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# Dutch Birding

*Internationaal tijdschrift over Palearctische vogelen*

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## Dutch Birding


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

De volgorde van vogels in Dutch Birding volgt in eerste instantie een klassieke 'Wetmore-indeling'. Binnen dit raamwerk worden voor taxonomie en naamgeving de volgende overzichten aangehouden: *Zeldzame vogels van Nederland* door A B van den Berg & C A W Bosman (1999, Haarlem) (taxonomie en wetenschappelijke, Nederlandse en Engelse namen van Nederlandse vogels); *Palearctic birds* door M Beaman (1994, Stonyhurst) (Engelse namen van overige Palearctische vogels); *Vogels van de wereld – complete checklist* door M Walters (1997, Baarn) (Nederlandse namen van overige vogels van de wereld); en *Birds of the world* door C G Sibley (1996, Version 2.0, Cincinnati) (taxonomie en wetenschappelijke en Engelse namen van overige vogels van de wereld). Afwijkingen van en aanvullingen op bovenstaande overzichten zijn gebaseerd op beslissingen van de CSNA (cf Dutch Birding 19: 21-28, 1997; 20: 22-32, 1998).

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

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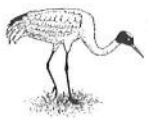

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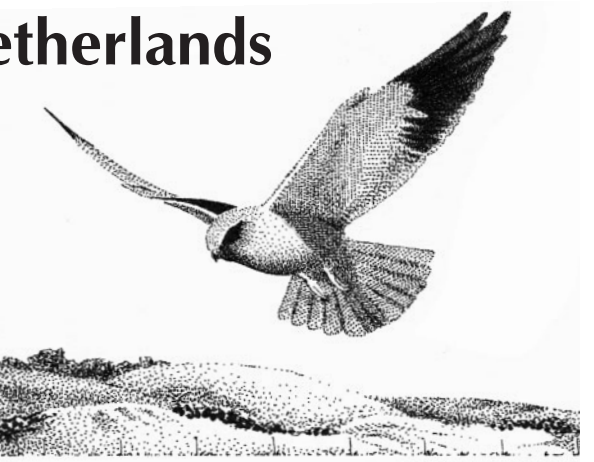


*Wim M Wiegant, A (Bert) de Bruin & CDNA*

This is the 19th annual report on rare birds in the Netherlands to be published in Dutch Birding. This report comprises records from 1998 as well as belated and reconsidered records, dating back to 1952, which have been evaluated by the Dutch rarities committee, the Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA). Several records for 1998 and earlier years are still under consideration, for various reasons.

The CDNA is delighted with the publication of *Zeldzame vogels van Nederland – Rare birds of the Netherlands. Avifauna van Nederland 1* (van den Berg & Bosman 1999), which summarizes all accepted rarities from 1800 until 1996, including two major revisions of the Dutch list (van IJzendoorn & de Heer 1985, van IJzendoorn et al 1996), and also comprises some later records. The information in van den Berg & Bosman (1999) overrules all annual reports by CDNA before the 1997 report. Data presented in this and the 1997 report (Wiegant et al 1999), and future reports, in turn overrule the information in van den Berg & Bosman (1999).

This report includes corrections of data presented for 1800-1996 in van den Berg & Bosman (1999). For records in 1997-99, usually referred to as 'provisional additions', one should consult the rarity reports by CDNA in Dutch Birding. As a consequence, the CDNA reports should be followed when there is a difference in information between van den Berg & Bosman (1999) and the CDNA reports for 1997-99.

Details included for each accepted record are, if available: date(s); location and/or *municipality*, province; number of birds if more than one, plumage and sex; type of record if trapped, photographed, videoed, sound-recorded or found dead (and where specimen is stored); names of up to three observers involved in finding, identifying and recording, and relevant references in the literature, which normally include (inter)national and not regional journals, and published photographs. Records from 1997 lasting into 1998, which were already published in the 1997 report, are repeated here without references, for the sake of completeness. Sequence of the records in the species accounts is from the current year backwards, with records within one year presented chronologically. A compilation of most of the birds videoed can be found in Plomp et al (1999). Numbers after each (sub)species' name refer to the total number of individuals *1* from 1 January 1800 to 31 December 1979, *2* since 1 January 1980 but excluding *3* the current year. Taxa marked with an asterisk * are new to the Dutch list.

The following CDNA members voted on some or all of the records in this report: Theo Bakker, Max Berlijn, Ruud F J van Beusekom, A (Bert) de Bruin, Jan van der Laan (chairman), Karel A Mauer, C S (Kees) Roselaar, Jelle Scharringa (secretary) and Wim M Wiegant (archivist). Records should be sent to CDNA, Postbus 45, 2080 AA Santpoort-Zuid, the Netherlands, preferably using standard forms, which can be obtained free of charge from CDNA. Records can also be submitted through e-mail (cdna@dutchbirding.nl) or via the CDNA-site on the Dutch Birding homepage (http://www.dutchbirding.nl), using an electronic submission form.

Decisions regarding taxonomy have been delegated to the Dutch committee for avian systematics, the Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (CSNA), which on 1 January 1999 consisted of the following members: Arnoud B van den Berg, Cornelis J Hazevoet, C S (Kees) Roselaar, George Sangster (secretary) and Ronald Sluys.

CDNA has decided to no longer consider records of European Storm-petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*, Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* and Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* from 1 January 2000 onwards (contra van den Berg & Bosman 1999). All three have become increasingly regular over

the last 10 years and are (much) more often seen than submitted. The next annual report, covering 1999, will be the last in which these three taxa are treated (apart from belated pre-2000 records). CDNA has also decided to stop considering records of Middle Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos medius* in retrospect from 1 January 1998 onwards, instead of 1 January 1999 as previously decided (cf Wiegant et al 1999); for further information, see the species account.

In 1998, a total of at least 352 species was recorded with only one species new to the Dutch list: Stilt Sandpiper *Micropalama himantopus*. Further highlights were the second Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*, second white-morph (sixth in total) Gyr Falcon *Falco rusticolus*, second and third Sharp-tailed Sandpipers *C acuminata*, second Blue-cheeked Bee-eater *Merops persicus*, second Black-headed Wagtail *Motacilla feldegg*, third Red-necked Stint *C ruficollis*, third Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush *Monticola saxatilis*, third Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum* (paired with a Marsh Warbler *A palustris* and raising two hybrid young), fourth White-tailed Lapwing *Vanellus leucurus*, fourth Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* and fourth Black-throated Thrush *Turdus ruficollis atrogularis*. There were second consecutive successful breeding records of Eurasian Eagle Owl *Bubo bubo* (four fledged young) and House Crow *Corvus splendens* (one fledged young).

## Systematic list of accepted records

**Whistling Swan / Fluitzwaan**
*Cygnus columbianus* 1,4,0
18-28 December, Gieterveen, *Gieten*, Drenthe (E Klunder, P Zuidhof et al) and 5-10 January 1999, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen (T Bakker, R O Winters).
1997 28 November to 8 February 1998, *Veendam* and *Hoogezand-Sappemeer*, Groningen, and Nieuw-Annerveen and Spijkerboor, *Hunze en Aa*, Drenthe (de Bruin & Klunder 1997, 1998).

The individual from the winter of 1997/98 returned and was relocated at Lauwersmeer in early 1999. Probably, the same individual was also seen at Welney, Norfolk, England, in early March 1999 (Kemp 1999). Only the second for Britain was a bird in Lincolnshire, England, on 22 January 1998 (Br Birds 92: 561, 1999). A possible Whistling Swan at Joensuu, Finland, on 7-10 May 1998, was not accepted by the Finnish rarities committee because a hybrid origin was suspected (Annika Forsten in litt).

**Greenland White-fronted Goose / Groenlandse Kolgans**
*Anser albifrons flavirostris* 14,18,1
29 December, Bandpolder, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult (K H Scholten, O Tol).

Sooner or later some taxa may step up to species status, and this is the main reason for the greater awareness amongst birders for this taxon.

**Hutchins's Canada Goose / Hutchins' Canadese Gans**
*Branta hutchinsii hutchinsii* 0,-,2
9-12 February, Aalkeetbuitenpolder, *Vlaardingen*, Zuid-Holland (F van der Lans, T J C Luijendijk, D J Moerbeek); 24-26 April, Bandpolder, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, and 26 april Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, adult, photographed (R Mulder, E Koops, R Offereins; Grauwe Gors 26: 99, 1998).
1997 16 November 1997 to 2 January 1998, Korendijkse Slikken, *Korendijk*, and Stad aan 't Haringvliet/Den Bommel, *Middelharnis/Oostflakkee*, Zuid-Holland, adult.

The 1997 record was already included in the 1997 report; the Vlaardingen record is not considered to refer to the same bird as the 1997 bird, contrary to what has been stated previously (van den Berg & Bosman 1999, Wiegant et al 1999).

**Black Brant / Zwarte Rotgans**
*Branta nigricans* 7,72,6
15-22 March, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, two adults and two juveniles (A Wassink; Loos & Wassink 1999); 2 April to 8 May, Midsland, *Terschelling*, Friesland, adult, photographed (T Bakker); 8 April to 8 May, Midsland, *Terschelling*, Friesland, adult, photographed (T Bakker).
1997 18 October to 17 May 1998, eastern part of Texel, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, four, possibly five, adult; 1 November to 29 December, Ouddorp and Goedereede, *Goedereede*, Zuid-Holland, and 30 December to 19 January 1998, Scharendijke, *Schouwen-Duiveland*, Zeeland, adult; 7 December to 9 February 1998, Prunjepolder, *Schouwen-Duiveland*, Zeeland.

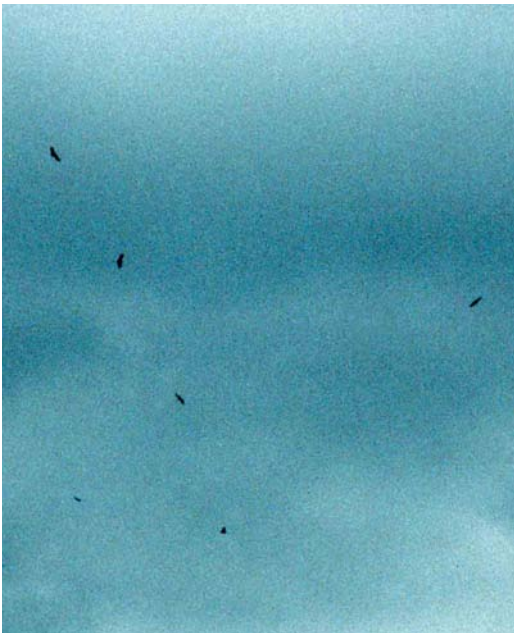
The 1997 records were already included in the 1997 report, but the family of four birds on Texel, erroneously reported for 1997 in Wiegant et al (1999), should have been listed for 1998. The date of the bird in Zuid-Holland and Zeeland in 1997 has been extended. From 1 January 1999 onwards, this species is no longer considered by CDNA.

**White-headed Duck / Witkopeend**
*Oxyura leucocephala* 5,7,1
17-27 January and 2 and 12 February, Nieuwe Diep, Zeeburg, *Amsterdam*, and 28 January and 1, 3-8 and 14 February, Ouderkerkerplas, *Ouder-Amstel*, Noord-Holland, first-winter, photographed, videoed (G van Duin, F Vogelzang, A B van den Berg; van den Berg & Bosman 1999, van Duin & Vogelzang 1999; Birdwatch 7 (70): 65, 1998, Dutch Birding 20: 46, plate 16-17, 1998, 21: 28, plate 25-26, 1999).

Out of a total of 13 individuals, three were recorded at practically this same location, in 1965, 1985 and 1998, while one was at a nearby site in 1955. One can only guess why this location is of such interest for this species, because it does not look particularly different.

**324** Black-winged Pratincole / Steppevorkstaartplevier *Glareola nordmanni*, adult, Hooge Zwaluwe, Noord-Brabant, 2 July 1998 *(Hans Gebuis)* **325** Black-winged Kite / Grijze Wouw *Elanus caeruleus*, Eierlandse Duinen, Texel, Noord-Holland, 30 March 1998 *(René van Rossum)* **326** Hutchins's Canada Goose / Hutchins' Canadese Gans *Branta hutchinsii hutchinsii*, Bandpolder, Friesland, 25 April 1998 *(Roef Mulder)* **327** White-headed Duck / Witkopeend *Oxyura leucocephala*, Nieuwe Diep, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, 21 January 1998 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)* **328** Terek Sandpiper / Terekruiter *Xenus cinereus*, adult, Camperduin, Noord-Holland, 10 October 1998 *(Jan den Hertog)* **329** Red-necked Stint / Roodkeelstrandloper *Calidris ruficollis*, adult, Oud-Beijerland, Zuid-Holland, 4 July 1998 *(Hans Gebuis)*

**330** Gyr Falcon / Giervalk *Falco rusticolus*, immature, white morph, Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, 27 March 1998 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*



**331** Eurasian Griffon Vultures / Vale Gieren *Gyps fulvus*, Draaibrug, Zeeland, 25 June 1998 *(M Renes)*

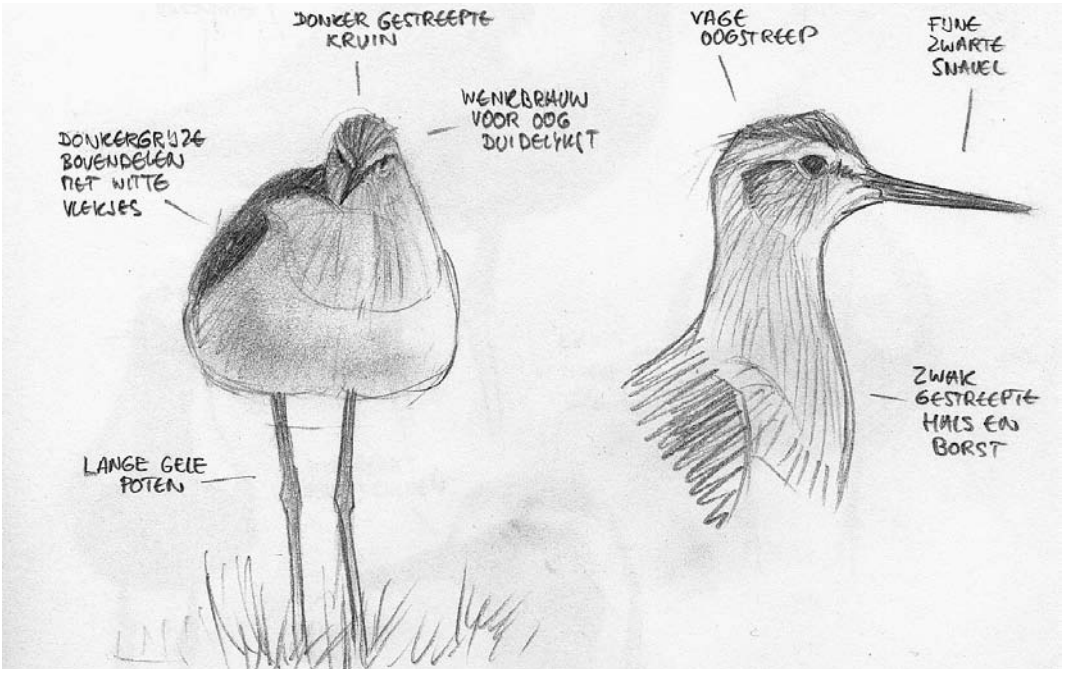



FIGURE 1 Lesser Yellowlegs / Kleine Geelpootruiter *Tringa flavipes*, adult, Oude Robbengat, Lauwersmeer, Groningen, July 1998 *(Dirk J Moerbeek)*

**Falcated Duck / Bronskopeend**
*Mareca falcata* 0,4,0
2 May, Jaap Deensgat, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, adult male, summer plumage (H-J Wight).
1994 21-31 May, Jaap Deensgat, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, adult male, summer plumage (W J B Fontijn).
1992 7 June, Philipsdam, *Bruinisse*, Zeeland, adult male (M Berlijn, P Keizer et al).

The 1994 bird was already accepted for 21-22 May. In line with previous records, the 1998 record is regarded as referring to the bird already recorded for Lauwersmeer on 21-31 May 1994, 3 May to 12 June 1995 and 10-28 May 1996. In 1998, presumably the same bird was regularly seen at Ezumakeeg, Dongeradeel, Friesland, between 22 April and 12 June, but has not yet been submitted. The 1992 bird should have been listed in van den Berg & Bosman (1999) as the observers verified that it was unringed (Max Berlijn in litt, cf Dutch Birding 16: 134-137, 1994). A previously accepted record of a bird at Hurwenen, Zaltbommel, Gelderland, on 15-31 March 1985 was rejected after review since it was not established with certainty that the bird was unringed (cf van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

**American Wigeon / Amerikaanse Smient**
*Mareca americana* 5,20,2
27 March, Jaap Deensgat, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, adult male, summer plumage (T Bakker, G ter Haar); 21 April, Eemmonding, *Eemnes*, Utrecht, adult male, summer plumage (R F J van Beusekom).

Other years with multiple records were 1977 and 1997 with three records and 1985, 1986, 1987 and 1992 with two. A record at Hekslootpolder, Haarlem, Noord-Holland, on 25-28 March 1998 has recently been submitted.

**Blue-winged Teal / Blauwvleugeltaling**
*Anas discors* 6,17,0

CDNA has decided to reject a previously accepted record from Kroonspolders, Terschelling, Friesland, on 18 February 1995 (Wiegant et al 1997), on the basis of the fact that an individual photographed at a distance of 1.5 km from that location on 10-14 April 1995 clearly was an escape, having differences in length of both wings and a small metal ring.

**Green-winged Teal / Amerikaanse Wintertaling**
*Anas carolinensis* 6,9,1
9 May, Abtskolk, Petten, *Zijpe*, Noord-Holland, adult male, summer plumage, videoed (M Adelaar, J Bijleveldt, J van der Laan et al).

Since 1988, this species has been recorded annually, except during 1992-94.

**Pied-billed Grebe / Dikbekfuut**
*Podilymbus podiceps* 0,1,1
1-10 January, Aalkeetbuitenpolder, *Vlaardingen*, Zuid-Holland, adult, winter plumage, photographed, videoed (W van Rijswijk jr et al; Wattel et al 1998; Dutch Birding 20: 274, plate 235, 1998).

This second record came within a year after the first on 19-21 April 1997 at Akersloot, Noord-Holland. Possibly, it was the same bird, but CDNA prefers to regard it as a separate individual. The finding of this bird is a good demonstration of serendipity – the finding of something while looking for something else – since the observers arrived at the bird's location only after losing their way to another bird.

**European Storm-petrel / Stormvogeltje**
*Hydrobates pelagicus* -,57,16
26 October, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (R Offereins, K J Eigenhuis, W Schep); 30 October, Scheveningen, *Den Haag*, Zuid-Holland, 11 (G Bakker, G J van den Berg, K J Eigenhuis et al); 30 October, Westkapelle, *Veere*, Zeeland (M Berlijn, P L Meininger, P A Wolf); 31 October, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland, three (D Groenendijk, M Platteeuw, S Lagerveld et al).

This was the second-best year ever and may, through additional records, become the best year ever. An influx occurred in late October; on 30 October, 12 birds were counted, nearly all past Scheveningen. No less than 26 individuals were reported past Scheveningen on 31 October, but have only recently been submitted. Other reports recently submitted or awaiting submission include one past Den Helder, Noord-Holland, on 30 October and at least four at Zuidpier, IJmuiden, Velsen, Noord-Holland, on 31 October. A comparable influx, comprising at least 27 birds, occurred on 21-23 September 1990 (cf van den Berg 1990). Apart from these two influxes, this remains a rare species, with an average of less than two birds per year.

**Glossy Ibis / Zwarte Ibis**
*Plegadis falcinellus* 115,49,10
4 October, Eemshaven, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, seven (M P Olthoff), 4 October, Harlingen-Haven, *Harlingen*, Friesland, seven (R Keizer), and 10-18 October, *Gaast*, Friesland, five, photographed (M Berlijn, C Reijnders et al; Dutch Birding 20: 247, plate 201, 1998); 17 October, Den Burg and Den Hoorn, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, three, two adult and juvenile (A Smits, R R Smits), and 18 October, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland, three (N van Duivendijk, H Zevenhuizen).

The group of seven, seen flying off at Eemshaven in the morning of 4 October, apparently rushed to Harlingen-Haven, c 100 km to the west, to be seen there in the afternoon. The Gaast group is also considered to consist of birds from the group of Harlingen-Haven. The three birds seen on 17 October on Texel are considered the same as the three seen the next day at Camperduin, c 30 km to the south.

**Black-winged Kite / Grijze Wouw**
*Elanus caeruleus* 1,0,1
29-31 March, Eierlandse Duinen, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult, photographed, videoed (M Witte et al; Witte 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Alula 4: 70, 1998, Birding World 11: 133, 1998, 12: 16, 1999, Dutch Birding 20: 85, plate 40-41, 100, plate 58-59, 1998).

This second record coincided with the first for Denmark, at Skagen, Nordjylland, found on the same day. Apparently, both had been carried north by the strong southerly winds on 28 and 29 March. The first record was in Flevoland on 31 May 1971.

**Eurasian Griffon Vulture / Vale Gier**
*Gyps fulvus* 9,2,6
25 June, Draaibrug, *Sluis-Aardenburg*, Zeeland, six, photographed (M Renes).

This is the first record of more than one bird together since World War II, when also a group of six was seen, of which three were shot, at Schijndel, Noord-Brabant, in October 1944. The stunned observer was lucky enough to have a camera at hand. Without photographs, this record would be very hard to believe! Although the birds were flying north, there were no subsequent sightings.

**Gyr Falcon / Giervalk**
*Falco rusticolus* 4,1,1
24-30 March, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, immature, white morph, photographed, videoed (L Peters et al; Peters 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Birding World 11: 133, 1998, Birdwatch 7 (71): 64, 1998, Dutch Birding 20: 92, plate 50-51, 1998).

This magnificent bird, the second white morph after one in December 1909, generated the second-largest birdwatching crowd ever; after its appearance on a television news broadcast, 275 would-be observers gathered on 28 March, joined by radio and television teams. After six long hours of waiting in cold drizzle, the bird finally showed up and warmed the hearts of the crowd. The largest crowd ever to watch a bird in the Netherlands was, reportedly, on 17-18 January 1971, when 'several 10 000s of people' gathered to see an escaped Indian White-backed Vulture *Gyps bengalensis* at Dongen, Noord-Brabant, which mainly sat on the roof of a farmhouse for three weeks before it was captured (Bogaers 1971).

**Little Crake / Klein Waterhoen**
*Porzana parva* -,7,-
A bird staying at Kollumerpomp, Kollumerpomp en Nieuwkruisland, Friesland, from 30 May to 7 June (sound-recorded) has recently been submitted.

**Baillon's Crake / Kleinst Waterhoen**
*Porzana pusilla* -,21,2
8-19 July, Dwingelderveld, *De Wolden*, Drenthe, two, male, singing, sound-recorded (K A van Eerde, J Kleine).
1997 19 June to 7 July, Tjamme, Beerta, *Reiderland*, Groningen, male, singing, sound-recorded (A van der Spoel, T Bakker, A de Bruin et al).

A bird trapped and videoed at Makkumer Zuidwaard, Wûnseradiel, Friesland, on 16 August 1997 is still in circulation.

**Stone-curlew / Griel**
*Burhinus oedicnemus* -,21,1
9 May, Hoek van Holland, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland (N van Houtum, M Renders, J Ophorst).

A bird sound-recorded at De Blocq van Kuffeler, Almere, Flevoland, on 26 April has recently been submitted.

**Collared Pratincole / Vorkstaartplevier**
*Glareola pratincola* 5,8,3
9 May, Breskens, *Oostburg*, Zeeland (D Kok et al); 13-25 June, Oostvaardersplassen, *Lelystad*, Flevoland, first-summer (D Groenendijk, S Rijnbeek); 29 July to 1 August, Stinkgat, *Tholen*, Zeeland, videoed (Marc Plomp).
1997 1-5 August, Workumerwaard and Doniaburen, *Nijefurd*, Friesland, adult, photographed, videoed (E Nieuwstraten, M Zekhuis et al; Nieuwstraten & Zekhuis 1997, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Birding World 10, 290, 1997, Dutch Birding 19: 201, plate 204, 211, plate 218-219, 1997).

The benefits of modern communication technology were demonstrated with the Breskens bird, which was announced to the Breskens migration watchers by mobile telephone, having been seen flying over at Het Zwin, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium, on the Belgian-Dutch border, some 12 km to the southwest; it was also accepted by the Belgian rarities committee (BAHC). A bird seen at Stinkgat, Tholen, Zeeland, on 29 July to 1 August has not yet been submitted.

There has been an extensive dispute about the identity of the 1997 bird, which was originally identified and published as Oriental Pratincole *G maldivarum*. After thorough research by Gerald Driessens (in litt), Jan van der Laan and, especially, C S (Kees) Roselaar, the conclusion was reached that the pattern of the tail combined with the thin white trailing edge to the secondaries contradicts any other identification than Collared Pratincole and that it was not a 'Collared/Oriental Pratincole' (cf van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

**Black-winged Pratincole / Steppevorkstaartplevier**
*Glareola nordmanni* 12,11,1
1-7 July, Hooge Zwaluwe, *Hooge en Lage Zwaluwe*, Noord-Brabant, adult, summer plumage, photographed, videoed (M Berlijn et al; Dutch Birding 20: 192, plate 153, 1998).

The is the first record for July. Previous records were in May (3), June (3), August (11), September (4) and November (2).

**American Golden Plover / Amerikaanse Goudplevier**
*Pluvialis dominicus* 1,8,1
20-24 September, Middelplaten, Veerse Meer, *Goes*, Zeeland (T Koppejan, M Berlijn).

After the first record in 1900 and two in 1989, this species has been recorded annually since 1994. Apart from two May records, all other records were from July-November.

**Pacific Golden Plover / Aziatische Goudplevier**
*Pluvialis fulva* 9,8,1
18 July to 3 August, De Putten, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland, adult, summer plumage, photographed,

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

**333** Ring-billed Gull / Ringsnavelmeeuw *Larus delawarensis*, adult male, Goes, Zeeland, 20 January 1998 *(Hans Gebuis)*

videoed (J Koerts, M Roosien, W M Wiegant; Dutch Birding 20: 189, plate 148, 1998).

This is again a record in July from De Putten, where at least one individual was seen in July 1994 (and another 1 km to the north) and one in July 1996.

**Sociable Lapwing / Steppekievit**
*Vanellus gregarius* 12,20,2
1-9 April, Welschap, *Eindhoven*, Noord-Brabant, adult, summer plumage, photographed, videoed (M Berlijn, P Palmen et al; Dutch Birding 20: 90, plate 49, 1998); 25 June to 17 August, Spaarnwoude, *Haarlemmerliede en Spaarnwoude*, Noord-Holland, adult, photographed, videoed (E J van IJzendoorn, A B van den Berg; Dutch Birding 20: 190, plate 150, 1998).

The Eindhoven record is the earliest ever. There are records from all months in April-December, indicating that birds apparently move further south or west in winter (cf van den Berg 1984).

**White-tailed Lapwing / Witstaartkievit**
*Vanellus leucurus* 1,2,1
21 February to 8 March and 4 September to 9 October, Krommenie and Assendelft, *Zaanstad*, Noord-Holland, adult, summer and winter plumage, photographed, videoed (M Roos et al; Meijer & Roos 1998, 1999, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Birding World 11: 50, 1998, 12: 18, 1999, Dutch Birding 20: 56, plate 26, 93, plate 53, 1998, 21: 16, plate 17-19, 1999).

One of the deepest wishes of the Dutch birding community was fulfilled at an unexpected moment: this was the earliest individual to be recorded in Europe. Since the previous winter had been very mild, and the previous year experienced the largest influx in Europe ever, it seems reasonable to assume that this bird wintered in Europe (Meijer & Roos 1998, 1999). Apparently, it returned after having spent the summer elsewhere; it was not seen in the period between 8 March and 4 September, although the location was monitored regularly.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper / Grijze Strandloper**
*Calidris pusilla* 0,5,1
8-17 August, Ezumakeeg, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult (M Berlijn, R Offereins et al).

This is the third consecutive year in which this species was recorded. Another adult, observed at Slikken van Bommenede, Schouwen-Duiveland, Zeeland, on 5-12 August, has recently been submitted.

**Red-necked Stint / Roodkeelstrandloper**
*Calidris ruficollis* 0,2,1
4 July, Den Bosschen, *Oud-Beijerland*, Zuid-Holland, adult, summer plumage, photographed, videoed (M Prins et al; Ebels & Prins 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 20: 144, plate 106, 192, plate 154, 1998).

This is the third record of this very rare wader. The first was on 29 May 1987 at Lauwersmeer, Groningen, and the second on 25 July 1996 on Texel, Noord-Holland.

**Pectoral Sandpiper / Gestreepte Strandloper**
*Calidris melanotos* 9,68,7
14-18 July, Oude Robbengat, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, and Ezumakeeg, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult (M Berlijn); 25 July, Ezumakeeg, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult, photographed (R Offereins); 27 July, Ezumakeeg, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult (R Offereins); 3-5 August, Hansummerweerd, *Roggel en Neer*, Limburg, adult, summer plumage, probably male, photographed (R M van Dongen, M Berlijn; van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 20: 189, plate 149, 1998); 1-12 September, 't Zand, *Zijpe*, Noord-Holland, adult, summer plumage (T O V Muusse, M Berlijn); 9-11 September, Assendelft, *Zaanstad*, Noord-Holland, juvenile, photographed, videoed (M Berlijn et al); 4 October, Oostelijke Binnenpolder, *Maarssen*, Utrecht, probably juvenile (R F J van Beusekom).

The three birds at Ezumakeeg in July were carefully identified as different individuals. Seven birds in one year is a good total; the best years so far were 1988 (7), 1989 (9), 1991 (7), 1992 (7) and 1993 (8).

**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper / Siberische Strandloper**
*Calidris acuminata* 0,1,2
6-23 August, Ezumakeeg, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult, photographed, videoed (R Offereins et al; Offereins 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 20: 184, plate 139, 196, plate 158, 1998); 6-8 August, Ezumakeeg, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult, videoed (R Offereins, R Slaterus, F G S M Hieselaar; Offereins 1998).

These are the second and third record. There was a great deal of confusion when two different groups of observers each saw a different individual at c 200 m distance from each other. It constituted the first time in Europe that two individuals were recorded together, although most of the time the two birds were not in each other's vicinity. The second bird disappeared within three days but the other could be visited by numerous birdwatchers.

*** Stilt Sandpiper / Steltstrandloper**
*Micropalama himantopus* 0,0,1
24 July, Blauwe Kamer, *Rhenen*, Utrecht, adult, moulting from summer to winter plumage, photographed, videoed (M Janse, A Vink et al; Vink & Wiegant 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999, Vink et al 1999; Dutch Birding 20: 190, plate 151, 195, plate 157, 1998, 21: 333, plate 350, 1999).

This is the first record, after a rejected report in 1997; the bird stayed for just over half a day. This new American wader for the Dutch list complies with the general rule-of-thumb that American wader species have to be recorded some 20-40 times in Britain before the Netherlands have a fair chance (Wiegant et al 1997). After the addition of Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca* and Upland Sandpiper *Bartramia longicauda* to the Dutch list in 1995, now Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla* statistically has the first right to be added.

**334** White-tailed Lapwing / Witstaartkievit *Vanellus leucurus*, Assendelft, Noord-Holland, 23 February 1998 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*
**335** White-tailed Lapwing / Witstaartkievit *Vanellus leucurus*, Assendelft, Noord-Holland, 6 September 1998 *(Hans Gebuis)*
**336** Black Guillemot / Zwarte Zeekoet *Cepphus grylle*, first-winter, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 2 January 1999 *(Ruud E Brouwer)*
**337** Feather of Tengmalm's Owl / Ruigpootuil *Aegolius funereus*, found at Berkenheuvel, Drenthe, 29 May 1994 *(Niels L M Gilissen)*
**338** Lesser Grey Shrike / Kleine Klapekster *Lanius minor*, adult male, De Nederlanden, Texel, Noord-Holland, 16 June 1998 *(Jan van Holten)*
**339** House Crow / Huiskraai *Corvus splendens*, adult, Kollumerpomp, Friesland, 15 August 1998 *(Roef Mulder)*

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper / Blonde Ruiter**
*Tryngites subruficollis* 3,7,1
16-19 September, Polder Eijerland, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, juvenile, photographed, videoed (D Kok, N van Duivendijk, J de Bruijn).

This record formed the highlight of the annual Dutch Birding week which, for its 12th year, was held on Texel.

**Great Snipe / Poelsnip**
*Gallinago media* -,15,2
25 April, In den Vloed, *Nederweert*, Limburg, adult (H Vossen); 18-19 September, Horsmeertjes, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, juvenile, photographed (N van Duivendijk, H Zevenhuizen, J de Bruijn).

The bird in April was only the third spring record since 1980. The Texel bird was found within metres of the spot where one was found in 1996, also during the Dutch Birding week.

**Long-billed Dowitcher / Grote Grijze Snip**
*Limnodromus scolopaceus* 0,13,0

An adult in summer plumage present at Ezumakeeg, Dongeradeel, Friesland, from 25 April to 9 May, has not yet been submitted. An individual present a year earlier at Bandpolder, Dongeradeel, Friesland, from 24 April to 1 May 1997, cannot be identified properly from the video (Plomp et al 1998); it may have been the same individual as the one from this year. Only recently full details of this individual, including a description of the call, have been submitted.

**dowitcher / grijze Snip**
*Limnodromus scolopaceus/griseus* 1,2,0
1989 27 July, Workumerwaard, *Nijefurd*, Friesland (J Bisschop, S Bernardus).

The numbers exclude birds specifically identified as Long-billed Dowitcher; Short-billed Dowitcher is not on the Dutch list.

**Lesser Yellowlegs / Kleine Geelpootruiter**
*Tringa flavipes* 1,2,1
15-17 and 21 July, Oude Robbengat, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, adult, videoed (R Romijn, E Koops et al).

This is (only) the fourth record; the other records were in November 1979, October 1991 and August 1995.

**Terek Sandpiper / Terekruiter**
*Xenus cinereus* 1,12,3
17-24 May, Den Oever, *Wieringen*, Noord-Holland, photographed (G Keresztes et al); 28-29 May, Kwade Hoek and Buitenhaven Stellendam, *Goedereede*, Zuid-Holland, probably first-summer, photographed (T O V Muusse, P L Meininger, P A Wolf et al); 9-11 October, De Putten, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland, adult, winter plumage, photographed (W Schep, E Meindersma; Dutch Birding 20: 249, plate 209, 1998).

This is the first year with three records. Of the 13 previous records, 11 concerned birds seen on a single day but this year's records all proved to be exceptions to that rule.

**Wilson's Phalarope / Grote Franjepoot**
*Phalaropus tricolor* 6,10,0

The bird present at De Putten, Camperduin, Schoorl, Noord-Holland, on 3-12 September 1981 (photographed and filmed) was a first calendar-year; it concerned the first juvenile or first-winter (cf Dutch Birding 5: 7, 1983; contra van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

**Ring-billed Gull / Ringsnavelmeeuw**
*Larus delawarensis* 0,6,1
18 January to 11 February and 18 September to at least January 1999, *Goes*, Zeeland, adult male, photographed, sound-recorded, videoed (M Hoekstein et al; van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Birding World 11: 98, 1998, Dutch Birding 20: 52, plate 22-23, 1998).
1997 14 February, Aqua-Best, *Best*, Noord-Brabant, adult (N van Houtum, M Renders).

The Goes bird was the first long-stayer, which returned for its third winter on 29 August 1999. All other records referred to birds which disappeared within days or were very elusive.

**Baltic Gull / Baltische Mantelmeeuw**
*Larus fuscus* 0,1,3
1-2 May, Katwijk aan Zee, *Katwijk*, Zuid-Holland, probably second-summer, photographed, videoed (M Guyt, M Berlijn et al; Dutch Birding 20: 138, plate 105, 1998); 27 September, Rutbekerveld, *Enschede*, Overijssel, first-summer (P Knolle); 29 September, Westkapelle, *Veere*, Zeeland, adult (J M Walhout, J Luiten, C Beeke).

The photograph of the Katwijk bird had been published as a *presumed* Baltic Gull. It has now been definitely accepted, based on moult and plumage details which were visible on the video. Since the elevation of this taxon to species level, reports have increased dramatically – but to get them accepted is quite a different story. Recently published identification papers (Jonsson 1998, Gruber 1999, Rauste 1999) may be of help but also show that the identification of 'lesser black-backed gulls' *L fuscus/graellsii/heuglini* is extremely complicated.

**Pontic Gull / Pontische Meeuw**
*Larus cachinnans cachinnans* 0,47,-
1997 25 October to 10 January 1998, Klein Vink, *Arcen en Velden*, Limburg, maximum of seven adult and two immature; 10 November to 15 February 1998, probably male, probably fourth-winter, photographed, sound-recorded, videoed, *Huizen*, Noord-Holland; 15-16 November and 11 January 1998, 't Leuken, *Bergen*, Limburg, maximum of two, subadult, photographed, videoed (J Jansen, P Palmen; Plomp et al 1998); 5-7 December Stevensweert, Maasbracht, Limburg, adult (M Berlijn; Dutch Birding 19: 185, 1999); 6 December to 26 January 1998, Oost-Maarland, *Eijsden*, Limburg, one, in 1998 maximum of three; 29 December to February 1998, Itteren, *Maastricht*, Lim-

burg, maximum of five (M Berlijn).
1995 early August, Oost-Vlieland, *Vlieland*, Friesland, subadult, photographed (Ted Post).

Most 1997 records were already presented in the 1997 report. Since 1 January 1998, this species is no longer considered by CDNA. It appears that this species is actually more common in winter in the east of the country than Yellow-legged Gull *L michahellis*! A number of records near Enschede, Overijssel, submitted by Paul Knolle and accepted for 1995-97 are at variance with those presented in van den Berg & Bosman (1999). The adult on 27 December 1995 at Het Rutbeek mentioned in van den Berg & Bosman (1999) has not been submitted (and should be disregarded). For 1996, there are additional records of adults on 5-9 January at Rutbekerveld/Het Rutbeek and on 6 March at Het Rutbeek; the number of individuals accepted for November 1996 to March 1997 in Enschede was five (not 'c 10') (cf van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 21: 72, 1999).

**Ross's Gull / Ross' Meeuw**
*Rhodostethia rosea* 1,9,1
9 April, Sterneplak, West-aan-Zee, *Terschelling*, Friesland, adult, photographed (T Bakker, A Ouwerkerk; Bakker et al 1998; Birding World 11: 113, 1998, Dutch Birding 20: 99, plate 56, 1998).

While observing and discussing Icelandic Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa islandica*, the observers saw this bird swimming into their telescope view! After an hour, the bird disappeared.

**Roseate Tern / Dougalls Stern**
*Sterna dougallii* 3,17,2
29 June, Colijnsplaat, *Noord-Beveland*, Zeeland, adult, summer plumage (T Koppejan); 14 September, Lauwersoog, *De Marne*, Groningen (H-G Folz).

These are the first records since 1994. There were records in 1977-79 and 1982-1994 and during part of the latter period (mixed) breeding was recorded. The September bird, which was seen from the ferry to Schiermonnikoog when leaving Lauwersoog, was the first for the Wadden Sea area.

**Black Guillemot / Zwarte Zeekoet**
*Cepphus grylle* 28,37,2
22 November to 3 December, Brouwersdam, *Schouwen-Duiveland*, Zeeland, first-winter, photographed, videoed (P A Wolf, J den Hertog et al; Dutch Birding 20: 315, plate 270, 1998); 28 December to 6 March 1999, Nieuwe Haven, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland, first-winter, photographed (C van der Vliet, F Geldermans et al).
1995 19 November, Westkapelle, *Veere*, Zeeland, first-winter (G A Davidse; Dutch Birding 19: 106, 1997)

The 1995 record was erroneously omitted in van den Berg & Bosman (1999). This year's two long-staying individuals were exceptional because most individuals are seen flying by. These two were the first to be visited by birders since the one at West-Terschelling, Terschelling, Friesland, from 28 December 1995 to 18 January 1996.

**European Scops Owl / Dwergooruil**
*Otus scops* 5,0,1
17 May to 11 June, Ooyse Bandijk, *Ubbergen*, Gelderland, sound-recorded (E van Winden, O van Hoorn; Ebels & van Winden 1998, Ebels et al 1999, Plomp et al 1999).

This is only the sixth record. The first three records referred to individuals found dead, in 1890, 1906 and 1958. In 1967 and 1970, two individuals were trapped. Therefore, this is the first record of a singing individual. It is one of just a few rare species of which the occurrence frequency has only decreased in recent times, perhaps reflecting a decline in breeding numbers (cf van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

**Eurasian Eagle Owl / Oehoe**
*Bubo bubo* 1,12,4
The breeding pair at St Pietersberg, Maastricht, Limburg, was present all year and again reared four young, as in 1997, which have been included in the counts.

**Tengmalm's Owl / Ruigpootuil**
*Aegolius funereus* -,4,0
1994 29 May, Berkenheuvel, *Diever*, Drenthe, feather found, photographed, retained by finder (R Noordhuis, F Arts, A Ovaa).

This record is even 'worse' than the latest one which concerned a bird found dead in October 1993; this time, only one feather was found, which was considered just enough evidence for an acceptable record.

**Alpine Swift / Alpengierzwaluw**
*Apus melba* 7,20,2
8 May, Breskens, *Oostburg*, Zeeland, photographed (P L Meininger, D Kok et al); 6 June, Jaap Deensgat, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen (W J B Fontijn).

This species has now been recorded annually since 1991. Only once, on 3 October 1981 at Scheveningen, Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, two individuals were seen together. Records are scattered in the summer half year, with eight records in both May and September, four records in both April and October, three in June and one in July.

**Blue-cheeked Bee-eater / Groene Bijeneter**
*Merops persicus* 1,0,1
18 May, Noordvaarder, *Terschelling*, Friesland, photographed (A Ouwerkerk, T Hek; van den Berg & Bosman 1999, Ouwerkerk 1999; Birding World 11: 213, 1998, Dutch Birding 20: 138, plate 101-102, 1998, 21: 270, plate 283, 1999).

One of the highlights of the year was only seen (and photographed) by two observers. It constituted the earliest record in northern Europe of this species. The only other record was also on a Wadden Sea island, on Texel, Noord-Holland, on 30 September 1961, and still is one of the very few autumn records for Europe.

**340** European Roller / Scharrelaar *Coracias garrulus*, Alblasserdam, Zuid-Holland, 19 June 1998 *(Hans Gebuis)*

**341** Black-throated Thrush / Zwartkeellijster *Turdus ruficollis atrogularis*, adult male, West-Terschelling, Terschelling, Friesland, 13 April 1998 *(Eric Koops)*

**European Bee-eater / Bijeneter**
*Merops apiaster* 104,115,-
1952 28-29 April, Amstelrust, *Amsterdam*, Noord-Holland, three, filmed (Ardea 43: 258-259, 1955, Natura 52: 114-115, 1955; contra van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

This record was published as referring to one individual in van den Berg & Bosman (1999). The total for 1800-1992 now stands at 219 individuals. This species is no longer considered from 1 January 1993 onwards.

**European Roller / Scharrelaar**
*Coracias garrulus* 53,13,1
18-19 June, *Alblasserdam*, Zuid-Holland, photographed, videoed (M Berlijn; van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 20: 133, plate 95, 1998).

This bird was apparently very tired after having lost its way. During bad weather, it seemingly lost all interest in its surroundings and became very confiding. The next day, however, the weather cleared and it disappeared shortly after.

**Middle Spotted Woodpecker / Middelste Bonte Specht**
*Dendrocopos medius* -, 41,-
1997 14 December to 27 February 1998, G J van Heekpark, Enschede, Overijssel, photographed (R A de By, C Derks, P Knolle et al; Dutch Birding 20: 54, plate 24, 1998).

Although it was hard to foresee, CDNA's decision to no longer consider records of this species from 1 January 1999 onwards (Wiegant et al 1999) clearly came too late; there were a number of breeding records in Limburg and sightings elsewhere, but none was actually submitted. From a practical viewpoint, it is better to regard 1 January 1998 as the closing date for consideration of records and, therefore, CDNA has decided to no longer consider records from 1 January 1998 onwards (cf van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

**Greater Short-toed Lark / Kortteenleeuwerik**
*Calandrella brachydactyla* 3,18,1
3 May, Breezanddijk, *Wûnseradiel*, Friesland, videoed (L J R Boon et al).

The first five records concerned trapped birds. Since the first sight record in 1986, sight records have become the rule: the species has been recorded annually since 1992, with the exception of 1996.

**Red-rumped Swallow / Roodstuitzwaluw**
*Hirundo daurica* 2,27,7
22 April, Breskens, *Oostburg*, Zeeland (P A Wolf, J M Walhout, K Kuijpers); 10 May, Breskens, *Oostburg*, Zeeland, two (P L Meininger, S Lilipaly); 13 May, Breskens, *Oostburg*, Zeeland (R Sponselee et al); 14 May, Eemshaven-Oost, *Eemsmond*, Groningen (J Blijleven, P Pepers); 14 May, Breskens, *Oostburg*, Zeeland, two (J Luiten).

Since the third record in 1982, this species has had blank years only in 1984, 1986, 1987 and 1997. Out of 36 individuals recorded, 13 were from the Breskens migration observation post.

**Olive-backed Pipit / Siberische Boompieper**
*Anthus hodgsoni* 0,7,1
7 October, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland (W Janse, E van Domburg, A Linckens).

This was the eighth individual to be recorded, and the first since 1991. A record from Texel on 11-12 October 1998 is still in circulation.

**Black-headed Wagtail / Balkankwikstaart**
*Motacilla feldegg* 0,1,1
12 May, *Harderwijk*, Gelderland (A van der Spek, C van der Wardt et al).

This second record has the benefit of the general conception that this taxon cannot be as rare as the single record so far suggested, and the identification can not be as difficult as previously thought (cf van den Berg & Oreel 1985). A previously rejected report at Itteren, Maastricht, Limburg, on 24 April 1993 is under review.

**Citrine Wagtail / Citroenkwikstaart**
*Motacilla citreola* 0,8,2
10 May, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, male, photographed (A Wassink et al; Dutch Birding 20: 138, plate 104, 1998); 11-14 May, Noordvaarder, *Terschelling*, Friesland, female, photographed (T Bakker, A Ouwerkerk, T Hek; Dutch Birding 20: 137, plate 99, 1998).

The Texel bird showed characters of Steppe Citrine Wagtail *M c werae* but was not formally accepted as such, because *M c citreola* and *M c werae* can be very hard to separate, even in the hand. Other (spring) records have been tentatively attributed to the same taxon, eg, the bird at Wilp, Voorst, Gelderland/Overijssel, on 4-5 May 1993 (cf de Vries 1995).

**Thrush Nightingale / Noordse Nachtegaal**
*Luscinia luscinia* 7,33,3
18-28 May, Overdiemerweg, *Diemen*, Noord-Holland, singing, sound-recorded (F Vogelzang, G van Duin); 23-26 May, Twiske, *Oostzaan*, Noord-Holland, singing, sound-recorded (M S Robb); 20 September, *Castricum*, Noord-Holland, first-year, trapped, photographed (A J van Loon et al; Dutch Birding 20: 257, plate 217, 1998).

**Siberian Stonechat / Aziatische Roodborsttapuit**
*Saxicola maura* 9,18,1
2-3 May, Breezanddijk, *Wûnseradiel*, Friesland, female, photographed, videoed (J Bisschop, S Bernardus, E de Weert).

This is the second spring record; the first was a female photographed on 19 March 1981 at Veldhoven, Noord-Brabant. All other records were in October (22, involving 24 birds) and November (2). A spring report of a male holding territory at Planken Wambuis, Ede, Gelderland, on 18-22 April 1998, is still under consideration.

**Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush / Rode Rotslijster**
*Monticola saxatilis* 1,1,1
17 May, Hoge Veluwe, *Ede*, Gelderland, photographed, videoed (A Vink, W B Janssen et al; van den Berg &

**342** Western Bonelli's Warbler / Bergfluiter *Phylloscopus bonelli*, De Cocksdorp, Texel, Noord-Holland, 15 September 1998 *(Jan van Holten)*

**343** Radde's Warbler / Raddes Boszanger *Phylloscopus schwarzi*, Bomenland, Vlieland, Friesland, 11 October 1998 *(Lucien Davids)*

Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 20: 132, plate 93-94, 1998).

A search for the Short-toed Eagle(s) *Circaetus gallicus* at Hoge Veluwe, where this species resided during the previous two summers, led to the finding of a distant, reddish bird which turned out to be the country's third Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush. The two previous records were also in spring, a male on 22-23 April 1951 and a female on 12-13 May 1994.

**Black-throated Thrush / Zwartkeellijster**
*Turdus ruficollis atrogularis* 0,3,1
12-14 April, West-Terschelling, *Terschelling*, Friesland, adult male, summer plumage, photographed, videoed (K de Vries, M Berlijn; Bakker et al 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Birding World 12: 25, 1999, Dutch Birding 20: 88, plate 46, 99, plate 57, 1998).

This fourth record concerned the first of an adult male in summer plumage. It was very confiding, which resulted in a number of beautiful photographs.

**Zitting Cisticola / Graszanger**
*Cisticola juncidis* -,37,1
16 October, Stuifdijk, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland (W Brouwer, P W Logtmeijer).

This bird was recorded away in time and place from the more regular late summer location at Verdronken Land van Saeftinge, Hontenisse/Hulst, Zeeland.

**Melodious Warbler / Orpheusspotvogel**
*Hippolais polyglotta* 2,20,2
1 July, Horsterwold, *Almere*, Flevoland (R F J van Beusekom); 13 October, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (K-H Heyne).
1997 26 August, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (A Wassink).

The October record is the latest ever. CDNA would appreciate the submission of a singing bird sound-recorded at Waalbroek, Simpelveld, Limburg, on 7 June 1997.

**Blyth's Reed Warbler / Struikrietzanger**
*Acrocephalus dumetorum* 0,2,1
14 June to 23 July, *Nieuwegein*, Utrecht, male, singing, photographed, trapped and ringed on 23 July (M Poot, F Engelen et al).

This male was paired with a female Marsh Warbler *A palustris*. The hybrid pair successfully raised two young, which were ringed before fledging on 13 July. On 23 July, the abandoned nest was collected and is now in the collection of Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum at Leiden. This is only the third record; the other two concerned one trapped on 26 June 1990 at Lelystad, Flevoland, and a singing male from 20 June to 1 July 1996 at Walem, Valkenburg aan de Geul, Limburg.

**Blyth's Reed Warbler x Marsh Warbler / Struikrietzanger x Bosrietzanger**
*Acrocephalus dumetorum x palustris* 0,0,2
13 July, *Nieuwegein*, Utrecht, two, ringed at nest before fledging, photographed (M Poot, F Engelen et al).

For further details, see Blyth's Reed Warbler.

**Subalpine Warbler / Baardgrasmus**
*Sylvia cantillans* 5,26,3
27-28 April, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, male (N Marra jr, A Wassink); 30 May, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, second-year male, photographed, videoed (A Schaftenaar et al); 6 June, Breskens, *Oostburg*, Zeeland, adult female (P L Meininger).

After not having been recorded in 1997, three records is a return to recent standards. Since 1980, the average is close to two per year, with six in 1983 and no records in 1980-81, 1984-85, 1989-91 and 1997. An individual ringed in 1983 in Wûnseradiel, Friesland, and retrapped on 21 May 1983 on Helgoland, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, concerned the male from 12 May at Makkumerwaard, not the female from 30 April at Kornwerderzand (Jan de Jong pers comm, contra van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

**Barred Warbler / Sperwergrasmus**
*Sylvia nisoria* 93,109,-

The ringing record on 23 August 1986 in Friesland was from Rohel, Gaasterlân-Sleat (not Rohel, Achtkarspelen) (Jan de Jong pers comm, contra van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

**Greenish Warbler / Grauwe Fitis**
*Phylloscopus trochiloides* 6,15,1
1 June, Lewenborg, *Groningen*, Groningen, male, singing, sound-recorded (A van Dijk, A de Bruin).

The Groningen bird, which was singing in a suburb of the city, was the second inland. The other was a window victim at Leeuwarden, Friesland, on 30 June 1969.

**Arctic Warbler / Noordse Boszanger**
*Phylloscopus borealis* 2,7,0

The previously accepted record from Paal 18, Oosterend, Terschelling, Friesland, on 2 October 1996, has been rejected after review. This bird was identified, submitted, accepted and published (van der Vliet & Ouwerkerk 1998; Dutch Birding 18: 277, plate 281, 1996, 20: 290, plate 246, 1998) as Arctic Warbler. However, after publication of a photograph showing the wing in detail, sharp-eyed birders noted that on the photograph the emargination of the sixth primary (numbered from outside) can be seen (Peter Kennerley in litt, Brian Small in litt); this feature is counterdiagnostic for Arctic Warbler and fits the greenish warbler-complex *P nitidus/plumbeitarsus/trochiloides*. The characters shown seem to fit Two-barred Warbler *P plumbeitarsus* best (of which there is one previous record) and the record is currently recirculating as such. A paper discussing the identification of this bird will soon be published in Dutch Birding.

**Radde's Warbler / Raddes Boszanger**
*Phylloscopus schwarzi* 2,7,1
10-11 October, Bomenland, *Vlieland*, Friesland, photo-

graphed, videoed, sound-recorded (K de Vries, M Berlijn et al; Dutch Birding 20: 252, plate 213, 1998).

This remarkably confiding individual was the first to stay for more than one day and, therefore, attracted many birders.

**Dusky Warbler / Bruine Boszanger**
*Phylloscopus fuscatus* 1,20,0
1997 5 November, Westkapelle, *Veere*, Zeeland (J-E Kikkert).

**Western Bonelli's Warbler / Bergfluiter**
*Phylloscopus bonelli* 5,16,2
8-30 May, Hoge Veluwe, *Ede*, Gelderland, singing, photographed, videoed, sound-recorded (W B Janssen, M Berlijn); 14-16 September, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, photographed, videoed (N van Duivendijk, H Zevenhuizen et al; Dutch Birding 20: 258, plate 218, 1998).
1997 31 October, De Banjaard, *Noord-Beveland*, Zeeland (M Hoekstein, P A Wolf).
1993 3 May, Kroonspolders, *Vlieland*, Friesland (P Marcus, W van der Waal).

Although the Hoge Veluwe bird was persistently singing, it apparently did not succeed in finding a mate. The 1997 record is the latest ever; previously the latest date of discovery was 5 October in 1992, although the last date of a long-staying bird was 14 October in 1991. Remarkably, the Vlieland bird followed just two days after an Eastern Bonelli's Warbler *P orientalis* on the same island, a few kilometers away, on 30 April and 1 May 1993.

**Siberian Chiffchaff / Siberische Tjiftjaf**
*Phylloscopus collybita tristis* -,9,1
26-28 November, Park Zestienhoven, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, photographed (Dutch Birding 20: 315, plate 271, 1998).
1997 16 November to 13 December, Gooierdijkpark, *Huizen*, Noord-Holland, photographed, sound-recorded (R F J van Beusekom).
1995 11-23 December, Huizerpier, *Huizen*, Noord-Holland (R F J van Beusekom); 13 December to 2 January 1996, Gooierdijkpark, *Huizen*, Noord-Holland (R F J van Beusekom).

The criteria for identification of this taxon remain questionable and would benefit from more studies; however, late autumn and winter chiffchaffs seem to have the best chance to show the features considered necessary for acceptance.

**Collared Flycatcher / Withalsvliegenvanger**
*Ficedula albicollis* 23,4,1
28 April to 17 May, *Doorn*, Utrecht, adult male, singing, photographed, sound-recorded (A J Dees).

This individual was paired with a female Pied Flycatcher *F hypoleuca*. Although many birders would have been eager to see this bird, its presence was not made public.

**Lesser Grey Shrike / Kleine Klapekster**
*Lanius minor* 21,12,3
31 May, Groene Strand, *Terschelling*, Friesland, adult female, photographed (T Bakker, A Ouwerkerk, T Hek); 15-20 June (probably earlier), De Nederlanden, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult male, photographed, videoed (A Wassink; Dutch Birding 20: 130, plate 91, 1998); 3-6 July, Noordeinde, *Oldebroek*, Gelderland (H A van der Hart).

Out of a total of 36 records, 21 are from May and June. In each month from July to October, there are two to five records and there is one from November.

**Woodchat Shrike / Roodkopklauwier**
*Lanius senator* -,49,5
9 May, De Bleek, Egmond aan Zee, *Egmond*, Noord-Holland, adult, photographed (W A van Splunder); 11 May, Noordduinen, *Noordwijk*, Zuid-Holland, adult male, photographed (J Goudzwaard, A Steenvoorden); 22-25 May, Ooij, *Ubbergen*, Gelderland, adult female, photographed (G van Aalst, N L M Gilissen); 8 June, Haps, *Cuijk*, Noord-Brabant, adult male, photographed (N L M Gillissen); 13 June, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, adult male, photographed (R Keizer, C van de Wal, H Abma).

Apart from two April records, the distribution in time matches that of the previous species quite well. The lower number of autumn records may be attributed to the fact that this species is less easily identified in juvenile plumage; there are only three records of juveniles.

**House Crow / Huiskraai**
*Corvus splendens* 0,4,2
From 9 July, Hoek van Holland, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, juvenile, photographed, videoed (W B Janssen, E B Ebels, L J R Boon; Ebels 1998); 15-19 August, Kollumerpomp, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult, photographed (O Tol et al; Birding World 11: 293, 1998) and 20-22 September, *Winsum*, Groningen, adult, photographed (G ter Haar, A de Bruin et al).

Again, the resident pair in Hoek van Holland present since April 1994 raised one young (with the young from 1997 still present), but a new adult was discovered on two inland locations in Friesland and Groningen, c 20 km apart. Because of the proximity in time and place, both inland records are considered to refer to the same bird.

**Rose-coloured Starling / Roze Spreeuw**
*Sturnus roseus* 21,33,5
9 May, Breskens, *Oostburg*, Zeeland, adult male, summer plumage, photographed, videoed (E C L Marteijn, T J C Luijendijk, M Berlijn; van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Birding World 11: 176, 1998, Dutch Birding 20: 137, plate 100, 1998); 21-23 May, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, adult, photographed (R Feije; Vogeljaar 46: 192, 1998); 10-30 September, Westduinpark, *Den Haag*, Zuid-Holland, juvenile, videoed (D Laponder et al); 19-25 September, Slufter and Westplaat, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam/Westvoorne*, Zuid-Holland, juvenile (N L M Gilissen, A Schaftenaar, P L Meininger);

**344** Collared Flycatcher / Withalsvliegenvanger *Ficedula albicollis*, adult male, Doorn, Utrecht, 4 May 1998 *(Albert J Dees)*

**345** Black-headed Bunting / Zwartkopgors *Emberiza melanocephala*, adult male, Castricum aan Zee, Castricum, Noord-Holland, 21 June 1998 *(Jan van Holten)*

28 September, juvenile, West-Terschelling, *Terschelling*, Friesland (P W Logtmeijer, F Dorèl, R Vlek).
1997 10-12 October, Oost-Vlieland, *Vlieland*, Friesland, two (one on 10 October), juvenile, photographed (G J ter Haar, F Majoor, M Berlijn et al).

The 1997 Vlieland record is the first of two juveniles together. The only other record involving two birds concerned adults at Noordwijk, Zuid-Holland, on 9 May 1997.

**Arctic Redpoll / Witstuitbarmsijs**
*Carduelis hornemanni* 43,49,0
1996 26 December, Collse Zegge, *Eindhoven*, Noord-Brabant, adult (H M A Hendriks).

Other blank years in this decade were 1991-93 and 1997.

**Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek**
*Loxia leucoptera* 37,134,67
31 January to 5 April, Noordhollands Duinreservaat, *Castricum*, and *Egmond*, Noord-Holland, maximum seven, probably nine, on 13 March (D J Moerbeek, H Niessen); 8 February to 18 April, Dieren and Rheden, *Rheden*, Gelderland, maximum of 15 birds on 29 March (R Vogel); 14 February to 1 May, *Smilde*, and Berkenheuvel, *Diever*, Drenthe, maximum of approximately 16 birds, possibly up to 26 (R G Bijlsma); 25 February to 6 April 1998, Zevenlindenweg, *Baarn*, Utrecht, maximum of 17 birds on 16 March (R F J van Beusekom, E B Ebels, M S Robb; Dutch Birding 21: 87, plate 83-84, 1999); 8 April, Planken Wambuis, *Ede*, Gelderland, adult male (R G Bijlsma); 9 April, Napoleonsgat, Ugchelse Bos, *Apeldoorn*, Gelderland, male and female (S Deuzeman).
1997 30 October to 31 January 1998, Oranje-Nassau's Oord, *Wageningen*, Gelderland, maximum 16 on 27 December, 14-15 still present on 6 January; 2 December to 29 January 1998, IJzeren Veld, *Huizen*, Noord-Holland, maximum of 22 on 13 December, five still present in mid-January; 5 December to 12 January 1998, *Kuinderbos*, Noordoostpolder, Flevoland, maximum of 18 on 21 December, at least 16 still present on 10 January; 25 December to 25 July 1998, *Opsterland*, Friesland, at least four between 25 and 30 December, seven on 31 December, maximum 16 on 5 January 1998, two singing males on 19 and 25 July.

Many of the birds were already present in 1997. The total number of birds during this unprecedented invasion, covered in detail by Ebels et al (1999), amounts to 181.

**Parrot Crossbill / Grote Kruisbek**
*Loxia pytyopsittacus* 15,560+,-
1990 3 December, *Geldrop*, Noord-Brabant, three, female (J-E Kikkert).
1991 9 March, Strabrechtse Heide, *Mierlo*, Noord-Brabant, two, female (J-E Kikkert).

A late addition to the largest invasion of the 20th century, comprising over 300 individuals (cf van den Berg & Bosman 1999). The species is no longer considered from 1 January 1993 onwards.

**Pine Bunting / Witkopgors**
*Emberiza leucocephalos* 15,15,1
10-15 March, Kooioerdstuifdijk, *Ameland*, Friesland, male (D J Moerbeek, S Gardeslen).

Although most records are from October and November, there are now three records (four individuals) from February-March, indicating wintering.

**Rustic Bunting / Bosgors**
*Emberiza rustica* 13,41,1
26 September, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, male (J van Holten, R Hofland, E van der Burg).

This is only the first record for the Maasvlakte, which would seem an ideal location to find this species.

There is only one autumn record away from the coast, on 24 October 1888, at Harderwijk, Gelderland. On the other hand, at that time it should be considered a coastal location, since it was long before the development of Flevoland.

**Little Bunting / Dwerggors**
*Emberiza pusilla* 17,55,3
18 September, De Hors, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, first-winter (D Groenendijk, G van den Berg); 20-21 September, *Terschelling*, Friesland (A Ouwerkerk; Dutch Birding 20: 258, plate 219, 1998); 12 October, Oostervallei, *Vlieland*, Friesland, photographed (J M Walhout, G A Davidse et al).

The bird on Texel could not be relocated by some 50 birders during the Dutch Birding week, but the search did result in the finding of a Great Snipe *Gallinago media*!

**Black-headed Bunting / Zwartkopgors**
*Emberiza melanocephala* 2,5,1
21 June, Castricum aan Zee, *Castricum*, Noord-Holland, adult male, photographed, videoed (L Steijn, M Berlijn et al; Dutch Birding 20: 130, plate 92, 1998).

A record of a male on Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, also on 21 June, has not been submitted.

## Systematic list of rejected records

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

**Ross's Goose / Ross' Gans** *Anser rossii* 24-27 December, Prunjepolder, *Schouwen-Duiveland*, Zeeland, adult, white morph (identification accepted, considered escape on basis of coloured plastic ring). **Hutchins's Canada Goose / Hutchins' Canadese Gans** *Branta hutchinsii hutchinsii* 11-18 April, Workumerwaard, *Nijefurd*, Friesland, adult, photographed (Greater Canada Goose *B canadensis* of small race *parvipes* not excluded). **Blue-winged Teal / Blauwvleugeltaling** *Anas discors* 14-16 November, Twiske, *Oostzaan*, Noord-Holland, adult male, summer plumage (@ identification accepted; considered escaped on basis of presence of plastic ring). **Cory's Shearwater / Kuhls Pijlstormvogel** *Calonectris borealis* 1 November, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (@ description incomplete). **Swinhoe's Stormpetrel / Chinees Stormvogeltje** *Oceanodroma monorhis* 11 July, Huisduinen, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland (@ conditions not favourable for observation of sufficient detail). **Squacco Heron / Ralreiger** *Ardeola ralloides* 19 February, Lobith, *Rijnwaarden*, Gelderland (@ poor description). **Short-toed Eagle / Slangenarend** *Circaetus gallicus* 13 May, Maashorst, *Uden*, Noord-Brabant (description incomplete, wing and tail pattern not seen). * **Lammergeier / Lammergier** *Gypaetus barbatus* 12-19 May, *Den Haag*, *Zoetermeer*, *Katwijk* and *Noordwijk*, Zuid-Holland, and *Zandvoort*, *Bloemendaal*, Julianadorp, *Den Helder*, *Texel* and *Broek in Waterland*, Noord-Holland, first-summer female, photographed, videoed (Dutch Birding 20: 128, plate 80, 136, plate 98, 1998; van den Berg & Bosman 1999) (identification accepted; identified as a captive-bred bird named 'Gélas' (code BG 279) released in NP Mercantour, Alpes-de-Haute-Provence/Alpes-Maritimes, France, in

FIGURE 2 Pine Bunting / Witkopgors *Emberiza leucocephalos*, male, Kooioerdstuifdijk, Ameland, Friesland, March 1998 *(Dirk J Moerbeek)*

1997 as part of reintroduction programme; remarkably, the bird returned to Mercantour within one week, where it was photographed on 24 May; Ouweneel 1999). **Booted Eagle / Dwergarend** *Hieraaetus pennatus* 28 April, *Haren*, Groningen (Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* not excluded); 29 August, Oostvaardersplassen, *Lelystad*, Flevoland (Common Buzzard not excluded). * **Lanner Falcon / Lannervalk** *Falco biarmicus*, 6 October, Paessens, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult, videoed (@ identification accepted; rejected because subspecies could not be established and behaviour considered to be typical for falconer's bird). **Saker Falcon / Sakervalk** *Falco cherrug* 30 October, *Goedereede*, Zuid-Holland (hybrid origin not excluded). * **Demoiselle Crane / Jufferkraanvogel** *Anthropoides virgo* 16 August to 25 October, Maria Hoop, *Echt*, Limburg, adult, photographed, videoed (Dutch Birding 20: 249, plate 204, 1998) (@ identification accepted but considered escaped on the basis of tame behaviour). **Collared Pratincole / Vorkstaartplevier** *Glareola pratincola* 10 April, Hall, *Brummen*, Gelderland (incomplete description of bird flying by). **Olive-backed Pipit / Siberische Boompieper** *Anthus hodgsoni* 8 March, Kapelse Moer, *Kapelle*, Zeeland, photographed (photograph shows unusually well-marked Meadow Pipit *A pratensis*). **Sykes's Blue-headed Wagtail / Russische Gele Kwikstaart** *Motacilla flava beema* 9 May, Eemshaven, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, male, photographed (Grauwe Gors 26: 106, 1998) (field identification of this form considered difficult and only possible in well-marked individuals). **Red-spotted Bluethroat** / **Roodsterblauwborst** *Luscinia svecica svecica* 9 April, *Castricum*, first-year male, trapped, photographed (Dutch Birding 20: 90, plate 48, 1998; cf van den Berg & Bosman 1999) (looks more like 'retarded' winter-plumaged White-spotted Bluethroat *L s cyanecula*, for which measurements and wide malar stripe also seem more appropriate). **Paddyfield Warbler / Veldrietzanger** *Acrocephalus agricola* 19 September, Drontermeer, *Kampen*, Overijssel, trapped (@ description incomplete). **Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors** *Emberiza pallasi* 8 April, Philipsdam, *Tholen*, Zeeland (rejected on the basis of strangely contrasting supercilium, grey flanks, and white chin, throat and breast; there is too much doubt for acceptance as a first).

1997

**Ross's Goose / Ross' Gans** *Anser rossii* 28 December, Koudum, *Gaasterlân-Sleat*, Friesland, adult, white morph (poor description, bill not adequately described); **Great Shearwater / Grote Pijlstormvogel** *Puffinus gravis* 25 October, Scheveningen, *Den Haag*, Zuid-Holland (description incomplete). **Oriental Pratincole / Oosterse Vorkstaartplevier** *Glareola maldivarum* 1-5 August, Workumerwaard and Doniaburen, *Nijefurd*, Friesland, photographed, videoed (accepted as Collared Pratincole *G pratincola*, see main text). **Ring-billed Gull / Ringsnavelmeeuw** *Larus delawarensis* 20 December, *Utrecht*, Utrecht, adult winter (description incomplete; diagnostic details on wing pattern and comparison with Herring Gull *L argentatus* are lacking). **Baltic Gull / Baltische Mantelmeeuw** *Larus fuscus* 25 December, Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel (not fully in line with the criteria for identification of this species according to Jonsson (1998); for instance, head pattern wrong for this species). **Red-spotted Bluethroat / Roodsterblauwborst** *Luscinia svecica svecica* 17-18 October, Westkapelle, *Veere*, Zeeland, male, photographed (Dutch Birding 19: 313, plate 320, 1997, Birding World 10: 378, 1997; it is not clear whether males belonging to this taxon can be safely identified in the field in autumn; CDNA is currently engaged with the review of older autumn records). **Eyebrowed Thrush / Vale Lijster** *Turdus obscurus* 4 November, Hazerswoude-Dorp, *Zoeterwoude*, Zuid-Holland (@ most probably flavistic or unusually light-coloured Redwing *T iliacus*). **Collared Flycatcher / Withalsvliegenvanger** *Ficedula albicollis* 15 October, Breezanddijk, *Wûnseradiel*, Friesland, videoed (Pied Flycatcher *F hypoleuca* and Semi-collared Flycatcher *F semitorquata* not sufficiently excluded; primary patch does not seem to reach outer primaries and sound not heard). * **Long-tailed Rosefinch / Langstaartroodmus** *Uragus sibiricus* 10 March, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland, trapped, photographed (Dutch Birding 19: 89, plate 88, 1997) (@ identification accepted but considered escaped).

1996

* **Egyptian Plover / Krokodilwachter** *Pluvianus aegyptius* 6-9 May, Deestsche Waarden, *Druten*, Gelderland, photographed (@ identification accepted but considered escaped). **Arctic Warbler / Noordse Boszanger** *Phylloscopus borealis* 2 October, *Terschelling*, Friesland (see main text).

1995

**Blue-winged Teal / Blauwvleugeltaling** *Anas discors* 18 February, Kroonspolders, *Terschelling*, Friesland (considered escaped, see main text). **Eurasian Eagle Owl / Oehoe** *Bubo bubo* 20 April, Grevenbicht, *Born*, Limburg (poor description).

1994

**Blyth's Pipit / Mongoolse Pieper** *Anthus godlewskii* 7 October, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, photographed (description and photographs marginally insufficient: wing-coverts not sufficiently described and hindclaw not seen, and photographs very poor).

1992

**Red-eyed Vireo / Roodoogvireo** *Vireo olivaceus* 25 October, Someren-Eind, *Someren*, Noord-Brabant (description marginally insufficient for acceptance; description of head pattern incomplete).

1989

**'Bradshaw's Warbler** *Hippolais magnioculi*' 3 May, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, trapped, photographed (de Knijff & van Swelm 1998; Br Birds 91: 191, plate 56-62, 1998) (@ validity of proposed species is widely questioned; the published photographs do not support identification as *Hippolais*; identification as

any other species than Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* is not justified).

1988

* **Grey-headed Swamp-hen / Grijskoppurperkoet** *Porphyrio poliocephalus* 21 December to 15 February 1989, Schuddebeurs, *Schouwen-Duiveland*, Zeeland, adult, photographed (Ebels et al 1999; Dutch Birding 21: 257, plate 274-275, 1999) (identification accepted; considered to most probably belong to race *P p poliocephalus*, which is a highly unlikely vagrant; pending further clarification of vagrancy potential in swamphens, this record is not accepted).

1985

**Falcated Duck / Bronskopeend** *Mareca falcata* 15-31 March, Hurwenen, *Zaltbommel*, Gelderland, adult male (identification accepted; see main text)

1975

**Great White Pelican / Roze Pelikaan** *Pelecanus onocrotalus* September, Hompelvoet, Grevelingenmeer, *Goedereede*, Zuid-Holland (@ photograph shows insufficient detail; other species not excluded).

**Acknowledgement**

Bram Rijksen kindly provided the drawing of the Black-winged Kite on page 309.

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# Pintail Snipe in Israel in November 1998

*Barak Granit, Rami Lindroos & Yoav Perlman*

On the late afternoon of 19 November 1998, in the turf fields of kibbutz Kefar Rupin, Israel, Barak Granit noticed an unusual snipe *Gallinago* feeding in a group of 40 Common Snipes *G gallinago.* He suspected it to be a Pintail Snipe *G stenura* but the bird showed some features that did not fit the features for Pintail Snipe mentioned in the literature. The bird seemed larger and bulkier than the Common Snipes, with a bigger head and a bill which was at least as long as in Common Snipe. These features actually fit Swinhoe's Snipe *G megala* better. On 20 November, the snipe was seen again by BG, Rami Lindroos and Yoav Perlman under excellent conditions.

On 23 November, the snipe was trapped and could indeed be identified as Pintail Snipe. After being ringed and photographed, it was released. The bird remained until 26 November. By then, other birders had also seen it.

After one trapped in Israel in November 1984 (Shirihai 1988) and one found dead in Italy in December 1996 (Corso 1998), this was the third Pintail Snipe for the Western Palearctic outside the Russian breeding areas. In this article, we describe the Kefar Rupin bird in detail, since it showed morphological characters that differed from what is described in the literature.

## Description

SIZE, STRUCTURE & JIZZ Slightly but noticeably larger than Common Snipe, bulkier, plumper and deeper chested. Head larger, squarer, with steeper forehead; neck thicker and shorter. Tail strikingly shorter, projecting far less beyond wing-tip than in Common Snipe. Bill at least as long as in Common Snipe but thicker at base (in hand, bill was actually slightly longer than those of three Common Snipes trapped that morning). Leg slightly thicker and longer than in Common Snipe. Bird standing in more upright posture than Common Snipe. No primary projection visible. All these features together with coloration giving impression of Eurasian Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola.* Wing-tips in flight more

**346** Pintail Snipe / Stekelstaartsnip *Gallinago stenura*, Kefar Rupin, Israel, 26 November 1998 *(Barak Granit)*

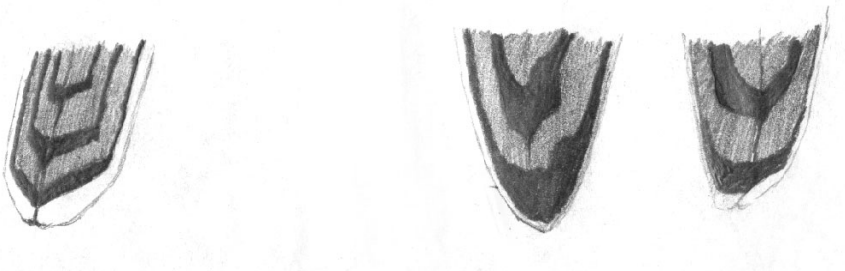

FIGURE 1 Pintail Snipe / Stekelstaartsnip *Gallinago stenura*, innermost greater covert (left) and two examples of lower scapulars (right), Kefar Rupin, Israel, 23 November 1998 *(Yoav Perlman)*

rounded than in Common Snipe. Toes fully projecting behind tail. Flight resembling that of Great Snipe *G media*, straight, without zigzags, and with slower wing-beats. Sometimes giving short flutter. All features visible on bird in flight making it surprisingly easy to distinguish in flock of Common Snipes.

HEAD Looking paler and more uniform than in Common Snipe. General colour pale sandy without white in face. Crown-stripe very narrow whitish from bill to nape. Lateral crown-stripe dark brown mixed with orange spots, not meeting above bill. Supercilium pale sandy, much broader in front of eye than in Common Snipe, going higher and curved, almost absent behind eye. Loral stripe extremely narrow. Apparently no eye-stripe behind eye. Area directly below eye plain, same colour as supercilium. Ear-coverts sandy with brown spots, merging into mottled nape without clear contrast and with brown line through center.

UPPERPARTS & WING Mantle dark brown with one narrow white line on each side. Scapulars rufous and black (for pattern, see figure 1) with very narrow pale fringes of even width, surprisingly difficult to see in field, resulting in apparently very uniform upperparts;

**347** Pintail Snipe / Stekelstaartsnip *Gallinago stenura*, Kefar Rupin, Israel, 23 November 1998 *(Yoav Perlman)*

**348-349** Pintail Snipe / Stekelstaartsnip *Gallinago stenura,* Kefar Rupin, Israel, 23 November 1998 *(Yoav Perlman)*

fringes of outer web white, of inner web buffish. Lesser and median coverts rufous with black subterminal band and whitish fringe, creating white, black and rusty bars along covert area. Greater coverts darker with narrow white tips. Two innermost greater coverts with narrow white fringes, broader at tip, and with U-shaped black subterminal band with two symmetrical Y-shaped black bands in centre of feather (see figure 1). These two feathers relatively large and easy to see. In flight, very distinct wing-panel created by pale median coverts, contrasting with darker leading edge, lesser and greater coverts and remiges. Narrow white tips to greater coverts forming white line along wing, becoming very obvious on primary coverts. Extremely narrow whitish tips to remiges, creating hardly visible pale trailing edge (mainly visible on secondaries). Underwing very dark, coverts completely barred (black and white) without plain white area.
UNDERPARTS Breast mottled brown down to belly. Bars on flank duller than in Common Snipe but extending down to belly. Undertail-coverts and vent also barred, leaving small white unbarred area around legs.
TAIL 24 feathers. On both sides, outermost seven 'pin-shaped' and much shorter than innermost five (width of 'pins' 1.5 mm). 'Pins' not observed in field.
BARE PARTS Iris dark brown. Bill yellowish-green for two-thirds from base, becoming blackish towards tip. Leg strikingly yellowish-green.
VOICE Always giving same call: short, thin and clear *wheeck;* heard many times, completely different from harsh flight call of Common Snipe.
BEHAVIOUR Generally behaving as Common Snipe. When feeding, walking with bigger steps and also running quite often. 'Flushing distance' shorter than in Common Snipe. When flushed, usually flying shorter distances before landing than Common Snipe.
MEASUREMENTS Bill to feather 72.7 mm; bill to skull 76.0 mm; bill depth 9.6 mm; total head 102.0 mm; tail 44.0 mm; tarsus 35.6 mm; wing 142.5 mm. Weight 126 gr.

## Identification

The identification was straightforward thanks to, eg, the pin-shaped outer tail-feathers, obvious in the hand but not in the field, and the short tail. However, knowledge of separating Pintail and Swinhoe's Snipes in the field is still incomplete. Taylor (1984), Hayman et al (1986), Shirihai (1988), Carey & Olsson (1995) and Harris et al (1996) described in detail the identification features of Pintail, Common and Swinhoe's Snipes. In these references, Pintail Snipe is described having the following features (which are at variance with the Kefar Rupin bird): *1* usually smaller or at most equal in size compared with Common and Swinhoe's Snipes. Swinhoe's is the largest of the three species, with a heavier and fatter appearance; *2* bill shorter or noticeably shorter than in Common and Swinhoe's, although there is an overlap: 56-74 mm for Swinhoe's, 55-75 mm for Common and 55-70 mm for Pintail (Hayman et al 1986); and *3* head relatively small compared with the body.

As mentioned in the description above, the Kefar Rupin bird was slightly but noticeably larger than Common Snipe with proportionally equal bill length (absolute length even slightly longer: 72.7 mm!) and had a relatively larger head. Because of these features, we had some doubts about the identification until the bird was trapped.

Carey & Olsson (1995) pointed out that the separation of Pintail and Swinhoe's Snipes based on the upperpart characters is unreliable because of individual variation. They also mentioned that the features known to be reliable in separating these two species are: size and shape, tail structure and pattern, extent of projection of the feet beyond the tail in flight, frequency of call, and probably flight action, leg colour and type of call note. Judging from the Kefar Rupin bird, it seems that the size of the bird and the size of the head are unreliable identification features for Swinhoe's and Pintail as well. Whether the pattern on the two innermost greater coverts described above is unique to Pintail is yet to be confirmed. At the moment, it seems that Pintail Snipe is even more variable than described in the literature, making the field identification even more challenging.

## Acknowledgements

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## Samenvatting

STEKELSTAARTSNIP IN ISRAËL IN NOVEMBER 1999 Van 19 tot 26 november 1998 verbleef een Stekelstaartsnip *Gallinago stenura* bij kibboets Kefar Rupin, Israel. Op 23 november werd de vogel gevangen en onder andere op grond van de stekelvormige buitenste staartpennen en de korte staart met zekerheid gedetermineerd. Enkele in de literatuur genoemde veldkenmerken van Stekelstaartsnip zijn de meestal geringere grootte dan Watersnip *G gallinago* en Siberische Snip *G megala*, de kortere snavel dan bij Watersnip en Siberische Snip en de relatief kleine kop in vergelijking met het lichaam. Door de lange snavel en de relatief grote kop van de vogel van Kefar Rupin wordt de betrouwbaarheid van deze kenmerken in het veld bij het onderscheid met

Siberische Snip *G megala* door de auteurs in twijfel getrokken. Dit was het tweede geval voor Israël en het derde voor het West-Palearctische gebied buiten de Russische broedgebieden.

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# Steltstrandloper in Blauwe Kamer in juli 1998

*Aart Vink, Mart Janse & Wim M Wiegant*

Op vrijdag 24 juli 1998 rond 10:30 trof Mart Janse in het uiterwaardengebied de Blauwe Kamer bij Rhenen, Utrecht, een strandloper aan die hem deed denken aan een Krombekstrandloper *Calidris ferruginea* met een afwijkend ruipatroon. Hij zag de vogel vanaf het fietspad onderlangs de Grebbeberg samen foeragerend met twee Krombekstrandlopers en twee Bonte Strandlopers *C alpina*. Hij moest echter weg en kon niet meer aandacht aan de vogel schenken. Op weg naar huis attendeerde hij de juist arriverende Aart Vink, die in zijn vakantie regelmatig deze plek bezocht, op de vogel. Toen AV de strandloper in kwestie zag realiseerde hij zich meteen dat dit niet een Krombekstrandloper maar een Steltstrandloper *Micropalama himantopus* moest zijn. Zonder alle belangrijke kenmerken te hebben vastgesteld, zoals pootlengte en witte stuit, was hij voldoende overtuigd om andere vogelaars te waarschuwen. Al snel daarna kon de vogel echter niet meer worden teruggevonden. Pas na ongeveer twee uur bleek hij nog wel aanwezig maar nu midden in de grote plas op een afstand van c 300 m, hetgeen de definitieve determinatie voor de in groten getale toegestroomde vogelaars nog enige tijd uitstelde. Rond 13:00 werd de vogel kortstondig dichterbij, op een afstand van c 75 m, gezien, waarbij velen de determinatie konden bevestigen. Pas nadat toestemming was gegeven voor een bezoek aan het niet vrij toegankelijke deel van het gebied onder leiding van Tjitske Lubach, beheerster van de Blauwe Kamer, kon de Steltstrandloper door c 140 waarnemers van dichterbij worden bestudeerd en konden foto's en video-opnamen worden gemaakt. De vogel bleef tot in de vroege avond aanwezig; na zijn vertrek om c 18:30 werd hij – onder meer door een tweede excursiegroep – niet meer teruggevonden (Vink & Wiegant 1998).

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

**Beschrijving**
De beschrijving is opgesteld aan de hand van aantekeningen van AV en Bert de Bruin, videobeelden van Marc Plomp (Plomp et al 1999) en foto's van Arnoud van den Berg (Dutch Birding 20: 190, plaat 151, 194, plaat 157, 1998; van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

GROOTTE & BOUW Grootte vergelijkbaar met Krombekstrandloper, met iets langere poten, als miniatuur-Kemphaan *Philomachus pugnax*, met vrij dik lichaam, lang achterlijf en lange nek, poten en snavel. In zit vleugelpunten net voorbij tertials en staart stekend. Tertials ongeveer samenvallend met staarteinde. Snavel lang, ongeveer anderhalf maal koplengte, vrijwel recht, met licht gebogen of geknikt uiteinde; niet geleidelijk gebogen zoals bij Krombekstrandloper. Snavelpunt betrekkelijk stomp. Poot lang, in vlucht duidelijk buiten staart uitstekend; lengte van tarsus ongeveer gelijk aan die van tibia; beide fractie korter dan snavellengte.
KOP & HALS Kruin donker gestreept, in midden lichtgrijsbruine laterale kruinstreep. Wenkbrauwstreep witachtig, vrij wijd uitlopend achter oog. Teugel grijsbruin. Zijden van kop licht grijsbruin. Oorstreek met kleine hoeveelheid roodbruin, moeilijk te zien. Achternek donker als zijkruin, donkerder dan rug.
BOVENDELEN Twee duidelijke 'snipstrepen' gevormd door schouderveren met donker centrum en opvallende witte rand. Rug donkerbruin, iets donkerder dan vleugel. Stuit wit.
ONDERDELEN Borst, buik en flank lichtgrijs, met zwartachtige bandering in soort zigzagpatroon, op flank duidelijker dan midden op borst en van grotere afstand zeer moeilijk te zien. Anaalstreek en onderstaartdekveren witachtig.
BOVENVLEUGEL Egaal donker, zonder opvallende vleugelstreep. Bovenvleugeldekveren in zit niet of nauwelijks zichtbaar.
ONDERVLEUGEL Ondervleugel licht grijsachtig lijkend.
STAART Grijsachtig, met zijden lichter dan centrum.
NAAKTE DELEN Oog donker. Snavel donker. Poot groen.

**Determinatie**
De combinatie van grootte, witte stuit, zwartachtig gebandeerde onderzijde, lange, licht gebogen snavel en lange groene poten past alleen op een adulte Steltstrandloper (Hayman et al 1986). De beperkte en zeker op enige afstand moeilijk zichtbare bandering op de onderzijde duidt op rui van zomer- naar winterkleed. Een Krombekstrandloper ruiend van zomer- naar winterkleed kan enigszins op een Steltstrandloper lijken, maar heeft een meer gebogen snavel, zwartachtige, kortere poten en is tijdens de rui meer of minder duidelijk roodbruin gekleurd. Steltstrandloper is meer ruiter *Tringa*-achtig van bouw dan Krombekstrandloper en vertoont een meer aflopend voorhoofd vanaf het hoogste punt van de kruin dat achter het oog ligt. Krombekstrandloper vertoont bovendien aanzienlijk meer contrast tussen de witte stuit en de donkere staart dan Steltstrandloper; het kleurverschil tussen de witte stuit en de lichtgrijze staart is vaak onopvallend bij Steltstrandloper (meer vergelijkbaar met Kleine Geelpootruiter *T flavipes*).

**Gedrag en verblijf**
De vogel waadde vrijwel voortdurend bijna tot aan de buik in het wader, hetgeen typisch is voor Steltstrandloper. Overigens leek de vogel niet zeer actief te foerageren. In de Blauwe Kamer wordt in de maanden juli en augustus vrijwel dagelijks naar steltlopers gezocht, dus het is aannemelijk dat de vogel niet veel eerder aanwezig was. Het korte verblijf lijkt erop te duiden dat het biotoop niet buitengewoon aantrekkelijk was; in het gebied worden ook slechts geringe aantallen van de meer algemene soorten strandlopers vastgesteld.

**Voorkomen in Nederland en Europa**
Steltstrandloper broedt in het noorden van Noord-Amerika en overwintert in het centrale deel van Zuid-Amerika, noordelijk tot in Mexico. In Europa is deze soort zeer zeldzaam, met tot en met 1996 c 30 gevallen in Brittannië en Ierland en één geval in IJsland, en slechts 10 op het vasteland van Europa: in Finland (juni 1983), Frankrijk (juli 1989 en drie in augustus-september 1991), Noorwegen (juni 1987 en mei 1993), Oostenrijk (augustus 1969), Spanje (mei 1983, Mallorca) en Zweden (juli 1963) (van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

In Engeland is opvallend genoeg ongeveer de helft van de gevallen afkomstig van de oostkust en de meeste gevallen dateren van het vroege voorjaar (april-mei) en vroege najaar (juli-september), hetgeen suggereert dat de vogels niet direct voorafgaand een transatlantische oversteek hebben gemaakt (Dymond et al 1989, Vinicombe & Cottridge 1996). Uit het patroon van de gevallen voor het vasteland van Europa valt een zelfde conclusie te trekken. Omdat bijna alle Europese gevallen betrekking hebben op adulte vogels, lijkt het waarschijnlijk dat deze al in een eerder seizoen ten oosten van de Atlantische Oceaan verzeild zijn geraakt. In die zin onderscheidt het voorkomen van Steltstrandloper op het vasteland van Europa zich niet van dat van een aantal andere Amerikaanse steltlopers.

**Dankzegging**
Wij danken Tjitske Lubach voor de medewerking in de vorm van het organiseren van een excursie.

**Summary**

STILT SANDPIPER AT BLAUWE KAMER IN JULY 1998 On 24 July 1998, an adult Stilt Sandpiper *Micropalama himantopus* moulting from summer to winter plumage was observed at the inland site of nature reserve Blauwe Kamer near Rhenen, Utrecht, the Netherlands. Identification was straightforward by the combination of size, long neck, long bill with slightly decurved tip, long green legs, blackish-barred underparts, dark upperparts and strong facial pattern, including dark cap and rufous ear-patch. This was the first record for the Netherlands. There are c 40 records of this Nearctic wader in Europe, with only c 10 on the European mainland. Summer records are predominant in Europe and nearly all records refer to adults.

**Verwijzingen**

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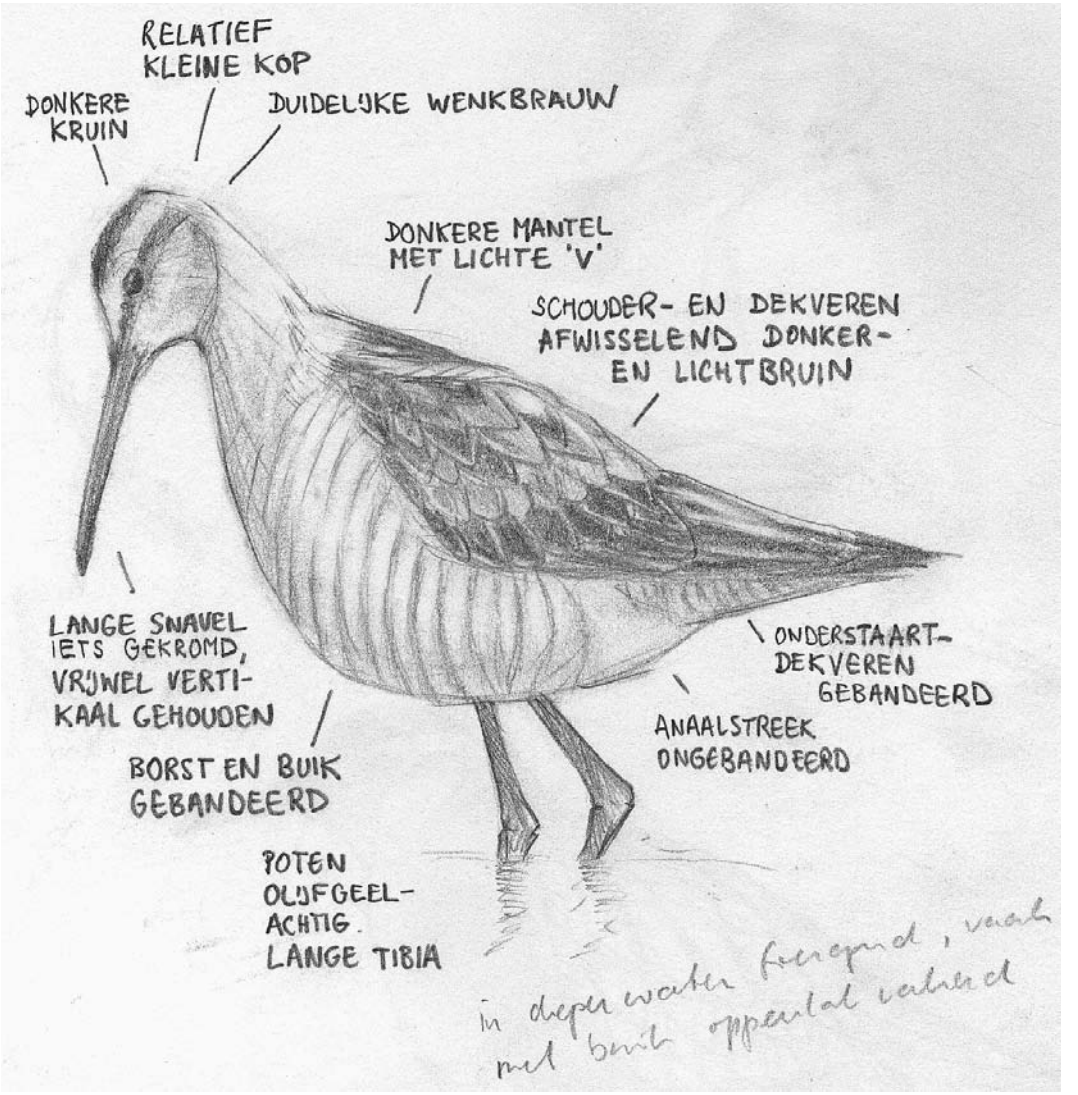


FIGUUR 1 Steltstrandloper / Stilt Sandpiper *Micropalama himantopus*, Blauwe Kamer, Rhenen, Utrecht, 24 juli 1998 *(Dirk J Moerbeek)*

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# Birding in Guatemala

*Hein Prinsen & Marcel Kok*

Resplendent Quetzal *Pharomachrus mocinno*, one of the most gorgeous birds of the world, is the national symbol of Guatemala. In Guatemalan history, it represents the struggle for freedom of the Mayas against the Spanish conquerors. In those days, Resplendent Quetzal was presumably a rather common bird. Its 60 cm long tail-feathers were used for the costumes of the Mayan royalty. Nowadays, the occurrence of Resplendent Quetzal is limited to a small number of locations and it is one of the most-wanted species for birders visiting Guatemala.

Situated between Mexico in the north and west, Belize in the east and Honduras and El Salvador in the south and east, Guatemala is the northernmost country in Central America. About half of the total population of 10 million people is of Mayan origin. In addition to the very interesting and colourful Mayan culture in the highlands, the country offers a broad variety of bird life as it is the meeting place of the Nearctic and Neotropical zones. Over 700 species of birds have been recorded in Guatemala. Although there are no national endemics, more then 80 'near endemic' species occur whose range is restricted to northern Central America and the southern half of Mexico.

Guatemala's 109 000 km$^2$ (three times the size of the Netherlands) consist of mountainous highlands, agricultural lowlands and jungle plains. Within the central mountain range, c 30 volcanoes, some of which are still active, reach heights of over 3800 m. Most of this part of the country is cultivated with corn, leaving only relatively small remnants of cloud forest and temperate pine forest. The Pacific slope is mainly covered with plantations and cattle ranches. Along the Pacific coast some interesting mangrove forests can be found. North of the capital Guatemala City, the highlands of Alta Verapaz, in which the famous Biotopo del Quetzal is situated, gradually give way to the lowlands of the El Petén jungle province. This region is the continuation of southern Yucatán in Mexico. While this part of the country as well as the Pacific slope are characterized by a hot and humid climate for most of the year, the highlands have a drier climate with cool nights. The rainy season lasts from May until the end of October, with the largest amounts of rain in September and October. However, as most rain usually falls in short and intense downpours in the afternoon or evening, birding and travelling should by no means be discouraged during this period.

**Travelling information**

Although until the early 1990s military suppression was very alarming, the situation is improving; at least for travellers it is currently quite safe. During our visits in July 1995 and July 1996 we never had any bad experiences and we found Guatemalan people to be very friendly and helpful.

Travelling in Guatemala is generally easy. Public transport by bus is very cheap and adequate. Sometimes special tourist services operate between the major tourist sites and cities. All birding areas mentioned in this report, with the exception of Todos Santos Cuchumatán, can

FIGURE 1 Map of Guatemala

easily be reached by bus, although it takes a long and exhausting day to reach Tikal. It takes at least 14 hours from Guatemala City to reach Flores (506 km), south of Tikal, from where it is another hour by bus to Tikal. To save time you can fly from Guatemala City to Flores. A return ticket costs about USD 110 and the flight only takes 25 minutes.

A car, for one week, will cost approximately USD 250. It should preferably be booked in advance in your own country as this is much cheaper. To rent a car you definitely need a credit card, even if the car is prepaid. It is important to know that rental agencies do not allow you to travel to Tikal by rented car due to the bad road conditions in the Petén area.

Accommodation is generally good and cheap, with the exception of Guatemala City and Tikal.

A visa is not required for Dutch and other people from north-western Europe. The predomi-

nant language is Spanish. Only few Guatemalan people speak English, and in the highlands sometimes only Mayan languages are spoken. Although not required, vaccinations are recommended against tetanus, typhoid-paratyphoid, polio and hepatitis, as well as malaria profylaxis medicines.

**Best birding areas**

*Biotopo del Quetzal*
Biotopo del Quetzal, also named the Mario Dary Rivera Nature Reserve after its founder, is located along the CA14 road from El Rancho to Cobán. It takes a three hour drive by bus from Guatemala City to get here. The reserve was founded to protect the habitat of Resplendent Quetzal. The 1153 ha nature reserve of beautiful humid cloud forest is situated on a steep mountain at an altitude of about 2000 m. Two trails make parts of the Biotopo relatively accessible. The reserve is open daily from 06:00 to 16:00.

Resplendent Quetzal can best be seen in the so-called 'Quetzal tree' (a huge *Cecropia* tree) in front of Pension Los Ranchitos, 500 m away from the entrance gate of the reserve. This pension (USD 12 for a double room) nicely combines a good place to stay and the opportunity to see the quetzals from very nearby in the early morning. At this time of day, it is also fairly easy to see quetzals elsewhere along the road. The best time of the year is probably February-March, when the males show their spectacular display flights.

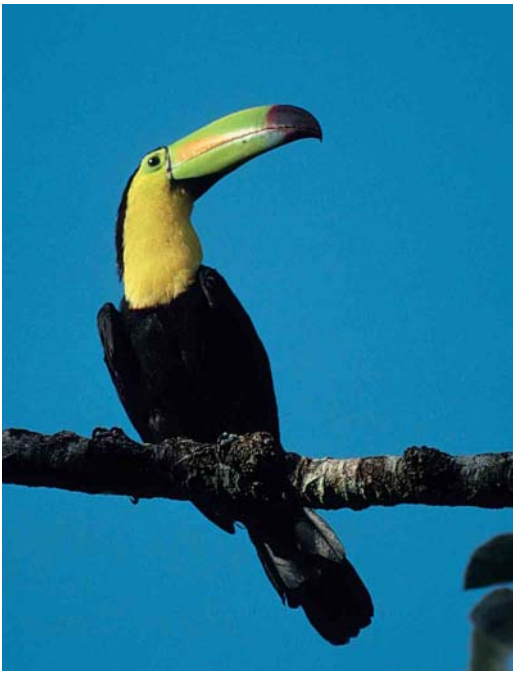
Other species that can be expected here are Highland Guan *Penelopina nigra*, Barred Parakeet *Bolborhynchus lineola*, Green-throated Mountain-gem *Lampornis viridipallens*, Emerald Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus prasinus*, Slate-coloured Solitaire *Myadestes unicolor*, Brown-backed Solitaire *M occidentalis*, Blue-crowned Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia occipitalis*, Crescent-chested Warbler *Parula superciliosa*, Chestnut-headed Oropendola *Psarocolius wagleri*, Bushy-crested Jay *Cyanocorax melanocyaneus*, Black-throated Jay *Cyanolyca pumilo*, Azure-hooded Jay *C cucullata* and Unicolored Jay *Aphelocoma unicolor*.

For those who want more luxurious lodging, the nearby Hotel Posada Montaña del Quetzal, a few kilometers south of the reserve on the way to Guatemala City, can be recommended (USD 35 for a double room). In its vicinity, species such as Highland Guan, Mountain Trogon *Trogon mexicanus*, Grey Silky-Flycatcher *Ptilogonys cinereus* and Blue-and-white Mockingbird *Melanotis hypoleucis* have been seen.

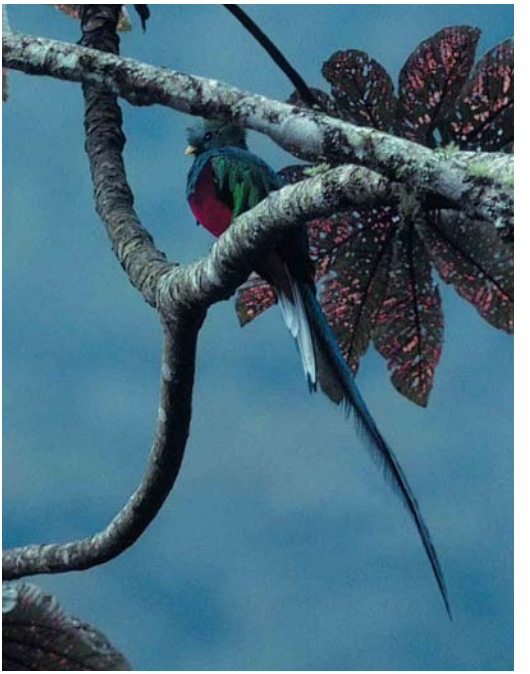
*Tikal*
This famous and impressive Mayan temple complex is located in the midst of the large Tikal National Park, which itself is part of the Maya Biosphere Reserve. The combination of well-preserved archaeological ruins, some towering above the jungle's canopy, and an incredible diversity of rain-forest birds and mammals makes Tikal a must for every birder visiting the country. About 350 bird species have been recorded at Tikal. From the top of the high pyramid temples, the highest constructions in the Mayan world, one has fantastic views over the vast unspoilt rain-forest. This gives good opportunities to watch raptors above the forest or to look for species which forage in the canopy. The broad Mayan causeways between the different temples and a system of smaller forest trails give ample opportunity to explore the different sections of the park.

There are only three lodges at Tikal, which all offer rooms and cabins starting from USD 20 for a very basic room without a bath. Although there is a camping area near the entrance road, it is safer and more convenient to put up your tent in the garden of the Jaguar Inn lodge for USD 6. This lodge also rents a tent and hammocks for about USD 10. There are several restaurants which serve good and inexpensive food.

During a stay of 4-5 days, one is likely to observe over 150 species, although this requires some knowledge of songs and calls (see references). There is no general plan on how to bird Tikal, but a morning climb of one of the temples may yield several raptor species, such as King Vulture *Sarcoramphus papa* and Orange-breasted Falcon *Falco deiroleucus* (which occasionally breeds on the temples), as well as six species of parrots: Aztec Parakeet *Aratinga astec*, White-fronted Parrot *Amazona albifrons*, Red-lored Parrot *A autumnalis*, Mealy Parrot *A farinosa*, White-crowned Parrot *Pionus senilis* and Brown-hooded Parrot *Pionopsitta haematotis*. Since most tourists concentrate on the main entrance road and the Gran Plaza, birding in the more remote corners of the park and on the smaller trails can be very productive and you are likely to encounter Great Curassow *Crax rubra* and Crested Guan *Penelope purpurascens*. Also a small pool near the museum, called the Aguada, is worth several visits. Here, nice views can be obtained of species such as Bare-throated Tiger-heron *Tigrisoma mexicanum*, Ruddy Crake *Laterallus ruber* and Grey-necked Wood-rail *Aramides cajanea*. Although most birds observed are species that are



**351** Tikal, Guatemala, 18 July 1990 *(Henk Hendriks)* **352** Keel-billed Toucan / Zwavelborsttoekan *Ramphastos sulfuratus*, Tikal, Guatemala, 30 July 1995 *(Roy de Haas)* **353** Ocellated Turkey / Pauwkalkoen *Agriocharis ocellata*, Tikal, Guatemala, March 1994 *(Brenda Holcombe)*



**354** Resplendant Quetzal / Quetzal *Pharomachrus mocinno*, male, Biotopo del Quetzal, Guatemala, 27 July 1995 *(Roy de Haas)* **355** Resplendant Quetzal / Quetzal *Pharomachrus mocinno*, Biotopo del Quetzal, Guatemala, 23 July 1990 *(Henk Hendriks)* **356** Resplendant Quetzal / Quetzal *Pharomachrus mocinno*, female, Biotopo del Quetzal, Guatemala, 27 July 1995 *(Roy de Haas)*

widespread throughout tropical lowland forests, like Plain Chachalaca *Ortalis vetula*, Keel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos sulfuratus*, Collared Aracari *Pteroglossus torquatus*, Red-capped Manakin *Pipra mentalis* and Montezuma Oropendola *Gymnostinops montezuma*, Tikal also offers a range of near endemics. From these, Ocellated Turkey *Agriocharis ocellata* is easily observed as it is quite tame and feeds in small flocks around the lodges. Other specialities to look for at Tikal are Spotted Wood-Quail *Odontophorus guttatus*, Wedge-tailed Sabrewing *Campylopterus curvipennis*, Canivet's Emerald *Chlorostilbon canivetii*, Mexican Antthrush *Formicarius moniliger*, Ridgway's Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ridgwayi*, White-browed Wren *Thryothorus albinucha*, Grey-throated Chat *Granatellus sallaei* and Green-backed Sparrow *Arremonops chloronotus*. The latter is often encountered together with Blue Bunting *Cyanocompsa parellina* in the forest underbrush bordering the old airstrip. In the evening, this is also a good location to look for nightjars and tinamous.

*Fuentes Georginas*

About 20 km southeast of Quetzaltenango, near the village of Zunil, lies Fuentes Georginas. This is a small spa consisting of two natural hot springs, a small restaurant and a handful of cottages. Situated at the far end of a lush mountain valley at an elevation of c 2600 m, this location hosts a good number of cloud forest specialities. It is one of the few places in the world where the endangered Horned Guan *Oreophasis derbianus* and Azure-rumped Tanager *Tangara cabanisi* are known to occur. Accommodation in simple bungalows with a fireplace costs about USD 12 per night. The atmosphere of this location is very relaxed, and while taking a dip in the hot water pool, one can easily keep an eye out for the range of mountain endemics that have been seen here.

Just right of the restaurant, a small slippery trail winds up in the forest. This is the best access to the cloud forest where there is a good chance to encounter Highland Guan, Mountain Trogon, Green-throated Mountain-gem and Black Thrush *Turdus infuscatus*. However, the best birding is from the entrance road, in the early morning, before clouds cover the area in a dense fog. While reports of the odd-looking Horned Guan are very rare (we know of no records since July 1990 when five individuals were seen), a number of other specialities are regularly encountered, such as Wine-throated Hummingbird *Atthis ellioti*, Amethyst-throated Hummingbird *Lampornis amethystinus*, Garnet-throated Hummingbird *Lamprolaima rhami* and Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer *Diglossa baritula*, which all can be seen feeding on flowering shrubs along the road. Mountain Trogon and Blue-throated Motmot *Aspatha gularis* are more often heard than seen and in the morning one has also good chances to hear the ecstatic quavering song of Singing Quail *Dactylortyx thoracicus*. With some luck the much sought-after Pink-headed Warbler *Ergaticus versicolor* can be seen along the road. Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus frantzii*, Yellow-eyed Junco *Junco phaeonotus*, Chestnut-capped Brush-finch *Atlapetes brunneinucha* and Yellow-throated Brush-finch *A gutturalis* are amongst the species that are easily observed feeding between the cabins.

The only reliable site in Guatemala for the rare Azure-rumped Tanager is situated c 10 km south of Fuentes Georginas along the road from Zunil to Retalhuleu at kilometer sign 197, where an unmarked jeep trail branches off to the west. Here, at a plantation and in the nearby subtropical forest, Azure-rumped Tanagers have been recorded regularly.

*Todos Santos Cuchumatán*

Situated in the heart of the Cuchumatanes mountain range at an altitude of 2450 m, the nice village of Todos Santos offers a good base to search for highland specialities. The village lies a 40 km spectacular drive northwest of Huehuetenango and offers only basic accommodation. However, for about USD 3 a clean double room can be rented in the friendly hostal Casa Familiar. From the village it is easy to make some beautiful treks into the mountains. During our visits in 1995 and 1996 we had several Pink-headed Warblers along the trail to San Juan Atitán as well as species like White-breasted Hawk *Accipiter chionogaster*, White-faced Quail-Dove *Geotrygon albifacies*, Black-capped Swallow *Notiochelidon pileata*, Grey Silky-Flycatcher, Rufous-browed Wren *Troglodytes rufociliatus*, Spotted Nightingale-Thrush *C dryas* and Rufous-collared Thrush *T rufitorques*.

An interesting area lies c 20 km south-east from Todos Santos near the junction called 'Tres Caminos'. Here, at the 'altiplano', one has good chances to see the endemic Goldman's Warbler *Dendroica auduboni goldmani* and Black-capped Siskin *Carduelis atriceps* as well as other highland species.

*Lake Atitlán*

The colourful Lake Atitlán (c 200 km$^2$), situated in the highlands at an altitude of 1600 m, is one of the major attractions of Guatemala and is considered one of the most beautiful lakes in the world. Volcanoes rise up along the shores and make several villages only accessible by ferry. Walking the trails from village to village along the lake makes a good day of birdwatching. Especially close to the villages of Panajachel and Santiago Atitlán several good sites can be found. In both villages, plenty of accommodation is available.

The lake was once home to the Atitlán Grebe *Podilymbus gigas*, a flightless grebe endemic to Lake Atitlán and believed to be extinct now. At the beginning of the 1970s, c 200 individuals were still present but changes in the water level and the decline of its habitat presumably caused the extinction of the species. Howell & Webb (1995), however, point at the possibility that Atitlán Grebe was 'just' a subspecies of Pied-billed Grebe *P podiceps*, and that invading Pied-billed Grebes have wiped out Atitlán Grebe.

An easily accessible area directly east of the Rio Panajachel hosts a number of good species. Lesser Roadrunner *Geococcyx velox*, Sparkling-tailed Hummingbird *Tilmatura dupontii*, Slender Sheartail *Doricha enicura*, Azure-crowned Hummingbird *Amazilia cyanocephala*, Rufous Sabrewing *C rufus*, Prevost's Ground-Sparrow *Melozone biarcuatum* and Bushy-crested Jay, as well as the more widespread Rusty Sparrow *Aimophila rufescens* and Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush *C aurantiirostris* have regularly been seen here.

Most of these species can be seen in suitable habitat around the lake. At the southern side of the lake, in the area between Santiago Atitlán and the volcano Tolimán, the rare Belted Flycatcher *Xenotriccus callizonus* has recently been recorded as well as Highland Guan and Resplendent Quetzal.

**Other locations**

A trip through the aforementioned areas takes at least three weeks for reasonable coverage. If there is time left, a visit to some other locations can be recommended. While on the way to Biotopo del Quetzal, a brief visit to the semi-desert area of the Rio Motagua, near El Rancho, may produce Lesser Roadrunner, Russet-crowned

**357** Historic information board on Atitlán Grebe *Podilymbus gigas*, Lake Atitlán, Guatemala, May 1981
*(Arnoud B van den Berg)*

**358** Yellow-eyed Junco / Geeloogjunco *Junco phaeonotus*, Fuentes Georginas, Guatemala, 8 August 1998 *(Marc Guyt)*

**359** Pink-headed Warbler / Rozekopzanger *Ergaticus versicolor*, Todos Santos, Guatemala, 19 July 1995 *(Hein Prinsen)*

Motmot *Momotus mexicanus*, Turquoise-browed Motmot *Eumomota superciliosa*, White-lored Gnatcatcher *Polioptila albiloris*, Streak-backed Oriole *Icterus pustulatus* and White-throated Magpie-Jay *Calocitta formosa*.

From Biotopo del Quetzal on the way to, for example, Livingstone or Tikal one can explore the valley of the Rio Polochic. The rough bus ride from the highlands to the tropical lowlands of the Caribbean coast to the little town of El Estor, situated at the shore of Lake Izabal, will take a full day. You can visit the delta of the Rio Polochic, but along the way several interesting marshes are worth checking. El Estor can also be reached by ferry from Mariscos, south of Lake Izabal. The delta of the Rio Polochic can only be visited with a motorboat or canoe, which can be rented in El Estor at Hotel Vista al Lago. The owner of the hotel, mr La Paz, will help you to get around in the delta. In addition to the rarely seen Agami Heron *Agamia agami*, no specialities were encountered during a two day visit in July 1996. However, it looked a promising area to catch up with a range of water birds, while the rare Manatee *Trichechus manatus* (a marine mammal) is sometimes encountered in the nearby lagoons.

Birders visiting the Caribbean coast at Livingstone may want to visit the small reserve Chocón-Machacas along the Rio Dulce. A trip upstream (USD 10) will bring you through a jungle-clad steep-walled gorge to this tropical jungle reserve, established to protect the lagoons in which Manatees live. There is only one short trail through the forest, but one can rent a canoe for a few dollars to explore the jungle lagoons. There is a nice campground in the jungle for those who bring their own camping gear and food. During a short stay in July 1995, we observed a large number of widespread lowland forest species such as Great Currasow and White-collared Manakin *Manacus candei*. The reserve can also be reached by a regular boat service from the Rio Dulce bridge at km post 276 along the CA13 road.

Finally worth mentioning are the mangrove reserve of Monterrico and the nearby shrimp ponds of Iztapa, both at the Pacific coast. These two sites are interesting for species like Least Bittern *Ixobrychus exilis*, Boat-billed Heron *Cochlearius cochlearius*, Jabiru *Jabiru mycteria*, Wood Stork *Mycteria americana*, Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata* and other water birds, as well as some species restricted to the Pacific slope, such as White-bellied Chachalaca *Ortalis leucogastra*. In Montericco there are plenty of guides who are willing to take you on a boat trip through the mangroves. Hotel El Baule Beach (USD 10 for a double room) is recommended.

The described areas represent only a selection of some of the birding locations in Guatemala. Birders exploring other areas, well away from the beaten track, will certainly be rewarded with a number of good bird species. For example, Todos Santos was not mentioned in any of the trip reports we had access to, but the visits, basically initiated by the 'cultural needs' of our non-birding spouses, proved to be very productive in terms of species sought by us.

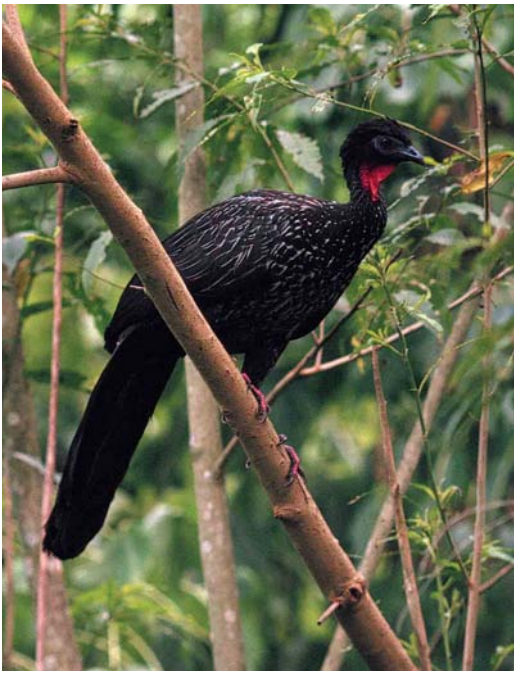
**360** Red-capped Manakin / Geelbroekmanakin *Pipra mentalis*, Tikal, Guatemala, 2 January 1992 *(Tom Heijnen)*

**361** Montezuma Oropendola / Montezumaoropendola *Gymnostinops montezuma*, Costa Rica, January *(Kevin Carlson)*

**362** Blue-crowned Motmot / Blauwkapmotmot *Momotus momota*, Costa Rica, January *(Michael Gore)*

**363** Collared Aracari / Halsbandarassari *Pteroglossus torquatus*, Tikal, Guatemala, 15 August 1998 *(Marc Guyt)*

**364** Bare-throated Tiger-heron / Mexicaanse Tijgerroerdomp *Tigrisoma mexicanum*, Tikal, Guatemala, 17 August 1998 *(Marc Guyt)*



**365** Crested Guan / Kuifsjakohoen *Penelope purpurascens*, Tikal, Guatemala, 28 August 1998 *(Marc Guyt)*

Now that the political situation has changed and the civil war has finally come to an end, Guatemala is a relaxed and beautiful destination for a birding holiday. It offers the enterprising birdwatcher a wealth of birds, and those with an eye for the cultural heritage of the lost Mayan empire will certainly admit that Guatemala is one of the star attractions of the Neotropics.

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# DBA-nieuws

**Schaarse en algemene vogels van Nederland – Avifauna van Nederland 2** Navraag bij SOVON, de 'schrijver' en co-uitgever van deel 2 van Avifauna van Nederland, heeft geleerd dat er enige vertraging is opgetreden bij de productie van het deel *Schaarse en algemene vogels van Nederland*. De planning op dit moment geeft aan dat het deel in de zomer van 2000 uitkomt. Begunstigers die reeds betaald hebben voor deel 2 krijgen hun exemplaar direct na publicatie toegestuurd. BESTUUR DBA

**Scarce and common birds of the Netherlands** SOVON, the 'author' and co-publisher of *Scarce and common birds of the Netherlands* has informed us that the production of this second volume of the Avifauna of the Netherlands has been delayed slightly. It is now scheduled for the summer of 2000. Those who have payed already for this volume will receive their copy immediately after publication. DBA BOARD

# Aankondigingen & verzoeken

**Ornithologisch logboek van de 20e eeuw: boeiende herinneringen van Nederlandse vogelaars** De 20e eeuw is afgesloten en we gaan het nieuwe millennium in. Ter gelegenheid daarvan wordt overal in de wereld de balans van de afgelopen 100 jaar weergegeven in verslagen, boeken en reportages. Ook op ornithologisch gebied zullen in dat kader de nodige publicaties verschijnen. Los van de wetenschappelijke uitgaven is nu het initiatief ontstaan om een boek samen te stellen uit de boeiendste herinneringen van Nederlandse vogelaars. Dit 'Ornithologische logboek van de 20e eeuw' moet een bundeling worden van spectaculaire waarnemingen en excursies, opmerkelijke vangsten en terugmeldingen, verrassende onderzoeksresultaten en niet te vergeten spannende en komische anekdotes.

De verhalen moeten realistisch zijn, maar mogen best smeuïg geschreven zijn. De uiteindelijke bundel dient zich als een spannend jongensboek te laten lezen, maar moet tegelijkertijd de leuke aspecten van het vogelen bloot leggen en een zeker tijdsbeeld weergeven.

Iedereen is in de gelegenheid om aan de productie mee te werken. Graaf in uw geheugen, vraag uzelf af wat u uit uw actieve vogeltijd het meeste is bijgebleven en beschrijf dat in een verhaal. Uw bijdrage moet minimaal 500 en mag maximaal 2000 woorden omvatten. Het meesturen van relevante foto's wordt gewaardeerd.

Elke inzending die voor opname in het boek wordt geselecteerd wordt beloond met een gratis exemplaar. Vanzelfsprekend worden de namen van de auteurs bij hun verhalen vermeld. Omvang en uitvoering van het boek zijn afhankelijk van de respons. De uitgave staat gepland voor het najaar van 2000.

U kunt uw bijdrage tot 1 maart 2000 sturen naar: Lex Peeters, Beemke 28, 5534 AH, Netersel, Nederland, e-mail Lpeeters@iae.nl. Hier kunt u bovendien terecht met eventuele vragen of voor nadere informatie.

**MilieuBoek gesloten** Op verzoek van de directie delen wij mede dat in verband met een faillissement de boekhandel MilieuBoek aan de Plantage Middenlaan te Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, met ingang van 1 november 1999 is gesloten.

**Ringing station of Wildlife Palestine Society** Volunteers working for the Wildlife Palestine Society, in co-operation with Children for the Protection of Nature in Palestine, will open their first bird ringing station in the Talitha Kumi School at Beit Jala, Bethlehem District, Palestine. The official ceremony will be held on 13 March 2000. The location is on a mountain at an elevation of 910 m above sea level, in the middle between the coastal line of the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan valley (Dead Sea area). There are three ringers, one with a 'B license' and two with a 'C license'. We need volunteers with an 'A license' with good knowledge of and extensive experience with bird ringing. We will offer the volunteers accommodation (food and bed only through the hostel located inside the school). Suggested periods for the volunteers are 10 February to 10 April 2000; 25 April to 25 June 2000; and 15 September to 15 November 2000. Volunteers willing to participate in this ringing project are requested to send their CV and address by e-mail to Imad Atrash, Wildlife Palestine Society: cpneai@p-ol.com or Imadatrash@hotmail.com. Information can also be obtained on the internet at http://www.cpnpeecp.org or http://www.wildlife.org.

**Videoband over Nederlandse roofvogels en uilen** In een nieuwe serie videobanden onder de titel 'Vogels in Nederland' is onlangs het eerste deel verschenen, *Onze roofvogels en uilen*. Deze videoband bevat in Nederland gemaakte beelden van 18 soorten roofvogels en zes soorten uilen. Doel van de band is om mensen kennis te laten maken met de meeste soorten in Nederland. Daarnaast kan men door de combinatie van beeld en commentaar veel leren over onder meer de herkenning.

De band is een productie van Plomp Digital Video. De beelden zijn gemaakt door Chris Groenendijk en Marc Plomp en van commentaar voorzien door Arnoud van den Berg. Andere titels in deze serie die thans in voorbereiding zijn betreffen *Onze watervogels* (zwanen, ganzen en eenden), *Onze steltlopers* en *Onze meeuwen, jagers en sterns*.

De videoband over roofvogels en uilen is te bestellen door het overmaken van NLG 50.00 (inclusief portokos-

ten) op rekening 89 90 07 287 tnv Plomp Digital Video te Linschoten, ovv 'video roofvogels' en naam en adres. De band wordt dan direct toegestuurd.

**Photographs of American Black Tern and Black Tern**
For a forthcoming article in Dutch Birding on the separation of American Black Tern *Chlidonias niger surinamensis* from Black Tern *C n niger*, Klaus Malling Olsen (Smørumvej 221, 2 tv, DK-2700 Brønshøj, Denmark) needs photographs of these terns. He is interested in all good photographs (ie, suitable for publication) of adult American Black Tern and Black Tern, especially of moulting birds. Please indicate whether the photographs should be returned or not. Klaus is also interested in receiving comments on the identification of these taxa.

# Recensies

CLIVE BARLOW, TIM WACHER & TONY DISLEY 1997. *A field guide to birds of The Gambia and Senegal*. Pica Press, The Banks, Mountfield, Nr Robertsbridge, East Sussex TN32 5JY, UK. 400 pp. ISBN 1-873403-32-1. GBP 26.00.

The Gambia as a holiday and birding destination seems to become more popular each year. Until recently, birders travelling to The Gambia only could use *A field guide to the birds of West-Africa* by Serle, Morel & Hartwig (1977), which was not really suitable for identifying all the birds encountered, mainly because many species were not illustrated. Therefore, this new guide, only covering The Gambia and neighbouring Senegal, was enthusiastically welcomed by all those who planned to visit the region. All birds recorded in The Gambia, and most that occur or have occurred in Senegal, have been illustrated by Tony Disley.

I had the chance to test the book in the field in the autumn of 1998, and it passed the test admirably. The plates are a joy to look at, although several illustrated birds contained small mistakes. To me, the biggest problems occurred when I saw a flock of very small yellow birds. I suspected them to be Yellow Penduline Tits *Anthoscopus parvulus*, but all birds in the flock showed a narrow black eye-stripe. The species is illustrated without such a stripe although, in the end, the birds proved to be Yellow Penduline Tits. The obvious eye-stripe is nowhere mentioned in the text, too, so this omission may be very misleading. I found a few other small mistakes in the illustrations but these will not result in wrong identifications of the species concerned. Raptors are covered on eight plates (which is a good thing) and the difficult warblers and cisticolas are usefully portrayed.

The texts are concise yet clear, and focus on the identification of the bird, both by plumage and sound. No distribution maps are included but, perhaps surprisingly, this is not annoying. To describe the occurrence of species one is simply referred to so-called 'divisions', of which The Gambia has five. Note that, at least in the first edition, an error was made in the general map on the inside of the front cover in the numbering of degrees of latitude: 14 degrees should have been 13, 15 should have been 14, etc.

For birders who want to enjoy birding in a sub-Saharan country for the first time, The Gambia may be the right choice. And if you do decide to go, be sure to take this guide with you. ROLAND VAN DER VLIET

STEVE N G HOWELL 1999. *Where to watch birds in Mexico*. Christopher Helm/A&C Black, 35 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH, UK. 365 pp. ISBN 0-7136-5087-7. GBP 19.99.

Steve Howell may be among the very few people in the world to be qualified to write a birdfinding guide of Mexico. Being the author of the monumental *A field guide to the birds of Mexico and Northern Central America*, he has travelled extensively in the country.

I can testify from my own experience that Mexico is a great country to go birding. Not only do many interesting and beautiful species occur, but more than 100 of them are endemic to the region, or even the country, as well. In this birdfinding guide, Steve Howell has tried to include at least one site for each endemic species, except for those endemics occurring on off-shore islands that cannot be visited. Many, although not all, distinct subspecies have also been covered.

Anybody who has prepared a birding trip to Mexico knows that gathering information on birding sites takes some time and patience, and involves a lot of (internet-) correspondence. All this has changed now, and this much-needed book is a must while preparing your trip, whilst it is equally useful to have it at hand when in the country. I visited many of the sites described and their accounts invariably seemed accurate. For each site, details are given of the most important species that can be seen, general access to the area and the specific birding sites, together with a bird list. Do not expect these bird lists to be complete: the author quite understandably decided to compile them from his own observations only. There is even a site mentioned for the extinct Slender-billed Grackle *Quiscalus palustris*, just in case... I was however a bit surprised not to find a mention of the famous raptor count site of Cardel, Veracruz, where as many as 1 000 000 raptors have passed in a single day.

Whether you are interested in birding in beautiful landscapes, or merely in travelling to search the Mexican endemics, this book will help you achieve your goals. I had only one real problem with this book: I wish it had been published sooner, as I passed several good birding sites within a few kilometres without knowing! ROLAND VAN DER VLIET

# Masters of Mystery

SWAROVSKI
OPTIK

## Solutions of fifth round 1999

The solutions of mystery photographs IX and X of the fifth round of the 1999 competition (Dutch Birding 21: 283, 1999) appear below.

**IX** The general structure, dark legs, white underparts and greyish upperparts shown by this mystery bird clearly point to a *Calidris*-sandpiper in winter-plumage. Greyish upperparts with thin dark shaft-streaks are seen in several members of the genus, but most have a more brownish wash to the upperparts than this bird. The paleness of the mystery bird's upperparts is strengthened by very thin dark shaft-streaks and also by relatively extensive white fringes to the feathers of the upperparts. The strong contrast between the upperparts and the primaries as in the mystery bird is only seen in the palest species in the genus. Having said this, there are only four species which can show such pale upperparts: Sanderling *C alba*, Western Sandpiper *C mauri*, Red-necked Stint *C ruficollis* and Curlew Sandpiper *C ferruginea*. Little Stint *C minuta* and Dunlin *C alpina*, for example, are less grey in winter plumage and often show somewhat broader shaft-streaks. The mystery bird shows an evenly broad bar formed by white tips to the greater coverts. This feature alone actually points towards Sanderling. In fact, Sanderling is unique in having such a broad band of pale greater covert tips; in flight, these tips together with the pale bases of the primaries and secondaries form the broadest wing-bar found in any *Calidris*. The identification as Sanderling is further confirmed by another unique feature within the genus: the mystery bird seems to lack a hind-toe ...

This Sanderling was photographed at IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, the Netherlands, on 27 March 1999 by Diederik Kok. Plate 366 shows another photograph of the same bird. 61% of the entrants identified this one correctly, with incorrect answers including Red-necked Stint (10%), Dunlin (8%) and Western Sandpiper (5%).

**X** With this round's first mystery photograph showing a bird from behind, the second one is also a classic mystery photograph but this time of a bird looking straight into the photographer's lens. The bird appears rather featureless. The compact structure, long tarsus and black bill and legs may suggest a wheatear *Oenanthe*, but the combination of strong-looking legs and, in particular, uniform drab brown-grey underparts without a darker breast does not fit any species of wheatear. Another popular guess was Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria*, but this species should show, amongst others, a paler bill and paler legs. In this photograph, it is probably only a very good look at the bill structure that could have given away the bird's identity. There is just a hint visible of a bill that first runs up and then curves down (best visible on the upper mandible); this feature, together with the brown-grey coloration, identifies the bird as a female Palestine Sunbird *Nectarina osea*. The underparts showing only the slightest tinge of yellow exclude the other two Western Palearctic sunbirds, Nile Valley *Anthreptes metallicus* and Pygmy Sunbird *A platurus*. These two species also show a considerably shorter bill which would be of help in most other positions than that of the bird in the mystery photograph.

This female Palestine Sunbird was photographed at Eilat, Israel, in March 1990 by René Pop. Plate 367 shows the same bird in an easier to recognize pose. Just 5% of the entrants named it correctly, with incorrect answers including Pied Wheatear *O pleschanka* (15%), Barred Warbler (13%), Blackstart *Cercomela melanura* (11%), Eastern Black-eared Wheatear *O melanoleuca* (6%) and Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita* (6%).

Hugh Delaney (Ireland), Paavo Liimattu (Finland) and Frédéric Vanhove (Belgium) were the only entrants who managed to identify both this round's mystery birds correctly and are therefore the winners of a copy of *Field guide to the birds of the Middle East* by R F Porter, S Christensen and P Schiermacker-Hansen, donated by T & A D Poyser.

This was a difficult round but although some changes took place in the leadership, there are still four entrants on the lead after 10 mystery birds. Two Dutch entrants, Sander Bot and Marc Guyt, and two Finnish entrants, Harri Kontkanen and Paavo Liimattu, now share the leadership with eight correct identifications each. Hot on their heels and also still having a chance to win the competition are 11 entrants with seven and 12 entrants with six correct identifications.

**366** Sanderling / Drieteenstrandloper *Calidris alba*, IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, Netherlands, 27 March 1999 *(Diederik Kok)*

**367** Palestine Sunbird / Palestijnse Honingzuiger *Nectarinia osea*, female, Eilat, Israel, March 1990 *(René Pop)*

**XI**

A more comprehensive overview of the leadership of the competition is available at http://www.dutchbirding.nl. The sixth round will decide which of these entrants will become the new owner of the Swarovski binoculars.

## Sixth round 1999

Please, study the rules (Dutch Birding 21: 52-53, 1999) carefully and identify the birds in mystery photographs XI and XII. Solutions can be sent in three different ways:

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

Entries for the sixth round have to arrive by **25 February 2000**. From those entrants having identified both mystery birds correctly, one person will be drawn who will receive a copy of *Birds of the Indian Subcontinent* by Richard Grimmett, Carol Inskipp and Tim Inskipp, donated by A & C Black (Publishers) Ltd. Swarovski Benelux will award a pair of the highly acclaimed Swarovski SLC 7x42 B binoculars to the overall winner at the end of the competition (after six rounds).

*Diederik Kok, Pelmolenweg 4, 3511 XN Utrecht, Netherlands (d.s.kok@chem.uu.nl)*
*Nils van Duivendijk, Guldenhoeve 34, 3451 TG Vleuten, Netherlands (duivendijk@multiweb.nl)*

# WP reports

This review lists rare and interesting birds reported in the Western Palearctic mainly in **November-December 1999** and focuses on north-western Europe. The reports are largely unchecked and their publication here does not imply future acceptance by the rarities committee of the relevant country. Observers are requested to submit records to each country's rarities committee. Corrections are welcome and will be published.

A probable **Whistling Swan** *Cygnus columbianus* was reported from Ardmore Point, Lough Neagh, Northern Ireland, on 20 November. In the Netherlands, for the third consecutive winter, one stayed from 11 December in the agricultural fields between Gieten, Drenthe, and Veendam, Groningen (it has been suggested that this bird and those recorded in Groningen in 1986 and 1992 concern a single bird). The fourth **Ross's Goose** *Anser rossii* for the Netherlands was an unringed, new bird (unless last year's bird lost its plastic ring in the meantime) staying on the shores of Haringvliet, Zuid-Holland, from 20 November to at least 30 December. In Hungary, the number of **Lesser White-fronted Geese** *A erythropus* at the Hortobágy peaked at 76 on 18 October, while four singles were photographed at the Nuntasi lake, Romania, on 13 November (Birding World 12: 442, 1999). In central Sweden, a peak of 25 was counted at Norrköping, Östergötland, on 2 November. In the Netherlands, more than 50 were present during November-December at a variety of locations, mostly in Noord-Holland and Zuid-Holland. In mid-November, c 35 000 **Red-breasted Geese** *Branta ruficollis* were counted at Dobrudja, Romania. In Spain, a **Dark-bellied Brent Goose** *B bernicla* was seen inland at Avila on 6 November. Also in Spain, three **Ruddy Shelducks** *Tadorna ferruginea* were found at Entremuros, Sevilla, on 3 November.

At Abberton Reservoir, Essex, England, the returning male **Canvasback** *Aythya valisineria* was again present from 8 November into January 2000. At Lentini lake,

**368** Lesser Crested Tern / Bengaalse Stern *Sterna bengalensis*, Sebkha Sidi Garous, Jerba, Tunisia, 1 October 1999 *(Niels L M Gilissen)* **369** Chimney Swift / Schoorsteengierzwaluw *Chaetura pelagica*, St Mary's, Scilly, England, October 1999 *(Rob Wilson)* **370** isabelline shrike / izabelklauwier *Lanius phoenicuroides/speculigerus*, Betoncourt-sur-Mance, Haute-Saône, France, 27 October 1999 *(Danny Dujardin)* **371** Ivory Gull / Ivoormeeuw *Pagophila eburnea*, first-winter, Aldeburgh, Suffolk, England, December 1999 *(David Rimes)* **372** White's Thrush / Goudlijster *Zoothera aurea*, St Agnes, Scilly, England, October 1999 *(Rob Wilson)* **373** White-winged Snowfinch / Sneeuwvink *Montifringilla nivalis*, Llobregat delta, Catalonia, Spain, 23 November 1999 *(Ferran Lopez)*

Siracusa, Sicily, Italy, 400 **Ferruginous Ducks** *A nyroca* were counted on 24 October and at least 150 on 1 November. In the Cap Bon peninsula, Tunisia, 250 stayed at Barrage Oued El Khatf on 7 October. Larger numbers than usual were reported during November-December in Belgium (three to five), England (c nine) and the Netherlands (at least five). In the Canary Islands, three **Ring-necked Ducks** *A collaris* were on Tenerife and one on La Gomera during November-December. In the first week of December, three were still present in France. On 1-2 November, a number of Nearctic waterfowl was seen at Lagoa Azul and Sete Cidades, São Miguel, Azores, including one **Ring-necked Duck** (there were four at four sites during October), up to seven **Lesser Scaups** *A affinis* (six females and an immature male on 2 November), a male **Black Duck** *Anas rubripes* (on 1 November; besides, at least two were on Flores on 12-17 October and one at Sete Cidades on 27 October) and a group of seven female wigeons, believed to be **American Wigeon** *Mareca americana* (on 1 November). In England, a pair of **Lesser Scaup** remained on Tresco, Scilly, from 27 October to 11 November and a first-winter male was at Drift Reservoir, Cornwall, from 22 November into January 2000. Singles were also staying at Roquito del Fraile, Tenerife, during November, at Ballyshunnock, Waterford, on 13-27 November, and at Desnes, Jura, France, from 30 December. In Tunisia, 4000 **Marbled Ducks** *Marmaronetta angustirostris* were counted at Barrage Oued El Khatf on 7 October; this number is higher than the estimated size of the western Mediterranean population, indicating either a previous underestimation of this population or an easterly provenance of many of these birds. In France, a **White-headed Duck** *Oxyura leucocephala* stayed at Neaufles-Saint-Martin, Eure, from 16 October to 11 November. The first for Slovenia was a female at Medvedce reservoir on 20-24 October. In England, a female-type present from October moved to Dix Pit, Oxfordshire, on 10-17 November; the long-staying bird in Essex was again seen on 4 November; and a female-type was at Walthanstow, London, from 29 December onwards. In Romania, 1640 were counted at the Techirgniol lake on 12 November. An unringed individual was photographed near Stuttgart, Baden-Württemberg, Germany, on 29 November. Two **Ruddy Ducks** *O jamaicensis* found in October at Lake Tata, Hungary, remained until 2 November and the first for Slovenia was a female at Medvedce reservoir from 20 October onwards. In the Dutch Wadden Sea, an adult male **King Eider** *Somateria spectabilis* was discovered on Richel, Friesland, on 16 December and a male **Steller's Eider** *Polysticta stelleri* flew past the Lauwersmeer coast, Groningen, on 18 December. A male **Harlequin Duck** *Histrionicus histrionicus* was reported past Peterhead, Aberdeen, Scotland, on 6 November. In early December, three **Surf Scoters** *Melanitta perspicillata* were present in France: a female off Douarnenez, Finistère, on 5 December, and two males off La Tranche-sur-Mer, Vendée, from 5 December onwards. On 31 December, four were seen off Douarnenez. Apart from the regular male, a second-year male also stayed at Lista, Vest-Agder, Norway, on 21 November. During November, five were reported from Scotland and three from Ireland. In the Azores, a male and a female **Wood Duck** *Aix sponsa* were found at Corvo on 19 October. The second **Falcated Duck** *M falcata* for Spain was a male at Ria de Eo, Asturias/Galicia, from 10 December onwards. In England, single males **Black Duck** stayed in November-December in Devon and Stithians Reservoir, Cornwall, while a female was reported at Loch Fleet, Highland, Scotland, on 4 November. In Ireland, the long-stayer in Kerry was still present during December. Also during December, one stayed at Ria de Ortigueira, Galicia. In November, at least 13 **Green-winged Teals** *A carolinensis* were reported in Britain, four in Ireland, and a first-winter was on Texel, Noord-Holland, the Netherlands (from 21 November to 7 December).

Nowadays, **Great Northern Loons** *Gavia immer* appear to be much more common in southern Scandinavia than **White-billed Loons** *G adamsii*. For instance, in Norway, 21 Great Northern Loons were reported on 21 November at Lista, Farsund. Also, 17 were found in southern Sweden from 11 October to 7 November alone. In England, an adult summer White-billed Loon in Filey Bag, North Yorkshire, on 12-17 November attracted many birders. In the Azores, a **Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps* was seen on São Miguel on 1-2 November. In Britain, singles stayed at Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire, on 9-14 November and at Benbecula, Loch Fada, Western Isles, Scotland, from 28 November to at least 2 December. In England, a remarkably late **Fea's Petrel** *Pterodroma feae* was reported flying past St Mary's Island and the Farne Islands, Northumberland, on 19 November. At Cabo Carvoeiro, Peniche, Portugal, unprecedented numbers of, especially, **Cory's/Scopoli's Shearwaters** *Calonectris borealis/diomedea* (12 000 and 1800, respectively), **Sooty Shearwater** *Puffinus griseus* (510 and 1800), **Balearic Shearwater** *P mauretanicus* (3450 and 500), and **Manx Shearwater** *P puffinus* (1250 and three) were counted on 19 September and 24 October; both days were in the aftermath of a series of storms. The 14th **Great Shearwater** *P gravis* for Sweden was found moribund in fishing tackle at Vänern lake, Värmland, on 21 November. In England, one flew off from Willen Lake, Buckinghamshire, in the morning of 27 December. The first **Leach's Petrel** *Oceanodroma leucorhoa* for Eilat, Israel, flew into a hotel room on 6 September and died in captivity on 9 September. In the last week of December, unprecedented westerly storms over central Europe blew some **European Storm-petrels** *Hydrobates pelagicus* into southern Germany and Switzerland; perhaps the easternmost was the one picked-up alive on 28 December in a skiing area at 1100 m elevation near Allgaeu, Bavaria, Germany. An amazing 40 were reported for Switzerland, most of them found dead.

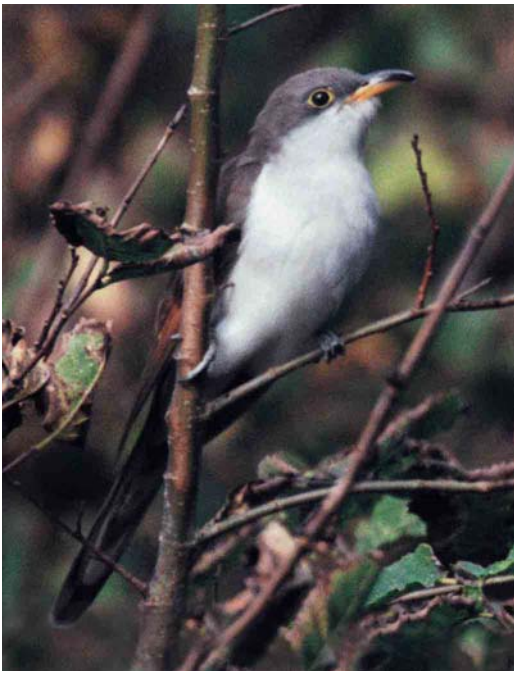
The sixth **Pygmy Cormorant** *Microcarbo pygmeus* for Sicily was an immature at Lentini lake on 1 November (the previous one was in 1994). In north-eastern Italy,

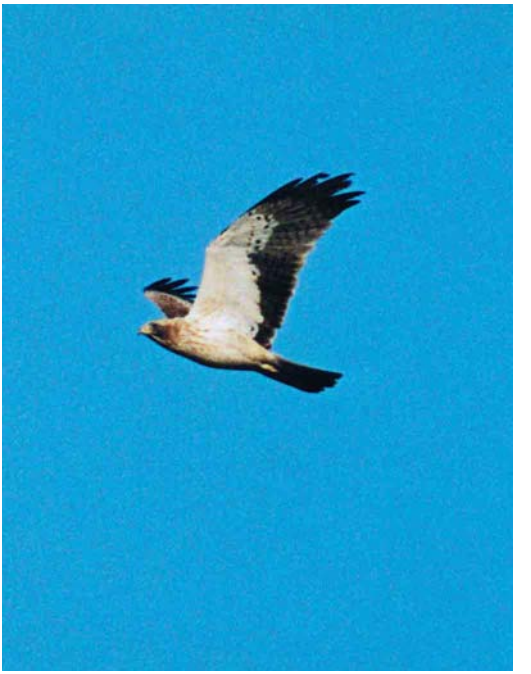
more than 30 breeding pairs were counted in 1999. An adult **Great White Pelican** *Pelecanus onocrotalus* wandered through central Poland on 18-31 October. The sixth for the United Arab Emirates was at Khor Dubai on 6-9 November. In November, three individuals stayed at Coto Doñana, Andalucía, Spain. Approximately 16 **Great Egrets** *Casmerodius albus* (more than ever before) were reported from Spain during November. In Ain, France, 198 were counted at Villars-les-Dombes on 28 November, and a remarkable 326 at Lapeyrouse on 5 December. The seventh **Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea* for the Azores was at Sete Cidades on 25 October. High numbers of **Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* were reported from Spain, with 13 at Santa Pola, Alicante, on 3 November and 50 at Brazo del Este, Sevilla, on 6 November. A first-winter staying near Petten, Noord-Holland, from 28 October into January 2000 might be the last to be considered by the Dutch rarities committee (from 1 January 2000, this species as well as **European Storm-petrel** and **Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos* have been removed from the committee's list). The first **Lesser Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus minor* for the UAE stayed at Khor Dubai on 9-12 November. One occurred at Punta de la Rasca, Tenerife, on 2 November.

In the Cholet region, Maine-et-Loire, France, two **Black-winged Kites** *Elanus caeruleus* stayed from 7 November to at least 12 December. Iceland's first **Red Kite** *Milvus milvus*, a wing-tagged bird which had arrived as a first-winter in late 1997 from the reintroduced population in Scotland (Dutch Birding 20: 84, 1998), was captured when accidentally contaminated with Northern Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis* oil and flown back to Scotland on 11 November. In Sweden, an unusually large concentration of 45 **White-tailed Eagles** *Haliaeetus albicilla* was counted at Åsnen lake, Småland, on 5 December. A first-winter **Pallid Harrier** *Circus macrourus* wintered at Falsterbo, Skåne, Sweden, from 16 December into January 2000. The first winter record for northern Italy concerned a female at a Western Marsh *C aeruginosus* and Hen Harriers *C cyaneus* roost at Diaccona Botrona, Toscana, in December. If accepted, five **Steppe Buzzards** *Buteo buteo vulpinus* circling above Hellegatsplaten, Zuid-Holland, on 17 October could be the firsts for the Netherlands since at least 1980. Also, if accepted, a red morph at Blåvand on 27-28 October will be the fifth-ever for Denmark. The **Long-legged Buzzard** *B rufinus* remained near Mas d'Agon, Camargue, Bouches-du-Rhône, France, from 29 October into January 2000. As usual in recent years, a **Greater Spotted Eagle** *Aquila clanga* wintered in the Camargue from 17 November into January 2000. In Landes, France, up to two stayed at Saint-Martin-de-Seignanx from 18 November onwards. In Italy, five were reported during November. In the Czech Republic, an **Imperial Eagle** *A heliaca* was seen at Tovacov, Moravia, on 24 October. In Cornwall, the second-winter pale-morph **Booted Eagle** *Hieraaetus pennatus* flew about the Drift Reservoir from 31 October to 12 November and at other sites (eg, Lamorna and Marazion) until 28 November; it constituted the first for England. An adult pale-morph **Eleonora's Falcon** *Falco eleonorae* was seen at Milicz fish-ponds, Lower Silesia, Poland, on 6 October. In northern Italy, an adult male **Lanner Falcon** *F biarmicus* was found at Torrile, Parma, on 28 November. In the Netherlands, there were six breeding records of **Peregrine Falcon** *F peregrinus* in 1999 with a total of 14 fledglings (all colour-ringed), which is more than ever before.

At the Kennemerduinen ringing station at Bloemendaal, Noord-Holland, at least 239 **Water Rails** *Rallus aquaticus* were trapped in September-October (including 78 on 15-16 October). The second **African Swamp-hen** *Porphyrio madagascariensis* for Denmark at Vejlen, Tåsinge, Fyn, was present from 8 to 15 November. A female **Great Bustard** *Otis tarda* stayed at Barsinghausen-Bad Nenndorf, Niedersachsen, Germany, on 20-22 November. In France, **Sociable Lapwings** *Vanellus gregarius* were seen at Melun, Seine-et-Marne, from 29 October to 1 November; at Rosnay, Indre, on 30 October; and at Chéroy, Yonne, on 1-2 November. The 12th for Spain was a first-winter at Aiguamolls de l'Empordà on 20 November. It was the best winter ever for **White-tailed Lapwings** *V leucurus* in south-eastern Arabia with flocks of nine and 10 in Oman. At Cabo da Praia, Terceira, Azores, up to two first calendar-year **Semipalmated Plovers** *Charadrius semipalmatus* were present from 22 October to 6 November. The first **White-rumped Sandpiper** *C fuscicollis* for mainland Portugal was a juvenile at Peniche on 24-25 October. In the Azores, c 40 were found at several sites from 19 October into November; at Lagoa Azul/Sete Cidades, São Miguel, up to 22 were seen (27 October) while still 17 were here on 1 November. On 2-4 November, one stayed on Sein, Finistère, France. On 3 November, five were found at Cabo da Praia, Terceira (one here on 4 November). Even as late as November, four were still present in Britain. On 3 November, a **Baird's Sandpiper** *C bairdii* was also at Cabo da Praia. In Scilly, one of two juvenile **Upland Sandpipers** *Bartramia longicauda* staying on St Mary's from 7 October was still present on 7 November. In Portugal, one was reported at Ludo on 25 September. In Scotland, the **Greater Yellowlegs** *Tringa melanoleuca* stayed at Benbecula, Loch Mor, Western Isles, from 2 November to at least 21 December. The sixth **Lesser Yellowlegs** *T flavipes* for the Netherlands was reported on Terschelling on 3 November. In the Azores, up to three first-winter **Spotted Sandpipers** *Actitis macularia* were seen at three sites (Flores, Terceira and São Miguel) at least from 15 October to 6 November.

In several countries of western Europe, unprecedented numbers of **Pomarine Jaegers** *Stercorarius pomarinus* were seen. For instance, at Cabo Carvoeiro, Peniche, Portugal, 215 were counted in eight hours on 19 September and 721 in five hours on 24 October. No less than 1500 were reported in the period from 23 September to 10 October in Sweden (and at least 170 during November). At Estaca de Bares, Galicia, 302





**374** Yellow-billed Cuckoo / Geelsnavelkoekoek *Coccyzus americanus*, Tresco, Scilly, England, October 1999 *(Rob Wilson)* (cf Dutch Birding 21: 290, 1999) **375** Booted Eagle / Dwergarend *Hieraaetus pennatus*, pale morph, second-winter, Drift Reservoir, Cornwall, England, November 1999 *(Rob Wilson)* **376** Desert Wheatear / Woestijntapuit *Oenanthe deserti*, Holkham Bay, Norfolk, England, November 1999 *(Iain H Leach)*

**377** Veery / Veery *Catharus fuscescens*, St Levan, Cornwall, England, 13 October 1999 *(Rob Wilson)* (cf Dutch Birding 21: 293, 1999)

**378** Red-flanked Bluetail / Blauwstaart *Tarsiger cyanurus*, Rame Head, Cornwall, England, October 1999 *(Iain H Leach)* (cf Dutch Birding 21: 292, 1999)

were seen on 3 October and 40 on 21 November. In Belgium, 577 were recorded past Oostende, West-Vlaanderen, during 6-18 November. A new French record of 455 was counted on 7 November at Dunkerque, Nord. In Portugal, also an unprecedented number of 1350 **Parasitic Jaegers** *S parasiticus* (at least 85% juveniles) occurred on 19 September. A second-winter **Laughing Gull** *Larus atricilla* stayed near Rennes, Ille-et-Vilaine, France, from 24 October to 3 November. In Ireland, a first-winter **Franklin's Gull** *L pipixcan* was seen at Newport, Mayo, from 4 December onwards (at least until 16 December). In Belgium, a first-winter **Bonaparte's Gull** *L philadelphia* stayed from 23 December into January 2000 at Heist, West-Vlaanderen. A gull count on 12 November at the roosts of Reinderslooi, Papenbeek and Klein Vink in Arcen, Limburg, the Netherlands, resulted in 7000 **Black-headed Gulls** *L ridibundus*, 5200 **Herring Gulls** *L argentatus*, 250 **Common Gulls** *L canus canus*, 50 **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** *L graellsii*, 50 **Pontic Gulls** *L cachinnans cachinnans*, 30 **Yellow-legged Gulls** *L michahellis* and 11 **Greater Black-backed Gulls** *L marinus*. If accepted, an **American Herring Gull** *L smithsonianus* at Kiberg, Finnmark, on 22 November will be the first for Norway and a **Lesser Black-backed Gull** ('British type') at Kistolgyfamajor, Kapuvar, on 11 November the first for Hungary. On Tenerife, an **Iceland Gull** *L glaucoides* stayed at Las Galletas and then Roquito del Fraile during November. On 13 November, a first-winter **Ivory Gull** *Pagophila eburnea* was seen at Vadsø, Finnmark, Norway. At Aldeburgh, Suffolk, a confiding first-winter was watched by many birders on 5-31 December. At Taggish Narrows, Yukon Territory, Canada, one was seen on 21-24 November. An adult winter **Ross's Gull** *Rhodostethia rosea* flew north past the Dutch coast of Camperduin, Petten and Callantsoog, Noord-Holland, on 29 December and then south again past Petten on 1 January 2000. On 1 October, a flock of 110 **Lesser Crested Terns** *Sterna bengalensis* was present at Sebkha Sidi Garous, Jerba, Tunisia. In the Netherlands, eight **Sandwich Terns** *S sandvicensis* remained at Brouwersdam, Zeeland, until at least late December (traditionally, a small flock wintered at this site in previous decades). In Finland, a late **Arctic Tern** *S paradisaea* remained at Kristiinankaupunki until 2 December. The third **Forster's Tern** *S forsteri* for the Netherlands was swimming and flying between the western tip of Ameland and the eastern end of Boschplaat, Terschelling, Friesland, on 13-14 November; it rested a few times on the Boschplaat shore. Theoretically, it could have been the same bird as the long-stayer of Tollesbury Creek, Essex, which was seen intermittently until 7 November and then again from 24 November to at least 31 December. In France, one occurred at Ile de Ré, Charente-Maritime, from 11 December into January 2000.

Late **European Turtle Doves** *Streptopelia turtur* were reported from Bødø, Nordland, Norway, on 22-28 November (two), at Linköping, Östergötland, from 31 November, at Klepp, Rogaland, Norway, on 5 December, and at Vaala, Finland until 13 December. A juvenile **Oriental Turtle Dove** *S orientalis* at Falsterbo on 4 November was the 13th for Sweden; there was discussion about the identification of an individual showing characters of *S o meena* at Vuollerim, Lappland, on 12-28 November. The second **American Mourning Dove** *Zenaida macroura* for Britain stayed at Carinish, North Uist, Western Isles, on 13-15 November. In November, 23 **Snowy Owls** *Nyctea scandiaca* had arrived in Finland, and c 75 were reported in December. By 31 December, 35 had been found in southern Sweden. On 19 November, a first-winter occurred at Rostock, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany. **Northern Hawk Owls** *Surnia ulula* were on the move during November, with small numbers reaching southern Sweden (c 14) and eastern Denmark. An influx of **Eurasian Pygmy Owl** *Glaucidium passerinum* in southern Sweden and Denmark resulted in a Danish record total of eight until 18 November. There was also an influx of **Tengmalm's Owl** *Aegolius funereus* in eastern Denmark, where 11 were encountered from 14 October to 18 November. On Utsira, Rogaland, an amazing 17 were found during 6-16 October (there were only three previous records).

Apart from c 14 **Chimney Swifts** *Chaetura pelagica* in Britain and Ireland during October, up to four were seen in the Azores at Sete Cidades on 26-27 October. If accepted, one reported in Baldaio, Galicia, on 24 October will be the first for Spain. The first for Portugal was at Pera Marsh on 26 October and five were foraging at Cabo St Vincent, Algarve, on 27 October. The first for Sweden was twitched and photographed at Gårdby, Öland, on 6-7 November; it was seen here again on 12-13 November. A **Pallid Swift** *Apus pallidus* at Sheringham, Norfolk, on 5 November ended up flying into a car and remained in care until 15 November (it was released unsuccessfully on 7 November in the presence of a crowd of birders). Amazingly, an unknown well-marked woodpecker, later tentatively identified as a **White-headed Woodpecker** *Picoides albolarvatus*, was seen flying north along the Dutch coast by two separate groups of experienced birders at Katwijk, Zuid-Holland, and Bloemendaal, Noord-Holland, on 16 October. Its provenance is a mystery as the species only occurs at higher elevations in the western USA, while it is not traded as a cagebird.

During 4-17 November, three **Greater Short-toed Larks** *Calandrella brachydactyla* were seen in Finland (at Helsinki on 4 November, at Turku on 6-7 November, and at Hanko on 17 November). In Belgium, one stayed at Heist on 13-15 November. The first **Plain Martin** *Riparia paludicola* for the UAE was at Al Wathba from 4 November onwards. The second turned up on 19 December at Al Ain camel track. An adult **Wire-tailed Swallow** *Hirundo smithii* flew past Al Wathba on 23 December. The second **Blyth's Pipit** *Anthus godlewskii* for Denmark stayed at Kogleaks, Vejlerne, Nordjylland, on 18-24 November (the first was present from 22 November 1998 in Vestjylland). On 12 November, the first

**379** isabelline shrike / izabelklauwier *Lanius phoenicuroides/speculigerus*, first-year, Marsden, South Shields, Tyneside, England, November 1999 *(Iain H Leach)*

three **Richard's Pipits** *Anthus richardi* for Romania were seen at Istria. In the Crau, Bouches-du-Rhône, up to four were wintering at Mas Chauvet from 12 November. In Sweden, three late singles were seen during 13-15 November and one wintered at Utlängan, Blekinge, from 3 December. From 6 December, up to three **Forest Wagtails** *Dendronanthus indicus* were present in the Abu Dhabi's Mushrif Palace Gardens, UAE. A **Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla yarrellii* was seen at Viareggio harbour in north-eastern Italy on 14 November. An invasion of **Bohemian Waxwings** *Bombycilla garrulus* in eastern Britain (c 2000), northern Germany (c 300), and northern Netherlands (at least 300) resulted in the appearance of at least 54 birds in Belgium on 9-19 November and a single bird at Theville, Manche, France, from 29 November to 1 December. The first **Grey Catbird** *Dumetella carolinensis* for the Canary Islands was found at La Mareta, Tenerife, on 1 November. The **White's Thrush** *Zoothera aurea* staying from 6 October on St Agnes, Scilly, remained until 9 November. The first-winter male **Black-throated Thrush** *Turdus ruficollis atrogularis* discovered on 16 October on Utsira stayed for just two days. During 14-27 November, the second **Isabelline Wheatear** *Oenanthe isabellina* for Norway was trapped at Jomfruland, Kragerø, Telemark. The eighth **Pied Wheatear** *O pleschanka* for the Netherlands was a female at Nederweert, Limburg, on 9-11 November; it was also the first inland and the third this autumn. In England, **Desert Wheatears** *O deserti* were present at Cresswell, Northumberland, on 7-16 November (female); at Theddlethorpe, Lincolnshire, on 14-16 November (male); and at Holkham Bay, Norfolk, from 27 November to 11 December (male). In Finland, one was found at Suomenniemi on 10 November.

On 21 November, there were still two **Zitting Cisticolas** *Cisticola juncidis* present at Heist, West-Vlaanderen; up to five were seen until early November at Dudzele-Zeebrugge. The fourth **Paddyfield Warbler** *Acrocephalus agricola* for Spain was trapped at Ebro delta, Tarragona, on 11 December. A **Booted Warbler** *A caligatus* stayed on Ouessant, Finistère, on 2-10 November. This year, a record 16 **Pallas's Leaf Warblers** *Phylloscopus proregulus* turned up on Utsira from 30 September to 26 October. Along the Belgian coast, at least six individuals were (still) seen during November. The fourth **Yellow-browed Warbler** *P inornatus* for inland Poland was trapped at Beskid mountains on 20 October. The fourth for the UAE was reported at Khalidiyah on 11-14 November. From mid-October, **Hume's Leaf Warblers** *P humei* stayed at Blåvand, Denmark, on 16-17 October; Reculver, Kent, on 17-18 October; Mundesley, Norfolk, on 20-23 October; Haugesund, Rogaland, on 20-21 October; Ottenby, Öland, on 23-24 October; Luvia, Säppi, Finland, from 30 October; Portland, Dorset, on 4-7 November; and Karmøy, Rogaland, on 7 November. In the Netherlands,

an unprecedented number of seven singles occurred at different sites: Hoorn, Terschelling, on 25 October; Katwijk, Zuid-Holland, on 8 November; Mirnse Klif, Oudemirdum, Friesland, on 13-20 November; Robbenoordbos, Den Oever, Noord-Holland, on 13-21 November; Oosterend, Terschelling, on 13-24 December; Boschplaat, Terschelling, from 31 December into January 2000; and Zwartewaal, Brielle, Zuid-Holland, from 31 December into January 2000. The number of **Radde's Warblers** *P schwarzi* in Europe during autumn 1999 was unprecedented with 57 individuals between 24 September and 31 October. These included second records for Malta (23 October) and Poland and, for instance, the 11th to 17th records for Finland. The number of **Dusky Warblers** *P fuscatus* in Europe during autumn 1999 was less unusual with c 45 individuals between 21 September and 16 November. The first **Western Bonelli's Warbler** *P bonelli* for Norway since 1991 was on Utsira on 16 October. The 14th **Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapillus* for Finland staying until 6 December was the first in winter. In Scilly, a male **Subalpine Warbler** *Sylvia cantillans* was present on St Agnes on 7-8 November. Even later in the season, the 33d for Denmark stayed from 4 December in the city centre of Skagen, Nordjylland. A first-winter male **Sardinian Warbler** *S melanocephala* was at Knokke, West-Vlaanderen, from 30 October to 11 November.

An adult male **Brown Shrike** *Lanius cristatus* was present at Ballyferriter, Kerry, Ireland, from 22 November to 10 December; curiously, it concerned the taxon *lucionensis* which makes its chances of being a genuine vagrant slim. In Alaska, USA, a Brown Shrike was present at Sitka on 26-29 November. In Belgium, a presumed first-winter **Daurian Shrike** *L speculigerus* at Zeebrugge, West-Vlaanderen, killed and consumed a **Zitting Cisticola** on 14 November. In Britain, earlier this autumn, four first-winter **isabelline shrikes** *L phoenicuroides/speculigerus* stayed at Flamborough Head, East Yorkshire, on 18-20 October, at Marsden Quarry, Tyneside, on 21-22 October, at Marsden, South Shields, Tyneside, from 26 October to 9 November, and at Burnmouth, Borders, on 24-31 October. In France, first-winters were seen on Ouessant, Finistère, on 17 October and at Betoncourt-su-Mance, Haute-Saône, on 23-27 October. If accepted, an adult **Steppe Grey Shrike** *L pallidirostris* reported from Larnaca from 22 November onwards will be the second for Cyprus. In the Netherlands, an adult **House Crow** *Corvus splendens* occurred at a new site in Utrecht, Utrecht, on 18-19 December, while the long-staying pair remained at Hoek van Holland, Zuid-Holland. The third **White-winged Snowfinch** *Montifringilla nivalis* for the Llobregat delta, Catalonia, Spain, was found on the beach on 23 November. A **Common Chaffinch** *Fringilla coelebs* had reached Prince George, British Columbia, Canada, on 31 October. If accepted, a **redpoll** *Carduelis cabaret/flammea* at Sete Cidades on 27 October would be the first for the Azores. At Hechtel-Eksel, Limburg, Belgium, 16 **Parrot Crossbills** *Loxia pytyopsittacus* were reported on 11-13 November. From 31 October to 8 November, a first-winter **Long-tailed Rosefinch** *Uragus sibiricus* stayed at Hoek van Holland, Zuid-Holland, Netherlands; it showed no apparent signs of captivity. On 28-29 October, a male **Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis* was photographed on the top of the Hohneck (1363 m), Vosges, France. Even much further from its normal range, in the Algarve, Portugal, a male was seen at Cabo St Vincent on 3 November. In Toscana, Italy, wintering flocks of **Pine Bunting** *Emberiza leucocephalos* were again found: seven at Parco dell' Uccellina on 1 November and 10 at Bocca di Serchio on 6 November. In the Netherlands, a first-winter female was trapped at Castricum, Noord-Holland, on 8 November. In France, several were wintering at Mas Lauricet, Camargue, from 21 November onwards, with a maximum of five on 14 December. One stayed at Torslanda, Gothenburg, from 29 December.

For a number of reports, publications in Birding World, Birdwatch, British Birds, Limicola and Vår Fågelvärld were consulted. News from Britain was kindly supplied by Birdline (0891-700-222 or 0891-700-242) and Rare Bird News (0881-888-111). I wish to thank Peter Adriaens (Ireland), Jules Bos (Tunisia), Rolf Christensen, Tony Clarke (Canarian Nature Tours), Dirk Colin (Azores), Andrea Corso, Fred Cottaar, Eric Dempsey, Gunter De Smet, Jochen Dierschke, J I Díes (Valencia), Marc Duquet, Enno Ebels, Annika Forsten, Tommy Frandsen (Azores), Peter Fraser (UK), Gerard Gorman, Marcello Grussu, Morten Günther, Ricard Gutiérrez, Tim Harris, Cornelis Hazevoet, Martin Helin (Radde's and Dusky Warblers), Erik Hirschfeld, Remco Hofland, Klaus Hubatsch, Justin Jansen, Erling Jirle, Adrian Jordi, Guy Kirwan, Yann Kolbeinsson, Paul Lehman, André van Loon, Erik Maassen, Pierre Le Maréchal (France), Anthony McGeehan, Peter Meininger, Richard Millington, Geir Mobakken (Utsira), Colm C Moore (Portugal), Killian Mullarney, Daniele Ochiato, Mika Ohtonen, Gerald Oreel, Jean-Philippe Paul, Christoph Randler, Colin Richardson (UAE), Luciano Ruggieri, Antonio Sandoval (Galicia), Bob Scott, Nicolas Selosse, Tadeusz Stawarczyk, Leo Stegeman, Stefan Tewinkel, Jan van Tussenbroek, Luc Verroken (Belgium), Roland van der Vliet, Milan Vogrin and Tim Worfolk for their help in compiling this review.

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# Recente meldingen

Dit overzicht van recente meldingen van zeldzame en interessante vogels in Nederland en België beslaat voornamelijk de periode **oktober-november 1999**. De vermelde gevallen zijn merendeels niet geverifieerd en het overzicht is niet volledig. Alle vogelaars die de moeite namen om hun waarnemingen aan ons door te geven worden hartelijk bedankt.

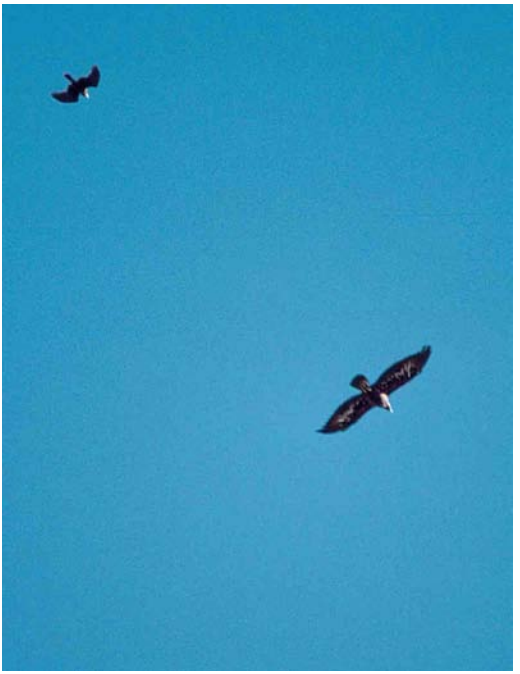
Waarnemers van soorten in Nederland die worden beoordeeld door de Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna wordt verzocht hun waarnemingen zo spoedig mogelijk toe te zenden aan: CDNA, Postbus 45, 2080 AA Santpoort-Zuid, Nederland. Hiertoe gelieve men gebruik te maken van CDNA-waarnemingsformulieren die eveneens verkrijgbaar zijn bij bovenstaand adres.

## Nederland

GANZEN TOT VALKEN Een ongeringde **Ross' Gans** *Anser rossii* werd vanaf 20 november gezien op de Korendijkse Slikken, Zuid-Holland. De eerste **Dwergganzen** *A erythropus* van het najaar werden gezien op 16 oktober bij Finsterwolde, Groningen, en een groep van zes bij Anjum, Friesland. In de omgeving van deze laatste plek werden er tot 7 november maximaal zeven geteld. Verder werden naast enkele losse waarnemingen nog groepjes gezien op 31 oktober bij het Rammegors, Zeeland, vanaf 11 november maximaal zeven in het Oude Land van Strijen, Zuid-Holland, vanaf 13 november maximaal acht op de Korendijkse Slikken, op 19 november acht bij Petten, Noord-Holland, op 20 en 21 november maximaal vijf in de omgeving van Culemborg, Gelderland, en vanaf 27 november maximaal vier achter de Lepelaarsplassen, Flevoland. In november werden op meerdere plekken verspreid over het land weer diverse **canadese ganzen** *Branta canadensis/hutchinsii* van velerlei pluimage opgemerkt, waarbij de specifieke identiteit meestal onduidelijk bleef. Vaak waren zij in gezelschap van groepjes hybriden en/of canadese ganzen van duidelijk tamme oorsprong. Het meest interessant was de **Grote Canadese Gans** *B canadensis* van de ondersoort *parvipes* die op 5 en 6 november werd gemeld ten zuiden van Anjum. **Witbuikrotganzen** *B hrota* waren aanwezig vanaf 17 oktober op Texel, Noord-Holland, op 30 oktober bij Den Helder, Noord-Holland, op 31 oktober en 1 november bij Scharendijke, Zeeland, op 15 november op Terschelling, Friesland, op 18 november vliegend langs Westkapelle, Zeeland, en op 28 november bij de Flaauwers en Wevers Inlagen, Zeeland. **Zwarte Rotganzen** *B nigricans* waren zeker zo algemeen, met exemplaren vanaf 8 oktober (één en later twee) op Texel, op 16 oktober op Vlieland, Friesland, vanaf 27 oktober bij Noordpolderzijl, Groningen, vanaf 29 oktober op Terschelling, op 6 november bij de Flaauwers en Wevers Inlagen en vanaf 6 november op Schiermonnikoog, Friesland. **Roodhalsganzen** *B ruficollis* werden opgemerkt tussen 16 oktober en 19 november bij Anjum, op 23 en 24 oktober één à twee op Terschelling, van 25 tot 28 oktober op Schiermonnikoog, op 31 oktober en 19 november bij het Rammegors, op 13 november bij Doesburg, Gelderland, van 15 tot 21 november op de Korendijkse Slikken, op 27 november achter de Lepelaarsplassen, vanaf 28 november in de Aalkeetbuitenpolder, Zuid-Holland, en op 30 november in de Ooypolder, Gelderland. Een **Amerikaanse Smient** *Mareca americana* zou op 24 oktober gezien zijn op Texel en vanaf 14 november was een mannetje aanwezig langs de Lek in de omgeving van Culemborg. Later bleek in deze omgeving ook een hybride gezien te zijn. Een **Amerikaanse Wintertaling** *Anas carolinensis* verbleef vanaf 21 november op Texel. **Witoogeenden** *Aythya nyroca* verbleven op 29 oktober bij Koudekerk aan den Rijn, Zuid-Holland, van 30 oktober tot 12 november op de plas Aquabest bij Eindhoven, Noord-Brabant, vanaf 21 november in de Pampushaven, Flevoland, op 26 november bij Megen, Noord-Brabant, en vanaf 29 november een vrouwtje in de omgeving van de Vijfhoek bij Diemen, Noord-Holland. **IJsduikers** *Gavia immer* waren te zien op 24 oktober te IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, op 25 oktober één vliegend langs Westkapelle, en op 6 november daar één ter plaatse, op 1 november langs Terschelling, van 14 tot 24 november in de Mokbaai op Texel, op 21 november in de Lauwersmeer, Groningen, op 22 november langs Scheveningen, Zuid-Holland, en op 27 en 28 november bij Panheel, Limburg. De zeetrek bleef mager met 85 **Grauwe Pijlstormvogels** *Puffinus griseus*, vooral in de eerste helft van oktober, en ruim 20 **Noordse Pijlstormvogels** *P puffinus*, vrijwel beperkt tot de eerste week van oktober. **Vale Pijlstormvogels** *P mauretanicus* werden gedetermineerd op 3 oktober langs Texel en op 11 oktober langs Schiermonnikoog. Ook **Vale Stormvogeltjes** *Oceanodroma leucorhoa* (c 45) beperkten zich nagenoeg tot begin oktober, met een kleine opleving in de tweede week van november. **Kuifaalscholvers** *Stictocarbo aristotelis* waren ter plaatse op 4 oktober bij Katwijk aan Zee, Zuid-Holland, op 10 oktober en 23 november twee bij IJmuiden, op 21 oktober bij de Oosterscheldedam, Zeeland, op 12 november bij de Krammersluizen, Zeeland, op 16 november op Terschelling en op 28 november bij het Kornwerderzand, Friesland. De veelbesproken influx van **Roze Pelikanen** *Pelecanus onocrotalus* in Noordwest-Europa bracht exemplaren naar Nederland op 5 oktober bij Etten-Leur, Noord-Brabant, op 6 en 7 oktober bij Nieuw-Bergen, Limburg, van 12 tot 19 oktober bij Papenbeek, Limburg (helaas niet tijdig bekend geworden), op 30 oktober bij Kinderdijk, Zuid-Holland, en op 31 oktober in de Sliedrechtse Biesbosch, Zuid-Holland; in theorie kunnen alle waarnemingen op één rondzwervende vogel betrekking hebben. Op 3 oktober vloog een juveniele pelikaan over Kuringen-Hasselt, Limburg, België; aan de hand van foto's die

**380** Koereiger / Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*, adult, Nijkerk, Gelderland, 24 oktober 1999 *(Marten van Dijl)*

**381** Zwarte Ibis / Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*, eerste-winter, Petten, Noord-Holland, 29 oktober 1999 *(Ruud E Brouwer)*



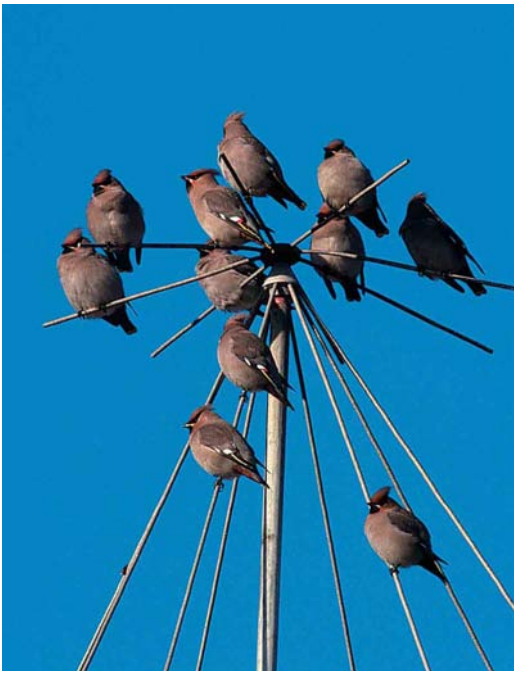
**382** Steenarend / Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*, onvolwassen, met Bruine Kiekendief / Western Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*, Oosterend, Terschelling, Friesland, 19 oktober 1999 *(Arie Ouwerkerk)*

gemaakt werden toen de vogel op 13 oktober in Nederland werd gevangen te Valkenburg, Limburg, bleek het om een juveniele **Kleine Pelikaan** *P rufescens* te gaan. Adulte **Kwakken** *Nycticorax nycticorax* werden aangetroffen op 7 november te Duivendrecht, Noord-Holland, en op 27 november drie in het Veerse Bos bij Veere, Zeeland. De **Koereiger** *Bubulcus ibis* van polder Arkemheen, Gelderland, werd daar tot 14 november onregelmatig gezien. Andere exemplaren verbleven op 15 oktober bij de Brouwersdam, Zuid-Holland, op 24 oktober weer eens bij het Quackjeswater, Zuid-Holland, op 8 november op Texel, vanaf 24 november in het Oude Land van Strijen en op 28 november bij Nieuw-Lekkerland, Zuid-Holland. In deze periode werden nog c 85 **Kleine Zilverreigers** *Egretta garzetta* gemeld, voornamelijk in de Delta, met als grootste aantal 37 op 12 november in en om het Veerse Meer, Zeeland. Buiten de Delta waren de grootste aantallen zeven op 3 oktober bij het Balgzand, Noord-Holland, negen op 19 oktober vliegend over de Strabrechtse Heide, Noord-Brabant, en acht op 14 november bij de Lepelaarsplassen. Ook **Grote Zilverreigers** *Casmerodius albus* waren algemeen met bijna 60 gemelde individuen. Tot half oktober werden ze voornamelijk in de Lauwersmeer, Groningen/Friesland, gezien met een maximum van negen. Daarna zette een verplaatsing in naar het zuiden, gemarkeerd door langstrekkende exemplaren, waaronder vijf op 30 oktober langs de Brouwersdam. In november waren enkele opvallende concentraties: maximaal negen langs de Oostvaardersdijk, Flevoland, maximaal acht in de Millingerwaard, Gelderland, en vijf rond het Naardermeer, Noord-Holland. Een **Zwarte Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* was van 28 oktober tot in januari 2000 aanwezig bij Burgervlotbrug, Noord-Holland. **Rode Wouwen** *Milvus milvus* waren opvallend algemeen met in oktober c 85 meldingen, waarvan alleen al 45 tussen 15 en 18 oktober. Dit waren ook de dagen dat gewonere roofvogels van zich lieten spreken, met bijvoorbeeld op 16 en 17 oktober respectievelijk 194 en 231 **Sperwers** *Accipiter nisus* langs Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, en respectievelijk 898 en ruim 600 **Buizerds** *Buteo buteo* langs de Elterberg, Gelderland. Op 17 oktober werd een groepje van vijf **Steppebuizerds** *B b vulpinus* gemeld boven de Hellegatsplaten, Zuid-Holland. Tussen 16 en 23 oktober trokken ook nog eens 17 **Zeearenden** *Haliaeetus albicilla* door. Daarnaast waren er vooral vanaf eind oktober op zes locaties in totaal 10 ter plaatse, waaronder een adulte vogel in de Oostvaardersplassen, Flevoland. In oktober werden nog drie doortrekkende **Grauwe Kiekendieven** *Circus pygargus* gemeld. Tussen 16 en 23 oktober slaagde een onvolwassen **Steenarend** *Aquila chrysaetos* op Terschelling erin om verborgen te blijven voor de grote meute toegestroomde vogelaars. Op 24 oktober werd deze soort gemeld op Schiermonnikoog maar ook daar waren zoekacties tevergeefs. Er werden 16 **Visarenden** *Pandion haliaetus* gezien, met als laatste waarnemingsdatum 2 november. De Starrevaartplas bij Leidschendam, Zuid-Holland, bleef in trek bij de soort getuige de maximaal drie die daar tot 17 oktober aanwezig bleven. Late **Roodpootvalken** *Falco vespertinus* werden gezien op 19 oktober bij het Leersumse Veld, Utrecht, en op 24 oktober langs de Elterberg. Een mogelijke **Lannervalk** *F biarmicus* werd tussen 10 oktober en 21 november driemaal gezien in de Lauwersmeer.

RALLEN TOT ALKEN Een late en curieuze waarneming van een **Kwartelkoning** *Crex crex* was die van een overvliegende op 15 oktober te Den Haag. **Kraanvogels** *Grus grus* werden vooral gezien op 31 oktober en 10 en 11 november; op deze laatste twee dagen vlogen er in totaal c 1000 over, vooral in Limburg. **Morinelplevieren** *Charadrius morinellus* werden gezien van 12 tot 16 oktober op de Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, en op 29 oktober bij Camperduin, Noord-Holland. Op 20 en 21 november verbleef een **Amerikaanse Goudplevier** *Pluvialis dominicus* bij Goedereede, Zuid-Holland. Een **Steppekievit** *Vanellus gregarius* pleisterde op 4 oktober bij Baarlo, Overijssel. De laatste stuiptrekking van de influx van **Gestreepte Strandlopers** *Calidris melanotos* leverde tot 3 oktober maximaal twee exemplaren op in de Ezumakeeg, Friesland. De tweede **Blonde Ruiter** *Tryngites subruficollis* van het (na)jaar verbleef op 15 oktober kortstondig in de polders bij Camperduin. Op 3 november werd op Terschelling de zesde **Kleine Geelpootruiter** *Tringa fla-*

*vipes* voor Nederland gevonden. **Grauwe Franjepoten** *Phalaropus lobatus* bevonden zich op 5 oktober op Texel, op 7 oktober in de Ezumakeeg (drie), op 8 oktober bij Burgervlotbrug, op 10 oktober op Terschelling (vier), op 17 oktober te Castricum, Noord-Holland (ringvangst), en een late op 7 november kort ter plaatse bij de pretpier van Scheveningen. In totaal werden 16 **Rosse Franjepoten** *P fulicaria* gemeld. Een binnenlandwaarneming van een **Middelste Jager** *Stercorarius pomarinus* kwam op 30 november uit de Ooypolder. Langs de kust werden tot 10 oktober nog 23 **Kleinste Jagers** *S longicaudus* opgemerkt. Behoorlijke aantallen **Grote Jagers** *S skua* werden gemeld op Terschelling met op 4 en 5 oktober 76 respectievelijk 50. Zoals met de meeste zeevogels trokken ook **Vorkstaartmeeuwen** *Larus sabini* voornamelijk langs in de eerste week van oktober en op 6 en 7 november; in totaal werden er 18 gemeld. De honkvaste **Ringsnavelmeeuw** *L delawarensis* van Goes, Zeeland, bleef de gehele periode aanwezig. In totaal 10 **Baltische Mantelmeeuwen** *L fuscus* werden doorgegeven. Grote aantallen **Geelpootmeeuwen** *L michahellis* en **Pontische Meeuwen** *L cachinnans cachinnans* werden vooral geteld op de recreatieplas Klein Vink bij Arcen, Limburg. De adulte **Grote Burgemeester** *L hyperboreus* van Den Helder verscheen dit jaar op 1 oktober en bleef tot 23 oktober. Ook bij de Brouwersdam werd weer eens een adulte gezien, en wel op 1 november. De derde **Forsters Stern**

**383** Pestvogels / Bohemian Waxwings *Bombycilla garrulus*, Terschelling, Friesland, 12 november 1999 *(Arie Ouwerkerk)*



**384** Forsters Stern / Forster's Tern *Sterna forsteri*, Boschplaat, Terschelling, Friesland, 14 november 1999 *(Han Zevenhuizen)*

*Sterna forsteri* voor Nederland verscheen op 13 november op de uiterste oostpunt van Terschelling en werd op 14 november nog door enkele 10-tallen afgereisde vogelaars gezien. Een **Witwangstern** *Chlidonias hybridus* vloog op 16 oktober bij het Kornwerderzand en twee **Witvleugelsterns** *C leucopterus* verbleven van 10 tot 12 oktober bij Den Oever, Noord-Holland. **Zwarte Zeekoeten** *Cepphus grylle* werden gemeld op 13 oktober bij Camperduin en op 1 november langs de Brouwersdam. Slechts 21 **Kleine Alken** *Alle alle* werden geteld, voornamelijk begin november. **Papegaaiduikers** *Fratercula arctica* vlogen op 12 oktober en 11 november langs Terschelling, op 26 (twee) en 30 oktober langs Camperduin, op 7 november langs Vlieland en op 17 november langs Westkapelle.

GIERZWALUWEN TOT GORZEN Intrigerend zijn de late **Gierzwaluwen** *Apus apus* op 25 oktober in de Lauwersmeer en op Schiermonnikoog, mede in het licht van wat zich in die dagen in Engeland en Ierland afspeelde met zeldzame gierzwaluw-soorten (cf Dutch Birding 21: 290, 292, 1999). De **Bijeneter** *Merops apiaster* van Schiermonnikoog werd nog tot 5 oktober waargenomen. **Hoppen** *Upupa epops* verbleven op 3 oktober op Texel (twee, waarvan één tot 10 oktober bleef), op 20 en 21 november bij Westkapelle en op 22 november bij Oostkapelle, Zeeland; op 15 oktober zou er één gehoord zijn op de Maashorst, Noord-Brabant. Niet minder dan drie **Kortteenleeuweriken** *Calandrella brachydactyla* werden gemeld: op 15 oktober op Texel, op 17 oktober bij Tienhoven, Utrecht, en op 18 oktober op Vlieland. **Strandleeuweriken** *Eremophila alpestris* lijken het weer goed te doen. Zo werden er op 19 november 550 geteld langs de Groningse waddenkust. Ook werden hier ruim 1000 **Fraters** *Carduelis flavirostris* geturfd. Een **Roodstuitzwaluw** *Hirundo daurica* vloog op 24 oktober rond in de Eemshaven, Groningen. Van de 38 **Grote Piepers** *Anthus richardi* werd het grootste deel voor half oktober gezien. Tot 23 oktober

werden ook nog acht **Duinpiepers** *A campestris* opgemerkt. Een **Siberische Boompieper** *A hodgsoni* werd op 22 oktober kortstondig gezien bij de Hoge Berg op Texel. **Roodkeelpiepers** *A cervinus* verbleven op 10 oktober bij Breezanddijk, Friesland, en op 12 oktober bij Wierum, Friesland. Op 29 oktober werden de eerste **Pestvogels** *Bombycilla garrulus* gemeld, en meteen op vier verschillende locaties. De hoofdmacht van de bescheiden invasie kwam tussen 7 en 15 november aan, waarbij vooral in het noorden van Nederland veel waarnemingen werden gedaan. Na 20 november werden ze ook in het zuiden meer waargenomen. In totaal ging het om ruim 300 exemplaren. Grote aantallen waren tot 14 november maximaal 30 verspreid over Texel, vanaf 9 november maximaal 26 in Alkmaar, Noord-Holland, op 12 november 75 verdeeld over twee locaties op Terschelling, op 13 november 24 in Den Helder en vanaf 16 november maximaal 25 in Julianadorp, Noord-Holland. Zeer laat waren de waarnemingen van een **Blauwborst** *Luscinia svecica* op 14 november op Terschelling en een **Gekraagde Roodstaart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* op 28 november bij IJmuiden. De derde **Blauwstaart** *Tarsiger cyanurus* voor Nederland toonde grote belangstelling voor de netten van de ringers in de Kroonspolders op Vlieland; de vogel vloog er tussen 11 en 16 oktober acht keer in. Voor de zekerheid werd de vogel na de laatste vangst op een andere plek op het eiland losgelaten maar helaas voor de toegesnelde vogelaars de volgende dag niet meer gezien. Dit najaar leverde de zesde tot en met de achtste **Bonte Tapuit** *Oenanthe pleschanka* voor Nederland op; van 4 tot 15 oktober verbleef een mannetje op Texel (eerst bij Zeeburg, later bij de Slufter), op 24 oktober was er één kortstondig aanwezig bij Huizen, Noord-Holland, en van 9 tot 11 november liet een vrouwtje zich bewonderen bij Nederweert, Limburg. Een opvallend aantal **Beflijsters** *Turdus torquatus*, namelijk 76, vloog op 5 oktober over trektelpost Noordhout bij Maarn, Utrecht. Een late **Waterrietzanger** *Acrocephalus paludicola* liet zich op 7 oktober zien bij Meers, Limburg. Een adulte **Veldrietzanger** *A agricola* werd op 16 oktober gevangen bij Castricum. Verrassend was de waarneming van een overigens weinig coöperatieve **Struikrietzanger** *A dumetorum* van 23 tot 29 oktober bij De Cocksdorp op Texel. **Sperwergrasmussen** *Sylvia nisoria* werden nog uitsluitend van Vlieland gemeld, met twee op 5 en één op 7 oktober. Tussen 6 oktober en 7 november werden niet minder dan 15 **Pallas' Boszangers** *P proregulus* gezien. In oktober werden c 75 **Bladkoningen** *P inornatus* doorgegeven, terwijl er in november nog slechts drie werden gemeld. De eerste **Humes Bladkoning** *P humei* dateerde van 25 oktober op Terschelling. Er volgden waarnemingen op 8 november bij Katwijk aan Zee, van 13 tot 20 november bij Oudemirdum, Friesland, van 13 tot 21 november bij Den Oever en op 24 november in het Amsterdamse Bos, Noord-Holland. **Raddes Boszangers** *P schwarzi* waren er ook maar

**385** Pontische Meeuw / Pontic Gull *Larus cachinnans cachinnans*, eerste-winter, Brouwersdam, Zuid-Holland, 20 november 1999 *(René van Rossum)*

**386** Hop / Hoopoe *Upupa epops*, Texel, Noord-Holland, 7 oktober 1999 *(Jan van Holten)* **387** Steppekievit / Sociable Lapwing *Vanellus gregarius*, eerste-winter, Baarlo, IJsselham, Overijssel, 4 oktober 1999 *(Sietze Bernardus)* **388** Waterrietzanger / Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola*, Meers, Limburg, 7 oktober 1999 *(Ran Schols)* **389** Kleinste Jager / Long-tailed Jaeger *Stercorarius longicaudus*, eerstejaars, 's-Gravenzande, Zuid-Holland, 10 oktober 1999 *(Rob ter Ellen)*

betroffen alleen ringvangsten: op 6 oktober op Schiermonnikoog en op 8 oktober op Texel. **Bruine Boszangers** *P fuscatus* lieten zich wél bekijken, namelijk op 22 oktober op Texel, op 3 november bij Westkapelle en op 11 en 12 november op Terschelling. **Kleine Vliegenvangers** *Ficedula parva* waren dit najaar goed vertegenwoordigd; op Texel twee op 5 oktober, waarvan één tot 6 oktober bleef, op Terschelling in totaal drie op 5, 8 en 23 oktober, op de Maasvlakte op 12 oktober en op 16 oktober in de Kennemerduinen, Noord-Holland. Buiten de broedlocaties in Limburg werden op acht plekken **Taigaboomkruipers** *Certhia familiaris* gezien. **Notenkrakers** *Nucifraga caryocatactes* werden gemeld op 5 oktober vliegend langs de Elterberg, op 17 oktober in de Kennemerduinen en op Vlieland en op 7 november bij Malden, Gelderland. Buiten Hoek van Holland, Zuid-Holland, waar er nog steeds minimaal twee aanwezig waren, verbleef tot half november nog steeds een **Huiskraai** *Corvus splendens* in Muiden, Noord-Holland. De **Roze Spreeuw** *Sturnus roseus* van Vlieland bleef daar tot 18 oktober. Bij Camperduin hield een exemplaar het zelfs uit van 9 oktober tot 13 november. Verder waren er waarnemingen op 9, 10 en 16 oktober op de Maasvlakte, op 11 oktober op Schiermonnikoog en op 2 november bij Ridderkerk, Zuid-Holland; alle waarnemingen betroffen juveniele vogels. **Witbandkruisbekken** *Loxia leucoptera* werden gemeld op 10 oktober in de AW-duinen, Noord-Holland (vijf ), op 12 oktober in de Eemshaven (twee) en op 14 oktober in Zuid-Flevoland (zes). Ook was er een melding van een groep van maximaal zeven **Grote Kruisbekken** *L pytyopsittacus* die van 28 oktober tot ten minste 12 november op Terschelling zou hebben verbleven. Een **Roodmus** *Carpodacus erythrinus* werd op 16 oktober nog gezien op Vlieland. Een eerste-winter **Langstaartroodmus**

**390** Roze Spreeuw / Rose-coloured Starling *Sturnus roseus,* juveniel, Camperduin, Noord-Holland, 12 oktober 1999 *(Jan Stok)*

**391** Roze Spreeuw / Rose-coloured Starling *Sturnus roseus,* juveniel ruiend naar eerste-winter, Camperduin, Noord-Holland, 12 november 1999 *(René Pop)*

**392** Blauwstaart / Red-flanked Bluetail *Tarsiger cyanurus*, Kroonspolders, Vlieland, Friesland, 11 oktober 1999 *(Gerrit Bochem)* **393** Langstaartroodmus / Long-tailed Rosefinch *Uragus sibiricus*, eerste-winter, Hoek van Holland, Zuid-Holland, 2 november 1999 *(Peter van Rij)* **394** Witkopgors / Pine Bunting *Emberiza leucocephalos*, eerste-winter vrouwtje, Castricum, Noord-Holland, 8 november 1999 *(André J van Loon)* **395** Veldrietzanger / Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola*, adult, Castricum, Noord-Holland, 16 oktober 1999 *(André J van Loon)*

**396** Bladkoning / Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*, Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, 16 oktober 1999 *(Hans Gebuis)*

**397** Bonte Tapuit / Pied Wheatear *Oenanthe pleschanka*, eerste-winter vrouwtje, Nederweert, Limburg, 10 november 1999 *(Theo Bakker/Cursorius)*

*Uragus sibiricus* in ongeschonden staat deed bij Hoek van Holland van 31 oktober tot 8 november weer eens een poging om op de Nederlandse lijst te komen. Een eerste-winter vrouwtje **Witkopgors** *Emberiza leucocephalos* werd op 8 november gevangen bij Castricum. De enige **Ortolaan** *E hortulana* die gemeld werd vloog op 12 oktober over Den Haag. **Bosgorzen** *E rustica* verbleven op 8 oktober op Terschelling en op 3 november bij Westkapelle en **Dwerggorzen** *E pusilla* op 16 oktober op Terschelling, op 18 oktober op Vlieland, op 20 oktober in de Kennemerduinen en op 22 oktober bij Hoogeveen, Drenthe.

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## België

GANZEN TOT VALKEN Vanaf 13 november verbleef een juveniele **Roodhalsgans** *Branta ruficollis* te Klemskerke-Vlissegem, West-Vlaanderen. Op 7 november trok een **Witbuikrotgans** *B hrota* langs Oostende, West-Vlaanderen. In oktober werden twee en in november 10 **Krooneenden** *Netta rufina* opgemerkt. Op 16 oktober keerde het mannetje **Ringsnaveleend** *Aythya collaris* voor de 10e opeenvolgende winter terug naar Blokkersdijk, Antwerpen. Vanaf november werd hij regelmatig op het Noordkasteel te Antwerpen, Antwerpen, waargenomen. Van 16 tot 18 oktober en op 14 november verbleef weer een mannetje **Witoogeend** *A nyroca* te Lier-Duffel en op 16 oktober zwom bovendien een vrouwtje te Duffel-Rumst, Antwerpen. Van 18 oktober tot 2 november verbleef een mannetje op het Kluizendok bij Gent, Oost-Vlaanderen. De waarneming van een mannetje bij Dendermonde, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 21 november heeft mogelijk betrekking op het geringde exemplaar dat daar tot in de zomer werd gezien. Een vrouwtje **Rosse Stekelstaart** *Oxyura jamaicensis* werd van 26 oktober tot 7 november gezien te Dilsen-Stokkem, Limburg, en vanaf die laatste datum te Neeroeteren, Limburg. Bij Harelbeke, West-Vlaanderen, zwom vanaf 26 oktober een juveniele **IJseend** *Clangula hyemalis* en op 6 november vloog er één langs Oostende. Tot 12 november was nog een vrouwtje **Zomertaling** *Anas querquedula* aanwezig te Lier, Antwerpen. Naast twee binnenlandwaarnemingen werden langs Oostende vijf **Parelduikers** *Gavia arctica* opgemerkt. In oktober werden langs Oostende slechts twee **Grauwe Pijlstormvogels** *Puffinus griseus* waargenomen; op 6 en 7 november werden er nog 14 geteld. Op 2 oktober vloog, eveneens langs Oostende, een **Vale Pijlstormvogel** *P mauretanicus*; na een waarneming te Koksijde op 6 november volgden nog andere te Oostende op 7 en 17 november (de laatste ooit). Een **Kleine Pijlstormvogel** *P assimilis* die op 3 oktober te Oostende werd opgemerkt, passeerde 16 min later langs Middelkerke, West-Vlaanderen, en weer drie min later langs Westende-Lombardsijde, West-Vlaanderen. Op 5 en 9 oktober werd, alweer te Oostende, telkens één langsvliegende **Kuifaalscholver** *Stictocarbo aristotelis* opgemerkt. De enige novemberwaarneming was die van een juveniele te Duffel op 28 november. Op 3 oktober vloog een juveniele pelikaan *Pelecanus* over Kuringen-Hasselt, Limburg; aan de hand van foto's die gemaakt werden toen de vogel op 13 oktober werd gevangen te Valkenburg, Limburg, Nederland, bleek het om een juveniele **Kleine Pelikaan** *P rufescens* te gaan. Tussen Dudzele en Ramskapelle, West-Vlaanderen, werden nog de gehele periode **Koereigers** *Bubulcus ibis* waargenomen, met maximaal acht à negen (waaronder drie juveniele) op 11 oktober. Op 21 november verbleef dit groepje (van acht) bij Knokke, West-Vlaanderen. Van deze vogels werd er telkens één gezien te Hoeke, West-Vlaanderen, op 15 november en te Lissewege, West-Vlaanderen, op 19 november. De maxima van **Kleine Zilverreigers** *Egretta garzetta* zijn als volgt: 14 in het Zwin te Knokke op 15 november; 29 te Lissewege op 8 november; en 12 in de Achterhaven van Zeebrugge, West-Vlaanderen, op 9 oktober. Verder werden er in totaal 12 waargenomen in/over de Voorhaven van Zeebrugge; telkens één in de Uitkerkse Polder, West-Vlaanderen, op 30 oktober; te Koolkerke, West-Vlaanderen, op 6 november; te Oostkerke, West-Vlaanderen, op 18 november; en te Pommerœul, Hainaut, van 23 tot 27 november. Gedurende de periode werden in totaal 35 **Grote Zilverreigers** *Casmerodius albus* gemeld, met als hoogste aantallen maximaal vijf op 31 oktober in de Wijvenheide te Zonhoven, Limburg, maximaal vier op 8 oktober in de Platweyers te Zonhoven, maximaal vier van 12 tot 28 november te Retie, Antwerpen, drie op 20 oktober te Westkapelle, West-Vlaanderen, en drie op 5 november te Berchem, Antwerpen. Bij de drie laatste soorten is er uiteraard sprake van een niet te controleren uitwisseling tussen de verschillende gebieden. Op 5 oktober trokken vijf **Ooievaars** *Ciconia ciconia* over Angre, Hainaut. Vijf pleisterende, geringde exemplaren te Brecht, Antwerpen (vanaf 10 oktober), kregen op 12 oktober gezelschap van twee ongeringde vogels. Op 17 oktober trok er één over Brecht en op 18 oktober verbleven er negen te Lembeke-Merelbeke, Oost-Vlaanderen. Er volgde nog een waarneming te Mont-Saint-Guibert, Brabant-Wallon, op 22 november. Een claim van een **Zwarte Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* bij Rosières, Brabant-Wallon, op 4 november werd niet geverifieerd. De laatste **Zwarte Wouw** *Milvus migrans* vloog op 10 oktober over Bredene, West-Vlaanderen. In de Kalkense Meersen, Oost-Vlaanderen, verbleven tot 15 oktober maximaal twee **Rode Wouwen** *M milvus* en op 7 oktober vlogen er twee over Steendorp, Oost-Vlaanderen. Vanaf 10 oktober ontstond een ware trekgolf: in de rest van oktober werden er nog 52 opgemerkt. De vijf over Galmaarden, Vlaams-Brabant, op 17 oktober vormden het hoogste dagtotaal van één

**398** vermoedelijke Daurische Klauwier / presumed Daurian Shrike *Lanius speculigerus*, eerstejaars, Zeebrugge, West-Vlaanderen, 14 november 1999 *(Patrick Beirens)*

plaats. In schril contrast was de enkele waarneming in november, op 11 november te Lommel, Antwerpen. Er werden juveniele **Zeearenden** *Haliaeetus albicilla* gezien in Het Zwin op 20, 22 en 26 oktober; over Heverlee, Vlaams-Brabant, op 24 oktober; te Willebroek, Antwerpen, op 26 oktober; te Angre op 30 oktober; te Lapscheure, West-Vlaanderen, op 14 november; over Lier-Duffel op 21 november; te Zevergem, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 23 november; in de Uitkerkse Polders op 26 november; en te Escanaffles, Hainaut, op 27 november. Op 17 oktober was er massale trek van **Buizerds** *Buteo buteo*. Zo werden maxima geteld van 550 over Turnhout, Antwerpen; 410 over Oud-Turnhout, Antwerpen; en 222 over Lier, Antwerpen. Op 28 november verbleef een juveniele **Ruigpootbuizerd** *B lagopus* bij Doel, Oost-Vlaanderen. Er werden in oktober nog 15 **Visarenden** *Pandion haliaetus* opgemerkt. De laatste trokken op 1 november over Zonhoven, op 7 november over Tienen, Vlaams-Brabant, en op 12 november over Lier. Een grote valk *Falco* te Tienen op 3 oktober werd als **Sakervalk** *F cherrug* gedetermineerd.

RALLEN TOT ALKEN Het laatste **Porseleinhoen** *Porzana porzana* werd op 30 oktober gezien te Brecht. Op 10 oktober werd in de Achterhaven van Zeebrugge een **Kwartelkoning** *Crex crex* opgestoten. Op 13 oktober vlogen de eerste 12 **Kraanvogels** *Grus grus* over Bilzen, Limburg. Daarna volgden tot half november nog meer dan 2665 exemplaren. De hoogste tellingen kwamen van Virton, Luxembourg (1000+), en Oppange, Luxembourg (700), beide op de piekdag 11 november. Van 17 tot 30 oktober verbleef een late juveniele **Temmincks Strandloper** *Calidris temminckii* bij Bredene. Op 3 oktober trok een vermoedelijke **Bartrams Ruiter** *Bartramia longicauda* over zee langs Oostende. Een eerste-winter **Grauwe Franjepoot** *Phalaropus lobatus* pleisterde op 9 en 10 oktober te Bredene. Van 12 tot 30 oktober verbleef een makke eerste-winter **Rosse Franjepoot** *P fulicaria* in Het Zwin. Op 7 november vloog er één en op 18 november vlogen er wel zes langs Oostende. In oktober trokken langs dezelfde plaats in totaal 63 **Middelste Jagers** *Stercorarius pomarinus*. In november deed deze soort het nog beter en werd de omvangrijkste influx van de 20e eeuw opgetekend: tussen 5 en 19 november werden, de meeste te Oostende, 745 exemplaren geteld, met als maximum 218 op 6 november. Op 7 november vloog een **Kleine Jager** *S parasiticus* over Gierle, Antwerpen. Langs Oostende passeerden tussen 1 en 6 oktober 15 **Kleinste Jagers** *S longicaudus*, met als maximum zeven op 4 oktober. Op 6 november volgde daar de laatste waarneming. In totaal werden slechts 21 **Zwartkopmeeuwen** *Larus melanocephalus* gemeld. De enige **Vorkstaartmeeuw** *L sabini*, een juveniele, vloog op 17 november langs Oostende. De eerste **Baltische Mantelmeeuw** *L fuscus* voor België was een adulte van 10 tot 16 oktober in de IJzermonding te Nieuwpoort, West-Vlaan-

deren. Behalve de normale verspreide waarnemingen van **Geelpootmeeuwen** *L michahellis* en **Pontische Meeuwen** *L cachinnans cachinnans* was er nog een telling van 76 Geelpootmeeuwen op de stranden tussen Nieuwpoort en De Panne op 3 oktober. De adulte **Grote Burgemeester** *L hyperboreus* van Oostende was onafgebroken aanwezig langs de Visserskaai. Op 23 november was een derde-winter aanwezig bij Sint-Kruis-Winkel, Oost-Vlaanderen. Op 17 november passeerde een late **Grote Stern** *Sterna sandvicensis* langs Oostende. Tussen 7 en 18 november vlogen vijf **Kleine Alken** *Alle alle* langs Oostende en één langs Zeebrugge. Ondanks de schaarse waarnemingen was er ook een binnenlandwaarneming te Duffel-Rumst op 20 november.

DUIVEN TOT GORZEN Op 16 en 17 oktober werden alleen al in Limburg 65 500 overtrekkende **Houtduiven** *Columba palumbus* geteld. Op 10 oktober verbleef een late **Nachtzwaluw** *Caprimulgus europaeus* te Zeebrugge. Op 6 oktober werd een **Kortteenleeuwerik** *Calandrella brachydactyla* waargenomen bij Oostmalle. Van 13 tot 15 november verbleef er één in de Baai te Heist. Tussen 9 oktober en 24 november werden in totaal 15 **Grote Piepers** *Anthus richardi* waargenomen. Op 13 november pleisterde een eerste-winter **Duinpieper** *A campestris* in de Baai te Heist; het betrof de laatste waarneming ooit in België. Tussen 10 en 23 oktober werden nog zeven **Roodkeelpiepers** *A cervinus* opgemerkt. **Pestvogels** *Bombycilla garrulus* bleven schaars met tussen 9 en 16 november waarnemingen te Bredene (acht); Erembodegem, Oost-Vlaanderen (twee); Gent (twee); Harchies, Hainaut; Knokke (zeven); Merelbeke, Oost-Vlaanderen; en Zeebrugge (drie). Afsluiter van de reeks waren de 30 te Groot-Bijgaarden, Vlaams-Brabant, op 19 november. De eerste helft van oktober was ook nog goed voor acht **Beflijsters** *Turdus torquatus*. 'Out-of-place' **Cetti's Zangers** *Cettia cetti* werden waargenomen te Zeebrugge op 13 oktober; te Blankenberge, West-Vlaanderen, van 14 oktober tot 3 november; te Heist op 16 oktober en 4 november; te Raversijde, West-Vlaanderen, op 21 oktober; en bij Zeebrugge op 4 november. Te Heist bleven tot maximaal vier **Graszangers** *Cisticola juncidis* aanwezig tot november, te Dudzele-Zeebrugge werden er tot in november maximaal vijf gezien. Ook waren er nog nieuwe waarnemingen te Wenduine, West-Vlaanderen, op 12 oktober en in de Voorhaven van Zeebrugge van 18 oktober tot 14 november. Op 31 oktober werd een **Struikrietzanger** *Acrocephalus dumetorum* gemeld te Harchies maar die kon helaas niet worden teruggevonden. Van 30 oktober tot 11 november vertoefde in de Zwinbosjes te Knokke een skulkend, eerste-winter mannetje **Kleine Zwartkop** *Sylvia melanocephala*. Op 17 oktober arriveerden de eerste **Pallas' Boszangers** *Phylloscopus proregulus* te Heist (twee), te Knokke en te Wetteren, Oost-Vlaanderen. Daarna was het wachten tot 3 november toen exemplaren opdoken te Middelkerke en te Oostende (beiden tot 4 november) en op 4 november werden exemplaren ontdekt te Heist, te Nieuwpoort (twee), en te Middelkerke. Na de eerste **Bladkoning** *P inornatus* te Stabroek, Antwerpen, op 7 en 8 oktober volgden in oktober nog 11 en in november drie waarnemingen. **Raddes Boszangers** *P schwarzi* werden geringd te Korbeek-Lo, Vlaams-Brabant, op 16 oktober en te Machelen, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 17 oktober. Ook was er een veldwaarneming te Oostduinkerke, West-Vlaanderen, op 31 oktober. Op 16 oktober waren er ook vangsten van **Bruine Boszangers** *P fuscatus*, en wel te Berendrecht, Antwerpen, en te Semmerzake, Oost-Vlaanderen. Op 28 oktober werd er één gezien te Zeebrugge. Mogelijke **Siberische Tjiftjaffen** *P collybita tristis* waren aanwezig te Heist op 16 oktober; te Lier vanaf 12 november; te Zeebrugge op 14 en 15 november; en te Froyennes, Hainaut, op 22 november. Op 3 en 4 november verbleef een late **Fitis** *P trochilus* te Oostende. In oktober werden 17 **Buidelmezen** *Remiz pendulinus* waargenomen en in november kwamen er daar nog vijf bij. De eerste-winter **Daurische Klauwier** *Lanius speculigerus* in de Voorhaven van Zeebrugge op 14 november, wist binnen een uur na zijn ontdekking de daar aanwezige Graszanger te vangen en te verorberen!; het betrof de tweede 'izabelklauwier' voor België. Een **Notenkraker** *Nucifraga caryocatactes* bleek op 1 november aanwezig te zijn geweest op het kerkhof te Averbode, Vlaams-Brabant. Op 24 oktober verbleef een **Russische Kauw** *Corvus monedula soemmerringii* bij Meetkerke, West-Vlaanderen; op 6 november zat er één te Wuustwezel, Antwerpen; en op 27 november één bij Zuienkerke, West-Vlaanderen. Het gerucht dat rond half oktober meerdere **Grote Kruisbekken** *Loxia pytyopsittacus* vertoefden tussen enkele 100en **Kruisbekken** *L curvirostra* te Kerkhoven-Hechtel, Limburg, werd pas op 11 en 13 november bevestigd toen een groepje van 16 werd waargenomen. Er waren ook waarnemingen van drie exemplaren te Genk-Bokrijk, Limburg, op 21 oktober en twee te Diepenbeek, Limburg, op 30 oktober. Een (vermoedelijk eerste-winter mannetje) **Langstaartroodmus** *Uragus sibiricus* werd op 27 oktober gezien bij Blankenberge. Er werden 31 **IJsgorzen** *Calcarius lapponicus* waargenomen. Op 7 oktober werd een **Bosgors** *Emberiza rustica* geringd te Beaufays, Liège. Van 10 tot 12 oktober pleisterde een **Dwerggors** *E pusilla* te Dudzele-Zeebrugge en op 26 oktober was er een vangst bij Willebroek.

Deze rubriek kwam tot stand met medewerking van Yves Baptiste (Harelbeke), Luk Bekaert (Oost-Vlaanderen), Peter Collaerts (Vlaams-Brabant), Frank Descheemaeker (Mergus), Hugues Dufourny (Hainaut), Maarten Hens (Vlaams-Brabant), Koen Leysen (Limburg), en Willy Verschueren (Groenlink). Ook de hulp van al diegenen die (hun) waarnemingen inspraken op de Wielewaal-vogellijn (03-4880194) was hier onontbeerlijk.

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

# DB Actueel

**Phoebe Snetsinger** On 23 November 1999, Phoebe Snetsinger from Missouri, USA, was killed at the age of 68 in a car accident in south-western Madagascar. In September 1995, she became the first birder to reach a lifelist of 8000 species, despite starting her birding travels around the world only in 1981. At her time of death, this lifelist had reached over 8400 species. For more information and references, see Dutch Birding 18: 151, 1996. EDITORS

**New species of hawk-owl** Until recently, two endemic species of hawk-owl *Ninox* were thought to occur on Sulawesi, Indonesia: Speckled Hawk-Owl *N punctulata*, which is found from lowland habitats up to 2300 m throughout the island, and Ochre-bellied Hawk-Owl *N ochracea*, which inhabits lowland rainforests in central and northern Sulawesi. The presence of a third species of hawk-owl became apparent during a visit in 1998 by Pamela C Rasmussen to the Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum/Naturalis (NNM) in Leiden, the Netherlands. This third species is only known from a unique specimen collected in April 1985 by Frank G Rozendaal in montane forest in Bogani Nani Wartabone National Park (formerly Dumoga-Bone), North Sulawesi. The specimen was provisionally identified by FGR as a previously unknown rufous morph of Ochre-bellied Hawk-Owl. Close study by PCR, however, revealed several structural differences from Ochre-bellied Hawk-Owl. The almost entirely bright rufous plumage of this specimen is therefore unlikely due to morphism, which is unknown in hawk-owls. The specimen was designated as the holotype of a new species, Cinnabar Hawk-Owl *Ninox ios* (Rasmussen, P C 1999. A new species of hawk-owl *Ninox* from North Sulawesi, Indonesia. Wilson Bull 111: 457-464). It is a small owl without facial pattern, with a pink orbital ring, yellow iris, triangular spots on the scapulars, a long and finely banded tail, and unusually short legs which are feathered for most of their length. Bogani Nani Wartabone National Park is well-known among birders and ornithologists. The discovery of this owl may therefore come as a surprise. It will most likely result in further field work in the area. Information on the vocalizations, colour photographs of the live bird, and new information on habitat and distribution of this species will be published by FGR. Cinnabar Hawk-Owl represents the eighth new species of owl described in the 1990s. GEORGE SANGSTER

**New species of antpitta** In 1998, Robert Ridgely announced the discovery of a striking new species of antbird in southern Ecuador. It was first encountered at Quebrada Honda, provincia Zamora-Chinchipe, in November 1997. Subsequent visits resulted in new information on vocalizations, ecology, behaviour and distribution. A team of six ornithologists has formally described the antbird and has named it *Grallaria ridgelyi*, in honour of Robert Ridgely's great contributions to Neotropical ornithology (Krabbe, N, Agro, D J, Rice, N H, Jacome, M, Navarrete, L & Sornoza, F 1999. A new species of antpitta (Formicariidae: *Grallaria*) from the southern Ecuadorian Andes. Auk 116: 882-890). The proposed English name, 'Jocotoco Antpitta', is a direct transcription of the local name for the antpitta. The most obvious features of Jocotoco Antpitta are its very large size, striking head pattern, with a black cap and a white cheek patch bordered by a black malar stripe and anterior auricular feathers, a deep and black bill and proportionally very long legs. A molecular analysis indicates that its closest relative is Chestnut-naped Antpitta *G nuchalis*. All specimens were collected in wet montane forests at 2300-2680 m. The known range of the new antpitta extends to Podocarpus National Park – a popular birding destination and home to at least two other recently discovered species (a tapaculo and a cotinga). The authors speculate that the new antpitta has a much wider distribution than is known today and that it occurs south-east to Cordillerade Tzunantza and the southern part of Cordillera de Condor, Peru, and south-west to the Rio Isimanchi. Despite its possibly wider range, the antpitta is vulnerable to habitat alteration and other disturbances. To ensure its preservation, a 700 ha patch of forest surrounding the type locality of Jocotoco Antpitta was purchased in October 1998 and turned into a reserve large enough to hold a viable population. GEORGE SANGSTER

# Corrigendum

In the paper on sexing of juvenile Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus* (Dutch Birding 21: 189-192, 1999) Andrea Corso noted two serious errors which should be amended:
P 189, under 'Juvenile male, plumage', 10th-12th line: 'The wings are darker, more solidly black, although ... less solidly black' should read 'The upperwings are paler, less solidly black; the dark bands are darker and more visible then in juvenile female in both primaries and secondaries; the fingers are also paler'.
P 192, 4th-6th line: 'The dark secondaries are darker .... with more obvious dark bars' should read '... with less obvious or not visible dark bars'. EDITORS

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