

Subalpine Warbler. Great Saltee Island, Co. Wexford, Ireland. 18 April 2009
Photo: Tom Shevlin



List of *Sylvia* Warblers with References

Compiled by Joe Hobbs



Introduction

I have endeavoured to keep typos, errors, omissions etc in this list to a minimum, however when you find more I would be grateful if you could mail the details during 2012 to: josephobbs@gmail.com. Grateful thanks to Tom Shevlin (www.wildlifesnaps.com) for the cover images. All images © the photographer.
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The general order of species follows the International Ornithologists' Union World Bird List (**Gill, F. & Donsker, D.** (eds.) 2011. IOC World Bird Names. Available from: <http://www.worldbirdnames.org/> [version 3.0d_ssp accessed December 2011]). The Lesser Whitethroat complex arrangement and order follows Shirihai, Gargallo & Helbig 2001, 'Sylvia Warblers, Identification, taxonomy and phylogeny of the genus *Sylvia*'.

Version

Version 2.4 (1 February 2012).

Cover

Main image: Subalpine Warbler. Great Saltee Island, Co. Wexford, Ireland. 18 April 2009. Tom Shevlin.

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Blackcap

Sylvia atricapilla [Linnaeus 1758, Sweden].

[*S.a. atricapilla*] W Europe S to the Pyrenees & N Italy E to SW Siberia & N Kazakhstan and S to C Turkey & SW Russia. Winters W & S Europe and NW, W & E Africa.

[*S.a. dammholzi*] Caucasus & Transcaucasia S to N Iran. Winters Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Zaire & NE Zambia.

[*S.a. paulucci*] WC Mediterranean.

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[*S.a. gularis*] Cape Verde Islands & the Azores.

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Garden Warbler

Sylvia borin [Boddaert 1783, France].

[*S.b. borin*] W Europe E to Finland, C Poland, W Hungary & N Balkans. Winters sub-Saharan Africa. [*S.b. woodwardi*] C Poland, Balkans & Bulgaria E to the region of the upper R Yenisey (C Siberia). Winters E & S Africa.

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Barred Warbler

Sylvia nisoria [Bechstein 1792, central and northern Germany].

[*S.n. nisoria*] C Europe N to S Scandinavia & S Finland E to S Ural Mts & R Ural and S to E Italy, Balkans, N Turkey & N Iran. Winters E Africa.

[*S.n. merzbacheri*] SW Siberia & N Kazakhstan E to SE Mongolia and locally in C Asian mountains S to N Afghanistan & W Xinjiang (China). Winters E Africa.

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Stoddart, A. 2008. ID at a glance (Garden and Barred Warblers). *Birdwatch* 195: 26-27.

Waldenström, J. et al 2004. Habitat preferences and population trends in the Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria* in the Ottenby area, southeast Sweden. *Ornis Svecica* 14: 107-116.

Wheeler, T.E. 1995. Notes (Food and feeding habits of Barred Warbler in winter in England). *British Birds* 88(5): 227.

Lesser Whitethroat

Sylvia curruca [Linnaeus 1758, S Sweden].

[*S.c. curruca*] W & C Europe S to the Alps, N Italy, N Balkans, N Bulgaria, middle Volga basin, Asia Minor, the Levant, N & SW Iran & S Siberia. Winters Africa & S Asia.

[*S.c. halimodendri*] Lower R. Ural basin (Kazakhstan) E thru C Asian steppe to Mongolia. Winters S Asia.

Anon. 1991. Lesser Whitethroat: a new breeding species. *Irish Birding News* 1(3): 103-104.

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- Hearne, K.** 2004. Notes (Wintering Lesser Whitethroat in West Sussex). *British Birds* 97(7): 353.
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Margelanic Lesser Whitethroat

Sylvia margelanica [Stolzmann 1897].

Mountains ranges from Qaidam Pendi (Qinghai, China) N to SW Gobi and W to Lop-Nor Salt Marshes (China). Winters Pakistan, NW India & Iran.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al* 2006 as a form of Desert Lesser Whitethroat.

- Baker, K.** 1988. Identification of Siberian and other forms of Lesser Whitethroat. *British Birds* 81(8): 382-390.
- Haataja, K.T. & Dernjatin, P.** 2007. Specific avifauna characteristics in Central Asia. *Alula* 13(2): 56-63 (63, photo 23).
- King, J.** 1998. OrnithoNews (Three Lesser Whitethroats). *Birding World* 11(4): 122.
- Loskot, V.M.** 2005. Morphological variation and taxonomic revision of five south-eastern subspecies of Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca* (L.) (Aves: Sylviidae). *Zoologische Mededelingen* 79(3): 157-165.
- Madge, S.** 2001. Identification matters (Shades of grey). *Birdwatch* 111: 26-31.

Desert Lesser Whitethroat

Sylvia minula [Hume 1873, Bahawalpur, India].

SE Kazakhstan & Turkmenistan E to Xinjiang (W China) and possibly E Iran & W Afghanistan. Winters Arabia E to NW India.

Other name: Small Whitethroat, Desert Whitethroat.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al* 2006 to be polytypic with races *minula* & *margelanica*.

- Baker, K.** 1988. Identification of Siberian and other forms of Lesser Whitethroat. *British Birds* 81(8): 382-390.
- Baxter, P. & Broadbent, I.** 2004. The apparent Desert Lesser Whitethroat in Aberdeen. *Birding World* 17(12): 502-504.
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- Haataja, K.T. & DERNJATIN, P.** 2007. Specific avifauna characteristics in Central Asia. *Alula* 13(2): 56-63 (63, photo 22).
- Holt, C. & Turner, S.** 1999. The Desert Lesser Whitethroat on Fair Isle. *Birding World* 12(7): 281-283.
- King, J.** 1998. OrnithoNews (Three Lesser Whitethroats). *Birding World* 11(4): 122.
- Loskot, V.M.** 2005. Morphological variation and taxonomic revision of five south-eastern subspecies of Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca* (L.) (Aves: Sylviidae). *Zoologische Mededelingen* 79(3): 157-165.
- Madge, S.** 2001. Identification matters (Shades of grey). *Birdwatch* 111: 26-31.
- Money, D.** 2000. The Desert Lesser Whitethroat on Teesside. *Birding World* 13(11): 451-453.
- Papps, S.** 2001. Bird in the bush (Centre stage). *Birdwatch* 103: 66.

Mountain Lesser Whitethroat

Sylvia althaea [Hume 1878, Kashmir].

Karatau Mts (S Kazakhstan) E to SW & C Tien Shan and S thru mountains to NW Himalayas, Afghanistan, SE Iran & W Pakistan. Winters S Iran E to S India & Sri Lanka and probably S Afghanistan, S Iraq & SE Arabian peninsula.

Other name: Hume's Whitethroat.

Allan Octavian Hume CB (1826-1901), English theosophist, poet, ornithologist and writer on Indian birds.

- Baker, K.** 1988. Identification of Siberian and other forms of Lesser Whitethroat. *British Birds* 81(8): 382-390.
- Haataja, K.T. & DERNJATIN, P.** 2007. Specific avifauna characteristics in Central Asia. *Alula* 13(2): 56-63 (63, photo 21).
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- Knystautas, A.J.** 1992. Birds in the CIS. *Dutch Birding* 14(6): 219-222 (221).
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Western Orphean Warbler

Sylvia hortensis [J.F. Gmelin 1789, France].

SW & S Europe E to Switzerland & Italy and SW Morocco E to NE Libya. Winters Senegal E to Niger & Chad.

In Greek mythology, Orpheus was the son of Oeagrus and the Muse Calliope, who was renowned as a musician, poet and prophet. Temminck had previously assigned *Sylvia orphea* to this species and Gould derived the vernacular name from this.

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- Wolf, P.A. & Ebels, E.B.** 2008. Westelijke Orpheusgrasmus in Middelburg in oktober-november 2003 [Western Orphean Warbler at Middelburg in October-November 2003]. *Dutch Birding* 30(1): 13-16.

Eastern Orphean Warbler

Sylvia crassirostris [Cretzschmar 1830].

[*S.c. crassirostris*] Slovenia E to Turkey, the Levant, NW Iran & W Azerbaijan. Winters mainly Sudan E to W Yemen.

[*S.c. balchanica*] Iran & Transcaspiya. Winters Oman, S Iran & Pakistan.

[*S.c. jerdoni*] SC Asia. Winters India.

Other name: Jerdon's Orphean Warbler (*jerdoni*).

In Greek mythology, Orpheus was the son of Oeagrus and the Muse Calliope, who was renowned as a musician, poet and prophet. Temminck had previously assigned *Sylvia orphea* to this species and Gould derived the vernacular name from this.

Thomas Claverhill Jerdon (1811-1872), British physician, amateur botanist and wildlife author who published the Birds of India between 1862 and 1864.

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Arabian Warbler

Sylvia leucomelaena [Hemprich and Ehrenberg 1833, C Midyan, Saudi Arabia].

[*S.l. leucomelaena*] Tabuk & Khaybar (NW Saudi Arabia) S to S Yemen and E to Dhofar (Oman).

[*S.l. negevensis*] Arava Valley (on the Israel - Jordan border).

[*S.l. blanfordi*] Gebel Elba (SE Egypt) S along the coast to SE Eritrea.

[*S.l. somaliensis*] Djibouti & N Somalia.

Other names: Red Sea Warbler, Blanford's Warbler (*somaliensis* & *blanfordi*).

William Thomas Blanford (1832-1905), British geologist and ornithologist who was president of the Royal Geographical Society between 1888 and 1890.

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- Shirihai, H. et al** 2002. Identification, plumages, taxonomy and biology of Arabian Warbler *Sylvia leucomelaena*. *Sandgrouse* 24(2): 88-104.
- White, M.L.J. et al** 2007. Bird surveys and distance sampling in St Katherine Protectorate, South Sinai, Egypt in 2007. *Egyptian Journal of Biology* 9: 60-68.

Asian Desert Warbler

Sylvia nana [Hemprich and Ehrenberg 1833, El Tor, Sinai Peninsula, NE Egypt].
N & E Caspian Sea coasts, C & NE Iran E thru C Asian steppe to Mongolia. Winters Red Sea coast thru Sinai, S Israel, Arabia, Iran & Pakistan E to Rajasthan & Kutch (NW India).
The proposed form *theresae* is included.
Treated by del Hoyo *et al* 2006 to be polytypic with races *nana* & *deserti*.

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- Clifton, F.R.** Desert Warbler on Portland, pp. 178-181. Found in: **Sharrock, J.T.R. & Grant, P.J.** 1982. *Birds new to Britain and Ireland*. T. & A.D. Poyser.
- Collinson, M.** 2006. Splitting headaches? Recent taxonomic changes affecting the British and Western Palearctic lists. *British Birds* 99(6): 306-323 (314).
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- Winkel, E. et al** 2010. Bird counting in Iran in January 2009. *Dutch Birding* 32(3): 171-188 (184, plate 241).

African Desert Warbler

Sylvia deserti [Loche 1858, Algerian Sahara].
Western Sahara E to W Libya.
Treated by del Hoyo *et al* 2006 as a race of Desert Warbler *Sylvia nana*.

- Collinson, M.** 2006. Splitting headaches? Recent taxonomic changes affecting the British and Western Palearctic lists. *British Birds* 99(6): 306-323 (314).
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- Small, B.** 2006. More Moroccan birds. *Birding World* 19(6): 254-262 (259, plate 11).

Whitethroat

Sylvia communis [Latham 1787, Kent, England].

[*S.c. communis*] W Europe E to N European Russia & Ukraine, N Turkey and NW Africa. Winters mainly W & C Africa.

[*S.c. volgensis*] SE European Russia E to SW Siberia & N Kazakhstan. Winter range not fully established.

[*S.c. icterops*] Turkey, the Levant, Caucasus, Transcaucasia & N Iran E to Turkmenistan. Winters E & S Africa.

[*S.c. rubicola*] Russian Altai S to SE Uzbekistan and E to N Mongolia & S Transbaikalia (all C Asian mountain regions). Winters E & S Africa.

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Grandío, J.M. 1997. Sedimentación y fenología otoñal de tres especies de curruacas (*Sylvia* spp.) en el extremo occidental del Pirineo [Sedimentation and autumn phenology of three species of warblers (*Sylvia* spp.) on the western edge of Pyrenees]. *Ardeola* 44(2): 163-171.

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Hall, K.S.S. & Fransson, T. 2001. Wing moult in relation to autumn migration in adult Common Whitethroats *Sylvia c. communis*. *Ibis* 143: 580-586.

Holden, P. 1985. Spring Migration 1985. *British Birds* 78(9): 427-434.

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- van den Berg, A.B.** 1991. Mystery Photographs (Whitethroat). *Dutch Birding* 13(6): 210-212.
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- Wassink, A.** 1980. Whitethroat *Sylvia communis* with Blackish Legs. *Dutch Birding* 1(4): 122.
- Wilson, J.M. & Cresswell, W.** 2010. Densities of Palearctic warblers and Afrotropical species within the same guild in Sahelian West Africa. *Ostrich* 81(3): 225-232.
- Winstanley, D. et al** 1974. Where have all the Whitethroats gone? *Bird Study* 21(1): 1-14.

Dartford Warbler

Sylvia undata [Boddaert 1783, Provence, France].

[*S.u. undata*] S France, Iberian peninsula, Menorca and locally in N Mallorca (Balearic Islands), Corsica, Sardinia, Scilly & Italy.

[*S.u. toni*] NE Morocco E to N Tunisia and possibly S Iberia. Winters S to N edge of Sahara.

[*S.u. dartfordiensis*] S England, W France, NW Spain & N Portugal.

- Bibby, C.J. & Tubbs, C.R.** 1975. Status, habitats and conservation of the Dartford Warbler in England. *British Birds* 68: 177-195.
- Bibby, C.J.** 1977. *Ecology of the Dartford Warbler *Sylvia undata* (Boddaert) in relation to its conservation in Britain*. PhD thesis. UK: Council for National Academic Awards.
- Bibby, C.J.** 1978. Conservation of the Dartford warbler on English lowland heaths: A review. *Biological Conservation* 13(4): 299-307.
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- Gibbons, D.W. & Wotton, S.** 1996. The Dartford Warbler in the United Kingdom in 1994. *British Birds* 89(5): 203-212.
- Harbard, C.** 2010. Must see (Dartford Warbler). *Birdwatch* 214: 6-7.
- Herrando, S. et al** 2001. Factors influencing post-fire dynamics of Sardinian and Dartford Warblers in Mediterranean shrublands. *Ornis Fennica* 78(4): 168-174.

- Hódar, J.A.** 1994. La alimentación de *Sylvia undata* y *Sylvia conspicillata* en una zona semiárida del sureste peninsular [Diet of *Sylvia undata* and *Sylvia conspicillata* in the semiarid zone of southeast Iberian peninsula]. *Ardeola* 41(1): 55-58.
- Maggs, H.E.** 2000. Dartford Warbler on Fair Isle - the second record for Scotland. *Birding Scotland* 3: 129-130.
- Martin, J-L, & Thibault, J-C.** 1996. Coexistence in Mediterranean warblers: ecological differences or interspecific territoriality? *Journal of Biogeography* 23(2): 169-178.
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- Wotton, S.** et al 2009. The status of the Dartford Warbler in the UK and the Channel Islands in 2006. *British Birds* 102(5): 230-246.
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Marmora's Warbler

Sylvia sarda [Temminck 1820, Sardinia, Italy].

Corsica & Sardinia and some islands in the Tuscan archipelago including Capraia, Elba, Pianosa (off W coast Italy) and probably islands off SW Sicily. Winters NE Algeria E to NW Libya.

Alberto Ferrero Della Marmora (1789-1863), Italian naturalist.

Baccetti, N. 2002. Letters (Status of Marmora's Warbler in Italy). *British Birds* 95(4): 198-199.

Cottridge, D. 1992. Waves of Spring Migrants. *Birds Illustrated* 1(2): 5-12.

Diesselhorst, G. 1971. Zur Ökologie von Samtkopfgasmücke (*Sylvia melanocephala*) und Sardengasmücke (*Sylvia sarda*) im September in Sardinien [The ecology of Sardinian Warbler and Marmora's Warbler in Sardinia]. *Journal of Ornithology* 112(2): 131-137.

Dubois, P.J. 1992. Letters (More Marmora's Warblers). *Birding World* 5(7): 279.

Eds. 2001. Reports (Fourth-ever Marmora's shows for just a day). *Birdwatch* 109: 48-49.

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- Hutton, T.** 2010. Reports (The Marmora's Warbler in Gwent). *Birding World* 23(6): 235-237.
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- Martin, J-L, & Thibault, J-C.** 1996. Coexistence in Mediterranean warblers: ecological differences or interspecific territoriality? *Journal of Biogeography* 23(2): 169-178.
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Balearic Warbler

Sylvia balearica [von Jordans 1913, Dragonera, Mallorca, Balearic Islands, Spain].
Balearic Islands except Menorca.

Eds. 2009. Frontispiece (Male Balearic Warbler, Cape Formentor, Mallorca, March 2009 - picture by Eric Didner). *Birding World* 22(5): 177.

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Tristram's Warbler

Sylvia deserticola [Tristram 1859, Sahara of southern Algeria].

[*S.d. deserticola*] Atlas Saharien & Aurès Mts from Aïn Sefra (NW Algeria) E to Gafsa (Tunisia).

Winters S to Tademaït Plateau, Tassili n-Ajjer & Ahaggar Mts (C & S Algeria), NE Mali & C Libya.

[*S.d. maroccana*] Haut & Moyen Atlas from Jebel Igdet (Morocco) E to Tlemcen (NW Algeria). Winters S as far as Nouakchott (W Mauritania) in W Saharan oases.

[*S.d. ticehursti*] This form is known from the type specimen only, which was collected at Ouarzazate (S Morocco). Possibly an extinct race of Tristram's Warbler or an aberrant instance of *S.d. maroccana* or a hybrid x with African Desert Warbler.

Other name: Meinertzhagen's Warbler (*ticehursti*).

Reverend Henry Baker Tristram FRS (1822-1906), canon of Durham cathedral, traveller, naturalist, archaeologist and antiquarian.

Richard Meinertzhagen (1878-1967), British Empire builder, naturalist and chancer.

Fisher, D. 1991. Morocco. *British Birds* 84(9): 371-378 (375).

van Bemmelen, R.S.A. & Groenendijk, D. 2002. Masters of Mystery Solution (Tristram's Warbler). *Dutch Birding* 24(5): 300-301.

Spectacled Warbler

Sylvia conspicillata [Temminck 1820, Sardinia, Italy].

[*S.c. conspicillata*] Iberia E to Italy & Sicily and NW Africa S to WC Mauritania and Cyprus & S Turkey and scattered populations in The Levant. Winters mainly NW Africa, N Egypt & E Mediterranean.

[*S.c. orbitalis*] Madeira, Canary Islands & Cape Verde Islands. Mainly resident but some dispersal from Canary Islands to NW Africa.

Amies, P.A. 1990. Notes (Spectacled Warblers feeding in association with Finsch's Wheatear). *British Birds* 83(2): 73.

British Ornithologists' Union 1994. British Ornithologists' Union Records Committee: Twentieth Report (December 1993). *Ibis* 136: 253-255.

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Carrascal, L.M. et al 2008. Bias in density estimations using strip transects in dry open-country environments in the Canary Islands. *Animal Biodiversity and Conservation* 31(2): 45-50.

Crewe, M. & Marsh, M. 1997. The Spectacled Warbler in Suffolk. *Birding World* 10(4): 138-139.

- Cudworth, J. & Spence, B.R.** Spectacled Warbler at Spurn, pp. 160-162. Found in: **Sharrock, J.T.R. & Grant, P.J.** 1982. *Birds new to Britain and Ireland*. T. & A.D. Poyser.
- Dietzen, C. et al** 2008. Phylogenetic differentiation of *Sylvia* species (Aves: Passeriformes) of the Atlantic islands (Macaronesia) based on mitochondrial DNA sequence data and morphometrics. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 95(1): 157-174.
- García-del-Rey, E.** 2005. Density estimates of passerine bird species in Tenerifean coastal scrub using two different methods (Canary Islands). *Vieraea* 33: 193-199.
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- Gül, O. & Atahan, M.** 2011. A new breeding location of Spectacled Warblers *Sylvia conspicillata* in Turkey. *Sandgrouse* 33(1): 4-7.
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- Mayson, S.** 2008. reports (Warbler confusion. Spectacled Warbler: Westleton Heath, Suffolk, 10 May 2008). *Birdwatch* 193: 57.
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- Small, B.** 1996. Notes (Identification of male Spectacled Warbler). *British Birds* 89(6): 275-277.
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- Welch, G. & Welch, H.** 2004. Spectacled Warbler *Sylvia conspicillata*: a new breeding species for Turkey. *Sandgrouse* 26(1): 55-58.
- Yeates, G.K.** 1943. Some Field Notes on the Spectacled Warbler (*Sylvia conspicillata conspicillata* Temminck). *Ibis* 85(2): 163-165.

Subalpine Warbler

Sylvia cantillans [Pallas 1764, Italy].

[*S.c. cantillans*] Portugal to SE France and S Italy & Sicily. Winters coastal Senegal & SW Mauritania E to E Chad and locally in Algerian Sahara.

[*S.c. inornata*] S Iberia and W Haut Atlas (Morocco) E to N Tunisia. Winters Senegal E to Niger.

[*S.c. albistriata*] Extreme NE Italy S along N Adriatic coast to Albania and E to S Bulgaria, Greece, W Turkey & SW Romania. Winters E Mali E to NW Sudan.

Other name: Eastern Subalpine Warbler (*albistriata*).

Audevard, A. 2007. Première mention française de la Fauvette passerinette orientale (*Sylvia cantillans albistriata*) [Eastern Subalpine Warbler, new to France]. *Ornithos* 14(3): 198-199.

Baccetti, N. et al 2007. Proposed synonymy of *Sylvia cantillans moltonii* Orlando 1937, with *Sylvia cantillans subalpina* Temminck 1820. *Bulletin of the British Ornithologist' Club* 127: 107-110.

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- Clamens, A.** 1993. L'habitat de la Fauvette passerinette *Sylvia cantillans* en Andorre (Pyrénées); influence du changement des activités humaines [The habitat of Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans* in Andorra (Pyrenees); changes influenced by human activities]. *Alauda* 61(2): 100-104.
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- de Heer, P.** 1984. Influx van Baardgrasmus in Nederland in voorjaar van 1983 [Influx of Subalpine Warblers in the Netherlands in spring of 1983]. *Dutch Birding* 6(4): 136-137.
- Duquet, M. & Flitti, A.** 2007. Éléments d'identification de la Fauvette passerinette orientale (*Sylvia cantillans albistriata*) [Identification of Eastern Subalpine Warbler (*Sylvia cantillans albistriata*)]. *Ornithos* 14(3): 164-171.
- Evans, L.G.R.** 1988. Subalpine Warblers during Spring 1988. *Birding World* 1(6): 213-215.
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- Gantlett, S.** 2001. Subalpine Warbler forms in Britain. *Birding World* 14(11): 482-483.
- Gargallo, G.** 1994. On the taxonomy of the western Mediterranean islands populations of Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans*. *Bulletin of the British Ornithologist' Club* 114: 31-36.
- Kehoe, C.** 2006. Racial identification and assessment in Britain: a report from the RIACT subcommittee. *British Birds* 99(12): 619-645 (637).
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- Wilson, J.M. & Cresswell, W.** 2010. Densities of Palearctic warblers and Afrotropical species within the same guild in Sahelian West Africa. *Ostrich* 81(3): 225-232.

Moltoni's Warbler

Sylvia moltonii [Orlando 1937].

Balearic Islands, Corsica, Sardinia, some islands in the Tuscan archipelago, N & C Italy and possibly SE France. Winters W Sahel.

Professor Dr. Edgardo Moltoni (1896-1980), eminent Italian ornithologist who was director of the Natural History Museum in Milan (Museo Civico di Storia Naturale di Milano).

Baccetti, N. et al 2007. Proposed synonymy of *Sylvia cantillans moltonii* Orlando 1937, with *Sylvia cantillans subalpina* Temminck 1820. *Bulletin of the British Ornithologist' Club* 127: 107-110.

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Brambilla, M. et al 2008. A molecular phylogeny of the *Sylvia cantillans* complex: Cryptic species within the Mediterranean basin. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 48(2): 461-472.

Brambilla, M. et al 2008. Syntopic Taxa in the *Sylvia cantillans* Species Complex. *Acta Ornithologica* 43(2): 217-220.

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De Smet, G. & Goossens, T. 2002. Moltoni's Warbler at Heist Belgium in May 2001. *Dutch Birding* 24(2): 80-88.

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- Fraser, M.** 2008. ListCheck (Potential splits: Subalpine Warbler). *Birdwatch* 192: 55.
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- Golley, M.** 2007 The Moltoni's Subalpine Warbler in Norfolk. *Birding World* 20(11): 459-463.
- Pennington, M.** 2009. Identification of a Moltoni's Subalpine Warbler in Shetland. *Birding World* 22(6): 241-245.
- Stoddart, A.** 2011. Identification (Subalpine Warbler forms). *Birdwatch* 226: 25-29.

Sardinian Warbler

Sylvia melanocephala [J.F. Gmelin 1789, Sardinia, Italy].
 [*S.m. melanocephala*] Canary Islands, NW Africa, Iberia & Mediterranean basin E to W Turkey.
 Winters S to N Senegal, S Algeria & N Niger.
 [*S.m. valverdei*] S Morocco S to C Western Sahara and E to the edge of the Sahara.
 [*S.m. momus*] The Levant. Winters S to N Sudan with some altitudinal movement also.
 [*S.m. norrisae*] Formally Faiyum (Egypt). Extinct since about 1940.
 The proposed form *leucogastra* is included with *S.m. melanocephala*.

- Bas, J.M. et al** 2007. Daily activity of the Sardinian warbler *Sylvia melanocephala* in the breeding season. *Ardeola* 54(2): 335-338.
- Bulyuk, V.N. & Leoke, D.** 2010. Short Communication (The Sardinian Warbler, *Sylvia melanocephala* (J.F. Gmelin, 1789), a new species for Russia's fauna). *Avian Ecology and Behaviour* 17: 23-24.
- Cabot, J. & Urdiales, C.** 2005. The subspecific status of Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala* in the Canary Islands with the description of a new subspecies from Western Sahara. *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club* 125: 230-240.
- Corso, A.** 2011. Notes (European Green Lizard killing and eating Sardinian Warbler). *British Birds* 104(11): 674.
- Cozens, V. et al** 2000. Why has Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala* invaded Cyprus? *Sandgrouse* 22(1): 6-9.
- de Bruin, B.** 1993. Kleine Zwartkopm op Rottumeroog in april 1991 (Sardinian Warbler at Rottumeroog in April 1991). *Dutch Birding* 15(4): 170-171.
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- Grantham, M.** 2005. Ringing in May. *Birding World* 18(4): 173-174.
- Gutierrez, M.C.** 1988. Winter foraging behaviour of Blackcap and Sardinian Warbler in a Mediterranean scrubland. *Ardea* 76: 107-110.
- Herrando, S. et al** 2001. Factors influencing post-fire dynamics of Sardinian and Dartford Warblers in Mediterranean shrublands. *Ornis Fennica* 78(4): 168-174.
- Hill, B.** 2002. Notes (Tameness and unusual feeding of female Sardinian Warbler). *British Birds* 95(4): 189.
- Khoury, F. et al** 2006. Observations on the avifauna of the eastern Jordan Valley, during July–August 2005. *Sandgrouse* 28(2): 119-126.
- Knott, M.** 2011. Reports (Sardinian surprise. Sardinian Warbler: Orcombe Point, Devon, 20 April 2100). *Birdwatch* 228: 54.
- Lees, A.C.** 2005. Macaronesian endemic birds: their taxonomy, status and conservation. *Alula* 11(1): 12-24.
- Marshall, B. et al** 2005. Sardinian Warbler on Whalsay: 3rd for SBC area, 5th Shetland record. *Shetland Bird Report 2004* pp. 109-110.
- O'Donnell, M.** 1993. Sardinian Warbler on Cape Clear, Co. Cork. *Irish Birding News* 3(3): 74-75.
- O'Donnell, M.** 1994. Sardinian Warbler in County Cork - a species new to Ireland. *Irish Birds* 5(2): 197-198.
- O'Flynn, W.J. & O'Flynn, N.** 1994. Sardinian Warbler in County Cork. *Irish Birds* 5(2): 198.

- Pérez de Ana, J.M.** 1993. Distribución y expansión de la Curruca Cabecinegra (*Sylvia melanocephala*) en la Península Ibérica [Distribution and expansion of the Sardinian warbler (*Sylvia melanocephala*) in the Iberian Peninsula]. *Ardeola* 40(1): 81-85.
- Pomeroy, D. & Walsh, F.** 2000. Is Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala* displacing Cyprus Warbler *Sylvia melanothorax* in Cyprus? *Sandgrouse* 22(1): 44-50.
- Sammut, M. & Corso, A.** 2003. Notes (Tameness of Sardinian Warbler). *British Birds* 96(2): 90.
- Schaefer, T. & Barkow, A.** 2004. Habitat and nest site preferences of *Sylvia atricapilla* and *S. melanocephala* in Majorca. *Ardeola* 51(2): 445-450.
- Stagg, A.** 2002. Notes (Tameness and unusual feeding behaviour of Sardinian Warbler). *British Birds* 95(9): 456.
- ter Haar, G.J. & Kramer, T.** 1981. Kleine Zwartkop in Amsterdam in Winter van 1980/81 [Sardinian Warbler in Amsterdam in Winter 1980/81]. *Dutch Birding* 3(3): 102-103.
- van Ommen, E.** 1984. Kleine Zwartkop te Eemshaven in mei 1983 [Sardinian Warbler at Eemshaven in May 1983]. *Dutch Birding* 6(1): 17-18.
- Warden, D.** 2002. Notes (Tameness and unusual feeding behaviour of Sardinian Warbler). *British Birds* 95(9): 457.
- Whitaker, B.** Sardinian Warbler on Lundy, pp. 77-78. Found in: **Sharrock, J.T.R. & Grant, P.J.** 1982. *Birds new to Britain and Ireland*. T. & A.D. Poyser.

Menetries's Warbler

- Sylvia mystacea*** [Ménétries 1832, Sal'yana, lower Kura River, Azerbaijan].
[*S.m. mystacea*] Transcaucasia & W Caspian Sea and NE Turkey, N Iran E to SW Turkmenistan. Winters Sudan, Somalia, Arabia & S Iran.
[*S.m. turcménica*] Turkmenistan & E Iran E to Baluchistan & Tadjikistan and N to Aral Sea. Winters Sudan, Somalia, Arabia & S Iran.
[*S.m. rubescens*] SE Turkey E thru Iraq to SW Iran. Winters Sudan, Somalia, Arabia & S Iran.
Edouard P. Ménétries (1802-1861), French zoologist who collected in Brazil and Russia and one time Conservator of Collections at the Russia Academy of Sciences.

- Castell, P.** 1996. Additional information on Ménétries's Warbler *Sylvia mystacea* breeding biology in south-east Turkey. *Sandgrouse* 18(2): 68.
- Martins, R.P. et al** 1996. The status of passerines in southern Yemen and records of the OSME survey in spring 1993. *Sandgrouse* 17: 54-72 (63).
- Richardson, C.** 1996. The United Arab Emirates. *British Birds* 89(5): 219-231 (229, plate 105).
- Shirihai, H.** 1988. Notes (Iris colour of *Sylvia* warblers). *British Birds* 81(7): 325-328.

Rüppell's Warbler

- Sylvia rueppelli*** [Temminck 1823, Iraklion, N Crete, Greece].
S Greece, Crete, islands in the Aegean Sea, W & S Turkey & NW Syria. Winters Sahel region of Chad & Sudan.
Wilhelm Peter Eduard Simon Rüppell (1794-1884), German collector who travelled extensively in northern and eastern Africa.

- Bonaccorsi, G.** 2001. Une Fauvette de Rüppell *Sylvia rueppelli* en Corse [A Rüppell's Warbler in Corsica]. *Alauda* 69(3): 358.
- Cottridge, D.** 1992. Waves of Spring Migrants. *Birds Illustrated* 1(2): 5-12.
- Crewe, M.D. et al** 2008. First record of Rüppell's Warbler *Sylvia rueppelli* for The Gambia. *Bulletin of the African Bird Club* 15(1): 91-92.
- Eds.** 2006. Frontispape (Male Rüppell's Warbler, Lesvos, Greece, May 2005 - picture by Marc Guyt). *Birding World* 19(3): 89.
- Grantham, M.** 2004. Ringing in August. *Birding World* 17(7): 306-307.
- Hibberd, G.** 1992. The Rüppell's Warbler in Norfolk. *Birding World* 5(9): 336-339.
- Lewington, I.** 1992. Ageing and sexing of Rüppell's Warbler. *Birding World* 5(9): 339-340.
- Martins, R.P.** 1981. Rüppell's Warbler: new to Britain and Ireland. *British Birds* 74(7): 279-283.
- Martins, R.P.** Rüppell's Warbler in Shetland, pp. 226-229. Found in: **Sharrock, J.T.R. & Grant, P.J.** 1982. *Birds new to Britain and Ireland*. T. & A.D. Poyser.
- Taylor, A.M. & Campey, R.J.** 1981. Notes (Rüppell's Warbler in Devon). *British Birds* 74(12): 528-530.
- van den Berg, A.B.** 1991. Mystery Photographs (Rüppell's Warbler). *Dutch Birding* 13(5): 184-185.

Cyprus Warbler

Sylvia melanothorax [Tristram 1872, En Gedi, Dead Sea, Palestine].

Cyprus. Winters NE Egypt E to Arava depression & NW Saudi Arabia and S to NE Sudan.

Castell, P. 2001. Notes on the breeding biology of Cyprus Warbler *Sylvia melanothorax*. *Sandgrouse* 23(1): 64-65.

Flint, P. 1999. Photospot: Cyprus Pied Wheatear and Cyprus Warbler. *Sandgrouse* 21(2): 121.

Flint, P. 2001. Affinities of Cyprus Warbler *Sylvia melanothorax*. *Sandgrouse* 23(2): 119-124.

Kok, D. & van Duivendijk, N. 1999. Masters of Mystery Solution (1st summer female Cyprus Warbler). *Dutch Birding* 21(1): 49-51.

Massa, B. 2006. Biological significance and conservation of biogeographical bird populations as shown by selected Mediterranean species. *Avocetta* 30: 5-14.

Pomeroy, D. & Walsh, F. 2000. Is Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala* displacing Cyprus Warbler *Sylvia melanothorax* in Cyprus? *Sandgrouse* 22(1): 44-50.

Pomeroy, D. & Walsh, F. 2002. A European endemic warbler under threat? Population changes in *Sylvia* warblers on the island of Cyprus. *Oryx* 36(4): 342-348.

Yemen Warbler

Sylvia buryi [Ogilvie-Grant 1913, Manakhah (at 7000 ft.), Yemen].

Asir Mts (SW Saudi Arabia) & W Yemen.

Treated as *Parisoma buryi* by some.

Other names: Arabian Tit-babbler, Arabian Tit-warbler, Yemen Parisoma, Yemen Tit-warbler.

Brauning, C. 1988. A nest of the Yemen Warbler. *Bulletin of the Ornithological Society of the Middle East* 21: 11.

Brooks, D.J. 1987. The Yemen Warbler in North Yemen. *Sandgrouse* 9: 90-93.

Lobley, G. 2010. Birding Arabia: an introduction. *Birding World* 23(4): 160-174 (169, plate 16).

Brown Warbler

Sylvia lugens [Rüppell 1840, Simien Province, Ethiopia].

[*S.l. lugens*] Ethiopian plateaux (except the Bale Mts).

[*S.l. griseiventris*] Bale Mts (Ethiopia).

[*S.l. jacksoni*] Sudan, Didinga & Imatong Mts (Uganda), Kenya, N Tanzania, Marungu Highlands (DR Congo) & Malawi.

[*S.l. clara*] Matengo Highlands (Malawi).

[*S.l. prigoginei*] Itombwe Highlands (DR Congo).

Treated as *Parisoma lugens* by some.

Other names: Brown Parisoma, Brown Sylvia, Brown Tit-babbler, Brown Tit-flycatcher, Brown Tit-warbler.

Schaefer, H-C. et al 2004. Life-history of two African *Sylvia* warblers: low annual fecundity and long post-fledging care. *Ibis* 146(3): 427-437.

Schaefer, H-C. et al 2006. Monthly survival of African *Sylvia* warblers in a seasonally arid tropical environment. *Ibis* 148(3): 411-424.

Banded Warbler

Sylvia boehmi [Reichenow 1882, Seke, Ugogo, Tanzania].

[*S.b. boehmi*] S Kenya & Tanzania.

[*S.b. marsabit*] NC Kenya.

[*S.b. somalicum*] NW Somalia & N Ethiopia.

Treated as *Parisoma boehmi* by some.

Other names: Banded Parisoma, Banded Sylvia, Banded Tit-babbler, Banded Tit-flycatcher, Banded Tit-warbler.

Schaefer, H-C. et al 2004. Life-history of two African *Sylvia* warblers: low annual fecundity and long post-fledging care. *Ibis* 146(3): 427-437.

Schaefer, H-C. et al 2006. Monthly survival of African *Sylvia* warblers in a seasonally arid tropical environment. *Ibis* 148(3): 411-424.

Chestnut-vented Warbler

Sylvia subcaeruleum [Vieillot 1817, Gourits River, Western Cape, South Africa].

[*S.s. subcaeruleum*] W South Africa E to SW Free State & Eastern Cape.

[*S.s. cinerascens*] Namibia & Botswana.

[*S.s. ansorgei*] Angola.

[*S.s. orpheanum*] Transvaal, Natal, W Zululand & Orange Free State (South Africa), Zimbabwe & Lesotho.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al* 2006 as *Sylvia subcaerulea*.

Treated as *Parisoma subcaeruleum* by some.

Other names: Cape Warbler, Cape Tit-babbler, Cape Tit-warbler, Chestnut-vented Tit-babbler, Rufous-vented Warbler, Southern Warbler, Southern Tit-warbler, Tit Babbler.

Auer, S.K. *et al* 2007. Biparental incubation in the chestnut-vented tit-babbler *Parisoma subcaeruleum*: mates devote equal time, but males keep eggs warmer. *Journal of Avian Biology* 38(3): 278-283.

Kopij, G. 2005. Diet of some insectivorous passerines in semi-arid regions of South Africa. *Ostrich* 76(1-2): 85-90.

Layard's Warbler

Sylvia layardi [Hartlaub 1862, Malmesbury, Western Cape, South Africa].

[*S.l. layardi*] SW Cape Province N to Port Nolloth (South Africa).

[*S.l. aridicola*] NW Cape (South Africa) N to Namibia and E to Orange Free State & W Transvaal (South Africa).

[*S.l. barnesi*] Lesotho.

[*S.l. subsolanum*] E Cape Province (South Africa).

Treated as *Parisoma layardi* by some.

Other names: Layard's Tit-babbler, Layard's Tit-flycatcher, Layard's Tit-warbler.

Edgar Leopold Layard (1824-1900), Italian born British civil servant and ornithologist who served in South Africa.

Kopij, G. 2005. Diet of some insectivorous passerines in semi-arid regions of South Africa. *Ostrich* 76(1-2): 85-90.