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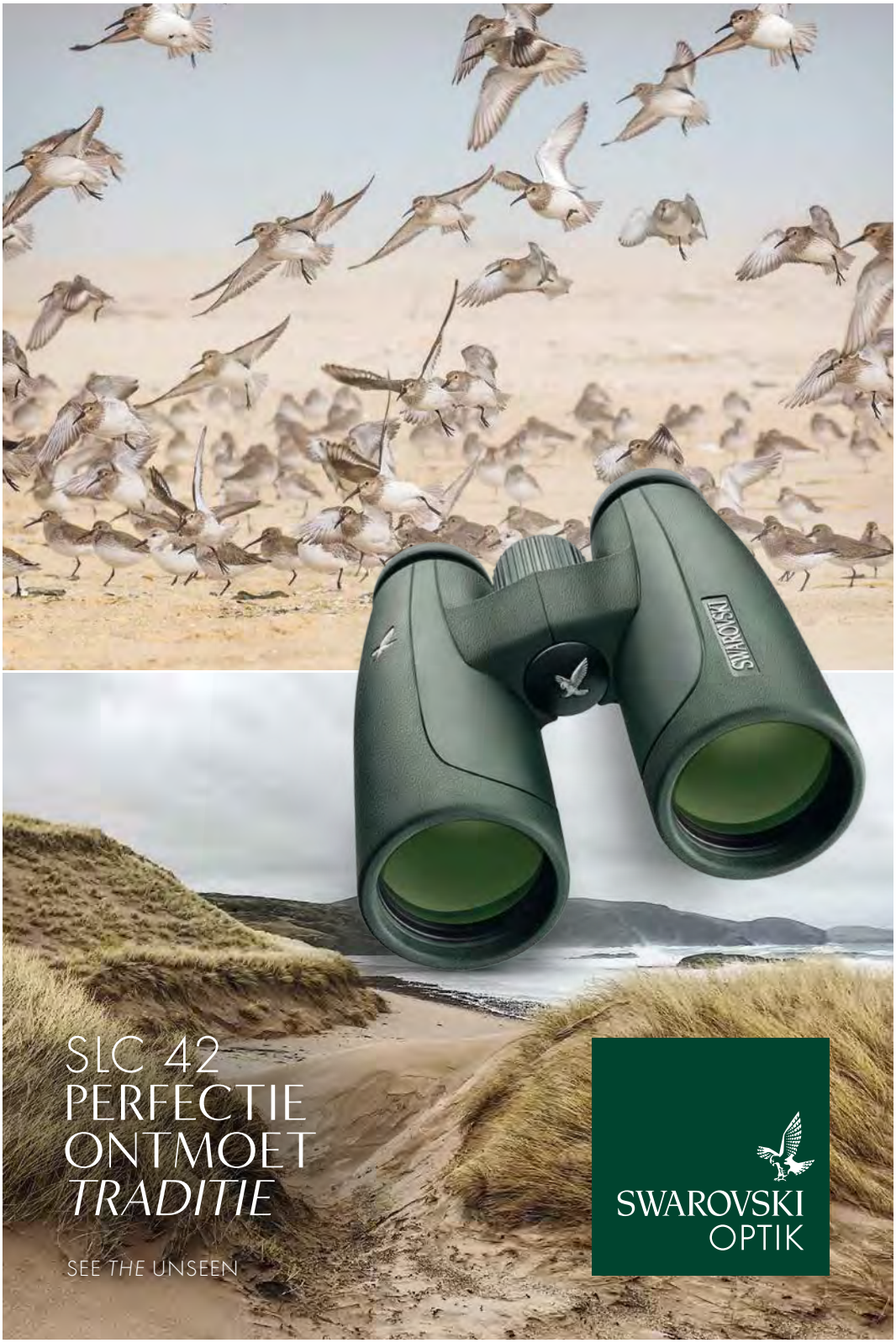
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Long-eared Owls breeding on Madeira in 2019 – recent colonisation or never discovered population?

Rob S A van Bemmelen, Wouter Teunissen & Sander Lagerveld

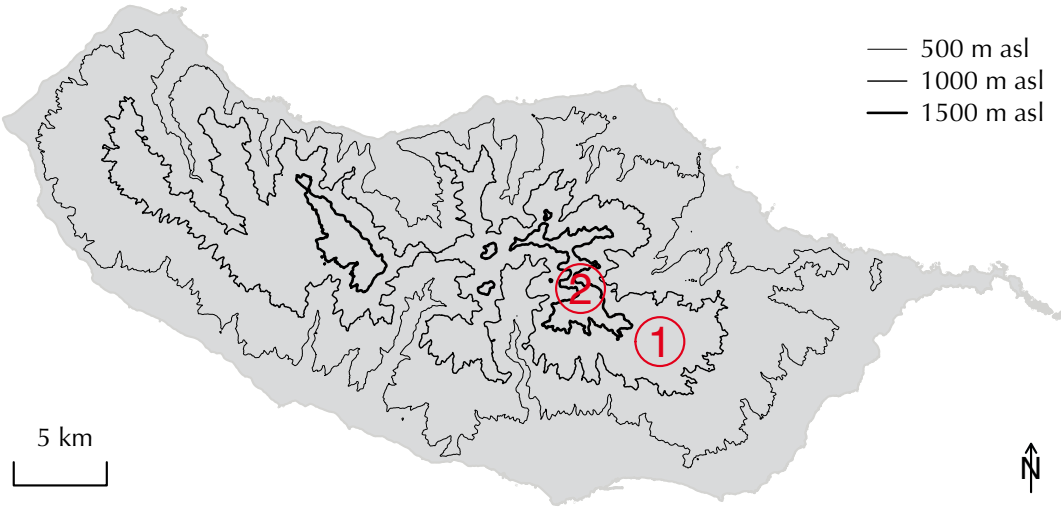
Island colonisation requires individuals from both sexes to arrive more or less simultaneously, to locate each other and to successfully reproduce. This is already a rare event. As a consequence, colonisation events on oceanic islands are rarely observed, even in well-studied regions such as the Western Palearctic. In this paper, we document the first records of Long-eared Owl *Asio otus* on Madeira, not only being the first documented records of this species on the island but also of the first breeding records. We also discuss the identification and age of the birds, the breeding phenology of the broods and suggestions for future studies.

Discovery

In the late evening of 7 August 2019, we drove uphill on the ER202 road, towards Pico Arieiro, Madeira. Driving with the car windows open, we heard loud calls that we recognised as the begging call of a juvenile Long-eared Owl at 23:25. After getting sound recordings and a failed attempt to see and photograph the bird, we continued our way up to Pico Arieiro. Just after arrival at this site at midnight, we heard begging calls of two juvenile Long-eared coming from far below, in the gorge north of the visitor center. We quickly made a sound recording.

At the time of these observations, we were not sure if Long-eared Owl was ever recorded on the island. Before leaving to Madeira, WT prepared a checklist but surprisingly, the species was not on it. Since we heard young owls on two different locations within half an hour, we assumed the checklist to be wrong and the species to be a common breeding bird at the island, just as on other Macaronesian islands that SL and RvB visited before. After checking several online checklists of the bird species of Madeira, and the published checklists of Zino et al (1995), Romano et al (2010) and Correia-Fagundes et al (2013), we realised our two observations of Long-eared Owl would be the first ever documented records for the island. In order to

FIGURE 1 Map of Madeira showing locations of first and second observation of Long-eared Owl *Asio otus* on 7-8 August 2019



116 Habitat at location 1, Poiso, Madeira, 9 August 2019 *(Wouter Teunissen)*

117 Habitat at location 2, Pico de Arieiro, Madeira, 9 August 2019 *(Rob S A van Bemmelen)*

acquire photographic evidence, we attempted to relocate the bird of the first location in the following two nights. Despite considerable searching effort, we failed to relocate the bird. Due to the inaccessibility of and the weather conditions at the second location, we deemed the chances of getting photographic evidence at the second location nihil. We therefore could not obtain photographic evidence.

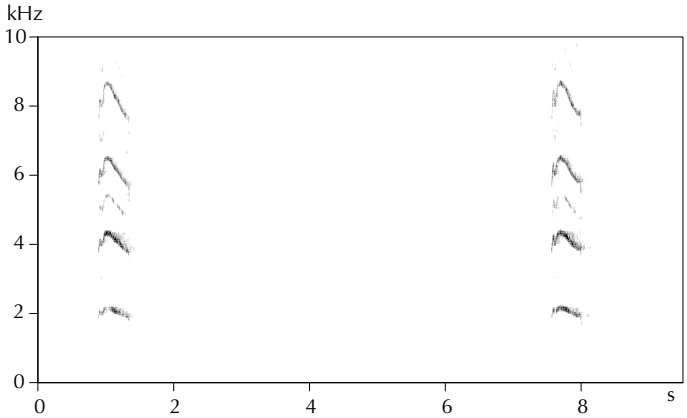


FIGURE 2 Long-eared Owl / Ransuil *Asio otus*, Poiso, Madeira, 7 August 2019 *(Sander Lagerveld)*. Begging call of juvenile recorded at location 1.

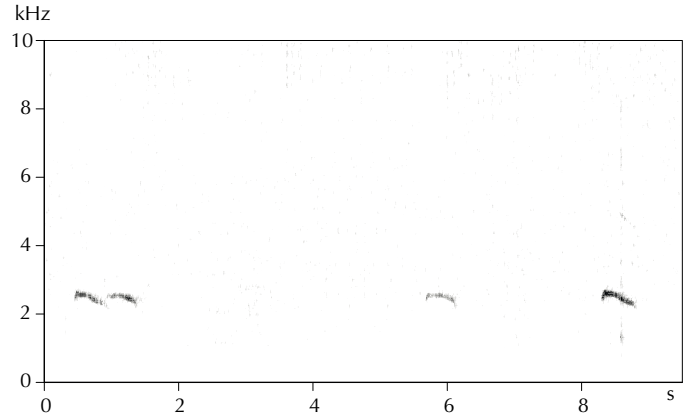


FIGURE 3 Long-eared Owl / Ransuil *Asio otus*, Pico de Arieiro, Madeira, 8 August 2019 *(Rob van Bemmelen)*. Begging call of two juveniles recorded at location 2. Harmonics are invisible due to large distance.

Calls

Recordings of the single bird at the first location (plate 116, figure 1, 2; www.xeno-canto.org/511136) show a whining call with an average duration of 0.48 s (SD=0.02 s, n=5), an average call interval of 8.22 s (SD=1.21, n=5), and a peak frequency of 2.12 kHz (SD=0.02, n=5). Each call consisted of a quickly rising part and a more slowly descending part. The calls from the single recording at the second site (two birds; plate 117, figure 1, 3; www.xeno-canto.org/511138) show a similar structure. However, the sonagram lacks harmonics due to the distance. Call properties in one bird were an average duration of 0.48 s (SD=0.02 s, n=4), an average call interval of 6.35 s (SD=1.52 s, n=4) and an average peak frequency of 2.56 kHz (SD=0.03 s, n=4); in the other individual these parameters were on average 0.45 s (SD=0.02 s, n=4), 5.98 s (SD=1.05 s, n=4) and 2.51 kHz (SD=0.04 s, n=4), respectively.

Behaviour

The first bird called from within dense parts of pine trees, at a height of c 10 m above the road. After the first attempt to see it using a flash light, it flew a short distance, estimated at 10 m, to another perch where it continued calling. After trying to illuminate the bird here, it flew a larger distance, c 30 m, away from the road and into the forest before continuing to call from a new perch. The two birds at the second location were calling repeatedly from deep down in the gorge north of the visitor centre.

Habitat

Distance between locations is just over 5 km. The first bird was located c 100 m east of the police station (32°42.78′N, 16°53.22′W) at an elevation of 1412 m asl (plate 116). Habitat here consisted of pines *Pinus* with loads of beard lichen *Usnea* and a rather open understory with bracken ferns *Pteridium aquilinum*. The bird was calling from a position above the observers. The observers' position at the second location at Pico Arieiro (32°44.28′N, 16°55.98′W) was at an elevation of c 1800 m asl (plate 117). However, the two begging Long-eared Owls were at a markedly lower position, probably c 1500 m asl. Here, habitat consisted of tree heath *Erica arborea*, broom Genisteae and scattered dead trees.

Identification, origin and breeding phenology

The timbre, structure and peak frequency of the calls, the regular intervals in which they were given, and the fact that birds were actively calling during the night (but not during the daytime when we revisited the sites), are typical for fledglings of Long-eared Owls. The identification of birds at both locations was verified by Magnus Robb.

The first bird uttered a strong, loud begging call with a peak frequency at c 2.12 kHz. The higher peak frequency of calls of both birds from the second location indicate a younger age (Robb & The Sound Approach 2015). After leaving the nest at an age of c 22 days, juvenile Long-eared Owls are able to fly when c 35 days old (Seidensticker et al 2006). Juveniles remain dependent on their parents for provisioning until an age of 10-14 weeks (Tome 2011). After gaining independence, juveniles leave the territory of their parents and roam over larger areas, with dispersal of up to several 100s kilometers (Tome 2011), and probably quickly stop using the begging call (van Manen 2000). As at least the first bird was able to fly and all were still actively begging, the age of the juveniles recorded on Madeira must have been at least c 35 days and likely less than 70 days (10 weeks) at the time of recording. They must have been born on the island.

Considering substantial hatching asynchrony in owls, the juvenile recorded at location 1 may have originated from the same brood as the two younger juveniles heard at the second location. However, begging fledglings at two locations 5 km apart are unlikely to originate from the same brood as ***1*** juvenile Long-eared Owls cease using the begging call quickly after gaining independence (Tome 2011), and ***2*** the distance between the locations of 5 km is much larger than the usual size of a territory and the distance adults hunt away from the nest location (Cramp 1985). Therefore, at least two pairs are likely to have bred on Madeira in 2019.

Assuming, for simplicity, an age of the chicks of eight weeks at the time of recording in the first week of August, these chicks would have hatched in the second week of June. With an incubation duration of four weeks (25-30 days; Cramp 1985), eggs must have been laid in mid-May. During c four weeks before egg laying, thus from approximately mid-April, females frequently give the nest-call (Cramp 1985). In the Western Palearctic, Long-eared Owl phenology of breeding shows remarkably little geographical variation (Cramp 1985) and the timing inferred for the Madeiran birds falls well within this variation.

Status on Madeira

An earlier claim of Long-eared Owl on Madeira concerns a single stuffed specimen supposedly killed on the island (Du Cane Godman 1872). Intriguingly, Du Cane Godman (1872) also states that the species is '... occasionally found in Madeira, where it probably breeds'. However, Du Cane Godman (1872) seems to have mixed up owl species in his text, as Madeira Barn Owl *Tyto schmitzi* is discussed under the heading of Short-eared Owl *A flammeus* whereas Short-eared is not treated. Possibly for this reason, Du Cane Godman's record was considered doubtful by Romano et al (2010). No records have been documented since (Romano et al 2010, Correia-Fagundes et al 2013) and we found no records on sighting portals such as www.observado.org or www.ebird.org. Hence, our recordings of juveniles are the first Long-eared Owls to be documented for the island. The previous absence of the species from Madeira contrasts with the status at the surrounding (forested) island groups (Azores, Canary Islands) and mainland (Morocco, Spain, Portugal), that all host breeding populations of Long-eared and appear to receive regular migrants or vagrants (eg, Martín & Lorenzo 2001, Palacios 2004). A pertinent question is therefore: what is the origin of the Madeiran juveniles? Do they represent a previously undetected breeding population or a recent colonisation from the Canary Islands, the Azores or the mainland?

Previously undetected historic breeding population?

Many ornithologists and birdwatchers have visited the island over the past centuries. Therefore, it seems unlikely that a breeding population would not have been detected earlier. In particular, records that are easy to document, like traffic casualties, would be expected. Likewise, it seems unlikely that the species would not have been noted during nocturnal research on seabirds and Madeira Barn Owls, and during evening excursions for birdwatchers to the Zino's Petrel *Pterodroma madeira* breeding site.

Recent colonisation from the Canary Islands or Azores?

The subspecies *A o canariensis* of Long-eared Owl from the forested Canary Islands (El Hierro, La Palma, La Gomera, Tenerife and Gran Canaria) is sedentary (Palacios 2004). Therefore, this subspecies seems far less likely to colonise new islands at distances of more than 450 km than nominate *A o otus* (see below). Likewise, Long-eared Owls

breeding on the Azores are non-migratory (Marks et al 2020) and therefore also unlikely to arrive at Madeira. Interestingly, Long-eared Owls recently colonised Fuerteventura and Lanzarote but it is unclear whether these are nominate *A o otus* or *A o canariensis* (Palacios 2004, López-Darias et al 2006, Garcia-del-Rey 2015; Beneharo Rodríguez in litt, Felipe Silverio in litt, Marcel Gil Velasco in litt). If the latter, they would have crossed at least the c 85 km of sea from Gran Canaria.

Recent colonisation from the mainland?
Nominate *A o otus* is migratory (and sometimes irruptive) in most of its range and its ability to cross large stretches of open water is illustrated by Scandinavian birds wintering in Britain (Wernham et al 2002), and regular encounters on ships and oil ridges in European waters (van Dijk 1975, Merrie 1979). The species has also been recorded at locations south of Madeira, such as the islet of Alegranza (Martín & Lorenzo 2001). Indeed, up to four individuals were present on the nearby island of Salvagem Grande, part of the Madeiran archipelago, on 17-24 March 2016 (Rinse van der Vliet in litt), indicating the occurrence of the species in the archipelago. Long-eared Owl is therefore likely to arrive on Madeira and surrounding islands with some regularity from the mainland during the migratory periods, which may have resulted in some long-staying birds that started to breed. Interestingly, Long-eared breeding in the Azores may also represent a recent colonisation from mainland birds, as they show little or no divergence from the nominate in size, vocalisations or DNA (Wink et al 2008, Robb & The Sound Approach 2015).

Suggestions for future studies

The records presented in our paper have been submitted to the Portuguese rarities committee (PRC). Photographic evidence would be welcome to further support our inferences from sound recordings. Main questions emerging from our observations are: ***1*** how many pairs are currently breeding on Madeira; ***2*** did the species recently colonise the island or has a breeding population remained undetected; and ***3*** are the Long-eared Owls breeding on Madeira more closely related to mainland populations of nominate *A o otus*, to *A o canariensis* or to the Azores population?

We suggest future studies should aim to answer these questions by conducting island-wide surveys during the likely courtship period from approximately January to mid-May and especially during the chick-rearing period from mid-June to mid-August, when detection rates of broods are highest (cf van Manen 2000). As DNA and vocalizations show little or no differences between *A o otus* and *A o canariensis* (Wink et al 2008, Robb & The Sound Approach 2015) whereas *A o canariensis* is 10% smaller and somewhat darker than *A o otus* (Cramp 1985), data on biometrics and plumage aspects seem most appropriate to assess to which subspecies the Long-eared Owls breeding on Madeira are more closely related. Furthermore, basic natural history information, such as diet and vocalizations, still need to be assessed.

Acknowledgements

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Samenvatting

Broedende Ransuilen op Madeira in 2019 – recente kolonisatie of nooit ontdekte populatie? Vestigingen van nieuwe broedvogels op goed onderzochte oceanische eilanden in het West-Palearctische gebied worden zelden gedocumenteerd. In de avond en nacht van 7 op 8 augustus 2019 werden op twee locaties op Madeira, gelegen op 1400 and 1800 m boven zeeniveau, drie bedelende, jonge Ransuilen *Asio otus* ontdekt. Deze waarnemingen betreffen de eerste gedocumenteerde gevallen van deze soort op Madeira en daarmee ook de eerste broedgevallen. Van alle individuen werden opnamen gemaakt maar de vogels werden niet gezien. Zoekacties in de daaropvolgende twee nachten leverden niets op – op de eerste locatie omdat de vogel (blijkbaar) niet meer ter plaatse was, en op de tweede locatie vanwege het weer en de ontoegankelijkheid. De leeftijd van de jongen werd geschat op 35-70 dagen en betroffen, gezien de afstand van 5 km tussen de twee locaties, twee broedsels. De oorsprong van deze vestiging kan liggen in de (westelijke) Canarische Eilanden (ondersoort *A o canariensis*), de Azoren of het vasteland van Europa. Omdat alleen de populaties van het vasteland van Europa over aanzienlijke afstanden trekken lijkt dit de meest waarschijnlijke bronpopulatie. Openstaande vragen voor toekomstig onderzoek zijn: ***1*** hoeveel paren broeden op Madeira; ***2*** heeft de soort het eiland recentelijk gekoloniseerd of is deze populatie lang over het hoofd gezien; en ***3*** zijn de Ransuilen die op Madeira broeden het nauwst verwant aan de populatie van het vasteland, aan *A o canariensis* of aan de populatie van de Azoren? Ook mist er nog allerlei basale natuurhistorische kennis, bijvoorbeeld over prooi- en habitatkeuze.

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Kleine Regenwulp bij Schagen in december 2019-januari 2020

Sytze B Algera & Enno B Ebels

Tijdens een van mijn wekelijkse rondjes door het landelijke gebied rond Schagen, Noord-Holland, op maandag 23 december 2019 trof ik (Sytze Algera) rond 12:00 een aanzienlijke groep Wulpen *Numenius arquata* aan ten westen van Kolhorn langs de westzijde van de Mieldijk. Ik scande zoals gebruikelijk de groep op de aanwezigheid van eventuele ringen. Opeens verscheen een kleine steltloper in mijn kijkerbeeld. Ik zag wel dat het een soort wulp was maar had geen idee welke. Het koppie had wel iets van Regenwulp *N phaeopus* maar de vogel was veel te klein en de snavel ook veel te kort. Ik stuurde een berichtje naar Fred Visscher en die reageerde vrijwel direct. FV vroeg om een beschrijving en die kwam naar zijn mening het meest overeen met Kleine Regenwulp *N minutus*; hij stuurde mij met opzet een foto van een Bartrams Ruiter *Bartramia longicauda* (die overeenkomsten heeft met Kleine Regenwulp; beide soorten kende ik niet). Toen ik daar negatief op reageerde stuurde FV een foto van een Kleine Regenwulp en mijn reactie was gelijk: 'ja dat was hem!'. FV kwam naar de plek om een zoekpoging te ondernemen; na een half uur zoeken zonder resultaat besloot hij de melding via www.waarneming.nl bekend te maken en waarschuwde hij bevriende vogelaars zodat met meer mensen kon worden gezocht. Rond 13:45 verscheen de melding op Dutch Bird Alerts en even later reisden vogelaars, vaak met enig ongeloof vanwege de extreme zeldzaamheid en onwaarschijnlijke datum, af richting de Kop van Noord-Holland. Rond 15:00 vond Anton Duijnhouwer de vogel terug in een groep Wulpen vanaf de dijk Poolland; ondanks de forse afstand en het tegenlicht was snel duidelijk dat het echt een

118 Kleine Regenwulp / Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*, eerste-winter, met Wulpen / Eurasian Curlews *N arquata*, Kolhorn, Noord-Holland, 23 december 2019 *(Jan van der Laan)*. Foto op middag van ontdekking.

Kleine Regenwulp was, een nieuwe soort voor Nederland. Zeker 80 vogelaars waren op tijd om hem nog voor donker te bekijken.

Op 24 december kwamen enkele 100en vogelaars naar het gebied om te zoeken. Na een korte waarneming in vlucht rond 09:00 (en de ontdekking van een Kleine Trap *Tetrax tetrax* als bonus) duurde het tot iets na 15:00 voordat de wulp bij Barsingerhorn aan de grond werd gevonden (enkele kilometers ten zuiden van de eerdere plek). De meeste vogelaars kwamen op tijd om hem daar gedurende een half uur te zien. De volgende dagen werd hij met enige regelmaat gezien in een groot gebied tussen Oudesluis, Kolhorn, Barsingerhorn, Haringhuizen, Keinse, Schagerbrug en Sint Maarten, een oppervlakte van c 50 km^2 binnen de gemeentegrenzen van Hollands Kroon en Schagen. Hij was tot en met de derde week van januari te zien en verbleef in januari meestal weer op de 'oude plek' bij Poolland. Vanwege de extreme zeldzaamheid in Europa en de ontoegankelijkheid van zijn broedgebieden trok hij niet alleen Nederlandse vogelaars maar ook vele 10-tallen bezoekers uit andere Europese landen. De laatste waarneming was iets na het middaguur op 18 januari 2020 (www.waarneming.nl).

Beschrijving

De beschrijving is gebaseerd op aantekeningen van Enno Ebels, foto's van onder meer Leo Boon, Alex Bos en Jaap Denee (Dutch Birding 42: 49, plaat 68, 65, plaat 98-99, 144, plaat 205, 2020) en videobeelden van onder meer Daniël Boer, Herrald Damen en FV.

GROOTTE & BOUW Duidelijk kleine wulp, c half zo hoog op poten als Wulp en veel compacter; 'volume' geschat 30-50% van Wulp. Bij directe vergelijking fractie kleiner dan mannetje Kemphaan *Calidris pugnax,* met korter achtereind. Vrij lange poten. Snavel dun en zeer licht gekromd en veel korter dan bij Wulp. Bouw en verhoudingen herinnerend aan grote Blonde Ruiter *C subruficollis*, met relatief rond lichaam, slanke hals en kleine ronde kop. 'Ronder' voorkomen dan bijvoorbeeld Kemphaan of ruiter *Tringa*. Staart in vlucht relatief kort. Poten net voorbij staartpunt stekend in vlucht.

KOP Vrij licht met donkere zwartbruine zijkruinstreep (bij zijaanzicht als donkere bovenkop zichtbaar), lichte middenkruinstreep en donkere oogstreep (vanaf onder oog naar achteren, niet doorlopend tot in nek) maar op grotere afstand tekening moeilijk herkenbaar. Centraal deel van teugel licht, met geïsoleerde zwarte vlek tegen snavelbasis aan.

BOVENDELEN Donkerbruin. Mantel en schouder donkerste deel. Schouderveren met groot donker centrum

119 Kleine Regenwulp / Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*, eerste-winter, met Kieviten / Northern Lapwings *Vanellus vanellus*, Kolhorn, Noord-Holland, 27 december 2019 *(Leo J R Boon)*

120 Kleine Regenwulp / Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*, eerste-winter, Kolhorn, Noord-Holland, 31 december 2019 *(Thijs Glastra)* **121-122** Kleine Regenwulp / Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*, eerste-winter, Kolhorn, Noord-Holland, 27 december 2019 *(Leo J R Boon)* **123** Kleine Regenwulp / Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*, eerste-winter, Kolhorn, Noord-Holland, 12 januari 2020 *(Ronald Messemaker)*

en lichte, zeemkleurig gekartelde rand; kartels slechts beperkt (tot hooguit halverwege) inlopend richting veercentrum. Bovenzijde in vlucht egaal donker, geen lichte 'sigaar' aanwezig.

ONDERDELEN Onderdelen lichtbruin, lichter dan bovendelen, met vrij duidelijke scheiding tussen lichtbruine borst en wittere buik. Buik niet zo wit als bij Wulp maar iets bruinig of met grijs waas.

VLEUGEL Bovenvleugel donker zonder vleugelstreep. Dekveren met grijsbruin centrum en lichtere, zeemkleurige randen, zonder opvallende tekening maar op afstand soms regelmatig patroon van zwakke lichte lijntjes gevend. Vleugelboeg in zit vaak donkerder ogend dan dekveren. Tertials donker met zeemkleurige, tot halverwege inlopende karteltekening op randen. Ondervleugel vrij donker bruingrijs, contrasterend met lichte onderdelen.

STAART Bovenstaart donker-licht gebandeerd, op afstand donker lijkend als bovendelen.

NAAKTE DELEN Snavel donker met lichte basis tot ongeveer halverwege snavel (lichte kleur in het veld vaak moeilijk zichtbaar). Poot licht, grijsachtig of groenachtig.

GELUID Niet vastgesteld.

GEDRAG Meestal foeragerend tussen Wulpen in weiland en met vergelijkbaar foerageergedrag (lopen en pikken/peuren) maar actiever rondlopend met meer en vluggere kopbewegingen. Soms samen foeragerend met Goudplevieren *Pluvialis apricaria*, Kieviten *Vanellus vanellus* of Kemphanen. Bijna altijd op grote afstand van omringende wegen verblijvend en (daardoor) niet goed te benaderen. Bij verstoring opvliegend met Wulpen maar soms ook solitair wegvliegend.

Determinatie en leeftijdbepaling

De determinatie leverde weinig problemen op: een mini-wulp met duidelijke zwarte koptekening kan alleen een Kleine Regenwulp zijn. Regenwulp

TABEL 1 Gevallen van Kleine Regenwulp *Numenius minutus* in het West-Palearctische gebied; foto's van twee gevallen in Brittannië, gevallen in Finland, Koeweit en Noorwegen en eerste geval in Zweden staan in Haas (2012) / records of Little Curlew *Numenius minutus* in the Western Palearctic; photographs of two records in Britain, records in Finland, Kuwait and Norway, and first record in Sweden can be found in Haas (2012) (cf Haas 2012, 2017; www.tarsiger.com)

België (1)
18 september 2010, Uitkerkepolder, West-Vlaanderen (Vergauwen 2010, De Schutter et al 2011)

Brittannië (2)
30 augustus tot 6 september 1982, Sker Point, Glamorgan, Wales, adult (Moon 1983)
24 augustus tot 3 september 1985, Blakeney, Cley en Salthouse, Norfolk, Engeland (Walker & Gregory 1987)

Finland (1)
1-2 oktober 1996, Saltvik, Haga, Åland, eerste-winter (Vasamies 1997)

Koeweit (1)
13-29 december 2007, Pivot Fields

Nederland (1)
23 december 2019 tot 18 januari 2020, Kolhorn en Schagen, Noord-Holland, eerste-winter

Noorwegen (1)
14 juli 1969, Varanger, Finnmark, adult (Andersson 1971)

Zweden (2)
12 september tot 8 november 2005, Ottenby (12-13 september), Näsbybadet (24-30 september) en Segertads fry (8 oktober tot 8 november), Öland, eerste-winter
10-11 juli 2019, Tofta Kile, Kungälv, Bohuslän

is een stuk groter en heeft een lichte 'sigaar' op de bovendelen (het onderste centrale deel van de rug tot aan de stuit) en een meer contrasterend koppatroon. Amerikaanse Regenwulp *N hudsonicus* mist net als Kleine Regenwulp de lichte 'sigaar' maar is ook duidelijk groter (zelfde formaat als Regenwulp) en heeft een vergelijkbaar koppatroon als Regenwulp, meestal met nog meer contrast. Eskimowulp *N borealis* uit Noord-Amerika is de enige wulpensoort die in grootte vergelijkbaar is met Kleine Regenwulp maar is een hypothetische optie omdat deze soort naar wordt aangenomen is uitgestorven (cf Hume & Walters 2012); het laatste geval in Europa dateert uit 1887 (Haas 2012). Eskimowulp verschilt door het meer egale koppatroon, de aanwezigheid van (veel meer) chevrons op de onderdelen en de lichtere (kaneelkleurige) ondervleugel; daarnaast strekt de lichte tekening aan de snavelbasis zich minder ver uit dan bij Kleine Regenwulp. Buiten de wulpen vertoont alleen Bartrams Ruiter enige gelijkenis maar deze soort heeft een andere bouw (slankere hals, plattere kop, langere staart en kortere snavel) en gele poten en mist het duidelijke koppatroon (Prater et al 1977, Boswall & Veprintsev 1985, Hayman et al 1986, Lewington et al 1991, Rosair & Cottridge 2004, Chandler 2009, van Duivendijk 2011, Howell et al 2014, Svensson et al 2017).

Op basis van het regelmatige patroon van de grijsbruine dekveren met smalle lichte randen en de schouderveren en tertials met groot donker centrum en scherp afgetekende maar beperkt inlopende lichte kartels betrof het een eerste-winter; bij adulte vogels zijn de dekveren sterk getekend met brede geelbruine randen en de schouderveren en tertials dieper gekarteld op een minder donkere ondergrond (cf Prater et al 1977, Howell et al 2014). Door de grijsbruine dekveren was er een sterk contrast met de veel donkerdere mantel en schouderveren; dit contrast was ook op grote afstand zichtbaar.

Voorkomen en verspreiding

Kleine Regenwulp broedt in Centraal- en Noordoost-Siberië, Rusland, en trekt in de winter over grote afstanden naar Noord-Australië en Nieuw-Guinea en in kleine aantallen naar de Filippijnen en delen van Indonesië (Labutin et al 1982, Hayman et al 1986, Bellio et al 2006, Brazil 2009). Onderzoek met satellietzenders heeft aangetoond dat exemplaren in een korte periode enorme afstanden kunnen afleggen met lange non-stopvluchten, tot 7000 km in zes dagen tijd (Minton & Veltheim 2014).

In Noord-Amerika en Europa is het een zeer zeldzame dwaalgast. De waarneming in Noord-Holland is aanvaard door de Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA) en betrof het eerste geval voor Nederland en het negende voor het West-Palearctische gebied (cf tabel 1; Haas 2012, 2017). De meeste WP-gevallen werden in de zomer en het najaar vastgesteld (juli-november). In de VS zijn er zes gevallen tot en met 2014, waarvan de eerste vier (in Californië in 1984-94) mogelijk op minder dan vier exemplaren betrekking hadden (Lehman & Dunn 1985, Mlodinow 2002, Howell et al 2014). Dwaalgasten zijn ook vastgesteld op de Seychellen, in Tasmanië

en in Nieuw-Zeeland (Fearce 1973, Hayman et al 1986). Waarnemingen in de winter op het Noordelijk Halfrond zijn extreem schaars; naast de vogels van Koeweit en Nederland (tabel 1) staan er bijvoorbeeld voor de periode december-februari maar twee gevallen in de database van eBird, één in Hong Kong, China, en één op de zuidpunt van Taiwan (https://ebird.org/home). De soort komt later in Australië dan de meeste andere steltlopers, sommige exemplaren arriveren pas in begin december (cf Bellio et al 2016). Op basis van dit trekgedrag is het denkbaar dat de vogel van Schagen pas recent was aangekomen, al duiden de meeste WP-gevallen eerder op afdwalen in de zomer en het najaar.

Dankzegging
Wij danken Łukasz Ławicki en Fred Visscher voor hun hulp bij het schrijven van dit artikel.

Summary
Little Curlew near Schagen in December 2019-January 2020 From 23 December 2019 to 18 January 2020, a first-winter Little Curlew *Numenius minutus* stayed around Schagen, Noord-Holland, the Netherlands. It was mostly seen with Eurasian Curlews *N arquata* and sometimes other waders in meadows covering a large area of c 50 km² and was therefore sometimes difficult to (re)locate. During its stay, it was seen by several 100s of birders, including many visitors from abroad. Identification was based on its very small size (compared with Eurasian Curlew), distinctive head pattern with dark lateral crown-stripe and eye-stripe (from below eye backwards, with pale lore) and all-dark upperparts, tail and upperwing in flight. This was the first record for the Netherlands; other records in the Western Palearctic were in Belgium (September 2010); Britain (August-September 1982 and August-September 1985); Finland (October 1996); Kuwait (December 2007); Norway (July 1969); and Sweden (September-November 2005 and July 2019). Mid-winter records in the Northern Hemisphere are extremely rare for this species, which breeds in Siberia, Russia, and mainly winters in northern Australia and New Guinea.

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Seebohms Tapuit in Den Haag in mei 2017

Gerjon Gelling, Vincent van der Spek & Nick van der Marel

Op maandag 22 mei 2017 rond 08:00 zag Nick van der Marel vanaf zijn werkplek een voor hem onbekende tapuit *Oenanthe* op het terrein van het Hoogheemraadschap van Delfland te Kijkduin, Den Haag, Zuid-Holland. De vogel was druk insecten aan het vangen op een stuk duin waarop NvdM uitkeek. NvdM leende een verrekijker en een fototoestel van zijn collega Garrit Hendriks om de vogel vast te leggen. Vervolgens belde hij collega Gerjon Gelling, die samen met onder anderen Rob Berkelder op dat moment op de nabij gelegen telpost De Vulkaan vogels aan het tellen was en hij stuurde vervolgens een screenshot van de vogel door. Die was vaag, maar goed genoeg om alle alarmbellen te laten rinkelen en De Vulkaan te laten voor wat het was. RB en GG kwamen rond 08:30 op de plek aan, maar de vogel bleek niet meer aanwezig. GH en NvdM zaten op dat moment in vergadering, dus het duurde even voordat meer en originele foto's te zien waren. Ondertussen had de ook aanwezige Robin van Schie de vogel als Oostelijke Blonde Tapuit *O melanoleuca* op www.waarneming.nl geplaatst. Hoewel het duidelijk niet deze soort betrof, werd hierdoor wel de vogelaarsgemeenschap gealarmeerd. Al snel volgden de eerste vragen op de Haagse whatsapp-groep. Met hulp van Wietze Janse werd daarop een DB Alert gepost met het bewuste screenshot, aanvankelijk eerst als Woestijntapuit *O deserti* met vraagteken. De foto's toonden echter kenmerken die sterk richting een mannetje Seebohms Tapuit *O seebohmi* wezen. Dit leverde een toestroom van vogelaars uit het hele land op maar ondanks zoekacties in de ruime omgeving werd de vogel niet teruggevonden (cf Gelling & van der Spek 2017).

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[*Dutch Birding 42: 86-91, 2020*]

125-127 Seebohms Tapuit / Seebohm's Wheatear *Oenanthe seebohmi*, mannetje, Solleveld, Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 22 mei 2017 *(Gerjon Gelling)* **128** Seebohms Tapuit / Seebohm's Wheatear *Oenanthe seebohmi*, mannetje, Solleveld, Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 22 mei 2017 *(Danny Laponder)*

Daar kwam verandering in toen ecoloog Hans Lucas – zich niet bewust van de eerdere waarneming – op het door Dunea beheerde Solleveld (hemelsbreed 2 km ten zuiden van de oude plek) even voor 18:00 via www.waarneming.nl een Bonte Tapuit *O pleschanka* meldde. Omdat de vogel zich in afgesloten terrein ophield wilde hij dat met de embargofunctie doen maar dat mislukte. GG, die op Solleveld vogels inventariseert, had een terreinvergunning en vond de vogel rond 18:20 terug. Het bleek echt een Seebohms Tapuit! Ook zeven anderen met een terreinvergunning zagen de tapuit, die net achter een talud liep. Hij foerageerde rustig, zong zelfs af en toe en liet zich geweldig bekijken. Maar de sfeer was niet euforisch: natuurlijk waren de aanwezigen intens tevreden maar zij voelden zich ook bezwaard, want in de vrij toegankelijke zeereep stonden 10-tallen vogelaars die de tapuit vanuit hun positie (net) niet konden zien. Een excursie bleek ondanks enkele telefoontjes niet meer te organiseren maar er werden wel plannen gemaakt voor de volgende dag. Toen de vogel rond 19:30 plotseling over het talud vloog zagen enkele twitchers hem vanaf het uitkijkpunt – zij het heel kort en op flinke afstand. De mensen in het terrein konden hem niet meer terugvinden en daarmee leken de kansen voor de toegesnelde vogelaars verspeeld.

Het verhaal kreeg weer een wending toen Jacco Duindam en Danny Laponder hem rond 20:00 c 600 m naar het noorden terugvonden, foerageerend bij het hek tussen vakantiepark Ockenburgh en Solleveld. Ondernemende vogelaars vonden een weg door het vakantiepark en zagen de vogel rond dat tijdstip vanaf een openbaar toegankelijk punt. Hier was hij tot c 22:00 vrijwel continu in

beeld, tot opluchting van al uren aanwezige vogelaars en velen die pas na het terugvinden waren gaan reizen. Uiteindelijk werd hij door c 150 vogelaars gezien. De volgende dag was de tapuit gevlogen.

Beschrijving

De beschrijving is gebaseerd op foto's en videobeelden van GG, DL en Vincent van der Spek en enkele veldnotities van VvdS (Dutch Birding 39: 222, plaat 303, 223, plaat 304, 2017, 40: 375, plaat 508, 2018; www.dutchbirding.nl, www.waarneming.nl).

GROOTTE & JIZZ Relatief fors ogende tapuit. Directe vergelijking niet mogelijk, maar vrij langsnavelig en langpotig lijkend.

KOP Groot zwart masker en keelvlek, voorhoofd (in smal lijntje boven snavel doorlopend) tot oorstreek (iets boven oog doorlopend), gehele oorstreek, kin en keel omvattend. Bovenkop en achterhoofd lichtgrijs met wat lichtbruine tekening, nek op sommige foto's net iets lichter lijkend (in veld niet opgevallen). Wittige wenkbrauwstreep verbredend op voorhoofd en tot ruim voorbij oog, tot einde van masker.

BOVENZIJDE Schouder, mantel en rug lichtgrijs met wat bruinige tekening, stuit wit. Aan linkerzijde zwarte lijn vanaf keel doorlopend naar schouder, ogenschijnlijk veroorzaakt door slijtage.

ONDERZIJDE Bovenborst zwart, verbonden met zwarte keel. Begrenzing aan onderzijde vlekkerig. Diverse veren met smalle lichte top. Keel-/borstvlek leek in veld 'verbonden' met kleine dekveren maar op foto's – afhankelijk van houding – nog kleine lichtgrijze scheiding ertussen zichtbaar. Iets onder borstvlek nog geïsoleerd zwart vlekje. Flank met enige donkere tekening, meestal verborgen onder vleugel, verder wit. Anaalstreek en onderstaartdekveren met wat warmere gekleurde waas, zowel op foto's als in veld te zien.

BOVENVLEUGEL Kleine dekveren zwart, overige dekveren, tertials en handpennen donkerbruin. Eén geïsoleerde en drie binnenste grote dekveren met smalle witte top. Minimaal één handpendekveer met smalle lichte rand op binnenvlag en langste duimvleugelveer met lichte rand. In linkervleugel minimaal twee binnenste armpennen missend (op vluchtfoto's te zien).

ONDERVLEUGEL Kleine en middelste dekveren en oksel op basis van foto's donkerder dan grote dekveren en arm- en handpennen.

STAART Binnenste staartpen (r1) geheel zwart, r2-6 grotendeels wit met zwarte top, daarmee staartband vormend. Top breedst op r6, daarna ogenschijnlijk smaller wordend tot r4, en weer wat breder op r5. Gehele staartband duidelijk smaller dan bij Tapuit *O oenanthe*, in veld in vlucht opvallend en fotografisch goed vastgelegd.

NAAKTE DELEN Zwart. Pootbevedering met zwarte vlekjes.

GELUID Enige malen zingend. Zacht Tapuitachtig gebrabbel. Geen geluidsopnamen. Wel zingend gefilmd maar geluid daarop niet hoorbaar.

GEDRAG Typisch tapuitengedrag: meestal foeragerend op grond; af en toe kort op paaltje of struik of ander hoog punt zittend. Niet schuw, wel alert.

SLEET Ogenschijnlijk sleet op borst, flank, rug, schouder en mantel.

Leeftijd en geslacht

De lichtgrijze bovendelen, het uitgebreide zwarte masker en de zwarte keel laten geen ruimte voor twijfel over het geslacht: een mannetje. De ogenschijnlijk iets zwartere kleine dekveren ten opzichte van de wat bruinere middelste en grote wijzen mogelijk op een ruicontrast in de vleugel en dat past op een tweede-kalenderjaar (Demongin 2016, Shirihai & Svensson 2018), hoewel dat niet op alle foto's te zien is. Wel lijken de handpendekveren eerder zwart dan bruin. De vogel ziet er ook erg adult uit, terwijl tweedejaars doorgaans een minder geprononceerd mannelijk uiterlijk zouden hebben (Shirihai & Svensson 2018). Daarom is het al met al beter de leeftijd onbepaald te laten, conform het besluit van de CDNA.

Determinatie

De combinatie van lichtgrijze bovendelen, wittige onderzijde, zwart masker en zwarte keel, smalle staartband en donkerdere middelste en kleine dekveren op de ondervleugel past alleen op Seebohms Tapuit (cf Hollom et al 1988, van Duivendijk 2011, Shirihai & Svensson 2018, Piot 2019a). De zwarte eindband aan de staart (t3-5) is 4-17 mm breed bij Seebohms Tapuit en 15.5-22 mm bij Tapuit *O o oenanthe/leucorhoa* (cf Demongin 2016). Dat de keelvlek (nagenoeg) verbonden is met de kleine dekveren komt regelmatig voor. De vlek loopt wel ver op de borst door, meer dan op afbeeldingen in vogelgidsen en veel foto's op internet. Een 'dertien-in-een-dozijnkleed' is bij een dwaalgast wellicht het meest wenselijk en de uitgebreide zwarte keel leidde op internetfora dan ook tot enkele kritische vragen. Er werd echter een foto gevonden van een vogel met een vergelijkbaar ver doorlopende keelvlek, al is die bij deze vogel niet verbonden met de kleine dekveren (https://tinyurl.com/ycm5fytd). Mogelijk is de variatie van deze soort, zeker later in het voorjaar (wanneer maar weinig vogelaars de broedgebieden bezoeken) nog niet volledig vastgelegd.

De enige andere optie is een aberrante Tapuit. Kleurafwijkingen komen voor bij tapuiten maar een uitgebreide zoektocht op internet leverde alleen standaardafwijkingen zoals leucisme, dilution en melanisme op. Een gedeeltelijke kleuraf-

129 Seebohms Tapuit / Seebohm's Wheatear *Oenanthe seebohmi*, mannetje, Solleveld, Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 22 mei 2017 *(Vincent van der Spek)* **130** Seebohms Tapuit / Seebohm's Wheatear *Oenanthe seebohmi*, mannetje, Solleveld, Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 22 mei 2017 *(Danny Laponder)* **131** Seebohms Tapuit / Seebohm's Wheatear *Oenanthe seebohmi*, mannetje, Solleveld, Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 22 mei 2017 *(Gerjon Gelling)*

TABEL 1 Gevallen van Seebohms Tapuit *Oenanthe seebohmi* buiten broedgebieden in Marokko en Algerije en overwinteringsgebieden in Mauritanië, Mali en Senegal (* nog niet aanvaard) / records of Seebohm's Wheatear *Oenanthe seebohmi* outside breeding areas in Morocco and Algeria and wintering areas in Mauritania, Mali and Senegal (* not yet accepted) (Isenmann et al 2005, 2016, García Monzón 2010, García-del-Rey & García Vargas 2013, Azafzaf et al 2015, de Juana & Garcia 2015, Ławicki & van den Berg 2019; https://tinyurl.com/y3ksx4gu; Raymond Galea in litt; Ottavio Janni in litt)

België (1)
*7 mei 2019, Templeuve, Hainaut, tweede-kalenderjaar mannetje (zelfde vogel als in Frankrijk)

Canarische Eilanden (1)
19 juni 2010, Castillo del Romeral, Gran Canaria

Frankrijk (1)
*7 mei 2019, Sailly-lez-Lannoy, Hauts-de-France, tweede-kalenderjaar mannetje (zelfde vogel als in België)

Gibraltar (1)
28 april 2005, Windmill Hill Falts, mannetje

Italië (1)
*7 mei 2014, Punta la Marmora, Gennargentu Massif, Sardinia, mannetje

Libië (6/7)
begin april 1969, Kufrah, twee
20 november 1970, Tripolitania
1 april 1971, Tripolitania
23 april 1971, Tripolitania
begin december 2006, Ghat, Fezzan
20 februari 2010, Zlitan, Tripolitania

Malta (1)
30 maart 2016, Xrobb l-Ghagin, eerste-zomer mannetje

Nederland (1)
22 mei 2017, Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, mannetje

Tunesië (9)
eind december 1985, Kebili
4 juni 1993, ten oosten van Gafsa
31 december 1998, Midés
26 december 1999, Matlaoui
20 september 2000, Jebel Bou Ramli, Gafsa
21 september 2000, Chebika, Tamerza
21 september 2000, Chebika, Tamerza
28 maart 2001, Douz
3 december 2003, Chott El Jerid, Kébili, mannetje

wijking bij een Tapuit die daarnaast een nagenoeg volledige reeks aan kenmerken van Seebohms vertoont (combinatie keel/ondervleugel/staartpatroon) is onbeschreven, onwaarschijnlijk en daarmee te vergezocht.

Voorkomen

Seebohms Tapuit broedt in het Atlasgebergte in Marokko en Algerije en trekt in de winter zuidwaarts naar woestijnen in met name Zuid-Mauritanië, ten minste tot in West-Mali en Noord-Senegal (een afstand van zeker 1700 km). De verspreiding ten oosten van deze regio is nog onbekend (Smith 1971, Browne 1982, Cramp 1988, Keith et al 1992, Rodwell et al 1996, Isenmann & Moali 2000, Borrow & Demey 2001, Thévenot et al 2003, del Hoyo et al 2005, Isenmann et al 2005, Förschler et al 2008, Piot 2019ab). De vogel van Den Haag is aanvaard door de Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA; cf Gelling et al 2018) en was niet alleen de eerste voor Nederland maar ook voor heel Noordwest-Europa. De enige andere Europese gevallen waren mannetjes in Gibraltar (28 april 2005; de Juana & Garcia 2015), Italië (7 mei 2014; del Hoyo el al 2020; https://tinyurl.com/y3ksx4gu) en op Malta (30 maart 2016; cf Dutch Birding 38: 254, plaat 390, 2016). Buiten het reguliere verspreidingsgebied zijn er verder gevallen bekend van Gran Canaria, Canarische Eilanden (19 juni 2010; García Monzón 2010, García-del-Rey & García Vargas 2013), Tunesië (negen gevallen; Isenmann et al 2005, Azafzaf et al 2015) en Libië (zes gevallen; Isenmann et al 2016). Het tweede geval voor Noordwest-Europa volgde al snel in de vorm van een tweede-kalenderjaar mannetje dat op 7 mei 2019 op de grens van Noordwest-Frankrijk en Zuidwest-België verbleef (Ławicki & van den Berg 2019). Dit geval is nog in behandeling bij de respectievelijke dwaalgastencommissies. Een overzicht van alle bekende gevallen buiten de broed- en overwinteringsgebieden wordt gegeven in tabel 1.

Taxonomie

Voorheen werd Seebohms Tapuit beschouwd als ondersoort van Tapuit, ondanks sterke verschillen in verenkleed, structuur en (allopatrisch) broedgebied. Vanaf 2002 wordt Seebohms in Dutch Birding behandeld als aparte soort. Enkele andere publicaties en checklists (Lepage 2014, del Hoyo & Collar 2016) volgen eveneens deze lijn (cf Dutch Birding 24: 22-24, 2002).

Dankwoord

We bedanken Garrit Hendriks voor het beschikbaar

stellen van zijn camera aan NvdM, Hans Lucas (Dunea) voor het doorgeven van de juiste locatie op Solleveld aan VvdS en Noël Aarts (Dunea) voor het voorbereiden van een excursie de volgende dag. Nils van Duivendijk dacht mee over het bepalen van de leeftijd. Enno Ebels, Marcel Haas en vooral Łukasz Ławicki zochten informatie en bronnen van andere gevallen in het West-Palearctische gebied.

Summary

Seebohm's Wheatear at Den Haag in May 2017 On 22 May 2017, a male Seebohm's Wheatear *Oenanthe seebohmi* stayed at two sites near Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, the Netherlands. Identification was based on, eg, the extensive black face and throat (reaching upper breast and connected with the dark wing) with white supercilium and grey crown, grey upperparts, narrow but continuous black tail-band and dark underwing-coverts. This was the first record for the Netherlands and north-western Europe. On 7 May 2019, a male found on the border between north-western France and south-western Belgium was the second. The (only) previous records in Europe are from Gibraltar, Italy and Malta. Additional vagrant records are from the Canary Islands (one), Tunisia and Libya. Seebohm's is an endemic breeding bird of the Atlas mountains and winters in deserts, south to at least northern Senegal.

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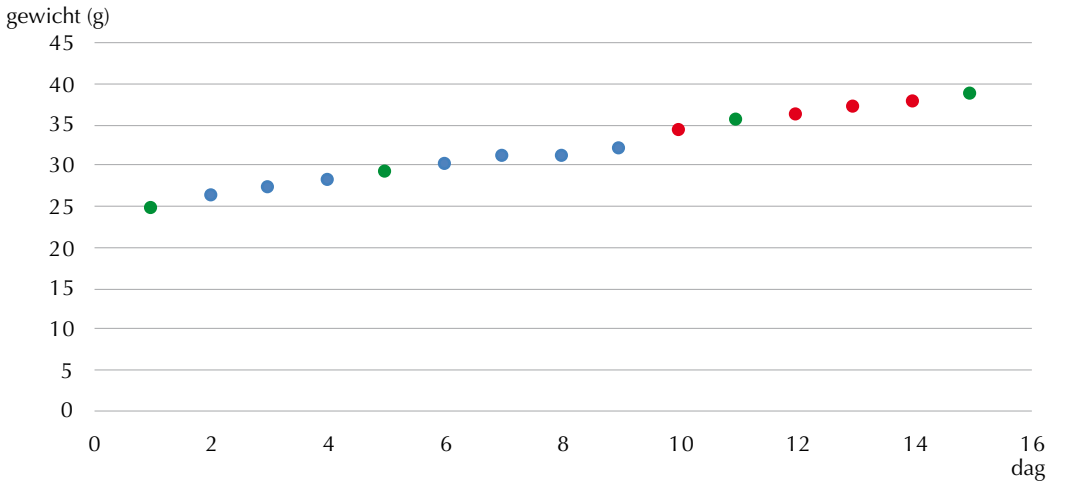
Grijswangdwerglijster bij Monster in november 2018

Vincent van der Spek

Op 5 november 2018 vond mevrouw Rietveld een verzwakte 'Roodborst *Erithacus rubecula* zonder rood' in de duinen bij Monster, Zuid-Holland, die zij dezelfde dag naar Vogelopvang De Wulp in het nabijgelegen Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, bracht. Rinse van der Vliet en ik (Vincent van der Spek) ringen daar al jaren vogels. Omdat de soort niet herkend werd stuurde asielmedewerker Lizzy Looijestijn twee foto's naar onze whatsapp-groep. Ondanks dat er een verfomfaaid, nat beestje tevoorschijn kwam moest ik naar adem happen: het was onmiskenbaar een Amerikaanse dwerglijstersoort *Catharus*, vermoedelijk een Grijswangdwerglijster *C minimus*! Nog diezelfde dag bezocht ik de vogel en kon ik mijn eerdere determinatie bevestigen. Gebaseerd op het lage gewicht (24.7 gram) en de ingeteerde borstspier (1-2 op een schaal van 0-5) verkeerde de vogel in een slechte conditie, hoewel hij nog wel enigszins alert was en zich vol overgave op meelwormen stortte. Het was duidelijk dat de vogel tijd nodig had om te revalideren – *als* hij het al zou overleven. Omdat het een nieuwe soort voor Nederland was zou er ongetwijfeld belangstelling onder vogelaars zijn; voor de rust in het asiel (zowel voor de vogels als de medewerkers) spraken we echter af het nieuws pas bij vrijlating bekend te maken. Ik was daarmee de enige vogelaar die de vogel had gezien maar ik kon er met niemand over praten! Uiteindelijk bezocht ik de lijster op 5, 10, 15 en 20 november (de loslaatdag) waarbij ik – gefaseerd, afhankelijk van de conditie – hem fotografeerde,

132 Grijswangdwerglijster / Grey-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus aliciae*, eerste-kalenderjaar (verzwakt gevonden bij Monster, Zuid-Holland, op 5 november 2018), Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 5 november 2018 *(Vincent van der Spek/Vogelopvang De Wulp)*

133 Grijswangdwerglijster / Grey-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus aliciae*, eerste-kalenderjaar (verzwakt gevonden bij Monster, Zuid-Holland, op 5 november 2018), Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 15 november 2018 *(Vincent van der Spek/Vogelopvang De Wulp)*



FIGUUR 1 Gewichtstoename van Grijswangdwerglijster *Catharus minimus aliciae* (verzwakt gevonden bij Monster, Zuid-Holland, op 5 november 2018) op dag 1-15. Groen: nauwkeurige weegschaal tot op mg; blauw: minder nauwkeurige weegschaal tot op g; rood: niet gemeten maar lineair bijgeschat / increase of weight of Grey-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus aliciae* (found weakened at Monster, Zuid-Holland, on 5 November 2018) on day 1-15. Green: accurate balance to mg; blue: less accurate balance to g; red: not measured but linearly interpolated. Gemeten waarden / measured values: 24.7 – 26 – 27 – 28 – 29.1 – 30 – 31 – 31 – 32 – ? – 35.4 – ? – ? – ? – 38.5

ringde (Arnhem V552638), een serie maten opnam, enkele borstveren verzamelde en geluidsopnamen maakte. Het gewicht nam dagelijks toe (figuur 1) en de vogel oogde bij ieder bezoek feller. Bij binnenkomst was het gewicht stevig aan de ondergrens. Het gemiddelde voor de soort is 33 g, met maxima tot c 50 g; 25% onder het gemiddelde is véél. Een vergelijkbaar gewicht werd vastgesteld door Williamson (1954) bij het eerste Britse geval op Fair Isle, Schotland, in 1953. Aanvankelijk was er nog een kwetsuur aan de rechtervleugel, die enigszins verrekt was (de vogel vloog scheef). Op 19 november bleek de vleugel bij een test hersteld. Ik liet de lijster vervolgens op 20 november in het bijzijn van RvdV en vaste vogelvrienden Rob ter Ellen, Gerjon Gelling, Danny Laponder en Roland Wantia los in Ockenburgh, Den Haag. Dat was binnen redelijke afstand van de vindplek (die zowel voor de vogel als vogelaars niet zo geschikt was) en met veel geschikt ogend habitat voor de soort. Na het loslaten verdween hij direct in een dicht struweel met duindoorn en braam – daarbij eenmaal roepend – om nooit meer tevoorschijn te komen: zoekacties door enkele mensen op deze en de volgende dag leverden niets meer op.

Beschrijving

De beschrijving is gebaseerd op mijn studie van de vogel in de hand, foto's en geluidsopnamen en door mij genomen maten (cf Dutch Birding 40: 419, plaat 566, 2018, 41: 69, plaat 95, 391: plaat 537, 2019).

GROOTTE & BOUW Zangvogel, qua grootte grofweg vergelijkbaar met Nachtegaal *Luscinia megarhynchos* maar met jizz van lijster met lange vleugel en handpenprojectie (zie ook biometrie).

KOP Basiskleur grijsbruin, als bovenzijde. Oorstreek grijsbruin, met subtiele witte streping. Middendeel van wenkbrauwstreep wittig maar deel bij snavel egaal bruingrijs en deel bij oog grijsbruin, wit en wat warmer bruin gevlekt; al met al als doorkomende maar weggedrukte lichte wenkbrauwstreep. Teugel met grijsbruine grondkleur, wit gevlekt. Grijzige oogring, duidelijkst achter oog, iets lichter van kleur dan rest van kop. Aan voorzijde, tegen teugel aan juist met iets warmer bruine tint; eind teugel, begin oogring warmst deel van kop. Lichte 'halve' halsring, dus niet doorlopend tot in nek, grotendeels met zwarte vlekjes. Centraal deel van keel wit, verder sterk zwart gestreept, met daarbij zwarte laterale keelstreep. Ondergrond van zijkant van keel iets meer 'buff' dan witte ondergrond van centraal deel.

BOVENDELEN Egaal bruingrijs.

ONDERDELEN Ondergrond wittig, overwegend zonder zeemkleurig zweem (zoals bijvoorbeeld Zanglijster *Turdus philomelos* heeft); alleen wat warmere kleur op zijborst. Zware vlekken op borst en buik, zwart in middendeel, maar vager en bruingrijzer wordend richting flank en versmeltend met olijfgrijze flank.

VLEUGEL Grotendeels bruingrijs; buitenste grote dekveren en polsdekveer ('carpal covert') met zeemkleurige

('buffy') top, binnenste drie met witte schachtstreep. Tertials met lichte top, langs schacht inkepend op buitenvlag. Kleine dekveren, handpendekveren, duimvleugel en polsdekveer met deels bruinere buitenvlag. Ondervleugel met lichtgrijze hand- en armpennen, iets donkerder grijze middelste dekveren en met grotendeels witte kleine en volledig witte grote dekveren. Grote dekveren daarmee witte baan vormend op ondervleugel.

STAART Staart en bovenstaartdekveren egaal bruingrijs, nagenoeg gelijk aan bovenzijde, maar met heel subtiel iets bruinere (iets minder koude) kleur. Onderstaartdekveren wit met heel vage warmbruine schachtstreep op langste.

NAAKTE DELEN Oog zeer donkerbruin, niet sterk afstekend tegen zwarte pupil. Poot en tenen grijs-vleeskleurig, aan voorzijde aanzienlijk donkerder dan aan achterzijde. Bovensnavel donkergrijs, mondhoek en snijrand gelig. Ondersnavel van basis tot iets voorbij neusgat bleekgeel; daarmee meer dan helft van ondersnavel gelig.

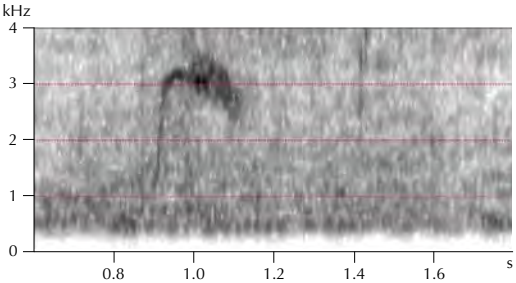
GELUID Twee typen alarmroep in asiel opgenomen (www.xeno-canto.org/526641 en www.xeno-canto.org/526638). Bij loslaten eenmaal voor soort karakteristieke roep te horen, op video vastgelegd (www.xeno-canto.org/526648) (figuur 2).

BIOMETRIE Vleugellengte 102 mm; snavellengte 11.4 mm; kop-snavel 42.2 mm; tarsuslengte 30.1 mm; borstspierscore 1-2 (5 november), 3 (10 november), 4 (15 november), 4 (20 november) (schaal 0-5); vetgraad 0 (5 november), 1 (10 november), 4 (15 november), 5 (20 november) (Busse & Kania 1970, schaal 0-5); gedeeltelijke vleugelformule (handpennen van buiten naar binnen genummerd): p1 3 mm < pc, p3=vleugeltop, p2 1.5 mm < vleugeltop, p4 1.5 mm < vleugeltop (dus p2=p4), p5 11.1 mm < vleugeltop, p6 18 mm < vleugeltop; handpenprojectie c 115% (tertials 26 mm, zichtbaar deel handpennen 30 mm).

GEWICHT Zie ontwikkeling in figuur 1 en tekst in inleiding.

Determinatie

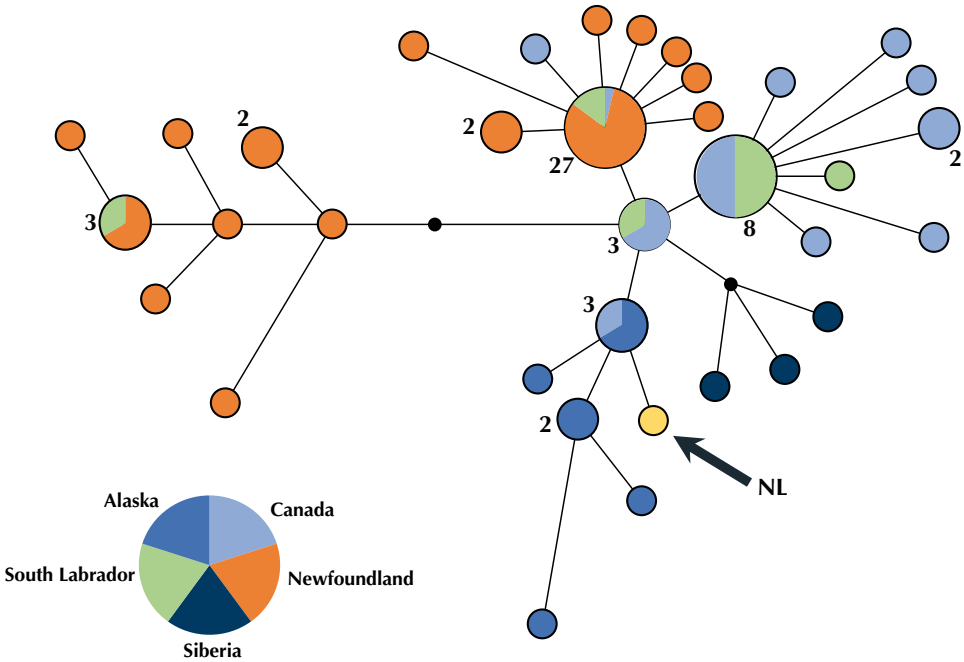
Het kleine formaat, de jizz ('lijstertje') en de witte baan over de ondervleugel wijzen ondubbelzinnig op een van de Amerikaanse dwerglijstersoorten. De lijster van Monster is overwegend grijsbruin. Daarmee valt van de andere als dwaalgast te verwachten soorten uit deze groep de warmgekleurde, overwegend roodbruine Veery *C fuscescens* direct af. Heremietlijster *C guttatus* heeft een duidelijk roodbruine staart en bovenstaartdekveren en een prominente lichte oogring. Deze vogel van Monster heeft echter een grijsbruine staart die niet contrasteert met de bovendelen en een nauwelijks opvallende, overwegend grijzige oogring. Zeker oostelijke populaties van Heremietlijster *C g faxoni/crymophilus* – die hier wellicht eerder te verwachten zijn dan westelijke – zijn doorgaans wat warmer gekleurd. Het ontbreken van een duidelijke beige oogstreep, van een opvallende lichte



FIGUUR 2 Grijswangdwerglijster / Grey-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus aliciae* (verzwakt gevonden bij Monster, Zuid-Holland, op 5 november 2018), Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 20 november 2018 *(Gerjon Gelling)*. Sonagram van opgenomen contactroep direct na vrijlating / sonagram of contact call recorded immediately after release.

oogring en van een warme, zeemkleurige ('buffe') tint op de lichtere delen van de kop en borst sluit Dwerglijster *C ustulatus* uit. De opgenomen roep (figuur 2) past op Grijswangdwerglijster en Bicknells Dwerglijster *C bicknelli* (vergelijkbare roep: www.xeno-canto.org/406176). Bij Bicknells zit de grootste uitdaging: de verschillen met deze voormalige ondersoort van Grijswangdwerglijster zijn subtiel. Bicknells is gemiddeld iets warmer gekleurd, met een wat rodere staart en handpennen, wat niet op de vogel van Monster lijkt te passen. Het vrij uitgebreide geel op de ondersnavel past in theorie op Bicknells maar de bruikbaarheid van dit kenmerk wordt door Sibley (2010) genuanceerd. De wang is grijzig en gestreept, terwijl die bij Bicknells bruiner en meer effen hoort te zijn. De genomen maten en de vleugelstructuur bevestigen niet alleen de indruk van het kleed, ze sluiten Bicknells zelfs met zekerheid uit. De vleugellengte van 102 mm ligt op basis van Rimmer et al (2001) buiten de spreiding van Bicknells (maximaal 100 mm). Ook de vleugelformule sluit Bicknells uit, een soort met een kortere en meer afgeronde vleugel, met p4 (van buiten naar binnen geteld) als vleugelpunt. De langste handpen bij de vogel van Monster is p3. Het deel van de vleugelformule dat is opgenomen past geheel binnen de maten voor Grijswangdwerglijster (Pyle 1997). Ten slotte is de handpenprojectie bij Grijswangdwerglijster in principe ≥100% en bij Bicknells ≤100% (Lane & Jaramillo 2000). De handpenprojectie van c 115% van de vogel van Monster is voorbij de maximale projectie van Bicknells waarvoor de uiterste waarde op 110% ligt (Lane & Jaramillo 2000). Daarmee is op basis van kleed en vooral structuur Bicknells uitgesloten.

134 Grijswangdwerglijster / Grey-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus aliciae*, eerste-kalenderjaar (verzwakt gevonden bij Monster, Zuid-Holland, op 5 november 2018), Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 5 november 2018 *(Vincent van der Spek/ Vogelopvang De Wulp)* **135** Grijswangdwerglijster / Grey-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus aliciae*, eerste-kalenderjaar (verzwakt gevonden bij Monster, Zuid-Holland, op 5 november 2018), Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 15 november 2018 *(Vincent van der Spek/Vogelopvang De Wulp)*



FIGUUR 3 Netwerk van ND2-variatie van 78 Grijswangdwerglijsters *Catharus minimus* (vogel van Monster in geel met pijl). Ieder bolletje is unieke ND2-sequentie. Van ND2 werd hele gen (1041 baseparen) gesequenced. Nummer naast bolletje: aantal malen dat sequentie is waargenomen bij de 78 exemplaren. Ongenummerde bolletjes: sequenties die bij slechts één exemplaar zijn waargenomen. Korte lijntjes tussen bolletjes vertegenwoordigen verschil van één positie (op 1041 posities), langere lijntjes vertegenwoordigen twee verschillen. Kleinste zwarte bolletje: gereconstrueerde sequentie die (nog) niet is waargenomen maar die nodig is om netwerk te tekenen (en berekenen). Van *C m aliciae* komen exemplaren uit Zuid-Labrador, Canada (11, lichtgroen); Alaska, VS (7, blauw); Siberië, Rusland (3, donkerblauw); en de overige uit andere delen van Canada (16, lichtblauw). Van *C m minimus* komen exemplaren van Newfoundland, Canada (40, oranje). Vogel van Monster past binnen groepje sequenties afkomstig van vogels uit Alaska. Dit groepje (blauw) staat geheel apart, evenals drie Siberische vogels (donkerblauw). Ook goed te zien is duidelijke scheiding – zij het net niet compleet – tussen vogels van Newfoundland (*C m minimus*) en overige vogels (*C m aliciae*). Bicknells Dwerglijster *C bicknelli* heeft beduidend andere ND2-sequenties, die daarom uit netwerk zijn weggelaten.
ND-2 variation network of 78 Grey-cheeked Thrushes *Catharus minimus* (bird from Monster indicated in yellow with arrow). Every dot represents unique ND2 sequence, of which complete gene (1041 base pairs) was sequenced. Numbers represent number of times that sequence was represented, unmarked dots are sequences found in one individual only. Short connecting lines mark differences on one position only, longer lines differ in two positions (on 1041 positions). Smallest black dot: not (yet) observed sequence but reconstructed one used as starting point to build up network. *C m aliciae* samples originate from south Labrador, Canada (11, green); Alaska, USA (7, blue); Siberia, Russia (3, dark blue); and other parts of Canada (16, pale blue). *C m minimus* samples are from Newfoundland (40, orange). Dutch bird matches sequences of birds from Alaska. This group (blue) stands apart, as well as three Siberian birds (dark blue). Also visible is clear separation – although just not complete – between Newfoundland birds (*C m minimus*) and remainder of birds (*C m aliciae*). Bicknell's Thrush *C bicknelli* has markedly different ND2 sequences which are therefore not included in this network.

Leeftijd

Een reeks kenmerken wijst zonder twijfel op een eerste-kalenderjaar (Clement & Hathway 2000, Lane & Jaramillo 2000, McGill Bird Observatory 2015). ***1*** De grote dekveren hebben een lichte top en vormen daarmee een vleugelstreepje. Dat geen enkele grote dekveer was geruid, is niet ongewoon, in tegenstelling tot bij Europese lijsters. Opvallend zijn de drie binnenste grote dekveren, die een witte schachtstreep hebben: een heel ander patroon dan de toppen van de buitenste. ***2*** De polsdekveer heeft een lichte top. ***3*** De tertials heb-

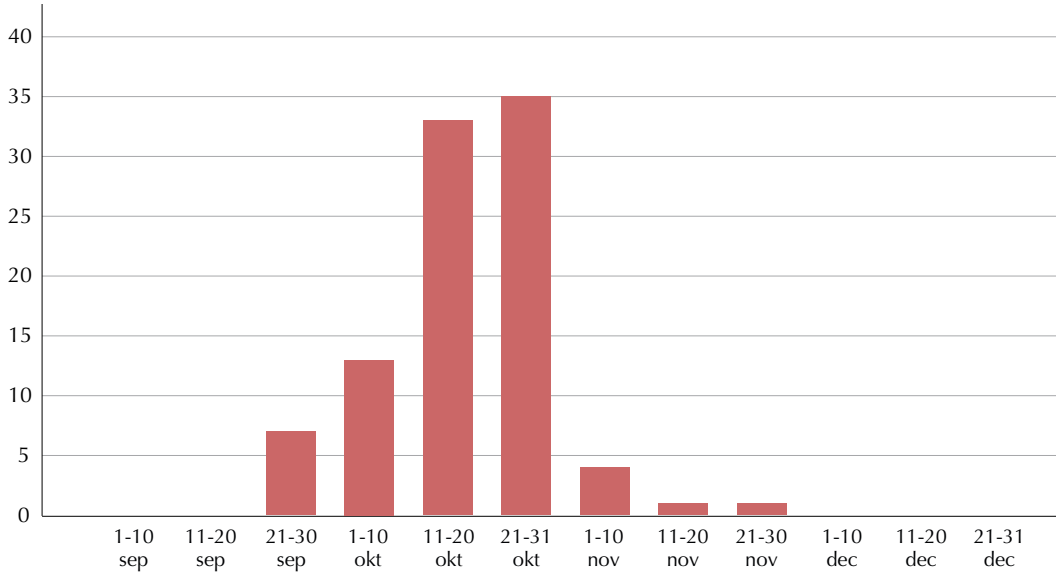
ben een lichte top met een inkeping bij de schacht en zijn daarmee juveniel. De bovenste (kleinste) tertial heeft een zelfde witte schachtstreep als de binnenste grote dekveren. ***4*** De staartpennen lijken relatief smal.

Verspreiding
Van Grijswangdwerglijster bestaan twee ondersoorten. Nominaat *C m minimus* komt voor in Newfoundland en mogelijk Noord-Quebec, in het oosten van Canada. *C m aliciae* heeft een zeer ruime verspreiding die zich uitstrekt over Noordoost-Siberië, Rusland; Alaska, VS; en Noord- en Noordoost-Canada. Het is een langeafstandstrekker die overwintert in het noorden van Zuid-Amerika en, in mindere mate, op de Grote Antillen. De nauw verwante Bicknells Dwerglijster broedt lokaal en versnipperd in het oosten van Canada en uiterste noordoosten van de VS, en overwintert op de Grote Antillen. Deze drie taxa zijn genetisch van elkaar te onderscheiden (FitzGerald et al 2017).

Genetische analyse
Van de vogel van Monster werd veermateriaal verzameld om het taxon vast te stellen. In het lab van het LUMC te Leiden, Zuid-Holland, werd door Peter de Knijff van het mitochondriale ND2-gen van 1041 basenparen de volgorde bepaald. De sequentie werd vergeleken met die van *C m minimus* (40 referenties uit FitzGerald et al 2017, gedeponeerd in GenBank), *C m aliciae* (37 referenties uit FitzGerald et al 2017) en Bicknells Dwerglijster (29 referenties uit FitzGerald et al 2017). De vogel heeft een genetisch profiel dat goed past op *C m aliciae*. De vogel komt, met een verschil op één positie, het meest overeen met twee exemplaren die afkomstig zijn uit Alaska (figuur 3).

Voorkomen in Europa
Tot en met 2018 zijn in Europa (exclusief Azoren) 96 Grijswangdwerglijsters vastgesteld, alle in het najaar (Marcel Haas in litt). Het beste jaar was 1986, met 12 gevallen in Brittannië en één in Frankrijk. De vogel van Monster was vrij laat: het zwaartepunt van het voorkomen in Europa ligt in de tweede en derde decade van oktober (figuur 4). De mediane 'doortrekdatum' (de datum wanneer de helft van de vogels is vastgesteld) is 20 oktober. De bijna 100 gevallen, waarvan twee derde in Brittannië, doen misschien vermoeden dat een geval in Nederland lang op zich heeft laten wachten maar België wacht nog op de eerste, geen van de zeven Franse gevallen stamt uit het noorden van het land en Duitsland kent maar één geval (Helgoland, Schleswig-Holstein, in 1937). Kortom, op het vasteland van Noordwest-Europa is deze soort écht heel zeldzaam. 2018 was overigens een

FIGUUR 4 Waarneemperiode van Grijswangdwerglijster *Catharus minimus* in Europa per decade (op basis van eerste waarnemingsdatum) in 1901-2018 (n=96) / temporal distribution of Grey-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus* in Europe per 10-day period (based on first date of observation) in 1901-2018 (n=96) (Marcel Haas in litt)



136 Grijswangdwerglijster / Grey-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus aliciae*, eerste-kalenderjaar (verzwakt gevonden bij Monster, Zuid-Holland, op 5 november 2018), Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 15 november 2018 *(Vincent van der Spek/Vogelopvang De Wulp)*

goed najaar voor 'Amerikanen' in West-Europa, met elders meldingen van Grijswangdwerglijsters uit Engeland, IJsland en Schotland. De eerste werd op 17 oktober gevonden en de Nederlandse vogel was de laatste.

De waarneming bij Monster is aanvaard door de Commisie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA) als eerste geval voor Nederland (Gelling et al 2019); het betrof tevens de eerste *Catharus*-lijster voor Nederland.

Dankwoord

Mijn dank richting Vogelopvang De Wulp is groot. Sharon Lexmond en Lizzy Looijestijn zijn al jaren zeer gastvrij. Als zij mij niet hadden ingeseind was dit geval verloren gegaan voor de Nederlandse lijst. Bovendien verrichtten ze ongelooflijk werk aan de vogel zelf: gezien de conditie bij binnenkomst was herstel in mijn ogen verre van vanzelfsprekend. Ook Peter de Knijff verrichtte (weer eens) geweldig werk door in zijn lab van het LUMC de ondersoort te bepalen. Hij leverde daarvoor figuur 3 aan. Het Nederlandse DNA-werk waar ik soms aan mag bijdragen is dankzij Peter uitgegroeid tot een van de leukste onderdelen van mijn hobby. En dan is er Marcel Haas, die scrupuleus Europese gevallen van Amerikaanse zangvogels bijhoudt. Voor dit artikel stelde hij data beschikbaar die hij zelf nog niet heeft gepubliceerd: geweldig. Rinse van der Vliet deed meerdere pogingen om de details van de vinder en de omstandigheden van de vondst te achterhalen.

Summary

Grey-cheeked Thrush near Monster in November 2018

On 5 November 2018, a weakened Grey-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus* was picked up in Monster, Zuid-Holland, and taken into care in nearby Den Haag, Zuid-Holland. After spending two weeks in care – where it was ringed, measured, photographed and sound-recorded (three call types) – it was released in good health at Den Haag on 20 November. It could not be relocated in the field. DNA analyses of body-feathers show that it belongs to the subspecies *C m aliciae*. Perhaps remarkably, the DNA sequence best fits birds sampled in Alaska, USA. This represented the first record for the Netherlands. Despite the many 10s of records in Britain, it is still an extremely rare species further east in north-western Europe.

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Bay-breasted Warblers on Corvo, Azores, in 2017-18

David Monticelli, Vincent Legrand & Gordon Beck

No less than 22 years after the first Western Palearctic (WP) record of a Bay-breasted Warbler *Setophaga castanea* in England in October 1995, a first-winter male was seen on Corvo, Azores, on 22-25 October 2017. Another individual (first-winter female) was found here on 16-21 October 2018. These findings constitute the first records for the Azores and the second and third for the WP. Both records were accepted by the Portuguese rarities committee (Pedro Ramalho in litt).

Lighthouse Valley, Corvo, 22-25 October 2017

Autumn 2017 remains to date the most productive season for Nearctic landbirds on Corvo, with a total of 97 individuals of 29 species recorded from late September to end October 2017 (Alfrey et al 2018, Monticelli 2018). In a WP context, these astounding statistics demonstrate that Corvo was able to produce more Nearctic landbird species in a single autumn than Britain and Ireland during a 10-year period (1997-2006) (Elkins 2008).

Thus, when David Monticelli arrived on Corvo on 18 October 2017, shortly after hurricane Ophelia had swung past the Azores, there was already a plethora of interesting species present on the island, including a stunning first-year male Blackburnian Warbler *S fusca* (first for the Azores and fifth for WP) and a Yellow-throated Vireo *Vireo flavifrons* (seventh for WP). Further additions to the seasonal log over the following three days (19-21 October) included many extremely rare WP species, such as Black-and-white *Mniotilta varia*, Tennessee *Leiothlypis peregrina*, Hooded *S citrina*, Magnolia *S magnolia*, Blackpoll *S striata* and Black-throated Green Warbler *S virens* (cf Dutch Birding 39: 393-415, 2017).

On the morning of 22 October, Gordon Beck, Vincent Legrand and DM decided to team-up to visit Lighthouse Valley in an attempt to discover new birds. This area had already produced an impressive number of mega rarities in the past (including several WP firsts; cf Monticelli et al 2018) but is the most remote wooded area on the island, with no mobile phone coverage. Hence, any birding team is isolated from the rest of the island whilst they are there (c two hours). The team was dropped at the end of the Middle Road by taxi at c 10:30. Shortly after they had started to walk, GB's attention was caught by a small bird feeding at relatively close range along the rows of *Hydrangea* bordering the path which he identified quickly as a Blackpoll Warbler. Within minutes, VL and DM also managed to obtain decent, albeit brief views of the bird, and a few record shots, which proved to 'tick all the boxes' for that species. Energised by this promising start, the team walked the rest of the road, eventually progressing further down through several grassland fields. By c 11:00, they finally reached the largest patch of Juniper *Juniperus brevifolia* trees at the bottom of Lighthouse Valley. As they were entering the area, DM quickly noticed another small warbler moving inside one of the smaller juniper trees. He immediately informed GB and VL who were only metres away, and within a short period of time all managed to have decent views of what they concluded was another Blackpoll, the second individual of the day and already the fifth on Corvo for the autumn!

The pinnacle of the day was, however, still to come. As the team continued checking the area, DM again noticed a small warbler with two obvious wing-bars flicking inside the largest juniper tree. He first thought that he had probably relocated the Blackpoll Warbler found minutes earlier but as he patiently managed to get closer, the bird re-appeared frontally at least twice, thereby giving better views. The first time, DM noticed through binoculars the darkish legs and feet as well as the large white wing-bars, which he thought did not seem quite right for a classic Blackpoll. As his adrenaline level was increasing, he managed to catch a third view of the bird in better light, and this time, it was a striking sight: the flank of the bird revealed an obvious rufous tone, which was enough to discard the possibility of it being a Blackpoll and thus making it a good candidate for Bay-breasted Warbler! While nervously trying to reach for his camera, DM alerted his two fellow birders and within a few minutes, they all relocated and observed it at close range. They concluded that it fitted very well for a Bay-breasted – a potential first for Corvo and the Azores!

137-138 Bay-breasted Warbler / Kastanjezanger *Setophaga castanea*, first-year male, Lighthouse Valley, Corvo, Azores, 22 October 2017 *(David Monticelli)* **139-140** Bay-breasted Warbler / Kastanjezanger *Setophaga castanea*, first-year female, Ribeira da Ponte, Corvo, Azores, 17 October 2018 *(Vincent Legrand)*

It was then decided that GB would quickly walk back up to the Middle Road where there is mobile connection in order to release the news by walkie-talkie and via the whatsapp group, while VL and DM would be staying on the spot to obtain good quality photographs. Due to the 'remoteness' of the site on Corvo, it took 30 min for the first birder to arrive but with the entire afternoon ahead, all 35+ birders present on the island that day managed to see the Bay-breasted Warbler and both Blackpoll Warblers, with a 'bonus' Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus* in the vicinity of the juniper area. All birders agreed with the identification of the Bay-breasted as a first-year male.

Ribeira da Ponte, Corvo, 16-21 October 2018

2018 was characterized by a record attendance on the island, with 100+ birders visiting from mid-September to early November. With the birders came the birds, an estimated 94 individuals of no less than 29 Nearctic species were discovered during the entire period, making 2018 the second-most productive year on record (Alfrey 2018). Autumn 2018 not only produced many extremely rare WP species such as Eastern Wood Pewee *Contopus virens* (third for WP), White-eyed Vireo *V griseus* (fourth for the Azores and WP), Yellow-throated Vireo (eighth for WP), Wood Thrush *Hylocichla mustelina* (fifth for WP), Lincoln's Sparrow *Melospiza lincolnii* (fifth for WP) and Wilson's Warbler *Cardellina pusilla* (first for the Azores and fourth for WP) but, unlike in 2017, it also offered a new addition to the WP list – Blue Grosbeak *Passerina caerulea* (Stronach et al 2019; cf Dutch Birding 40: 407-423, 2018).

Both 16 and 17 October produced two major

landfalls on Corvo that will be long remembered. During the course of these two bonanza days, 22 and 17 new individual Nearctic landbirds were discovered, respectively. On 16 October, no less than 14 American landbirds of 10 species were concentrated in the lower part of Ribeira da Ponte and in the adjacent woods of Pico! On the late morning of that day, a Wood Thrush discovered in Pico started to attract many birders who also progressively reported additional findings from the same wooded area such as Grey-cheeked Thrush *C minimus*, Swainson's Thrush, Ovenbird *Seiurus aurocapilla*, Philadelphia Vireo *V philadelphicus* and a putative Blackpoll Warbler. René-Marie Lafontaine and VL, who had been present in the nearby Ribeira da Ponte all morning, relocated the 'Blackpoll' at c 14:00 and by 14:30, VL had obtained a few decent photographs. They both noticed the dark legs and feet, the rather unstreaked flanks with a brownish wash, and the overall warm appearance which they believed were more typical of Bay-breasted Warbler! The news was released via whatsapp but, by the end of the day, while a decent number of people had seen the bird, there were still mixed opinions in the group about its true identity. After seeking confirmation from a few American ringers and experienced birders, it became apparent that this was indeed Corvo's second Bay-breasted.

Identification, ageing and sexing

Bay-breasted Warbler in adult summer plumage is unlikely to be confused with any other American warbler species. However, the two Azorean records were either adult-winter or first-winter individuals, which are more difficult to separate in the field from their two congeners, Pine Warbler *S pinus* and Blackpoll Warbler. Adult-winter and first-winter birds of these three species appear rather similar to each other with their two prominent white wing-bars and dull olive-green upperparts contrasting with paler (yellowish) underparts. In all plumages, however, Pine shows a diagnostic plain olive-brown back while the other two species both have a streaked back (Venier et al 2020). This latter feature being apparent in the field, only the pair Blackpoll/Bay-breasted remained to be told apart through careful examination of additional plumage features (plate 137-140; cf Dutch Birding 39: 413, plate 593, 2017, 40: 303, plate 402, 422, plate 572, 2018). Note that the possibility of hybrids was discarded here as these two species do not normally hybridise on their breeding grounds (only three alleged cases; cf Venier et al 2020 and references therein).

The October 2017 individual on Corvo was by far the easiest one to identify, based on the hint of rufous-red ('bay') colouration apparent on the rear flank – typical for male Bay-breasted Warbler, and a feature never displayed by Blackpoll Warbler (Venier et al 2020). Other subtle differences allowing to safely identify it included (plate 137-138): ***1*** completely dark legs and feet, with dark underside of the toes ('soles') (Blackpoll has yellow-orange legs and/or feet/soles); ***2*** essentially unmarked underparts with almost complete absence of dark streaking on the flanks (Blackpoll usually has well-defined streaks on the flanks); ***3*** brighter green upperparts (Blackpoll is duller olive coloured); and ***4*** plain head/face pattern (absence of eyestripe/supercilium; cf DeLuca et al 2013). The set of high quality photographs obtained in 2017 also revealed that this bird had pointed rectrices, indicative of a first-year (Pyle 1997).

The 2018 individual (plate 139-140) was not as straightforward to identify due to the more obvious underparts streaking and lack of reddish hue on the rear flanks. Still, the combination of dark legs/feet, pale buff underparts with ill-defined flank streaks, buff-white undertail-coverts and plain face identifies it as a Bay-breasted Warbler, while the overall duller appearance indicates a female. Close-up images also showed rather pointed edges to the rectrices, as well as a few retained juvenile lesser coverts with yellow-tinged edges (instead of white) on the wing-bar, thereby allowing to age this individual also as a first-year.

Distribution and vagrancy

Bay-breasted Warbler breeds in the central and eastern parts of the boreal forest in Canada (90% of the species' breeding range) and northern USA (<10% of the species' breeding range), and winters mainly in Central America (Panama, Costa Rica) and northern South America (Colombia, Venezuela). During autumn (September-October), birds migrate southwards – either inland or along the eastern USA seaboard – and across the Gulf of Mexico (Venier et al 2020).

As a vagrant, this species has been recorded in Greenland (a first-year collected on 15 October 1898), much of western North America, including Alaska, and in Trinidad and Tobago (Boertmann 1994, Venier et al 2020). In the WP, the only record before the two on Corvo was a first-year male videoed at Land's End, Cornwall, England, on 1 October 1995 (Ferguson 1997).

Interestingly, although migratory routes, timing of migration and other morphological traits overlap extensively between the two sister species

Bay-breasted Warbler and Blackpoll Warbler (Venier et al 2020), the latter is one of the most frequently reported American warblers in Britain and Ireland (eg, Elkins 2008). Blackpoll has also been recorded in continental Europe and is frequently encountered on Corvo (13 records of c 16 different individuals in 2005-17; cf Alfrey et al 2018). The reasons behind this difference in vagrancy pattern between these two species are difficult to ascertain but the steady decline in abundance across Bay-breasted's breeding range over the last decades (cf Venier et al 2020) may perhaps contribute to explain its extreme rarity in the WP compared with Blackpoll. Other factors that may explain differences in vagrancy patterns include differences in migration routes and strategies between the two species. For instance, it has been shown that Blackpoll undertakes non-stop trans-Atlantic flights of 2200-2700 km, migrating in just two or three days from north-eastern Canada to the winter quarters in northern South America (DeLuca et al 2015); it remains to be seen whether Bay-breasted is also able to do this.

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Samenvatting
Kastanjezangers op Corvo, Azoren, in 2017-18 Dit artikel documenteert twee gevallen van Kastanjezanger *Setophaga castanea* op Corvo, Azoren: een eerste-winter mannetje in Lighthouse Valley op 22-25 oktober 2017 en een eerste-winter vrouwtje in Ribeira da Ponte op 16-21 oktober 2018. Het betreft de eerste gevallen voor de Azoren en het tweede en derde voor het West-Palearctische gebied (WP). De eerste voor de WP was een eerste-winter mannetje te Land's End, Cornwall, Engeland, op 1 oktober 1995.

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Go north – range extension of Namaqua Dove in the Palearctic and South Asia

Łukasz Ławicki

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis capensis* is a common to abundant resident across much of sub-Saharan Africa and less common in the Middle East. Some populations of the nominate subspecies are sedentary but there are seasonal and perhaps even nomadic movements in some areas and some populations are highly migratory (Gibbs et al 2001, Baptista et al 2020; in Madagascar, the resident subspecies *O c aliena* occurs). During the second half of the 20th century, the species spread into Arabia and, in the following decades, it colonised other areas north of its former main range (Jennings 2010). This process is still ongoing and, in recent years, Namaqua has been added to the list of several countries further north. Based on the literature and unpublished data, I summarise the mostly northward and, in recent years, rapid spread of this species, mainly in the Palearctic.

North Africa

Algeria

The species has only been reported between 1950 and 1980 in a few villages (Tin Zaouatene, Timeiaouine and Bordj Moktar) of the Adrar des Iforas, in the border region with Mali, but it is not known if it is still present there (Isenmann & Moali 2000; Mohamed Amezian in litt, Paul Isenmann in litt).

141 Namaqua Dove / Maskerduif *Oena capensis capensis*, juvenile, Mijk, Oued Ad-Deheb, Western Sahara, Morocco, 14 May 2016 *(Franck Chevalier)*. First breeding record for Western Sahara.

Egypt
Until the mid-1980s, the species was a rare breeding resident in the Gebel Elba area, and a vagrant to other parts of the country (eg, the first record in the Nile valley was in 1971), including Sinai (Goodman & Meininger 1989). The first breeding outside Gebel Elba was discovered near Aswan on 30 April 1997 (van den Berg 1997). In 2012-13, it was found regularly breeding in hotel areas and mangrove forests along the Red Sea. Nowadays, the species is regularly reported from different parts of the country, such as the Nile delta, Abu Simbel, Hurghada and Minya (Hering et al 2015; Mohamed Habib in litt). It often occurs in large flocks, eg, more than 60 individuals were at the camel market of Daraw, between Aswan and Luxor, on 8 April 2010 (van den Berg & Haas 2012) and 54 birds there on 14 February 2012 (Harrison & Grieve 2012).

Morocco and Western Sahara
There were only three Moroccan records to the end of 2010: a male at Taghjicht, Western Anti-Atlas, on 10 May 1942; at Agadir, Souss, on 8 and 10 February 1981; and at Dakhla, Oued Ad-Deheb, Western Sahara, in June 1988 (Thévenot et al 2003). More recently, a male was found at Oued Sayed, Lower Draa, on 9 April 2011, and two different females were photographed at Safia, Oued Ad-Deheb, one on 19 and one on 22 May 2015 (Chevalier et al 2016). On 14 March 2016, one was seen south of Rabat, the most northerly record in Morocco, while in March-May 2016, an unprecedented series of observations took place in Western Sahara: at Agridak (two males and one female), at Imlili (male) and at Aousserd (three individuals). In May-August 2016, two males, two females and one juvenile at Mijk near Dakhla constituted the first breeding for Western Sahara (Chevalier et al 2016, Bergier et al 2017; plate 141). At the same site, three pairs bred again in 2017 (six juveniles were found on 11 August) and an adult with young was seen in August 2018 (Ławicki & van den Berg 2018, Bergier & Thévenot 2019, Fareh et al 2019). The Western Sahara birds probably originate from the population in Mauritania, where many records have been logged in the border regions, north of 20-21°N (Isenmann et al 2010, Browne 2018).

Libya and Tunisia
There are still no records in either country (Isenmann et al 2005, 2016, Azafzaf et al 2015; Paul Isenmann in litt).

Macaronesia

Canary Islands
A male photographed at Golf del Sur, Tenerife, on 19-22 May 1997 has been placed in category D as 'being of uncertain origin' (de Juana 2006, Rouco et al 2019).

Cape Verde Islands
There are five records of seven individuals: a male at Praia Preta, Maio, on 21 July 1995; a male at Ponta da Varandinha, Boavista, on 2 December 2006; a female at Pedra Badejo, Santiago, on 20 March 2016; three individuals at the same site on 27 February 2017; and a juvenile at Santa Maria, Sal, on 14-30 October 2017 (Garcia-del-Rey 2016, Ławicki & van den Berg 2017a; Uwe Thom in litt).

Europe

Cyprus
There have been nine records. After the first in 1998 (Lamsdell & Lamsdell 2000), a further eight have been recorded since 2010, mainly in April-May (Colin Richardson in litt; table 1).

Greece
On Lesvos, adult females were photographed at Skala Kallonis on 20 June 2008 (van den Berg & Haas 2008), and at Meladia and Faneromeni on 12-15 May 2014 (van den Berg & Haas 2014a). These records have been placed in category E as they supposedly concerned birds escaped from captivity (Hellenic Rarities Committee 2015). However, in my opinion, both may actually concern genuine vagrants as they concur with vagrant records in Cyprus and Turkey in the same period, and relate to similar months of occurrence (cf table 1).

Other countries
The few records from continental Europe, eg, in France, Lithuania, Poland, Spain and Switzerland are treated as of 'uncertain origin' or 'probable escapes' (de Juana 2006, Dubois et al 2008, Jusys et al 2017; Miguel Rouco in litt). As of February 2020, inventories of European zoos and other public collections (www.zootierliste.de) showed 12 places where the species was held, in Austria, Britain, Czechia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary and Poland (https://tinyurl.com/ydgzeh89).

Arabian Peninsula
In the first decade of the 21st century, the Arabian

142 Namaqua Dove / Maskerduif *Oena capensis capensis*, male, Kyzyl Kum desert, Uzbekistan, 18 May 2009 *(Paul Ellis)*. First record for Central Asia. **143** Namaqua Dove / Maskerduif *Oena capensis capensis*, male, near Pitsunda, Abkhazia, 25 May 2013 *(Victor Malandzia)*. First record for the Caucasus. **144** Namaqua Dove / Maskerduif *Oena capensis capensis*, female, Makhachkala, Dagestan, Russia, 12 May 2016 *(Gadzhibek Dzhamirzoev)*. First record for Russia.

population was estimated at more than c 60 000 pairs, including c 50 000 in western Arabia and Yemen, c 10 000 in central and northern Arabia, c 500 in the Eastern Province and c 500 in the Arabian Gulf states and the whole of Oman (Jennings 2010).

Bahrain

The first was recorded in 1983 and the first breeding occurred in 1990 (Hirschfeld 1995). Since then, it has been a regular breeding species in the scrubby desert areas in the southern part of the country but it rarely ventures into the greener pastures to the north (Howard King in litt). The breeding population was estimated at 250 pairs in 2003, with 100 birds at one site in 2009 (Jennings 2010).

Kuwait

The first record concerned two birds at Jahra pool on 4 August 1978. Since then, there have been many records from various sites all over the country. Breeding was confirmed at Jahra on 27 June 2002, when a female and two juveniles were photographed. In the next years, breeding was proven at Abdali in 2003 and at East Doha in 2005 (Gregory 2005). The highest daily count rose from 10 birds in 2005 (Gregory 2005) to 60 at Abdali farms on 5 October 2016 (Al-Sirhan 2018).

Oman

The first bird in the Dhofar region (south-western Oman) turned up in June 1975 (Jennings 1977), where the first breeding was confirmed in 1987 (Jennings 2000). In northern Oman, it was record-

TABLE 1 Records of Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis capensis* in Cyprus (Lamsdell & Lamsdell 2000; Colin Richardson in litt), Iran (Osaei & Jamadi 2008, Khaleghizadeh et al 2011, Iran Bird Records Committee 2019) and Turkey (Kirwan et al 2008, 2014, Harrison & Lamsdell 2015, Harrison 2019; https://tinyurl.com/y3b6mnv9, https://tinyurl.com/y3s2deev)

Cyprus (9)
16 and 18 April 1998, Paphos lighthouse, female
5 May 2010, Lara, Akamas, female
29-30 April 2011, Xeros Potamos desalination plant, male
21 February to 27 April 2016, Mandria, female
22 April 2016, Chlorakas, male
11 and 17 April 2018, Mandria, male
21 April 2018, Petountas, male
26 April 2019, Karpasia, male
4 May 2019, Akrotiri marsh, female

Iran (30/98)
9 May 2007, Shoor-Ghaleh, Tehran, male
8 September 2007, Mond Protected Area, Bushehr, male
2 May 2015, Garmab, Zanjan, male
20 May 2015, Band-Ali Khan, Tehran, male
9 and 14 October 2015, Kish, Hormozgan, male
3 March 2016, Safi-Abad, Dezful, Khuzestan, two (one male)
5 June 2016, Mehran, Ilam, male
4 June 2017, Lar, Fars, male
5 June 2017, Band-Ali Khan, Tehran, 10
15 June 2017, Band-Ali Khan, Tehran, 15
June 2017, Borazjan, Bushehr, two pairs with nests and one nestling
8 July 2017, Chogha-Zanbil, Shush, Khuzestan, three
11 August 2017, Karkheh National Park, Khuzestan, two (one male)
8 September 2017, Mashhad-Sarakhs road, Khorasan-e Razavi, male
8 October 2017, Chazabeh, Bostan, Khuzestan, adult with one juvenile and two nestlings
28 December 2017, Ahwaz, Khuzestan, three
22 January 2018, Larestan, Fars, four
mid-April 2018, Shahdad, Kerman, two adults with one juvenile
21 April 2018, Tangeh-Kaferi, Badreh, Ilam, male
1 October 2018, Shahdad, Kerman, male
spring 2019, Shahdad, Kerman, male
15 April 2019, Helleh, Bushehr, male
10 May 2019, Mishdagh Protected Area, Khuzestan, male
June 2019, Bastak, Hormozgan, male
5 July 2019, Hofel, Susangerd, Khuzestan, seven
9 August 2019, Mishdagh Protected Area and Om-Dabas, Khuzestan, 10
4 October 2019, Khorram-Shahr, Khuzestan, two
16 October 2019, Shahdad, Kerman, male and female
12 December 2019, Gotvand, Khuzestan, two
13 December 2019, Fakhravari, Genaveh, Hormozgan, at least 10

Turkey (19/21)
23-24 May 2005, Birecik, female
23 May to 2 June 2008, Sinop, female
21 June 2009, Birecik, male
13 May 2010, Çukurbağ, Niğde
8 June 2012, Konya, female
27 June 2012, Çöl Gölü, Ankara, male and female
25-26 June 2012, Şanlıurfa, male
30 June 2012, Şanlıurfa, female
16 July 2014, 25 km northeast of Kulu
8 November 2014, Milleyha, Hatay, female
11 May 2015, Göksu delta, male
6 November 2015, Dalyan, Muğla, juvenile
26 October 2016, road to Hilvan, Şanlıurfa, male
6 November 2017, Gaziantep, male
12 July 2018, Birecik, female
22 July 2018, Kızılırmak delta, Samsun
9 September 2018, Tuzla Gölü, Adana, two
7 June 2019, Kızılırmak delta, male
8 June 2019, Birecik, male

ed for the first time in 1987, and it was first seen on Masirah island in 1992 (Jennings 2000). Currently, the species is a fairly common breeding resident in the south, and elsewhere a fairly common and increasingly frequent visitor throughout the year. It is usually seen singly or in pairs, with the highest numbers being 70 at Sur on 6 April 2007 (Eriksen & Victor 2013).

Qatar
The species was recorded and breeding for the first time in 1985 (Jennings 2000). Since 1993, it has been observed in small numbers on the outskirts of Doha, with a large group of 13 at Mukeinis farm on 3 November 1995 (Nation et al 1997). Currently, it is a common but localised resident breeder (Qatar Bird Records Committee 2016).

Saudi Arabia
The first record concerned a bird collected at Jeddah in 1934. Between 1934 and 1975, the species was restricted to the south-western part of the country. The first record away from this area was of three birds at Al-Kharj in March 1975. Since 1975, it reached most inhabited areas of central Arabia. The first breeding record was at Al-Ghat, south-west of Riyadh, in 1977. Today, it is numerous and widespread in irrigated, inhabited areas in the south-west and centre of the country but still quite scarce in the eastern and northern periphery (Jennings 1977, 1978, 2000, 2010; Michael Jennings in litt).

United Arab Emirates
The first bird turned up at Asab oilfield on 22-23

May 1988 and the first breeding was confirmed at Ghiyathi on 17 July 1997 (Jennings 2000, Pedersen et al 2019). At the turn of the 21st century, there were six breeding sites (Jennings 2010). Currently, it is an uncommon to fairly common resident, mainly at Abu Dhabi western region (Pedersen et al 2019). The maximum count of 72 was on Sila peninsula on 1 August 2008 (Balmer & Murdoch 2009).

Yemen
The first record was near Mukalla in 1851 and the first breeding was reported near Aden in 1883 (Jennings 2000, 2010). It was known as a breeding bird in the 1890s but it was somewhat unpredictable and sometimes thought of as a summer and autumn visitor (Jennings 2010). Currently, it occurs all over the country but it is most widespread in the western part. It is generally absent from highlands above 1800 m but there are records from up to 2400 m (Jennings 2010).

Caucasus area

Abkhazia (Georgia)
A male was found near Pitsunda on 25 May 2013 (Malandzia 2013; plate 143).

Armenia
The first record concerned a female photographed at Sevan lake, Gegharkunik, on 30 May 2017 (Ławicki & van den Berg 2017b; Alexander Rukhaia in litt).

Azerbaijan
The first record was a male near Cayli, Tartar, on 21 May 2018; the claim that it concerned a breeding record was erroneous (Kai Gauger in litt, Tomas Haraldsson in litt; contra Harrison 2019; cf Ławicki & van den Berg 2019ab).

Dagestan (Russia)
A male and two females photographed at Makhachkala, Dagestan, on 12 May 2016 concerned the first record for Russia (Ławicki & van den Berg 2016; plate 144).

Middle East

Iran
The first records were in 2007, when single males were seen at Shoor-Ghaleh, Tehran, on 9 May and at Mond Protected Area, Bushehr, on 8 September (Osaei & Jamadi 2008). Another was found as recently as 2015 but, during the next four years, there were more than 25 records, including breeding records. The largest flock of 15 was found at Band-Ali Khan, Tehran, on 15 June 2017. Breeding was confirmed at Borazjan, Bushehr, in June 2017 (two pairs with nests and one nestling photographed), at Chazabeh, Bostan, Khuzestan, in October 2017 (adult with one juvenile and two nestlings), and at Shahdad, Kerman, in April 2018 (two adults with one juvenile) (Iran Bird Records Committee 2019; table 1).

Iraq
The first was found near Al-Hammar marsh on 17 November 2004 (Salim 2008) and the first breeding was in 2006 (Mudhafar Salim in litt). In 2012-18, the species bred regularly in the southern part of the country. For instance, as many as 50 pairs were counted at Dalmaj marshes and the surrounding areas in 2012 (Harrison & Lamsdell 2013). It is still expanding its range to the north (Mudhafar Salim in litt); eg, a male was found at Mosul dam on 19 June 2018 (Harrison 2018).

Israel
One collected at Nirim on 19 December 1961 was the first record. Since 1974, the species has appeared annually in singles or pairs in Arava and Eilat areas (eg, Redactie Dutch Birding 1987). The first breeding was at Eilat in 1980, and 15 pairs bred here in 1985. Until the mid-1990s, the species was a scarce local breeding summer visitor and very rare during the winter in Arava valley, and also an occasional visitor to northern Negev, eastern and northern valleys and Golan (Shirihai & Gellert 1989, Shirihai 1996). Currently, it is increasing and there are presumably several 100s of pairs in the Rift valley from Eilat to Hula, the Negev and along the Mediterranean coast (van den Berg & Haas 2014b; Gert Ottens in litt, Yoav Perlman in litt).

Jordan
The first was reported at Azraq on 23 April 1966. Until the mid-1990s, despite colonising adjacent parts of Israel, there were few records, mostly in the Aqaba area (Andrews 1995, Andrews et al 1999). During the last two decades, the species was successful in colonising most parts of the Jordan valley from Fifa north to Wadi Ar Rayyan, where a resident population occurs. In the first decade of the 21st century, daily counts in the Jordan valley usually exceeded five birds, with one group of 17, including eight to 10 juveniles in the Karamah area on 27 July 2005. At Azraq, it is only seen from April to early September (Khoury et al 2012).

Lebanon
After the first record of two individuals at Tyre in 1999 or 2000, the next three were recorded in 2003, 2005 and 2006. Between 18 and 24 October 2015, three individuals were shot at different sites in the northern part of the country (Haraldsson 2008, Ramadan-Jaradi & Itani 2016).

Syria
The first birds were recorded at Palmyra oasis and near Sed Wadi Abied in May 2003 but several more have been reported from oases around Palmyra since 2001. Other records were in 2007-08, including six males and one female at Palmyra ruins in May 2008. This suggests that it is possibly a rare resident in the Palmyra area but breeding has not yet been confirmed (Murdoch & Betton 2008, Murdoch 2010). Since the beginning of the civil war in 2011, new data from Syria are missing (David Murdoch in litt).

Turkey
There are at least 19 records of 21 individuals (table 1). The first was in 2005 (Veyrunes & Veyrunes 2006, Kirwan et al 2008) while, in following years, the species was recorded almost annually, with an influx of five in June 2012. Most were in the southern part of the country but two were also found on the Black Sea coast. More than half of the records date from May-June (table 1).

Central Asia

Uzbekistan
There are two records. During a Birdquest tour, a male was found at an oasis at Kyzyl Kum desert (exact location unknown) on 18 May 2009 (van Beirs 2009; plate 142). Another male was photographed at central Kyzyl Kum, 170 km west of Bukhara, on 6 June 2013 (Mitropolsky 2015; www.birds.uz/species/216). These birds constituted the first records for Central Asia (cf Ayé et al 2012).

South Asia

India
A female was photographed at Khijadia Bird Sanctuary near Jamnagar, Gujarat, on 17 December 2017 (Patel & Raol 2018, Trivedi & Trivedi 2018).

Pakistan
A male captured on a fishing boat near the shore off Paradise Point, Karachi, on 9 October 2016 was released on the same day in the port of Karachi (Moazzam et al 2018).

Based on these two records, Namaqua Dove has been added to the South Asia checklist (Praveen et al 2019).

Conclusion
Namaqua Dove's range extension to the north from the African continent has been going on for several decades and is well documented. Since the mid-1970s, this species has successfully colonised the Arabian Peninsula, where its breeding population is estimated at c 60 000 pairs (Jennings 2010). One of the main reasons for their expansion is likely to be global warming and the increase of irrigated agriculture, which provided new areas with favourable habitats (Jennings 2000, 2010, Hatzofe & Yom-Tov 2002, Yom-Tov et al 2012). In recent years, the species has inhabited previously unoccupied habitats – mangrove forest in southern Egypt – which indicates a high adaptability (Hering et al 2015). In the last two decades, other 'jumps' to the north and north-east from the colonised area in the Arabian Peninsula took place. Jennings (2000), describing the species' spread through the Arabian Peninsula, asked the question 'Iran next stop?'. Today, the answer is: definitely yes! Not only Iran but also Cyprus, Iraq, Syria, Turkey, and even Caucasus countries (Abkhazia (Georgia), Armenia, Azerbaijan and Dagestan (Russia)) have been reached (cf table 2). What is more, recent years have seen the first records in Central and South Asia. Are these the beginning of the new colonisations? On the western front, the increase north from Mauritania into Western Sahara is less spectacular but could be an early sign of colonisation too. The next decades will bring an answer to these questions. In the light of this rapid range expansion to the north, it would not be surprising when the species turns up in the near future in continental Europe, eg, in southern Ukraine, Bulgaria, Greece or even further north. In my opinion, the two reports from Lesvos, Greece (see above) fit in the pattern provided by the records in Cyprus and Turkey and should be re-evaluated by the Hellenic rarities committee.

Lack (1986) and Hockey (2000) conclude that the species is better classified as an opportunistic nomad then as a true intra-African migrant. Nwaogu & Cresswell (2016) showed that Namaqua Doves resemble Palearctic migrants in that, unlike average resident African species, they show a seasonal peak in body mass and fat scores. However, unlike Palearctic migrants, they do not accumu-

TABLE 2 Year of first record and first breeding record of Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis capensis* in selected countries of the Palearctic and South Asia

Country	Year of first record	Year of first breeding
North Africa		
Morocco & Western Sahara	1942	2016
Macaronesia		
Canary Islands	1997	
Cape Verde Islands	1995	
Europe		
Cyprus	1998	
Greece	2008	
Caucasus area		
Abkhazia (Georgia)	2013	
Armenia	2017	
Azerbaijan	2018	
Dagestan (Russia)	2016	
Arabian Peninsula		
Bahrain	1983	1990
Kuwait	1978	2002
Oman	1975	1987
Qatar	1985	1985
Saudi Arabia	1934	1977
United Arab Emirates	1988	1997
Yemen	1851	1883
Middle East		
Iran	2007	2017
Iraq	2004	2006
Israel	1961	1980
Jordan	1966	1995
Lebanon	1999 or 2000	
Syria	2003	
Turkey	2005	
Central Asia		
Uzbekistan	2009	
South Asia		
India	2017	
Pakistan	2016	

late fat reserves. These findings may support the hypothesis that genuine vagrancy to remote areas is a natural feature of this species.

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Samenvatting

GA NOORDWAARTS – AREAALUITBREIDING VAN MASKERDUIF NAAR HET PALEARCTISCHE GEBIED EN ZUID-AZIË Dit artikel bespreekt de (grotendeels) noordwaartse areaaluitbreiding van Maskerduif *Oena capensis capensis*, vooral naar het Palearctische gebied, die in recente jaren snel verliep. Sinds het midden van de jaren 1970 heeft de soort met succes het Arabisch Schiereiland gekoloniseerd en momenteel wordt de populatie daar geschat op c 60 000 paren. In de afgelopen twee decennia vond een volgende sprong naar het noorden en noordoosten plaats waarbij alle landen in het Midden-Oosten (inclusief Turkije, ook Cyprus) betrokken waren en zelfs gebieden en landen in de Kaukasus: Abchazië, Georgië; Armenië; Azerbeidzjan; en Dagestan, Rusland. Recent werden de eerste gevallen bekend in Centraal-Azië (Oezbekistan) en Zuid-Azië (India, Pakistan). Ook in Noord-Afrika werden nieuwe gebieden bereikt: Marokko en Westelijke Sahara; en de mangrovebossen in Zuid-Egypte. Een van de belangrijkste oorzaken van de uitbreiding is klimaatopwarming en de toenemende hoeveelheid geïrrigeerde landbouwgebieden waardoor nieuwe geschikte habitats beschikbaar kwamen. In de toekomst is de soort te verwachten in delen van continentaal Europa, zoals Zuid-Oekraïne, Griekenland, Bulgarije en de Balkanlanden. Twee gevallen op Lesbos, Griekenland (juni 2008 en mei 2014; nu behandeld als vermoedelijke escapes) passen goed in het patroon van de areaaluitbreiding van Maskerduif en verdienen op basis van het geschetste patroon van dwaalgasten heroverweging.

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Are Red-rumped Swallows starting to winter in the Western Palearctic?

The Western Palearctic (WP) populations of Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica rufula* breed across the Mediterranean from Morocco to Greece, the Balkans, Turkey, Cyprus and the Middle East (Turner & Kirwan 2020). All these populations are presumed to winter in the savannah belt in sub-Saharan Africa, from northern Senegal to southern Africa (Turner & Kirwan 2020 but see also van den Brink & Leonard 2011 for a record in Zambia and Fisher & Hunter 2014 for two records in Kenya). The paucity of records in Tunisia and Libya during migration appears to indicate that most of the European birds may winter in western Africa, whereas south-eastern European and Middle East populations may winter in the east. However, it is hard to pinpoint the wintering grounds of European birds more exactly, not least because of the presence of resident populations of the similar-looking subspecies *C d melanocrissus* in the northern part of the Afrotropics (Turner & Kirwan 2020). Winter records in Iberia or northern Africa are very scarce and generally involve lone birds (or a few individuals) that will not return the following year (eg, Goodman & Meininger 1989, Isenmann et al 2005, Bergier et al 2017; eBird data). To the best of our knowledge, no regular wintering site or even winter record of a large group has ever been mentioned within the WP.

Like in other swallows breeding in Europe, both adults and first-winters of the subspecies *C d rufula* supposedly perform a complete moult on their wintering grounds before starting their return journey towards the breeding areas (Shirihai & Svensson 2018). On 25 February 2019, we were able to verify this assertion as we checked several 10s of Red-rumped Swallows actively migrating over the desert on the road between Dakhla and Bir Anzarane, Western Sahara, Morocco: as far as we could see, none of these birds showed any sign of active moult (plate 145). However, on the morning of 26 February 2019, while visiting Taourta (23°47'40.2''N, 15°54'38.3''W), a small area of irrigated fields near Dakhla, we found a group of c 40 Red-rumped in active moult. The birds were spending most of their time perched on trees or chasing insects. All of the individuals that we could check were obviously undergoing a complete moult of their flight feathers and body-feathers (plate 146-148). We noted birds replacing their primaries, from two to eight primaries replaced or still being replaced; some were also replacing their secondaries, with the outermost secondaries already being replaced, whereas the tertials were mostly still old. Several birds showed extensive signs of tail moult, with short tails and outer tail-feathers clearly being replaced.

From this moulting pattern, we hypothesised that these birds had probably spent the winter in the area. This was further supported by the observation of 20 birds nearby in December 2018 (Valérie Goethals per maroc.observation.org) – a month in which the species is rare in northern Africa – al-

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145 Red-rumped Swallow / Roodstuitzwaluw *Cecropis daurica*, Bir Anzarane road, Western Sahara, Morocco, 25 February 2019 *(Boris Delahaie)*. Bird seen in desert migrating with other swallows. Note entirely renewed plumage. **146** Red-rumped Swallow / Roodstuitzwaluw *Cecropis daurica*, Taourta, Dakhla, Western Sahara, Morocco, 26 February 2019 *(Paul Dufour)*. Cream-fringed feathers indicate second calendar-year bird. Note that it is replacing body-feathers and flight-feathers, with large gap separating two old outer and freshly renewed inner primaries. **147** Red-rumped Swallow / Roodstuitzwaluw *Cecropis daurica*, Taourta, Dakhla, Western Sahara, Morocco, 26 February 2019 *(Boris Delahaie)*. This bird had three old outer primaries and was moulting most tail-feathers. **148** Red-rumped Swallow / Roodstuitzwaluw *Cecropis daurica*, Taourta, Dakhla, Western Sahara, Morocco, 26 February 2019 *(Boris Delahaie)*. This bird had one old long tail-feather whereas the others were growing.

though the observers did not notice any particular behaviour or moulting patterns that would suggest wintering birds (Valérie Goethals pers comm).

If confirmed, this would constitute a remarkable case of wintering, far away from the northernmost boundaries of the species' usual winter range. Indeed, the closest sites where European Red-rumped Swallows supposedly overwinter are located in northern Senegal (eBird data), at least 1200 km south of Taourta. The distribution map in BirdLife International (2019; see also Isenmann et al 2010) indicates a wintering area in southern Mauritania but we have not been able to verify whether this is a regular wintering site or rather corresponds to occasional sightings of few birds showing aberrant behaviour (Paul Isenmann pers comm).

In winter 2018/19, it seems that the coasts of Western Sahara saw uncommon climatic conditions, with less wind than usual for the season and a sky often laden with dust (Patrick Bergier pers comm). Therefore, it is hard to tell whether the presence of the swallows resulted from such a weather effect or rather stemmed from an ongoing northward shift in wintering range. It is interesting to note that if they indeed wintered in this area, their moulting schedule was delayed compared with other populations frequenting the region. It

means that these birds have not been able to start their return migration until a few weeks after we saw them, considering that it generally takes two weeks for a flight feather to be replaced in similar species (see van den Brink et al 2000). Again, this raises the question whether this delay was induced by unusual winter conditions or rather was a consequence of a shortened migration distance releasing the pressure on migration timing.

In conclusion, we strongly encourage birders visiting Morocco and Western Sahara in particular during the winter period to pay attention to the moult patterns of any Red-rumped Swallow encountered. This would help to better understand whether this phenomenon is an anecdotal case or whether it results from a latitudinal shift in the species' wintering area, eg, in a context of global warming.

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Dark-sided Flycatcher at Höfn, Iceland, in October 2012

On 1 October 2012, Brynjúlfur Brynjólfsson and Björn Gísli Arnarson came across an unusual flycatcher at Höfn, Hornafjörður, in south-eastern Iceland, where it stayed until 5 October 2012. After some consideration and ruling out Asian Brown Flycatcher *Muscicapa dauurica*, they identified the bird as an unusually fresh Spotted Flycatcher *M striata*. During its stay, it was documented with several photographs. Since then, the photographs have been troubling Yann Kolbeinsson for years, going back to field guides on and off but never finding a perfect match and always coming back to a fresh juvenile Spotted. At the beginning of 2016, reading Howell et al (2014), alarm bells started to ring for YK and Gunnar Þór Hallgrímsson, and both became convinced the bird was in fact a Dark-sided Flycatcher *M sibirica* – a new species for the Western Palearctic (WP)! Further investigation and discussion, which included positive feedback from Paul Leader and Killian Mullarney, confirmed the identification.

Description

The description is based on photographs taken by BB (plate 149-150).

SIZE & POSTURE Typical flycatcher with upright posture. Small size (but no direct comparison with other species possible) with large head and very long wing, wing-tip projecting just beyond longest undertail-coverts, reaching c two thirds of tail length. Tail slightly forked. Eye relatively large. Bill short and pointed, and looking rather

149-150 Dark-sided Flycatcher / Roetvliegenvanger *Muscicapa sibirica*, first-year, Höfn, Hornafjörður, Iceland, 5 October 2012 *(Brynjúlfur Brynjólfsson)*

narrow based.
HEAD Dark brown with pale spots on forehead and becoming smaller onto crown. No pale supercilium. Lore darkish. Inconspicuous pale half-crescent behind eye. Chin and throat pale with faint dark flecking and inconspicuous dark malar stripe. Ear-coverts dark with some faint pale streaking.
UPPERPARTS Dark grey-brown from head to rump. Scapulars dark brown with prominent pale tip.
UNDERPARTS Whitish with prominent dark flecking, creating dark rows on breast and flank, fading onto white belly. Flecking most prominent and dense on breast side and less prominent on central breast.
WING Mainly dark brown. Median wing-coverts with small pale brown to whitish tip. Greater wing-coverts with prominent coppery brown outer edge and especially tip (best visible on photographs taken in sunlight). Tertials dark brown with prominent coppery brown edges, almost meeting at tip (leaving tiny dark 'gap').
TAIL Uppertail dark brown. Undertail-coverts white with some brownish markings on longest feathers (difficult to see on photographs).
BARE PARTS Eye very dark to black. Leg dark (colour difficult to assess on photographs). Bill dark with small orangey area on base of lower mandible.
VOICE Not noted.
BEHAVIOUR Perching on highest branches of fir tree.

Ageing and identification

The strongly spotted scapulars, wing and head point to a bird still in (mostly) juvenile plumage. Spotted Flycatcher was in the end ruled out because it has a more elongated body with relatively smaller head, smaller eye, longer bill and longer tail, and a paler crown with fine dark streaking. Moreover, it lacks the coppery tone on the edges and tips of the wing-coverts and tertials, as well as the heavily marked underparts and would not show the 'hooded' impression of the bird in Iceland. Red-breasted Flycatcher *Ficedula parva* and Taiga Flycatcher *F albicilla* can be excluded easily because both show a prominent white patch on the tail-sides and both lack the prominent streaking on the underparts.

The small size, upright posture, long wing, short pointed bill, white eye ring (most prominent behind the eye) and mainly brownish plumage point to one of the migratory Asian 'brown flycatchers' (Asian Brown, Dark-sided and Grey-streaked Flycatcher *M griseisticta*). The following plumage characters support the identification as Dark-sided (cf Alström & Hirschfeld 1991, Bradshaw et al 1991, Leader 2010, Howell et al 2014, Clement 2020): ***1*** indistinct pale supercilium before eye, with darker spot in front of eye, giving plain-faced and hooded impression (lore pale and supercilium in front of eye more prominent in Asian Brown); ***2*** malar stripe dark and conspicuous (more indistinct in Asian Brown); ***3*** dense and blotchy/diffuse breast streaking, merging on breast-side (too dense for Asian Brown, which only shows darker wash on breast-side and flank; more contrasting and 'streaky' on whiter underparts in Grey-streaked); ***4*** slightly forked tail (almost no fork in Asian Brown); ***5*** mostly dark bill with limited orange (more orange on underside of bill in Asian Brown, bill also larger and broader based in Asian Brown); ***6*** obvious buff to coppery-toned tip to greater wing-coverts (whitish in Asian Brown and Grey-streaked); and ***7*** wing-tip reaching c two thirds of tail-length (shorter in Asian Brown, even longer in Grey-streaked, almost reaching tail-tip). In some photographs of the Iceland bird, dark centres or markings are visible on the longest undertail-coverts; this character is typical for Dark-sided and absent in Asian Brown and Grey-streaked but it

can be difficult to notice in the field and on photographs.

The mostly juvenile plumage retained into October of the bird in Iceland is typical for Dark-sided Flycatcher, because post-juvenile moult is often suspended for migration (cf Bradshaw et al 1991, Howell et al 2014).

Distribution and movements

Dark-sided Flycatcher breeds in eastern Asia north and east to Kamchatka, Russia, and disjunctly in southern Asia. The wintering range includes (from north-west to south-east) north-eastern India, Bangladesh, southern China, Taiwan and south-eastern Asia as far as Sumatra, Java, Borneo, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Four subspecies are recognized: *M s sibirica*, *M s gulmergi*, *M s cacabata* and *M s rothschildi* (Clement 2020). Geographical variation is not well marked, although it has been suggested that nominate *sibirica* might represent a sufficiently distinct lineage to warrant separate species status (Eaton et al 2016). Only nominate *sibirica* is highly migratory, while the three other subspecies are short-distance migrants. Northern populations winter in Taiwan, south-eastern Asia east to southern China and northern Borneo. Central Chinese populations migrate south to southern China and as far south as the Malay Peninsula and Sumatra. Autumn migration lasts mainly from mid-September to late October. Return passage occurs mainly from April to late May; birds arrive on the breeding grounds in Japan and Siberia, Russia, in late May (Clement 2020).

Vagrancy

Dark-sided Flycatcher is a very rare vagrant to North America; all records come from Alaska, USA. On the western Aleutians it is very rare in spring (mid-May to June) and rare in autumn. Moreover, in spring, it is rare on the central Aleutians and in spring and autumn on the Bering Sea islands. Most records refer to single birds but multiple sightings occur, with up to eight birds on Attu on 1-5 June 1999. There is one remarkable record on Bermuda: a first-winter male photographed at Somerset Long Bay Nature Reserve, Sandy's Parish, on 28 September 1980, and collected on 29 September (specimen preserved in the American Museum of Natural History, New York, USA; Wingate 1983). According to Howell et al (2014), this record suggests some birds may leave their breeding range with substantial fat reserves in order to make long overwater flights directly to their wintering grounds. The specimens from Bermuda and Alaska referred to the highly migratory nominate *sibirica* (Wingate 1983, Howell et al 2014).

The bird from Iceland was accepted by the Icelandic rarities committee as the first record for Iceland and for the WP. A *Muscicapa* flycatcher trapped on Heligoland, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, on 16 August 1982 was initially considered an Asian Brown Flycatcher but was subsequently re-identified as Dark-sided Flycatcher from colour slides in January 2004. However, the bird was listed as a presumed escape (category E) by the German rarities committee on the basis of the damaged toes and eye (Stühmer 2004, 2005).

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Varia

Emperor Penguins of Snow Hill Island, Antarctica

Penguins are divided in six genera and 18 species. The two largest and rather similarly coloured species form the genus *Aptenodytes*: King Penguin *A patagonicus* and Emperor Penguin *A forsteri*. King (c 90 cm in length) lives in big colonies in the subantarctic and has a breeding cycle of 15 months, which means that courtship, egg laying and feeding of chicks can occur simultaneously in the colonies. Emperor (male 112-115 cm in length, or even more) is considerably larger and is restricted to the coastal areas of the Antarctic continent. Due to the harsh conditions in Antarctica, Emperor has developed a bizarre eight-month breeding cycle with incubation taking place on sea ice during the cold Antarctic winter (del Hoyo et al 1992, Williams 1995).

A survey of satellite images from 2009 found 46 colonies containing c 238 000 breeding pairs of Emperor Penguin, suggesting a world population of c 595 000 individuals. Since then, a further seven colonies have been discovered, bringing the total number to 53 (Fretwell et al 2012).

Status

In 2012, the conservation status of Emperor Penguin was changed from a species of 'least concern' to 'near-threatened' by the IUCN (BirdLife International 2019), although generally the population seems stable (for population estimates and counts, see, eg, Robertson 1992, Kato & Ichikawa 1999, Barbraud et al 2011, Wienecke 2009, 2011, 2012, Robertson et al 2014; see also https://tinyurl.com/yx2ewsfq). The primary cause for the increased risk of endangerment is the projected climate change effects, and additionally a declining food availability, due to industrial fisheries on crustacean and fish. However, it should be noted that there is considerable uncertainty over future climatic change and how these will impact the species. Because of the dependency on the conditions of fast ice (ice that is anchored to the shore and does not move) for breeding success, climate change may affect the delicate balance of the dis-

151 Emperor Penguins / Keizerspinguïns *Aptenodytes forsteri*, adults and juveniles, Snow Hill Island, Weddell Sea, Antarctica, 26 October 2018 *(Otto Plantema)*

tance between foraging waters and breeding grounds. If the ice melts too slowly in spring because of lower temperatures, open water is too far from the colony and chick mortality will increase. On the other hand, if the ice melts too quickly in November-December, chicks will drown before they lose their down (Lescalles & Trathan 2009, Ainley et al 2010, Trathan et al 2011, Jenouvrier et al 2014).

Breeding cycle

Emperor Penguin has a striking pale-yellow breast and bright-yellow ear-patches and shows the most pronounced sexual dimorphism of all penguins, with males being more brightly coloured and much heavier. Adults arrive mid-March, at the end of the short Antarctic summer, on the fast ice and walk or toboggan (glide on their belly) 50-120 km, with a speed of 1-5 km/h, to the colony on the sea ice. After months of foraging in open sea, with a fish and krill intake of c 7 kg per day, the males weigh c 39 kg (40% fat), much more than the females with c 29 kg. The mate fidelity is very high from season to season but birds have many partners over a lifetime (in contrast with the smaller penguins on Antarctica such as Gentoo Penguin *Pygoscelis papua*, with a lifetime mate fidelity of 80-85%). The narrow window of opportunity available for mating appears to be an influence, as there is a priority to mate and breed which often precludes waiting for the appearance of the previous year's partner (Williams 1995).

Egg laying begins just three weeks after arrival at the colony, probably because of adaption to cope with the annual variation in the sea-ice regime. After the egg transfer (25% of the eggs are lost during this process), the male incubates for three month in the winter in the coldest environment of any bird species; air temperatures may reach -40°C and wind speeds may reach 200 km/h. The males keep the egg safe and warm by balancing the egg on their feet and covering it with feathered skin ('brood pouch'). The female returns as quickly as possible to open sea, needing to feed extensively to restore their body condition. In the meantime, the males incubate the egg in very tight groups. Incubating males huddle for 40% of their time in the group, with up to 10 individuals per m^2 (Fath 2018). In this efficient rotation process, the males lose just 150 g of fat per day, instead of 300 g for a lone male. After three months, the females return to the colony and take over the newborn juveniles. The males then start the long walk to open sea for feeding after four months of fasting and almost 50% weight loss. The next months, male and female both take care for the juvenile. C 45-50 days after hatching, the chicks form a crèche, huddling together for warmth and protection. A crèche may comprise up to several 1000s birds densely packed together and is essential for surviving the low Antarctic temperatures. The parents stop feeding their chicks in December after 15-20 feeding trips with a total of c 85 kg of food in five months. By then, the grey juveniles loose their down and are ready to walk to open water. Breeding success is very variable but the average is 60%. The juveniles return to the colony when four years old and make the first attempt to breed the following year. The adults start moulting from mid-December and restore the fat depots. The average lifespan is 20 years and 50 year old birds are known (del Hoyo et al 1992, Williams 1995).

The Emperor Penguin's unique life cycle in such a harsh environment has been described in print and visual media. The 2005 launched French documentary 'La Marche de l'empereur' (English version: 'March of the penguins') told the story of the breeding cycle. Also, the BBC with presenter David Attenborough depicted the beauty and hard life of the penguins in several documentaries ('Life in the freezer' (1993) and 'The blue planet', 'Planet earth' and 'Frozen planet' between 2002 and 2011).

Adaptations to cold climate

Emperor Penguin has adapted to counteract heat loss. Feathers provide 80-90% of its insulation and it has a layer of fat which may be up to 3 cm thick before breeding. This resultant blubber layer reduces the mobility of the penguins on land compared with less fat-insulated penguins. While the density of contour feathers is approximately nine per cm^2, the combination of dense afterfeathers and down feathers likely play a critical role for insulation. Muscles allow the feathers to be held erect on land, reducing heat loss by trapping a layer of air next to the skin. Conversely, the plumage is flattened in water, thus waterproofing the skin and the downy underlay. Preening is facilitating the insulation and keeps the plumage oily and water repellent (Williams 1995).

Predators

Emperor Penguin's predators include birds and aquatic mammals. Southern Giant Petrels *Macronectes giganteus* are the predominant land predator of chicks, responsible for over one third of chick deaths in some colonies, although they often scavenge dead penguins as well. South Polar

152 Emperor Penguins / Keizerspinguïns *Aptenodytes forsteri*, adults and juveniles, Snow Hill Island, Weddell Sea, Antarctica, 11 November 2007 *(Otto Plantema)*

153 Emperor Penguins / Keizerspinguïns *Aptenodytes forsteri*, adults, Snow Hill Island, Weddell Sea, Antarctica, 24 October 2018 *(Otto Plantema)*

154 Emperor Penguins / Keizerspinguïns *Aptenodytes forsteri*, adults, Snow Hill Island, Weddell Sea, Antarctica, 26 October 2018 *(Otto Plantema)* **155** Emperor Penguins / Keizerspinguïns *Aptenodytes forsteri*, adult with juvenile, Snow Hill Island, Weddell Sea, Antarctica, 26 October 2018 *(Otto Plantema)* **156** Emperor Penguins / Keizerspinguïns *Aptenodytes forsteri*, adult with juveniles, Snow Hill Island, Weddell Sea, Antarctica, 26 October 2018 *(Otto Plantema)*

157 Emperor Penguins / Keizerspinguïns *Aptenodytes forsteri*, adults and juveniles, Snow Hill Island, Weddell Sea, Antarctica, 25 October 2018 *(Otto Plantema)* **158** Emperor Penguins / Keizerspinguïns *Aptenodytes forsteri*, adult with juveniles, Snow Hill Island, Weddell Sea, Antarctica, 26 October 2018 *(Otto Plantema)* **159** Emperor Penguins / Keizerspinguïns *Aptenodytes forsteri*, juveniles, Snow Hill Island, Weddell Sea, Antarctica, 24 October 2018 *(Otto Plantema)*

Skua *Stercorarius maccormicki* and Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus* mainly scavenge for dead chicks. Leopard Seal *Hydrurga leptonyx* and Orca *Orcinus orca* may take adult birds and fledglings soon after they enter the water (Prévost 1961, Kooyman et al 1990).

Visits to Snow Hill Island colony

Vocal calls are used for chick recognition, as the species has no fixed nest sites that individuals can use to locate their own partner or chick. These communication calls were the first signs of the presence of Emperors Penguins when I (Otto Plantema) approached a colony for the first time in November 2007, in a sea-ice landscape full of frozen icebergs: an emotional moment for any birder and surely for a penguin addict like me. I had to walk 3 km over the sea ice of the Weddell Sea, near the shore of Snow Hill Island, after a landing with a helicopter. The Snow Hill colony is the northernmost breeding population, near the north-eastern tip of the peninsula. Because of the remoteness, this colony was discovered as recently as 20 July 1997 on a Twin-Otter aeroplane flight at 300 m, during which aerial photographs were taken (Coria & Montalti 2000). I visited this colony twice, in the second week of November 2007 and again in the last week of October 2018, and both trips were among the best of my 50 years of birding travel worldwide. During both visits, I joined an expedition trip of Quark, with the famous Russian icebreaker *Kapitan Klebnikov*. This ship made several Weddell Sea trips until 2010, and returned in October 2018 again in the Antarctic, probably for the last time. *Kapitan Klebnikov*'s regular job is to serve the gas and oil exploration in the Russian North Pole region, with Vladivostok, Siberia, as its base.

Travel to Antarctica

In the 2017/18 season, c 50 ships ferried over c 40 000 passengers to Antarctica in the austral summer, from eight-passenger privately chartered yachts to modified 2000-passenger cruise ships. Antarctica is accessible by boat on a two-day passage from Ushuaia, Argentina (in October 2018, the Drake Passage took us three days, because of extreme weather with wind speeds up to 130 km/h and waves up to 7 m high, and because icebreakers have no keel, resulting in amplitudes of 45°). Of all Antarctic tourists, 99% visit the west coast of the peninsula for a week with zodiac landings near colonies of Adelie *P adeliae*, Gentoo and Chinstrap Penguin *P antarcticus*. The International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) strictly regulates these landing sites and shore time, with no more than 100 people allowed on shore at once. Visitors have to keep a distance of at least 30 m from the Emperor Penguins. Visiting Emperor Penguin breeding colonies with juveniles in October is restricted to the very limited number of ice-strengthened ships in the Weddell Sea or Ross Sea. Success is depending on the ice conditions. Only the very powerful *Kapitan Klebnikov* had almost 100% success in reaching the colonies. However, it is very uncertain if this ship continues the service in the coming years.

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Brieven

Hornemann's Redpolls in Norway

Van Rijswijk (2020) recently presented a beautifully illustrated Varia on Hornemann's Redpoll *Acanthis hornemanni hornemanni*. Although it was obviously not his intention to give a detailed picture on the numerical occurrence in the countries mentioned, I would like to stress the Norwegian status of this taxon.

Hornemann's Redpoll is certainly not 'a major rarity' in Norway. Rather, it is an established annual vagrant/migrant, some years occurring in numbers, mostly recorded on western coastal localities, chiefly in the counties of Nordland and Trøndelag. Records are regular also as far south as Rogaland, where Utsira has amassed six records (including the first for Norway, in 1952) up to 2019 (Mobakken 2020).

In fact, Hornemann's Redpoll has been dropped from the list of taxa considered by the Norsk sjeldenhetskomité for fugl (NSKF; Norwegian rare birds committee), with effect from 2011. Up to and including 2010, NSKF has accepted 37 records involving 85 individuals for Norway (Olsen 2014). Subsequent to this, sightings have continued unabated and even increased, as shown on the national species recording system (www.artsobservasjoner.no). A particularly good year was 2012 during which autumn c 10 localities reported sightings with, for instance, no less than 70 appearing on Træna, Nordland, in late September (believed by local observers to involve more than 100 birds).

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WP reports

This review lists rare and interesting Western Palearctic birds reported mainly from **February to late March 2020**. The reports are largely unchecked and their publication here does not imply future acceptance by a rarities committee. Observers are requested to submit their records to each country's rarities committee. Corrections are welcome and will be published.

GEESE TO DUCKS If accepted, a **Red-breasted Goose** *Branta ruficollis* in the Izunuma, Uchinuma and Kabukurinuma areas from October 2019 to at least February will be the first for Japan. One **Pink-footed Goose** *Anser brachyrhynchus* photographed near Pasohlávky, southern Moravia, on 7-8 February and two near Jindrichuv Hradec, southern Bohemia, on 14-15 February constituted (only) the second and third record for Czechia. In Scotland, the first-winter male **Steller's Eider** *Polysticta stelleri* off Papa Westray, Orkney, from 29 October 2019 remained through at least mid-March. In Norway, a female was seen at Kvalbein, Rogaland, on 19 February. The long-staying adult males **White-winged Scoter** *Melanitta deglandi* at Keflavík, Iceland,

and at Musselburgh, East Lothian, Scotland, were still present in February-March. The third **Stejneger's Scoter** *M stejnegeri* for Denmark was an adult male photographed at Rørvig, Sjælland, from 27 February to 3 March. Adult males **Black Scoter** *M americana* were reported in Denmark (two at Melby, Halsnæs, on 14 February), England (Cheswick, Northumberland, in February-March), Germany (Bülk, Schleswig-Holstein, from 26 January into March), Poland (Władysławowo from 19 February to 1 March, Świętouść on 5 March and Dziwnów on 26 March) and Scotland (Lunan Bay, Angus, in March). The first **Common Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula* for Bhutan was a female photographed on the Punatsang Chhu river on 5-8 January 2019 (J Threatened Taxa 12: 15382-15384, 2020). Two **Egyptian Geese** *Alopochen aegyptiaca* near Makaraucy, Berastavica, on 27 February were the first for Belarus. The resident male **American Black Duck** *Anas rubripes* at Strontian, Highland, Scotland, was still present in February-March. Two **Wood Ducks** *Aix sponsa* on Faial, Azores, from 13 December 2019 remained at least through late February.

FLAMINGOS TO DOVES An adult **Lesser Flamingo** *Phoeniconaias minor* at Sulaibikhat bay, Kuwait, from late October 2019 was still seen through February. Two photographed at Khours of Shadegan, Abadan, Khuzestan, on 6 February constituted the second record for Iran (the first was in June 1904). An adult male **Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps* on Loch Feorlin, Argyll and Bute, Scotland, from 30 May 2014 and last reported on 18 July 2019, was seen again from 7 February onwards. An **Oriental Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis orientalis* at Kristinehamn, Värmland, Sweden, from 3 November 2019 remained into March. The second **Rufous Turtle Dove** *S o meena* for Austria at Pöstlingberg, Linz, from 5 December 2019 was present until at least 22 February. In the Netherlands, an adult stayed at Sneek, Friesland, from 30 January (but probably earlier) until 11 March. The first for Switzerland was well twitched in a garden at Sulgen, Thurgau, from 1 March onwards (probably already present in the last days of February). Six **Laughing Doves** *S senegalensis* (three singing) were present at Los Palacios y Villafranca, Sevilla, Spain, from 22 February onwards.

CUCKOOS TO RAILS Two **Jacobin Cuckoos** *Clamator jacobinus* (one photographed) at Tamanrasset on 5 October 2019 constituted the first record for Algeria (Alauda 88: 71-72, 2020) and the second for the WP 'sensu BWP' (the first was collected in northern Chad on 9 September 1955); a bird in Finland in September 1976 is currently placed in category E (but see Dutch Birding 33: 325-328, 2011). The third **African Crake** *Crex egregia* for northern Mauritania was found dead at Banc d'Arguin on 14 January (the previous two were here in January 2007 and November 2011; cf Dutch Birding 34: 95-96, 2012). In the Canary Islands, an **Allen's Gallinule** *Porphyrio alleni*

160 Lesser Flamingo / Kleine Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor*, adult, with Greater Flamingo / Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus*, Sulaibikhat bay, Kuwait, 13 February 2020 *(Zbigniew Kajzer)*

161 Rufous Turtle Dove / Meenatortel *Streptopelia orientalis meena*, adult, Sulgen, Thurgau, Switzerland, 3 March 2020 *(Lionel Maumary)*

162 Laughing Gull / Lachmeeuw *Larus atricilla*, first-winter, Essaouira, Morocco, 14 February 2020 *(Andrzej Kośmicki)*

was photographed on Gran Canaria in January. In southern Spain, one was present at Lagunas de Camino Colorado, Cádiz, from 31 January to 3 March.

CRANES TO LOONS The last surviving **Siberian Crane** *Leucogeranus leucogeranus* of the species' western population (adult male 'Omid') left its wintering grounds at Fereydunkenar, Mazandaran, Iran, on 27 February and was then found in Shirvan national park near Hesenli, Azerbaijan, on 1 March (the previous record in this country was on 29 January 2010; cf Dutch Birding 40: 247-252, 2018). A male **Little Bustard** *Tetrax tetrax* photographed near Hranice, Moravia, on 20 March was the first for Czechia since c 70 years. In the Netherlands, a female **Great Bustard** *Otis tarda* from a German reintroduction project remained at Oostvoorne, Zuid-Holland, from 29 December 2019 to at least 19 March. In Ireland, the **Pacific Loon** *Gavia pacifica* at Crookhaven, Cork, from October 2019 remained into March. Another was seen off Cornwall, England, during February. A record nine **Common Loons** *G immer* were counted on lakes in Switzerland this winter. The first **Yellow-billed Loon** *G adamsii* for Serbia was photographed at the Danube river on 25 January.

TUBENOSES 'Wisdom', the 68+ years old **Laysan Albatross** *Phoebastria immutabilis* (the oldest-known wild bird) hatched a chick in its colony on Midway Atoll in the Hawaiian archipelago in early February; ringed as an adult of at least five years old in 1956, she raised at least 31 chicks until 2006 and then almost one every year since. The fifth **Black-capped Petrel** *Pterodroma hasitata* for the Cape Verde Islands was seen off Raso on 6 February. A **Cory's Shearwater** *Calonectris borealis* photographed off Ta' Cenc cliffs, Gozo, on 19 July 2019 was the first for Malta. One trapped (then died) off Hobie beach, Plettenberg bay, Western Cape, South Africa, on 19 January had been ringed over 40 years earlier on Selvagem Grande, Selvagens, on 7 October 1979 (via Nature's Valley Trust).

HERONS TO CORMORANTS The first **Dwarf Bittern** *Ixobrychus sturmii* for northern Mauritania was photographed at Nouadhibou on 23 January. The second for the Cape Verde Islands was discovered at Châo de Horta, Santiago, on 24-25 February (the first was also on Santiago in June 2011). The first **Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides* in winter for Ukraine was found at Kugurlui lake in Danube delta on 11 January. In January, three **Goliath Herons** *Ardea goliath* and 10 **African Sacred Ibises** *Threskiornis aethiopicus* were present at Hour-al-Azeem, Khuzestan, Iran. In the Cape Verde Islands, an adult **Red-footed Booby** *Sula sula* was seen off Raso on 6 February. An adult female **Brown Booby** *S leucogaster* flew past c 2 km off Lekeitio, Bizkaia, Spain, on 7 February. In Belgium, the long-staying **Pygmy Cormorant** *Microcarbo pygmaeus* at Auderghem, Bruxelles, from January 2018 remained through late March. A **Double-crested Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax auritus* on Flores, Azores, from 11 December was also reported here on 1 January.

WADERS In the Azores, three **Semipalmated Plovers** *Charadrius semipalmatus* were present at Cabo da Praia, Terceira, in January-February. The 57th **Killdeer** *C vociferus* for Britain was found on Lundy, Devon, on 16 March. In Iran, a flock of 22 **Sociable Lapwings** *Vanellus gregarius* was seen at Beit-Kosar, Khuzestan, on 26 February. A **White-tailed Lapwing** *V leucurus* at Serracapriolo, Foggia, from 25 December 2019 to early February was the fifth for Italy. The first **Caspian Plover** *Anarhynchus asiaticus* for The Gambia was photographed at Tujareng on 18 January. One trapped and ringed at Khok Kham on 19 February was the first for Thailand and probably for south-eastern Asia. A **Surfbird** *Calidris virgata* photographed on the Khairusova-Belogolovaya river estuary on Kamchatka peninsula in the Russian Far East from 13 July to 2 August 2019 was the first for Eurasia (Wader Study 127 (1), 2020). The first **Little Stint** *C minuta* for Indonesia was found in a fish pond area in Eastern Aceh province, Sumatra, on 21 October 2019. A **Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularius* at Ørekroken, Kirkøy, Østfold, Norway, stayed from 3 January to 2 March. A **Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus* photographed on 24-25 January at Pointe des Châteaux was the first for Guadeloupe and the West Indies. The first **Long-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus scolopaceus* for Bangladesh was seen at Baikka Beel Wetland Sanctuary, Sylhet, on 27 December 2019. Two or three **Wilson's Snipes** *Gallinago delicata* were present on Terceira in January-February.

AUKS The first **Tufted Puffin** *Fratercula cirrhata* for the Faeroes was shot at Slættanes, Vágar, on 17 January (not 26 January; contra Dutch Birding 42: 55, 2020), and the skin was donated to the Faeroes Natural History Museum (https://tinyurl.com/rybqokh); previous WP records were in Sweden in June 1994, England in September 2009, and Svalbard in July 2019, while a bird photographed at sea off Cornwall in May 2016 was never submitted to the British rarities committee. Recently, the British Ornithologists' Union Records Committee added **Mandt's Black Guillemot** *Cepphus grylle mandtii* to the British list on the basis of a second calendar-year or older bird photographed at Witham River mouth, Lincolnshire, England, on 7-10 December 2017; in winter plumage, this arctic subspecies breeding in, eg, northern Greenland and Svalbard is very pale all over with a largely white head, lacking a dark loral spot and dark ear-coverts, and with an all-white rump, scapulars and wing-coverts.

GULLS TO TERNS The first **Black-legged Kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla* for Myanmar was photographed at Sagaing on 4 December 2018. A first-winter **Ivory Gull** *Pagophila eburnea* was seen on Røstlandet, Nordland, Norway, on 19-21 February. The first **Little Gull** *Hydrocoloeus minutus* for Guatemala was found at Escuintla on 24 January. In Devon, an adult **Ross's Gull** *Rhodostethia rosea* was photographed at South Huish Marsh on 9 March and then re-found at Oreston from 12 March onwards. A **Laughing Gull** *Larus atricilla* at Essaouira on 14 February was the seventh for Morocco. An adult **Franklin's Gull**

163 Red-footed Booby / Roodpootgent *Sula sula*, adult, off Raso, Cape Verde Islands, 6 February 2020
(Peter Stronach)

164 Brown Booby / Bruine Gent *Sula leucogaster*, adult female, c 2 km off Lekeitio, Bizkaia, Spain, 7 February 2020
(Jon Zubiaur)

165 Ivory Gull / Ivoormeeuw *Pagophila eburnea*, first-winter, Røstlandet, Nordland, Norway, 20 February 2020 *(Steve Baines)* **166** Thayer's Gull / Thayers Meeuw *Larus thayeri*, adult, San Cibrao, Lugo, Spain, 10 March 2020 *(Daniel López-Velasco)* **167** Black-capped Petrel / Zwartkapstormvogel *Pterodroma hasitata*, off Raso, Cape Verde Islands, 6 February 2020 *(Peter Stronach)*

168 Knob-billed Duck / Knobbeleend *Sarkidiornis melanotos*, Salalah, Dhofar, Oman, 7 October 2019 *(Paul Reed)* cf Dutch Birding 42: 48, 2020 **169** Stejneger's Scoter / Aziatische Grote Zee-eend *Melanitta stejnegeri*, adult male, with Velvet Scoter / Grote Zee-eend *M fusca*, Sandflugtsplantagen Rørvig, Sjælland, Denmark, 27 February 2020 *(Rasmus Strack)* **170** Siberian Crane / Siberische Witte Kraanvogel *Leucogeranus leucogeranus*, adult male ('Omid'), Shirvan national park, near Hesenli, Azerbaijan, 1 March 2020 *(Ernst Albegger)* **171** Allen's Gallinule / Afrikaans Purperhoen *Porphyrio alleni*, first-winter, Lagunas de Camino Colorado, Cádiz, Spain, 1 February 2020 *(Ricky Owen)* **172** African Crake / Afrikaanse Kwartelkoning *Crex egregia*, Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania, 14 January 2020 *(Klaus Günther)* **173** Lesser Moorhen / Afrikaans Waterhoen *Paragallinula angulata*, immature, Olot, Girona, Spain, 23 January 2020 *(Jordi Baucells & Pere Baucells)* cf Dutch Birding 42: 52, 2020

L pipixcan near Zoetermeer, Zuid-Holland, on 16-17 March was the 13th and second ever in January-March for the Netherlands. A first-winter **Pallas's Gull** *L ichthyaetus* at Hohenau an der March, Niederösterreich, from 15 March was the ninth for Austria. In Morocco, **Cape Gulls** *L dominicanus vetula* were reported at Khnifiss lagoon on 30 January (adult) and at Dakhla, Western Sahara, on 6 February (immature) and 17-18 February (adult). The first for the Canary Islands was an adult photographed at Puerto de la Cruz, Fuerteventura, on 15 March. A third calendar-year **American Herring Gull** *L smithsonianus* at Opstad, Hå, Rogaland, on 24-27 April 2017 has been accepted as the first (and so far only) for Norway and Scandinavia. If accepted, a first-winter photographed at a rubbish dump on Tenerife on 23 February may be the first for the Canary Islands. In northwestern Spain, the **Thayer's Gull** *L thayeri* ('Cipriana') was back on at least 10 March for its 13th year at San Cibrao, Lugo. In Norway, as many as 450 **Glaucous Gulls** *L hyperboreus* were counted on Bjørnøya on 17 February. In the Canary Islands, a **Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia* was seen at La Restinga, El Hierro, on 3 March (third record), and a **Lesser Crested Tern** *Sterna bengalensis* on Lanzarote on 24-25 February. The adult **Forster's Tern** *S forsteri* in Ireland was noted at Parkmore Quay, Galway, on 10 February, off Doorus, Clare, on 8 March (probably the same bird), and at Kinvarra, Galway, on 14 March. The **American Royal Tern** *S maxima* ringed in North Carolina, USA, first seen on Guernsey, Channel Islands, on 5 July 2017 and reported irregularly thereafter on the northern coasts of France, southern coasts of England and in Wales, again wintered on Guernsey from 15 December 2019 to at least mid-March.

RAPTORS The first **Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus* for Azerbaijan was photographed at Nakhchivan on 6 February. The first reported this year for the Netherlands was at Balingerveld, Drenthe, on 20 March. A second calendar-year **Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos* was photographed south of Bruxelles at Oisquercq, Brabant Wallon, Belgium, on 18 March. In the Azores, **Northern Harriers** *Circus hudsonius* were reported on Flores on 2 January and 7 March and on São Miguel on 22 February. Based on a genetic analysis, Haughey et al (2020) confirmed the first natural hybrid **American Goshawk x Cooper's Hawk** *Accipiter gentilis atricapillus* x *cooperii* trapped during migration at Cape May, New Jersey, USA, on 7 September 2014 (Wilson J Ornithol 131: 838-844, 2020). A **Bald Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* photographed in the same tree with a Steller's Sea Eagle *H pelagicus* and a White-tailed Eagle *H albicilla* at Notsuke peninsula nature centre, Hokkaido, on 27 January was the first for mainland Japan; a previous one was recorded on Kunashiri island (currently under Russian control) in 2001. If accepted, a **Long-legged Buzzard** *Buteo rufinus* at Tuas on 5 January will be the first for Singapore.

OWLS TO FALCONS In Scotland, a first-winter **Tengmalm's Owl** *Aegolius funereus* at Kergord, Mainland, Shetland, from 14 December 2019 was again seen on 11-24 February (trapped and ringed on 14 February) and then at Tresta from 1 March onwards (amazingly, another individual stayed here a year ago, from 19 February to 13 April; cf Dutch Birding 41: 123, 131, 2019). A **Snowy Owl** *Bubo scandiacus* was reported at Ballyvaughan, Clare, Ireland, on 4 February. In Scotland, a female was seen on the summit of Ronas Hill, Shetland, on 25 February and a male on Eday, Orkney, on 9 March. A **Eurasian Eagle-Owl** *B bubo hispanus* photographed between Targuist and Al Hoceima on 16 February was the first to be confirmed for Morocco although there had been earlier claims of this species occurring together with Pharaoh Eagle-Owl *B ascalaphus* north of the Atlas range (Go-South Bull 17: 22-23, 2020); apparently, two specimens collected in Algeria a century ago concern the only previous records for northern Africa (cf Oiseaux d'Algérie by Isenmann & Moali 2000). The second **Abyssinian Roller** *Coracias abyssinicus* for the Canary Islands at Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, from 14 January remained until at least mid-March. In England, an adult male **Lesser Kestrel** *Falco naumanni* stayed on St Mary's, Scilly, from 14 March.

SHRIKES TO CROWS The second **Brown Shrike** *Lanius cristatus* for Spain stayed at Vilasenín reservoir, Cerceda, A Coruña, from 10 November 2019 to 26 February. The second for Italy at Osoppo, Udine, from 23 December remained through February. The first for Kuwait at Jahra pool reserve from 2 January was still present on 27 February. If accepted, a 'Philippine Shrike' *L c lucionensis* photographed at Minab, Hormozgan, on 10 February will be the first for Iran. A presumed **Siberian Northern Shrike** *L borealis sibiricus* was videoed at Täktom, Hanko, Finland, on 23-25 January. In the Canary Islands, nominate **Desert Grey Shrikes** *L elegans elegans* (from Maghreb) were photographed at La Minilla, Gran Canaria, on 25 February (adult) and at Punta del Hidalgo, Tenerife, on 28 February (first-winter). Two **Black Drongos** *Dicrurus macrocercus* were seen at Bandar-e Lengeh, Hormozgan, Iran, in January. An **Ashy Drongo** *D leucophaeus* at Mushrif national park on 11 February was the 11th for the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The second **Black-naped Monarch** *Hypothymis azurea* for Iran and the WP was photographed at Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 31 January (the first was near Jask, Hormozgan, on 13 February 2011). The second **Indian Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone paradisi* for the UAE and the WP at Mushrif Palace Gardens, Abu Dhabi, from 30 December 2019 remained until 15 March. The **Pied Crow** *Corvus albus* that stayed for almost a year since 13 June 2018 as a presumed ship-assisted arrival in Britain before crossing the Channel and turning up in the Netherlands on 22 May 2019 was still present at Leeuwarden, Friesland, in late March. The one in southeastern Germany at Olbernhau, Sachsen, from 13 October 2019 remained until 3 February. In the Canary Islands, two long-stayers were reported again at Las Palmas in March. In southern Morocco, probably the same individual first seen at Mhamid in November 2015 and then, eg, on 26 May 2019 was now present at nearby Chegaga on 3-5 March.

174 Siberian Crane / Siberische Witte Kraanvogel *Leucogeranus leucogeranus*, adult male ('Omid'), Fereydunkenar, Mazandaran, Iran, 5 February 2020 *(Pegah Mirzaei)* **175** Ross's Gull / Ross' Meeuw *Rhodostethia rosea*, adult, South Huish, Devon, England, 9 March 2020 *(Michael Passman)* **176** Grey-headed Lapwing / Grijskopkievit *Vanellus cinereus*, Ahvan park, Kish, Hormozgan, Iran, 4 January 2020 *(Ali Jebeli)* cf Dutch Birding 42: 54, 2020

177 Dwarf Bittern / Afrikaanse Woudaap *Ixobrychus sturmii*, juvenile, Nouadhibou, Mauritania, 23 January 2020 *(Sylvia van der Steen)*

178 Dwarf Bittern / Afrikaanse Woudaap *Ixobrychus sturmii*, adult, Châo de Horta, Santiago, Cape Verde Islands, 24 February 2020 *(Stanislav Harvančík)*

179 Tengmalm's Owl / Ruigpootuil *Aegolius funereus*, Kergord, Mainland, Shetland, Scotland, 12 February 2020 *(Roger Riddington)*

180 Black-naped Monarch / Zwartnekmonarch *Hypothymis azurea*, first-winter male, Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, Iran, 31 January 2020 *(Meysam Ghasemi)*

PENDULINE TITS TO LARKS Three **Eurasian Penduline Tits** *Remiz pendulinus* photographed at Jijel on 29 November 2019 constituted the first record for Algeria (Alauda 88: 75-76, 2020). Two **Azure Tits** *Cyanistes cyanus* were found at Ruskis, Porvo, Finland, on 28 February. In the Canary Islands, a **Greater Hoopoe-Lark** *Alaemon alaudipes* was seen at Igueste de San Andrés, Tenerife, on 25 February and **Bar-tailed Larks** *Ammomanes cinctura* occurred at Costa de Gáldar, Gran Canaria, on 27 February and at Punta de Rasca, Tenerife, on 29 February. The frozen carcass of a c 46 000-year-old female **'horned lark'** *Eremophila* was recovered in permafrost 30 km east from the Belaya Gora village, Yakutia, Siberia, Russia; based on genetic analysis it was placed close to the node between Shorelark *E flava* and Steppe Horned Lark *E brandti* (Commun Biol 3: 84, 2020).

SWALLOWS TO SYLVIAS If accepted, a **Brown-throated Martin** *Riparia paludicola* at Malpaís Grande on 4 March and a **Pale Crag Martin** *Ptyonoprogne obsoleta* photographed at Risco del Paso on 24 February may be the first for Fuerteventura and the Canary Islands. A **Pallas's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus proregulus* trapped and ringed at Sečovlje on 26 February was the third for Slovenia. In Indonesia, the first **Yellow-browed Warbler** *P inornatus* for Java was photographed at Cibodas Botanical Gardens on 8 February. In Italy, a record six or seven **Hume's Leaf Warblers** *P humei* wintered from December to February in Udine province. One observed near Pikrodafni, Athens, on 5 February was the second for Greece. The fourth for Ukraine was seen at Chornomorsk, Odessa, on 5-25 February. In the Canary Islands, **African Desert Warblers** *Sylvia deserti* were photographed on Gran Canaria on 24-25 February (two) and at Los Rodeos, Tenerife, on 26 February. A male **Tristram's Warbler** *S deserticola* turned up at Aldea Blanca, Gran Canaria, on 28 February (fifth record). Zuccon et al (2020), who studied the type specimens of the subalpine warbler complex, concluded that both subspecies of **Western Subalpine Warbler** *S inornata* should be lumped and renamed *S iberiae* (distributed in North Africa from Tunisia to Morocco, in Iberia, in southern France and in extreme north-western Italy); the type specimen of '*inornata*' (from Tunis, Tunisia, and now considered to be a migrant) appeared to be a Moltoni's Warbler *S subalpina* (https://tinyurl.com/sz5h5j2).

REED WARBLERS TO FLYCATCHERS A **Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* on Sal on 11 March was the third for the Cape Verde Islands. In Iran, four **Brahminy Starlings** *Sturnia pagodarum* were found at Bandar-e Shenas and Bandar-e Lengeh, Hormozgan, on 11 January. The first **Rosy Starling** *Pastor roseus* for Myanmar was photographed at Yangon on 27 January. In Kuwait, the male and female **Purple Sunbird** *Cinnyris asiaticus* from 6 and 17 December 2019 were still present at Abdullah Al Salem on 14 February. The seventh **Dusky Thrush** *Turdus eunomus* for Belgium at De Liereman, Turnhout, Antwerpen, from 1 January was last seen on 8 February. From late January to late February, seven **Black-throated Thrushes** *T atrogularis* were seen in north-western Europe, including three in Finland, two in England, one in Denmark (at Køge Sydstrand, Sjælland, from 18 February into March) and one in Norway (at Sandstå, Ullensvang, Hordaland, on 13-19 February). In Turkey, two were photographed at Iğdır on 16 February. If accepted, a **Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva* at Hlawga Park, Yangon, on 28 January will be the first for Myanmar. A female **Moussier's Redstart** *Phoenicurus moussieri* wintered at Ta' Cenc, Gozo, Malta, from 29 November into February. The third **Blue Rock Thrush** *Monticola solitarius* for the Canary Islands turned up at Caldera Blanca, Lanzarote, on 3 March.

WHEATEARS TO PIPITS After a sandstorm (Calima) in the Canary Islands in late February and early March, a host of rarities from North Africa included (also) a record number of rare wheatears, such as c 50 **Isabelline Wheatears** *Oenanthe isabellina*, c 80 **Desert Wheatears** *O deserti* and one **White-crowned Wheatear** *O leucopyga* (at Llanos de Arona, Tenerife, on 27 and 29 February; third record). More than 25 **Isabelline** were counted in the Merzouga area in south-eastern Morocco between 29 February and 2 March. A male **Desert** at Constanţa from 27 January to 2 February was the third for Romania. In Cyprus, a first-winter **White-crowned** was photographed at Liveras, Kyrenia, on 10 March (ninth record) and an **Eastern Mourning Wheatear** *O lugens* was seen at Lara bay on 23 February (fifth record). In Israel, as many as six **Basalt Wheatears** *O l warriae* wintered in Ovda valley and surroundings. A first-winter **Eastern Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla tschutschensis* ('sensu lato') at Morro Jable, Fuerteventura, from 26 November remained through March. The first for Malta from 21 December stayed at Salina until at least late February. An amazing 13 (first-winters and adults) were found and sound-recorded in a recently ploughed rice field near Lisboa, Portugal, on 8 February; some were again seen in mid-March. Other ones wintered in England (in Northumberland, Norfolk and Suffolk) and Norway, with a probable **Green-headed Wagtail** *M taivana* in Sweden. The second **Masked Wagtail** *M personata* for Sweden from 24 November 2019 remained along the Halland coast until at least mid-March. Two **Olive-backed Pipits** *Anthus hodgsoni* were reported at Dakhla bay, Western Sahara, on 19 February. In England, the **American Buff-bellied Pipit** *A rubescens rubescens* from November 2019 remained at Sennen, Cornwall, until 22 February.

FINCHES TO AMERICAN WARBLERS The first **Common Rosefinch** *Erythrina erythrina* for Andaman and Nicobar Islands was photographed at Hut Bay, Little Andaman, on 18 January 2019 (Indian Birds 15: 122-123, 2019). A female **Eurasian Siskin** *Spinus spinus* photographed at Nouadhibou on 23 January was the first for Mauritania and probably the southernmost ever in Africa. The first **Lapland Longspur** *Calcarius lapponicus* for Thailand was found at Mae Ai rice paddies, Chiang Mai, on 29 January. In Norway, **Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana* had an all-time low in 2017 with only five nesting pairs in Hedmark, while no nesting pairs of **Rustic Bunting** *E rus-*

181 Abyssinian Roller / Sahelscharrelaar *Coracias abyssinicus*, adult, Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, Canary Islands, 1 February 2020 *(Miguel Avelino Suárez)* **182** Jacobin Cuckoo / Jacobijnkoekoek *Clamator jacobinus*, Tamanrasset, Tamanrasset, Algeria, 5 October 2019 *(Larbi Afoutni)* **183** Northern Waterthrush / Noordse Waterlijster *Parkesia noveboracensis*, Serra das Velhas, Pico, Azores, 20 February 2020 *(Olivier Coucelos)*

184 White-crowned Wheatear / Witkruintapuit *Oenanthe leucopyga*, first-winter, Llanos de Arona, Tenerife, Canary Islands, 27 February 2020 *(Daniele Ardizzone)*

185 Black-throated Thrush / Zwartkeellijster *Turdus atrogularis*, first-winter male, Grimsby, Lincolnshire, England, 8 February 2020 *(Paul Coombes)*

186 Brown Shrike / Bruine Klauwier *Lanius cristatus*, first-winter, Jahra pools reserve, Kuwait, 12 February 2020 *(Zbigniew Kajzer)* **187** Pied Crow / Schildraaf *Corvus albus*, adult, Mhamid, Morocco, 18 January 2020 *(Jacek Tabor)* cf Dutch Birding 42: 58, 2020 **188** Lesser Flamingo / Kleine Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor*, adult, with Greater Flamingos / Flamingo's *Phoenicopterus roseus*, Khours of Shadegan, Abadan, Khuzestan, Iran, 6 February 2020 *(Sajjad Jalali)* **189** Moussier's Redstart / Diadeemroodstaart *Phoenicurus moussieri*, female, Ta' Cenc, Gozo, Malta, 10 February 2020 *(Raymond Galea)*

tica were found that year with just one bird seen in the breeding season, also in Hedmark (Fugleåret 2017: 135-136). The first **Rustic** for India was photographed at Roing Grassland, Arunachal Pradesh, on 15 January. A wintering **Pine Bunting** *E leucocephalos* at Locarno, Ticino, Switzerland, remained until 3 February. In northern Italy, c five were present in January-February. The third or fourth for Armenia was seen at the Yerevan outskirts on 12 February. In Spain, the male **House Bunting** *E sahari* at Tarifa, Cádiz, from 7 September 2019 was again reported on 17 February. In the Azores, a **Northern Waterthrush** *Parkesia noveboracensis* was an unexpected winterer at Serra das Velhas, Pico, on 18-21 February.

RARE BIRDS IN GERMANY In a new report of the German rarities committee (DAK), the first **Stejneger's Scoter** and **Brown Booby**, the third **Asian Desert Warbler** *S nana* and **Grey-necked Bunting** *E buchanani*, the first breeding **Spectacled Warbler** *S conspicillata* and **Black-headed Bunting** *E melanocephala*, and a record annual number of 19 **Eurasian Scops Owls** *Otus scops* were listed for 2017. Since the revision of the German list on 1 January 2015, also **Pacific Swift** *Apus pacificus*, **Syrian Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos syriacus*, **Masked Shrike** *L nubicus*, **Siberian Accentor** *Prunella montanella* and **Song Sparrow** *Melospiza melodia* have been recorded for the first time. Due to taxonomic changes or new insights on status, **Baikal Teal** *Sibirionetta formosa*, **Falcated Duck** *Mareca falcata*, **Grey-headed Swamphen** *Porphyrio poliocephalus*, **Red-tailed Shrike** *L phoenicuroides*, **Moltoni's Warbler** and **Blue Rock Thrush** were added to the list as well (Seltene Vögel in Deutschland 2017: 52-65).

For a number of reports Birdwatch, British Birds, Global Rare Bird Alert Facebook, Go-South Bulletin, Sovonnieuws, www.birdguides.com, www.clanga.com, www.dutchavifauna.nl,

www.hbw.com, www.magornitho.org, www.rarebirdalert.co.uk, www.rarebirdspain.net, www.tarsiger.com and www.waarneming.nl were consulted. We wish to thank Larbi Afoutni, Ernst Albegger, Mohamed Amezian, Daniele Ardizzone, Steve Baines, Jordi Baucells, Pere Baucells, Patrick Bergier, Paul Bradbeer, Mika Bruun, Paul Coombes, José Luis Copete, Magnus Corell, Andrea Corso, Olivier Coucelos, Dmitry Dorofeev, Philippe Dubois, Nils van Duivendijk, Jon Dunn, Enno Ebels, Thijs Fijen, Raymond Galea, Eduardo Garcia del Rey, Meysam Ghasemi, Marcel Gil-Velasco, Klaus Günther, Ricard Gutiérrez, Karim Haddad, Stanislav Harvančík, Pete Hayman, Sacha d'Hoop, Josh Jones, Zbigniew Kajzer, Abolghasem Khaleghizadeh, Marc Illa, Sajjad Jalali, Ali Jebeli, Leander Khil, Bence Kókay, Yann Kolbeinsson, Christopher König, Andrzej Kośmicki, Richard Kvetko, André van Loon, Daniel López-Velasco, Lionel Maumary, Pegah Mirzaei, Geir Mobakken, Ricky Owen, Michael Passman, Yoav Perlman, René Pop, Nikos Probonas, Paul Reed, Colin Richardson, Roger Riddington, Magnus Robb, Jiri Sirek, Sylvia van der Steen, Rasmus Strack, Peter Stronach, Edd Stubbs, Miguel Avelino Suárez, Jacek Tabor, Hiraoka Takashi, Ehsan Talebi, Andre Vieira, Sam Viles, Jan Visser, Roland van der Vliet, Peter de Vries and Jon Zubiaur 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 beslaat voornamelijk de periode **januari-februari 2020**. De vermelde gevallen zijn deels niet geverifieerd en het overzicht is niet volledig.

GANZEN EN EENDEN **Witbuikrotganzen** *Branta hrota* werden gemeld uit 50 uurhokken en bleven in behoorlijke aantallen aanwezig. De groep in de ruime omgeving van Breskens, Zeeland, bedroeg maximaal 50. Andere hoge aantallen liepen bij Cornwerd, Friesland, (26) en Petten, Noord-Holland (17). **Zwarte Rotganzen** *B nigricans* waren eveneens goed vertegenwoordigd, zij het uiteraard in veel lagere aantallen. Waarnemingen kwamen uit 36 uurhokken, met name uit het Waddengebied (inclusief Wieringen, Noord-Holland), waar op meerdere plaatsen drie exemplaren werden gezien, en de Delta, waar maximaal vier bij Burghsluis, Zeeland, verbleven. Vrij bijzonder is dat daar ook een familie Zwarte Rotgans x Rotgans *B nigricans x bernicla* met drie hybride jongen rondliep. Er worden wel vaker hybriden gezien maar zelden zulke complete families. Eén van de exemplaren op Wieringen betrof een eerstewinter, een niet vaak waargenomen kleed in ons land. De ongeringde **Ross' Gans** *Anser rossii* van de omgeving van Schiedam, Zuid-Holland, was de gehele periode aanwezig. Daarnaast waren er bewezen escapes plus een dubieus exemplaar dat op 10 februari werd gefotografeerd met enkele Nijlganzen *Alopochen aegyptiaca* bij Opende, Groningen. Hoeveel **Dwergganzen** *A erythropus* er deze periode aanwezig waren is moeilijk te reconstrueren. Op beide traditionele pleisterplaatsen, de polders bij Petten en het Oudeland van Strijen, Zuid-Holland, verbleven tegelijkertijd 10-tallen, met in totaal maximaal 60 op 4 januari en 47 op 31 januari. Daarbuiten werden exemplaren gezien van 7 tot 9 januari bij Veendam, Groningen, op 6 februari bij Veenhof, Drenthe, op 6 en 7 februari op Texel, Noord-Holland (gekleurringd); en op 29 februari bij Nijbuorren, Friesland. Opnieuw zwommen meer **IJseenden** *Clangula hyemalis* op de Noordzee boven Ameland, Friesland (maximaal 20) dan langs de Brouwersdam, Zeeland/Zuid-Holland (maximaal 11). De enige binnenlandwaarnemingen waren op 24 januari op het Schildmeer, Groningen, en op 7 februari op het Ketelmeer, Overijssel. Slechts zes IJseenden werden op telposten gezien. De eerder gemelde hybride **Eider** x **Grote Zaagbek** *Somateria mollissima x Mergus merganser* in de Eemshaven, Groningen, was nog steeds aanwezig en bleek bij nader inzien toch eerder een hybride **Eider** x **Middelste Zaagbek** *S mollissima x M serrator*. Het mannetje **Buffelkopeend** *Bucephala albeola* van Den Oever en omstreken, Noord-Holland, werd voor het laatst gemeld op 12 januari en pendelde heen en weer tussen de Zuiderhaven en het IJsselmeer en, sporadisch, de Dijkwielen. (Veronderstelde) hybriden **Nonnetje x Brilduiker** *Mergellus albellus x Bucephala clangula* werden gezien van 3 tot 26 februari op het Nijkerkernauw, Gelderland; op 10 februari op het IJsselmeer bij Laaksum, Friesland; en op 22 februari bij Olburgen, Gelderland. Het ongeringde mannetje **Kokardezaagbek** *Lophodytes cucullatus* van de Rottemeren, Bleiswijk, Zuid-Holland, bleef de gehele periode en werd veel bezocht. Daarnaast waren er bewezen escapes op niet minder dan zeven locaties in het land. Maar liefst drie hybriden **Ringsnaveleend x Kuifeend** *Aythya collaris x fuligula* werden gevonden, waaronder een eerste-winter op 10 januari bij Muiden, Noord-Holland. Adulte mannetjes zwommen van 11 januari tot 23 februari bij gemaal De Blocq van Kuffeler, Almere, Flevoland, en op 17 januari op het Ketelmeer. Er zijn op dit moment negen aanvaarde gevallen van dit type hybride. Het mannetje **Blauwvleugeltaling** *Spatula discors* dat op 8 januari werd ontdekt bij Maastricht, Limburg, bleek bij nadere inspectie geen ontsnapte vogel. Hij was de rest van de periode aanwezig en werd veel getwitcht. De ontsnapte (geringde) vogel bij Nederweert, Limburg, werd voor het laatst gemeld op 1 januari. Het mannetje

190-191 Vorkstaartmeeuw / Sabine's Gull *Xema sabini*, eerste-winter, Koehool, Friesland, 4 maart 2020
(Edwin Winkel)

192 Vorkstaartmeeuw / Sabine's Gull *Xema sabini*, eerste-winter, Koehool, Friesland, 24 februari 2020
(Alain Hofmans)

Amerikaanse Smient *Mareca americana* van de plasjes langs de N31 bij Harlingen, Friesland, bleek ook nog ter plaatse van 5 tot 26 februari. Nieuw was het mannetje dat zich eerst van 10 tot 26 januari ophield in de uiterwaarden van de Vecht bij Zwolle, Overijssel, en vervolgens op 23 en 24 februari werd aangetroffen bij Windesheim, Overijssel, en Wapenveld, Gelderland.

DUIVEN Op 30 januari werd via via vernomen dat er al vanaf 28 december een **Meenatortel** *Streptopelia orientalis meena* in Sneek, Friesland, zou zitten. De vogel werd die middag nog teruggevonden en bleef de gehele periode aanwezig. Dit betreft, indien aanvaard, het zesde geval van deze ondersoort naast vier gevallen die niet op ondersoort zijn gedetermineerd. Dat betekent dat na het eerste geval in december 2009 er gemiddeld c één per jaar is ontdekt. Er werden daarnaast twee overwinterende **Zomertortels** *S turtur* gevonden: één op 4 februari in Ouderkerk aan den IJssel, Zuid-Holland, en één op 19 februari in Almere, Flevoland.

TRAPPEN TOT JAN-VAN-GENT De gezenderde Duitse **Grote Trap** *Otis tarda* in de polders rond Oostvoorne, Zuid-Holland, bleef de gehele periode. Langs de Brouwersdam werden eind januari en begin februari hoge aantallen **Parelduikers** *Gavia arctica* gezien; de grootste groep betrof 21 op 6 februari aan de binnenzijde op het Grevelingenmeer. **IJsduikers** *G immer* gaven vooral in de Delta goed acte de présence. Maximaal vier zwommen zowel in het Haringvliet, Zuid-Holland, als op het Volkerakmeer, Zuid-Holland. Er waren ook waarnemingen in het binnenland. Zo bevond een exemplaar zich van 27 januari tot 8 februari (en weer vanaf 15 maart) op De Nieuwe Meer, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, en op 12 februari vloog er één over de Dashorstdijk bij Almere, Flevoland. Echt ver naar binnen was het exemplaar dat vanaf 14 januari bij Bemmel, Gelderland, vertoefde. Er werden weinig trekkers gezien, maar vermeldenswaard is een naar zuid vliegend exemplaar op 14 februari die achtereenvolgens opgemerkt werd langs de Noord-Hollandse zeetrektelposten van Camperduin, Castricum aan Zee, IJmuiden en Bloemendaal aan Zee en daarna langs De Vulkaan, Den Haag, Zuid-Holland. **Vale Stormvogeltjes** *Hydrobates leucorhous* bevinden zich in de wintermaanden zelden in onze wateren. Bijzonder is daarom de waarneming (met foto) op 26 februari bij Westkapelle, Zeeland. In de database van www.waarneming.nl staan 14 waarnemingen uit januari. De soort is alleen in de periode maart-juli zeldzamer. Zeetrektellers noteerden 20 trekkende **Noordse Stormvogels** *Fulmarus glacialis*. Meer dan de helft hiervan (12) werd vanaf telpost Camperduin gezien. Bijna de helft (48%) van alle 'nostovo's' in de database van www.trektellen.nl is van deze post afkomstig. Op 12 januari vloog een **Zwarte Ooievaar** *Ciconia nigra* over Hoogeloon, Noord-Brabant. Een eerste bewijsfoto van de vogel kwam op 7 februari van Boxtel, Noord-Brabant. Er volgden waarnemingen tot 29 februari, toen de vogel al een paar dagen verbleef rond Oirschot, Noord-Brabant. Het betreft het derde gedocumenteerde exemplaar voor januari-februari. De **Roze Pelikaan** *Pelecanus onocrotalus* bleek honkvast en was de gehele periode te bewonderen in het Reestdal, Drenthe/Overijssel. **Zwarte Ibissen** *Plegadis falcinellus* waren opvallend dun gezaaid. Het exemplaar van eind december bij Warffum, Groningen, werd op 4 januari nog waargenomen. Er was verder alleen nog een escape die op 31 januari werd gefotografeerd bij Assenray, Limburg. De tweede dag ooit voor **Jan-van-gent** *Morus bassanus* was 4 januari, toen niet minder dan 3841 exemplaren langs telpost De Vulkaan trokken. Het nationale, stokoude record is in handen van telpost Nes, Ameland, met 4695 op 2 oktober 1977.

STELTLOPERS Op 7 januari werd een rustende **Morinelplevier** *Charadrius morinellus* aangetroffen in de Mokbaai op Texel. De **Kleine Regenwulp** *Numenius minutus* van de omgeving van Schagen, Noord-Holland, werd tot 18 januari elke dag teruggevonden en nog ruim 400 keer ingevoerd op www.waarneming.nl. Daarna ontbrak ieder spoor van de vogel. **Rosse Franjepoten** *Phalaropus fulicarius* werden gemeld op 3 januari op de Oosterschelde bij Zierikzee, Zeeland; op 27 januari vanaf telpost Camperduin; op 12 februari op een kwelder bij Kloosterburen, Groningen; op 18 februari op het Veerse Meer bij Vrouwenpolder, Zeeland; en op 29 februari bij de Eemshaven. De **Bosruiter** *Tringa glareola* die eind vorig jaar werd gevonden in polder Arkemheen bij Nijkerk, Gelderland, werd in januari niet meer gezien maar bleek op 3 februari toch nog aanwezig. De rest van de periode werd deze eerste overwinteraar ooit met enige regelmaat waargenomen op dezelfde locatie. De soort is nu in alle maanden behalve januari waargenomen.

ALKEN TOT STERNS Er sijpelden hoopvolle berichten binnen over opvallende aantallen **Papegaaiduikers** *Fratercula arctica* op de Noordzee, gezien tijdens vliegtuigtellingen. Vanaf het land was daar echter weinig van te merken. Vanaf telpost Camperduin werden vijf langsvliegende gezien (waarvan één op 28 februari ook langs Callantsoog, Noord-Holland), en op 8 januari was een exemplaar korte tijd aanwezig voor telpost Westerslag op Texel. Op 13 januari werd de soort aangetroffen bij het indokken van een schip in het Botlekgebied, Zuid-Holland. Op 19 februari ten slotte zwom een 'papduiker' op de Noordzee bij Ameland. **Kleine Alken** *Alle alle* waren, zoals gebruikelijk in de winter, zeldzaam. De enige trekker vloog langs Camperduin op 1 februari. Verder waren exemplaren aanwezig op het Veerse Meer, Zeeland, tot 18 januari; in de jachthaven van Vlieland, Friesland, van 27 januari tot 13 februari; en in de haven van Harlingen op 17 februari. De enige **Zwarte Zeekoet** *Cepphus grylle* was de bekende adulte van de Brouwersdam. Deze werd hier regelmatig gezien tot in ieder geval 13 februari en was zelfs in zomerkleed te bewonderen. Zeven **Middelste Jagers** *Stercorarius pomarinus* en 27 **Grote Jagers** *S skua* werden genoteerd op zeetrektelposten. Laatstgenoemde was een van de weinige zeevogelsoorten die vaker dan normaal werden gezien ten tijde van de veelvuldige stormen vanaf eind januari. Op 21 februari werd, tot ieders

193 Grote Trap / Great Bustard *Otis tarda*, eerste-winter vrouwtje, Oostvoorne, Zuid-Holland, 20 februari 2020 *(Hans Overduin)*

194 IJsduiker / Common Loon *Gavia immer*, eerste-winter, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, 5 februari 2020 *(William Price)*

195 Zwarte Ooievaar / Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*, eerste-winter, Oirschot, Noord-Brabant, 26 februari 2020 *(Henk Sierdsema)*

196 Meenatortel / Rufous Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis meena*, adult, Sneek, Friesland, 10 februari 2020 *(Dick Pruiksma)*

verrassing, een eerste-winter **Vorkstaartmeeuw** *Xema sabini* gefotografeerd te Koehool, Friesland. De vogel werd twee dagen later teruggevonden en bleef in ieder geval tot ver in maart. Het is pas het eerste gefotografeerde geval voor februari en in dit specifieke kleed (met juveniele dekveren en geruide mantelveren) en was populair bij maand- en jaarlijsters. Naast de geringde adulte **Kleine Burgemeester** *Larus glaucoides* van Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, werd van 2 tot 19 januari onregelmatig een eerste-winter gezien in de ruime omgeving van Dordrecht, Zuid-Holland. Nog een eerste-winter vloog op 7 januari over Westkapelle, Zeeland, en op 11 februari liep eveneens een eerste-winter in een weiland bij Burgum, Friesland. Op 25 januari werd bovendien voor de vierde achtereenvolgende winter een inmiddels vijfde kalenderjaar teruggevonden in Julianadorp, Noord-Holland. Zijn kleed vertoont steeds meer kenmerken die passen op een **Kumliens Meeuw** *L g kumlieni*. Ook een vierde-kalenderjaar die op 29 februari kortstondig ter plaatse was in Westkapelle heeft uitstekende papieren voor deze ondersoort. Er kwamen deze maanden mondjesmaat wat meer **Grote Burgemeesters** *L hyperboreus* in het vizier. Naar zuid langstrekkende eerste-winters werden gezien op 3 februari te Camperduin en op 22 februari vanaf telpost Zwarte Pad, Scheveningen, Zuid-Holland. Een eerste-winter hybride Grote Burgemeester x Zilvermeeuw *L hyperboreus x argentatus* vloog op 25 februari zuidwaarts langs Camperduin. De tweede-winter in de binnenhaven van Vlissingen, Zeeland, was hier met tussenpozen de gehele periode en werd op 4 februari op de Brouwersdam gezien. Een andere tweede-winter verbleef in februari bij Ferwert (Ferwerd), Friesland. Een derde tweede-winter werd vanaf 21 februari gezien op diverse plekken aan de zuidkant van Texel. Eerste-winters werden gemeld in Scheveningen, op Ameland en op Texel (minimaal drie). Noemenswaardig is de adulte die zich op 25 januari op de Hors op Texel bevond. Goed passend in een zachte winter met diverse zomersoorten was de **Visdief** *Sterna hirundo,* nota bene in zomerkleed, die van 14 tot 20 januari langs de Brouwersdam rondhing; bovendien waren er nog twee ongedocumenteerde meldingen.

ROOFVOGELS TOT HOPPEN Waarschijnlijk dezelfde **Steppekiekendief** *Circus macrourus*, inmiddels een tweede-kalenderjaar, als die van 25 november bij Hinnaard, Friesland, werd op 6 januari waargenomen bij Hiedaard, Friesland, waar hij probeerde muizen af te pakken van een Blauwe Kiekendief *C cyaneus* en een Torenvalk *Falco tinnunculus*. Het mannetje van de Onlanden, Drenthe, werd alleen op 7 januari gezien. Een **Hop** *Upupa epops* werd op 9 februari gefotografeerd in Munnekens-Vinkel, Noord-Brabant.

KRAAIEN TOT RIETZANGERS **Bonte Kraaien** *Corvus cornix* bleven schaars en solitair met waarnemingen uit 28 uurhokken (tegen 27 in de vorige periode). Het zwaartepunt van de verspreiding lag langs de kust en in Groningen. De **Schildraaf** *C albus* overleefde Oud en Nieuw in Leeuwarden, Friesland, en bleef solliciteren naar een plek op de Nederlandse lijst. In de Voorafsche Polder bij Berkel en Rodenrijs, Zuid-Holland, waren voor de negende achtereenvolgende winter tot 17 februari maximaal vijf **Buidelmezen** *Remiz pendulinus* aanwezig. Ze kregen veel aanloop van vogelaars en fotografen. De **Kuifleeuwerik** *Galerida cristata* bleef de gehele periode in het hartje van Apeldoorn, Gelderland. De vogel werd iets minder bezocht dan in de vorige periode maar is toch nog 310 keer ingevoerd op www.waarneming.nl. Van 19 tot 21 februari vloog een vroege **Boerenzwaluw** *Hirundo rustica* bij Barendrecht, Zuid-Holland. Dit betreft pas het derde gedocumenteerde februari-geval van deze soort. **Witkopstaartmezen** *Aegithalos caudatus caudatus* werden gemeld uit 78 uurhokken en bleken, in vergelijking met november-december, enigszins naar het zuiden te zijn afgezakt. Het hoogste aantal was 10 op meerdere locaties. Voor een vogelaar uit Middelburg, Zeeland, begon het jaar goed toen hij op 1 januari een **Bruine Boszanger** *Phylloscopus fuscatus* in zijn tuin vond. De vogel werd opmerkelijk genoeg slechts een paar uren waargenomen alvorens voorgoed te verdwijnen. Van **Grasmus** *Sylvia communis* zijn niet veel wintergevallen bekend maar op 20 januari werd een exemplaar gefotografeerd in de Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant. Hiermee komt het aantal januari-waarnemingen in www.waarneming.nl op vijf. Waarnemingen van **Graszangers** *Cisticola juncidis* in Zeeuws-Vlaanderen, Zeeland, waren op 6 januari (twee) in het Verdronken Land van Saeftinghe, van 6 tot 28 februari (twee) bij Nieuwvliet-Bad en op 8 februari op het Paulinaschor.

WATERSPREEUWEN TOT VLIEGENVANGERS Er was geen Zwartbuikwaterspreeuw *Cinclus cinclus cinclus* deze periode maar op 24 januari werd wel een **Roodbuikwaterspreeuw** *C c aquaticus* gezien aan de Nederlandse kant van het grensriviertje de Worm bij Landgraaf, Limburg. Op 25 januari werd bij Ressen, Gelderland, een **Paapje** *Saxicola rubetra* ontdekt die daarna de gehele periode bleef als vierde overwinteraar ooit.

PIEPERS TOT GORZEN Naast de twee **Grote Piepers** *Anthus richardi* van Ossenisse, Zeeland, van 29 december tot 26 januari, doken nog meer exemplaren op. Er waren meldingen op 6 januari in het Verdronken Land van Saeftinghe en op de volgende dag van een vliegende over Rilland, Zeeland. Vervolgens liet een exemplaar zich op 8 februari zien en horen in de Poppendammerweeren in Waterland, Noord-Holland. Op 28 februari zorgde een exemplaar bij De Abtskolk, Petten, voor de nodige hoofdbrekens wegens zijn afwijkende verenkleed (eerst werd gedacht aan een Duinpieper *A campestris*) totdat zijn roep kon worden opgenomen. Bij Doenrade, Limburg, werd het hoogste aantal van 42 **Grauwe Gorzen** *Emberiza calandra* geteld en in het Verdronken Land van Saeftinghe 38. Op andere plekken in Limburg, zoals het hamsterreservaat bij Sibbe en op de Kruisberg bij Wahlwiller werden respectievelijk maximaal 17 en 16 exemplaren waargenomen. Deze winter kwamen uit Oost-Groningen slechts enkele meldingen van steeds één vogel maar er zouden er meer

197 Hybride Nonnetje x Brilduiker / hybrid Smew x Common Goldeneye *Mergellus albellus x Bucephala clangula*, adult mannetje, Nijkerkernauw, Gelderland, 20 februari 2020 *(Eric Menkveld)* **198** Kumliens Meeuw / Kumlien's Gull *Larus glaucoides kumlieni*, vierde-kalenderjaar, Westkapelle, Zeeland, 29 februari 2020 *(Corstiaan Beeke)* **199** Blauwvleugeltaling / Blue-winged Teal *Spatula discors*, adult mannetje, Maastricht, Limburg, 9 januari 2020 *(Mariet Verbeek)* **200** Hybride Ringsnaveleend x Kuifeend / hybrid Ring-necked x Tufted Duck *Aythya collaris x fuligula*, adult mannetje, De Blocq van Kuffeler, Almere, Flevoland, 14 februari 2020 *(Eric Menkveld)* **201** Parelduikers / Black-throated Loons *Gavia arctica*, Grevelingen, Brouwersdam, Zuid-Holland, 25 januari 2020 *(Corstiaan Beeke)*

202 Bruine Boszanger / Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus*, Middelburg, Zeeland, 1 januari 2020 *(Lenn van de Zande)* **203** Dwerggors / Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*, Noordwijkerhout, Zuid-Holland, 8 februari 2020 *(Roy Slaterus)* **204** Grote Pieper / Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi*, Vereenigde Harger- en Pettemerpolder, Camperduin, Noord-Holland, 28 februari 2020 *(Eric Menkveld)* **205** Kleine Regenwulp / Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*, eerste-winter, Schagen, Noord-Holland, 12 januari 2020 *(Ronald Messemaker)*

zijn geweest. De enige **Dwerggors** *E pusilla* verbleef op 8 en 9 februari op een akker bij Noordwijkerhout, Zuid-Holland, in het gezelschap van een groepje Rietgorzen *E schoeniclus*.

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DB Actueel

New bird species described in 2019 In 2019, four new bird species have been formally described.

Cream-eyed Bulbul / Crèmeoogbuulbuul *Pycnonotus pseudosimplex* (Shakya, S B, Lim, H C, Moyle, R G, Rahman, M A, Lakim, M & Sheldon, F H 2019. A cryptic new species of bulbul from Borneo. Bull Br Ornithol Club 139: 46-55). Cream-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus simplex* of Borneo was previously considered to be polymorphic in iris colour, having either red or white (creamy-yellow) irides. However, comparisons of mitochondrial DNA sequences indicated that white-eyed and red-eyed Bornean individuals are not closely related to one another, and the white-eyed individuals represent a new species – Cream-eyed Bulbul *P pseudosimplex*. The holotype was collected in Lambir Hills national park, Malaysia, on 23 April 2013. Apart from eye colour, Cream-vented and Cream-eyed are almost indistinguishable, hence, the new species' name 'pseudosimplex'. The two taxa are sympatric at some localities but Cream-eyed is rarer and more consistently associated with mature forest than Cream-vented. The paper can be found at https://tinyurl.com/rc4ehvl.

Western Yellow-spotted Barbet / Westelijke Geelvlekbaardvogel *Buccanodon dowsetti* (Boesman, P & Collar, N J 2019. Two undescribed species of bird from West Africa. Bull Br Ornithol Club 139: 147-159). Taxonomically undifferentiated western and eastern populations of Yellow-spotted Barbet *Buccanodon duchaillui* were known to have very different voices. The taxon has an accelerating song of c 6-11 hoots west of the Dahomey Gap and a rapid rolling *purr* to the east. These song differences led to the description of the western population as a new species – Western Yellow-spotted Barbet *B dowsetti*, separate from Eastern Yellow-spotted Barbet *B duchaillui*. It ranges west of the Dahomey Gap, from Sierra Leone east to southern Ghana, being wholly absent from Togo and Benin. The species is named in honour of Robert J Dowsett, who produced a series of national avifaunas of the entire Afrotropical region. The paper is available at https://tinyurl.com/vzh8vwl.

Whistling Long-tailed Cuckoo / Fluitlangstaartkoekoek *Cercococcyx lemaireae* (Boesman, P & Collar, N J 2019. Two undescribed species of bird from West Africa. Bull Br Ornithol Club 139: 147-159). Based on a high degree of differentiation of vocalisations in Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo *Cercococcyx mechowi* from the western and eastern populations, it was shown that both populations are, in fact, separate species. The distribution of the new western species, Whistling Long-tailed Cuckoo *C lemaireae*, extends from Sierra Leone east to western Cameroon (with Dusky *C mechowi* occupying the area from central Cameroon east to Uganda). In plumage and morphometrics, Whistling is undifferentiated from Dusky but it has two distinct songs. The species is named in honour of Françoise Dowsett-Lemaire, whose achievements have illuminated many issues (distributional, ecological, behavioural, taxonomic and conservation) in ornithology across the African continent. The paper can be found at https://tinyurl.com/vzh8vwl.

Spectacled Flowerpecker / Brilhoningvogel *Dicaeum dayakorum* (Saucier, J R, Milensky, C M, Caraballo-Ortiz, M A, Ragai, Rdahlan, N F & Edwards, D P 2019. A distinctive new species of flowerpecker (Passeriformes: Dicaeidae) from Borneo. Zootaxa 4686: 451-464). In 2009, David Edwards reported on the discovery of a potential new species of flowerpecker photographed in the Danum valley in north-eastern Malaysian Borneo (BirdingASIA 12: 38-41, 2009). In the next years, attempts to locate additional individuals were unsuccessful, until August 2014, when one individual was photographed in the Labi Hills Forest Reserve in Brunei, followed shortly thereafter by a pair photographed in the Maliau Basin of Sabah in September 2014. Other observations in 2015, 100s of kilometers south in the Bukit Batikap Protection Forest in central Kalimantan, demonstrated that the species could potentially be encountered anywhere in the extensive lowland forests of Borneo. On 31 March 2019, during an expedition in the lowland forests of Sarawak, a female was collected in Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary, which led to the description of the new species – Spectacled Flowerpecker *Dicaeum dayakorum*. Molecular analysis showed that it is not closely related to any other known flowerpecker. Documented observations depicted a species with affinities for mature forest at lower elevations (30-350 m asl). The species is named in honour of the Dayak people of Borneo. The paper is available at https://tinyurl.com/s4un3sq.

López-Lanús (2019), in a privately published online bird sound guide, described a putative new cinclodes (Furnariidae) – *Cinclodes lopezlanusorum* – from the Patagonian Andes in Argentina. Similar to a situation in 2017 with the same author (cf Dutch Birding 40: 140, 2018), this publication again received serious doubts and methodological criticism and the new taxon probably will not be accepted by the South American Classification Committee for reasons explained at https://tinyurl.com/slvvkgb. Łukasz Ławicki & André J van Loon

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