# DUTCH BIRDING

VOLUME 20 • NO 4 • 1998

# Dutch Birding

*Internationaal tijdschrift over Palearctische vogels*

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## Dutch Birding

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Dutch Birding is een tweemaandelijks tijdschrift met nummers in februari, april, juni, augustus, oktober en december. 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: *Lijst 98 Nederlandse vogelsoorten* door A B van den Berg & C A W Bosman (1998, Santpoort-Zuid) (taxonomie en wetenschappelijke en Nederlandse namen van Nederlandse vogels); *List of birds of the Western Palearctic* door British Birds (1997, Blunham) (Engelse namen van West-Palearctische vogels); de door C S Roselaar samengestelde lijst in *Geïllustreerde encyclopedie van de vogels* door C M Perrins (1991, Weert), met aanpassingen en aanvullingen door A J van Loon in *Vogels van de wereld – complete checklist* door M Walters (1997, Baarn) (Nederlandse namen van overige vogels van de wereld); en *Birds of the world* door C G Sibley (1996, Version 2.0, Cincinnati) (taxonomie en wetenschappelijke en Engelse namen van overige vogels van de wereld). Afwijkingen van en aanvullingen op bovenstaande overzichten zijn gebaseerd op beslissingen van de CSNA (cf Dutch Birding 19: 21-28, 1997; 20: 22-32, 1998).

Een lijst met tarieven voor de vergoeding van auteurs, fotografen en tekenaars is verkrijgbaar bij de redactie.

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De CDNA is een commissie van de Dutch Birding Association en de Nederlandse Ornithologische Unie.
De Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (CSNA) is de subcommissie van de CDNA betreffende taxonomie, nomenclatuur en status van Nederlandse (onder)soorten en bestaat uit Arnoud van den Berg, Cornelis Hazevoet, Kees Roselaar, George Sangster (secretaris, tel / fax 071-5143790, e-mail sangster@oplbio.leidenuniv.nl) en Ronald Sluys.

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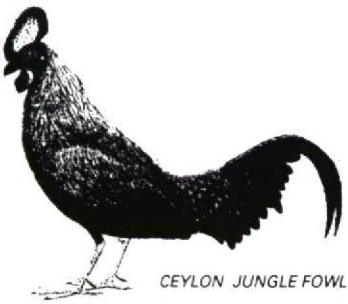

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# Rare birds in the Netherlands in 1996

*Wim M Wiegant, A (Bert) de Bruin & CDNA*

This is the 17th annual report on rare birds in the Netherlands to be published in Dutch Birding. This report comprises records from 1996 as well as belated and reconsidered records, dating from 1995 back to 1896, which have been evaluated by the Dutch rarities committee, Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA). Several records for 1996 and earlier years are still under consideration, for various reasons.

Details included for each accepted record are, if available: date(s); location and/or *municipality*, province; number of birds if more than one, plumage and sex; type of record if trapped, photographed, videoed, sound-recorded or found dead (and where specimen is stored); names of up to three observers involved in finding, identifying and recording, and relevant references in the literature, which normally include (inter)national and not regional journals, and published photographs. Records from 1995 lasting into 1996 which were already published in the 1995 report are repeated here without references, for the sake of completeness. Sequence of records is from 1996 backwards, with records within one year presented chronologically. A compilation of most of the birds videoed can be found in Opperman et al (1997). Numbers after each (sub)species' name refer to the total number of individuals *1* from 1 January 1800 to 31 December 1979, *2* since 1 January 1980 but excluding *3* the current year. Sub(species) marked with an asterisk * are new to the Dutch list.

The following CDNA members voted on some or all of the records in this report: Max Berlijn, Ruud F J van Beusekom, A (Bert) de Bruin, Jan van der Laan (chairman), Karel A Mauer, C S (Kees) Roselaar, Jelle Scharringa (secretary), Gerard H Steinhaus and Wim M Wiegant (archivist). In February 1998, Gerard Steinhaus left the committee and was succeeded by Bert de Bruin. Records should be sent to CDNA, Postbus 45, 2080 AA Santpoort-Zuid, Netherlands, preferably using standard forms, which can be obtained free of charge from CDNA.

Decisions regarding taxonomy have been delegated to the taxonomic sub-committee, Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (CSNA), which consists of the following members: Arnoud B van den Berg, C S (Kees) Roselaar, Cornelis J Hazevoet, George Sangster (secretary) and Ronald Sluys.

The CDNA has decided not to consider records of Pontic Gull *Larus cachinnans cachinnans* (formerly named Caspian or Pontic Yellow-legged Gull) from 1 January 1998 onwards. Although prior to 1997 there were very few records, it is now clear that this taxon is not rare: in the winter of 1997/98, at least 60 were reported. Also records of Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus* and Iceland Gull *L glaucoides* will no longer be considered from 1 January 1998 onwards. Of course, older records of these species are still welcomed by the committee.

In 1996, a cumulative total of at least 356 species was recorded with three species new to the Dutch list: White-throated Needletail Swift *Hirundapus caudacutus*, Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina* and Myrtle Warbler *Dendroica coronata*. There were second records of Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis*, Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla*, Red-necked Stint *C ruficollis*, Blyth's Pipit *Anthus godlewskii* and Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum*. Other highlights included a long-staying male Steller's Eider *Polysticta stelleri* and two Short-toed Eagles *Circaetus gallicus* together at one site for several weeks.

## Systematic list of accepted records

**Hutchins's Canada Goose** *Branta hutchinsii hutchinsii* 0,-,-
**Greater Canada Goose** *Branta canadensis parvipes* 0,-,-
22 February, Aijen, *Bergen*, Limburg, two, photographed (J J F J Jansen, C van der Wardt, P Palmen); 12-13 May, Workumerwaard, *Nijefurd*, Friesland (A van der Spek); 28-29 December, *Dirksland*, Zuid-Holland, five (R-M Lafontaine, M Peero).
1992 12 January, Oudemirdum, *Gaasterlân-Sleat*, Friesland (R E van der Vliet).

Following the CSNA decision to include *parvipes* in Greater Canada Goose *Branta canadensis* rather than in Lesser Canada Goose *B hutchinsii*, the identification of small Greater Canada Goose from Hutchins's Canada Goose *B h hutchinsii* has been put in a different light and has become quite difficult. Therefore, the records above, accepted as either *B c parvipes* or *B h hutchinsii*, will be reviewed together with the only previously accepted record, at Piaam, Nijefurd, on 23-30 January 1994 (cf Wiegant et al 1996; Dutch Birding 16:

86, plate 62, 1994, 18: 107, plate 104, 1996). A previously accepted record on 25 January 1995 at Gaast, Wûnseradiel, Friesland, has been withdrawn by the observer and is no longer accepted.

**Black Brant** *Branta nigricans* 7,58,3
3 February, Den Oever, *Wieringen*, Noord-Holland, two, adult, photographed (P M A van der Wielen, K Hendriks); 25 April, Hoorn, *Terschelling*, Friesland (T Bakker); 24 October to 18 May 1997, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, two, adult (A Wassink); 14 December to 16 February 1997, Normerpolder, *Wieringen*, Noord-Holland (R E Brouwer, B de Lange; Dutch Birding 19: 233, plate 236, 1997).

The Terschelling individual has also been recorded in 1993-95 (cf Dutch Birding 19: 99, 1997) and the two of Texel are considered the same as in previous years (since 1991). The total number is unclear due to wandering and returning individuals. The record of two birds on Vlieland, Friesland, on 8-27 May 1995, published in the 1995 report (Wiegant et al 1997) should be deleted.

**Lesser Scaup** *Aythya affinis* 0,1,1
13 January, Lelystad-Haven, *Lelystad*, Flevoland, adult male, photographed (J D Eerdmans, R M van Dongen; Eerdmans & van Dongen 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 52, plate 41, 1996).

This bird was seen by only a handful of birders, contrary to the first, a long-staying male at several sites in Zeeland from 20 November 1994 to 21 June 1995.

**White-headed Duck** *Oxyura leucocephala* 5,6,1
5 April, Oostvaardersdijk, *Lelystad*, Flevoland, adult female, photographed (P Symens, D Symens, J Elst).

This was the first record since 1991 and the first for April. The other records were from November (4), December (2), January (2), February (2) and March (1).

**Steller's Eider** *Polysticta stelleri* 0,3,1
20 May to at least 24 July, Verdronken Land van Saeftinge, *Hontenisse/Hulst*, Zeeland, adult male moulting into eclipse plumage, photographed, videoed (J Maebe, M A Capello, P L Meininger; Meininger 1996, Maebe & Meininger 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 153, plate 166, 217, plate 216, 1996; 19: 68, plate 68-70, 1997).

The bird was seemingly paired with a female Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*. This behaviour also occurred with a male in the German part of the Wadden Sea in 1991. The first record in 1980-82 concerned a male paired with a female Common Eider *Somateria mollissima*.

**Falcated Duck** *Mareca falcata* 0,5,0
10-28 May, Lauwermeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, adult male, photographed (T Bakker).

This individual is considered the same as the one recorded at the same location on 21-22 May 1994 and from 3 May to 12 June 1995. CDNA has not yet decided whether all records should be regarded as referring to escapes.

**American Wigeon** *Mareca americana* 5,16,1
1-9 June, Lepelaarsplassen, *Almere*, Flevoland, adult female, photographed (R A C Halff, M van der Aa).
1994 23 February to 20 March, *Wijk bij Duurstede*, Utrecht, adult male (E Bos, A Schaftenaar, J J F J Jansen).
1991 10 June, Oostvaardersplassen, *Lelystad*, Flevoland, adult male (D Kok, J de Bruijn).

This year's record is the first of a female. The 1994 record was published previously for 23-27 February (Wiegant et al 1996). A previously accepted first-winter male at Megen, Oss, Noord-Brabant, on 5-7 January 1991 (cf Dutch Birding 16: 134, 1994) has been withdrawn and is no longer accepted.

**Blue-winged Teal** *Anas discors* 6,14,2
4 May, *Terschelling*, Friesland, male, photographed (A Ouwerkerk; Dutch Birding 18: 149, plate 163); 30 November, Veenhuizerstukken, *Stadskanaal*, Groningen, male, photographed (K van Dijken).

The 30 November record was the first to be documented via the Internet, on a *homepage*, rather than by photograph, film or video.

**Green-winged Teal** *Anas carolinensis* 6,6,2
3-18 April, Tienhoven, *Maarssen*, Utrecht, male, photographed (H R Russer et al); 21 April to 16 May, Keihoogte Inlaag, Wissekerke, *Noord-Beveland*, Zeeland, adult male (T Koppejan; Dutch Birding 18: 149, plate 162, 1996).

Eight out of 14 individuals were from April. The other records were in January (1), March (2), May (1) and November (2).

**White-billed Diver** *Gavia adamsii* 20,10,1
4 April, *Terschelling*, Friesland, adult male, found dead, photographed (A Ouwerkerk; Dutch Birding 18: 145, plate 153, 1996).
1995 23-24 December, *Maurik*, Gelderland, immature (H Feith); 30 December to 20 January 1996, *Reeuwijk*, Zuid-Holland, first-winter.

Possibly, the bird at Maurik was the same individual as the one recorded from 30 December 1995 onwards at Reeuwijk which already was included in the 1995 report (Dutch Birding 19: 97-98, 1997).

**Cory's Shearwater** *Calonectris borealis* 2,5,1
27 September, Fijnaart, *Fijnaart en Heijningen*, Noord-Brabant, found exhausted, taken into a bird hospital, where it died, skin retained by Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum at Leiden, Zuid-Holland (H Westerlaken; Dutch Birding 18: 273, plate 259, 1996).

One would consider an inland location not a good place for finding rare seabirds, but there is also a record of an exhausted Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis* at Rotterdam, Zuid-Holland, approximately 30 km inland. Curiously enough, there are no inland records of the much commoner species such as Sooty Shearwater *P griseus*. Currently, all records referring to field observations are under review, since Cory's Shearwater *C borealis* has now been split into Cory's Shearwater *C borealis* and Scopoli's Shearwater *C diomedea*.

**107** Short-toed Eagle / Slangenarend *Circaetus gallicus*, Hoge Veluwe, Gelderland, 5 August 1996 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)* **108** Tengmalm's Owl / Ruigpootuil *Aegolius funereus* (found dead at Zwolle, Overijssel, c 14 October 1996), Zwolle, Overijssel *(Kees Moeliker)* **109** Greater Sand Plover / Woestijnplevier *Charadrius leschenaultii*, first-summer female, De Cocksdorp, Texel, Noord-Holland,1 August 1996 *(Leo J R Boon/Cursorius)*

**Balearic Shearwater** *Puffinus mauretanicus* 5,47,12
7 June, c 48 km west off Texel, Continental Shelf (P A Wolf); 19-20 July, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (N F van der Ham); 5 August, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (F J Maas, N F van der Ham); 7 August, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (N F van der Ham); 11 and 29 August, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (N F van der Ham); 23 August, Noordwijk aan Zee, *Noordwijk*, Zuid-Holland (A Steenvoorden); 24 August, Scheveningen, *Den Haag*, Zuid-Holland (A Mendoza, B van den Boogaard) and Katwijk aan Zee, *Katwijk*, Zuid-Holland (J Dijkhuizen, M Verdoes, A van Egmond); 25 August, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (F J Maas); 29 August, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland (N van Duivendijk); 6 September, *Domburg*, Zeeland (E Nieuwstraten); 27 September, De Koog and Westerslag, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (D Kok, D Groenendijk, A Schaftenaar); 28 September, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (N F van der Ham, S Lagerveld).
1995 9 July, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (N F van der Ham); 16 July, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (N F van der Ham); 31 July to 5 August Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (N F van der Ham, A de Bruin, F J Maas); 2 August *Vlieland*, Friesland (J J F J Jansen); 4 August, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (N F van der Ham); 8 September, *Westkapelle*, Zeeland (P A Wolf); 16 September, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (N F van der Ham); 5 October, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (N F van der Ham).

According to the observer, sightings on 11 and 29 August at Camperduin concerned the same individual. The sightings on 24 August at Katwijk and Scheveningen are assumed to refer to the same individual since they were only c 35 min and 15 km apart. The record on 7 June concerned the first accepted rarity seen from a flying plane, albeit during the counting of seabirds.

**European Storm-petrel** *Hydrobates pelagicus* -,50,3
29 August, *Westkapelle*, Zeeland (P A Wolf, T O V Muusse); 9 November, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland (J Bisschop, S Bernardus); 22 November, *Westkapelle*, Zeeland (P A Wolf, G A Davidse).
1995 28 September, *Westkapelle*, Zeeland, two (P A Wolf, M Hoekstein, S Lilipaly).

Still more than half of the records since 1980 date from a single influx in September 1990.

**Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides* -,13,1
11 June, Berkenwoude, *Bergambacht*, Zuid-Holland, adult summer, photographed (fam Houweling).

This first record since 1992 concerned an individual photographed in the observer's back-garden; certainly a magnificent addition to someone's garden list!

**Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis* 33,65,2
18-21 May, Belt-Schutsloot, *Brederwiede*, Overijssel, photographed (R O Winters); 27 September, *Boxtel*, Noord-Brabant (M Renders).
1994 25 June to 10 July, Loo, *Apeldoorn*, Gelderland, immature, photographed (E A W Ernens, M Hageman, D Zoetebier).
1993 29 August, Baambrugge, *Abcoude*, Utrecht (J J F J Jansen).
1992 15 May, Broekhuizerbroek, *Broekhuizen*, Limburg, two (J J F J Jansen); 24 May, De Haeck, *Nieuwkoop*, Zuid-Holland, two, adult summer (K D Dijkstra).
1987 25 July, Wormer, *Zaanstad*, Noord-Holland (A B van den Berg, P Munsterman; Vogeljaarkalender 1989: 15).
1983 13 September to 8 October, Hoogkerk, *Groningen*, Groningen, photographed (H-J Wight, S de Bruin).

For the 1994 record, the latest date has been extended; for the 1993 record, Baambrugge was erroneously situated in Zuid-Holland instead of Utrecht; the location of two birds in 1992, already published in the 1995 report, should read Broekhuizerbroek instead of Broekhuizervorst.

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* -,49,0
1995 3 May, Eemshaven, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, photographed (E Koops); 14 May, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen (H A Diephuis)

For the first time since 1988, there were no accepted records. Maybe the 34 individuals in 1994 and 1995, compared with an average of one per year over 1980-93, should best be attributed to an influx rather than a sudden increase. However, CDNA still awaits information on a flock of 20 reported at Alphen aan den Rijn, Zuid-Holland, on 4 October 1996 and a flock of eight at Oosterhout, Noord-Brabant, on 23 October 1996 (cf Dutch Birding 18: 293-301, 1996).

**Greater Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus roseus*
1989 10-23 September, Makkumerwaard, *Wûnseradiel*, Friesland, photographed (S Bernardus).

This species is no longer considered from 1 January 1993 onwards.

**Short-toed Eagle** *Circaetus gallicus* 3,5,2
4 August (probably earlier) to 15 August, two, one until 29 August, Hoge Veluwe, *Ede*, Gelderland, photographed, videoed (H J P Derks, A Vink et al; Birding World 9: 301, 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 209, plate 200, 213, plate 205, 1996).

This is the first record of long-staying individuals. All earlier records referred to dying or dead birds or birds flying past. These two birds were first misidentified as Common Buzzards *Buteo buteo* or Ospreys *Pandion haliaetus* by several birders, because two Short-toeds together were considered too unlikely! Although exchange of prey between the two birds has been recorded, there was no reason to believe that they were breeding.

**Little Crake** *Porzana parva* -,6,1
15-27 June, Harderbroek, *Zeewolde*, Flevoland, singing male, sound-recorded (H Zevenhuizen, N van Duivendijk).

**110** Collared Pratincole / Vorkstaartplevier *Glareola pratincola*, Lepelaarsplassen, Flevoland, 1 June 1996 *(Marc Guyt)* **111** White-rumped Sandpiper / Bonapartes Strandloper *Calidris fuscicollis*, adult, Wagejot, Texel, Noord-Holland, 13 August 1996 *(Ruud E Brouwer)* **112** Pectoral Sandpiper / Gestreepte Strandloper *Calidris melanotos*, juvenile, Julianadorp, Noord-Holland, 28 September 1996 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)* **113** Great Bustard / Grote Trap *Otis tarda*, Rolde, Drenthe, January 1996 *(Patrick Palmen)*

**Baillon's Crake** *Porzana pusilla* -,17,1
21-23 June, Singraven, *Denekamp*, Gelderland, singing, sound-recorded (O de Bruijn, P Knolle, C Derks).
1995 11 May to 13 June, Kleimeer, *Langedijk*, Noord-Holland, singing, sound-recorded (M Platteeuw, R E Brouwer, F Vogelzang); 3 to at least 7 July, Oude Waal, *Nijmegen*, Gelderland, male, sound-recorded (O van Hoorn, E A W Ernens).
1994 20-25 May, De Hamert, *Bergen*, Limburg, male, sound-recorded (H Alards).

The first date of the 1995 record at Nijmegen was previously published as 4 July (cf Dutch Birding 19: 102, 1997).

**Little Bustard** *Tetrax tetrax* -,7,1
19-27 March, *Westerschouwen*, Zeeland, male, photographed, videoed (mr van Lienden van Zandenburg et al; Dutch Birding 18: 101, plate 94).
1995 29 December to 2 January, Den Hoorn, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, male.

The 1995 record already was included in the 1995 report. Most records were in late winter, and the majority of those sexed were males.

**Great Bustard** *Otis tarda* -,65,1
13 January to 9 March, *Rolde*, Drenthe, male, photographed, videoed (R Dillerop, A Derks; Dutch Birding 18: 46, plate 38, 98, plate 91, 1996).

After a number of blank years from 1988 to 1993, this is the second recent year in which this species turned up.

**Stone-curlew** *Burhinus oedicnemus* -,16,2
30 March to 1 April, Westenschouwen, *Westerschouwen*, Zeeland, photographed, videoed (M Berlijn et al; Dutch Birding 18: 101, plate 97, 1996); 11 July to 20

August, Mokbaai, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, photographed (A B van den Berg).

The bird at Westenschouwen was wearing a red ring; it was colour-ringed in England.

**Collared Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola* 5,5,1
29 May to 2 June, 14-16 June and 7-11 July, Lepelaarsplassen, *Almere*, Flevoland, photographed, videoed (H S Lichtenbeld, K A Mauer; Dutch Birding 18: 140, plate 148, 1996).

This individual could be recognized by one broken tail streamer and was possibly also seen in England.

**Black-winged Pratincole** *Glareola nordmanni* 12,10,1
10 August, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen (E Klunder, R Romijn) and 11 August, Bandpolder, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult summer, photographed, videoed (J de Jong, H A Diephuis et al).

This is the first record since 1988. Most individuals were recorded in August (11) and September (4); others were in May (3), June (3) and November (2).

**Collared / Black-winged Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola / nordmanni* 3,3,1
1990 15 September, Itteren, *Maastricht*, Limburg (J Wouters, P Wouters, K Lemmens).

CDNA could not agree with the bird's identification as Collared Pratincole *G pratincola* based on calls.

**Greater Sand Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii* 1,4,1
31 July to 2 August, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, female, photographed (A Wassink, E Bos, R E Brouwer; Birding World 9: 300, 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 203, plate 206, 1996).

This bird belonged to one of the large-billed subspecies *leschenaultii* or *crassirostris*.

**American Golden Plover** *Pluvialis dominicus* 1,6,1
3-5 October, Aagtekerke, *Mariekerke*, Zeeland, adult (T Koppejan, K Kuijpers).

There are now two records from May, four from October and two from November.

**Pacific Golden Plover** *Pluvialis fulva* 9,6,2
26 July to 4 August, De Putten, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland, adult, probably male, summer plumage, photographed, videoed (J J F J Jansen, J Mulder; Dutch Birding 18: 208, plate 198, 219, plate 218, 1996); 3-11 August, Bandpolder, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult summer moulting into winter plumage, photographed (M Berlijn, L J R Boon).
1994 21-27 July, Bakkersdam, Petten, *Zijpe*, Noord-Holland, adult summer, photographed (L J A Edelaar, R Vlek; Ebels 1994a).

The 1994 record has been extended with one day (cf Dutch Birding 18: 111, 1996). Possibly, it was the same individual as at nearby De Putten in 1996. With the first field record of 'lesser golden plover' *P dominicus / fulva* as recent as 1989, it is quite remarkable that within seven years the total (including those not specifically identified) now stands at 17.

**Sociable Lapwing** *Vanellus gregarius* 12,17,2
3-14 April, *Lopik*, Utrecht, adult summer, photographed, videoed (A Boele, M Berlijn; Dutch Birding 18: 95, plate 88, 98, plate 90 & 92, 1996); 18-20 May, *Leusden*, Utrecht (K de Vries, E B Ebels, A B van den Berg) and 12 June-26 July, Bennekommer Meent, *Veenendaal*, Utrecht, adult, photographed (B van Dort, W M Wiegant).

A bird at Swalmen, Asselt, Noord-Brabant, on 17-18 April, has only recently been submitted.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** *Calidris pusilla* 0,1,1
18-19 July, Lepelaarsplassen, *Almere*, Flevoland, adult, photographed (M Berlijn; Berlijn 1997; Dutch Birding 18: 215, plate 211, 19: 185-187, plate 195, 1997).

The second record and the first to be documented photographically. The much debated first record in Flevoland on 12-13 June 1989 (van der Veen 1991, cf van der Laan 1992, Scharringa & Wassink 1992) has been reconsidered and remains accepted.

**Red-necked Stint** *Calidris ruficollis* 0,1,1
25 July, Mokbaai, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult (A Wassink, E Sandberg).

This second record, after the first on 29 May 1987 at Lauwersmeer, Groningen, was close to being rejected (for instance, since Sanderling *Calidris alba* might be involved) until convincing field sketches emerged.

**White-rumped Sandpiper** *Calidris fuscicollis* 1,1,3
13 August, Wagejot, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult, moulting from summer to winter plumage, photographed (A Wassink et al; Dutch Birding 18: 215, plate 212-213, 1996); 18 August, Ballum, *Ameland*, Friesland, adult (R F J van Beusekom); 7 September, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult, moulting from summer to winter plumage (A Wassink).

According to the observer who discovered both birds, the two Texel records refer to different individuals. The (only) previous records were at IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, in October 1977 and at Holwerd, Friesland, in August 1994.

**Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos* 9,64,2
1 September, Stichtse Putten, *Zeewolde*, Flevoland, juvenile (R F J van Beusekom); 28 September to 2 October, Julianadorp, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland, juvenile, photographed, videoed (J M Walhout, T O V Muusse).
1995 31 July to 3 August, Eemshaven, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, adult (E J Boekema, A de Bruin).
1990 19-20 May, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, adult, photographed (E J Boekema, A de Bruin).

**Broad-billed Sandpiper** *Limicola falcinellus* 23,50,7
16-17 May, *Broekhuizen*, Limburg, six, photographed (A Ovaa, J J F J Jansen); 16-22 May, Starrevaart, *Leidschendam*, Zuid-Holland, photographed (M Verdoes, B D van der Burg, M van Duin et al).
1964 22 August, Groote Peel, *Asten*, Noord-Brabant, filmed (P H Kemp).

**114** Pacific Golden Plover / Aziatische Goudplevier *Pluvialis fulva*, De Putten, Schoorl, Noord-Holland, 26 July 1996
*(Arnoud B van den Berg)*

**115** Great Snipe / Poelsnip *Gallinago media*, juvenile, West aan Zee, Terschelling, Friesland, 27 August 1996
*(Hans Gebuis)*

There have been several records of more than two individuals are rather scarce. Groups of three were recorded at Lauwersmeer, Groningen, in 1987 and 1988; in Flevoland, groups of three (1973), five (1971) and eight (1984) were recorded. The 1964 record was rejected during the revision of the Dutch list (van IJzendoorn et al 1996). However, after examination of the original film which emerged recently, it has again been accepted.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper** *Tryngites subruficollis* 3,6,1
18 May, Oud-Sabbinge, Veerse Meer, *Goes*, Zeeland, adult, photographed, videoed (P L Meininger, P A Wolf).

This is only the third spring record. The others were in May 1986 and in June 1993.

**Great Snipe** *Gallinago media* -,11,4
23-28 August, West aan Zee, *Terschelling*, Friesland, juvenile, photographed (N J Dingemanse et al; Dutch Birding 18: 219, plate 219, 1996, Birding World 9: 359, 1996); 23-24 September, Kelderhuispolder, *Texel*, juvenile (A Vink, J M Walhout et al); 6-13 October, Noordoosthoek, *Vlieland*, Friesland (P M A van der Wielen et al); 24-25 October, *Broekhuizen*, Limburg, juvenile (J J F J Jansen).

Four records in one year constitute the highest total since this species was considered from 1977 onwards. Previous years with multiple records were 1980 (2), 1984 (2) and 1994 (2).

**Long-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus scolopaceus* 0,11,2
12 June, Krammerse Slikken, Oude Tonge, *Oostflakkee*, Zuid-Holland, adult summer, photographed (P L Meininger, P A Wolf); 11-13 August, Workumerwaard, *Nijefurd*, Friesland, adult summer, photographed (J Bisschop et al; Dutch Birding 18: 217, plate 214, 1996).
1995 6-10 May, Molenplaat, *Bergen op Zoom*, Noord-Brabant, adult summer (J W Vergeer, J M Walhout).

With a first record in 1983, this species has now been recorded annually since 1986, with the exception of 1993. All records are from May to August, apart from one in November 1989 and one in January 1990.

**Slender-billed Curlew** *Numenius tenuirostris* 8,0,0
1896 September, Canisvliet, *Sas van Gent*, Zeeland, adult, shot, skin retained at Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen, Brussel, Belgium (De Smet 1997; Dutch Birding 19: 231, plate 235, 1997).

Investigations by a member of the Belgian rarities committee revealed that this individual has been shot on Dutch ground. It becomes the third of a total of eight records of this highly endangered species, the last dating from 1947. The chance that this former rare winter visitor, with records in September, November, December (2), January (3) and February, will be recorded ever again may be considered practically nil, although one reported in England in May 1998 (Cleeves 1998) raises hope.

**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis*
1990 3-8 May, Stevensweert, *Maasbracht*, Limburg (W Helmer, S Woldhek).

This species is no longer considered from 1 January 1993 onwards.

**Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus* 1,11,1
3 May, Buggenum, *Haelen*, Limburg, adult summer, photographed (D Meeuwissen, I Meeuwissen, M Berlijn).
1993 16 August, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, adult summer (T O V Muusse).

Interestingly, the individual at Buggenum was at the same location as one in May 1988. There are now 13 records, eight of which were in May, with the remainder in June-September.

**Ring-billed Gull** *Larus delawarensis* 0,4,1
10 April, *Woerden*, Zuid-Holland, second-summer, photographed (D Kok; Dutch Birding 18: 149, plate 159, 1996).

With so many records on the Atlantic coast from Morocco to Norway, one may wonder how many are overlooked.

*** Baltic Gull** *Larus fuscus* 0,1,0
1992 18 October, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, adult, photographed (R O Winters).

The CDNA agrees with the conclusions reached in the recent review of Dutch records of this taxon (Hoogendoorn & van Scheepen 1998). Therefore, all previous records, which all referred to ringing recoveries, have been rejected. This implies that the above record constitutes the first of this species. Although the species is likely to be not as rare as its current status may suggest, it is beyond doubt hard to identify. The combination of a mantle as black as that of Great Black-backed Gull *L marinus*, preferably seen in direct comparison with both Great and Lesser Black-backed Gulls *L graellsii*, the virtual absence of dark head markings in winter plumage, a moult timing different from Lesser Black-backed, and a smaller and thinner bill all are useful identification pointers.

**Pontic Gull** *Larus cachinnans cachinnans* 0,8,0
1989 4 March, *Deventer*, Overijssel, two, adult (G Groot Koerkamp); 25 March, *Deventer*, Overijssel, subadult (G Groot Koerkamp); 19 September, *Zutphen*, Gelderland (G Groot Koerkamp); 2 October, *Zutphen*, Gelderland (G Groot Koerkamp); 29 October, *Deventer*, Overijssel (G Groot Koerkamp).
1988 19 September to 16 November, *Zutphen* and *Voorst*, Gelderland, photographed (G Groot Koerkamp, E B Ebels et al; Groot Koerkamp & Ebels 1997; Dutch Birding 19: 282, plate 291-293, 1997).

This series of old records by a single observer indicates that this species must be much commoner than the low numbers of accepted records suggests. A number of recently submitted reports from Twente, Overijssel, are still under consideration. The 1988 and 1989 records precede the only previously accepted

record at Geldermalsen, Gelderland, on 11 December 1991 (Ebels et al 1996).

**Iceland Gull** *Larus glaucoides* -,60,2
12-14 January, Arcen, *Arcen en Velden*, Limburg (J J F J Jansen, T Cuypers); 18 February, De Putten, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland, first-winter (R E Brouwer).
1995 22 January, Stevensweert, *Maasbracht*, Limburg, second-year (J J F J Jansen, T Cuypers).
1992 15 January to 4 April, Scheveningen, *Den Haag*, Zuid-Holland, first- or second-winter, photographed (J Regeer, G van der Bent, M Berlijn; Dutch Birding 14: 66, plate 64-65); 5-7 March and 16 May, Katwijk aan Zee, *Katwijk*, second-winter, photographed (K J Eigenhuis, R van Rossum).
1984 8-20 April, IJmuiden, *Velsen*, Zuid-Holland, first-winter (A B van den Berg, H Schouten; Vogeljaarkalender 1986: 4).

The two records from 1992 were published earlier, but now the dates have been extended. The 1984 record reflects a gradual change in policy of the CDNA; it is now quite common for the CDNA to accept photographically documented records which have never been officially submitted. Formerly, it was the policy of CDNA that records should be submitted, if they were to be accepted. The relief of this policy puts documentation of records in a more important place than their formal submission. However, in cases of species difficult to identify or of very rare species, CDNA may require more documentation for its consideration than a single published photograph.

**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybridus*
1995 3-4 May, Braakman, *Terneuzen*, Zeeland, two, adult summer, photographed (A Kind, A Wieland).
1985 30 June, IJzendoorn, *Echteld*, Gelderland, adult summer (H J P Derks, J Scharringa).
1983 28 April to 6 May, vloeivelden Suikerunie, *Groningen*, Groningen, adult summer (E J Boekema).

This species is no longer considered from 1 January 1996 onwards.

**Black Guillemot** *Cepphus grylle* -,33,2
29 August, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, first-summer moulting to second-winter (N van Duivendijk); 24 September, Westerslag, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult winter (K H Scholten, R Hofkamp, S Luinenburg).
1994 31 August, Oost-Vlieland, *Vlieland*, Friesland, adult summer (W van der Waal).
1993 26 September, Egmond aan Zee, *Egmond*, Noord-Holland, adult winter (R A van Splunder); 26 October, Egmond aan Zee, *Egmond*, Noord-Holland, probably adult winter (R A van Splunder).
1951 25 December, De Hors, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult winter, found dead, skin retained by museum EcoMare, Texel, Noord-Holland (G J de Haan, A Oosterbaan).

The September 1993 record is considered to refer to the same bird already recorded on the same date further north off Noord-Holland, at Camperduin (cf Wiegant et al 1995).

**Great Spotted Cuckoo** *Clamator glandarius* 7,9,0
1954 12 August, Hijum, *Ferweradeel*, Friesland, first-summer female, found dead, photographed, skin retained by Fries Natuurhistorisch Museum, Leeuwarden, Friesland (van der Ploeg et al 1977).

A photograph of the mounted specimen was published in a book on the birds of Friesland but was never officially submitted.

**Eagle Owl** *Bubo bubo* 1,4,2
3 March to 26 April, Cadier en Keer, *Margraten*, Limburg, male, photographed, videoed, sound-recorded (J J F J Jansen, P Palmen, F Bos; Palmen & Jansen 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 146, plate 154, 1996); 11 October, Roggel, *Roggel en Neer*, Limburg, photographed (mrs Schra; Dutch Birding 19: 35, plate 36, 1997).

**Snowy Owl** *Nyctea scandiaca* 7,5,0
1992 8-9 April, *Ameland*, Friesland, first-year female, photographed (Versluys et al 1997).

This record is considered to refer to the same bird that was recorded on Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, on 28 June 1992.

**Tengmalm's Owl** *Aegolius funereus* -,5,0
1993 c 14 October, *Zwolle*, Overijssel, found dead after crash against school window, skin retained by Natuurmuseum West-Overijssel, Zwolle, Overijssel (D Tuitert, T C M Kemperman).

Too sad this highly sought-after species was found dead. There have been no records of live birds since 1987.

*** White-throated Needletail Swift** *Hirundapus caudacutus* 0,0,1
22 May, *Middelburg* and *Veere*, Zeeland (E Sanders, S Lilipaly, P A Wolf; Sanders et al 1996, 1998).

The first record of this extreme rarity. No photographs were taken, but the bird was discovered independently by two (groups of) observers. It was relocated about 10 km north of the place of discovery, not to be found again by some 50 would-be observers.

**Alpine Swift** *Apus melba* 7,18,1
23 May, Molenplaat, *Bergen op Zoom*, Noord-Brabant (J J Blankert).
1995 27 May, Velsen-Noord, *Velsen*, Noord-Holland (D J Moerbeek).

The bird at Molenplaat was discovered as a consolation prize by a birder desperately seeking for the White-throated Needletail Swift *Hirundapus caudacutus* seen the day before at Middelburg and Veere, Zeeland.

**Middle Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos medius* -,7,4
28 January to 9 February, Vijlenerbos, *Wittem*, Limburg, photographed, videoed (J J F J Jansen, P Palmen; Jansen & Palmen 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 101, plate 95, 1996); 14 December to 8 February 1997, *Heeze*, Noord-Brabant, adult, photographed (R G Bouwman et al; Birding World 10: 9, 1997; Dutch Birding 19: 42,

plate 41-42, 1997); 22 December, Vijlenerbos, *Wittem*, Limburg, photographed (K Lemmens; Dutch Birding 19: 43, plate 43, 1997); 25-26 December, Ter Apel, *Vlagtwedde*, Groningen, photographed (E-J Alblas, H A Diephuis; Dutch Birding 19: 43, plate 44, 1997).

After long years with very few records, a sudden increase in numbers became apparent, indicating a possible return to its former status as an (almost) regular, but rare, breeding bird.

**Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella brachydactyla* 3,16,0
1995 28-29 October, Dintelhaven, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, photographed (G De Smet).

This individual was killed by a Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor* while being watched by birders. Although seen by many, it lasted for almost two years before it was submitted.

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Hirundo daurica* 2,26,3
18 April, *Wageningen*, Gelderland (M Soes); 24-25 April, *Terschelling*, Friesland, photographed (T Bakker, A Ouwerkerk, T Hek; Dutch Birding 18: 146, plate 155, 1996); 1 May, Breskens, *Oostburg*, Zeeland (J W Wierda).
1995 2 May, Den Treek, *Amersfoort/Leusden*, Utrecht (E Lindhout).

There are now five individuals from April, 17 from May, two from September and seven from October.

**Blyth's Pipit** *Anthus godlewskii* 0,1,1
25-28 October, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, photographed, videoed, sound-recorded (M Plomp, P C Meijer, M Berlijn et al; Plomp & Meijer 1996, Berlijn et al 1997; Dutch Birding 18: 283, plate 275, 284, plate 278, 335, plate 324, 1996, 19: 178, plate 186-189, 1997).

Only the second record, and the first field observation. The first record concerned a bird trapped on 13 November 1983 at Westenschouwen, Zeeland. The identification process was quite typical in the sense that, initially, observers could not decide whether this late and large pipit was a Richard's Pipit *A richardi* or a Tawny Pipit *A campestris*, until the correct identification was clinched.

**Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola* 0,5,2
7 June, Berkheide, *Katwijk/Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, male, photographed (K D Dijkstra, R van Rossum; Dutch Birding 18: 140, plate 151, 1996); 25 August to 1 September, Stichtse Putten, *Zeewolde*, Flevoland, adult (R F J van Beusekom).

The slow but apparently steady westerly progress of the breeding range of this species is perhaps reflected by the fact that, for the first time, two were recorded in one year.

**Thrush Nightingale** *Luscinia luscinia* 7,27,3
28-29 May, Berkenplas, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, singing, sound-recorded (R Keizer); possibly 25 May and 6-12 June, Westerplas, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, singing, sound-recorded (R Keizer); 29 May-2 June, Twiske, *Oostzaan*, Noord-Holland, singing, sound-recorded (E Groenewoud).
1993 22 May to 6 June, Ruigoord, *Amsterdam*, Noord-Holland, singing, sound-recorded (H Groot, F G S M Hieselaar).

The 1993 record originally was published for 22-24 May (cf Wiegant et al 1995).

**Red-spotted Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica svecica* -,29,2
19 May, Oost-Vlieland, *Vlieland*, Friesland, male (E Groenewoud); 22 May, Uithuizermeeden, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, male, photographed (P H Wijk).
1985 13 May, Eemshaven, *Eemsmond*, male (E Klunder, K Koffijberg).
1980 27 May, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, male (J Scharringa).

All post-1980 records fall within the period 10-29 May, except for one on 1 May and one on 10 June.

**Siberian Stonechat** *Saxicola maura* 9,14,5
3 October, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, first-winter female, photographed (N van Duivendijk); 12-16 October, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland, first-winter male, photographed (R E Brouwer; Dutch Birding 18: 335, plate 321); 14-16 October, Petten, *Zijpe*, Noord-Holland, first-winter female, photographed (R E Brouwer); 17 October, De Koog, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, first-year male (T M van der Have, R E van der Vliet); 18-20 October, Cadzand-Bad, *Oostburg*, Zeeland, photographed (E Nieuwstraten).
1995 4 October, Camping Stortemelk, *Vlieland*, Friesland, first-winter, probably male, photographed (W A van Splunder, R A van Splunder)

This is the second-best year for this species. In 1977, six were recorded, among which twice two together.

*** Isabelline Wheatear** *Oenanthe isabellina* 0,0,1
21 October to 8 November, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, first-winter, photographed, videoed (J W Maas, W J M Dijksman; Maas & Dijksman 1996, Dijksman & Maas 1997; Birding World 9: 399, 1996, 10: 29, 1997; Dutch Birding 18: 284, plate 276, 333, plate 316, 1996, 19: 161, plate 167, 183, plate 190-193, 184, plate 193-194, 1997).

This bird needed a real 'second look' before the observers realized that it indeed was an Isabelline and not a pale Northern Wheatear *O oenanthe*. It stayed in the same area and in the same period as a Blyth's Pipit *Anthus godlewskii*. The bird was very popular and became less and less shy during its stay; apparently, it had learnt that humans carrying telescopes will retreat upon approach!

**Pied Wheatear** *Oenanthe pleschanka* 0,4,1
17 November, Stroe, *Wieringen*, Noord-Holland, first-winter male, photographed (P van Franeker, R E Brouwer; Birding World 9: 464, 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 335, plate 319, 1996).

This is the latest record; other records were in May and October (3).

**116** Red-spotted Bluethroat / Roodsterblauwborst *Luscinia svecica svecica*, Uithuizermeeden, Groningen, 22 May 1996 *(Piet H Wijk)*

**117** Citrine Wagtail / Citroenkwikstaart *Motacilla citreola*, male, Berkheide, Zuid-Holland, 7 June 1996 *(René van Rossum)*

**Western Black-eared Wheatear** *Oenanthe hispanica* 3,1,1
2-4 June, Aagtekerke, *Mariekerke*, Zeeland, first-summer male, photographed, videoed (M Klootwijk, S Lilipaly et al; Klootwijk & Kuypers 1996; Birding World 9: 215, 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 140, plate 149, 154, plate 168, 1996).

There are now five records, dating from 1937, 1970, 1975, 1982 and 1996. The c 100 birders searching in vain on 2 June for the nearby Steller's Eider *Polysticta stelleri* had little distance to travel to twitch this bird. A policeman showing up brought some panic to many who had parked their car incorrectly along the road but the man wanted to see the bird and had had no time to change his uniform.

**Desert Wheatear** *Oenanthe deserti* 1,3,2
30 October to 12 November, Grafelijkheidsduinen, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland, adult male, photographed, videoed (H Wijnja, M Wijnja, M Renden; Birding World 9: 464, 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 268, plate 254, 334, plate 317-318, 1996); 14-24 December, Westernieland, *De Marne*, Groningen, first-winter male, photographed (A Zahavi, T Groothuis et al; Dutch Birding 19: 45, plate 49, 1997).

Except for one spring record in April 1989, all records concern occurrences from October to December.

**Black-throated Thrush** *Turdus ruficollis atrogularis* 0,2,1
4 January to 20 March, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland, first-winter female, photographed, videoed (N H Harder, R A C Halff; Brouwer et al 1996, 1997, Barthel 1998; Birding World 9: 12, 1996, 10: 30, 1997; Br Birds 89: 265, plate 113-114, 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 43, plate 28, 103, plate 100, 1996, 19: 270, plate 278-280, 271, plate 281, 1997; Limicola 12: 44, 1998).

This bird was found in a tiny garden during a cold spell. It was only the third record after rejection of the one in 1977 (van IJzendoorn et al 1996). The first was at Groningen, Groningen, from 31 March to 3 April 1981, and the second on Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, on 9 October 1982.

**Cetti's Warbler** *Cettia cetti* -,42,1
22 August to 6 October, Haagse Waterleidingduinen, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, sound-recorded (A Remeeus).
1995 16 October, Ouddorp, *Goedereede*, Zuid-Holland (P A Wolf).

A bird seen and heard on Vlieland, Friesland, on 28 September and trapped on 4, 11 and 17 October has not yet been submitted. This species has become very rare from 32 individuals (26 records) during 1980-83 down to an average of less than one record per year since 1984.

**Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis* -,34,1
19-26 July, Fochterlooërveen, *Norg*, Drenthe, male, photographed (R Hovinga, S Witvoet, H Feenstra).
1995 23-24 September, Kroonspolders, *Vlieland*, Friesland, maximum of six (R Schols).

Records away from the almost regular sites in Zeeuws-Vlaanderen, Zeeland, are very rare.

**River Warbler** *Locustella fluviatilis* 7,19,3
21-31 May and 24 July, Sint Jansklooster, *Brederwiede*, Overijssel, singing, sound-recorded (R Messemaker); 2-12 June, Nuenen, *Nuenen, Gerwen en Nederwetten*, Noord-Brabant, singing, sound-recorded, videoed (R Buij); 4-8 June, *Kerkrade*, Limburg, singing, photographed (N W Schaafstra).

From 31 May to 20 June 1995, a singing bird was reported at exactly the same locality at Sint Jansklooster, but not yet accepted.

**Melodious Warbler** *Hippolais polyglotta* 2,16,2
25 May to 28 June, Wijlre, *Gulpen*, Limburg, two, breeding, photographed, videoed, sound-recorded (R Gold-

**118** Siberian Stonechat / Aziatische Roodborsttapuit *Saxicola maura*, first-winter male, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 12 October 1996 *(Ruud E Brouwer)*

**119** Desert Wheatear / Woestijntapuit *Oenanthe deserti*, first-winter male, Westernieland, Groningen, 23 December 1996 *(Leo J R Boon/Cursorius)*

**120** Western Black-eared Wheater / Westelijke Blonde Tapuit *Oenanthe hispanica*, first-summer male, Aagtekerke, Zeeland, 4 June 1996 *(René Pop)*

**121** Desert Wheatear / Woestijntapuit *Oenanthe deserti*, adult male, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 8 November 1996 *(Diederik Kok)*

bach, M Berlijn; Dutch Birding 18: 149, plate 160, 1996; Limburgse Vogels 8: 71, 1997).
1993 14-27 June, Ankeveen, *'s-Graveland*, Noord-Holland, male, singing, sound-recorded (W J R de Wijs).

The 1993 record was already published for 14-26 June. The Gulpen birds concerned the second breeding record for the Netherlands; the first was in 1990 in Flevoland.

**Paddyfield Warbler** *Acrocephalus agricola* 1,6,1
27 August, Makkumer Zuidwaard, *Wûnseradiel*, Friesland, trapped, photographed (Vrs Menork, W Bil, K A van Eerde, J Taal; Dutch Birding 18: 274, plate 261, 1996).

Four out of a total of eight records refer to birds trapped along the IJsselmeer coast of Friesland. The only field record, on Vlieland, Friesland, in September 1994 (van der Veen & Ebels 1996), is currently under review.

**Blyth's Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus dumetorum* 0,1,1
20 June to 1 July, Walem, *Valkenburg aan de Geul*, Limburg, singing male, photographed, videoed, sound-recorded (J-E Kikkert, M Berlijn et al; Kikkert 1996, 1997; Birding World 9: 260, 1996, 10: 32, 1997; Br Birds 90: 91, plate 4, 1997; Dutch Birding 18: 154, plate 167, 213, plate 207, 1996, 19: 274, plate 282-285, 1997).

This was (only) the second record and the first field record, giving many birders an excellent opportunity to become acquainted with this difficult species.

**Booted Warbler** *Acrocephalus caligatus* 0,6,2
31 August to 1 September, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, photographed, videoed (H Zevenhuizen et al; Dutch Birding 18: 273, plate 257, 1996); 9-11 September, Katwijk aan Zee, *Katwijk*, Zuid-Holland, photographed, videoed (B D van der Burg, C Zuyderduyn et al; Dutch Birding 18: 274, plate 262-263, 1996).

The 1996 records were unusually early; all previous records were between 19 September and 11 October.

**Subalpine Warbler** *Sylvia cantillans* 5,24,2
21 May, Rottumerplaat, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, male, photographed (G Kasemier, D Lutterop); 22 May, Rottumeroog, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, female, photographed (K van Dijken, E Koopman; Dutch Birding 18: 146, plate 156, 1996).
1983 25 April, Vrakelberg, *Voerendaal*, Limburg, male, photographed (F Schepers).

The 1983 record adds a remarkable inland location to that year's influx of a total of six individuals, a number still unsurpassed.

**Sardinian Warbler** *Sylvia melanocephala* 0,7,0
1995 12 November to 29 December, Egmond-Binnen, *Egmond*, Noord-Holland, male, photographed, sound-recorded (W van der Waal et al).

There were two earlier late autumn and winter records, also of long-staying birds (Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, 14 December 1980 to 22 February 1981 and Lauwersoog, Groningen, 30 October to 22 November 1993); the remaining records were in April and May. A bird trapped at Mokkebank, Nijefurd, Friesland, on 24 April 1996 has not yet been submitted (cf Dutch Birding 18: 148, 1996).

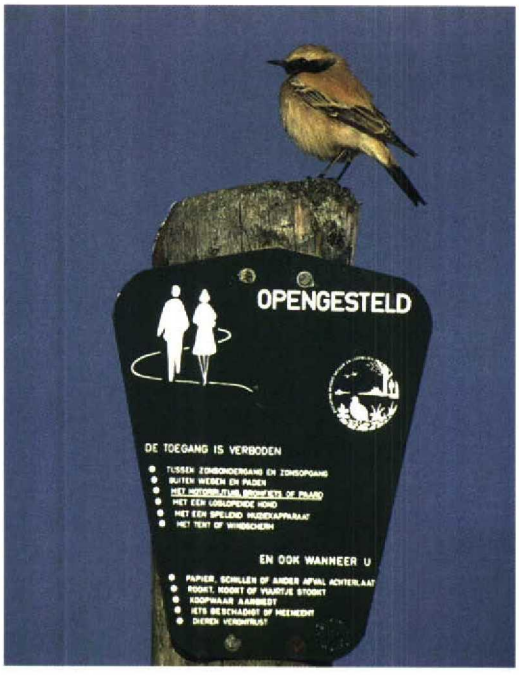
**Greenish Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochiloides* 6,9,6
23 May, Rottumeroog, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, photographed (K van Dijken); 25 June, Rottumeroog, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, photographed, sound-recorded (K van Dijken, E Koopman; Dutch Birding 18: 215, plate 209, 1996); 15-16 August, Rottumeroog, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, photographed (K van Dijken, E Koopman); 30 August to 1 September, Neeltje Jans, *Veere*, Zeeland, first-year, photographed (M Hoekstein; Dutch Birding 18: 273, plate 256, 1996); 1 September, Neeltje Jans, *Veere*, Zeeland (R E van der Vliet, A van Kleunen); 9 September, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, photographed (A Schaftenaar, H Gebuis).

A record year. The tiny islet of Rottumeroog and its warden Koen van Dijken have now been involved in five out of a total of 21 records. This high incidence of a single location and a single observer in records of a species is only matched by Nick van der Ham's countless, and uncountable, records of Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus* at Camperduin, Noord-Holland.

**Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis* 2,6,1
2 October, Oosterend, *Terschelling*, Friesland, first-year, photographed (A Ouwerkerk, R E van der Vliet; Ebels 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 277, plate 270, 1996).

This is only the first field record. It appeared to have just arrived, since it was seen coming in from the North Sea during a seabird watch. Except for the first, which was found dead on 2 November 1935, all previous records were of birds trapped between 9 September and 11 October.

**Pallas's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus proregulus* 9,59,19
10 October, Breezanddijk, *Wûnseradiel*, Friesland, photographed (R E Brouwer, R A C Halff); 14 October, Bloemendaal, *Zandvoort*, Noord-Holland, photographed (Vrs Cornelis van Lennep; Ebels 1996b; Dutch Birding 18: 278, plate 272, 1996); 15 October, Breezanddijk, *Wûnseradiel*, Friesland (J Bisschop); 15 October, Oost-Vlieland, *Vlieland*, Friesland (J Bisschop, S Bernardus); 15 October, Noordoosthoek, *Vlieland*, Friesland (J Bisschop, S Bernardus); 15 October, West-Terschelling, *Terschelling*, Friesland (A Ouwerkerk, T Bakker, H Neuteboom); 22 October, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (A Wassink); 23 October, Breezanddijk, *Wûnseradiel*, Friesland, photographed (W A van Splunder, R A van Splunder); 25 October, Oost-Vlieland, *Vlieland*, Friesland (N L M Gilissen); 26 October, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (E Nieuwstraten); 26 October to 10 November, Petten, *Zijpe*, Noord-Holland (R E Brouwer, P Spannenburg); 1 November, Selwerderhof, *Groningen*, Groningen (A de Bruin); 8 November, Haastrecht, *Vlist*, Zuid-Holland, photographed (C Oskam, M Schildwacht); 13 November, Coendersborg, *Groningen*, Groningen (S de Bruin); 16 November, Den Burg, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (F J Maas, H Brugge, M Brugge); 16 November, Maas-



**122** Desert Wheatear / Woestijntapuit *Oenanthe deserti*, first-winter male, Westernieland, Groningen, December 1996 *(Rudy Offereins)* **123** Isabelline Wheatear / Izabeltapuit *Oenanthe isabellina*, Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, 23 October 1996 *(René Pop)* **124** Booted Warbler / Kleine Spotvogel *Acrocephalus caligatus*, Katwijk aan Zee, Zuid-Holland, 10 September 1996 *(Hans Gebuis)*

**125** Melodious Warbler / Orpheusspotvogel *Hippolais polyglotta*, Wijlre, Limburg, 30 May 1996 *(Roy de Haas)* **126** Blyth's Reed Warbler / Struikrietzanger *Acrocephalus dumetorum*, Walem, Limburg, 24 June 1996 *(Hans Gebuis)* **127** Arctic Redpoll / Witstuitbarmsijs *Carduelis hornemanni*, Groningen, Groningen, 6 February 1996 *(Rudy Offereins)*

vlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, photographed (A Schaftenaar, N L M Gilissen); 15-19 November, *Westkapelle*, Zeeland, two on 18 November (M Zekhuis); 7 December, Breezanddijk, *Wünseradiel*, Friesland (S Bernardus, M Berlijn).
1995 28-29 October, Hargen aan Zee, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland, singing (R E Brouwer); 30 October, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (M C Witte, A Wassink).
1988 19 October, *Tegelen*, Limburg, trapped (P H J Maeghs).

The record of the singing individual on 28-29 October 1995 was erroneously dated 23 October in the previous report (Wiegant et al 1997). This year's total eclipses the previous best year 1989, which had 13 records. Remarkably, one lucky observer discovered three individuals at three different locations on the same day! From 1 January 1997 onwards, records of this species are no longer considered.

**Hume's Warbler** *Phylloscopus humei* 2,11,0
1995 17 December to 3 January 1996, *Den Haag*, Zuid-Holland, photographed, sound-recorded (T J C Luijendijk et al; Dutch Birding 18: 45, plate 33, 1996).
1981 18 October, Midsland aan Zee, *Terschelling*, Friesland, photographed (R Schols, R Foppen).

Identification of the 1995 bird was partly based on a sonagram. The 1981 record becomes the third.

**Radde's Warbler** *Phylloscopus schwarzi* 2,4,3
11 October, Korverskooi, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, trapped, photographed (A Wassink; Dutch Birding 18: 277, plate 269, 1996); 11 October, Noordoosthoek, *Vlieland*, Friesland, photographed, sound-recorded (F Ossendorp, J Scharringa et al); 12 October, Amsterdamse Waterleidingduinen, *Zandvoort*, Noord-Holland, trapped, photographed (Dutch Birding 18: 277, plate 268).

Three records in one year, and more specifically, in two days, is quite exceptional. Contrary to Dusky Warbler *P fuscatus*, this species still manages to elude most twitchers who are eager to see it in the field. A sonagram was of great help in identifying the Vlieland bird which, without detailed photographs, would have been hard to get accepted. A bird trapped at Kamperhoek, Dronten, Flevoland, on 3 October has not yet been submitted.

**Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus* 1,18,0
1994 21-22 October, Hargen aan Zee, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland, photographed (S Lagerveld, W A van Splunder).

A trapped bird photographed at Zandvoort, Noord-Holland, on 8 October has not yet been submitted (cf Dutch Birding 18: 277, plate 271, 1996).

**Western Bonelli's Warbler** *Phylloscopus bonelli* 5,12,1
31 August, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (A Wassink, H Prinsen, M C Witte).
1995 6 May, Esserveld, *Groningen*, Groningen, photographed, sound-recorded (S de Bruin).
1994 10-20 August, Oosterend, *Terschelling*, Friesland (T O V Muusse).
1991 21 September to 14 October, Kornwerderzand, *Wünseradiel*, Friesland, trapped, photographed (J Bisschop).

The 1991 record was previously published for 14 October only (van den Berg et al 1993).

**Siberian Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita tristis* 0,6,0
1995 2 November, Groene Glop, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, first-year, trapped (B Nijeboer, A Meenink, K Kraaijeveld).
1985 26 October, Spaubeek, *Beek*, Limburg, singing, sound-recorded (R Schols).

**Collared Flycatcher** *Ficedula albicollis* 23,2,2
16-19 May, Lange Paal, *Vlieland*, Friesland, first-summer male, photographed, videoed (W van der Waal, G van Duin, M Berlijn et al; van der Waal 1996; Birding World 9: 175, 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 146, plate 157, 1996); 12-14 October, *Terschelling*, Friesland, first-winter male, photographed (A Ouwerkerk, R van Rossum; Dutch Birding 18: 335, plate 323, 1996).

The other two post-1980 records also were in one year, in May 1985. All but four previous records were in May; others were in April (2), July and August. All records refer to males except for a trapped female at Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, in May 1985. With the increased knowledge of identification features, one may expect more autumn records in the future.

**Eurasian Treecreeper** *Certhia familiaris*
1994 7 October, Lange Paal, *Vlieland*, Friesland, two (E B Ebels, G J ter Haar, G H Steinhaus); 4 November to 5 February 1995, Lauwersoog, *De Marne*, Groningen, photographed (K van Dijken).
1975 25-26 December, *Domburg*, Zeeland (C J G Scharringa, J Scharringa).
1972 24-26 December, Overduin, Oostkapelle, *Domburg*, Zeeland (C J G Scharringa, J Scharringa).

The 1972 and 1975 records have been published in the past for 24 December 1972 at Westkapelle, Zeeland, and for 25 December, respectively. This species is no longer considered from 1 January 1995 onwards.

**Turkestan / Daurian Shrike** *Lanius phoenicuroides / speculigerus* 0,3,1
8-11 December, Lauwersoog, *De Marne/Dongeradeel*, Groningen/Friesland, photographed (P Herkenrath, D G Duff, T Bamberger; de Bruin 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 339, plate 327, 1996, 19: 43, plate 46, 1997).

Currently, CDNA investigates all previous records of 'isabelline shrike' *L isabellinus/phoenicuroides/speculigerus*. It may turn out that both *phoenicuroides* and *speculigerus* are involved.

**Lesser Grey Shrike** *Lanius minor* 21,11,1
8-9 June, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, photographed (C Bennink; Dutch Birding 18: 140, plate 146, 1996).

Out of 33 records, 19 were in May and June, with other records in July (5), August (2), September (2), October (4) and even November (1).

**128** Myrtle Warbler / Mirtezanger *Dendroica coronata*, male, Oost-Vlieland, Vlieland, Friesland, 13 October 1996 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*

**129** Red-eyed Vireo / Roodoogvireo *Vireo olivaceus*, Lange Paal, Vlieland, Friesland, 6 October 1996 *(Hans Gebuis)*

**130** White-crowned Sparrow / Witkruingors *Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys*, adult, Spaarndam, Noord-Holland, January 1982 *(Jan Kleiberg)*

**131** Pine Bunting / Witkopgors *Emberiza leucocephalos*, female, Katwijk, Zuid-Holland, November 1996 *(Marc Guyt)*

**Woodchat Shrike** *Lanius senator senator* -,39,4
26 May, Blocq van Kuffeler, *Almere*, Flevoland, adult female (P M A van der Wielen, A P Leegwater); 27 May, Rottumerplaat, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, male, photographed (G Kazemir, D Lutterop); 30 May, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, female, photographed (A Wassink, M C Witte); 11 June, Hoorn, *Terschelling*, Friesland, male, photographed (B Koks, T Bakker, G Krottje).
1993 1 May, *Vlieland*, Friesland, male, photographed (W van der Waal).

**House Crow** *Corvus splendens* 0,3,0
The two individuals at Hoek van Holland, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, remained all year (cf Wiegant et al 1997).

**Rosy Starling** *Sturnus roseus* 21,25,2
14 September to 12 October, Kroonspolders, *Vlieland*, Friesland, adult (P M Gnodde, B de Lange, K de Vries); 3 November, *Bussum*, Noord-Holland, juvenile, found dead, skin retained at Zoölogisch Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland (T G Prins).
1995 14 September, *Vlieland*, Friesland, juvenile (L Steijn); 15 October, Petten, *Zijpe*, Noord-Holland, adult (R E Brouwer, R A C Halff).

**Red-eyed Vireo** *Vireo olivaceus* 0,4,1
3-8 October, *Vlieland*, Friesland, photographed, videoed (P de Knijff, E B Ebels et al; de Knijff & Ebels 1996, de Knijff 1998; Birding World 9: 400, 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 277, plate 266-267, 337, plate 326, 1996, 20: 12, plate 2, 1998).
The first record concerned a window crash at Wormerveer, Zaanstad, Noord-Holland, on 13 October 1985. Three other records referred to trapped birds: on Rottumerplaat, Eemsmond, Groningen, on 19 October 1985 and on Vlieland on 24 September and 2 October 1991. With three out of a total of five records, Vlieland is certainly *the* location to find this species.

**Arctic Redpoll** *Carduelis hornemanni* 42,31,12
13-14 January, Oosterend, *Terschelling*, Friesland, two (T O V Muusse); 19 January, Broekhuizenvorst, *Broekhuizen*, Limburg (J J F J Jansen); 27 January to 18 March, *Lopik*, Utrecht, photographed, videoed (M Berlijn; Dutch Birding 18: 45, plate 34, 1996); 6-7 February, *Groningen*, Groningen, two, photographed (T Bakker); 8 February, *Haren*, Groningen (T Bakker); 8 February, Appelscha, *Ooststellingwerf*, Friesland (A McGeehan); 23-24 February, *Bergen*, Noord-Holland (S Lagerveld; Dutch Birding 18: 104, plate 101, 1996); 10-22 March, *Sneek*, Friesland, photographed (J Bisschop); 2-3 April, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (A Wassink); 20 November, *Wageningen*, Gelderland (A Schaftenaar).
1995 4 November, *Blaricum*, Noord-Holland (R F J van Beusekom); 11 November, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland, trapped, photographed (Vrs Cornelis van Lennep, F Cottaar); 14-15 December, Brouwersdam, *Middenschouwen*, Zeeland (P A Wolf).

*** Myrtle Warbler** *Dendroica coronata* 0,0,1
13-15 October, *Vlieland*, Friesland, male, photographed, videoed, sound-recorded (T M van der Have, G M L Bulteel et al; van der Have & Deception Tours 1996, van der Have & Bulteel 1997; Birding World 9: 401, 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 283, plate 273-274, 333, plate 315, 1996, 19: 226, plate 229, 227, plate 231-234, 1997).
The finding of this bird, just one week after a Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* on the same island, made birders realize that American landbirds are not beyond imagination for the Netherlands. This first record was not the first for the continent since one was seen on Utsira, Rogaland, Norway, on 8 October 1996.

*** White-crowned Sparrow** *Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys* 0,1,0
1981 mid-December to mid-February 1982, Spaarndam, *Haarlemmerliede en Spaarnwoude*, Noord-Hol-

land, adult, photographed (J Kleiberg; Kleiberg 1984).

Curiously, this record has never officially been published in CDNA reports despite being published in van den Berg et al (1990). It has taken some 15 years before this omission was brought to light. It is worth while to mention that the photographs dated from January 1982, not December 1981.

**Pine Bunting** *Emberiza leucocephalos* 15,9,6
26 February to 25 March, *Oirschot*, Noord-Brabant, two, male, photographed, videoed (A Mendoza, H Vrolijk, M Berlijn; Ebels 1996a; Birding World 9: 134, 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 101, plate 96, 1996); 3-13 March, Mossel, *Ede*, Gelderland, male (B de Bruijn); 14-15 October, *Vlieland*, Friesland, male, photographed (R A van Splunder, K A Mauer); 24 November, *Oirschot*, Noord-Brabant, male, photographed (A Mendoza, R G Bouwman); 24-27 November, Katwijk aan Zee, *Katwijk*, Zuid-Holland, female, first-winter, photographed (M Verdoes, A van Egmond, A W J Meijer; Dutch Birding 18: 335, plate 322, 1996; Birding World 9: 463, 1996).

For the first time, two birds were found together. The bird in Oirschot in November might have been one of the two that were also present at the same location in February-March. The total of five records is equal to the total of 1994. Two 1994 birds have still not been submitted to the CDNA: a bird trapped at Westerschouwen, Zeeland, on 14 October and one staying on Terschelling, Friesland, on 27-30 October.

**Rustic Bunting** *Emberiza rustica* 13,39,1
23 September, *Westkapelle*, Zeeland (P A Wolf).
1995 29 October, *Vlissingen*, Zeeland (P A Wolf).
1993 15-25 May, Oosterend, *Terschelling*, Friesland, male, summer plumage, photographed (L Steijn; Dutch Birding 15: 186, plate 114, 1993).

The 1993 record was previously published for a shorter period (cf Wiegant et al 1995).

**Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla* 27,52,0
1995 13 September, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, trapped (B Nijeboer, K Kraaijeveld); 2 October, Oostvaardersdijk, *Almere*, Flevoland, first-year, trapped (C Liebregts-Haaker); 2 November, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, trapped, photographed (K Kraaijeveld, B Nijeboer); 18 December to 10 January 1996, Katwijk aan Zee, *Katwijk*, Zuid-Holland, photographed (M Verdoes); 19 December to 17 March 1996, Katwijk aan Zee, *Katwijk*, Zuid-Holland (J Dijkhuizen).
1994 16 October, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (S Lagerveld).

The two wintering birds in 1995 in Katwijk were already included in the 1995 report, with different dates. For the third year since 1967 there were no records; other blank years were 1970 and 1981.

**Black-headed Bunting** *Emberiza melanocephala* 2,1,2
26-27 May, *Ameland*, Friesland, first-summer male, photographed, videoed (E Bos, M Berlijn; Bos et al 1996; Dutch Birding 18: 153, plate 165, 1996); 31 May, Westplaat, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam/Westvoorne*, Zuid-Holland, male (P L Meininger, P A Wolf).
1993 4 June, *Krimpen aan den IJssel*, Zuid-Holland, adult male (A P Ros).

The discoverer of the Ameland bird was astonished to see the bird behind a young rabbit pointed out to him by one of his companions. The wild provenance of birds in May-June is now less disputed than in the past.

## Systematic list of records not accepted

This list contains all records not accepted by the CDNA. Records marked with @ were rejected by all committee members in the first or second voting. Most records were rejected because the identification was not fully established (often due to lack of documentation) or when the bird showed signs of captivity, such as dubious rings, excessive wear or aberrant behaviour. Species for which the CDNA unanimously decided that all records refer to birds of captive origin are indicated with *. This includes records of birds of which all ancestors are assumed to be of captive origin (introduced species of British category C).

**Greenland White-fronted Goose** *Anser albifrons flavirostris* 21 February, Broekhuizenvorst, *Broekhuizen*, Limburg (@ description not convincing and containing mistakes); 7 March, Bleskensgraaf, *Graafstroom*, Zuid-Holland, two (brief description lacks comparison with White-fronted Goose *A a albifrons*). **Balearic Shearwater** *Puffinus mauretanicus* 2 August, Rottumeroog, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, two (description incomplete; details of undertail and head are missing); 7 August, *Vlieland*, Friesland (field sketch includes incorrect details). **'greater shearwater'** *Puffinus gravis / Calonectris* 27 September *Texel*, Noord-Holland (@ bird too distant for any definitive conclusion). **Steppe Buzzard** *Buteo buteo vulpinus* 30 September, *Wageningen*, Gelderland (CDNA has the opinion that this taxon, due to many intermediate morphs, is virtually impossible to identify in the field). **Long-legged Buzzard** *Buteo rufinus* 25 December, *Kampen*, Overijssel (@ most probably Common Buzzard *B buteo*). **Lesser Spotted Eagle** *Aquila pomarina* 15 September, Rammegors, *Tholen*, Zeeland, immature (Steppe Eagle *A nipalensis* not fully excluded, some critical features not described). **Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos* 4 August, *Dalfsen*, Overijssel (@ description incomplete). **Black-winged Pratincole** *Glareola nordmanni* 10 March, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland, three (@ seen too briefly for positive identification); 11 August, Eerste Exloërmond, *Odoorn*, Drenthe, two (@ description incomplete). **'lesser golden plover'** *Pluvialis dominicus / fulva* 13 August, *Waalwijk*, Noord-Brabant (description not quite convincing; grey underwings as only identification mark not considered sufficient for identification). **Semipalmated Sandpiper** *Calidris pusilla* 12 October, Oostvoornse Meer, *Westvoorne*, Zuid-Holland, juvenile (complicated description does not fully exclude worn adult Little Stint *C minuta*). **Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos*

30 September, Grafelijkheidsduinen, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland (brief description with incorrect details). **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** *Tryngites subruticollis* 27 August, Wolphaartsdijk, *Goes*, Zeeland (@ description incomplete). **Audouin's Gull** *Larus audouinii* 9 September, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (@ flying bird, seen too briefly, without chance of 'second look'). **Bonaparte's Gull** *Larus philadelphia* 13 April, Katwijk aan Zee, *Katwijk*, Zuid-Holland (description of very light mantle colour not correct for this species; aberrant Black-headed Gull *L ridibundus* not fully excluded). **Baltic Gull** *Larus fuscus* 21 September, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (although seen by many birders, parts of the descriptions are contradictory; determination on mantle colour alone is considered insufficient and description lacks details about the moult pattern of the wings). **Roseate Tern** *Sterna dougallii* 19 June, Neeltje Jans, *Veere*, Zeeland (seen very briefly, wing pattern not described, hybrid not excluded). **Siberian Stonechat** *Saxicola maura* 9 April, Amsterdamse Waterleidingduinen, *Zandvoort*, Noord-Holland (variability in summer plumage of male European Stonechat *S rubicola* is large; white rump is in itself not diagnostic). **Western Black-eared Wheatear** *Oenanthe hispanica* 18 May, Kollumerwaard, *Kollumerland en Nieuwkruisland*, Friesland, male, videoed (video shows very little detail, no description was made). **Pied Wheatear** *Oenanthe pleschanka* 30 May to 5 June, Vrouwenpolder, *Veere*, Zeeland (@ too little detailed in description for exclusion of other rare wheatear species). **Lanceolated Warbler** *Locustella lanceolata* 1 September, IJmuiden, *Velsen*, Noord-Holland (although the description fits quite well, CDNA considers 15 sec of pure observation time too brief for critical examination of such a rare species). **Arctic Redpoll** *Carduelis hornemanni* 10 March, Breskens, *Oostburg*, Zeeland (@ identification of this species in flight pushes it a little too far). **Pine Grosbeak** *Pinus enucleator* 24 March, Melissant, *Dirksland*, Zuid-Holland, adult male, photographed (De Zoete & Meininger 1998; Dutch Birding 20, 69, plate 36, 1998; Sterna 41: 54-55, 1996; @ identification accepted, but considered escaped; critical examination of the bird on the photographs revealed extremely long claws, at least twice their normal length, which is reason to assume it was an escape). * **Long-tailed Rosefinch** *Uragus sibiricus* 19 May, Kornwerderzand, *Wûnseradiel*, Friesland, photographed (@ identification accepted, but considered escaped); 1-3 October, *Terschelling*, Friesland, photographed (@ identification accepted, but considered escaped).

1995

**Hutchins's Canada Goose** *Branta hutchinsii hutchinsii*, 25 January, Piaam, *Nijefurd*, photographed (withdrawn by observer, most probably involving *B h minima*). * **Hooded Merganser** *Lophodytes cucullatus* 13 February, *Houten*, Utrecht, adult female (@ identification accepted, but considered escaped). **Balearic Shearwater** *Puffinus mauretanicus* 22 July, Katwijk aan Zee, *Katwijk*, Zuid-Holland (description of underparts lacks sufficient detail). **European Storm-petrel** *Hydrobates pelagicus* 28 March, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (marginally rejected; there is always much discussion in CDNA about birds on which white on the underwing is not described; in this case the description is considered insufficient). **Pelican** *Pelecanus* 8 August, Brouwersdam, *Westerschouwen*, Zuid-Holland, photographed (@ identification of genus accepted, but escaped species not excluded). **Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* 8 August, Workumerwaard, *Nijefurd*, Friesland (description of 30 words considered too brief). **Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos* 15 January, Epse, *Voorst*, Gelderland (photograph of very distant bird without description did not rule out White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla*). **Bonelli's Eagle** *Hieraaetus fasciatus* 2 June, *Almere*, Flevoland, adult (adults are considered extremely rare; therefore, all details should be included in the description, some of which were lacking in this case). **Iceland Gull** *Larus glaucoides* 1-2 April, Arcen, *Arcen en Velden*, Limburg (an improved version of a description of a rejected record always raises the question of how much one can improve when a particular detail is lacking in the initially submitted version; in this case, CDNA sees no reason to change its opinion about the rejection). **Ross's Gull** *Rhodostethia rosea* 16 November, *Westkapelle*, Zeeland (description of bird flying-past lacking sufficient detail). **Melodious Warbler** *Hippolais polyglotta* 10 September, *Monster*, Zuid-Holland (description incomplete). **Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus* 28 October, Petten, *Zijpe*, Noord-Holland (@ description incomplete). **Western Bonelli's Warbler** *Phylloscopus bonelli* 14 May, *Vlieland*, Friesland (description incomplete). **Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla* 24 September, Eemshaven, *Eemsmond*, Groningen (description not fully correct). * **Desert Finch** *Rhodospiza obsoleta* 12-17 December, *Vlissingen*, Zeeland (@ identification accepted, but considered escaped).

1994

**Steppe Buzzard** *Buteo buteo vulpinus* 11 April, Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel (combination of dark body feathers, vent and undertail with reddish uppertail seems incorrect; anyhow, CDNA considers this subspecies not safely identifiable in the field unless in typical plumage). **Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos* 29 October, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen (marginally rejected because description of underside and legs lacking of bird seen in bad weather). **Western Reef Egret** *Egretta gularis* 17-18 September, Verdronken Land van Saeftinge, *Hulst*, Zeeland, photographed (bill colour does not seem to match this species; escaped Eastern Reef Egret *E sacra* not fully excluded). **Lesser Sand Plover** *Charadrius mongolus*, 16 August, *Terschelling*, Friesland (@ description too little detailed for exclusion of Greater Sand Plover *C leschenaultii*).

1993

**Demoiselle Crane** *Anthropoides virgo* 9 May, *Zeewolde*, Flevoland (flying bird, not seen well, mainly identified by call); 10 May, Oosterend, *Terschelling*, Friesland (description of flying bird includes incorrect details).

1992
**Baltic Gull** *Larus fuscus* December, *Muiden*, Noord-Holland (cf Hoogendoorn & van Scheepen 1998)

1991
**American Wigeon** *Mareca americana* 5(-7) January, Megen, *Oss*, Noord-Brabant, male (@ first accepted but now withdrawn by observer; re-identified as hybrid, probably Eurasian x Chiloë Wigeon *M penelope* x *sibilatrix*).

1990
**Siberian Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita tristis* 1-2 April, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland (@ sound record refers to a *tristis*-sound alike, but most probably runt Common Chiffchaff *P c collybita*).

1989
**White-throated Needletail Swift** *Hirundapus caudacutus* 28 May, Philippine, *Sas van Gent*, Zeeland (@ although field sketches quite convincing, description incomplete, and partly inaccurate).

1987
**European Storm-petrel** *Hydrobates pelagicus* 27 September, *Westkapelle*, Zeeland (description incomplete).

1978
**Baltic Gull** *Larus fuscus* May, *Ameland*, Friesland (cf Hoogendoorn & van Scheepen 1998)

1976
**Baltic Gull** *Larus fuscus* 10 April, Akkrum, *Boarnsterhim*, Friesland (cf Hoogendoorn & van Scheepen 1998)

1968
**Grey-headed Woodpecker** *Picus canus* late summer, Katlijker Schar, *Heerenveen*, Friesland, male, mounted specimen photographed at Drachten, Friesland (Vanellus 38: 20, 1985; there is no original report by the finder: the precise month as well as the circumstances of the find are unknown; moreover, mounted specimens of this species have been imported around 1968).

1967
**Baltic Gull** *Larus fuscus* August, Brielle, Zuid-Holland (cf Hoogendoorn & van Scheepen 1998)

1961
**Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis* 21 October to 29 November, *Harderwijk* and *Ermelo* (@ considered escaped; after renewed submission, CDNA upholds its decision of more than 30 years ago since it is unlikely that a bird missing a number of primaries and actively approaching observers to less than 5 m is of wild origin).

1950
**Red-headed Bunting** *Emberiza bruniceps* 28 January, location not known, Zeeland, male, found dead, skin not retained (@ poor description).

1942
**Baltic Gull** *Larus fuscus* 21 January, Nummer Eén, *Oostburg*, Zeeland (cf Hoogendoorn & van Scheepen 1998)

1936
**Baltic Gull** *Larus fuscus* 3 December, Schildwolde, *Slochteren*, Groningen (cf Hoogendoorn & van Scheepen 1998)

1930
**Baltic Gull** *Larus fuscus* 28 December 1930, Watergang, *Waterland*, Noord-Holland (cf Hoogendoorn & van Scheepen 1998)

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# Corrigenda

In Dutch Birding 20 (1), 1998, is een fout opgetreden in de nummering van de platen. Gelieve de plaat van de Fluitzwaan *Cygnus columbianus* (Dutch Birding 20: 50, 1998) te beschouwen als plaat 20a.

In de fotobijschriften van platen 62-65 in het artikel over de Lachmeeuw *Larus atricilla* (Dutch Birding 20: 107-110, 1998) wordt een verkeerd jaartal genoemd. Uiteraard dateren alle foto's van 1997. REDACTIE

In Dutch Birding 20 (1), 1998, an error occurred in the plate numbers. Please amend the plate number of Whistling Swan *Cygnus columbianus* (Dutch Birding 20: 50, 1998) to 20a.

In the captions to plates 62-65 in the paper on the Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla* (Dutch Birding 20: 107-110, 1998) the wrong year is mentioned. Of course, all photographs were taken in 1997. EDITORS

# Stekelstaartgierzwaluw op Walcheren in mei 1996

*Erik Sanders, Sander J Lilipaly & Enno B Ebels*

Op 22 mei 1996 stonden Erik Sanders en Sander Lilipaly aan het eind van de ochtend op de stoep van het ouderlijke huis van SL aan het Seisbolwerk in Middelburg, Walcheren, Zeeland. Na een ochtendje vogelen samen met Tobi Koppejan hadden ze hier koffie gedronken; TK was net vertrokken. Om 11:35 zag ES boven het huis een zeer snelle en grote gierzwaluw met een witte vlek op de onderbuik. Een minuut later vonden ES en SL de vogel laag scherend boven het water van de buitenvest van Middelburg terug. De scherp afgesneden witte keel en het duidelijke witte hoefijzer op de onderbuik, de forse bouw en de zeer snelle vlucht deden hen direct beseffen dat het om een Stekelstaartgierzwaluw *Hirundapus caudacutus* ging. Nog tweemaal vloog de vogel langs; de laatste keer, om c 11:45, zagen zij (samen met de telefonisch gewaarschuwde en vervolgens in allerijl teruggekeerde TK) de witgrijze ovaalvormige vlek op de bovendelen. Andere vogelaars die terstond gebeld waren kwamen te laat.

Om 15:45 zag wijlen Koen Kuijpers zonder optische hulpmiddelen een Stekelstaartgierzwaluw in noordelijke richting over zich heen scheren langs de Landschuurweg bij Veere, Zeeland, c 6 km ten noorden van Middelburg. KK was al de hele dag buiten aan het werk en hoorde pas van de waarneming eerder die dag toen hij TK belde om zijn eigen waarneming door te geven! KK zag de vogel alleen van onderen; hem vielen het grote formaat en de zware bouw op, het zeer donkere uiterlijk met contrasterende witte keel en wit hoefijzer op de onderdelen, de korte en recht lijkende staart en de zeer krachtige en vooral snelle vlucht. Om 15:30 had Pim Wolf in Middelburg gezien dat groepen Gierzwaluwen *Apus apus* langs het Kanaal door Walcheren vlogen in de richting van Veere, om de talrijke buien die over Walcheren trokken te ontwijken. PW besloot bij Veere te gaan zoeken. Om 15:50 werd hij in de auto gebeld door SL over de waarneming van KK. Bij het binnenrijden van Veere om 16:15 zag PW de Stekelstaartgierzwaluw met een groepje Gierzwaluwen rond de Onze-Lieve-Vrouwenkerk in Veere vliegen. De vogel vloog enkele minuten rustig rond de kerk maar al snel verhoogde hij zijn snelheid en maakte duikvluchten de stad in, waarbij hij uit beeld verdween, om na enige minuten terug te keren naar de groep Gierzwaluwen. Hierna vloog hij niet meer rustig in de groep maar op enige afstand en haalde regelmatig Gierzwaluwen in. Om 16:25 maakte hij opnieuw een duikvlucht, passeerde op c 10 m afstand en op ooghoogte en verdween vervolgens laag over de buitenvest van Veere uit beeld. Om 17:25 werd de vogel nog eenmaal gezien door Rob Sponselee, Richard Witte en PW; hij vloog toen op c 800 m laag boven het Veerse Bos, verdween daar naar beneden en vervolgens voorgoed uit beeld. Vele 10-tallen vogelaars uit de wijde omgeving bevonden zich op dat moment op de verkeerde plek op Walcheren of kwamen überhaupt te laat (cf Sanders et al 1996).

## Beschrijving

De beschrijving is gebaseerd op notities en schetsen van SL, ES en PW, opgesteld direct na de waarneming. Er konden geen foto's of videoopnamen gemaakt worden.

ALGEMENE INDRUK Verenkleed overwegend donker, duidelijk donkerder dan Gierzwaluw, sterk contrasterend met witte delen.

GROOTTE & BOUW Zeer forse gierzwaluw, duidelijk groter dan Gierzwaluw, waarmee meerdere malen direct vergelijkbaar. Lichaam en kop zwaar, achterlijf kort, dik en rond, vleugels lang en breed. Vleugelvorm minder sikkelvormig dan bij Alpengierzwaluw *A melba* of Boomvalk *Falco subbuteo*. Vleugellengte ongeveer gelijk aan lichaamslengte. Staart zeer kort en recht; tijdens wenden staart zichtbaar niet gevorkt. Snavel kort, vergelijkbaar met Gierzwaluw. Door zware bouw ongeveer anderhalf keer zo grote indruk makend als Gierzwaluw.

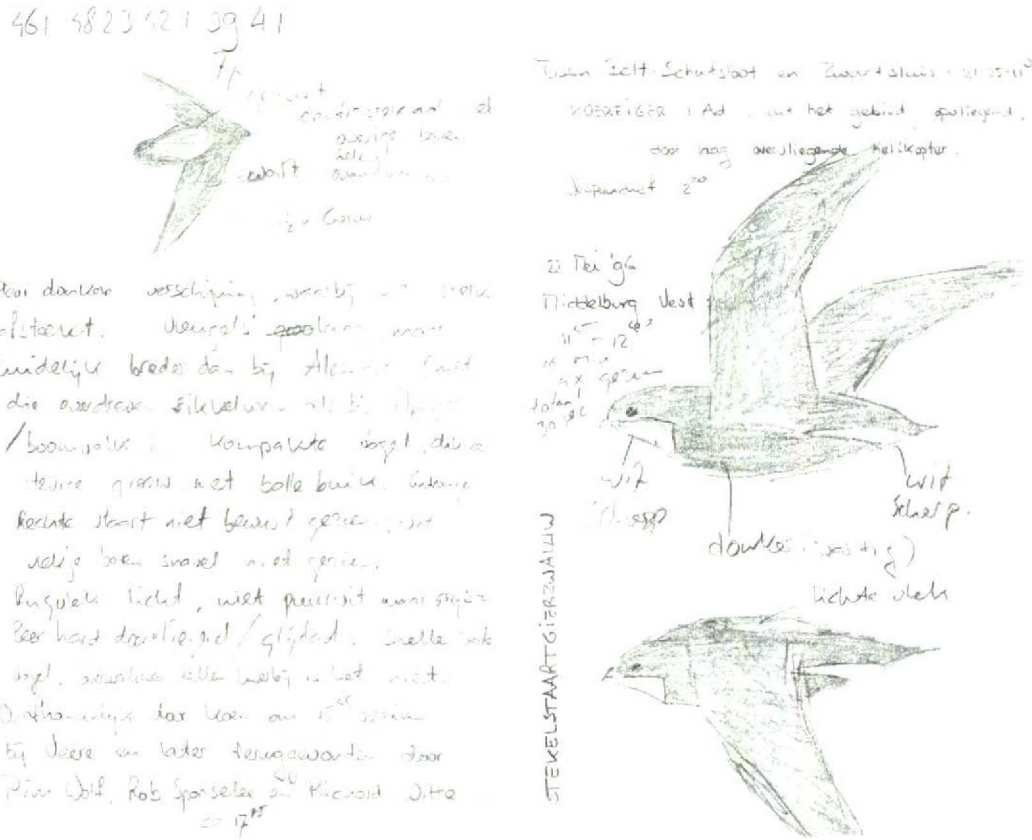
KOP Donker bruinzwart met duidelijk afgesneden witte keel. Bovenkop egaal donkerbruin.

BOVENDELEN Lichte witgrijze ovale vlek op mantel en rug, breder bij nek dan bij stuit, doorlopend tot op stuit, diffuus overgaand in donkerbruin aan randen en contrasterend met verder bruinzwarte bovendelen, kop en bovenstaart. Stuit bruiner dan overige donkere bovendelen.

ONDERDELEN Borst en buik donkerbruin. Anaalstreek zeer opvallend wit, hoefijzervormig, contrasterend met donkere buik, borst en ondervleugels. Punten van witte



[*Dutch Birding 20: 168-172, 1998*]




FIGUUR 1 Stekelstaartgierzwaluw / White-throated Needletail Swift *Hirundapus caudacutus*, Middelburg, Zeeland, 22 mei 1996 *(Erik Sanders)*

hoefijzer doorlopend tot aan achterzijde van vleugelbasis.

VLEUGEL Boven- en ondervleugel egaal donker bruinzwart. Af en toe zichtbare groenblauwe glans op bovenvleugel.

STAART Bovenstaart donkerbruin tot bruinzwart.

NAAKTE DELEN Snavel donker. Poot en oogkleur niet vastgesteld.

VLUCHT Zeer snel en krachtig, sneller dan Gierzwaluw. Lange glijvluchten afgewisseld door enkele korte 'maaiende' vleugelslagen. Bij rustige vlucht (cirkelen) vleugelslag zeer ondiep met stijf gehouden vleugels; bij duikvluchten vleugelslagen dieper en vleugels in hoek naar achteren gehouden. Meestal vliegend op c 20 m hoogte, boven water dalend tot 1 m.

## Determinatie

Hoewel de vogel slechts gedurende enkele afzonderlijke ogenblikken werd gezien leverde de determinatie weinig problemen op. Het voor een gierzwaluw grote formaat, de zware bouw, de lange maar ook brede vleugels, het donker bruinzwarte verenkleed, de grote witte hoefijzervormige vlek op de anaalstreek, de contrasterende en recht afgesneden witte keel en de grijswitte vlek op de bovendelen en de zeer snelle vlucht pasten alleen op Stekelstaartgierzwaluw (Chantler 1993, Chantler & Driessens 1995). De karakteristieke witte voorhoofdsvlek werd niet vastgesteld; door de waarnemingsomstandigheden en de grote vliegsnelheid van de vogel kan dit kenmerk gemakkelijk gemist zijn door de waarnemers.

*Apus*-gierzwaluwen konden worden uitgesloten door het verschil in postuur met smallere en meer sikkelvormige vleugels en de minder krachtige vlucht. Geen van de *Apus*-soorten (afgezien

van afwijkende exemplaren met gedeeltelijk wit verenkleed) vertoont een ovaalvormige witte vlek op de bovendelen. Verwarring met de overige drie *Hirundapus*-soorten is mogelijk, hoewel geen van deze gezien hun verspreidingsgebied en trekgedrag als dwaalgast in West-Europa verwacht mag worden (cf Chantler & Driessens 1995). Witbuikstekelstaartgierzwaluw *H cochinchinensis* (oostelijk Himalayagebied en verspreid in Zuidoost-Azië, overwinterend in Thailand, Maleisië en West-Indonesië) lijkt sterk op Stekelstaartgierzwaluw, met name door de vergelijkbare lichte vlek op de bovendelen maar heeft een minder opvallende, vuilwitte keelvlek, die geleidelijk overgaat in de donkerbruine borst. Reuzenstekelstaartgierzwaluw *H giganteus* (zuidpunt van het Indisch Subcontinent, Zuidoost-Azië, Palawan en Culion, Filippijnen, en Grote Sundaeilanden, Indonesië) is groter en heeft een minder opvallende lichte vlek op de bovendelen en een veel minder contrasterende lichtbruine keelvlek. Zwarte Stekelstaartgierzwaluw *H celebensis* (Noordoost-Sulawesi, Indonesië, en Filippijnen) is bijna geheel glanzend zwart en mist zowel de lichte keelvlek als de lichte vlek op de bovendelen (Chantler 1993, Chantler & Driessens 1995).

**Verspreiding en voorkomen**

Stekelstaartgierzwaluw broedt van Centraal-Siberië, via Noord-China en Zuidoost-Mongolië, Noord-Mantsjoerije en Korea oostelijk tot Sakhalin en Hokkaido en Noord-Honshu, Japan, en overwintert hoofdzakelijk in Oost-Australië en het zuiden van Nieuw-Guinea *(H c caudacutus)*. Een aparte en niet-trekkende ondersoort komt voor in het Himalayagebied (*H c nudipes*) (Chantler & Driessens 1995). In tegenstelling tot de andere *Hirundapus*-soorten is het een langeafstandstrekker. In samenhang met het trekgedrag zijn er verscheidene waarnemingen ver buiten de reguliere broed-, doortrek- en overwinteringsgebieden. Op het zuidelijke halfrond zijn exemplaren vastgesteld op de Seychellen (2), Fiji, Nieuw-Zeeland en de Macquarie-eilanden. In de VS is de soort volgens National Geographic Society (1987) een dwaalgast ('casual') in het voorjaar. Op 21 mei 1974 werd een exemplaar geschoten op Shemya, Aleoeten, Alaska (Gibson & Kessel 1997). Volgens Chantler & Driessens (1995) is er één geval bekend van de Pribilofeilanden, Alaska. Roberson (1980) vermeldt twee gevallen aan de Amerikaanse westkust; waarschijnlijk betreffen dit bovengenoemde waarnemingen.

In Europa zijn inclusief het geval van Walcheren ten minste 17 gevallen bekend, waarvan de helft op de Britse Eilanden. Voor de Britse gevallen is lastig exact te bepalen om hoeveel verschillende exemplaren het de laatste 15 jaar gaat.

1 8 juli 1846, Great Horkesley, Essex, Engeland (geschoten; Dymond et al 1989, Evans 1994)
2 26 of 27 juli 1879, Ringwood, Hampshire, Engeland (verzameld; Dymond et al 1989, Evans 1994)
3 21 mei 1933, Nummi, Finland (levend gevonden, later overleden; Lintumies 19: 78, 1984)
4 20 juni 1964, Cape Clear Island, Cork, Ierland (Dymond et al 1989, Evans 1994)
5 17 mei 1968, Noorwegen (Rønnest 1994)
6 midden-november 1971, Faqqanija, Malta (geschoten; Sultana & Gauci 1982)
7 11 juni 1983, South Ronaldsay, Orkney, Schotland (Dymond et al 1989, Evans 1994)
8 25 mei-6 juni 1984, Loch of Hilwell & Quendale, Shetland, Schotland (Dymond et al 1989, Evans 1994)
9 27 mei 1985, Fairburn Ings, North Yorkshire, Engeland (Dymond et al 1989, Evans 1994)
10 28 mei-8 juni 1988, Hoy, Orkney, Schotland (Dymond et al 1989, Evans 1994)
11 21 april 1990, Kristiinankaupunki, Skaftung, Finland (Rønnest 1994, Jännes et al 1991)
12 4 november 1990, Betanzos, embalse de Cecebre, La Coruña, Spanje, mogelijk juveniel (de Juana et al 1992)
13 26 mei 1991, Wierton Hill Reservoir, Maidstone, Kent, Engeland; 1 juni 1991, Blithfield Reservoir, Staffordshire, Engeland; 3 juni 1991, Belper, Derbyshire, Engeland; en 11 en 14 juni 1991, Noup of Noss, Shetland, Schotland (naar wordt aangenomen steeds dezelfde vogel; Evans 1994, Br Birds 85: 532-533, 1992, 89: 509, 1996)
14 10 mei 1991, Hanko, Långören, Finland (Rønnest 1994, Jännes et al 1992)
15 22-27 mei 1994, Umeå, Västerbotten, Zweden (Bonnedahl 1995, Får Vågelvärld suppl 22: 137, 1995)
16 20 mei 1995, Lista, Vest-Agder, Noorwegen (Br Birds 90: 87, 1997)
17 22 mei 1996, Middelburg en Veere, Zeeland, Nederland

Een waarneming op 6 augustus 1931 op Fair Isle, Shetland, Schotland, is nooit aanvaard maar wordt door Evans (1994), in navolging van Dymond (1991), wel als serieuze melding genoemd. De melding op 25 juni 1993 bij Kautokeino, Finnmark, Noorwegen (Birding World 7: 32, 1994), is (nog) niet aanvaard (cf Vår Fuglefauna suppl 2: 15, 1998). De nadruk op gevallen in het late voorjaar en de (vroege) zomer is opvallend. Slechts twee gevallen (6 en 12)

dateerden van het najaar. Dit patroon wijkt sterk af van het beeld bij vrijwel alle andere soorten uit Centraal- en Oost-Azië (voornamelijk steltlopers en zangvogels) die in Europa als dwaalgast worden vastgesteld: verreweg de meeste gevallen dateerden uit september-oktober (met kleinere aantallen in juli-augustus en november-december) en maar weinig uit het voorjaar. Opmerkelijk is dat het handvol waarnemingen van Siberische Gierzwaluw *A pacificus* in West-Europa uit dezelfde periode (mei-juli) stamt (cf Vinicombe & Cottridge 1996); deze soort heeft een met Stekelstaartgierzwaluw overlappend broedgebied en een vergelijkbaar trekgedrag. Anderzijds is dit voorkomen ook weer niet zo uitzonderlijk: zo worden de uit Zuidoost-Azië afkomstige Oosterse Vorkstaartplevier *Glareola maldivarum* en de uit Oost-Siberië afkomstige Daurische Kauw *Corvus dauuricus* eveneens vooral in het voorjaar (mei-juni) in Europa waargenomen (cf Vinicombe & Cottridge 1996).

De waarneming van Middelburg en Veere is door de Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA) aanvaard en betekende het eerste geval voor Nederland (Wiegant et al 1998). Een eerdere melding op 28 mei 1989 bij Philippine, Sas van Gent, Zeeuws-Vlaanderen, Zeeland, is onlangs ingediend en na behandeling door de CDNA afgewezen (Wiegant et al 1998).

**Dankzegging**

Wij danken Annika Forsten voor het verschaffen van informatie over de Finse gevallen.

**Summary**

White-throated Needletail Swift at Walcheren in May 1996 On 22 May 1996, a White-throated Needletail Swift *Hirandapus caudacutus* was seen during four short spells between 11:35 and 11:45 at Middelburg, Walcheren, Zeeland, the Netherlands. It was seen in flight (including a low flight just above the water) by three observers. Later that day, at 15:45, the bird was seen independently by a single observer 2 km east of Veere, Walcheren, Zeeland, c 6 km to the north of Middelburg. The bird was seen again over nearby Veere from 16:15 to 16:25 and again briefly at 17:25 by three more local observers, before finally disappearing. No photographs could be taken.

The bird was identified by its large size (compared with Common Swifts *Apus apus* present), dark blackish plumage (darker dan Common Swift), conspicuous clear-cut white throat sharply demarcated from the blackish breast, conspicuous white 'horse-shoe' on vent and undertail and greyish-white, diffusely bordered oval patch on the upperparts. The wings were long but broader, less sickle-shaped than in *Apus* swifts. Furthermore, the flight was extremely swift and powerful. This combination rules out all swifts (or other fast-flying species), including the three other *Hirundapus* species (which are, however, extremely unlikely ever to occur in Europe). The most similar species is White-vented Needletail Swift *H cochinchinensis*, but this species has a duller white throat, less sharply demarcated from the blackish breast (cf Chantler 1993, Chantler & Driessens 1995).

This record was accepted by the Dutch rarities committee (CDNA) as the first White-throated Needletail Swift for the Netherlands. A previous single-observer report at Philippine, Zeeuws-Vlaanderen, Zeeland, on 28 May 1989 was submitted only recently and was rejected by the CDNA.

There have been 16 other European records of this eastern Asian long-distance migrant, mostly in spring (May-June). There is one record in April (in Finland), two in July (in England in the 19th century) and only two autumn (November) records (Malta and Spain). There are now seven records from Britain (including records on different localities presumed to refer to a single bird), three from Finland, one from Ireland, one from Malta, one from the Netherlands, two from Norway, one from Spain and one from Sweden. All records are summarized. The strong spring dominance is remarkable for an eastern vagrant to Europe, as most tend to occur mainly in autumn. This pattern of occurrence is, however, shared by a few other vagrants from the Far East, including Pacific Swift *A pacificus*.

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## Striped Crake at Livorno, Italy, in January 1997

On 4 January 1997 around 09:00, Fernando Forzi found a small rail in a lorry park at Livorno harbour, Toscana, Italy (43:35 N, 10:18 E). The bird was in poor condition and could easily be captured by hand. It was taken to the local bird rehabilitation centre where it died the following day. It was stored in a deep freeze until being transferred, together with other bird carcasses, on 6 March 1997 to the laboratories of the Istituto Nazionale per la Fauna Selvatica (INFS) at Ozzano Emilia. Only then we realized that it was not a European species. With the help of Ripley's (1977) identification key to the genus *Porzana*, it was identified as Striped Crake *P marginalis*. The bird was measured, photographed and prepared as a mounted specimen for the INFS museum.

In size, shape and colour the bird recalled Spotted Crake *P porzana*, but it differred by its bright rufous belly and undertail, remarkably long toes, and high bill profile. The grey breast and neck indicated that it was a female, which was confirmed later by inspection of the gonads during the preparation of the skin. Measurements (in mm) and notes taken on the specimen before it was skinned (after two months of storage in a sealed plastic bag at -20°C) were as follows: wing length 114 (maximum chord), p10 78, p9 65 (primaries numbered from inside), tail 50, tarsus 35.8, tarsus plus toe 86 (without claw), toe 50.5, total head length 41.5, bill from feathering 16.2, from nostril 10.3, bill depth at feathering 9; weight 53.9 g, no fat deposit, pectoral muscles not emaciated. The remiges (especially the primaries) and rectrices were slightly worn. No traces of juvenile plumage were present and there was a single moulting feather on the flank. The colour of bare parts was as follows: iris pale orange, eyelids bright orange, bill greenish-grey with black culmen, leg and foot greenish.

Striped Crake is distributed through much of the eastern part of the southern Afrotropics and more patchily in countries along the Gulf of Guinea; the northernmost occupied areas are in northern Nigeria. It is an uncommon species within its normal range and little is known about its habits and movements (cf Taylor & van Perlo 1998). Until the 1930s, it was believed to be an Asian non-breeding visitor to Africa (cf Cramp & Simmons 1980). It usually occurs in temporary wetlands, where it breeds during the rain seasons and then retreats towards the Equator when the habitat becomes unsuitable. It is a nocturnal migrant and there are reports of birds being attracted to artificial lights and of birds colliding with glass panes. Striped Crake is unique among rails in adopting sequential polyandry as a mating system and also by the fact that adults undergo two complete moults per year. Post-juvenile moult is completed within six months after hatching (Ripley 1977, Cramp & Simmons 1980, Urban et al 1986, del Hoyo et al 1996).

It may seem surprising that Striped Crake could occur in Europe, yet a captive origin is highly unlikely. Nevertheless, the location, where only the tyres of parked lorries offered shelter, suggests that unnatural factors may have been involved. There are no environmental features throughout the harbour area which might have attracted a migrant rail to land, while several wetlands, reedbeds and wasteland with a cover of tall grass are all found around Livorno, within only 1-5 km of the harbour. Two different hypotheses on the bird's origin thus appear equally plausible: either it was attracted at night by the powerful harbour lighthouse or it arrived on an incoming ship. In both cases, the totally unsuitable habitat and the presence of predators (Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis*, cats, rats) combined with the bird's poor condition and severe weather between 30 December 1996 and 4 January 1997 suggest that it had arrived very recently, probably not earlier than the previous night. From information supplied by the harbour

authority about shipping movements, entirely passive transportation from tropical Africa can be excluded.

Although it cannot be established with certainty whether the lighthouse or a ship were partly responsible for the bird's presence, it seems clear that the Striped Crake had attempted to cross the Mediterranean and either succeeded in covering the entire c 700 km at the widest point (Livorno-Tunisia), but had failed to reach suitable habitat because of the lighthouse, or had failed earlier because of reserve depletion and had landed on a ship.

There have been at least four (of which three in the Western Palearctic) previous records of Striped Crake indicating dispersal well outside the normal range: in Morocco (November 1989), northern Algeria (January 1867), northern Libya (February 1970), and Aldabra (Indian Ocean; December 1904) (Cramp & Simmons 1980, Snow & Perrins 1998, Taylor & van Perlo 1998). The Italian specimen fits well within these dates. It has been accepted by the Italian rarities committee and it becomes the fourth Western Palearctic and first European record. Such long-distance vagrancy is not something exclusive to Striped Crake, as similar instances are even better known in other rails (del Hoyo et al 1996). Allen's Gallinule *Porphyrula alleni* offers the best example of vagrancy from the Afrotropics to Europe and the Mediterranean and occurred twice at less than 50 km from Livorno during the 19th century (Arrigoni Degli Oddi 1929). There are more than 20 records of Allen's Gallinule in the Western Palearctic, mostly in October to February, with an obvious peak in December (Hudson 1974, Cramp & Simmons 1980). The only Western Palearctic record of Black Crake *Limnocorax flavirostra*, which has a similar Afrotropical distribution, is of a male collected near Funchal, Madeira, in January 1895 (Cramp & Simmons 1980). The date of the Livorno Striped Crake accords well with this vagrancy pattern of Afrotropical rails. It is clear, however, that there is a far better chance of spotting the more conspicuous Allen's Gallinule in natural habitat than a secretive Striped Crake.

We are most grateful to Fernando Forzi for having attempted to rescue the Striped Crake and for the details which he provided. Information on shipping movements was kindly supplied by Massimo Moniga (harbour authority, Avvisatore

**132** Striped Crake / Afrikaans Porseleinhoen *Porzana marginalis* (found at Livorno, Toscana, Italy, 4 January 1997), Istituto Nazionale Fauna Selvatica, Ozzano Emilia, Italy, March 1997 *(Nicola Baccetti)*

*Striped Crake at Livorno, Italy, in January 1997*

Marittimo del porto di Livorno) and by Valter Rinaldi. Daniele Marzi checked the files of the seabird rehabilitation centre (CRUMA, Livorno). Richard Bradbury and Michael Wilson (Edward Grey Institute, Oxford, England) made a number of valuable suggestions for changes to a draft of this note.

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# Trends in systematics

## Molecular study indicates sympatric breeding of Atlantic and Continental Great Cormorants in Britain

In Europe, Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* is represented by two subspecies: Atlantic Great Cormorant *P c carbo* (hereafter *carbo*) which inhabits the coasts of Britain, France, Iceland and Norway, and Continental Great Cormorant *P c sinensis* (hereafter *sinensis*), which breeds mainly in inland tree colonies in continental Europe. In the early 1960s, the north-western European population of *sinensis* was restricted to 800 pairs in two colonies in the Netherlands. In subsequent decades, the population of *sinensis* in north-western Europe spectacularly increased to more than 60 000 pairs in 1993 (van Eerden & Gregersen 1995). The increase coincided with a range expansion to other European countries. Until the 1980s, inland nesting of cormorants in Britain was sporadic but since 1981 the number of inland breeding pairs has increased to more than 1100 in 1995 and breeding attempts have been recorded at 35 sites (Goostrey et al 1998). Although inland breeding is commonly associated with *sinensis*, the origin and identity of these inland breeders has remained uncertain.

Sellers (1993) attempted to determine the status of inland breeding cormorants at Abberton Reservoir, Essex, England, on the basis of three plumage characters, the shape of the gular pouch and ringing recoveries. Differences in morphology have been described and discussed on several occasions (eg, Stokoe 1958, Cramp & Simmons 1977, Alström 1985) but assessing plumage and structural differences in the field is not always easy and may be subject to age and seasonal variation. Gloss to body plumage is greenish in *sinensis* and bluish or bluish-purple in *carbo* but the difference may be very difficult to determine in the field and its validity has been questioned (Marion 1995). Both *carbo* and *sinensis* develop white head-feathers and white thigh patches at the start of the breeding season. These feathers are at their brightest and most extensive in the early phase of the breeding season and decrease in intensity as breeding progresses (Sellers 1993). The extent of white feathers on the head is much greater in *sinensis* than in *carbo* but some *carbo*, mostly old males, may acquire heads as white as typical *sinensis* (Stokoe 1958, Cramp & Simmons 1977, Alström 1985). Therefore, the presence or absence of white feathers is an inadequate basis for assigning lone birds to either *carbo* or *sinensis*. Alström (1985) emphasized a difference in the shape of the gular pouch; in *sinensis* the gular pouch extends further back beyond the gape than it does in *carbo* (Alström 1985, Lewington et al 1991). Marion (1995) questioned the validity of this criterion

**133** Continental Great Cormorants / Aalscholvers *Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis*, Naardermeer, Noord-Holland, Netherlands, 12 April 1986 *(René Pop)*

**134** Atlantic Great Cormorants / Grote Aalscholvers *Phalacrocorax carbo carbo*, Belfast Lough, Northern Ireland, 20 March 1993 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*

but Sellers (1993) noted that this appears to be an unusually helpful character to differentiate between the taxa.

In Sellers' study, none of these morphological characters unambiguously identified the cormorants at Abberton Reservoir as either *carbo* or *sinensis*, with the possible exception of plumage gloss which was bluish in all except one bird (of 109 checked) and was, therefore, indicative of *carbo* (Sellers 1993). The vast majority of adults was already incubating at the time of Sellers' visits, which compromised assessments of the maximum extent of white feathers. The shape of the gular pouch was consistent with *sinensis* in 13 individuals, whereas 87 showed the presumed *carbo* pattern. However, conditions were never suitable to determine the colour of the plumage gloss in the birds with the *sinensis*-like gular pattern.

Ringing recoveries in Essex and Suffolk, England, mostly concerned *carbo* from England, Scotland and Wales, but included at least four *sinensis* from the Netherlands and four from Denmark (Sellers 1993). It is not clear whether these *sinensis* were local breeders or non-breeding visitors. Sellers (1993) concluded that the majority of birds breeding at Abberton Reservoir in 1989-90 was more likely to be *carbo* than *sinensis*, and therefore likely originated from within the British Isles rather than the continent. However, he pointed out that the possibility that some *sinensis* were breeding at Abberton Reservoir can not be ruled out.

Uncertainties about the validity of previously accepted morphological differences led Marion (1995) to suggest that a molecular study may be the only way to resolve the identity of problematic individuals or populations. Recently, Goostrey et al (1998) have done just that. Their study was designed to establish: *1* the amount of variation within *carbo* and *sinensis*; *2* the level of differentiation of *carbo* and *sinensis*; and *3* the provenance of the inland tree-nesting cormorants in Britain. The team sampled no less than 541 individuals from 21 European populations. Seven of these populations represent *sinensis* from Denmark, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden, 10 populations refer to *carbo* from England, France, Norway, Scotland and Wales and four are from inland English colonies (Abberton Reservoir, Essex; Little Paxton, Cambridgeshire; Rutland Water, Leicester; and Besthorpe, Nottinghamshire).

The technique of Goostrey et al (1998) is known as microsatellite analysis. Microsatellites are short repetitive elements of DNA that are arrayed in a tandem fashion. The number of copies of these repetitive elements varies among individuals and populations of cormorants (Piertney et al 1998) and can thus be used to address various questions in population biology (Parker et al 1998).

The study revealed significant genetic variation in *carbo* en *sinensis* but levels of variation are much higher in *carbo* than in *sinensis*. The authors explained the discrepancy by differences in demographics (populations of *carbo* are much smaller than those of *sinensis* and are separated by relatively large distances, which promotes genetic differentiation), dispersion patterns (*sinensis* shows extensive migrations whereas *carbo* is generally non-migratory) and population growth (populations of *sinensis* have increased much faster than those of *carbo*).

Goostrey et al (1998) found a 'distinct and robust separation' of *carbo* and *sinensis* which they confirmed by applying several statistical methods. The authors point out that this result is consistent with a historic separation between the two taxa and confirms the current designation of *carbo* and *sinensis* as distinct taxa. The level of divergence of *carbo* and *sinensis* is comparable with that identified between Hooded *Corvus cornix* and Carrion Crow *C corone* but is also within the range of conspecific populations (Goostrey et al 1998). Goostrey et al (1998) concluded that the taxonomic status of *carbo* and *sinensis* remains ambiguous (cf Marion 1993, Yésou 1993) and stressed the necessity of additional studies.

The most important finding, however, was that the inland populations clustered with *sinensis* in phylogenetic analyses. The tree-nesting colonies thus most likely consist of a considerable continental European *sinensis* component, and are not simply the product of inland movement of *carbo*. Statistical analysis revealed that the inland colonies are not composed solely of *sinensis* but that both taxa occur sympatrically. Some members of these colonies had genetic characteristics intermediate between those of *carbo* and *sinensis*, suggesting that some hybridization is occurring (Goostrey et al 1998).

Goostrey et al (1998) pointed out that their results have implications for the management of cormorant populations. Large differences in mean body mass (2370 g in *sinensis*, 3100 g in *carbo*) will most likely affect the energy requirements (eg, daily food intake) of *sinensis* and *carbo*. This means that different strategies may

have to be applied to control overfishing by inland and coastal breeding populations. Also, if inland populations are a mixture of the two taxa, and perhaps include hybrids, it may become very difficult to estimate the impact of cormorants at fisheries.

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# Recensies

BEN F KING 1997. *Checklist of the birds of Eurasia*. Ibis Publishing Company Company, 3420 Freda's Hill Road, Vista, CA 92084-7466, USA (ibispub@msn.com). 105 pp. ISBN 0-934797-15-3. USD 19.95.

No less than five major annotated checklists of Old World birds have appeared in the past four years. Two of these, by Beaman (1994) and Eck (1996), focused on the Palearctic, another, by Christidis & Boles (1994), treats all Australian bird species, and a fourth, by Inskipp et al (1996), lists all birds of the Oriental region. Ben King has now published a very useful list of the birds of Eurasia. The list includes all species recorded in the vast area from Iceland, east to the Bering Sea and Japan and south to the Arabian peninsula, Indonesia and Wallacea. In contrast to those by Beaman and Eck, King's list does not include North Africa, the Canary Islands, Madeira, the Azores or the Cape Verde Islands.

The 3062 species listed by King are grouped by family. The list divides Eurasia into 10 regions. The occurrence of species in these regions is indicated and species endemic to a single region are listed in bold typeface. The introductory section explains that one of the primary purposes of this list is to standardize English names. Anyone familiar with the ornithological literature of Eurasia can attest to the chaotic state of English nomenclature; King's attempt to stabilize these names will therefore be welcomed.

The list is up-to-date to autumn 1997 and thus includes several newly described species, including Mindanao Sunbird *Aethopyga linaraborae* (cf Dutch Birding 19: 149-140, 1997). Although this is a positive feature, I personally would not have included Mascarene Shearwater *Puffinus atrodorsalis* and Cream-bellied Munia *Lonchura pallidiventer* because the validity of these recently proposed taxa is questionable. The list also includes Philippine Woodcock, Nicobar Scops-Owl and Black-crowned Barwing – three newly discovered species that have not yet been formally described.

The author has closely followed recent taxonomic developments in Europe. Numerous well-differentiated taxa are listed as species, including Bewick's Swan *Cygnus bewickii*, Tundra Bean Goose *Anser serrirostris*, White-winged Scoter *Melanitta deglandi*, Black Scoter *M americana*, Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus*, Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus*, Spanish Imperial Eagle *Aquila adalberti*, Macqueen's Bustard *Chlamydotis macqueenii*, Hume's Whitethroat *Sylvia althaea*, Small Whitethroat *S minula*, Eastern Bonelli's Warbler *Phylloscopus orientalis*, Iberian Chiffchaff *P brehmii*, Southern Grey Shrike *Lanius meridionalis* and Steppe Grey Shrike *L pallidirostris*. Following recent phylogenetic studies, King accepts *Mareca* as the generic name for Gadwall *M strepera*, the wigeons and Falcated Duck *M falcata*, *Casmerodius* for Great White Egret *C albus* and places Hazel Grouse *Bonasa bonasia* in *Tetrastes* and Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos*

*tracheliotus* in *Aegypius*. Overall, the taxonomy adopted is distinctly modern.

The sequence of families and orders, however, is fairly traditional but Europeans may nevertheless be surprised to find the loons and grebes between the Procellariiformes and Pelecaniformes. Other departures from the Voous sequence are found among the passerines. For instance, shrikes are placed after bulbuls and before waxwings, and crows are placed at the end of the list. Most of these departures are not the result of new phylogenetic work but merely continue a tradition, albeit a different one from that of Voous (1977). There obviously should be a market for this checklist. It is the most up-to-date list of bird species of the region and birders visiting Asia will doubtless find it very helpful. GEORGE SANGSTER

# DBA-nieuws

**DBA-vogeldag op 6 februari 1999 te Utrecht** De traditionele DBA-vogeldag staat voor volgend jaar gepland op zaterdag 6 februari 1999. De locatie is het inmiddels al even traditionele Hoofdgebouw Diergeneeskunde aan de Yalelaan 1 (in De Uithof) te Utrecht, Utrecht, een locatie die qua ligging, bereikbaarheid (met de auto via afslag 'Uithof' vanaf de A27 en A28, na het AZU-ziekenhuis de eerste weg rechts; met de bus vanaf Utrecht CS met de lijnen 11 en 12) en ruimte nog steeds onovertroffen is. Uiteraard wordt in het programma plaats ingeruimd voor bekende onderdelen als de 'mystery bird-competitie' en de Jaaroverzichten 1998. Het DBA-bestuur is druk bezig het programma nader in te vullen. In de foyer zal de gebruikelijke 'vogelaarsbeurs' opgesteld worden die tevens dienst doet als sociaal ontmoetingscentrum. In een komende Dutch Birding en via de Dutch Birding-vogellijn (0900-2032128; 75 cpm) zal het definitieve programma bekend worden gemaakt. Ook deze DBA-vogeldag zal weer een sociale, onderhoudende en leerzame gelegenheid bij uitstek zijn voor onze begunstigers en voor andere geïnteresseerden. GIJSBERT VAN DER BENT

# Aankondigingen & verzoeken

**NOU-symposium over vogeltaxonomie in april 1999** Op zaterdag 10 april 1999 organiseert de Nederlandse Ornithologische Unie (NOU) een symposium over vogeltaxonomie in het Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum/Naturalis te Leiden, Zuid-Holland. Nieuwe inzichten, veelal veroorzaakt door nieuwe technieken zoals DNA-analyse, hebben het inzicht in de evolutie van vogels verdiept maar ook de discussie over verwantschappen, soorten en soortgrenzen doen oplaaien. Dat dit nogal wat tot gevolg heeft ervaren niet alleen professionele ornithologen, vogelbeschermers en bijvoorbeeld uitgevers van vogelboeken, ook vogelaars weten niet altijd meer waar ze aan toe zijn. In een vijftal lezingen worden achtergronden belicht en worden de voors en tegens van een veranderende systematiek uiteengezet. Het symposium wordt afgesloten met een rondetafeldiscussie waaraan onder meer wordt deelgenomen door de Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (CSNA). Nadere informatie over het lezingenprogramma zal op een later tijdstip worden bekendgemaakt.

Tijdens de lunchpauze of na afloop kan men desgewenst de tentoonstellingen van het Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum/Naturalis bezoeken (neem dus uw museumjaarkaart mee). Plaats: Auditorium van het Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum/Naturalis, Darwinweg 2, Leiden (vijf minuten lopen van NS-station Leiden), ingang via het Pesthuis; aanvang 10:00, afsluiting 16:00.

**Photographs of *Sylvia* warblers requested** The long-awaited monograph on the *Sylvia* warblers by Hadoram Shirihai, Gabriel Gargallo and Andreas Helbig, illustrated by Alan Harris and with photographs by David Cottridge is now near completion. Although DC managed to photograph most of the species during the project, there are still gaps in available photographs of various plumages and subspecies. Therefore, other photographers are welcomed to participate in the book by submitting (only very good quality) photographs taken in the *field* of any species. Furthermore, the following species particularly need more material of birds photographed both in the *field* and in the *hand*: Tristram's *S deserticola*, Ménétries's *S mystacea* (mainly the subspecies *S m mystacea* and *S m turcmenica*), Cyprus *S melanothorax* (juvenile), Rüppell's *S rueppelli* (juvenile), Desert *S nana* (North African susbspecies *S n deserti*), Arabian *S leucomelaena* (southern Arabian and East African forms), Orphean *S hortensis* (subspecies *S h hortensis*) and Barred Warblers *S nisoria* and Lesser Whitethroat *S curruca* (south-eastern (sub)species *S (c) althaea* and *S (c) minula*), and the 'Afro-Sylvias' (the former *Parisoma*), ie, Yemen *S buryi*, Brown *S lugens*, Banded *S boehmi*, Layard's *S layardi* and Rufous-vented Warblers *S subcaeruleum*.

There will be a fee (per photograph) paid by the publisher A&C Black. Needless to say that full credits will be given to the participating photographers.

Towards the end of 1998, the final selection of the photographs will be made and we request photographers to send the photographs as soon as possible to: David Cottridge, 6 Sutherland Road, Tottenham, London N17 0BN, UK, telephone +44-181-8081341.

**Vogels in Twente** In september 1998 verschijnt Vogels in Twente, uitgegeven door boekhandel Broekhuis in Hengelo, Overijssel (ISBN 90-70162-58-X). Deze uitgave is bedoeld voor een groot publiek en bevat drie delen: een inleiding over (het ontstaan van) het Twentse landschap; een lijst van alle in Twente waargenomen vogelsoorten; en 15 wandelingen tijdens welke Twentse 'specialiteiten' als Geoorde Fuut *Podiceps nigricollis*, IJsvogel *Alcedo atthis*, Zwarte Specht *Dryocopus martius* en Grote Gele Kwikstaart *Motacilla cinerea* te zien zijn. In de soortenlijst worden voorkomen en verspreiding van alle in Twente waargenomen soorten toegelicht. Van soorten die niet vaker dan 10 maal in de regio zijn vastgesteld, zijn alle gevallen vermeld. Deze zijn beoordeeld door de Commissie Twentse Avifauna (CTA) die voor deze uitgave alle gevallen van regionale zeldzaamheden tot 1998 heeft gereviseerd. Gevallen van CDNA-beoordeelsoorten (Bronskopeend *Mareca falcata*, Steenarend *Aquila chrysaetos*, Kleinst Waterhoen *Porzana pusilla*, Kleine Trap *Tetrax tetrax*, Kuifkoekoek *Clamator glandarius*, Middelste Bonte Specht *Dendrocopos medius*, Roodsterblauwborst *Luscinia svecica svecica*, Krekelzanger *Locustella fluviatilis*, Roodkopklauwier *Lanius senator*, Witstuitbarmsijs *Carduelis hornemanni* etc) zijn alleen opgenomen als ze zijn aanvaard door de CDNA of als ze voldoende zijn gedocumenteerd om alsnog aan de CDNA te worden voorgelegd; in dit laatste geval zijn ze duidelijk gemarkeerd. Het gebonden boek van 240 pagina's, met 10-tallen foto's en zwart-wittekeningen werd geredigeerd door Paul Knolle, Rudi Lanjouw en Rolf de By en kost NLG 34.90.

# Masters of Mystery

SWAROVSKI
OPTIK

## Solutions of third round 1998

The solutions of mystery photographs V-VI of the third round of 1998 (Dutch Birding 20: 125, 1998) appear below.

**V** This swimming bird seen from behind was clearly not a give-away: even pinning the bird down to its family is already very difficult! The most important features are the mainly blackish upperparts with a large white area on (at least) the lower rear side of the head, white undertail-coverts, a white bar on the wings and some irregularly distributed pale spots on the mantle and scapulars. This combination of features can not be found in any species of duck, diver or grebe but points in the direction of the auks.

Two characters of Little Auk *Alle alle* seem to be present: the white 'curl' upwards at the rear of the head-sides and the pale spots on the upperparts forming a hint of Little Auk's white scapular stripes. The latter effect is actually caused by some water drops, and, above all, the mystery bird misses the compact, neck-less structure typical of Little Auk. Therefore, Common Guillemot *Uria aalge*, Brünnich's Guillemot *U lomvia* and Razorbill *Alca torda* seem better options. The greyish cast to the blackish upperparts (most obvious on the hind-neck) finally suggests a Common Guillemot, as Brünnich's and especially Razorbill have deeper black upperparts compared with the slightly paler greyish-black upperparts of Common (although Commons from

**135** Common Guillemot / Zeekoet *Uria aalge*, Lauwersoog, Groningen, Netherlands, 4 February 1988 *(Leo J R Boon/Cursorius)*

northern populations are blacker than those from southern populations). Brünnich's would also have the white on the head more restricted to the lower half of the head-side.

This Common Guillemot in winter plumage was photographed at Lauwersoog, Groningen, Netherlands, on 4 February 1988 by Leo Boon. Another photograph of the same bird appears as plate 135. It was identified correctly by only six entrants; incorrect answers consisted of a wild variety of waterbirds such as Harlequin Duck *Histrionicus histrionicus* (40%), Little Auk (17%), Brünnich's Guillemot (14%), Razorbill (12%), Puffin *Fratercula arctica* (10%), Black-throated Diver *Gavia artica*, Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis* and Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*.

**VI** This passerine with streaked upperparts, neck and crown is obviously a lark; note, for instance, the broad (and abraded) tertials of the mystery bird which are typical for larks, whereas the tertials of pipits are much narrower. A prominent feature in the photograph is the long, rather slim and pointed bill which recalls Dupont's Lark *Chersophilus duponti*. A closer look, however, exposes several features that do not fit Dupont's. Most importantly, the bottom edge of the lower mandible is straight in the mystery bird and not down-curved as in Dupont's. Furthermore, the crown is evenly dark-streaked, not showing the darker lateral crown stripes of Dupont's. Also, the scapulars are diffusely dark-centred; in Dupont's, the scapulars have darker centres and are sharply fringed with pale, giving a scaly appearance. Raso Lark *Alauda razae*, endemic to the Cape Verde Islands, is characterized by a long, deep-based bill, still heavier and not as sharply pointed as that of the mystery bird. Raso also has a largely pale grey bill and rather pale ear-coverts (clearly paler than the crown), unlike the mystery bird.

The striking bill-shape of the mystery bird also does not fit many other lark species (including all members of the genera *Calandrella* and *Melanocorypha*), because these species have shorter, thicker and less pointed bills. Bills more similar to that of the mystery bird are found in Crested Lark *Galerida cristata* (less so in Thekla Lark *G theklae*), Wood Lark *Lullula arborea*, Sky Lark *A arvensis* and Oriental Lark *A gulgula* (also known as Small Skylark). Crested can be excluded as this species should show a distinct crest (which may seem absent occasionally), a darker

**136** Oriental Lark / Kleine Veldleeuwerik *Alauda gulgula*, Eilat, Israel, 29 November 1992 *(Leo J R Boon/Cursorius)*

**137** Oriental Lark / Kleine Veldleeuwerik *Alauda gulgula*, Eilat, Israel, 2 April 1993 *(Leo J R Boon/Cursorius)*

**138** Sky Lark / Veldleeuwerik *Alauda arvensis*, Grevelingendam, Zuid-Holland, Netherlands, April 1993 *(Hans Gebuis)*

area on the lores, some dark malar striping and often a dark half-ring below the eye, which are all lacking in the mystery bird; Wood can be excluded because this species should show a different, more striking head-pattern with a longer supercilium. Therefore, the mystery bird must be either a Sky Lark or an Oriental Lark.

There are several differences between Sky Lark and Oriental Lark which should allow identification of the mystery bird, but individual and subspecific variation in both species demands that these characters are to be used with care. A generally reliable and rather well-known character is the difference in primary-projection. In Oriental, the primaries usually project only slightly beyond the tertials, while the primary-projection of Sky is obviously longer. This feature needs to be handled with some caution, because when the tertials are worn or in moult the primary-projection can be longer than when fresh. The mystery bird shows a substantial primary-projection (visible in the photograph on the right wing), which might indicate a Sky. Note, however, that the tertials are heavily worn and that the primary-projection will be partly caused by this. Most published photos of Oriental show birds in late autumn (when most Western Palearctic records occurred) and, consequently, show birds in fresh plumage (both Sky and Oriental undergo a complete summer moult). These birds typically show very short primary-projections. The heavily worn tertials of the mystery bird, however, indicate that the photograph was taken in spring or early summer. Oriental in this time of year can show a somewhat longer primary-projection than autumn birds, and can resemble the mystery bird in primary-projection. In fact, the primary-projection of the mystery bird looks too short for most Sky. In Sky, especially when worn, the length of the primary-projection is usually longer than the distance between the longest and the second longest visible tertial, whereas this is of about the same length in the mystery bird. Furthermore, Sky shows two or three widely spaced primary-tips beyond the tertials; in the mystery bird, there are no widely spaced primaries visible between the wing-tip and the longest tertial, thus indicating Oriental.

Another feature for distinguishing Sky Lark and Oriental Lark is the colour of the fringes of the primaries and secondaries. In Oriental, the primaries and secondaries are typically rusty-fringed, forming a rather warm panel on the closed wing, whereas in Sky the colour of these fringes is colder. The mystery bird does not seem to show any prominent rusty on the fringes of the primaries and secondaries, but this is difficult to judge from the photograph as these feathers can not be seen well. There is a slightly warmer tinge visible on the fringes of some primaries, but this can be present in both Sky and Oriental.

Other differences between Sky Lark and Oriental Lark can be found in the head-pattern, especially the loral pattern. The lores of the mystery bird are entirely pale. This is typical for Oriental which shows a wide pale sandy-coloured loral area, normally without the dark loral spot of most Sky. The fairly broad (especially just behind the eye) and long supercilium of the mystery bird is often shown by Oriental, but less fre-

quently by Sky. The exact bill-shape of the mystery bird also suggests Oriental, as the bill of Sky is normally slightly less long and less pointed than that of Oriental.

This Oriental Lark was photographed at Eilat, Israel, on 2 April 1993 by Leo Boon. Plate 137 shows another photograph of the same bird. It is interesting to compare this bird with the Sky Lark in plate 138, since both birds were photographed in April and, consequently, both birds show heavily worn tertials. Note that the primary-projection of the Sky is much longer than that of the Oriental. Note also the widely spaced primary-tips, dark spot on the lores and relatively short and stubby bill of the Sky. Plate 136 shows two not yet mentioned characters of Oriental: the whitish chin and throat which lack the dark spotting of many Sky and the very thin, pencil-like streaks on the breast (Sky has on average thicker breast-streaking on a more buffish ground colour). The rusty fringes of the primaries and secondaries are also better visible in this plate than in the mystery photograph. Two further characters of Oriental not shown in either photograph of this bird are the unstreaked flanks and the pale sandy outer tail-feathers; in Sky there are usually some dark streaks present on the flanks and the outer tail-feathers are pure white (see plate 138).

This mystery bird proved extremely difficult to identify and only five entrants managed to identify it correctly. Quite surprisingly, most incorrect answers were not for Sky Lark (only 9%) but for Dupont's Lark (56%); other incorrect answers included Crested Lark (18%), Raso Lark (8%) and Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi* (7%).

This round was even more difficult than the previous one: no one succeeded in identifying both mystery birds correctly, 11 entrants identified one bird correctly, while all others identified both birds incorrectly. The 11 entrants who identified either the Common Guillemot or the Oriental Lark correctly are Theo Bakker, Sietze Bernardus, Max Berlijn, Arjan Boele, Hannu Jännes, Harri Kontkanen, Jan van der Laan, Timo Marijnissen, Rients Niks, Gert Ottens and Dave van der Spoel. They are the winners of this round and from them Sietze Bernardus, Max Berlijn and Dave van der Spoel were drawn as those who will receive a copy of *Photographic handbook of the seabirds of the world* by Jim Enticott and David Tipling, donated by New Holland (Publishers). Hannu Jännes (Finland) and Dave van der Spoel (Netherlands) are now leading the competition with five correct answers each, closely followed by Sietze Bernardus, Jan-Joost Bouwman, Rob Bouwman, Jan van der Laan, Timo Marijnissen, Mark Nieuwenhuis and Gert Ottens with four correct answers and 23 entrants with three correct answers. A more comprehensive overview of the leadership of the competition will be given at http://www.xs4all.nl/~eland/dutchbirding.

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## Fourth round 1998

Please, study the rules (Dutch Birding 20: 42-43, 1998) carefully and identify the birds in mystery photographs V and VI. Solutions can be sent in three different ways:

- by *postcard* to Dutch Birding Association, Postbus 75611, 1070 AP Amsterdam, Netherlands
- by e-mail to d.s.kok@students.chem.uu.nl
- by Internet via the homepage of the Dutch Birding Association, http://www.xs4all.nl/~eland/dutchbirding

Entries for the fourth round have to arrive by **25 October 1998**. From those entrants having identified both mystery birds correctly, three persons will be drawn who will receive a copy of *Bird Identification – a reference guide* by Kristian Adolfsson and Stefan Cherrug, donated by Skånes Ornitologiska Förening. Swarovski Benelux will award a pair of the highly acclaimed Swarovski SLC 8x30 WB binoculars to the overall winner at the end of the competition (after six rounds).

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# WP reports

This review lists rare and interesting birds reported in the Western Palearctic mainly in **July-early September 1998** and focuses on north-western Europe. The reports are largely unchecked and their publication here does not imply future acceptance by the rarities committee of the relevant country. Observers are requested to submit records to each country's rarities committee. Corrections are welcome and will be published.

The first **Redhead** *Aythya americana* for Iceland was a male at Rif, Snæfellsnes peninsula, on 8-10 July. The next day, possibly the same individual was found at a distance of 113 km at Fitjatjörn, Reykjanes peninsula, just north of Sandgerði, where it stayed until at least 15 July. A male **Black Duck** *Anas rubripes* returned to Barrow Harbour, Kerry, Ireland, on 16 August; last year, it wintered in the same area. The second and third **White-winged Scoters** *Melanitta deglandi* for Iceland were males at Hvalnes, Lón, on 4-6 June (for the first record, see Birding World 10: 56-61, 1997; Bliki 18: 31, 65-67, 1997).

An adult summer **Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps* which returned to Rostellan Lake, Cork, Ireland, on 26 July remained into September. A **soft-plumaged petrel** *Pterodroma feae/madeira/mollis* gave prolonged, distant views on 20 August off the Bridges-of-Ross, Clare, Ireland. Another was reported at Newbiggin, Northumberland, England, on 24 August. On 10 September, one flew past Cape Clear, Cork. A pelagic transect in early August from Madeira to Lisboa again demonstrated that **Bulwer's Petrel** *Bulweria bulwerii* and **Little Shearwater** *Puffinus assimilis* are regular in late summer in Portuguese waters. The first **Swinhoe's Storm-petrel** *Oceanodroma monorhis* for the USA was photographed on 8 August at c 40 miles SSE off Hatteras Inlet, North Carolina; on the very same day, a **Bulwer's Petrel** was photographed 40-50 miles to the north. The second **Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus minutus* for Denmark since 1968 was seen at Tryggeler Nor, Langeland, Fyn, on 12 July. A **Green Heron** *Butorides virescens* was found in the Azores on 10 September. A dark-morph **Western Reef Egret** *Egretta gularis* stayed in the Camargue, Bouches-du-Rhône, France, during July. The first **Little Egret** *E garzetta* for Rhodes Island, USA, was on Block Island on 14 September; it was also the first aged as first calendar-year for the USA. The first **Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* for Iceland in the 20th century stayed from 10 June into July at Sandgerði. The colony of **Greater Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus roseus* at Molentargius pond, Sardinia, had an Italian record of 3450 chicks being reared in 1998.

On 5 July, a **Black-shouldered Kite** *Elanus caeruleus* was seen 15 km north-east of Frankfurt, Hessen, Germany. On 13 August, two were present in Aveyron, France. After no growth in 1950-80, the German population of **White-tailed Eagles** *Haliaeetus albicilla* increased to 301 breeding pairs in 1997; for 1998-2000, a further increase of c 20% and a further range expansion is expected (Vogelwelt 119: 47-63, 1998). The seventh **Egyptian Vulture** *Neophron percnopterus* for Sweden was seen in Skåne on 5 July. Amazingly, one of the two **Lammergeiers** *Gypaetus barbatus* seen on 12-19 May in the Netherlands appeared to have returned in the French Alpes at Vanoise NP, Savoie, in late May (cf Dutch Birding 20: 128, 136, 1998). A **Lesser Spotted Eagle** *Aquila pomarina* stayed at Woël, Étang de Lachaussee, Meuse, France, from 11 May through July. At Breuil-Magne, Charente-Maritimes, a **Bonelli's Eagle** *Hieraaetus fasciatus* was recorded on 12 September. In Sicily, Italy, a female **Amur Falcon** *Falco amurensis* was seen on 7 May and an adult male was photographed on 19 May at Stretto di Messina (cf Bird-

**139** Sharp-tailed Sandpiper / Siberische Strandloper *Calidris acuminata*, adult, Ezumakeeg, Lauwersmeer, Friesland, Netherlands, 9 August 1998 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)* **140** Baird's Sandpiper / Bairds Strandloper *Calidris bairdii*, adult, and Dunlin / Bonte Strandloper *C alpina*, Lound Gravel Pits, Nottinghamshire, England, August 1998 *(Iain H Leach)* **141** Red-necked Stint / Roodkeelstrandloper *Calidris ruficollis*, adult, Ballycotton, Cork, Ireland, July 1998 *(Paul Archer)* **142** Blue-cheeked Bee-eater / Groene Bijeneter *Merops persicus*, Husby Sø, Vestjylland, Denmark, 6 July 1998 *(Henrik Knudsen)* **143** Turkestan Shrike / Turkestaanse Klauwier *Lanius phoenicuroides*, Anglesey, Wales, July 1998 *(Steve Young/Birdwatch)* **144** Redwing / Koperwiek *Turdus iliacus*, juvenile, Nuuk, Greenland, 15 August 1998 *(Sven Achtermann)*

ing World 11: 259-260, 1998). In Sweden, a pale-morph **Eleonora's Falcon** *f. eleonorae* was present at Resmo, Öland, on 8 August.

An adult **Sora Crake** *Porzana carolina* at Tacumshin, Wexford, on 2-4 August was the second for Ireland (the first was in 1920). In the Ebro delta, Catalonia, Spain, an **Allen's Gallinule** *Porphyrula alleni* was reported on 9 September. In Nova Scotia, Canada, an adult **American Purple Gallinule** *P. martinica* stayed at the golf course of Hartlen Point from 19 July onwards (at least until 25 July). A **Grey-headed Swamp-hen** *Porphyrio poliocephalus* was seen at Rethen, Hannover, Niedersachsen, Germany, on 4-5 July. A male in Cambridgeshire, England, from 12 July was proven to be an escape from a nearby aviary. A **Black-winged Pratincole** *Glareola nordmanni* was reported at Fleury, Aude, France, on 5 September. The second **American Golden Plover** *Pluvialis dominicus* for France was an adult in the Camargue on 16-18 August. The 10th for the Netherlands was at Middelplaten, Goes, Zeeland, from 20 September. An adult **Sociable Lapwing** *Vanellus gregarius* stayed at Spaarnwoude, Noord-Holland, the Netherlands, from 25 June to 17 August. In France, one was at Contres, Loire-et-Cher, on 1-7 August. A **White-tailed Lapwing** *V. leucurus* on 18 November 1978 at Las Galletas, Tenerife, Canary Islands, was recently accepted being Europe's first for November (Ardeola 45: 97-116, 1998). In the Netherlands, surprisingly, the adult staying at Assendelft, Noord-Holland, from 21 February to 8 March returned on 4 September, still being present in large flocks of Lapwing *V. vanellus* on at least 27 September.

The sixth **Semipalmated Sandpiper** *Calidris pusilla* for the Netherlands was a distant adult at Slikken van Bommenede, Zonnemaire, Zeeland, on 5-12 August and another was at Ezumakeeg, Lauwersmeer, Friesland, on 9-20 August. The second for Northern Ireland was an adult summer photographed at Belfast Lough during 13-18 August. In Ireland, up to two were present at Tacumshin on 10-14 September. On Terceira, Azores, one Semipalmated and a **Western Sandpiper** *C. mauri* were seen on 30 August. A first-winter Western stayed near Marais de Monporteau, Les Sables d'Olonne, Vendée, France, on 9-12 September. An adult summer **Red-necked Stint** *C. ruficollis* was photographed at Ballycotton, Cork, on 2-5 July. Another stayed for less than 6 h on 4 July at Oud-Beijerland, Zuid-Holland, the Netherlands (Dutch Birding 20: 144, 1998). A **Least Sandpiper** *C. minutilla* was discovered at Lac de Momas, Pyrenées-Atlantiques, France, on 25 July. In the Azores, after one at Lajes do Pico on 26 July, eight were seen during the first half of September. Another stayed at Rodgerstown, Dublin, Ireland, on 12-13 September. In Germany, an adult **White-rumped Sandpiper** *C. fuscicollis* was at Meldorfer Speicherkoog, Schleswig-Holstein, on 29 July and another at Clauen, Niedersachsen, on 4-25 August. In Norway, one stayed at Fræje, More og Romsdal, on 1-2 August. In Belgium, an adult was found at Moerbeke, Oost-Vlaanderen, on 2 August and in Denmark, an adult was at Agger, Nordjylland, on 11 September. In Britain, seven were seen in July and again seven in August. In Ireland, one was reported in July and two were seen in August. Also in Ireland, from mid August to mid September, single **Baird's Sandpipers** *C. bairdii* were reported at Tacumshin (twice), at Broad Lough, Wicklow, and at Ballycotton. Three were seen in England in August and two in early September. In the first half of September, one was reported from Ouessant, Finistère, France, and at least eight from the Azores. Photographs of one reported as a first for Hungary, at Soseri on 7-17 May (cf Dutch Birding 20: 131, 1998), show a **Sanderling** *C. alba*. The second and third **Sharp-tailed Sandpipers** *C. acuminata* for the Netherlands were two adults at Ezumakeeg, Lauwersmeer, Friesland, on 6-8 August; one stayed until 23 August. The first **Stilt Sandpiper** *Micropalama himantopus* for the Netherlands was an adult seen by many birders at Blauwe Kamer, Rhenen, Utrecht, on 24 July. It was also only the second for Europe in the past five years (the other one was an adult at Minsmere, Suffolk, England, on 7-13 September 1997). In Ireland, up to six **Buff-breasted Sandpipers** *Tryngites subruficollis* were present at Tacumshin on 12-15 September. The 11th for the Netherlands was a juvenile at Polder Eijerland, Texel, Noord-Holland, on 16-19 September. A **Short-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus griseus* was reported from the Azores in early September. An **Upland Sandpiper** *Bartramia longicauda* was briefly seen at Porthgwarra, Cornwall, England, on 17 September. In France, a large count of 20 **Marsh Sandpipers** *Tringa stagnatilis* was in the Camargue on 22 July. A **Solitary Sandpiper** *T. solitaria* was reported from the Azores in early September. The fourth **Lesser Yellowlegs** *T. flavipes* for the Netherlands was an adult at Oude Robbengat, Lauwersmeer, Groningen, on 15-17 July. In the Camargue, the **Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus* present since 1997 remained at least into August. The second **Willet** *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus* for France (and the first for the 20th century) was a first-winter on 12-13 September at La Belle-Henriette lagoon between La Faute-sur-Mer and La Tranche-sur-Mer, Vendée. In the Azores, a **Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularia* was seen on Terceira on 30 August; a juvenile was present at Bawdsey, Suffolk, from 8 September onwards. In Ireland, a **Wilson's Phalarope** *Phalaropus tricolor* stayed at Tacumshin from 28 June to 14 July; other singles were reported, eg, in Caernarvonshire, Wales, on 27-28 August (a juvenile), and at Bunowen Bay, Galway, Ireland, on 30 August. In the first half of September, one had arrived in the Azores, one in England and three in Ireland.

A juvenile **Great Black-headed Gull** *Larus ichthyaetus* was photographed on 5 September at Altwarmbüchener See, Hannover, Germany. From May until at least mid August, a second-winter **Laughing Gull** *L. atricilla* remained at Boddam, Shetland, Scotland. An adult was seen in Dorset, England, on 15 July. In France, one was reported at Bouin, Vendée, on 4 August and another on

**145** Oriental Cuckoo / Boskoekoek *Cuculus saturator*, Lieksa, Finland, 27 June 1998 *(Juha Poutanen)* **146** Oriental Cuckoo / Boskoekoek *Cuculus saturator*, Lieksa, Finland, 27 June 1998 *(Kimmo Nevalainen)* **147** Great Black-headed Gull / Reuzenzwartkopmeeuw *Larus ichthyaetus*, first-year, Altwarmbüchener See, Hannover, Germany, 5 September 1998 *(Detlef Gruber)*

Ile de Ré, Charente-Maritime, on 25 August. If accepted, a first-summer **Franklin's Gull** *L pipixcan* off l'Estartit, Girona, on 21 June will be the fifth for Spain. In France, an adult summer was present on Ile de Ré on 22-25 August. In Britain, first-summer **Bonaparte's Gulls** *L philadelphia* were reported from Druridge Bay, Northumberland, from 26 July to 11 August and again on 9 September, and from Musselburgh, East Lothian, Scotland, from 17 August into September. Single **Audouin's Gulls** *L audouinii* were seen at Thonon-les-Bains, Haute Savoie, on 6 September and at Lac Léman, Genève, Switzerland, on 7 September. The seventh **Ring-billed Gull** *L delawarensis* for the Netherlands concerned an adult present from 18 January to 11 February 1998 at Goes, Zeeland, which returned to the same area on 18 September. The third-winter **Glaucous-winged Gull** *L glaucescens* at La Restinga, El Hierro, Canary Islands, on 7-10 February 1992 has recently been accepted (Birding World 9: 237, 1996, Ardeola 45: 97-116, 1998). It was seen three years earlier than the adult, possibly the same individual, photographed at Essaouira, Morocco, on 31 January 1995 (Dutch Birding 17: 76-81, 1995). In Norway, a **Ross's Gull** *Rhodostethia rosea* was reported at Brunlanes, Vestfold, on 9 July. In Germany, an adult was seen for an hour at Westerland, Sylt, Schleswig-Holstein, on 6 August. In the Netherlands, an adult summer flew past the ferry to Texel on 21 August.

In France, an **Oriental Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis* was seen at Marais Bréton, Vendée, at least on 11-12 September. Up to two **Laughing Doves** *S senegalensis* stayed with Collared Doves *S decaocto* north of Arles, Bouches-du-Rhône, from 30 August to at least 6 September. A **Great Spotted Cuckoo** *Clamator glandarius* was seen at Mölnor, Fårö, Gotland, Sweden, on 18 August. The first and second **Oriental Cuckoos** *Cuculus saturatus* for Finland were singing at Lieksa from c 15 June to 11 July and at Karstula from 25 June to 4 July. The first successful breeding of **Eurasian Scops Owls** *Otus scops* for the Czech Republic occurred this summer on the Moravian side of Bile Karpaty Mountains, south-eastern Moravia; there are only c 20 records for the Czech Republic, half of which in the 19th century. In Scilly, England, two single **Common Nighthawks** *Chordeiles minor* were found; one was an adult male on St Agnes on 8-14 September (when it died) and another was on St Mary's from 12 September onwards. The first for France was discovered at Prad Meur, Ouessant, on 17 September. In the Azores, a **Chimney Swift** *Chaetura minor* was reported in mid September. If accepted, a **White-rumped Swift** *Apus caffer* at Capo Murro de Porco, Siracusa, Sicily, on 26 July will be the first for Italy. In Portugal, as usual, several returned to Mertola and three were present during June-July at the breeding site. The first **Blue-cheeked Bee-eater** *Merops persicus* for Norway was at Lokoy, Fjell, Hordaland, on 22 June and the third for Denmark was at Husby Sø, Vestjylland, on 6 July. The eighth breeding record of **European Bee-eater** *M apiaster* for Denmark occurred this summer at Kongstrup, Kalundborg, Vestsjælland, where three to four pairs raised young. In southern Turkey, a **Grey-headed Woodpecker** *Picus canus* was seen near Akseki on 5 August.

The origin of a **Bimaculated Lark** *Melanocorypha bimaculata* with one leg on 5 July at Günzburg, Bayern, Germany, was disputed. On 13 July, a **Black Lark** *M yeltoniensis* was reported at Hamningberg, Blåtsfjord, Finnmark, Norway. From 21 August onwards, a **Crested Lark** *Galerida cristata* stayed at Trondheim, Sør-Trøndelag. On 13-16 July, a **Red-rumped Swallow** *Hirundo daurica* was photographed on Hornøya, Vardø, Varangerfjord, Finnmark. A male **Black-headed Wagtail** *Motacilla feldegg* at Jæren, Rogaland, Norway, paired with a female Blue-headed Wagtail *M flava* was feeding young in July. Another stayed near Rattray Head, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, from 12 July to 6 August. The third **Rock Thrush** *Monticola saxatilis* for Sweden and the first twitchable was a male at Holmträsk, Norrbotten, from 21 July to at least 26 August. The first successful breeding of **Redwing** *Turdus iliacus* for Greenland was at Nuuk this summer. On 4 August, a **Paddyfield Warbler** *Acrocephalus agricola* was seen at Espoo, Finland. The 15th for Sweden was trapped at Falsterbo, Skåne, on 1 September. In Nieuwegein, Utrecht, the first breeding **Blyth's Reed Warbler** *A dumetorum* for the Netherlands concerned a male paired with a **Marsh Warbler** *A palustris* producing two young in June-July. If accepted, a **Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella certhiola* seen on 14 September by two birders at Segerstad, Öland, will be the first for Sweden. A report of an alleged **River Warbler** *L fluviatilis* in the Berlengas, Portugal, in late May (Dutch Birding 20: 133, 1998) appeared to be erroneous. The third **Icterine Warbler** *Hippolais icterina* for Portugal was photographed in the Berlengas on 24 May. In Shetland, single **Arctic Warblers** *Phylloscopus borealis* were seen on Fair Isle on 29-30 August and at Quendale on 13-14 September. On 30 August, one was reported in the Camargue and another was briefly seen at Tienen, Vlaams-Brabant, Belgium, on 11 September. An adult **Eastern Bonelli's Warbler** *P orientalis* trapped at Grutness, Shetland, on 27 August stayed until 5 September and, subsequently, at Scatness until 7 September. A presumed first-summer female **Turkestan Shrike** *Lanius phoenicuroides* stayed at Cemlyn, Anglesey, Wales, from 2 July to 8 August. The long-staying **Spanish Sparrow** *Passer hispaniolensis* at Waterside, Cumbria, England, remained the entire period. Like last year, the two **House Crows** *Corvus splendens* present since April 1994 at Hoek van Holland, Zuid-Holland, raised a young which was first seen on 9 July. The sixth individual for the Netherlands and the first for Friesland and Groningen was an adult staying first at Kollumerland, Lauwersmeer, on 15 August (probably, from 9 August) and presumably the same later at Winsum, Groningen, on 20 September. Two singing **Two-barred Crossbills** *Loxia leucoptera* were (still) seen at Blauwe Bos near Duurswoude, Friesland, on 19-25 July. The first **Louisiana Waterthrush** *Seiurus motacilla* for the WP at Tazacorte, La

Palma, Canary Islands, on 10-26 November 1991 has recently been accepted (Birding World 5: 26, 1992, Dutch Birding 18: 143, 1996, Ardeola 45: 97-116, 1998). In mid September, a **Red-eyed Vireo** *Vireo olivaceus* was seen on Ouessant. On Helgoland, Schleswig-Holstein, an American passerine glimpsed on 18 September was tentatively identified as a **Yellow-throated Vireo** *Vireo flavifrons*. On 6 September, a **Black-headed Bunting** *Emberiza melanocephala* was present on Ouessant and a second-year female was trapped on Öland on 13 September. A **Bobolink** *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* was reported from the Azores in early September.

For a number of reports, publications in Ardeola, Birding World, Birdwatch, British Birds, Limicola, Ornithos, Vår Fågelvärld, Winging It, Wingspan and World Birdwatch were consulted. News from Britain was kindly supplied by Birdline (0891-700-222 or 0891-700-242) and Rare Bird News (0881-888-111). I wish to thank Paul Archer, Rafael Armada (Turkey), Peter Barthel (Germany), David Bigas, Mags Brindle, P A Buckley, Alain Chappuis, Rolf Christensen, Tony Clarke (Canarian Nature Tours), Tim Collins, José Luis Copete (Turkey), Andrea Corso (Italy), David Cottridge, Mike Crewe, Eric Dempsey, Gunter De Smet (Belarus), Jochen Dierschke (Germany), Hugues Dufourny, Enno Ebels, Peter Fraser (UK), Gonçalo Elias, Tommy Frandsen, Marcello Grussu, Morten Günther, Ricard Gutiérrez, Erling Jirle, Adrian Jordi, Yves Kayser, Chris Kightley, Guy Kirwan (OSME), Pierre Le Maréchal (France), André van Loon, Jan Louwman, Bruce Mactavish, Blake Maybank, Anthony McGeehan, Richard Millington, Geir Mobakken, Colm C Moore, Gerald Oreel, Arie Ouwerkerk, Gunnlaugur Pétursson (Iceland), Stefan Aki Ragnarsson (Iceland), Colin Richardson (UAE), Luciano Ruggieri (Italy), George Sangster, Holger Schritt, Bob Scott, Ricardo Tome, Martin Vavrik and Roland van der Vliet for their help in compiling this review.

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# Recente meldingen

Dit overzicht van recente meldingen van zeldzame en interessante vogels in Nederland en België beslaat voornamelijk de periode **juni-juli 1998**. 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, Postbus 45, 2080 AA Santpoort-Zuid, Nederland. Hiertoe gelieve men gebruik te maken van CDNA-waarnemingsformulieren die eveneens verkrijgbaar zijn bij bovenstaand adres.

## Nederland

GANZEN TOT VALKEN Een wel erg late **Roodhalsgans** *Branta ruficollis* bevond zich op 4 juni achter de kwelplasjes langs de Oostvaardersdijk, Flevoland. Op 15 juli verbleef een groep van 24 **Casarca's** *Tadorna ferruginea* bij de Stichtse Brug, Noord-Holland. Grote aantallen **Krooneenden** *Netta rufina* betroffen op 8 juni 25 in de Botshol, Utrecht, en op 9 juli 13 op het Veluwemeer ter hoogte van Hoophuizen, Gelderland. De **Bronskopeend** *Mareca falcata* van de Ezumakeeg, Friesland, werd daar nog tot 7 juni gezien. **Grauwe Pijlstormvogels** *Puffinus griseus* werden gemeld op 14 juli bij Camperduin, Noord-Holland, en op 15 juli (twee) langs Terschelling, Friesland. **Noordse Pijlstormvogels** *P puffinus* vlogen op 8 juni langs Westkapelle, Zeeland, op 13 juli langs Zandvoort, Noord-Holland, op 15 juli (vijf) en 16 juli langs Terschelling en op 30 juli (twee) langs Scheveningen, Zuid-Holland. Vanaf 5 juli werden 17 **Vale Pijlstormvogels** *P mauretanicus* gezien vanaf Camperduin, terwijl andere gemeld werden op 15 juli langs Terschelling en op 31 juli langs Scheveningen. Drie Vale Stormvogeltjes *Oceanodroma leucorhoa* die op 11 juli langs Huisduinen, Noord-Holland, vlogen werden later geherdetermineerd als twee **Stormvogeltjes** *Hydrobates pelagicus* en één stormvogeltje met een donkere stuit. Andere Stormvogeltjes werden gezien langs Camperduin op 14 juli minimaal drie en op 18 juli één. Een onvolwassen **Kuifaalscholver** *Stictocarbo aristotelis* werd vanaf 22 juli opgemerkt langs de Oosterscheldekering, Zeeland. **Woudapen** *Ixobrychus minutus* werden gezien van 7 tot 12 juni bij Uithoorn, Noord-Holland, op 12 juni en pas weer op 24 juli bij Kollumeroord, Friesland, en op 20 juni bij Nieuwerkerk aan den IJssel, Zuid-Holland. Ook werd in juni nog een Woudaap gehoord in Noord-Limburg. **Kwakken** *Nycticorax nycticorax* werden waargenomen op 7 juni in de Klotputten bij Eindhoven, Noord-Brabant, op 19 juni te Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, op 11 juli in de Kollumerwaard, Friesland, op

**148** Aziatische Goudplevier / Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*, De Putten, Schoorl, Noord-Holland, 23 juli 1998 *(René Pop)*

**149** Gestreepte Strandloper / Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*, adult, Neer, Limburg, 4 augustus 1998 *(Karel Lemmens)*

**150** Steppekievit / Sociable Lapwing *Vanellus gregarius*, adult, Spaarndam, Noord-Holland, 25 juni 1998 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)* **151** Steltstrandloper / Stilt Sandpiper *Micropalama himantopus*, adult, Blauwe Kamer, Utrecht, 24 juli 1998 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)* **152** Huiskraai / House Crow *Corvus splendens*, adult, Kollumerland, Lauwersmeer, Friesland, 15 augustus 1998 *(Leo J R Boon/Cursorius)*

17 juli in Alphen aan den Rijn, Zuid-Holland, en bij Doornspijk, Gelderland, en op 20 juli bij Haastrecht, Zuid-Holland. Een **Ralreiger** *Ardeola ralloides* was op 22 juni enige tijd aanwezig op Terschelling. In de gehele periode werd nog een 15-tal **Koereigers** *Bubulcus ibis* gezien. Er zijn inmiddels serieuze berichten over geslaagde broedgevallen. In deze periode werden ook nog eens c 50 **Kleine Zilverreigers** *Egretta garzetta* gemeld, voornamelijk in juli en met als beste plek de omgeving van het Rammegors, Zeeland, waar er vanaf 20 juli c 30 verbleven. **Grote Zilverreigers** *Casmerodius albus* bleven schaars, met waarnemingen op 2 juli ten zuiden van het Naardermeer, Noord-Holland, vanaf 27 juli in de Oostvaardersplassen, Flevoland, en op 28 juli ten noorden van Drachten, Friesland. **Zwarte Ooievaars** *Ciconia nigra* werden gezien op 1 juni in de Blauwe Kamer bij Rhenen, Utrecht, op 14 juni bij Appelscha, Friesland, vanaf 20 juni achter de kwelplasjes langs de Oostvaardersdijk, op 20 en 21 juni op de Strabrechtse Heide, Noord-Brabant, op 17 juli bij Finsterwolde, Groningen, en op 21 en 22 juli in de omgeving van de Ezumakeeg. Maximaal zeven **Flamingo's** *Phoenicopterus roseus* verbleven in de Lauwersmeer, Groningen. **Zwarte Wouwen** *Milvus migrans* verschenen van 15 tot 17 juni bij Alphen aan den Rijn, op 19 juni over het Amsterdamse Bos, Noord-Holland, en op 5 en 6 juli ten noorden van Hardinxveld-Giessendam, Zuid-Holland. Een jonge **Rode Wouw** *M milvus* verbleef vanaf 28 juli op de Boschplaat op Terschelling. Naast een geheimgehouden **Slangenarend** *Circaetus gallicus* op de noordelijke Veluwe, was er een melding op 13 juni aan de zuidkant van de Hoge Veluwe, Gelderland. Op acht plekken verbleven deze zomer voor kortere of langere tijd **Visarenden** *Pandion haliaetus*. **Roodpootvalken** *Falco vespertinus* werden opgemerkt op 1 juni op Terschelling en op 2 juni op de Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland.

RALLEN TOT STERNS Een **Klein Waterhoen** *Porzana parva* werd van 30 mei tot 7 juni gehoord bij Kollumeroord. **Kleinste Waterhoenders** *P pusilla* werden van 30 mei tot 2 juni gehoord in de Tjamme bij Beerta, Groningen, op 31 mei in het Zwanenwater, Noord-Holland, en van 22 tot 26 juni in de Blauwe Kamer, Gelderland. **Kwartelkoningen** *Crex crex* waren uitzonderlijk algemeen dit jaar. Meer dan 400 territoria werden vastgesteld, voornamelijk in het noordoosten van het land (Groningen en Drenthe). Een adulte **Kraanvogel** *Grus grus* werd op 18 juni gemeld bij het Fochtelooërveen, Drenthe. Ook in eerdere jaren werden hier 's zomers adulte Kraanvogels aangetroffen. Ondanks de influx van het voorjaar bleven slechts weinig **Steltkluten** *Himantopus himantopus* in Nederland hangen: maximaal drie van 6 juni tot 22 juli in de Ezumakeeg, op 13 juni bij Bemmel, Gelderland, en op 24 juli drie op de Krammerse Slikken, Zuid-Holland. Een **Griel** *Burhinus oedicnemus* zou van 16 tot 18 juni gezien zijn op vliegveld Valkenburg, Zuid-Holland. **Vorkstaartplevieren** *Glareola pratincola* werden gedetermineerd op 13 juni bij de Oostvaardersplassen – deze bleef tot 23 juni – en vanaf 29 juli in het Stinkgat bij het Rammegors. Opvallend is dat op 13 juni ook nog een langsvliegende anonieme vorkstaartplevier werd gezien bij de Pampushaven, Flevoland. Een zeer fraaie **Steppevorkstaartplevier** *G nordmanni* verbleef van 1 tot 7 juli bij Hooge Zwaluwe, Noord-Brabant. Een **Morinelplevier** *Charadrius morinellus* pleisterde op 6 en 7 juni nog in de Ezumakeeg. Een **Aziatische Goudplevier** *Pluvialis fulva* werd op 18 juli ontdekt in de Putten bij Camperduin en bleef daar tot in augustus. Een wel zeer honkvaste **Steppekievit** *Vanellus gregarius* verbleef vanaf 25 juni tot in augustus in de omgeving van Spaarndam, Noord-Holland. De derde **Roodkeelstrandloper** *Calidris ruficollis* voor Nederland was op 4 juli kortstondig aanwezig op een natte plek in Oud-Beijerland, Zuid-Holland. Meerdere **Gestreepte Strandlopers** *C melanotos* waren aanwezig in de Lauwersmeer: van 15 tot 18 juli bij het Oude Robbengat aan de Groningse kant en op 16, 25 en 27 juli, mogelijk zelfs drie verschillende exemplaren in de Ezumakeeg. Op 3 en 4 augustus liet een exemplaar zich fraai bekijken bij Neer, Limburg. Hoewel er nog een potentieel aanvaardbare waarneming in de map van de CDNA rondwaart, werd op 24 juli de eerste **Steltstrandloper** *Micropalama himantopus* voor Nederland vastgelegd in de Blauwe Kamer, Utrecht. **Poelruiters** *Tringa stagnatilis* bleven goed vertegenwoordigd: op 6 juni in het Jaap Deensgat in de Lauwersmeer, vanaf 6 juni maximaal vier in de Ezumakeeg, op 9 en 10 juni en op 19 juli op de Krammerse Slikken, vanaf 19 juni maximaal twee op het Rammegors, op 22 juni in de Bakkersdam bij Petten, Noord-Holland, op 28 juni bij Woerden, Utrecht, op 5 juli in de Mokbaai op Texel, Noord-Holland, en op 30 juli aan de Belkmerweg bij Petten. De vierde **Kleine Geelpootruiter** *T flavipes* voor Nederland werd op 15 juli ontdekt bij het Oude Robbengat in de Lauwersmeer. Mogelijk was deze vogel al vanaf 11 juli aanwezig. **Grauwe Franjepoten** *Phalaropus lobatus* pleisterden op 5 juni bij Den Oever, Noord-Holland, op 7 en 8 juni bij Buggenum, Limburg, vanaf 28 juni maximaal vier in de Ezumakeeg, en op 27 juli in het Oude Robbengat. **Middelste Jagers** *Stercorarius pomarinus* werden gezien op 15 juli (een adult donkere fase) langs Terschelling en op 30 juli langs Camperduin. **Kleinste Jagers** *S longicaudus* vlogen op 12 juli langs Camperduin en op 18 juli langs Katwijk aan Zee, Zuid-Holland. Een opvallende verschijning was de **Grote Jager** *S skua* die op 13 juni bij Grevenbicht, Limburg, verbleef. Op 21 juni werd bij Markelo, Overijssel, een **Zilvermeeuw** *Larus argentatus* van het *'omissus'*-type gemeld. Op 13 juni werden drie **Geelpootmeeuwen** *L michahellis* gezien bij Grevenbicht en vanaf 10 juli werden vooral langs de Grote Rivieren weer enkele 10-tallen van dergelijke meeuwen vastgesteld. **Pontische Meeuwen** *L cachinnans cachinnans* werden al weer gedetermineerd op 5 juni bij Neer, Limburg, op 13 juni twee bij Grevenbicht en één bij Alblasserdam, Zuid-Holland, op 21 juni twee bij Markelo en op 12 juli één in de Erlecomse Waard, Gelderland. **Lachsterns** *Gelochelidon nilotica* verschenen zoals gewoonlijk weer in de kop van Noord-Holland: op 26 juli twee in Polder Q, op 27 juli in

**153** Steppevorkstaartplevier / Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni*, Hooge Zwaluwe, Noord-Brabant, 1 juli 1998 *(Marten van Dijl)*

**154** Roodkeelstrandloper / Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*, adult, Oud-Beijerland, Zuid-Holland, 4 juli 1998 *(Hans Gebuis)*

Polder Noorder-M, beide bij Petten, en op 31 juli 12 op een bloembollenveld bij 't Zand, Noord-Holland. Er werden 14 **Reuzensterns** *Sterna caspia* doorgegeven, voornamelijk vanaf eind juni. Er waren twee meldingen van **Dougalls Sterns** *S dougallii*; op 16 juni langs Camperduin en op 29 juni in de 's-Gravenhoekinlaag, Zeeland. Twee **Witwangsterns** *Chlidonias hybridus* bleven tot 4 juni in de Ezumakeeg. Andere vlogen op 5 juni (één) en 9 juni (twee) bij Stellendam, Zuid-Holland, en op 27 juli bij de Ventjagersplaten, Zuid-Holland. Vanaf 28 juni werden weer **Witvleugelserns** *C leucopterus* gezien bij Den Oever en op 31 juli drie bij de Houtribsluizen, Flevoland.

UILEN TOT GORZEN De **Dwergooruil** *Otus scops* van de Ooypolder, Gelderland, bleef daar tot 11 juni gehoord en soms gezien worden. Van de wederom succesvol broedende **Oehoes** *Bubo bubo* van Maastricht, Limburg, valt te melden dat zij na veel problemen met de exploitant van de groeve, nu in ieder geval nog een jaar rust krijgen. Opmerkelijk was de serieuze claim van een **Stekelstaartgierzwaluw** *Hirundapus caudacutus* op 20 juni boven Alphen aan den Rijn. Op 6 juni werd een **Alpengierzwaluw** *Apus melba* gemeld bij het Jaap Deensgat. Een **Bijeneter** *Merops apiaster* werd op 10 juli waargenomen bij Schiedam, Zuid-Holland. Ook dit jaar was er weer een twitchbare **Scharrelaar** *Coracias garrulus* en wel op 18 en 19 juni bij Alblasserdam, Zuid-Holland. Een **Roodsterblauwborst** *Luscinia svecica svecica* zou op 31 mei en 1 juni aanwezig zijn geweest bij Zoetermeer, Zuid-Holland. Late **Beflijsters** *Turdus torquatus* werden gezien op 6 juni op de Maasvlakte en op 17 juni (een zingend exemplaar) op de Hoge Veluwe. Een **Graszanger** *Cisticola juncidis* verbleef weer eens in Zeeuws-Vlaanderen, Zeeland, en wel van 1 tot 3 juni bij Hoofdplaat. In de categorie 'kortstondig aanwezige zangvogels' werden opgemerkt: **Orpheusspotvogels** *Hippolais polyglotta* op 8 juni bij Strucht, Limburg, en op 1 juli langs de Nijkerkerweg in Flevoland, een **Baardgrasmus** *Sylvia cantillans* op 6 juni bij Breskens, Zeeland, en een zingende **Grauwe Fitis** *Phylloscopus trochiloides* op 1 juni in de wijk Lewenborg te Groningen, Groningen. Ook was er een claim van een paartje **Bergfluiter** *P bonelli* met een jong, op 19 juli in de Mortelen bij Boxtel, Noord-Brabant. De **Kleine Vliegenvanger** *Ficedula parva* van het Robbenoordbos, Noord-Holland, werd daar nog tot 14 juni waargenomen. Een **Kleine Klapekster** *Lanius minor* verbleef van 15 tot 20 juni bij De Koog op Texel. **Roodkopklauwieren** *L senator* waren kort ter plaatse op 8 juni bij Haps, Noord-Brabant, en op 13 juni op Schiermonnikoog, Friesland. De **Huiskraaien** *Corvus splendens* van Hoek van Holland, Zuid-Holland, hadden ook dit jaar weer een succesvol broedseizoen met één uitgevlogen jong. Inclusief het jong van vorig jaar zijn daar dan ook inmiddels vier exemplaren te bewonderen. Op 15 augustus werd een nieuw exemplaar ontdekt bij Kollumerland, Friesland. **Witbandkruisbekken** *Loxia leucoptera* bleven in Friesland en werden ditmaal gezien bij Haulerveld met op 19 en 25 juli twee zingende mannetjes. De **Roodmussen** *Carpodacus erythrinus* maakten een dramatisch seizoen mee: op de waddeneilanden werden nauwelijks territoria vastgesteld, bijvoorbeeld op Terschelling één (16 territoria in 1997!). Op 21 juni werden tegelijk twee **Zwartkopgorzen** *Emberiza melanocephala* gezien: bij Castricum aan Zee, Noord-Holland, en op Schiermonnikoog.

*Ruud M van Dongen, Taalstraat 162, 5261 BJ Vught, Nederland*
*Remco Hofland, Koningstraat 23A, 2316 CC Leiden, Nederland*
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## België

EENDEN TOT VALKEN Op 1 juni zwom nog steeds een **Krooneend** *Netta rufina* te Harchies, Hainaut. Verder waren er waarnemingen bij Gent, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 1 juli en te Escanaffles, Hainaut, van 21 tot 25 juli (twee). Het vrouwtje **Witoogeend** *Aythya nyroca* van Zingem, Oost-Vlaanderen, bleef daar tot 8 juni. Een vrouwtje **Rosse Stekelstaart** *Oxyura jamaicensis* te Moerbeke-Waas, Oost-Vlaanderen, bleef de gehele periode aanwezig. Bijzonder vroeg waren de twee **Kuhls Pijlstormvogels** *Calonectris borealis* die op 18 juli langs Oostende, West-Vlaanderen, vlogen. Op 31 juli kwam de eerste **Grauwe Pijlstormvogel** *Puffinus griseus* langs Oostende. De eerste **Vale Pijlstormvogel** *P mauretanicus* voor dit jaar vloog op 12 juli langs Wenduine, West-Vlaanderen. Op 18 en 25 juli vloog een juveniele **Kuifaalscholver** *Stictocarbo aristotelis* langs Oostende. Op 19 en 20 juli zwom een onvolwassen vogel op een wel zeer belachelijk poeltje (een reservoir voor een serre) bij Pulle, Antwerpen. Juveniele **Kwakken** *Nycticorax nycticorax* werden opgemerkt te Dudzele-Zeebrugge, West-Vlaanderen (maximaal zes op 20 juli); te Oudenaarde, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 26 juni; te Oud-Heverlee, Vlaams-Brabant, op 28 juni; te Groenlaken, West-Vlaanderen, op 11 juli; en te Doornzele, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 12 juli en van 20 tot 25 juli. Een exemplaar in eerste zomerkleed verbleef van 2 tot 5 juli bij Gent. Zeldzamer was de waarneming van een **Ralreiger** *Ardeola ralloides* op 23 juni te Knokke-Heist, West-Vlaanderen. Op 21 juni vlogen twee **Koereigers** *Bubulcus ibis* langs Blokkersdijk, Antwerpen. Eén exemplaar vertoefde nog de gehele periode bij het Zwin te Knokke, West-Vlaanderen, en ook te Woumen, West-Vlaanderen, werd op 26 juli weer een exemplaar opgemerkt. **Kleine Zilverreigers** *Egretta garzetta* werden gezien op Blokkersdijk (vier); te Brugge, West-Vlaanderen (drie); Diest, Vlaams Brabant; Doornzele (twee); Dudzele-Zeebrugge (vier); Ertvelde, Oost-Vlaanderen; Gent; Kallo-Doel, Oost-Vlaanderen; Knokke (negen); Koolkerke, West-Vlaanderen; Mechelen, Antwerpen (drie); Meeuwen-Helchteren, Limburg (vijf); Oostende; en Willebroek (twee). Op 21 juli liep een **Grote Zilverreiger** *Casmerodius albus* bij Schulen, Limburg. Op 1 juni vloog een **Slangenarend** *Circaetus gallicus* over Rijkevorsel, Antwerpen. Op 25 juni was er nogmaals een melding te Kalmthout, Antwerpen. Op 19, 20 en 26 juli verscheen een exemplaar op het Schietveld te Brecht, Antwerpen, en aan de hand van het verenkleed werd vastgesteld dat dit met zekerheid de vogel was die in mei te Kalmthout verbleef. Op 26 juli (simultaan met de waarneming te Brecht) vloog bovendien een ander exemplaar over Kallo. Op 18 juni werd een schuwe arend *Aquila* gemeld bij Moerbeke-Waas welke op 25 en 26 juni gedetermineerd kon worden als **Steppearend** *A nipalensis*. Op 6 juni en 20 juli werd een mannetje **Roodpootvalk** *Falco vespertinus* gezien op het Schietveld te Brecht.

KOETEN TOT ROODMUSSEN In juni werd bekend dat er op 3, 4 of 5 mei een **Grijskoppurperkoet** *Porphyrio poliocephalus* werd gefotografeerd in een tuin te Neerpelt, Limburg. Op 4 juni werd er één ontdekt te Tienen, Vlaams-Brabant, en dit exemplaar liet zich op 6 en 7 juni door vele waarnemers bekijken. Verrassend genoeg riep op 7 juni een **purperkoet** *Porphyrio* luidruchtig te Zolder-Vogelzang, Limburg, maar deze vogel werd niet gezien. Te Dudzele-Zeebrugge liepen op 4 juni twee **Steltkluten** *Himantopus himantopus*, van 24 juni tot 1 juli verbleef een eerste-zomer bij Doornzele en van 11 tot 31 juli pleisterden er twee bij Fontenoy, Hainaut. Op 20 juli vloog een exemplaar over Brecht. Te Doornzele werden in totaal een 15-tal **Temmincks Strandlopers** *Calidris temminckii* waargenomen, verder werden er exemplaren gezien te Dudzele-Zeebrugge (drie), te Kallo-Melsele en te Lier, Antwerpen. Te Longchamps, Namur, pleisterde op 8 juni een adult-

**155** Slangenarend / Short-toed Eagle *Circaetus gallicus*, Brecht, Antwerpen, 26 juli 1998 *(Jef de Ridder)*

**156** Krekelzanger / River Warbler *Locustella fluviatilis*, Zoerle-Parwijs, Antwerpen, juni 1998 *(Patrick Beirens)*

zomer **Gestreepte Strandloper** *C melanotos*. Een adult vrouwtje **Grauwe Franjepoot** *Phalaropus lobatus* verbleef van 10 tot 12 juni te Tienen. Op 13 juni werd een **Grote Jager** *Stercorarius skua* gezien bij Stokkem, Limburg. Op 13 juni waren twee **Pontische Meeuwen** *Larus cachinnans cachinnans* aanwezig bij Stokkem en op 22 en 23 juli verbleef er één te Pommeroeul, Hainaut. **Geelpootmeeuwen** *L michahellis* werden waargenomen te Gaurain-Ramecroix, Hainaut (10); Gent (twee); Nieuwpoort, West-Vlaanderen (vier); Stokkem; en Zeebrugge (vijf). Op 14 juli vlogen twee **Lachsterns** *Gelochelidon nilotica* langs Oostende en op 31 juli pleisterde er kortstondig één bij Zelzate, Oost-Vlaanderen. De tweede-zomer **Reuzenstern** *Sterna caspia* die van 24 tot 26 juni bij Zonhoven, Limburg, verbleef was voor velen een welkome gast want pleisterende vogels blijven in België uiterst zeldzaam. De adulte **Dougalls Stern** *S dougallii* van de Voorhaven van Zeebrugge bleef nog tot 5 juli aanwezig. Een tweede exemplaar werd hier gezien op 11 juni. Op 10 juni zat hier ook een hybride **Dougalls Stern x Visdief** *S dougallii x hirundo*. Een **Hop** *Upupa epops* werd op 25 juni waargenomen te Kalmthout. Bij Schulen zong op 6 juni een **Cetti's Zanger** *Cettia cetti* die de volgende dag reeds verdwenen was. Verrassend was de terugkeer van de **Graszanger** *Cisticola juncidis* naar het Mechels Broek, Antwerpen, van 28 juni tot 5 juli; in 1997 werd deze vogel namelijk niet waargenomen. Op 23 juli werden er twee ontdekt bij Oostmalle, Antwerpen, en daar werd ook nestbouw vastgesteld (tot ten minste 30 juli). Van 2 tot 11 mei zong een **Krekelzanger** *Locustella fluviatilis* bij Mons, Hainaut, maar de waarneming werd verzwegen vanwege de ontoegankelijkheid van het gebied. Op 3 juni werd er één ontdekt te Zoerle-Parwijs, Antwerpen. Deze vogel was toen reeds een week aanwezig en liet zich tot 26 juni bekijken. **Buidelmezen** *Remiz pendulinus* verbleven te Harchies op 1 juni en in De Kuifeend, Antwerpen, op 21 juni. De waarneming van een **Roodkopklauwier** *Lanius senator* te Kallo-Doel op 30 juni werd pas later bekend. Op 3 juni werd een eerste-zomer mannetje **Roodmus** *Carpodacus erythrinus* ontdekt in het Zwin te Knokke en op 13 juni zong er één bij Stokkem.

Deze waarnemingsrubriek kwam tot stand met medewerking van Luc Bekaert (Oost-Vlaanderen), Peter Collaerts (Tienen), Frank De Scheemaeker (Mergus), Hugues Dufourny (Hainaut), Koen Leysen (Limburg), Dirk Symens (Vlavico), Willy Verschueren (Groenlink) en Didier Vieuxtemps (Luxembourg). Ook de hulp van al diegenen die (hun) waarnemingen inspraken op de Belgische Dutch Birding-vogellijn (03-4880194) was hier onontbeerlijk.

*Gerald Driessens, Pastoriestraat 16, 2500 Lier, België*

# DB Actueel

**Steltstrandloper in Blauwe Kamer** De Blauwe Kamer in Rhenen, Utrecht, en Wageningen, Gelderland, is een 'nieuw natuurgebied' waar door cultuurtechnische ingrepen enkele ondiepe plasjes zijn aangelegd en andere natte delen voorzien zijn van eilandjes. Afgezien van de in dit soort gebieden gebruikelijke Grauwe Ganzen *Anser anser* waren er dit jaar meerdere Kleine Zilverreigers *Egretta garzetta* en heeft er een Visarend *Pandion haliaetus* overzomerd. In zomer en herfst bevinden zich er altijd groepen Kieviten *Vanellus vanellus* en enkele Grutto's *Limosa limosa*, Kemphanen *Philomachus pugnax* en ruiters *Tringa*; ook zijn er af en toe enkele strandlopers *Calidris* te vinden. Het is de *local patch* van veel vogelaars uit de regio.

Op 24 juli ging Mart Janse er 's ochtends kijken en trof onder andere enkele Krombekstrandlopers *C ferruginea* aan. Daarbij bevond zich één vogel met een voor MJ onbekend kleed. Bij zijn vertrek kwam hij Aart Vink tegen, die hoopte de Reuzenstern *Sterna caspia* terug te vinden die hij juist boven de Rijn had zien vliegen. AV werd door MJ, die dringend weg moest, op de vogel opmerkzaam gemaakt; na enig zoeken zag hij de betreffende vogel en stelde onmiddellijk vast dat het niet een Krombekstrandloper maar een Steltstrandloper *Micropalama himantopus* moest zijn, ruiend van zomer- naar winterkleed. Hij gaf zo snel mogelijk een semafoonbericht door, met een onzekerheids-reserve omdat hij vleugeltekening en stuit van de vogel nog niet gezien had; wel had hij groene poten en bandering op de onderzijde vastgesteld. De eerste toegesnelde vogelaars stond een teleurstelling te wachten: de vogel leek te zijn verdwenen. Na bijna twee uuur wachten en turen bleek de Steltstrandloper echter achterin de plas op een afstand van c 500 m te foerageren. Zo'n 30 vogelaars bestudeerden de vogel met de sterkst mogelijke vergrotingen door de telescoop en konden een aantal kenmerken vaststellen, zoals het Krombekstrandloper-achtige voorkomen met een lange, bijna rechte snavel, de lange poten en het consequente waden tot aan de buik in het water. Pas nadat de vogel enige keren vervlogen was kon van geringere afstand door een klein aantal toeschouwers de kenmerkende streping op de flanken worden vastgesteld en werd het laatste beetje voorzichtheid (ook in de semafoonberichten) weggenomen.

Na enig overleg besloot de beheerster van het terrein toestemming te verlenen voor een bezoek aan het gebied zodat de vogel van dichterbij bestudeerd en

vastgelegd kon worden. Zo'n 140 liefhebbers mochten het gebied in en werden na enige moeite beloond; alle relevante kenmerken konden nu op een afstand van c 150 m worden vastgesteld en Arnoud van den Berg en Marc Plomp slaagden erin de vogel op beeld vast te leggen. Na de excursie kon de vogel nog tot c 18:30 van flinke afstand worden gezien vanaf het fietspad langs de Grebbeberg. Om 19:00 werd een nieuw bezoek aan het terrein toegestaan maar tot grote spijt van de vele belangstellenden was de vogel onvindbaar, dit keer definitief.

Dit was het eerste of tweede geval van Steltstrandloper voor Nederland. Over een melding van 16 augustus 1997 in de Lepelaarsplassen, Flevoland, heeft de CDNA nog geen definitief besluit genomen. Steltstrandloper is een zeer zeldzame gast in Europa, met 40-50 gevallen, waarvan c 30 in Groot-Brittannië en Ierland. Verder is de soort vastgesteld op IJsland en op het continent zijn er gevallen uit België, Finland, Frankrijk, Noorwegen, Oostenrijk, Spanje en Zweden.

Voor het eerst in de geschiedenis van het Nederlandse twitchen werd onder de bezoekende vogelaars een inzamelingsactie gehouden om het ongerief voor de Blauwe Kamer te verzachten; dit leverde c NLG 500 op: een koopje voor zo'n goede soort! AART VINK & WIM WIEGANT

**157** Steltstrandloper / Stilt Sandpiper *Micropalama himantopus*, adult, Blauwe Kamer, Utrecht, 24 juli 1998 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*

**Twee Siberische Strandlopers in Ezumakeeg** Na de acht uur voor de baas in Leeuwarden voltooid te hebben besloot ik op donderdag 6 augustus de dag af te sluiten in de Ezumakeeg, aan de westkant van het Lauwersmeergebied nabij Ezumazijl, Friesland. Dit begin dit jaar ingerichte natuurgebied heeft in haar prille bestaan al het nodige aan zeldzame vogels opgeleverd. Zo zijn er al een Amerikaanse Smient *Mareca americana*, een Bronskopeend *M falcata*, vier Steltkluten *Himantopus himantopus*, twee Gestreepte Strandlopers *Calidris melanotos*, een Grote Grijze Snip *Limnodromus scolopaceus*, vijf Poelruiters *Tringa stagnatilis* en drie Witwangsterns *Chlidonias hybridus* waargenomen.

De eerste indruk gaf het al enige tijd vertrouwde beeld van enkele Krombekstrandlopers *C ferruginea* en grote aantallen Kemphanen *Philomachus pugnax*. Bij het afzoeken van steltlopers in een drassig stuk in het zuidelijke deel van de Ezumakeeg viel rond 18:45 mijn oog op een vrij forse, getekende *Calidris*, die mij in eerste instantie deed denken aan een Gestreepte Strandloper. Bijna in de seconde dat me opviel dat de borst van de vogel wel erg intensief gevlekt was en niet gestreept en dat de vogel een roestbruin petje had, vloog de vogel met alle steltlopers op vanwege een Bruine Kiekendief *Circus aeruginosus*, mij achterlatend in het dagende besef dat ik zojuist naar een Siberische strandloper *C acuminata* had staan te kijken. Toen de eerste adrenaline was weggeëbd en een zenuwachtige blik over de weer ingevallen steltlopers niets opleverde besloot ik (zak)telefonisch hulp te zoeken. Na enkele pogingen vond ik Sybrand de Bruin bereid zijn avondeten te laten staan en naar de Ezumakeeg te komen. Dit hielp in ieder geval mijn hartslag beneden de 180 te krijgen en ik besloot weer intensiever te gaan zoeken. Na c 10 slopende minuten kwam de vogel mijn telescoopbeeld binnenlopen...in gezelschap van nóg een 'gestreepte' strandloper! Dit was hét moment om eventjes gek te worden. Het waren toch niet twee Gestreepte Strandlopers, of waren het twee Siberische? De tweede vogel léék mij een Gestreepte Strandloper vanwege het iets grotere formaat, het blekere voorkomen en de, naar het leek, duidelijk begrensde borstband. Deze vogel viel daarom binnen 5 sec al af (oei, oei...). De andere vogel was intensief gevlekt, met een vrij korte, licht gebogen snavel, een roestbruin petje en opvallende chevrons op de flanken. Kortom: piepen!

Mijn morele plicht om twee meer recreatieve vogelaars verderop ook op de soort te wijzen zorgde ervoor dat een nadere blik op de tweede vogel er bij inschoot. Op het moment dat ik beide vogels eindelijk in hun telescoop had vlogen ze allebei op en verdwenen achter het hogere gras. Na enkele minuten zoeken ontwaarde ik de door mij gedetermineerde Siberische Strandloper weer op de oude plek en kon het twitchfeest beginnen. Dit duurde ongeveer vijf kwartier waarna de vogel, ditmaal opgejaagd door een Blauwe Kiekendief *C cyaneus*, uit het zicht verdween. De tweede 'gestreepte' strandloper werd die avond niet meer waargenomen.

De volgende dag werd de Siberische Strandloper al

weer vroeg ontdekt, tot vreugde van de vele vogelaars van buiten de noordelijke regio. Aan het einde van de middag besloten onder andere Ferdy Hieselaar en Roy Slaterus naar een gemelde Poelruiter te gaan zoeken in het zuidelijke deel van de Ezumakeeg. Bij het afzoeken van de slikken ontwaarde FH een strandloper die hij in eerste instantie als Gestreepte Strandloper determineerde. Toen RS de vogel zag realiseerde hij zich dat dit een Siberische Strandloper was. Direct probeerden ze de aandacht van vogelaars c 200 m verderop te trekken die de andere kant op keken. In eerste instantie reageerde niemand; ze hadden het te druk met het kijken naar dé Siberische Strandloper. Na enkele keren 'hij zit hier hoor!' over en weer geroepen te hebben drong het tot iedereen door dat er twee exemplaren zaten! Dit tweede exemplaar zorgde enige tijd voor verwarring en discussie. Hoewel het postuur, de bruinrode kruin en oorstreek en de gevlekte onderstaartdekveren uiteindelijk overduidelijk op Siberische Strandloper wezen, waren de chevrons op de buik en flanken moeilijk te zien. Hierdoor leek de vogel een vrij scherp begrensde borstband te hebben. In combinatie met de opvallende wenkbrauwstreep en de dunne lichte V op de mantel maakte dit verwarring met Gestreepte Strandloper goed mogelijk. Beide vogels bleven die avond honkvast en en werden bijna tot donker door c 35 vogelaars waargenomen, steeds c 200 m uit elkaar.

De tweede vogel werd de volgende dag rond 06:30 kortstondig waargenomen door Max Berlijn. De rest van de dag werd echter tevergeefs gezocht naar beide vogels. Wel werd als troost een adulte Grijze Strandloper *C pusilla* op naam gebracht door diezelfde MB. De verrassing was dan ook groot toen op zondagochtend 9 augustus het eerste exemplaar weer opdook en zich de rest van de week onregelmatig maar soms erg fraai liet bekijken. De laatste waarneming dateert van 23 augustus; in deze periode is de vogel door c 200 vogelaars bezocht, waaronder Belgen, Duitsers en Fransen. Het tweede exemplaar werd niet meer waargenomen.

Deze ontdekking betekende de tweede en derde Siberische Strandloper voor Nederland. De eerste bevond zich van 14 tot 21 september 1989 te Philippine, Zeeland (Dutch Birding 13: 125-127, 1991). De Siberische Strandlopers en de nog tot 20 augustus onregelmatig gemelde Grijze Strandloper vormden de (voorlopige?) afsluiting van een stortvloed aan zeldzame steltlopers gedurende de zomermaanden, met onder andere de honkvaste Steppekievit *Vanellus gregarius* van Spaarndam, Noord-Holland, van 25 juni tot ver in augustus; de Steppevorkstaartplevier *Glareola nordmanni* van Hooge Zwaluwe, Noord-Brabant, op 1-7 juli; de Roodkeelstrandloper *C ruficollis* van Oud-Beijerland, Zuid-Holland, op 4 juli (cf Dutch Birding 20: 144, 1998); de Kleine Geelpootruiter *T flavipes* van de Lauwersmeer, Groningen, op 15-17 juli; de Aziatische Goudplevier *Pluvialis fulva* van De Putten, Noord-Holland, van 18 juli tot in augustus; en de Grijze Strandloper van Bommenede, Zeeland, op 5-12 augustus. Het hoogtepunt vormde de adulte Steltstrandloper *Micropalama himantopus* in de Blauwe Kamer bij Rhenen, Utrecht, op 24 juli. RUDY OFFEREINS

**158** Siberische Strandloper / Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*, adult, Ezumakeeg, Lauwersmeer, Friesland, 8 augustus 1998 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*

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**Subscriptions** The subscription rate for 1998 is: NLG 65.00 (Netherlands), BEF 1320.00 (Belgium), NLG 72.50 (other countries inside Europe) and NLG 77.50 (countries outside Europe).
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ISSN 0167-2878.

Printed by Drukkerij Rob Stolk bv, Mauritskade 55, 1092 AD Amsterdam, Netherlands


# Dutch Birding

*International journal on Palearctic birds*


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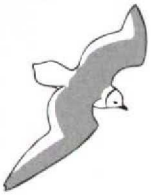
**Dutch Birding** JAARGANG 20 NUMMER 4 1998 *VOLUME 20 NUMBER 4 1998*



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**Abstracted / indexed in** Auk, Ecological Abstracts, Emu, GEOBASE (Geo Abstracts Database), Ibis, Ornithologische Schriftenschau, Wildlife Review, Zoological Record