Ter vergelijking: in de periode 1866-1999 werden slechts 10 gevallen aanvaard. Een overvliegende **Arendbuizerd** *Buteo rufinus* werd op 3 mei gemeld boven Lentevreugd bij Wassenaar, Zuid-Holland. Na de lichte vorm **Dwergarend** *Aquila pennata* die op 30 april en 1 mei door Zuid-Kennemerland in Noord-Holland zwierf, volgden nog enkele meldingen, waaronder op 7 mei vanaf trektpost Maarsche Berg bij Maarn, Utrecht. Op ten minste 50 plekken verspreid over het land werden tot half juni **Roodpootvalken** *Falco vespertinus* gemeld. Het betrof overwegend solitaire exemplaren of kleine groepjes die niet lang op dezelfde plek bleven. Op 7 mei werden 12 exemplaren geteld op Simonszand, Groningen.





**351** Kalendarleeuwerik / Calandra Lark *Melanocorypha calandra*, Paal 48, Vlieland, Friesland, 8 mei 2011 (*Joachim Bouwmeester*) **352** Roodkopklauwier / Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*, Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, 5 mei 2011 (*Ben van den Broek*) **353** Struikrietzanger / Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum*, Eemshaven-Oost, Groningen, 6 mei 2011 (*Albert-Erik de Winter*) **354** Grauwe Fitis / Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides*, Alphen aan den Rijn, Zuid-Holland, 19 juni 2011 (*Paul van der Werken*)

RALLEN TOT STRANDLOPERS **Kleinste Waterhoenders** *Porzana pusilla* werden waargenomen van 26 mei tot 12 juni in De Wieden, Overijssel, van 1 tot 16 juni in Polder Achteraf bij Breukelenveen (drie), Noord-Holland, en van 4 tot 15 juni bij Schokland (twee); op de laatste locatie lieten de vogels zich af en toe aardig bekijken. Op enkele plekken kwamen **Steltkluten** *Himantopus himantopus* tot broeden, al verliep dat niet overal even succesvol. Twee doortrekkers werden op 27 juni gezien vanaf trekpost De Nolle bij Vlissingen, Zeeland. **Grielen** *Burhinus oedicnemus* werden waargenomen op op 7 mei bij Strijen, Zuid-Holland (mogelijk de vogel die hier eerder op 24 en 25 april werd gezien), op 13 juni bij Stellendam, Zuid-Holland, en op 30 juni 's nachts bij Nieuw-Scheemda, Groningen. Op 4 en 5 mei verbleef een **Woestijplevier** *Charadrius leschenaultii* bij Den Helder. Waarschijnlijk betrof het dezelfde als op 27 april bij Hoek van Holland, Zuid-Holland. Een

andere hield zich van 28 april tot 1 mei op bij Batenburg, Gelderland. Een groepje van drie **Morinelplevieren** *C morinellus* bevond zich op 6 mei bij Grave, Noord-Brabant. Op meer traditionele plekken zoals op Texel en in Friesland en Groningen doken in mei eveneens groepjes op. Het laatste exemplaar werd op 24 mei gemeld bij Anjum, Friesland. Een **Grijze Strandloper** *Calidris pusilla* werd op 20 mei gefotografeerd op het wad bij de telpost Kustweg bij de Westpolder, Groningen, maar pas naderhand gedetermineerd. Op ongeveer 10 plekken liepen **Gestreepte Strandlopers** *C melanotos*, zoals van 19 tot 21 mei bij Enschede, Overijssel. Tussen 13 mei en 3 juni werden op c 10 plekken in het westen en noorden **Breedbekstrandlopers** *Limicola falcinellus* opgemerkt. **Blonde Ruiters** *Tryngites subruficollis* werden gezien van 9 tot 13 mei in Polder Hardenhoek bij Werkendam en van 22 tot 25 mei in de Ezumakeeg. Een **Poelsnip** *Gallinago media* werd op 18 mei gefotografeerd bij Hendrik-Ido-Ambacht,

Zuid-Holland. Andere meldingen waren op 5 mei bij Holysloot in Waterland, Noord-Holland (twee), en op 21 mei in de Rijnstrangen bij Zevenaar, Gelderland. Een exemplaar dat zich van 6 tot 8 juni ophield in de Workumerwaard bij Workum, Friesland, liet zich maar aan weinigen zien. **Grote Grijs Snippen** *Limnodromus scolopaceus* verbleven op 3 mei bij Alphen aan den Rijn, Zuid-Holland, van 10 tot 20 mei bij Delfgauw, Zuid-Holland, en van 15 tot 22 mei in De Blikken bij Groede, Zeeland (mogelijk terugkerend exemplaar). Bijzonder was de waarneming van twee **Terekruiters** *Xenus cinereus* op 12 mei bij Etten-Leur, Noord-Brabant. Een twitchbaar exemplaar bevond zich van 12 tot 17 juni bij Aldegea (Oudega) ten zuidwesten van Sneek, Friesland. De bekende **Grote Geelpootruiter** *Tringa melanoleuca* van Noord-Beveland, Zeeland, bleef de gehele periode. Een **Poelruiter** *T stagnatilis* die op 2 mei om 08:55 langs Scheveningen, Zuid-Holland, vloog, werd om 09:18 bij Katwijk, Zuid-Holland, gezien. Ook op een 15-tal andere plekken werd de soort aangetroffen. **Rosse Franjepoten** *Phalaropus fulicarius* in zomerkleed verbleven op 10 en 11 mei op De Kreupel, Noord-Holland, en van 8 tot 16 juni bij Aldegea.

JAGERS TOT ALKEN Spectaculair en ongekend waren de waarnemingen van groepjes adulte **Kleinste Jagers** *Stercorarius longicaudus* op 1 mei over het Jaap Deensgat bij Lauwersoog, Groningen (vier), en op 4 mei over de Engbertsdijksvenen (maar liefst 13). Vermoedelijk dezelfde adulte **Ross' Meeuw** *Rhodostethia rosea* die van 21 tot 25 april bij Numansdorp, Zuid-Holland, verbleef vloog op 7 mei in noordelijke richting langs Katwijk. Op de avond van 25 mei werd een langsvliegende tweede-zomer **Reuzenzwartkopmeeuw** *Larus ichthyaetus* gemeld bij de Westplaat, Zuid-Holland. Vervolgwaarnemingen bleven helaas uit. Vanaf de veerboot tussen Schiermonnikoog en Lauwersoog werd op 8 mei een **Ring-snavelmeeuw** *L delawarensis* opgemerkt. Ook deze kon niet worden teruggevonden. Een op 17 juli 2010 bij Uusikaarlepvy in Finland als pullus geringde **Baltische Mantelmeeuw** *L fuscus fuscus* (geel C51N) werd op 10 juni gefotografeerd bij het Centraal Station in Amsterdam, Noord-Holland. Een ongeringde tweedekalenderjaar werd gemeld op 19 juni bij Heemskerk, Noord-Holland. Op de Ventjagerplaten, Zuid-Holland, kwam een paar **Geelpootmeeuwen** *L michahellis* tot broeden, waarvan het vrouwtje in Zwitserland was geringd en het mannetje waarschijnlijk in Italië. Voor zover bekend ging het bij eerdere broedgevallen steeds om gemengde paren van Geelpootmeeuw en Zilvermeeuw *L argentatus* of Kleine Mantelmeeuw *L f graellsii*. Een langsvliegende **Kleine Burgemeester** *L glaucoides* werd op 11 mei opgemerkt bij Egmond aan Zee, Noord-Holland. **Grote Burgemeesters** *L hyperboreus* werden waargenomen in Noord-Holland op 28 mei bij Bergen aan Zee; op 2 juni bij Zandvoort; op 25 juni op Texel; en op 26 juni bij Camperduin en op Wieringen. Door trek-tellers langs de kust werden in mei 21 **Lachsterns** *Gelochelidon nilotica* opgemerkt. Zeldzaam voor Limburg was het exemplaar van 29 mei tot 3 juni bij Stevensweert. Op 30 mei volgde ook een **Reuzenster** *Hydroprogne*

*caspia* langs de Maas in Limburg; om 11:40 werd hij ontdekt vanuit het provinciehuis in Maastricht, tussen 17:00 en 20:15 verbleef hij bij IJtteren en omstreeks 21:00 vloog hij over Stevensweert. Op meer dan 20 plekken verspreid over het land werden solitaire of kleine groepjes **Witwangsterns** *Chlidonias hybrida* opgemerkt. Op ongeveer evenveel plekken doken **Witvleugelsterns** *C leucopterus* op, zoals een groepje van negen op 20 mei bij Borger, Drenthe. Een **Dougalls Stern** *Sterna dougallii* werd gemeld op 11 mei langs de Waddendijk bij Midsland op Terschelling. Op 18 juni werd een exemplaar gefotografeerd bij Westkapelle, Zeeland, en op 19 en 20 juni verbleven er hier zelfs twee. Op 5 juli werd op Griend, Friesland, een **Noordse Stern** *S paradisaea* gevangen die daar 31 jaar en 16 dagen eerder als pullus was geringd. Het leeftijdsrecord van deze soort werd daarmee met meer dan een maand aangescherpt. Een **Zwarte Zeekoet** *Cephus grylle* die op 7 mei op het strand stond op de noordpunt van Texel werd voor de ogen van enkele vogelaars doodgebeten door een hond (Dutch Birding 33: 205, plaat 239, 2011).

UILEN TOT ZWALUWEN Op 9 mei werd om 02:30 een **Dwergooruil** *Otus scops* gehoord in Baarn, Utrecht. Intrigerend was de melding op 14 juni van een mogelijke **Siberische Gierzwaluw** *Apus pacificus* die roepend in noordoostelijke richting over Terneuzen vloog. **Alpen-gierzwaluwen** *A melba* werden gefotografeerd op 7 mei boven de Westerplas op Schiermonnikoog en op 14 mei boven Polder Hardenhoek. Andere meldingen kwamen op 19 mei van De Kwakel, Noord-Holland, en Wassenaar en op 2 juni van het Bargerveen, Drenthe. Op meer dan 20 plekken, hoofdzakelijk gelegen langs de kust, werden overvliegende of kort pleisterende **Bijeneters** *Merops apiaster* waargenomen. Op een 10-tal plekken verspreid over het land werden nog **Hoppen** *Upupa epops* gezien. Het meeste bekijks trok een exemplaar op 23 mei bij Noordwijk, Zuid-Holland. Op 4 mei vond een vogelaar een dode **Draaihals** *Jynx torquilla* op het bankje in zijn tuin in Amstelveen, Noord-Holland. Op meer dan 70 andere plekken verspreid over het land werden in mei nog doortrekkers aangetroffen. **Roodkopklauwieren** *Lanius senator* bevonden zich op 4 en 5 mei op de Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland (exemplaar met opvallend uitgebreide lichte handpenvlek, was goed past op **Oostelijke Roodkopklauwier** *L s niloticus*); op 8 mei op de noordpunt van Texel; op 10 en 11 mei in het Fochteloërveen, Friesland; op 19 mei op de Veermansplaat in de Grevelingen, Zeeland; op 20 mei in de Amsterdamsse Waterleidingduinen bij Zandvoort; op 25 mei in De Muy op Texel; op 26 mei bij Formerum op Terschelling; en van 4 tot 14 juni bij Westkapelle. Op 7 mei zagen vijf vogelaars om 10:15 een **Kalanderleuwerik** *Melanocorypha calandra* vanaf de noordpunt van Texel naar Vlieland vliegen. Om 11:20 onderschepten twee vogelaars hem boven Vlieland en de volgende ochtend herhaalden zes anderen dit hazerenstukje. Op 18 mei vloog een exemplaar over trektelepost Noordkaap bij Uithuizermeeden, Groningen. Een melding lokte op 22 mei veel vogelaars naar Hoek van Holland. Helaas gunde de vogel slechts weinigen vluchtige blikken, voordat hij omstreeks 16:00 uit beeld ver-



**355** Kortteenleeuwerik / Greater Short-toed Lark *Calendrella brachydactyla*, Camperduin, Noord-Holland, 7 mei 2011 (Roelof de Beer)

**356** Kortteenleeuwerik / Greater Short-toed Lark *Calendrella brachydactyla*, Ijmuiden, Noord-Holland, 16 mei 2011 (Arnold Meijer)





**357** Roodkeelpieper / Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*, Zevenhoven, Zuid-Holland, 7 mei 2011  
(Phil Koken)



**358** Citroenkwikstaart / Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola*, mannetje, Dijkgatweide, Noord-Holland, 2 mei 2011 (Ruud Brouwer)

dween, veel waarnemers in vertwijfeling achterlatend omdat een Veldleeuwerik *Alauda arvensis* voor verwar- ring zorgde. **Kortteenleeuweriken** *Calandrella brachydactyla* lieten zich fraai bekijken in Noord-Holland op 7 mei bij Camperduin en van 14 tot 18 mei bij IJmuiden. Op 6 mei werd een overvliegende gemeld op de oost- punt van Vlieland. Een paar **Kuifleeuweriken** *Galerida cristata* bij Venlo, Limburg, gaf de Nederlandse populatie een flinke impuls door drie jongen te produceren. De enige andere plek waar de soort met zekerheid werd vastgesteld was in Slot Haverleij bij 's-Hertogenbosch, Noord-Brabant. **Roodstuitzwaluwen** *Cecropis daurica* werden gemeld op 1 mei langs Breskens, Zeeland (twee); op 1 mei over Berkeheide bij Katwijk; op 1 mei over de Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland; op 1 mei bij Berkel en Rodenrijs, Zuid-Holland; op 2 mei over de Eemshaven, Groningen (twee); op 3 mei langs Breskens; op 3 mei langs trektpost Noordkaap; op 4 mei langs Breskens; op 5 mei langs Breskens (twee); op 5 mei langs Petten, Noord-Holland; op 7 mei over Terschelling en Schier- monnikoog; op 9 mei langs trektpost Lauwersmeer Kustweg, Groningen (twee); op 20 mei boven het Paterswoldse Meer, Groningen; op 27 mei bij Ridderkerk, Zuid-Holland; en op 28 mei in de Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant. Het voorjaarstotaal kwam hiermee uit op minimaal 30 exemplaren.

STRUIKZANGERS TOT VLEGENVANGERS **Opmerkelijk** ge- noeg werden er ten noorden van Amsterdam, Noord-

Holland, geen **Cetti's Zangers** *Cettia cetti* aangetroffen, terwijl het de soort in het zuidwesten van het land al enkele jaren voor de wind gaat. Zingende **Grauwe Fitissen** *Phylloscopus trochiloides* bevonden zich op 28 en 29 mei in de tuintjes bij De Cocksdorp op Texel; op 3 juni in het Noordhollands Duinreservaat bij Bergen, Noord-Holland; op 4 juni in het dorp op Schiermonnik- oog en bij Den Helder; en – met afstand de meest popula- ire – van 17 tot 27 juni in Alphen aan den Rijn. **Iberische Tjiftjaffen** *P ibericus* lieten zich bestuderen van 11 april tot 1 mei in De Kwakel, van 26 april tot 14 juni in de binnenstad van Groningen, Groningen, en van 6 tot 28 juni bij Hoorn op Terschelling. **Krekelzangers** *Locustella fluviatilis* werden waargenomen op 30 mei in de Lindevallei bij Wolvega, Friesland, en op 27 juni in het Drents-Friese Wold bij Vledder. Op zes plekken in Limburg en Noord-Brabant werden vanaf 4 mei zingen- de **Orpheusspottvogels** *Hippolais polyglotta* opgemerkt. Het enige exemplaar buiten deze provincies verbleef op 22 mei kort bij IJmuiden, Noord-Holland. Op 6 mei werd een **Struikrietzanger** *Acrocephalus dumetorum* ge- ringd in de Eemshaven. Indien aanvaard betreft dit het eerste mei-geval. Eerdere gevallen zijn afkomstig uit juni, september en oktober. **Graszangers** *Cisticola juncidis* verbleven van 29 mei tot 5 juni bij Groesbeek, Gelder- land, en op drie plekken in Zeeuws-Vlaanderen. In Zuid- Limburg werden **Waterspreuwen** *Cinclus cinclus* ge- zien op 28 mei langs de Geul bij Epen (juveniel) en op 4 juni bij Schin op Geul. Een **Noordse Nachtegaal**



**359** Slangenarend / Short-toed Snake Eagle *Circaetus gallicus*, Delleboersterheide, Friesland, 2 juni 2011 (Rob Half) **360** Roodmus / Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*, De Cocksdorp, Texel, Noord-Holland, 6 juni 2011 (René Pop) **361** Roodmus / Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*, Grootte Keeten, Noord-Holland, 12 juni 2011 (Martin van der Schalk)





**362** Maskergors / Black-faced Bunting *Emberiza spodocephala*, mannetje, Zwanenwater, Noord-Holland, 7 mei 2011 (*Peter Spanenburg*) **363** Cirlgors / Cirl Bunting *Emberiza cirlus*, vrouwtje, 't Vroon, Westkapelle, Zeeland, 4 mei 2011 (*Arnoud B van den Berg*) **364** Bruinkeelortolaan / Cretschmar's Bunting *Emberiza caesia*, mannetje, Rottumerplaat, Groningen, 14 mei 2011 (*Bernard Spaans*)



*Luscinia luscinia* werd waargenomen op 1 en 2 juni in het Fochteloërveen. Een **Roodsterblauwborst** *L svecica* werd op 20 mei gevangen bij Castricum, Noord-Holland. Vanaf eind juni werd in Wassenaar een mannetje **Kleine Vliegenvanger** *Ficedula parva* gemeld die voedselvluchten leek te maken, duidend op een broedgeval. Er zou bovendien een vrouwtje zijn gezien. Helaas was het terrein niet vrij toegankelijk.

KWIKSTAARTEN TOT GORZEN Mannetjes **Citroenkwikstaart** *Motacilla citreola* verbleven op 1 en 2 mei bij de Dijkgatsweide en op 7 mei bij 's-Gravenzande, Zuid-Holland. Een vrouwtje werd op 1 mei gefotografeerd op Tiengemeten, Zuid-Holland. Door trektellers verspreid over het land werden in mei 17 **Duinpiepers** *Anthus campestris* en 13 **Roodkeelpiepers** *A cervinus* genoteerd. Van laatstgenoemde soort lieten pleisteraars zich fraai bekijken van 6 tot 11 mei in de Groene Jonker bij Zevenhoven, Zuid-Holland, en van 9 tot 14 mei in Polder Hardenhoek. **Roodmus** *Carpodacus erythrinus* was vanaf half mei redelijk goed vertegenwoordigd met zingende mannetjes of broedparen op verschillende plekken langs de kust. Een mannetje **Maskergors** *Emberiza spodocephala* werd op 7 mei geïdentificeerd in (het niet voor publiek

toegankelijke deel van) het Zwanenwater bij Callantsoog, Noord-Holland, en werd hier op 9 mei nogmaals gevangen. Eerdere gevallen dateren van november 1986 (Westenschouwen, Zeeland), oktober 1993 (Schiermonnikoog) en november 2007 (Castricum). Een knappe ontdekking was die van een vrouwtje **Cirlogors** *E cirius* op 4 mei bij Westkapelle. De vogel bleef lang genoeg om door een flink aantal snelle beslissers te kunnen worden getwicht. Op 27 juni werd de zang van een exemplaar opgenomen nabij trektelepost De Nolle maar de vogel in kwestie werd niet gezien. Door trektellers verspreid over het land werden in mei nog negen **Ortolanen** *E hortulana* en twee **Grauwe Gorzen** *E calandra* genoteerd. Laatstgenoemde soort leek als broedvogel een opleving door te maken met c acht paren in Oost-Groningen. Indrukwekkend maar ook onbereikbaar was een mannetje **Bruinkeelortolaan** *E caesia* dat van 13 tot 16 mei verbleef op Rottumerplaat, Groningen. Eerdere gevallen dateren van oktober 1859 (Overveen, Noord-Holland) en mei 1994 (Ameland, Friesland).

We bedanken Ruud Altenburg, Max Berlijn, Roland-Jan Buijs, Willem van Manen, Adri Remeeus en Rob Vogel voor hun hulp bij het samenstellen van dit overzicht.

Roy Slaterus, Bervoetsbos 71, 2134 PM Hoofddorp, Nederland (roy.slaterus@dutchbirding.nl)  
 Vincent van der Spek, Acaciastraat 212, 2565 KJ Den Haag, Nederland  
 (vincent.van.der.spek@dutchbirding.nl)