

Citrine Wagtail. Tacumshin Lake, Co. Wexford, Ireland. 2 June 2006
Photo: Alyn Walsh



List of Wagtails 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 Alyn Walsh and Tom Shevlin (www.wildlifesnaps.com) for the cover images. All images © the photographers.
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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]).

Version

Version 1.2 (1 February 2012).

Cover

Main image: Citrine Wagtail. Tacumshin Lake, Co. Wexford, Ireland. 2 June 2006. Alyn Walsh.
Vignette: Yellow Wagtail. Tacumshin Lake, Co. Wexford, Ireland. 21 April 2003. Tom Shevlin.

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Forest Wagtail

Dendronanthus indicus [J.F. Gmelin 1789, India].

S Ussuriland (Russian Far East) S to SW Sichuan, N Guizhou & N Fujian (SE China) and SW Honshu & NW Kyushu (Japan) and fragmented in the Cachar Hills (Assam, NE India). Winters S to Sumatra, Java, Borneo & Philippines.

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Yellow Wagtail

Motacilla flava [Linnaeus 1758, southern Sweden]

[*M.f. flava*] S Scandinavia W to France and C European mountain ranges E to the Urals. Winters sub-Saharan Africa.

[*M.f. flavissima*] Ireland (intermittently), Britain & adjacent coastal Europe. Winters Africa.

[*M.f. thunbergi*] C & N Scandinavia & N Estonia E thru Siberia to the R Kolyma. Winters mainly sub-Saharan Africa, possibly NE Africa and across S & SE Asia.

[*M.f. iberiae*] Iberia, SW France and NW Africa S to islands of Banc d'Arguin (Mauritania). Winters W & NC Africa.

[*M.f. cinereocapilla*] Italy, Sardinia, Sicily, SW Slovenia & NW Croatia. Winters along Mediterranean coast and Mali E to Lake Chad.

[*M.f. pygmaea*] Nile valley & NW Sinai (Egypt).

[*M.f. feldegg*] Bulgaria, S Romania, S Slovenia, W Croatia, Bosnia, S Serbia, Albania, Macedonia, Greece & Crete NE to S Ukraine and E to Turkey, E Mediterranean, Iraq, W Caspian, Iran,

Afghanistan & S Kazakhstan E to L Balkhash, Lake Alakol and adjacent N Xinjiang (China). Winters mainly Nigeria E to Sudan and S to Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi & N DR Congo.

[*M.f. lutea*] SW Russia between lower R Volga and R Irtysh and N Kazakhstan E to L Chany & L Zaysan. Winters Africa & Indian subcontinent.

[*M.f. beema*] Upper R Volga E to SW Siberia and S to N Kazakhstan & Altai Mts and Ladakh & possibly also N Kashmir (W Himalayas). Winters mainly Indian subcontinent also Arabia & E Africa.

[*M.f. leucocephala*] NW Mongolia, N Xinjiang (extreme NW China) and adjacent parts of far eastern Russia. Winters mostly in India probably.

[*M.f. plexa*] R Khatanga E to R Kolyma (N Siberia). Winters India & SE Asia.

The form *plexa* should possibly be included with *M.f. thunbergi* or as a form of Eastern Yellow Wagtail.

The proposed form *melanogrisea* is included with *M.f. feldegg*.

Other names: Western Yellow Wagtail, Blue-headed Wagtail (*flava*), Yellow-crowned Wagtail (*flavissima*), Dark-headed Wagtail (*thunbergi*), Grey-headed Wagtail (*thunbergi*), Spanish Wagtail (*iberiae*), Iberian Yellow Wagtail (*iberiae*), Ashy-headed Wagtail (*cinereocapilla*), Egyptian Yellow Wagtail (*pygmaea*), Black-headed Wagtail (*feldegg*), Yellow-headed Wagtail (*lutea*), Sykes's Wagtail (*beema*), Turkestan Black-headed Wagtail (*melanogrisea*), White-headed Wagtail (*leucocephala*), North Siberian Yellow Wagtail (*plexa*), Channel Wagtail (*flava x flavissima*), Middlewest Wagtail (*flava x iberiae*).

Carl Peter Thunberg (1743-1828), Swedish doctor, botanist and traveller.

Baron Christoph Feldegg (1780-1845), Austrian army officer and naturalist.

Col. William Henry Sykes (1790-1872), Indian army and naturalist. A director of the East India Company and MP for Aberdeen in later life. He gave the name *Budytes beema* to *M.f. beema* after the Bhima River in SW India where he first encountered this race.

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Eastern Yellow Wagtail

Motacilla tschutschensis [Gmelin 1789].

[*M.t. tschutschensis*] NE Siberia and N & W Alaska & extreme NW Canada. Winters mainly SE Asia E to Philippines & S to Indonesia.

[*M.t. macronyx*] SE Transbaikalia E to Amurland and Ussuriland and S to NE Mongolia & C Manchuria. Winters SE Asia S to Malay peninsula & SE China.

[*M.t. taivana*] SE Siberia, Amurland, Sakhalin & N Hokkaido (Japan). Winters Myanmar, S China & Taiwan S to Greater Sundas, Philippines & Wallacea.

The proposed forms *simillima* & *angarensis* are included with *M.t. tschutschensis*.

Other names: Beringian Yellow Wagtail (*tschutschensis*), Alaska Wagtail (*tschutschensis*), Chinese Yellow Wagtail (*taivana*), Green-headed Wagtail (*taivana*), Kuril Yellow Wagtail (*taivana*), Short-tailed Grey-headed Wagtail (*simillima*), Siberian Wagtail (*simillima*).

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Vinicombe, K. 2004. Identification (Eastern promise). *Birdwatch* 148: 42-43.

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Wiles, G.J. et al 2000. Noteworthy Bird Records for Micronesia, with a Summary of Raptor Sightings in the Mariana Islands, 1988-1999. *Micronesica* 32(2): 257-284 (279).

Citrine Wagtail

Motacilla citreola [Pallas 1776, Siberia].

[*M.c. citreola*] Finland & N Russia E to C Siberia, Transbaikalia, Mongolia & NW Manchuria and S to E Poland, Belarus & Ukraine and E to Russian Altai, N & E Kazakhstan & N & C China. Winters mainly Indian subcontinent & SE Asia.

[*M.c. calcarata*] E Iran, Afghanistan and Tien Shan E to C Gansu & Sichuan (C China mountains) and S to N Himalayas. Winters S Afghanistan E to Myanmar.

The proposed form *werae* is included with *M.c. citreola*.

Other name: Black-backed Citrine Wagtail (*calcarata*).

1st WP Record (*M.c. calcarata*): [1st summer ♂] Van, Eastern Anatolia, Turkey. Daniele Occhiato. Remained until the following day (Occhiato 2011).

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- Fraser, M.** 2003. ListCheck (Splits, Yellow Wagtail & Citrine Wagtail). *Birdwatch* 138: 12.
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- Wilk, T. et al** 2009. The third record of breeding Citrine Wagtail (*Motacilla citreola*) in Slovakia. *Tichodroma* 21: 96-98.
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Cape Wagtail

Motacilla capensis [Linnaeus 1766, Cape of Good Hope, South Africa].

[*M.c. capensis*] W & S Namibia, SE Botswana, Zimbabwe and W & S Mozambique S to S South Africa.

[*M.c. simplicissima*] Angola E to SE DR Congo and S to NE Namibia, N Botswana & Zambia and Zambezi R (W Zimbabwe).

[*M.c. wellsii*] E DR Congo E to SW Uganda & NW Tanzania and W & C Kenya.

Other names: Angolan Wagtail (*simplicissima*), Wells's Wagtail (*wellsii*).

Thomas Wells (1868-1939), British civil servant who worked as an assistant at the British Museum for 47 years.

Leonard, P.M. 2001. Cape Wagtail *Motacilla capensis* movements. *Zambia Bird Report* 1999 pp. 96-97.

Oatley, T. 2002. Cape Wagtail. *Africa: Birds & Birding* 7(2): 22-23.

Piper, S.E. Cape Wagtail *Motacilla capensis*, pp. 378-379. Found in: **Harrison, J.A. et al** 1997. *The atlas of southern African birds. Passerines*. BirdLife South Africa, Johannesburg.

Sked, C.J. 1954. A study of the Cape Wagtail *Motacilla capensis*. *Ibis* 96(1): 91-103.

Winterbottom, J.M. 1964. Notes on the wagtails *Motacilla* of southern Africa. *Ostrich* 35(3): 129-141.

Madagascar Wagtail

Motacilla flaviventris [Hartlaub 1860, Bombetoke Bay, Madagascar].

Madagascar.

O'Daniel, D.L. 1997. Observations at a nest of the Madagascar Wagtail *Motacilla flaviventris*. *Ostrich* 68(1): 19-22.

Grey Wagtail

Motacilla cinerea [Tunstall 1771, no locality = Wycliffe, Yorkshire, England].

[*M.c. cinerea*] Scandinavia S thru Ireland, Britain & W Europe to the Mediterranean and the Atlas Mts (NW Africa) and Asia Minor & the Caucasus E thru Iran & Afghanistan to the Himalayas and NE to Tien Shan (W China) and the Urals E to Kamchatka and S to S Gansu, Shaanxi, Shanxi & Hebei (C & E China) and Japan S thru islands in the East China Sea to Taiwan. Winters W & S Europe and W, N & E Africa and Middle East, Arabia, Iraq, Iran & the Indian subcontinent E to S China, SE Asia, Philippines, Indonesia & W New Guinea.

[*M.c. patriciae*] Furnas & São Miguel (Azores).

[*M.c. schmitzi*] Madeira.

The proposed forms *canariensis*, *robusta* & *melanope* are included with *M.c. cinerea*.

Balch, L. 1988. Curling Up With a Good (Bird) Book - Update on 53 'Aleutian' Species Covered in the National Geographic Society Field Guide. *Birding* XX(5): 290-303 (301-302).

Buden, D.W. 1999. The birds of Sapwuahtik Atoll, with first record of the Grey Wagtail, *Motacilla cinerea*, from the Federated States of Micronesia. *Bulletin of the British Ornithologist' Club* 119: 261-270.

Carr, P. 2011. Important Bird Areas: The British Indian Ocean Territory. *British Birds* 104(11): 642-659 (649).

Gill, F.B. 1969. Additions to the birds known from the west Sumatran Islands. *Ardea* 57: 89-91.

Goodall, A. 1982. Notes (Unusual nest-site of Grey Wagtail). *British Birds* 75(1): 34.

Herremans, M. 1988. Postjuvenile moult, phenology and biometry of Grey Wagtails *Motacilla cinerea* migrating over central Belgium. *Ringling & Migration* 9(2): 103-116.

Hope, M. 2008. Notes (Grey Wagtail catching minnows). *British Birds* 101(9): 498.

Jørgensen, O.H. 1976. Migration and Aspects of Population Dynamics in the Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*. *Ornis Scandinavica* 7(1): 13-20.

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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 (57).

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Ormerod, S.J. & Tyler, S.T. 1987. Aspects of the breeding ecology of Welsh Grey Wagtails *Motacilla cinerea*. *Bird Study* 34(1): 43-51.

Paterson, A.M. 1994. Notes (Unusual plumage of male Grey Wagtail). *British Birds* 87(1): 41-42.

Rodríguez, B. & Rodríguez, A. 2007. Breeding biology of Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea canariensis* on Tenerife, Canary Islands. *Acta Ornithologica* 42(2): 195-199.

Simmonds, M.D. 1991. Notes (Grey Wagtail repeatedly flying at car mirror). *British Birds* 84(3): 108-109.

Smiddy, P. & O'Halloran, J. 1998. Breeding biology of the Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* in southwest Ireland. *Bird Study* 45: 331-336.

Tyler, S.J. & Ormerod, S.J. 1991. Factors influencing the biometrics of Grey Wagtails *Motacilla cinerea* and Kingfishers *Alcedo atthis* in Wales. *Ringling & Migration* 12(2): 92-102.

Tyler, S.J. & Ormerod, S.J. 1991. The influence of stream acidification and riparian land-use on the breeding biology of Grey Wagtails *Motacilla cinerea* in Wales. *Ibis* 133(3): 286-292.

Tyler, S.J. 1972. Breeding biology of Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*. *Bird Study* 19: 69-80.

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van Bemmelen, R.S.A. & Groenendijk, D. 2006. Masters of Mystery – Solutions of sixth round 2005 (Grey Wagtail). *Dutch Birding* 28(1): 33-34.

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White, C.M.N. 1977. Migration of Palaearctic passerine birds in Wallacea. *Emu* 77: 37-39.

Wiles, G.J. et al 2004. New and Noteworthy Bird Records for Micronesia, 1986-2003. *Micronesica* 37(1): 69-96.

Yoerg, S.I. & O'Halloran, J. 1991. Dipper Nestlings Fed by a Gray Wagtail. *The Auk* 108: 427-440.

Mountain Wagtail

Motacilla clara [Sharpe 1908, Simien Mountains, north Ethiopia].

[*M.c. clara*] Highlands of Ethiopia.

[*M.c. chapini*] SW Mali, S Sierra Leone, Liberia & W Ivory Coast and SE Nigeria & Cameroon S to Gabon and E to Central African Republic & N & S PR Congo and Bioko Island (Fernando Póo).

[*M.c. torrentium*] E Uganda & C & S Kenya and E & S DR Congo, Rwanda & NW & N Tanzania S to C & SW Angola, Zambia, N Zimbabwe & W Mozambique and mountains of E South Africa & Swaziland.

Other name: Long-tailed Wagtail.

Brina, G. & Lovett, R. 2001. First documented record of Long-tailed (Mountain) Wagtail *Motacilla clara* in Botswana. *Babbler* 39: 49.

Piper, S.E. & Schultz, D.M. 1988. Monitoring territory, survival and breeding in the Longtailed Wagtail. *Safring News* 17(2): 65-76.

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Winterbottom, J.M. 1964. Notes on the wagtails *Motacilla* of southern Africa. *Ostrich* 35(3): 129-141.

White Wagtail

Motacilla alba [Linnaeus 1758, Sweden]

[*M.a. alba*] Extreme SE Greenland, Iceland, Faroe Islands, Shetland, S Novaya Zemlya and Europe (except Ireland & Britain) E to the Urals. Winters, some populations S to S Europe and Africa as far S as Kenya & Malawi.

[*M.a. yarrellii*] Ireland, Britain & locally along adjacent coasts of continental Europe. Winters mainly SW France, Iberian peninsula & coastal Morocco.

[*M.a. subpersonata*] Morocco.

[*M.a. baicalensis*] Upper R Yenisey E to Stanovoy Mts (SC Siberia) and S to Mongolia & NE China. Winters N India E to SE China & C Indochina.

[*M.a. ocularis*] N & NE Siberia E from Taymyr peninsula & R Yenisey S to Lensk region, Stanovoy Mts & N Kamchatka and extreme W Alaska. Winters S Asia E from NE Indian subcontinent.

[*M.a. lugens*] S coasts of Sea of Okhotsk, Sakhalin Island, C Kamchatka & Commander Islands S to N Korea & Japan. Winters Myanmar E to SE China, Taiwan & S Japan.

[*M.a. leucopsis*] Qinghai E to Heilongjiang & W Zhejiang and S to N Guangxi & N Guangdong (C & E China), Amurland & Ussuriland (Far East Russia), Korea and SW Honshu & N Kyushu (Japan).

Winters S Asia E from N India.

[*M.a. alboides*] Himalayas E from NE Pakistan thru S Xizang, S & SE Qinghai E to S Shaanxi and S to Yunnan & Guizhou (S China), N Myanmar, extreme N Laos & extreme N Vietnam. Winters at lower altitudes and S to Bangladesh & N Thailand.

[*M.a. personata*] Transcaspia & N Iran E to S Russia, W Mongolia, extreme NW & W Xinjiang (NW China) and S to N Afghanistan, N Pakistan & Kashmir. Winters Iran & E Arabia E to Indian subcontinent.

The proposed forms *dukhunensis* & *persica* are included with *M.a. alba*.

Other names: Pied Wagtail (*yarrellii*), Moroccan Wagtail (*subpersonata*), Masked Wagtail (*personata*), Black-backed Wagtail (*lugens*), Amur Wagtail (*leucopsis*), Hodgson's Wagtail (*alboides*), Swinhoe's Wagtail (*ocularis*), Indian Pied Wagtail (*dukhunensis*), West Siberian White Wagtail (*dukhunensis*), East Siberian Wagtail (*ocularis*).

William Yarrell (1784-1856), English naturalist.

Brian Houghton Hodgson FRC (1800-1894), English civil servant who made a significant contribution to Indian ornithology.

Robert Swinhoe (1836-1877), Anglo-Indian diplomat and naturalist.

1st WP Record (*M.a. leucopsis*): [adult ♂] 5 April 2005. Vane Tempest Colliery, Seaham, Durham, England. Stephen Addinall (Addinall 2005 & 2010).

Ackermann, A.M. & Cable, T.T. 2010. Notes (White Wagtail brandishing stick in winter territorial dispute). *British Birds* 103(12): 733-734.

Addinall, S. 2005. The Amur Wagtail in County Durham - a new Western Palearctic bird. *Birding World* 18(4): 155-158.

Addinall, S.G. 2010. 'Amur Wagtail' in County Durham: new to Britain and the Western Palearctic. *British Birds* 103(5): 260-267.

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Alström, P. & Mild, K. 2004. 'Biological', 'phylogenetic' and 'monophyletic' species - same or different? *Alula* 10(3): 96-103.

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Bamber, T.B. 1987. Notes (Adult Pied Wagtail being fed in flight by House Martins). *British Birds* 80(3): 116.

Bearden, K.L. et al 2004. First Record of White Wagtail in North Carolina. *The Chat* 68(2): 78-82.

Behrens, K. 1988. White Wagtail in South Carolina: First record on US eastern seabird. *The Chat* 62: 149-152.

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Carter, M. et al 1995. White Wagtails *Motacilla alba* in Victoria. *Australian Bird Watcher* 16: 21-33.

Cooper, D. & Kay, B. 2010. Autumn bird migration on Hegura-jima, Japan. *Birding World* 23(8): 355-364 (360, plate 10).

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Cope, D.A. 1985. Notes (Hovering as feeding strategy of Pied Wagtail). *British Birds* 78(2): 111.

Cottaar, F. 1995. Voorjaarstrek en ringvangsten van Rouwkwikstaarten in Kennemerduinen [Spring migration and trapping of Pied Wagtails in Kennemerduinen]. *Dutch Birding* 17(4): 154-157.

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African Pied Wagtail

Motacilla aguimp [Dumont 1821, Lower Orange River, South Africa].

[*M.a. aguimp*] S Namibia and C & E South Africa.

[*M.a. vidua*] S Egypt along the Nile to Aswan and S along Blue Nile in Ethiopia & Sudan and Sierra Leone & S Mali E to S Sudan and NW & E Kenya S to Angola, N & E Botswana & E South Africa S to the E Cape.

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Mekong Wagtail

Motacilla samveasnae [Duckworth et al. 2001, San River, Stung Teng province, Cambodia].

Lower R Mekong and tributaries in NE Cambodia & S Laos. Winters not known, probably resident.

Sam Veasna (1966-1999), Cambodian naturalist who was head of the Provincial Wildlife Department in Siem Reap province.

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Japanese Wagtail

Motacilla grandis [Sharpe 1885, Japan].
Japan. Winters some S to Taiwan & coastal E China.

Higuchi, H. & Hirano, T. 1989. Breeding season, courtship behaviour, and territoriality of White and Japanese Wagtails *Motacilla alba* and *M. grandis*. *Ibis* 131(4): 578-588.

White-browed Wagtail

Motacilla maderaspatensis [J.F. Gmelin 1789, Madras, Tamil Nadu, India].
N Pakistan E thru Himalayan foothills to Bangladesh and probably to Arunachal Pradesh (extreme NE India) and S thru most of peninsular India.
Other name: Large Pied Wagtail.

- Chanda, S.** 1998. Courtship display of Large Pied Wagtail *Motacilla maderaspatensis* in Kokrajhar, Assam. *Newsletter for Birdwatchers* 35(5): 88.
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