DUTCH BIRDING

VOLUME 24 • NO 1 • 2002

Dutch Birding

Internationaal tijdschrift over Palearctische vogels

Redactie
Dutch Birding
Postbus 116
2080 AC Santpoort-Zuid
Nederland
fax 023-5376749
e-mail editors@dutchbirding.nl

Fotoredactie
Dutch Birding
p/a René Pop
Postbus 1007
1780 EA Julianadorp
Nederland
e-mail rene.pop@dutchbirding.nl

Abonnementenadministratie
p/a Jeannette Admiraal
Iepenlaan 11
1901 ST Castricum
Nederland
e-mail circulation@dutchbirding.nl

Bestuur
Dutch Birding Association
Postbus 75611
1070 AP Amsterdam
Nederland
e-mail dba@dutchbirding.nl

Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna
CDNA
Postbus 45
2080 AA Santpoort-Zuid
Nederland
e-mail cdna@dutchbirding.nl

Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna
CSNA, p/a George Sangster
Stevenshof 17
2312 GM Leiden
Nederland
e-mail csna@dutchbirding.nl

Telefoonlijnen
0900-20 321 28
(vogellijn, EUR 0,35/min)
010-4281212 (inspreeklijn)

Internet
www.dutchbirding.nl

Dutch Birding

Hoofdredacteur Arnoud van den Berg (tel 023-5378024, fax 023-5376749, e-mail arnoud.van.den.berg@dutchbirding.nl)

Adjunct hoofdredacteur Enno Ebels (tel 030-2961335, fax 030-2980924, e-mail enno.ebels@dutchbirding.nl)

Uitvoerend redacteur André van Loon (tel / fax 020-6997585, e-mail andre.van.loon@dutchbirding.nl)

Fotografisch redacteur René Pop (tel 0223-690141, fax 0223-690142, e-mail rene.pop@dutchbirding.nl)

Redactieraad Peter Adriaens, Gunter De Smet, Ferdy Hieselaar, Diederik Kok, Peter Meininger, Gerald Oreel, Roy Slaterus en Roland van der Vliet

Redactie-adviesraad Peter Barthel, Dick Forsman, Ricard Gutiérrez, Lars Jonsson, Paul Lehman, Anthony McGeehan, Killian Mullarney, Klaus Malling Olsen, Magnus Robb, George Sangster, Hadoram Shirihai en Lars Svensson

Redactiemedewerkers Rob van Bemmelen, Ruud van Dongen, Gerald Driessens, Nils van Duivendijk, Dick Groenendijk, Klaas Haas, Anthony McGeehan, Hans van der Meulen, André van der Plas, Kees Roselaar, René van Rossum en Peter de Rouw

Productie en lay-out André van Loon en René Pop

Advertenties Laurens Steijn, p/a Dutch Birding, Postbus 75611, 1070 AP Amsterdam e-mail advertising@dutchbirding.nl

Abonnementen De abonnementsprijs voor 2002 bedraagt: EUR 30.00 (Nederland), EUR 33.00 (Europa) en EUR 36.00 (landen buiten Europa).
U kunt zich abonneren door het overmaken van de abonnementsprijs op girorekening 01 50 697 (Nederland), girorekening 000 1592468 19 (België) of bankrekening 54 93 30 348 van ABN•AMRO (Castricum), ovv 'abonnement Dutch Birding'. Alle rekeningen zijn ten name van de Dutch Birding Association. Het abonnement gaat in na ontvangst van de betaling.

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 (2001, 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). Voor afwijkingen van en aanvullingen op bovenstaande overzichten zie Dutch Birding 19: 21-28, 1997; 20: 22-32, 1998; 24: 22-24, 2002.

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

Dutch Birding Association

Bestuur Theo Admiraal (penningmeester), Gijsbert van der Bent (voorzitter, tel 071-4024547), Leon Edelaar, Rob Olivier en Marc Plomp (secretaris, tel 0348-433730); tevens is de redactie van Dutch Birding met een zetel vertegenwoordigd.

Bestuursmedewerkers Jeannette Admiraal, Lucien Davids, Klaas Haas, Marcel Haas, Leo Heemskerk, Sander Lagerveld, Ger Meesters, Arnold Meijer en Leonie Olivier-van Hille.

Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA)

Leden Theo Bakker, Max Berlijn, Ruud van Beusekom, Bert de Bruin (secretaris, tel 050-3139251), Nils van Duivendijk, Jan van der Laan (voorzitter, tel 072-5203091), Teus Luijendijk en Roland van der Vliet (archivaris). De CDNA is een commissie van de Dutch Birding Association en de Nederlandse Ornithologische Unie.

Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (CSNA)

Leden Arnoud van den Berg, André van Loon, Kees Roselaar, George Sangster (secretaris, tel 071-5143790) en Ronald Sluys. De CSNA is een commissie van de Dutch Birding Association en de Nederlandse Ornithologische Unie.

© 2002 Stichting Dutch Birding Association. Het copyright van de foto's en tekeningen blijft bij de fotografen en tekenaars. ISSN 0167-2878.

Drukkerij Rob Stolk bv, Mauritskade 55, 1092 AD Amsterdam, Nederland

Pygmy Cormorant in Lys valley, Belgium/France, in December 2000-January 2001

Christophe Capelle & Gunter De Smet

Ploegsteert and Warneton are situated in an enclave of the Belgian province of Hainaut, enclosed by France in the south and the province of West-Vlaanderen in the north. Extraction of clay for brickmaking led to the excavation of reservoirs along the valley of the Lys river near these two localities. Christophe and Isabelle Capelle regularly visit these reservoirs for counting waterbirds.

Upon arrival at the main reservoir of Warneton on a sunny Thursday afternoon, 28 December 2000, CC and IC flushed a bird that at first reminded CC of a Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*. IC, however, believed it to be a small cormorant. Only shortly afterwards, the bird flew past again and CC realized that it was not only a cormorant but a Pygmy Cormorant *Microcarbo pygmeus*, a species they had previously observed at Montfoort, Utrecht, the Netherlands, on 24 January 1999. He started taking a number of flight shots of the bird but it was soon gaining height and it disappeared towards the east.

CC and IC met Vincent Van Halst at the site shortly after the observation and relocated the actively fishing bird where they had first seen it. Again, CC had the opportunity to take a number of pictures until a biker drove past and flushed the bird. Meanwhile, numbers of local birders turned up after he had spread the news by phone but all waited in vain that evening.

On the next day, 29 December, the Pygmy Cormorant arrived soon after sunrise. It was observed intermittently during the day by numerous observers, some of which had travelled quite a distance to come and see it. On 30 December, the bird was seen during most of the day, first at Ploegsteert and then at Warneton. On New Year's Eve, it came back during early morning but it was scared off by a gun shot of a hunter and it left at c 09:00 not to be seen again for the rest of the day. During early morning of New Year's Day, it was at Warneton again and it would remain there for most of the day. On 2 January 2001 and the next days, the bird was not seen again despite intensive searches. A fortnight later, on 16 January, the cormorant reappeared unexpectedly on the main reservoir of Warneton. It was observed for c 20 min, fishing leisurely. Finally, it jumped onto overhanging branches and held its wings out in the characteristic spread-wing posture before leaving. The bird was briefly seen in flight over Deûlémont, Nord, France, on 20 January. It was flying towards the reservoirs of Warneton. It must have been heading to some other place, however, as it could not be found at Warneton nor at Ploegsteert shortly afterwards.

This record was accepted into category A by the BAHC (Belgisch Avifaunistisch Homologatiecomité) as a new species on the Belgian avifaunistic list.

Description

The description is based on drawings by VVH, a video by Leo Janssen and photographs by CC and Han Remaut.

SIZE & SHAPE Very small cormorant, in size between Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* and Eurasian Coot (in direct size comparison), with long tail, small head, short thick neck and shortish wings. Bill short, blunt and deep-based, only 40% of total head length. Forehead short and steep, sometimes forming marked angle with flat crown or even slight forehead bump when raising forecrown feathers. Feathering on chin reaching halfway bill. Throat bulging. In flight, projection of rump and tail beyond base of wing slightly exceeding or equalling projection of head and neck beyond wing (each c 35% of total body length). Tail base narrow. Tail strongly graduated, outer rectrix (t6) only 50-65% of longest remaining tail-feathers (t2). Rectrices narrow and pointed.

HEAD Head and neck brown, except for whitish chin and throat, gradually merging into brownish foreneck.

UPPERPARTS Mantle and scapulars dull brown; no gloss detected, but mostly observed from a distance in winter light conditions. Lower rump and uppertail-coverts brownish.

UNDERPARTS Extensively pale buff underparts, breast more coarsely mottled dark brown, flank and undertail-coverts brownish.

WING Primaries and primary coverts brownish, paler

1-2 Pygmy Cormorant / Dwergaalscholver *Microcarbo pygmeus*, Warneton, Hainaut, 30 December 2000 *(Han Remaut)* **3-4** Pygmy Cormorant / Dwergaalscholver *Microcarbo pygmeus*, Warneton, Hainaut, 28 December 2000 *(Christophe Capelle)*

on outer web than on inner web. Secondaries brownish. Upperwing-coverts and underwing-coverts more blackish and darker than flight-feathers.

TAIL Blackish.

BARE PARTS Iris dark. Bill yellowish, browner on culmen and tip. Leg dark.

BEHAVIOUR Perching on small branches, 20-50 cm above water level. Swimming with body deeply submerged, often with head and bill tilted upwards. Shy, always keeping at a fairly large distance of observers, flying off immediately on approach. Solitary. Never seen in company of Great Cormorants *Phalacrocorax carbo* present at site, neither for perching nor for fishing. However, seen perched numerous times in immediate vicinity of Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*.

FLIGHT Rapid wing-beats alternated by short glides. In flight neck stretched and lowered. Long tail conspicuous in flight.

MOULT & WEAR Longest central rectrix (t1) missing on both sides; five remaining tail feathers on either side. Possibly starting primary moult: on some slides gap maybe indicating recently dropped inner primaries (p1) but on other slides gap seemingly absent. Not possible to count inner primaries exactly on slides, therefore exact moult stage unknown. Similarly, gap in inner wing maybe indicating active tertial moult, but seemingly absent in other slides.

Identification and ageing

The identification of Pygmy Cormorant is fairly straightforward. The only problem is to exclude the remote possibility of an escaped Little Cormorant *M niger* from the Indian region, a species not known to occur in captivity in Belgium. Little Cormorant is very similar to Pygmy Cormorant. In winter plumage, chin and throat are extensively white in Pygmy Cormorant, merging into neck and breast, whereas the pale pattern in Little Cormorant is usually reduced to the chin

and clearly demarcated. Possibly, the bill of winter Pygmy Cormorants is paler, more yellow than in Little Cormorant. Both the bill colour and the extent of white on chin and throat indicate Pygmy Cormorant rather than Little Cormorant in the Belgian bird. The identification of Pygmy Cormorant, Little Cormorant and Long-tailed Cormorant *M africanus* is discussed by Ebels et al (2000).

The dull brown primaries and primary-coverts suggest a juvenile wing. The yellowish bill and very pale underparts (especially mottled breast) indicate a first-winter. Cramp & Simmons (1977) mention that the onset of the primary moult in juveniles may start after completion of the body moult in December, which seemed to be the case in the Lys valley individual. The missing central tail feathers may also indicate a first-winter. The moult of this species is poorly known, however, and an older immature is difficult to rule out on present knowledge.

Breeding range

Pygmy Cormorant has declined since the middle of the 19th century for various reasons: poor wetland conservation (drainage of swamps and other wetlands), environmental deterioration (pollutants), persecution by fishermen, destruction of colonies, etc (Cramp & Simmons 1977, Collar & Andrew 1988, Crivelli et al 1995). It is now considered a threatened species throughout its breeding range, and a vulnerable species in Europe. Pygmy Cormorant breeds in the south-east of the Western Palearctic: in the south-east of the Mediterranean, Hungary, and the Balkans. It also breeds along the Black Sea coast and in south-eastern Iran and Iraq. It is also said to breed at a single site in Syria (Cramp & Simmons 1977). The major colonies are situated in Azerbaijan, Greece, Romania and Turkey. The available information for the different countries allows a world population estimate of 22 345-27 055 pairs according to Stattersfield & Capper (2000). In spite of a range extension and a recent increase in the west, the global population may still be threatened, but no recent data are available for the important Azerbaijan population. Drainage of wetlands in the east may cause a westward shift of the population and the species may take advantage of increasing eutrophication and its effects on food availability.

Remains of Pygmy Cormorants dating back from the Middle Ages have been found in Britain but there is no evidence of breeding (Cowles 1981). It was considered to be a breeding bird in Algeria during the 19th century (Heim de Balsac & Mayaud 1962, Cramp & Simmons 1977). Pygmy Cormorant has bred in Israel until 1940. Since 1992 the species has been trying to settle there again.

Since the 1990s, the limits of the breeding range have changed. The species has reconquered parts of its former breeding range in several countries, including Hungary. Pygmy Cormorants used to breed there but became rare by the end of the 19th century. Up to 1980, it was not considered a breeding bird anymore. Only a few breeding records had been suspected in the meantime in 1963 (Vertse 1966) and in 1969 (Sterbetz 1974). The species bred again at Lake Tisza in 1988 (Bodnar 1989) and in 1990 (Konyhas & Kovacs 1990). A permanent population gradually established during the 1990s, after a tiny colony of two pairs was discovered in 1991. This colony increased from four to 14 pairs between 1992 and 1997, 50 pairs in 1998, 70 in 1999 and 100-110 pairs in 2000 (Kovacs 1991, Kovacs 1995, Tibor Hadarics & András Schmidt in litt). In 2001, over 200 pairs were breeding in four colonies in the Hortobágy (Gantlett 2001).

The species extended its breeding range to Italy. The first breeding was discovered in 1981, and the species bred again in 1994 in the Po delta (Crivelli et al 2000). The growing population counted 30 breeding pairs in 1999 and 30-40 breeding pairs in 2000 in the Po delta (Andrea Corso in litt).

Migration and wintering

The major part of the Pygmy Cormorant population from Italy and the Balkans is partly sedentary and migratory. At the end of October 2000, 840 individuals were counted at the breeding site in the Hortobágy, Hungary. Most of these birds were from the local breeding population, perhaps augmented by birds from south-eastern Europe (Tibor Hadarics & András Schmidt in litt; Limicola 14: 253, 2000).

Another part of the population remains at the breeding sites throughout the year and others are short range migrants to the coasts of the Adriatic, Black and Aegean Seas. Birds ringed in former Yugoslavia have been recovered in south-eastern Romania in November and in Albania in December (Cramp & Simmons 1977). In Italy, 200-250 individuals were wintering in the Po delta during the winter of 2000/01 (Andrea Corso in litt).

Movements are more pronounced in the Caspian population, towards the south of the

TABLE 1 Breeding populations of Pygmy Cormorant / Dwergaalscholver *Microcarbo pygmeus*

Country	Breeding pairs	Reference
Albania	Ceased breeding early 1990s	Crivelli et al (2000)
Azerbaijan	14 749 pairs (in 1986)	Crivelli et al (2000)
Bulgaria	250 in 2000	Green Balkans (in litt)
Daghestan (Russia)	170 pairs (in 1980s)	Crivelli et al (2000)
Greece	1250-1310 pairs (in 1990s)	Willems & De Vries (1998), Kazantzidis & Nazirides (1999)
Hungary	100-110 pairs (in 2000) > 200 pairs (in 2001)	Tibor Hadarics & András Schmidt (in litt), Gantlett (2001)
Iran	20-30 pairs (in 1990s)	Crivelli et al (2000)
Italy	30-40 pairs (in 2000)	Andrea Corso (in litt)
Moldova	30-500 pairs (in 1980s)	Crivelli et al (2000)
Montenegro (Yugoslavia)	1000-1200 pairs	Crivelli et al (2000)
Romania	4500-5000 pairs (in 2000)	Laslo Szabo & Botond Kiss (in litt)
Russian federation	21 pairs	Crivelli et al (2000)
Slovakia	breeding in 1992-93	Ebels et al (2000)
Turkey	1000-1500 pairs (in 1990s)	Eken & Magnin (in press)
Turkmenistan	65 pairs (in 1980s)	Crivelli et al (2000)
Ukraine	20-320 pairs (in 1990s)	Crivelli et al (2000)

Caspian Sea. The population of the northern Black Sea migrates towards the southwest. Birds ringed in Romania in the Danube delta have been recovered in Greece and central former Yugoslavia from November until January (Cramp & Simmons 1977). These birds also move into Bulgaria where up to 10 425 were counted at Burgas Lakes on 20 December 1999. The mid-winter total on 17 January 2000 was 11 805, including 5300 on the Maritza river; 4300 were counted on the Maritza river at the end of December 2000 (*Green Balkans* – federation of nature conservation NGOs in Bulgaria and throughout the Balkans – monitoring on the Pygmy Cormorant). Globally important numbers winter in the Evros delta in Greece, where up to 27000 individuals were counted in November 1997 (Birding World 11: 21, 1998). The population of Iran and Iraq is probably sedentary and its movements depend largely on suitable water levels (Cramp & Simmons 1977).

Outside its known breeding range, Pygmy Cormorant is a vagrant in many European countries, being increasingly rare towards the west. In Poland, 10 records (13 individuals) have been accepted between 1992 and 1999 (Malczyk 2000). In 2000, singles were reported near Lezajsk, Rzeszow province, on 10 September and at Milicz fish-ponds, north-eastern Lower Silesia province, on 7 October. In 2001, singles were reported at Wielikat fish-ponds, Silesia, on 29 March and at Spytkowice on 25 August.

In the Czech Republic, observations of one to three individuals were reported from the 19th century. More recent observations include individuals on 30 September 1951, 27 May 1959 and 17 July 1981 (Hudec et al 1995). The most recent observations are of an individual shot in mid-October 1998 at the fish farm of Zahlinice, central Moravia, and another on 12 October 2000 at Albrechticky, northern Moravia.

In Austria, nine records concerning 12 individuals have been accepted from 1991 to 1995. A small influx was noted during the autumn of 1991 in eastern Austria. Birds regularly wintered along the Danube at Tullner Feld, Niederösterreich, but the roost at Zwentendorf was only intermittently occupied during the winter of 1992/93 (Laber & Ranner 1997). In 2000, one was present at Rheindelta, Vorarlberg, on 7-8 October (Limicola 14: 253, 2000). In 2001, up to five stayed on the Danube in Vienna from 28 January to 25 March (Limicola 15: 46, 2001; Gantlett 2001) and one was present at Rheindelta, Vorarlberg, on 10-12 May (Gantlett 2001).

In Switzerland, the species had not been seen since 1856. In 2000, however, an influx occurred: on 5 October (three) and 6 October (two) at Rällikerried, Greifensee, Uster, Zürich (Limicola 14: 253, 2000); on 9 October at Greifensee, Zürich (Dutch Birding 22: 295, 2000); on 13-15 October one at Klingnauer Stausee, Aargau (Limicola 14: 253, 2000); on 15-16 October at Greifensee, Zürich (Limicola 15: 352, 2001); on 13-21 November at Rapperswill, Zürichsee, St Gallen (Gantlett 2001); from 13 November to 6

March 2001 three at Pfäffikon, Zürichsee (Limicola 15: 120, 2001; photograph in Gantlett 2001); on 17 November at Triboltingen, Bodensee (possibly same bird that summered on the German side of the Bodensee at Ermatinger Becken, Baden-Württemberg) (Limicola 15: 352, 2001); and up to two wintering from 3 December to 15 January 2001 at Mauensee, Luzern (Limicola 15: 46, 2001; photographs in Gantlett 2001).

In Germany, the last confirmed records were in 1957-59, with unconfirmed reports of single birds in October 1961, October 1976 and May 1980 (Gantlett 2001). The first recent records since at least two decades were in 2000, when one was seen on 11 September at Unterer Knappensee, Hessen (photograph in Limicola 14: 191, 2000), two were seen on 24 September at Pfaffen- und Teufelssee, Hessen, and two stayed from 21 November into March 2001 at Laacher See, Rheinland-Pfalz. On 20 April 2001, one was reported at Neuwied, Rheinland-Pfalz, and, on 4 June, one was at Kühkopf, Hessen. On 9 May and again from 19 May to late July 2001, one stayed at Wollmatinger Ried, Baden-Württemberg. One more was reported on 30 June 2001 at Buttersee near Flemsdorf, Brandenburg, one summered at Ermatinger Becken, Baden-Württemberg, into September 2001 and one was seen at Neukönigsaue, Sachsen-Anhalt, from 7 October 2001 (Limicola 14: 191, 253, 2000; 15: 46, 120, 174, 231, 293, 2001; Gantlett 2001). From 6 August to 6 October 2001, one stayed at Flemhuder See, Schleswig-Holstein, and four were reported here on 29 September (photograph in Limicola 15: 293, 2001). From 7 January 2002 onwards, a first-year bird was reported on the Lahn river south of Marburg, Hessen. Most reports are still under consideration by the German rarities committee.

In the Netherlands, the first and second records date from 1999 with single birds on 23-24 January 1999 at Montfoort, Utrecht, and on 12 June 1999 at Oostvaardersplassen, Lelystad (Ebels et al 2000, van der Vliet et al 2000). The third record was at Soerendonk, Maarheeze, and Budel-Dorplein, Budel, Noord-Brabant, on 6 May 2000 (Roland van der Vliet in litt). In Denmark, the first was recorded at lake Selsø on 24 and 30 October 1999. In Sweden, there is a single record from July 1913 at Ljungbyholm, Småland.

In France, a female collected near Dieppe (Seine-Maritime) on 5 November 1856 constituted the only 19th century record. A bird seen in the Camargue, Bouches-du-Rhône, on 24 March 1990 was the first 20th century record (Dubois & Yésou 1992). In 2000, an immature was seen on the Rhine at Kembs, Haut-Rhin, from 29 October until 2 November (Marc Duquet in litt; Duquet 2000).

A single vagrant has reached the Iberian peninsula. It concerns a specimen collected in Spain between 1887 and 1913, preserved in the collection of the museum of Barcelona (Ricard Gutiérrez in litt).

Acknowledgements

For providing information we like to thank Andrea Corso, Jochen Dierschke, Marc Duquet, Ricard Gutiérrez, Leo Janssen, John Attard Montalto, Tibor Hadarics, Jeff Gordon, Han Remaut, András Schmidt, Joe Sultana, Laszlo Szabo, Vincent Van Halst and Bernard Volet.

Samenvatting

DWERGAALSCHOLVER IN LEIEVALLEI, BELGIË/FRANKRIJK, IN DECEMBER 2000-JANUARI 2001 Op 28 december 2000 werd een Dwergaalscholver *Microcarbo pygmeus* ontdekt te Warneton, Hainaut, België. De onvolwassen vogel (vermoedelijk een eerstejaars) werd voor het laatst vastgesteld op 20 januari 2001 te Deûlémont, Nord, Frankrijk. Dit betreft het eerste door het Belgisch Avifaunistisch Homologatiecomité (BAHC) aanvaarde geval van Dwergaalscholver voor België en het vierde voor Frankrijk.

References

Bauer, K M & Glutz von Blotzheim, U N (editors) 1966. Handbuch der Vögel Mitteleuropas 1. Frankfurt am Main.

Bodnar, M 1989. Kis karokatona (*Phalacrocorax pygmaeus*) koltes a poroszloi gemtelepen. Madartani Tajekoztato 1989 (julius-december): 26. [In Hungarian.]

Collar, N J & Andrew, P 1988. Birds to watch: the ICBP world checklist of threatened birds. International Council for Bird Preservation. Techn Publ 8. Cambridge.

Cowles, G S, 1981. The first evidence of Demoiselle Crane *Anthropoides virgo* and Pygmy Cormorant *Phalacrocorax pygmeus* in Britain. Bull Br Ornithol Cl 101: 383-386.

Cramp, S & Simmons, K E L (editors) 1977. The birds of the Western Paleartic 1. Oxford.

Crivelli, A J, Nazirides, T, Jerrentrup, H 2000. Action plan for the Pygmy Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax pygmeus*) in Europe. October 2000.

Crivelli, A J, Nazirides, T, Catsadorakis, G, Hulea, D, Malakou, M, Marinov, M, Shogolev, I, 2000. Status and population development of Pygmy Cormorant *Phalacrocorax pygmeus* breeding in the Palearctic. Proc Medmaravis 5th Symp Marine Wildlife, Malta.

Dubois, P J & Yésou, P 1992. Les oiseaux rares en France. Bayonne.

Duquet, M 2000. Les nouvelles ornithos françaises en images, septembre-décembre 2000. Ornithos 8: 30-31.

Ebels, E B, Stoopendaal, W, Tims, C & Vink, A 2000. Dwergaalscholvers bij Montfoort in januari 1999 en in Oostvaardersplassen in juni 1999. Dutch Birding 22: 129-134.

Eken, G & Magnin, G (in press). A preliminary biodiversity atlas of the Konya Basin, Central Turkey. Dogal Hayati Koruma Dernegi, Istanbul.

Gantlett, S 2001. Pygmy Cormorants in Europe: Britain next? Birding World 14: 465-474.

Heim de Balsac, H & Mayaud, N 1962. Les oiseaux du Nord-Ouest de l'Afrique. Paris.

Hudec, K, Chytil, J, Stastny, K, Bejceck, V 1995. (The birds of the Czech Republic.) Sylvia 31: 97-149. [In Czech, English summary.]

Kazantzidis & S, Nazirides, T 1999. National Action Plan for the Pygmy Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax pygmaeus*), Pallas 1773. WWF Greece/Hellenic Ornithological Society/Society for the Protection of Prespa. Thessaloniki.

Konyhas, S & Kovacs, G 1990. 1990-es feszkelesi adatok a Hortobagyrol. Madartani Tajekoztato 1990 (julius-december): 9-13. [In Hungarian.]

Kovacs, G 1991. Kis karokatonak (*Phalacrocorax pygmaeus*) – koltesegemtelepen. Madartani Tajekoztato 1991 (julius-december): 30. [In Hungarian.]

Kovacs, G 1995. A Hortobagy-Halasto madarvilaga (1974-1994). In: Major, I (szerk): Alfoldi mozaik. TermeszetBUVAR Alapitvany Kiado, Budapest: 7-64. [In Hungarian.]

Laber, J & Ranner, H 1997. Nachweise seltener und bemerkenswerter Vogelarten in Österreich 1991-1995. Egretta 40: 1-44.

Malczyk, P 2000. More Pygmy Cormorants in Poland. Dutch Birding 22: 288.

Stattersfield, A J & Capper, D R (editors) 2000. Threatened birds of the world. Cambridge.

Sterbetz, I 1974. A hodmezovasarhelyi Tisza-arter termeszetvedelmiteruleteinek madarvilaga. Die Vogelwelt der Reservate des Uberschwemmungsgebietes der Theiss bei Hodmezovasarhely. Aquila 81:45-80. [In Hungarian, with German summary.]

van der Vliet, R E, de Bruin, A, van der Laan, J & CDNA. Rare birds in the Netherlands in 1999. Dutch Birding 22: 251-271.

Vertse, A 1966. Kiskarokatona (*Phalacrocorax pygmaeus*) feszkelese Magyarorszagon. Pygmy Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax pygmaeus*) nesting in Hungary. Aquila 71-72: 225, 239-240. [In Hungarian and English.]

Willems, F J & de Vries, E 1998. Ecological aspects of Pygmy Cormorants *Phalacrocorax pygmeus* at Prespa, Greece, May-August 1996. WIWO report 60. Zeist.

Christophe Capelle, 12 rue des Boulets, 59113 Seclin, France (ccapelle@nordnet.fr)
Gunter De Smet, Edmond Blockstraat 9, 9050 Gentbrugge, Belgium (gunter.de.smet@pandora.be)

Izabeltapuiten te IJmuiden in september 2000 en op Schiermonnikoog in oktober 2000

Dirk J Moerbeek, Roy Slaterus, Marc L van der Aa & André J van Loon

In september-oktober 2000 werden twee Izabeltapuiten *Oenanthe isabellina* in Nederland waargenomen. Het betrof het tweede en derde geval. In dit artikel worden beide gedocumenteerd en de determinatie besproken.

IJmuiden, 22-23 september 2000

Bij het Kennemermeer en de Kunstenaarsduintjes te IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, werden in september 2000 diverse leuke vogelsoorten waargenomen. Op vrijdag 22 september 2000 besloot Roy Slaterus om er opnieuw zijn geluk te beproeven. Het was een dag met rustig najaarsweer en een waterig zonnetje. Gedurende de ochtenduren eiste de landtrek alle aandacht op. De middag besteedde RS aan het bekijken van de vogels op het Kennemermeer. Tussen de meeuwen aldaar bevond zich omstreeks 15:00 een vogel met kenmerken van een adulte Baltische Mantelmeeuw *Larus fuscus*. De vogel liet zich echter onvoldoende bekijken en verdween na enkele minuten in de richting van het Noordzeestrand. RS belde hierop Dirk Moerbeek en vond hem bereid om te komen zoeken. Toen hun zoektocht om 18:00 nog niet het gewenste resultaat had, besloten ze huiswaarts te keren. Het was mooi geweest…

DM bood RS een lift aan en samen reden ze weg. Nog maar net vertrokken stopten ze even op de parkeerplaats ten noorden van het Kennemermeer om een foeragerende Tapuit *Oenanthe oenanthe* beter te bekijken. Langzaam reden ze weer verder, maar na 50 m stopte DM de auto opnieuw omdat hij schuin links van de weg een bleke tapuit zag lopen. Vanuit de auto konden DM en RS de vogel van nabij bekijken. Ze vroegen zich af of het een Izabeltapuit *O isabellina* kon zijn, omdat de vogel niet alleen bleek maar ook fors oogde. Beide waarnemers raakten serieus gealarmeerd toen ze vaststelden dat de grote en middelste dekveren een duidelijk contrast tussen centrum en zoom misten. Mede met behulp van een veldgids (Svensson et al 1999) checkten ze de overige kenmerken. Alles leek te kloppen: fors formaat, korte staart, bleek verenkleed, weinig contrast op de grote en middelste dekveren en een geïsoleerde donkere duimvleugel. Lastiger te zien (in vlucht) waren de lichte ondervleugel en de brede zwarte staartband met ondiepe T-vorm, maar ook die kenmerken leken aanwezig. De tapuit dreigde de parkeerplaats te verlaten en DM en RS besloten om de auto uit te gaan in een poging de vogel te fotograferen. Gelukkig keerde deze terug en, nadat DM enkele foto's had gemaakt, werd hij als Izabeltapuit via de semafoon bekend gemaakt. Het was inmiddels ongeveer 18:30 maar toch lukte het c 30 vogelaars de vogel nog te zien, ook omdat deze zelfs na zonsondergang bleef foerageren, in het licht van de straatlantaarns. De volgende ochtend, 23 september, was de Izabeltapuit nog steeds aanwezig, tot vreugde van vele vogelaars en vooral fotografen, want de vogel toonde zich zeer mak. RS kon bovendien een geluidsopname maken (figuur 1) toen de vogel minutenlang zachtjes zat te roepen vanaf zijn favoriete steen. De volgende dag bleek de Izabeltapuit vertrokken.

De beschrijving is gebaseerd op foto's van Arnoud van den Berg, Hans ter Haar, Dirk Moerbeek en Frans van der Veen (zie ook Dutch Birding 22: 308, plaat 306, 2000; Birding World 13: 423-424, 2000), en veldnotities en een geluidsopname van Roy Slaterus.

GROOTTE & BOUW Forse tapuit met korte staart en lange poten. Vergeleken met aanwezige Tapuiten iets groter formaat en kortere handpenprojectie; handpenprojectie ongeveer gelijk aan lengte van zichtbaar deel van tertials. Zes handpentoppen zichtbaar. Vleugelpunt reikend tot toppen van onderstaartdekveren. Staartlengte voorbij vleugelpunt ongeveer 2/3 van lengte van handpenprojectie. Snavel iets dikker en langer dan bij Tapuit; mede hierdoor kop als geheel iets forser lijkend. Lengte van tarsus ongeveer 5/4 van lengte handpenprojectie.

KOP Voorhoofd licht bruingrijs, in direct zonlicht witachtig. Kruin en achterhoofd licht bruingrijs; kruin iets rossiger dan achterhoofd. Wenkbrauwstreep in direct zonlicht witachtig, verbredend op voorhoofd en

tot ruim achter oog lopend; in gedempt licht nauwelijks zichtbaar. Teugelstreep zwartgrijs, vanaf oog iets versmallend naar snavelbasis. Oogring wit, voor en achter oog onderbroken, onder oog smal. Oorstreek onder teugel en oog crèmewit, naar achter en onder toe warm zandkleurig, achter oog donkerder grijsbruin, korte oogstreep vormend. Kin en keel crèmewit.

BOVENDELEN Mantel, schouder en rug licht bruingrijs; onderste schouderveren iets donkerder. Stuit en bovenstaartdekveren wit.

ONDERDELEN Borst en flank warm zandkleurig. Buik en anaalstreek crèmewit met warm zandkleurige zweem. Onderstaartdekveren crèmewit. Dijveren ongetekend crèmewit.

BOVENVLEUGEL Handpennen donkerbruin met smalle crèmewitte zoom en top. Armpennen en tertials grijsbruin met brede crèmewitte zoom; hierdoor op dichtgevouwen vleugel licht vleugelpaneel over armpennen zichtbaar. Grote handdekveren donkerbruin met brede crèmewitte zoom; bij dichtgevouwen vleugel grotendeels licht lijkend. Grote en middelste dekveren contrastarm, met middelbruin centrum en vaag begrensde zandkleurige zoom; bij dichtgevouwen vleugel donkere centra van grote dekveren grotendeels verborgen. Toppen van grote dekveren crèmewit, smal en onopvallend vleugelstreepje vormend. Kleine dekveren zandkleurig met nauwelijks zichtbaar donkerder centrum. Duimvleugel donkerbruin met smalle crèmewitte buitenrand; bij dichtgevouwen vleugel meestal zichtbaar als donkere vlek contrasterend met lichte dekveren, donkerder dan centra van grote en middelste dekveren.

ONDERVLEUGEL Ondervleugel en oksel overwegend lichtgrijs tot witachtig; slagpennen iets donkerder lijkend.

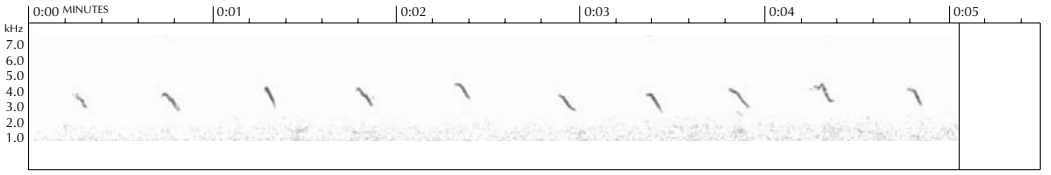
STAART Staartpennen grotendeels zwart, met witte basis en smalle witte top. Middelste paar staartpennen met meer zwart dan overige staartpennen, hierdoor ondiepe 'T' vormend; T-vorm doorgaans gemaskeerd door overliggende langste bovenstaartdekveren, zodat alleen zwarte staartband zichtbaar; staartband breder dan bij Tapuit.

NAAKTE DELEN Oog doorgaans zwart lijkend, van dichtbij iris donkerbruin. Snavel zwart. Tarsus en tenen zwart.

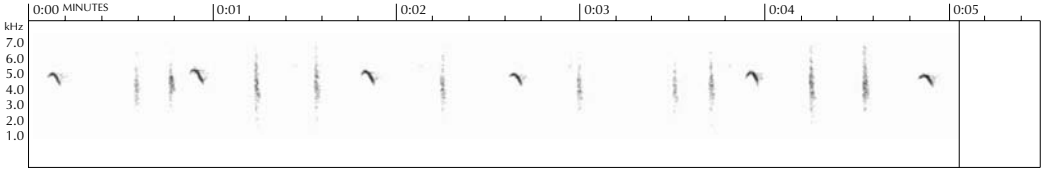
GELUID Eenmaal serie roepen waargenomen: fluitend *tjuub… tjuub… tjuub…*; serie c vier min durend (cf figuur 1).

GEDRAG Beide dagen verblijvend op schaars begroeide parkeerplaats met veel paaltjes en stenen. Foerageerend op grond, daarbij soms grote afstanden rennend. Regelmatig op platte steen van 10 cm hoog zittend en dan rondkijkend. Ook vaak op 1 m hoge paal zittend. Dan soms tot 5 m hoog opvliegend om insect te vangen. Niet schuw, waarnemers regelmatig tot 3 m afstand benaderend. Solitair. Joeg Tapuiten weg.

5 Izabeltapuit / Isabelline Wheater *Oenanthe isabellina*, IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, 23 september 2000 *(Roef Mulder)*



FIGUUR 1 Izabeltapuit / Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina*, sonagram van fluitende roep / sonagram of whistle call, IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, 23 september 2000 *(Roy Slaterus)*



FIGUUR 2 Tapuit / Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe oenanthe*, sonagram van roepen / sonagram of calls, Brough of Birsay, Orkney, Schotland, 2 juli 2001. '*Wiet-tjek*-roep', hier gebruikt als alarmroep bij nest, maar fluitende deel waarschijnlijk equivalent aan fluitroep van Izabeltapuit / 'whistle and chak calls', here used as alarm call near nest but whistling call probably equivalent to whistle call by Isabelline Wheatear *(Magnus Robb/ The Sound Approach)*

De Izabeltapuit van IJmuiden kon tijdens de ontdekking worden gedetermineerd door het forse formaat, het lichte bruingrijze tot zandkleurige verenkleed, het weinige contrast tussen centrum en zoom van de middelste en grote dekveren (centra lichter dan duimvleugel), de lichte ondervleugel en de korte staart met brede zwarte band. Nadien bleken subtielere kenmerken als forse snavel, lange poten, korte handpenprojectie, vorm van de wenkbrauwstreep en opgerichte houding de determinatie te ondersteunen. Daarnaast werd de determinatie bevestigd op grond van de gemaakte geluidsopname. De waargenomen roep wordt in Cramp (1988) omschreven als 'whistle call', die soms door dwaalgasten ten gehore wordt gebracht. Voor een uitgebreid overzicht van de kenmerken van Izabeltapuit zij verwezen naar Corso (1997).

De klassieke kenmerken van Izabeltapuit waren bij de vogel van IJmuiden vooral te zien in de middag van 23 september, toen de zon volop scheen. De vogel droeg het verenkleed strak op het lichaam, waardoor de klassieke grote kop met forse snavel opvielen. Ook de dijveren waren goed zichtbaar waardoor de poten extra lang leken. Bovendien was het verenkleed door het zonlicht opvallend bleek en liep de wenkbrauwstreep voor het oog breed uit over het voorhoofd. Daarentegen waren bij het bewolkte weer op de avond van de ontdekking en de volgende morgen de zandkleurige delen warm, haast oranjeachtig gekleurd. De wenkbrauwstreep was nauwelijks zichtbaar. Bovendien zette de vogel de veren op waardoor de kop kleiner dan normaal leek. Wel viel de korte staart beter op.

De T-vorm op de staart van de Izabeltapuit ging vaak schuil onder de overliggende langste bovenstaartdekveren. Dit kan betekenen dat de staartband extra breed was. Cramp (1988) noemt voor mannetjes een bredere staartband dan bij vrouwtjes. In combinatie met de zwartachtige teugelstreep kunnen deze kenmerken erop wijzen dat de Izabeltapuit van IJmuiden een mannetje was. Ruicontrast in de grote dekveren kon niet met zekerheid worden vastgesteld, ook niet op foto's; derhalve kon de leeftijd niet worden bepaald.

Schiermonnikoog, 14-25 oktober 2000

In de tweede week van oktober 2000 verbleef Marc van der Aa een aantal dagen op Schiermonnikoog, Friesland. Op zaterdagmiddag 14 oktober liep MvdA met Ester Koller te vogelen in de buurt van de Kooiboerderij. Rond 15:30 ontdekten ze een bleke en 'verdachte' tapuit *Oenanthe* die afwisselend op het Kooipad en in het aangrenzende weiland foerageerde. MvdA belde Niels van Houtum en Martijn Renders die ook op het eiland waren en meldde dat hij een vreemde tapuit – mogelijk een Izabeltapuit – had gezien. Na de vogel enige tijd te hebben geobserveerd werd besloten om ook André van Loon – op dat moment aanwezig op het Vogelringstation Schiermonnikoog in het Groene Glop – te

6 Izabeltapuit / Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina*, eerstejaars, Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, 16 oktober 2000 *(Eric Koops)*

waarschuwen. Omdat het niet zo druk was met de vangsten ging AvL meteen kijken met één van de helpers, die gelukkig een telescoop bij zich had. Het licht was die middag vrij matig en de vogel kwam soms niet zo bleek over. Ook was er toen (vrijwel) geen wenkbrauwstreep te zien. Het duurde daarom even voordat de vogel de juiste kenmerken voor een Izabeltapuit liet zien, zoals de brede zwarte staartband en de lichte ondervleugel. Uiteindelijk groeide de overtuiging dat het allemaal klopte en werd de waarneming door MvdA via het semafoonsysteem bekendgemaakt.

De vogel bleef tot donker aanwezig en bleek de volgende dagen honkvast te zijn. Tot en met 25 oktober werd hij in de omgeving van de oorspronkelijke plek gezien, zowel nabij het kruispunt van Heereweg en Kooipad als op de bij de Kooiboerderij aanwezige zandhopen en trok nog aardig wat bezoekers van de vaste wal.

De beschrijving is gebaseerd op aantekeningen van MvdA en op foto's van Eric Koops (cf Dutch Birding 22: 308, plaat 307, 2000; Birding World 13: 424, 2000).

GROOTTE & BOUW Enigszins plompe, grote, zandkleurige tapuit. Veren opgezet (door koude?). Handpenprojectie ongeveer gelijk aan lengte van zichtbaar deel van tertials; zes handpentoppen zichtbaar.

KOP Kruin en voorhoofd zandkleurig bruin, achterhoofd iets grijzer. Kop tamelijk ongetekend, met slechts lichte aanzet tot witachtige wenkbrauwstreep boven oog. Geen duidelijke teugelstreep. Oogstreep donkerbruin, alleen opvallend achter oog, lengte daar even groot als breedte van oog; oorstreek onder achtereinde van oogstreep met klein zandbruin vlekje, contrasterend met witachtige wang en bruingrijs achterhoofd. Oogring wit, voor en achter oog onderbroken, onder oog smal. Zijkop onder teugel en oog witachtig.

BOVENDELEN Mantel, schouder en rug zandkleurig. Stuit en bovenstaartdekveren wit.

ONDERDELEN Keel, borst, buik en anaalstreek witachtig; bovenzijborst en flank warm zandkleurig. Onderstaartdekveren en dijveren crèmewit.

BOVENVLEUGEL Handpennen donkerbruin met smalle crèmewitte zoom en top. Armpennen en tertials grijsbruin met brede crèmewitte zoom; hierdoor op dichtgevouwen vleugel licht vleugelpaneel over armpennen zichtbaar. Grote handdekveren donkerbruin met crèmewitte zoom. Grote, middelste en kleine dekveren contrastarm, met bruin centrum en vaag begrensde bruinwitte zoom. Toppen van grote dekveren crèmewit, smal en onopvallend vleugelstreepje vormend; buitenste twee of drie grote dekveren iets korter en met iets bruiner witte zoom en top dan binnenste ('ruicontrast'). Opvallende, contrasterende zwartbruine duimvleugel.

ONDERVLEUGEL Ondervleugel en oksel licht.

STAART Staartpennen zwart met witte basis en smalle

witte top. Middelste paar staartpennen met meer zwart dan overige staartpennen, hierdoor ondiepe 'T' vormend; relatief brede zwarte eindband.
NAAKTE DELEN Oog donker. Snavel zwart. Tarsus en tenen zwart.
GELUID Niet gehoord.
GEDRAG Vaak snel rennend en bij stilstand herhaaldelijk met staart pompend.

Hoewel de vogel van Schiermonnikoog bij de ontdekking was opgevallen door de contrastarme tekening van de bovenvleugel en de relatief brede zwarte staartband, bestond er aanvankelijk nog enige twijfel over de determinatie als Izabeltapuit. Deze werd vooral veroorzaakt doordat de vogel meestal een 'opgezet' verenkleed en niet een erg opgerichte houding vertoonde, misschien het gevolg van koude of omdat hij in minder goede conditie verkeerde. Toen echter eenmaal de lichte ondervleugel met zekerheid was vastgesteld was iedere twijfel verdwenen. De determinatie werd later ook bevestigd door de op foto's zichtbare korte handpenprojectie. Voor een uitgebreid overzicht van de kenmerken van Izabeltapuit zij verwezen naar Corso (1997). Op grond van het ruicontrast in de grote dekveren was het een eerste-kalenderjaarvogel.

Voorkomen

De Izabeltapuiten in IJmuiden en op Schiermonnikoog betreffen het tweede en derde geval voor Nederland (van der Vliet et al 2001). Het eerste geval was op de Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, van 21 oktober tot en met 8 november 1996 (Dijksman & Maas 1997). In Europa buiten het normale verspreidingsgebied is de soort tot en met 2000 als dwaalgast vastgesteld in Brittannië (17), Denemarken (1), Duitsland (2), Finland (9), Frankrijk (10, met 11 vogels), Hongarije (2), Ierland (1), Noorwegen (3), Oekraïne (5), Polen (2) en Zweden (4); zie ook Corso et al (1997).

Dankwoord

Dank aan de archivarissen van de respectievelijke zeldzaamhedencommissies voor hun informatie over de status van Izabeltapuit in hun land. Magnus Robb wordt bedankt voor het vervaardigen van de sonagrammen.

Summary

ISABELLINE WHEATEARS AT IJMUIDEN IN SEPTEMBER 2000 AND ON SCHIERMONNIKOOG IN OCTOBER 2000 The second and third Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina* for the Netherlands were present at IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, on 22-23 September 2000 and on Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, on 14-25 October 2000. Especially the IJmuiden bird was very confiding and was seen well by many birders. Calls of this bird were sound-recorded.

Verwijzingen

Corso, A 1997. Variability of identification characters of Isabelline Wheatear. Dutch Birding 19: 153-165.
Corso, A, Ientile, R & Iapichino, C 1997. Influx of Isabelline Wheatear in Sicily in spring 1996. Dutch Birding 19: 187-189.
Cramp, S (redactie) 1988. The birds of the Western Palearctic 5. Oxford.
Dijksman, W J M & Maas, J W 1997. Izabeltapuit op Maasvlakte in oktober-november 1996. Dutch Birding 19: 182-185.
Svensson, L, Grant, P J, Mullarney, K & Zetterström, D 1999. Collins bird guide. Londen.
van der Vliet, R E, van der Laan, J & CDNA 2001. Rare birds in the Netherlands in 2000. Dutch Birding 23: 315-347.

Dirk J Moerbeek, Eksterlaan 296, 2026 XP Haarlem, Nederland (dirk.moerbeek@moerbeek.myweb.nl)
Roy Slaterus, Patiëntiestraat 3, 2011 DL Haarlem, Nederland (rslaterus@hotmail.com)
Marc L van der Aa, Riemsdijkstraat 152, 6701 BC Wageningen (m.l.van.der.aa@chello.nl)
André J van Loon, Dolingadreef 199, 1102 WT Amsterdam (laan@bio.vu.nl)

Probable breeding of pure American Black Duck pair in the Azores in 2000

On 27 August 2000, I visited the Lagoa Branca, one of the *lagoas* (lakes) in the heights of Flores, Azores. The lake is a shallow, marshy wetland bordered by short vegetation of sedges *Carex* and rushes *Juncus*.

I discovered six dabbling ducks *Anas* feeding on the center of the lake. One was a male Mallard *A platyrhynchos* whereas the other five were identified as American Black Ducks *A rubripes*. Since the weather conditions were very poor (heavy mist), I was unable to age and sex the different birds.

I returned the following day and was able to watch the birds for more than two hours in sunny conditions. The Mallard had disappeared but the five American Black Ducks were still present. I could carefully check all birds. Three birds had a yellow bill and two a dark bill. I identified three adults: one with a completely yellow-greenish bill (male) and the other two with a dull yellow-green bill with dark markings on the culmen (females). The two dark-billed birds were obviously juveniles since they were constantly close to one of the females and were c 80% of the size of the adults. The following descriptions were taken:

Adults
Three birds with all-dark brownish body with fine pale fringes on body-feathers. Head pale brown, contrasting with neck and body, especially male, showing well-defined creamy supercilium and well-pronounced blackish crown. Speculum violet (very bright on male), very obvious when beating wings, with no visible white on rear wing. All birds showing pure white axillaries and underwing-coverts. Tail completely dark. Bill completely yellow in male, dull yellow with dark on culmen in females. Leg bright orange in male (not seen in other birds).

Juveniles
Slightly smaller than adults. Differing from adults by less dark body plumage, more brownish with larger fringes, giving more streaked appearance. Contrast between head and body less obvious but still well visible, supercilium pale greyish, lores and eye-stripe blackish. Axillaries and underwing-coverts white, tail all-dark. Bill grey-brownish, not yellow (juvenile females?).

The combination of dark plumage, violet speculum without white, white axillaries and (mostly) yellow bill identifies the adults as American Black Ducks (cf Svensson et al 1999, Sibley 2000). The two juveniles were considered pure American Black Ducks as well since they did not show any Mallard characters in their plumage. They were closely associated with one of the females. Thus, one can conclude that American Black Duck very probably has bred on this lake. Interestingly, six American Black Ducks, including probably five juveniles, were observed on the same lake on 5-6 September 1998 (Clarke 1999) and two other males on 19 September 1999 (Birding World 12: 407, 1999). In November 2001, two males, two females, six hybrids with Mallard and one hybrid with Common Teal *A crecca* were reported here (Dutch Birding 24: 48, 2002). In addition, it is unlikely that these ducks had arrived recently on Flores since the anticylonic conditions were not very favourable for arrivals of Nearctic birds in the Azores (for example, no Nearctic waders were observed on the well-known coastal quarry at Cabo de Praia, Terceira, two days before the first observation; only one American wader – a Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla* – was seen on 28 August on Flores). Finally, the size of the juveniles pointed towards local breeding.

This record is apparently the first of a pure pair of American Black Ducks breeding in the Western Palearctic. There are some breeding records of American Black Duck paired with Mallard in Britain: a female in Scilly, England, reared 22 hybrid young between 1978 and 1983 in Scilly, England, and a male produced 11 hybrid young in Gwynned, Wales, in 1980 (3) and 1983 (8) (Evans 1994). It is quite possible that this species has bred on Flores for several years as suggested by the group seen in 1998 on the same lake around the same date.

This record has been accepted by the Portuguese rarities committee (Sociedade Portuguesa para o Estudo das Aves in litt).

Reference

Clark, T 1999. Autumn 1998 on the Azores. Birding World 12 : 205-212.
Evans, L G R 1994. Rare birds in Britain 1800-1990. Little Chalfont.
Sibley, D 2000. The North American bird guide. New York.
Svensson, L, Grant, P J, Mullarney, K & Zetterström, D 1999. Collins bird guide. London.

Philippe J Dubois, 8 rue Ambroise Pare, 95520 Osny, France (maguidou@club-internet.fr)

Varia

Display and territorial behaviour in Western Capercaillie

Western Capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus* occupies several ecologically distinct coniferous types, from tall, dense, dark forests of spruce *Picea* and fir *Abies* through lighter often more open taiga and forests of pine *Pinus* and larch *Larix,* to mixed forests. It strongly prefers areas where extensive well-grown tree stands alternate with glades or other more open terrain carrying berried plants such as bilberry *Vaccinium*. Basically, however, mature fairly dense forest in extensive stands appears essential, and young, isolated, or very open stands are normally occupied only as ancillary habitat (Cramp & Perrins 1993).

Although display behaviour of the Western Capercaillie has been described by numerous authors (eg, Fuschlberger 1942, Boback 1952, Lumsden 1961, Hjorth 1970, Klaus et al 1986), the populations in the Slovak Carpathians have received little attention. This paper reports on the results of a study concerning display and territorial behaviour of the Western Capercaillie which was conducted on the population occupying mountains of central Slovakia in 1981-2000. Altogether, 319 evening and 495 morning ethology observations were carried out on the leks during the spring display season (March-May). In the autumn display season (September-November), 239 evening and 286 morning ethology observations were carried out on the leks. As behaviour of Western Capercaillie during display is very difficult to observe and to document by camera, the behaviour is described in detail and shown by pen drawings.

Song

When the sexual activity of the males is awakened in early spring, they gradually advance to their traditional display grounds to perform their display. Western Capercaillie display song involves four types of sound (Müller 1974): Tapping phase, Drum-roll phase, Cork-pop note and Whetting phase. The complete song lasts about 7-8 sec, although the initial Tapping phase at low intensity may be uttered sporadically for several minutes without or before developing into complete song.

7 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*, male, Turo, Finland, May 1999 *(Henry Letho)*

Tapping phase
This phase is initiated with a succession of double-notes. These notes are clickings uttered successively apart. They are easily imitated by buckling the bottom of a small tin, and releasing the pressure immediately. When the display tendency is well developed, the number of double-clicks is only three or four. When the tendency to sing diminishes (eg, by disturbances), the male may click irregularly (in both single and double notes) for a long time or completely stops singing. During the performance of the Tapping phase, the male helds the head aslant upright, the neck slender and upstretched, and the bill pointing gently upwards. The tail is not kept vertically but horizontally and is only slightly fanned (figure 2). The male sometimes (especially in strong wind or heavy rainfall) not only sings the Tapping phase but the complete song with the tail in a resting position (own observations, figure 1).

Drum-roll phase
The double-clicks gradually run into each other to the Drum-roll phase, which lasts nearly one second. During the Drum-roll phase, the tail is more fully fanned and cocked. The head is held more steeply upright than in the Tapping phase (figure 3).

Cork-pop note
The Drum-roll phase is followed by the Cork-pop note, which resembles the popping of a cork from a bottle. It is the loudest phase of the song and can be heard 200-300 m away in good weather conditions. As the male produces the Cork-pop note, the head is held vertically upright and briefly jerked back and the primaries are spread and flicked down, revealing the paler area around the shafts. The tail is more fully fanned and cocked. The body is slightly tilted forwards. The eyes are shut (figure 4). Birds in Russia do not perform this phase of song (Krüdener 1928, Fushlberger 1942, Semenov-Tjan Shanskij 1960).

Whetting phase
The Whetting phase of the song creates a rapid rhytmic gurgling, grinding, or strangled squealing combined with a quiet wheezing rasp, lasting 2-3 seconds. In this fourth phase of the performance, the bird keeps its beak in a vertically upright position. The head is jerked back and forth 5-7 times and, synchronized to these movements, the beak opens and shuts. The tail is completely fanned to a semicircle and cocked. During the Whetting phase, the whole body quivers ecstatically, and the primaries are folded halfway. The eyes are shut (figures 5-6).

After performance of the whole song, the male lowers its tail to normal horizontal position (figure 2). Some birds may stand still when performing. They may click while they are motionless, but when the Drum-roll appears, they normally run forward (Klaus et al 1986, own observations). Some males move to and fro within a small portion of the territory.

Display behaviour

Performance in trees
During the display season, the males normally leave the foraging grounds in the late evening and fly to a large tree or group of trees, where they perform arboreal evening display and spend the night resting there (Saniga 1998). A male may stay the whole night in the first tree in which it perched or it may move from one tree to another before going to rest in the traditional tree. The late evening and early morning display activity is usually performed in very poor light, and the amount of reliable information on the posture and movement of the bird is very scarce. Males perform arboreal Song-display in partial 'Thin-necked Upright' posture: the neck is held upright and kept thin, the tail usually also cocking upright and fanning in relation to the song phase. However, in bad weather conditions (especially in strong wind or heavy rainfall), the tail may be held down in normal perched position (figures 1-2). Fanning of the tail during performance of the arboreal display differs from individual to individual. Some males hold the tail almost horizontally with inconspicuous fanning, others hold it almost upright with conspicuous fanning. The degree of elevation and extent of tail fanning is also limited by the density of the branches and is independent of age of the males (own observations). In dense tree crowns, the male keeps its tail low and only slightly spread. If the space permits, even a perfect display posture may be performed. In more intense performances, full Thin-necked Upright posture with flicking open of primaries and even crouching may be adopted and the male may gently trample or stalk up and down the branch. Relatively little arboreal Song-display occurs at dusk but may persist all night, especially when moonlight is present (Hjorth 1970, Klaus et al 1986, Saniga 1998). In the evening, displaying males are active until the end of the astronomical twilight (sun lower than 18° below horizon). In the morning, males begin to display before the

FIGURE 1 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*. Male displaying in strong wind and heavy rain with tail in resting position *(Miroslav Saniga)*

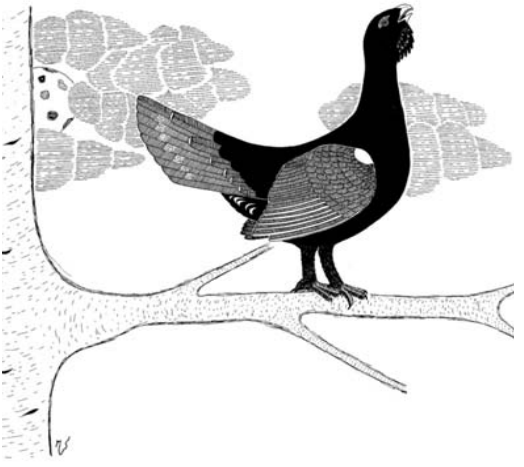


FIGURE 2 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*. Male during performance of Tapping phase of song *(Miroslav Saniga)*

FIGURE 3 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*. Male during performance of Drum-roll phase of song *(Miroslav Saniga)*

FIGURE 4 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*. Male during performance of Cork-pop note of song *(Miroslav Saniga)*

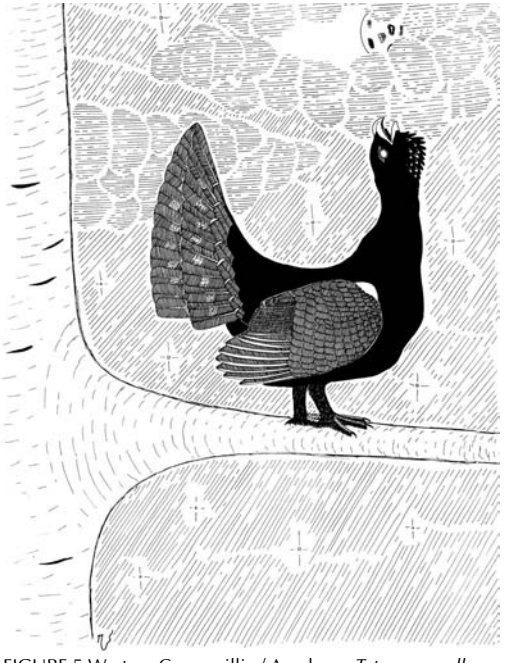


FIGURE 5 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*. Male during performance of Whetting phase of song (lateral view) *(Miroslav Saniga)*

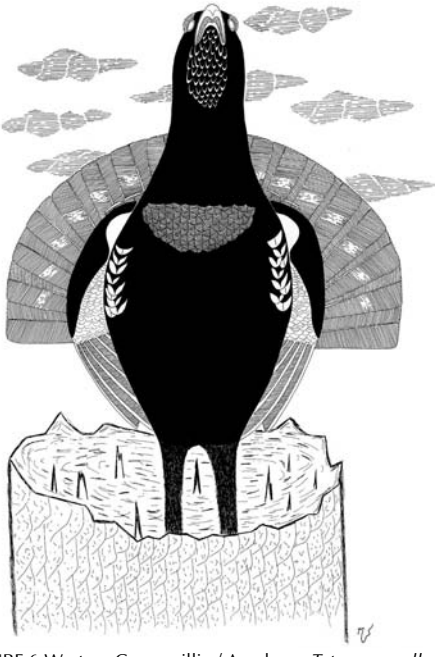


FIGURE 6 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*. Male during performance of Whetting phase of song (frontal view) *(Miroslav Saniga)*

FIGURE 7 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*. Male displaying on ground associated with presence of females *(Miroslav Saniga)*

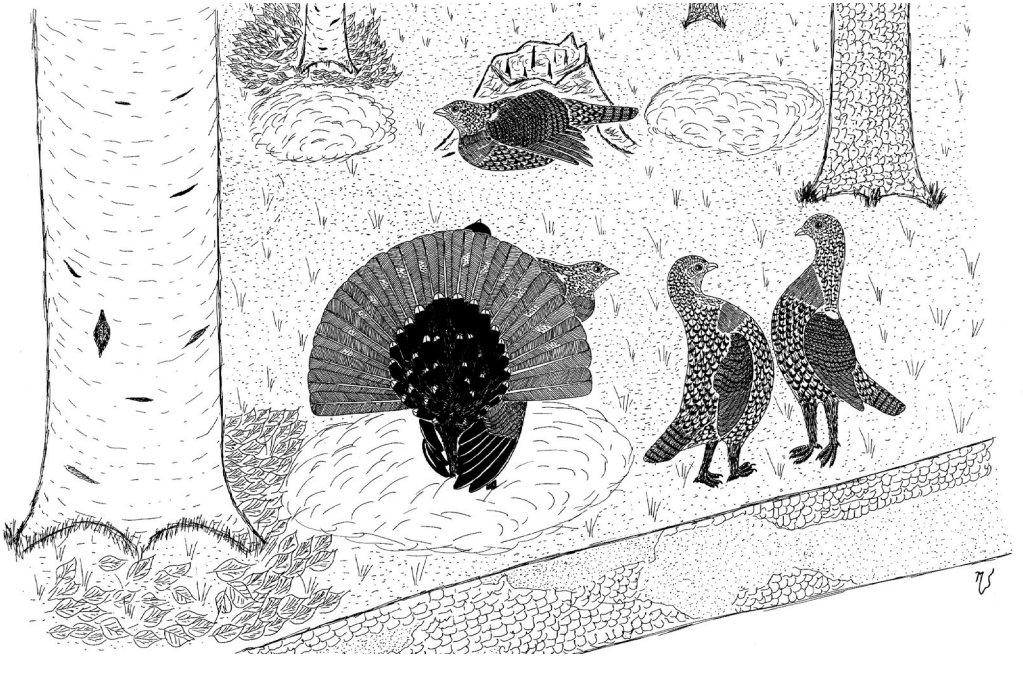


FIGURE 8 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*. Male during wide-necked postures against intruders in territory *(Miroslav Saniga)*

onset of the astronomical twilight (Saniga 1998).

The vocalization appears to be the chief product of the arboreal display by males at dusk. Features belonging to the ground display postures certainly have little significance as signals to other individuals, as the displaying males are hidden by branches and, at the end of the display season, leaves and can only be detected from a few points in the terrain.

Lumsden (1961) found that the birds of a population studied in Scotland seldomly gave the complete song from trees. The males just clicked for some minutes. In mountains of central Slovakia, males perform the complete song also in the evenings, yet sometimes they just click, especially in bad weather (wind, rain, snowfall). The number of complete songs performed in the evening can reach 800 and during morning display up to 1600 (including ground performances) (Müller 1974, own observations).

Towards the height of the season, and in response to certain stimuli (presence of females, activity of nearby males, weather conditions), after the initial pre-dawn period of arboreal singing, each male descends or flies into the display territory to continue Song-display on the ground. This usually occurs around the onset of the civil twilight (sun lower than 6° below horizon) (Saniga 1998). Before performance on the ground, some males fly noisily from tree to tree,

FIGURE 9 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*. Male courting hen on ground *(Miroslav Saniga)*

8 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*, male after morning display on broken tree, Vel'ká Fatra mountains, Slovakia, 20 April 1996 *(Miroslav Saniga)*

9 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*, male after morning display on the ground, Vel'ká Fatra mountains, Slovakia, 20 April 1996 *(Miroslav Saniga)*

10 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*, male, Hamra, Sweden, April 1999 *(Peter Scova Righini)*

11 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*, male, Turo, Finland, March 1996 *(Henry Letho)*

especially when females are present to attract their attention (Hjorth 1970, Klaus et al 1986, own observations).

Performance on ground

Western Capercaillies select a fairly open place for collective ground display. Leks are localized in the upper half of more or less convex, lateral ridges in old successional stages of forests. Tree density of the stands varies between 400-1000 stems per hectare (Saniga 1996a).

In ground Song-display, the male makes a characteristic slow-march in full Thin-necked Upright posture. At each step, the foot is held in forward position before a pace is suddenly taken and the body is jerked forward, coinciding with maximum fanning and cocking of the tail. The head is held upright, the neck slender and upstretched, and the bill pointing obliquely upwards, with the black throat-tuft raised to form a conspicuous beard under the bill. The tail is kept almost vertically and fanned in a broad semicircle. The wings are slightly lowered, exposing the white shoulder-spot. In high-intensity display, the primaries often scrape the ground, and are deliberately raked across surface vegetation or frozen snow, making impressive rustling noise (figures 7-8). For the initial Tapping phase of the song, the male may stand still but during Drum-roll phase it usually moves forward in brief runs, the tail being more fully fanned and cocked. As the male produces the Cork-pop note, the head is briefly jerked back and the primaries are flicked down revealing the paler area around the shafts. The head is jolted up again in the subsequent Whetting phase, given with writhing of the neck and series of jerks of the head as the beak opens and shuts, while the whole body is quivering. Often, the male resumes a brief walk or run after a pause at the Cork-pop note.

12 Western Capercaillie / Auerhoen *Tetrao urogallus*, female, Turo, Finland, April 1999 *(Henry Letho)*

Flutter-displays also occur, with whoosing wing noise almost invariably following the Cork-pop note. The male may run several steps, then jumps up forward noisily with rapidly flapping wings, gliding momentarily with the tail spread and hanging before fluttering back down with even louder wing noise. The brief glide may be omitted and a flight may be performed between trees or perches, or from ground to perches. In these flights, the white on the underwing flashes conspicuously and is visible over greater distance than sound carries, although sound is equally important and strongly infectious, stimulating most other males within earshot to perform their own Flutter-displays. A solitary male Flutter-jumps when a hen flies out of his territory. Flights between display perches in trees and display grounds in early morning and late evening are also abnormally loud but are more drumming in quality, again stimulating other males. Western Capercaillies spend little time walking to and fro defending their territories.

The females are mated during a few days they visit the traditional display grounds (last week in April and first week in May, Saniga 1996b). Outside this period, the sexes live solitary except for the winter period when hens may appear in groups of two to four birds, whereas males mainly live solitary (Gjerde 1991, Saniga 1996b).

Territorial behaviour

When the first females appear on the display ground, either in groups or solitary, the behaviour of the adjacent males changes to a directed display. The posture in this situation differs very little from a perfect Thin-necked Upright posture. The primaries of both wings, however, are spread and their tips touch the ground. The tail is almost completely fanned and cocked, and is usually tilted and turned towards the female (figure 7). Females on the ground are encircled by the male

and the song is given congestedly. The primaries scrape the ground very noisily (especially on the frozen snow or leaves).

When a potential rival comes too close to a displaying male, the situation may develop into vehement Display Flight a few metres from each other, or to an exhibition of additional display characters, or to a true fight, respectively. When the territorial male registers a potential rival, his light grey and shining neck feathers are ruffled, thereby impressively increasing the volume of the neck and turning the surface of it to a black, grey-barred appearance (figure 8). The raising and lowering of these feathers are very conspicuous. The metallic green pectoral feathers are only slightly elevated. The bill is kept more forwards than in the Thin-necked Upright posture and is half-open. The tail is well fanned and, contrary to the posture when singing, is rigidly kept close to the vertical or even well tipped over the back.

On the display grounds, actual fighting is fairly common among the males. Hard fights often end in one of the combatants retreating or escaping from the scene. The fighting males posture with their beaks close to each other. The neck is kept low and withdrawn, or it is upright. The neck feathers are sleeked to the body. The beak is the main weapon. The beaks of the rivals often hit each other, producing a sonorous far-carrying noise. Fighting males also attack furiously with their wings when standing very close to each other with high-raised bodies. The sound of clashing wings resembles that of branches being broken from trees. Even females fight, but normally they restrict their hostile behaviour to running while cackling with raised and fanned tail, lifted wings, and fluffed-up neck feathers (figure 7).

Mating

Early in the season, before males display regularly, females may occasionally fly noisily through the display ground, giving short calls. Females appear at the display grounds in small groups and watch from trees, sporadically giving a deep 'Cackle-call' which acts as a strong stimulus to males. When the females fly down, the males immediately court them, generally now diminishing the number of Flutter-jump displays. The male courts the hen by a slight intensification of the ground Song-display posture, spreading the primaries so that they audibly scrape the ground, tilting and twisting the tail towards her, adopting a lateral stance to show beard and shoulder-spot, and turning around its axis to create an effect of maximum size (figure 9). As a copulation invitation, the hen responds to the circling male by stopping in his path, usually crouching with the breast just touching the ground, the tail slightly above the horizontal, and the wings often dropped to expose the whitish shoulder-spot (figure 7). The female may also make nodding, duckling movements of the head, eventually lying down with wings partly spread and often quivering. Finally, the male approaches the hen at an angle from behind, grasps her nape feathers in his bill, steps on to her back and copulates.

Acknowledgement

This study was a part of Grant Project No G-2-5172-98 financially supported by the Slovak Grant Agency for Science.

References

Boback, A V 1952. Das Auerhuhn. Leipzig.

Fuschlberger, H 1942. Das Hahnenbuch. München.

Gjerde, I 1991. Cues in winter habitat selection by Capercaillie. I. Habitat characteristics. Ornis Scand 22: 197-204.

Hjorth, I 1970. Reproductive behaviour in Tetraonidae. Viltrevy 7 (4): 184-596.

Klaus, S, Bergmann, H H, Andreev, A V, Müller, F, Porkert, J & Wiesner, J 1986. Die Auerhühner. Wittenberg-Lutherstadt.

Krüdener, A 1928. Auerwild – Naturgeschichte und Jagd. Neudamm.

Lumsden, H G 1961. The display of the Capercaillie. Br Birds 54: 257-272.

Müller, F 1974. Territorialverhalten und Siedlungsstruktur einer mitteleuropäischen Population des Auerhuhns, *Tetrao urogallus major* C.L. Brehm. Marburg.

Saniga, M 1996a. Habitat characteristics of capercaillie *(Tetrao urogallus)* leks in central Slovakia. Biológia, Bratislava 51, Ser 2: 191-199.

Saniga, M 1996b. Distribution, habitat preferences and breeding biology of the capercaillie *(Tetrao urogallus)* population in the Vel'ká Fatra mountains (West Carpathians). Biológia, Bratislava 51, Ser 2: 201-211.

Saniga, M 1998. Daily activity rhythm of capercaillie *(Tetrao urogallus)*. Fol Zool 47: 161-172.

Semenov-Tjan-Shanskij, O I 1960. Ekologya teterevnych ptic. In: Trudy Lapland gos zapovedn 5: 1-319.

Miroslav Saniga, Institute of Forest Ecology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Research Station, SK-976 02 Staré Hory, Slovakia (uelsav@bb.sanet.sk)

Redactiemededelingen

Naamgeving van taxa in Dutch Birding

Voor taxonomie, naamgeving en volgorde van in Nederland waargenomen taxa houdt Dutch Birding zich aan de beslissingen van de Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (CSNA) (Sangster et al 1997, 1998, 1999). Dit is een gevolg van afspraken tussen DBA, Nederlandse Ornithologische Unie (NOU) en SOVON die werden gemaakt in het kader van de publicatie van Avifauna van Nederland (van den Berg & Bosman 1999, 2001, Bijlsma et al 2001).

Voor niet in Nederland vastgestelde taxa wordt in Dutch Birding in principe Sibley (1996) gevolgd. In de afgelopen vijf jaren zijn talloze artikelen gepubliceerd met voorstellen tot het wijzigen van bepaalde wetenschappelijke soortnamen. Charles G Sibley werkte aan een nieuwe versie van zijn boek waarin dergelijke voorstellen zouden worden verwerkt maar dat is door zijn overlijden gestagneerd (Grootenboer 1998). Om die reden is besloten dat Dutch Birding weliswaar voorlopig Sibley (1996) blijft volgen maar voor West-Palearctische taxa die (nog) niet in Nederland zijn vastgesteld (en derhalve buiten het domein van de CSNA vallen) vanaf 1 januari 2002 enkele veranderingen doorvoert (zie tabel 1). Deze wijzigingen vonden plaats na consultatie van leden van de CSNA (Arnoud van den Berg, Kees Roselaar, George Sangster en Ronald Sluys). De redactie van Dutch Birding is voornemens om jaarlijks in januari een overzicht van dergelijke wijzigingen te presenteren.

Vrijwel alle recente beslissingen van de Duitse taxonomische commissie (cf Svensson et al 2000, van den Berg 2001) worden nu in Dutch Birding gevolgd voor zover ze niet in tegenspraak zijn met beslissingen van de CSNA (cf Sangster et al 1997, 1998, 1999). De hier niet vermelde beslissingen van de Duitse taxonomische commissie werden reeds gepubliceerd door Sibley (1996) en/of Sangster et al (1997, 1998, 1999). Uitzonderingen betreffen voorlopig de besluiten om Woestijnoehoe *Bubo (bubo) ascalaphus*, Woestijnsteenuil *Athene (noctua) lilith* en Siberische Tjiftjaf *Phylloscopus (collybita) tristis* soortstatus te geven (cf Clement & Helbig 1998, König et al 1999, Svensson et al 2000). Onderzoek aan DNA lijkt erop te wijzen dat Oehoe *B bubo* en Steenuil *A noctua* polyphyletisch zijn, maar een kenmerkenanalyse die alle taxa omvat heeft nog niet plaatsgevonden en opsplitsing van beide in twee soorten lijkt prematuur. Siberische Tjiftjaf is in Nederland vastgesteld en dient derhalve door de CSNA te worden behandeld (cf Sangster et al 2002). De soortstatus van de niet in Nederland vastgestelde Afrikaanse Woestijngrasmus *Sylvia deserti*, Mandelli's Bladkoning *P mandellii* (was *P humei mandellii*; Irwin et al 2001) en Taigavliegenvanger *Ficedula albicilla* impliceert dat de wel in Nederland vastgestelde (Aziatische) Woestijngrasmus *S nana*, Humes Bladkoning *P humei* en Kleine Vliegenvanger *F parva* monotypisch worden. Deze consequenties dienen door de CSNA te worden bevestigd. Dat geldt ook voor de correcte naam van Amerikaanse Goudplevier *Pluvialis dominica* (was *P dominicus*; Sangster et al 1997, 2002). Tenslotte wordt gewezen op de correcte wetenschappelijke naam van Turkestaanse Klauwier *Lanius phoenicuroides*, Daurische Klauwier *L isabellinus* en Chinese Klauwier *L arenarius* (cf Roselaar in Cramp & Perrins 1993, Pearson 2000, Worfolk 2000, van den Berg & Bosman 2001); deze correcties zijn reeds eerder doorgevoerd in Dutch Birding (Dutch Birding 22: 362, 2000). Andere eventuele correcties van wetenschappelijke namen staan nog ter discussie (zie bijvoorbeeld David & Gosselin 2000 en Svensson 2001b).

Summary

TAXA NAMES IN DUTCH BIRDING For taxa recorded in the Netherlands, Dutch Birding and the Dutch Birding Association (DBA) follow the decisions by the Dutch committee for avian systematics (CSNA). This is the result of an agreement between three ornithological organisations (DBA, Netherlands Ornithologists' Union and SOVON) which cooperated to produce the two-volume book on birds of the Netherlands (Avifauna van Nederland), published in 1999 (part 1, second edition in 2001; rare birds) and 2001 (part 2; common and scarce birds). In principle, Dutch Birding follows Sibley's *Birds of the world* (1996) for other taxa. For WP taxa not (yet) recorded in the Netherlands, Dutch Birding follows the advice of CSNA members in using new names from 1 January 2002 onwards (see table 1). The new names include those recently proposed by the German taxonomic committee (see Dutch Birding 23: 387-388, 2001) except, for the time being, Pharaoh Eagle Owl *Bubo (bubo) ascalaphus*, Desert Little Owl *Athene (noctua) lilith* and Siberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus (collybita) tristis*.

TABEL 1 Vanaf 1 januari 2002 door Dutch Birding gebruikte nieuwe wetenschappelijke namen van West-Palearctische (niet in Nederland vastgestelde) taxa / new scientific names for Western Palearctic taxa (not recorded in the Netherlands) used in Dutch Birding from 1 January 2002

Amerikaanse Goudplevier / American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica* (was *P dominicus*) (AOU 1997, Sangster et al 2002)

Amerikaanse Regenwulp / Hudsonian Whimbrel *Numenius hudsonicus* (was *Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus*) (Zink et al 1995, Engelmoer & Roselaar 1998)

Iberische Groene Specht / Iberian Green (or Sharpe's) Woodpecker *Picus sharpei* (was *P viridis sharpei*) (cf Cramp 1985, cf Svensson et al 2000)

Teneriferoodborst / Tenerife Robin *Erithacus superbus* (was *Erithacus rubecula superbus*) (cf Moreno 2000, Bergmann & Schottler 2001)

Seebohms Tapuit / Seebohm's Wheatear *Oenanthe seebohmi* (was *O oenanthe seebohmi*) (Walters 1997, Svensson et al 2000)

Oostelijke Roodstaarttapuit / Persian (Eastern Red-tailed) Wheatear *Oenanthe chrysopygia* (was *O xanthoprymna chrysopygia*); *O xanthoprymna* wordt / becomes Westelijke Roodstaarttapuit / (Western) Red-tailed Wheatear (Svensson et al 2000)

Westelijke Rouwtapuit / Western Mourning Wheatear *Oenanthe halophila* (was *O lugens halophila*) (Svensson et al 2000)

Westelijke Vale Spotvogel / Western Olivaceous Warbler *Acrocephalus opacus* (was *A pallidus opacus*) (Svensson et al 2000, Svensson 2001a)

Chinese Karekiet / Oriental Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus orientalis* (was *A arundinaceus orientalis*) (Walters 1997, Svensson et al 2000)

Afrikaanse Woestijngrasmus / African Desert Warbler *Sylvia deserti* (was *S nana deserti*) (Svensson et al 2000, Shirihai et al 2001); *S nana* wordt / becomes (Aziatische) Woestijngrasmus / Asian Desert Warbler

Oostelijke Orpheusgrasmus / Eastern Orphean Warbler *Sylvia crassirostris* (was *S hortensis crassirostris*) (Svensson et al 2000, Shirihai et al 2001); *S hortensis* wordt / becomes Westelijke Orpheusgrasmus / Western Orphean Warbler

Balearische Grasmus / Balearic Warbler *Sylvia balearica* (was *S sarda balearica*) (Svensson et al 2000, Shirihai et al 2001)

Madeiragoudhaan / Madeira Kinglet *Regulus madeirensis* (was *R ignicapillus madeirensis*) (Svensson et al 2000, cf Päckert et al 2001)

Atlasvliegenvanger / Atlas Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula speculigera* (was *F hypoleuca speculigera*) (Sætre et al 2001); *iberiae* blijft voorlopig conspecifiek met / is provisionally retained as conspecific with *hypoleuca*

Taigavliegenvanger / Taiga Flycatcher *Ficedula albicilla* (was *F parva albicilla*) (Cederroth et al 1999, Svensson et al 2000)

Afrikaanse Pimpelmees / African Blue Tit *Parus teneriffae* (was *P caeruleus teneriffae*) (Martin 1991, cf Cramp & Perrins 1993, Sangster 1996, cf Moreno 2000, cf Svensson et al 2000); *palmensis*, *ombriosus*, *degener*, *ultramarinus* en / and *cyrenaicae* blijven voorlopig conspecifiek met / are provisionally retained as conspecific with *teneriffae*

Corsicaanse Citroenkanarie / Corsican Finch *Serinus corsicana* (was *S citrinella corsicana*) (Sangster 2000, Svensson et al 2000, Sangster et al 2002)

Azorengoudvink / Azores Bullfinch *Pyrrhula murina* (was *P pyrrhula murina*) (Aubrecht 2000, Ramos & Nunes 2001)

Huisgors / House Bunting *Emberiza sahari* (was *E striolata sahari*) (Svensson et al 2000); *E striolata* wordt / becomes Gestreepte Gors / Striated Bunting

Verwijzingen

American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) 1997. Forty-first supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union check-list of North American birds. Auk 114: 542-552.

Aubrecht, G 2000. The Azores bullfinch – *Pyrrhula murina* Godman, 1866. Ann Naturhist Mus Wien 102 B: 23-62.

van den Berg, A B 2001. DB Actueel: German taxonomic decisions. Dutch Birding 23: 387-388.

van den Berg, A B & Bosman, C A W 1999, 2001. Zeldzame vogels van Nederland – Rare birds of the Netherlands. Avifauna van Nederland 1. Eerste, tweede druk. Haarlem.

Bergmann, H-H & Schottler, B H 2001. Tenerife Robin – a species of its own? Dutch Birding 23: 140-146.

Bijlsma, R G, Hustings, F & Camphuysen, C J 2001. Algemene en schaarse vogels van Nederland – Common and scarce birds of the Netherlands. Avifauna van Nederland 2. Haarlem.

Cederroth, C, Johansson, C & Svensson, L 1999. Taiga Flycatcher *Ficedula albicilla* in Sweden: the first record in western Europe. Birding World 12: 460-468.

Clement, P & Helbig, A J 1998. Taxonomy and identification of chiffchaffs in the Western Palearctic. Br Birds 91: 361-376.

Cramp, S (editor) 1985. The birds of the Western Palearctic 4. Oxford.

Cramp, S & Perrins, C M (editors) 1993. The birds of the Western Palearctic 7. Oxford.

David, N & Gosselin, M 2000. The supposed significance of originally capitalized species-group names. Bull Br Ornithol Club 120: 261-266.

Engelmoer, M & Roselaar, C S 1998. Geographical variation in waders. Dordrecht.

Grootenboer, R 1998. Charles G Sibley (1917-1998). Dutch Birding 20: 97.

Irwin, D E, Alström, P, Olsson, U & Benowitz-Fredericks, Z M 2001. Cryptic species in the genus *Phylloscopus* (Old World leaf warblers). Ibis 143: 233-247.

König, C, Weick, F & Becking, J-H 1999. Owls: a guide to the owls of the world. Mountfield.
Martin, J L 1991. The *Parus caeruleus* complex revisited. Ardea 79: 429-438.
Moreno, J M 2000. Cantos y reclamos de las aves de Canarias. CD's. Santa Cruz de Tenerife.
Pearson, D 2000. The races of the Isabelline Shrike *Lanius isabellinus* and their nomenclature. Bull Br Ornithol Club 120: 22-27.
Ramos, J & Nunes, M 2001. Red Data Bird: Azores Bullfinch. World Birdwatch 23 (4): 14-15.
Sætre, G-P, Borge, T & Moum, T 2001. A new bird species? The taxonomic status of 'the Atlas Flycatcher' assessed from DNA sequence analysis. Ibis 143: 494-497.
Sangster, G 1996. Species limits in the Blue Tit complex: new evidence from play-back studies. Dutch Birding 18: 85-88.
Sangster, G 2000. Genetic distance as a test of species boundaries in the Citril Finch *Serinus citrinella*: a critique and taxonomic reinterpretation. Ibis 142: 487-490.
Sangster, G, Hazevoet, C J, van den Berg, A B & Roselaar, C S 1997. Dutch avifaunal list: taxonomic changes in 1977-97. Dutch Birding 19: 21-28.
Sangster, G, Hazevoet, C J, van den Berg, A B & Roselaar, C S 1998. Dutch avifaunal list: species concepts, taxonomic instability, and taxonomic changes in 1998. Dutch Birding 20: 22-32.
Sangster, G, Hazevoet, C J, van den Berg, A B, Roselaar, C S & Sluys, R 1999. Dutch avifaunal list: species concepts, taxonomic instability, and taxonomic changes in 1977-1998. Ardea 87: 139-166.
Sangster, G, Knox, A G, Helbig, A J, Parkin, D T 2002. Taxonomic recommendations for European birds. Ibis 144: 153-159.
Shirihai, H, Gargallo, G, Helbig, A J, Harris, A & Cottridge, D 2001. *Sylvia* warblers. Identification, taxonomy and phylogeny of the genus *Sylvia*. Londen.
Sibley, C G 1996. Birds of the world. Version 2.0. Cincinatti.
Svensson, L 2001a. Identification of Western and Eastern Olivaceous, Booted and Sykes's Warblers. Birding World 14: 192-219.
Svensson, L 2001b. The correct name of the Iberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus ibericus* Ticehurst 1937, its identification and new evidence of its winter grounds. Bull Br Ornithol Club 121: 281-296.
Svensson, L, Grant, P J, Mullarney, K & Zetterström, D 2000. Vögel Europas, Nordafrikas und Vorderasiens. Stuttgart.
Walters, M 1997. Complete checklist: vogels van de wereld. Baarn.
Worfolk, T 2000. Identification of red-backed, isabelline and brown shrikes. Dutch Birding 22: 323-362.
Zink, R M, Rohwer, S, Andreev, A V & Dittmann, D L 1995. Trans-Beringia comparisons of mitochondrial DNA differentiation in birds. Condor 97: 639-649.

Redactie Dutch Birding, Postbus 116, 2080 AC Santpoort-Zuid, Netherlands (editors@dutchbirding.nl)

Wijzigingen binnen redactie Met ingang van 1 januari 2002 is een aantal wijzigingen doorgevoerd binnen de redactie. George Sangster heeft de redactie na een jarenlange inzet, met name op het gebied van taxonomie en systematiek, verlaten. Roy Slaterus uit Haarlem, Noord-Holland, is toegetreden tot de redactie; veel mensen zullen Roy kennen vanwege zijn veldwerk en ontdekkingen rond Haarlem en IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, en vanwege zijn kennis van geluiden. Peter Adriaens is van de redactieadviesraad 'doorgeschoven' naar de redactie, zodat de Belgische inbreng èn de kennis op gebied van determinatie binnen de redactie verder worden versterkt. De vaste rubriek Masters of Mystery wordt met ingang van deze jaargang verzorgd door een nieuw duo; Rob van Bemmelen en Dick Groenendijk hebben de taken van Nils van Duivendijk en Diederik Kok overgenomen, die de rubriek vijf jaargangen lang verzorgd hebben. Nils blijft als redactiemedewerker op de achtergrond een bijdrage leveren en Diederik zal zich concentreren op het reguliere redactiewerk. Voor een volledig overzicht van de leden van de redactie (kernredactie en redactieraad) en redactieadviesraad en van de redactiemedewerkers wordt verwezen naar het colofon. REDACTIE

Changes in editorial board On 1 January 2002, George Sangster has left the editorial board of Dutch Birding. Roy Slaterus and Peter Adriaens have joined the editorial board (Peter was already a member of the editorial advisory board). Rob van Bemmelen and Dick Groenendijk have taken over the Masters of Mystery from Nils van Duivendijk and Diederik Kok; Diederik remains a member of the editorial board. For a full line-up of editors, advisory board and editorial assistants, see the colofon. EDITORS

Recensies

WOO-SHIN LEE, TAE-HOE KOO & JIN-YOUNG PARK 2000. *A field guide to the birds of Korea*. LG Evergreen Foundation, Seoul; distributed by NHBS, 2-3 Wills Road, Totnes, Devon TQ9 5XN, UK. 330 pp. ISBN 89-951415-1-4 (paperback). GBP 24.95.

Korea is becoming a popular destination for birders. Lots of practical information about sites, transportation and accomodation can be found in the paper by Nick Lethaby, Nial Moores and Jin-Young Park (Dutch Birding 22: 204-219, 2000). The latter is one of the authors of an excellent new field guide that covers the whole Korean peninsula in an English edition (the texts were translated by Desmond Allen). All 450 species recorded in Korea up to August 2000 are illustrated in full-colour by Takashi Taniguchi, who also illustrated Takano's *Field guide to the birds of Japan* (1982). The lay-out of this easy-to-carry book is perfect with concise species descriptions and distribution maps facing the plates. The maps by Satori Hamaya show the species' general distribution in eastern Asia instead of details on distribution in Korea. Apart from scientific and English species names, Korean names are presented in Roman alphabet. A checklist of Korean birds is included (status annotations can be found in the species descriptions) and the introductory chapters present a minimum of explanations on technical terminology, topography and how to identify birds. A map in the back shows the best birding sites not only in South Korea but also in North Korea. The book is distributed in Europe by Natural History Books Service Ltd, Totnes, Devon (www.nhbs.com; NHBS Stock Code 119805) and in North America by American Birding Association (www.americanbirding.org; ABA Sales Item 838, USD 33.50). ARNOUD B VAN DEN BERG

PETER L MEININGER, FLOOR A ARTS & NORMAN D VAN SWELM 2000. *Kustbroedvogels in het Noordelijk Deltagebied*. Rapport RIKZ/2000.052. Rijksinstituut voor Kust en Zee/Stichting Ornithologisch Station Voorne, Middelburg/Oostvoorne. 238 pp. ISBN 90-369-3435-4. Paperback.

Het Noordelijk Deltagebied ligt in misschien wel het snelst veranderende deel van Nederland. Natuur heeft hier vaak moeten wijken voor de oprukkende bebouwing en industrie van Rotterdam, Zuid-Holland. Over de vogels van dit gebied is een rapport verschenen dat het uiterlijk heeft van een fraai en rijk geïllustreerd boek. Het gebied omvat de Maasvlakte en het Rotterdamse havengebied, de Noordzeekusten van Voorne en Goeree, het Haringvliet en het Hollandsch Diep: ofwel het beheersgebied van Rijkswaterstaat Directie Zuid-Holland. Het rapport presenteert zowel per deelgebied als per kustbroedvogelsoort een degelijk en gedetailleerd overzicht van de veranderingen gedurende de 20e eeuw. Daarbij is een met oude foto's geïllustreerde terugblik op de verdwijning door havenuitbreidingen van het befaamde natuurgebied De Beer onvermijdelijk. De aandacht gaat in dit rapport uit naar Steltkluut *Himantopus himantopus*, Kluut *Recurvirostra avosetta*, Bontbekplevier *Charadrius hiaticula*, Strandplevier *C alexandrinus*, zeven soorten meeuwen Laridae (inclusief Zwartkopmeeuw *Larus melanocephalus*, Geelpootmeeuw *L michahellis* en Grote Mantelmeeuw *L marinus*) en vijf soorten sterns Sternidae (inclusief Lachstern *Gelochelidon nilotica*). Daarna gaan de auteurs uitgebreid in op de huidige en te verwachten problemen voor vogels en geven zij met praktische tips aan hoe beheerders zulke problemen tegemoet kunnen treden. Het blijkt dat het gebied nog altijd zeer vogelrijk is en dat dit is te danken aan het feit dat kustbroedvogels gebruik weten te maken van braakliggende terreinen en nieuwe natuurgebieden, zoals vogeleilandjes die in de afgelopen 15 jaar voor hen zijn aangelegd. Naast dergelijke beschouwingen bevat het rapport fraaie kleurenfoto's en historische zwart-witopnamen van fotografen als Frans Kooijmans, Jan van Tussenbroek en Simon de Waard. Zo zijn er foto's van een Zwartkopmeeuw op het nest op De Scheelhoek op 18 mei 1959 en van Lachsterns met kuikens of eieren op De Beer op 21 juni en 25 juni 1949 en in juni 1951. De literatuurlijst is bijzonder uitgebreid en beslaat liefst 26 pagina's. Een van de bijlagen biedt historische notities uit 1936-60 van bewakers van broedende Grote Sterns *Sterna sandvicensis* op De Beer. Serieuze belangstellenden kunnen dit rapport (in principe kosteloos) verkrijgen bij Peter Meininger (telefoon +31-118672331, e-mail p.l.meininger@rikz.rws.minvenw.nl). ARNOUD B VAN DEN BERG

TONY HARRIS & KIM FRANKLIN 2000. *Shrikes & bush-shrikes. Including wood-shrikes, helmet-shrikes, flycatcher-shrikes, philentomas, batises and wattle-eyes*. Christopher Helm/A&C Black, 37 Soho Square, London W1D 3QZ, UK; e-mail ornithology@acblack.com. 392 pp. ISBN 0-7136-3861-3. GBP 35.00.

Yet another example of the copycat syndrome among publishers? Not really, because the sub-title of this book shows clearly how much it differs from *Shrikes* by Lefranc & Worfolk (1997): 'including wood-shrikes, helmet-shrikes, flycatcher-shrikes, philentomas, batises and wattle-eyes'. Recent DNA studies have suggested that these groups are closely associated to what we think of as the true shrikes, and Tony Harris not only explains why he follows this enlarged approach but gives a detailed review of similarities and differences in other respects too, notably behavioural. So if you already have the excellent book by Norbert Lefranc and Tim Worfolk, whether or not you get this one too depends on the extent of your interest in avian relationships and

behaviour, and in African birds in particular.

Both books are thorough in their treatment of such aspects as distribution, plumage, behaviour etc. Both give reasonably accurate distribution maps (in the text in Lefranc & Worfolk, opposite the colour plates in Harris & Franklin). Both books have extensive and up-to-date bibliographies. In Lefranc & Worfolk references (author, date) are given at the end of each species' account, as a rule, whereas Harris & Franklin make an attempt to identify the sources of data by using superscript numbers in the text wherever possible (but having to turn to the bibliography each time to get details of a numbered reference is tiresome). Number 500 turns up frequently ('Harris personal observations'), giving the impression that Tony Harris can vouch personally for much of the information given. But it is clear that in many cases this means that he has examined specimens or listened to tapes. Indeed, this is the one serious drawback of this book; the author's personal field experience is limited, and had he known many more of the species himself, he would have presented published data differently. This is particularly clear in the case of the vocalizations of the Kupe Bush-shrike *Malaconotus kupeensis*, where he uncritically details every attempt at describing these, some contradictory, perhaps even erroneous.

The illustrations are an important feature of these handbook-guides, and in both of these books they are good. The true shrikes have a fairly stereotyped jizz, but the extra families dealt with in Kim Franklin's illustrations are far more varied, and in general he has succeeded in capturing a lifelike appearance. With the colours in the copies of these two books that I have, I am less satisfied. I find several of the plates here far too 'muddy'; look, for example, at the illustrations of Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio* and allies. On the other hand, Tim Worfolk's figures of these same birds seem too brightly coloured. Where particular details of plumage need to be pointed out, I find Worfolk more satisfactory (eg, the rusty flanks of some populations of female Fiscal Shrikes *L collaris*). In neither is the undertail of female 'isabelline shrikes *L isabellinus'* shown, the most diagnostic character, although it is mentioned in the text.

Anyone with a broad interest in African birds and/or 'shrikes' will not be too disappointed with this addition to the Helm Identification Guide series, on which author and artist are to be congratulated.
R J (Bob) Dowsett

Patricia E Bradley 2000. *The birds of the Cayman Islands.* BOU Checklist series 19. British Ornithologists' Union, The Natural History Museum, Tring, Hertfordshire HP23 6AP, UK. Hardback. ISBN 0-907446-23-X. 253 pp. GBP 35.00.

The BOU Checklist series comprises a steadily growing number of avifaunal checklists for countries or areas all around the globe. So far, such different geographical entities as, for instance, Libya (nr 1), Serengeti National Park (Tanzania) (nr 4), Wallacea (nr 7), the Philippines (nr 12) and the Cape Verde Islands (nr 13) have been treated. The emphasis has been on African countries and islands and, to a lesser extent, on South-East Asia. The checklist discussed here, covering the Cayman Islands, is the second covering a part of the Caribbean region, after the Southern Bahamas (nr 8) – and one is in preparation for St Lucia.

This book gives an analysis of the breeding and migrant avifauna of the three islands which together form the Cayman Islands (Little Cayman, Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac), situated south of Cuba and north-west of Jamaica in the Caribbean Sea. The islands were named by Christopher Columbus on 10 May 1503 and nowadays form part of the British Overseas Territories. Data have been collected since the first ornithologists visited the islands in 1886. The book describes status, distribution and habitats for all 222 species and breeding data for 49 species. Although there are no endemic species left on the islands (one is only known from fossil remains, the other – Grand Cayman Thrush *Turdus ravidus* – was last seen in 1938), 14 species of landbirds have a total of 17 endemic subspecies. Vitelline Warbler *Dendroica vitellina* now comes closest to an endemic species, occurring outside the Cayman Islands only on the tiny Swan Islands off the north coast of Honduras.

Although labelled as 'checklist', the BOU Checklist series offers much more than that and this one is certainly no exception. Even if more than half of the pages are dedicated to the very detailed systematic list, the rest of the book includes informative descriptions of, for instance, general history, geography, paleornithology, zoogeography, population trends and conservation. A total of 71 colour plates are included of which 27 show characteristic birds (including many of the endemic races) and the others show maps, beautiful aerial photographs and typical habitats. The overall result is an attractive and well-produced book crammed with information. Visitors to the islands will mostly use the field guide *Birds of the Cayman Islands* by the same author together with Y J Rey-Millet, published in 1985 (revised edition 1995) but will need – or want – this book for detailed information on populations, occurrences and status (including details of many vagrant records). Birders with a special interest in the Caribbean avifauna will need it to complete their collection – and for all other birders it is a fine example of how detailed and attractive a 'checklist' can be. Enno B Ebels

Thomas S Schulenberg, Curtis Marantz & Peter H English 2000. *Voices of Amazonian birds: Birds of the rain forest of southern Peru and northern Bolivia 1-3* (three audio CDs).

Thomas S Schulenberg 2000. *Voices of Andean birds 1: Birds of the hill Forest of southern Peru and Bolivia* (audio CD).

Thomas S Schulenberg 2000. *Voices of Andean birds 2: Birds of the cloud forest of southern Peru and Bolivia* (audio CD).

Library of Natural Sounds, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca,

NY 14850, USA, e-mail cornellbirds@cornell.edu. All five CDs USD 14.95 each.

Sounds of no less than 5 x 99 = 495 species of birds are now available on these practical audio CDs. Practical, because audio CDs are handier in the field than cassette tapes and CD-ROMs, the formats on which comparable productions were already available (I am thinking now of John Moore's cassette series *Ecuador: more bird vocalizations from the Lowland Rainforest 1-3* and of my own CD-ROM *Birds of Bolivia*).

The great majority of the species presented on these CDs are common and vocal ones, although there are also several rare birds (eg, Elusive Antpitta *Grallaria eludens*, Yellow-rumped Antwren *Terenura sharpei* and Selva Cacique *Cacicus koepckeae*, to name a few). Altogether there are 709 individual recordings, so for many species there are two or even three examples. Species lists with track numbers are printed on the rear side of the CD boxes, which makes for quick lookup (although probably rather quicker for many users if the names were also in English!).

The quality of the recordings on these CDs varies widely, and I was often surprised that there were no better quality recordings available. For example, are there really no better recordings at Cornell LNS of common and vocal birds like White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*, Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet *Tyrannulus elatus*, Royal Flycatcher *Onychorhynchus coronatus* and White-winged Shrike-Tanager *Lanio versicolor*?

Another gripe of mine is about how many recordings are 'engineered'. Most of all, I dislike the excessive use of 'looping'. Although the booklets state in only 17 cases that a recording was looped, inspection of the sonograms told me that no less than 75 additional recordings were looped as well. Looping is bad in my opinion for two reasons: firstly because it falsely suggests a lack of variability of a bird's vocalizations (even more so when the listener is not made aware of the looping), and secondly because the looped parts of a recording do not convey any additional information, but only waste precious CD space (and the listener's time). For example, the four calls on the Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii* recording sound very much alike, suggesting that a similar yet different call heard in the field may be of a different species. But without the booklet telling you, the sonagram shows that all four are copies of the same call.

And there are other types of bad engineering. One remarkable case is the example of song of White-crested Spadebill *Platyrinchus platyrhynchos*: these are three copies of the same song (without the booklet saying so), except that the second song has the first 15 notes 'cut off'! Or the example with songs of Brown-capped Vireo *Vireo leucophrys*: the third and fourth songs are copies of the first (again without mentioning it in the text), except that song four has the first one-and-a-half notes removed. Just amusing is the example of song of Black-faced Antbird *Myrmoborus myotherinus*: three different songs with two identical intervals 'pasted' between them.

Intervals are often unrealistically short, without any comments about it in the booklets (or alternatively: 'fading' could have been employed to indicate that intervals are artificial). For example, take the Montane Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger* recording, with three songs in 18 sec (intervals in this species are usually, if not always, much longer). Or Great Jacamar *Jacamerops aurea*: 15 sec with three calls! (the first one looped, and the third audibly 'pasted on').

That the other audible species are never mentioned is not essential in most cases of course: they are just 'nice to knows' (but still useful to help refine one's 'birding by ear' skills). In some cases, it matters very much though: the listener can be forgiven for thinking that the loud calls between the songs of Russet Antshrike *Thamnistes anabatinus* were also made by that species. I am pretty sure however that they were made by a nearby Cinnamon Flycatcher *Pyrrhomyias cinnamomea*. Or take the loud calls in between the typical manakin vocalizations of Red-headed Manakin *Pipra rubrocapilla*: the booklet says nothing about them, but from another recording on the same CD I discovered (never having seen or heard the bird myself) that these calls were made not by the manakin, but by a Brownish Flycatcher (also known as Brownish Twistwing) *Cnipodectes subbrunneus*.

In some cases, better use of the available CD space could have been made. On the first Amazonia CD for example, the Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans* recording is almost 3 min in length, and by shortening it, a recording of the often-heard 'cackling' calls of Barred Forest-Falcon *Micrastur ruficollis* could have been inserted (now only its 'song' is presented), and also the similar cackling of Lined Forest-Falcon *M gilvicollis*, and also another type of Lined Forest-Falcon's 'song' (now there only is one type), and also calls of Black-banded Owl *Ciccaba huhula* (now only song), and also calls of Gilded Barbet *Capito auratus* (now only the 'song'), and also ..., etc.

As far as I know, there is only one big error on the CDs: I was told by the recordist himself that he discovered during a recent expedition in Bolivia, that the vocalizations which he recorded five years ago, of which he thought that they came from a nearby perched Scarlet-breasted Fruiteater *Pipreola frontalis*, came actually from a Hazel-fronted Pygmy-Tyrant *Pseudotriccus simplex* (listening to it, you can indeed hear a faint (typical *Pseudotriccus*) 'wing snap' halfway the two calls [the third call and the preceding interval are just 'looped']). Another error I know of is the song of Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus fuscater*, which was not recorded by me near Titi Amaya in Bolivia (as stated in the booklet) but by Jon Hornbuckle at Abra Patricia in northern Peru (the two recordings were sent by me to Cornell, where they were mixed up somehow).

Concluding, these five CDs are mightily useful for everybody birding in south-western Amazonia and the Andean forests of southern Peru and Bolivia, but I wish the technical preparation of them had been a little more conscientious. SJOERD MAYER

RICHARD GRIMMETT, CAROL INSKIPP & TIM INSKIPP 2000. *Birds of Nepal*. Helm field guides. Christopher Helm/A&C Black, 37 Soho Square, London W1D 3QZ, UK; e-mail ornithology@acblack.com. ISBN 0-7136-5166-0. 288 pp. Softback. GBP 19.99.

Three authors well known for their knowledge of the Indian region and Nepal in particular and no less than 12 different artists have compiled this compact field guide for this popular birding destination. All plates have been 'sampled' from the ground-breaking *Birds of the Indian Subcontinent* (1998) and its companion, the *Pocket guide to the birds of the Indian Subcontinent* (1999), published by the same authors and same team of illustrators. Only a few drawings of subspecies occurring in Nepal were specifically executed for this guide. Apart from the introduction with chapters on different aspects of natural history and birdwatching in Nepal and a few appendices, the 110 colour plates fill the main part of the book. Despite the large number of artists involved, the plates go quite well together and are all of a comparable high quality level. The only text accompanying the plates is the text facing the plates, giving very concise information about status, habitat and altitude (very important in this country!) and a brief description of the plumage with the most important points of identification. There are no distribution maps included.

In fact, this guide does what many birders may have been tempted to do (or have actually done) when visiting a country for which the most appropriate field guide or handbook covers a much larger region: to 'cut and paste' the birds selected for that single country and to add only the most basic information in text. Modern Desk Top Publishing (DTP) techniques offer many new possibilities to compile different selections of existing artwork such as this guide, although the sharp-eyed observer will notice the sometimes blurry edges of the birds caused by the digital cutting. Without the companion of the 'mother guide' (in this case *Birds of the Indian Subcontinent* or the *Pocket guide*) not all birds may be identified – or your note keeping has to be excellent – but the majority will be readily identifiable. For those who have to travel light (trekking is a popular pastime in Nepal!), this field guide (c 500 g) may be a better choice than the *Pocket guide* (c 700 g) or the much heavier *Birds of the Indian Subcontinent* (c 2500 g); for most others, this book will offer little extra. ENNO B EBELS

ADRIAN SKERETT, IAN BULLOCK & TONY DISLEY 2001. *Birds of Seychelles*. Helm field guides. Christopher Helm/A&C Black, 37 Soho Square, London W1D 3QZ, UK; e-mail ornithology@acblack.com. ISBN 0-7136-3973-3. 320 pp. Softback. GBP 25.00.

Although published in the same series as the Nepal field guide discussed above, the Seychelles guide is quite something different. A little larger and a little thicker, this guide follows the classic format of introductory chapters (including descriptions of important birdwatching sites), plates (with brief texts) and more detailed species-by-species accounts. The 53 colour plates by Tony Disley show 242 species. The species accounts are most detailed for the 66 breeding species and for some may run for more than a full page, making the book more than just a 'field guide'. These breeding species include the 12 endemic species occurring on one or more of the 115-155 islands (depending on the definition) included in Seychelles. In addition, four taxa currently regarded as subspecies may well deserve species status. A fifth species occurs also in Madagascar but has an endemic subspecies in Seychelles. Furthermore, at least 13 endemic races are known for 10 species. Three taxa have become extinct: Seychelles Parakeet *Psittacula (eupatria) wardi*, Seychelles Chestnut-flanked White-eye *Zosterops semiflava* and the 'short-lived' Aldabra Warbler *Nesillas aldabranus*: discovered in 1967, last sighted in 1983 and listed as extinct in 1994 – a fate that the better-known Seychelles Warbler *Acrocephalus sechellensis* just escaped. After an estimated all-time-low population of only 26-29 birds in 1959, the subsequent man-aided recovery of the latter species ranks as one of the most successful rescue operations for an endangered species anywhere in the world. Another endemic species that was almost extirpated, Seychelles Magpie-robin *Copsychus sechellarum*, is subject of a BirdLife recovery programme since 1990 and the population has slowly risen to c 90 birds in 2000.

Apart from the endemic species and races, Seychelles are well known for the many breeding seabirds and for migrants. The latter group shows a mixture of Western and Eastern Palearctic species, as well as African and Asian visitors, thanks to the unique position of Seychelles on the crossroads of different migration routes. Where else can one expect both Caspian *Charadrius asiaticus* and Oriental Plover *C veredus* as a vagrant? Or Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*, Indian Pond Heron *A grayii* and Madagascar Pond Heron *A idea*? Or (apart from Britain, of course) Common *Apus apus*, Fork-tailed *A pacificus* and Little Swift *A affinis*? This guide helps to solve these identification problems. Not only are the plates pleasing and seemingly accurate and is the text thorough, also does it cover many confusion species that have not yet occurred on the islands but may well do so in the future. In this respect, the book offers much more than just information for visitors to the islands but can also be helpful to solve identification problems on a wider scale. ENNO B EBELS

MARC ARGELOO 2001. *Maleo – De kip met de gouden eieren*. GMB Uitgeverij, Vrijheidsweg 86, 2033 CE Haarlem, Nederland, e-mail ger.meesters@gmbuitgeverij.nl. 223 pp. ISBN 90-74345-32-8. EUR 14.90.

Dit is een boeiend boek over de grootpoothoenders Megapodiidae in Indonesië. Hoewel er met geen woord gerept wordt over zaken als identificatie, voorkomen, geluid etc, geeft het een heel goed beeld over de situ-

atie waarin deze interessante vogels moeten proberen te overleven. Het boek is een combinatie van reisverslag, logboek, avonturenroman, jongensboek en vogelaantekeningen en weet de lezer van het begin tot het einde te boeien. Een groot gedeelte van het boek gaat over de bescherming van het Hamerhoen *Macrocephalon maleo* in een nationaal park in Noord-Sulawesi in het kader van een opdracht van het Wereld Natuur Fonds.

Voor de inheemse bevolking blijken illegale zaken als rotankap, eierroof en goudwinning belangrijker dan de bescherming van de grootpoothoenders en het wordt in dit boek duidelijk dat er een groot verschil bestaat tussen het wellicht geforceerde natuurbewustzijn van de westerse wereld en de sores van het dagelijkse leven in grote delen van Indonesië. Na een aantal jaren blijkt dan ook dat de economische belangen overheersen en dat het nationale park zijn status als vanzelfsprekend verliest.

Een tweede gedeelte van het boek beschrijft een expeditie naar het Molukkenboshoen *Megapodius wallacei* en het Bruijns Boshoen *Aepypodius bruijnii*. Van de eerste wordt overduidelijk bewezen dat deze nog in redelijke aantallen voorkomt; van de tweede blijft dit ook na het lezen van dit boek een raadsel.

En passant wordt beschreven hoe er op een gruwelijke wijze jacht wordt gemaakt op vleermuizen. Ook hier geldt dat brood op de plank een hogere prioriteit heeft dan de bescherming van een aantal interessante soorten vleermuizen.

Het boek is op een bijzonder relativerende en humoristische manier geschreven en nodigt uit om in één adem uit te lezen. Een aanrader voor op het nachtkastje! THEO ADMIRAAL

ROBERT S RIDGELY & PAUL J GREENFIELD 2001. *The birds of Ecuador* (volumes I & II). Christopher Helm/A&C Black, 37 Soho Square, London W1D 3QZ, UK; e-mail ornithology@acblack.com. Volume I: Status, distribution and taxonomy, 848 pp, ISBN 0-7136-6116-X (paperback); volume II (field guide): 740 pp, ISBN 0-7136-6117-8, paperback). GBP 55.00 (volume I), GBP 40.00 (volume II) or GBP 80.00 (both volumes).

11 years ago, when I first visited Ecuador, I met Paul Greenfield on a bird convention in Quito, telling him about a record of four American Avocets *Recurvirostra americana* which Rob ter Ellen and I saw in a marsh near Atacames, north-western Ecuador, in January 1991. He told me this was the first record of the species for mainland South America (cf Dutch Birding 16: 59-60, plate 43, 1994) and subsequently said he was working on a book *The birds of Ecuador*. The plan was that the book should be published in 1993. My first visit to Ecuador, lasting from November 1990 to April 1991, obviously produced an incredible number of (personal) new species. At the time, one had to bring a number of bird books (eg, *Birds of Colombia*, *Birds of South America volume I*, *Photographic guide to the birds of South America*) to cover all the species of Ecuador. In fact, it was hardly possible to have a fully documented list of all species occurring in the country, making identification of a number of species a real challenge. Yes, one could use the four-line (museum specimen) descriptions coming from Meyer de Schauensee's *A guide to the birds of South America* dating back to 1970. Especially paintings of birds of the southern parts of Ecuador were not available. I returned to Ecuador in 1995 for a month, bringing two extra books (and a lot of weight!): *Birds of South America volume II* and *Birds of the High Andes*, both indispensible for the trip at the time. In total we were carrying about 6.7 kg of bird books. We were lucky to be travelling by car!

So here it is (or they are): *The birds of Ecuador*, two volumes (and 'only' 2.9 kg in total!). Volume I, dealing with the status, distribution and taxonomy of all of the nearly 1600 species (848 pages) and volume II, the field guide, dealing with the identification (740 pages and 96 colour plates). These books are truly magnificent and present an incredible wealth of information. They are, needless to say, indispensible when going out birding in Ecuador.

Volume I (status, distribution and taxonomy) starts off with an 80-page section on various topics such as geography, climate, vegetation, migration, conservation, endemic bird areas and a history of Ecuadorian birdwatching. Also, in the introductory pages, the authors include a section on regularly mentioned sites, which are referred to in the species accounts (only of volume I). Then follows a detailed, informative and extensive account for each species on status, distribution and taxonomy in Ecuador. There are no illustrations. It is this volume in which a lot of new information on the birds of Ecuador is given (previously, there was hardly any information available on the status of birds in Ecuador) and, personally, I like this volume most.

Volume II (the field guide) is designed strictly for identification purposes. It subsequently deals with abundance and habitat, description, similar species, habits, voice and a distribution map which is placed in the text. On the maps, 1000 m altitudal lines are drawn on both sides of the Andes. Especially in a country like Ecuador, with the Andes dividing it into two, locality and altitude is an important clue for identification. The maps placed in the text will prove popular for a quick ID check. A minor point of criticism concerns the use of dots in the maps and the subsequent text on the species' status. For instance, for Amethyst Woodstar *Calliphlox amethystina* the map shows four dots and two question marks. The text says 'scarce' in the field guide and 'rare to locally uncommon' in status, distribution and taxonomy. I should say so! There are only four records! This example reflects the difficulties in judging the status of each species. Some birds are just too little studied, are too difficult to identify or are too secretive in their habits. Still, I have the feeling that the authors are slightly over-optimistic in that sense. The paintings on the 96 plates are accurate and beautiful although the waders and gulls are of lower quality. All birds that have been recorded in Ecuador are depicted. This is an important difference with other books of the region, eg, *The birds of Colombia*, where, for instance, no American migrants

are illustrated. Unlike most field guides, all plates are drawn by one artist, with the resulting benefits of consistency. A (minor) point of criticism concerning the plates are the large scale to which the larger birds have been drawn (herons, raptors, macaws, trogons) and the rather harsh colours in some plates.

The authors have deliberately left out the Galapagos Islands (which belong to Ecuador, 900 km off the coast), because of its unique and different avifauna, but include Isla de la Plata, situated some 25 km off the coast. This island, also known as 'the poor man's Galapagos' matches the Ecuadorian avifauna more closely. Also omitted is the large disputed territory on the east (either belonging to Ecuador or Peru).

The authors have tried to put all information concerning the identification in the field guide. So that's what you bring along when you go out birding. Coming back from a day's birding, I always like to look for additional information on a bird's status. Were the birds you saw that day rare and local or common and widespread? That is what the authors will have intended: bring the field guide along in the field and look for additional information on your records in the other volume when you are back in your hotel (or at home). I would say it is the perfect combination. However, the most important reason to produce two books on the birds of Ecuador is simply the fact that there are too many birds! A lot of information would not have been included if the authors and/or publisher had chosen for one book only.

So do you need both books, given the fact you can buy them separately if you want? The answer is probably yes. Volume I does not come without volume II – the field guide. If you had only bought volume II you would want volume I as well. It is a pity that the books are (very) expensive although there is a big difference between the prices in the UK (and the Netherlands, NLG 265.00 being the lowest price encountered) and the USA (USD 77.00 at www.amazon.com!), the books in the USA being more than 40% cheaper!

Robert Ridgely (the author of the entire text!) succeeded to make the book very 'readable', I think mainly because he has the ability to present the information in a personal way. See for instance the introduction on plate 96 where he admits that a few species were forgotten and therefore ended up in the last plate.

Anyway, Robert Ridgely and Paul Greenfield have done an incredible job. Ecuador, with its nearly 1600 species, 14 endemic species (only!) and its amazing variety of habitats on a relatively small surface surely needed this guide very much. It will no doubt lead to an increase of birders travelling to Ecuador. I am thinking about going there a third time. LAURENS STEIJN

JOOP JUKEMA, THEUNIS PIERSMA, JAN B HULSCHER, ERIK J BUNSKOEKE, ANITA KOOLHAAS & AREND VEENSTRA 2001. *Goudplevieren en wilsterflappers: eeuwenoude fascinatie voor trekvogels*. Fryske Akademy, Ljouwert/KNNV-Uitgeverij Utrecht, Postbus 19320, 3501 DH Utrecht. 271 pp + CD-ROM met interviews en videofragment. ISBN 90-5011-147-5. EUR 27.25.

Goudplevieren *Pluvialis apricaria* en hun directe verwanten uit Amerika en Azië spreken tot de verbeelding van vele vogelaars. Ze worden de beste vliegers van het vogelrijk genoemd en hun trektochten zijn buitengewoon indrukwekkend. De fascinatie voor 'wilsters' heeft eeuwenlang andere drijfveren dan ornithologische gehad. Tot zo recent als 1978 was het 'wilsterflappen' een jachtmethode die met passie werd bedreven in vooral Friesland, maar ook in Groningen en delen van Noord-Holland. De gevangen vogels gingen naar de poelier en de inkomsten waren welkom; het was immers voor velen armoe troef op het platteland. Het boek *Goudplevieren en wilsterflappers* behandelt, na een algemene introductie over de Goudplevier, de historie, technieken, tradities en economie van het wilsterflappen, en laat zien (en horen) wie die wilsterflappers waren. Hoewel soms wel erg anecdotisch, vormen deze hoofdstukken heerlijk leesvoer. De passie voor de vogels, ook al verdwenen die in de pan, blijft steeds herkenbaar. Nog altijd wordt het wilsterflappen beoefend, maar dan ten behoeve van wetenschappelijk (ring-) onderzoek. Over dat onderzoek en de uitkomsten daarvan gaat een groot deel van het boek, dat buitengewoon passend en mooi geïllustreerd is. Als extra is een CD-ROM bijgevoegd met daarop fragmenten van de interviews met de wilsterflappers en een kort videofragment.

Goudplevieren en wilsterflappers gaat niet over Goudplevieren alleen. Bij het wilsterflappen werden en worden ook andere soorten meegevangen. En dat waren vroeger niet de minste. Fascinerend is het verhaal over de 'lytse swarte'. Dat waren 'goudplevieren' die regelmatig gevangen werden als de gewone Goudplevieren door strenge vorst al weg waren getrokken. Ze waren duidelijk kleiner, hadden een donkere buik en ondervleugels, 'swarte petsjes' en een veel snellere vlucht. Bovendien hadden ze een twee keer zo dik verenkleed en moest je oppassen bij het braden van de vogels; omdat ze baggervet waren werden ze snel 'tranig' van smaak. Op grond van interviews met oude wilsterflappers en nader onderzoek komen de auteurs tot de conclusie dat het hier ging om Aziatische Gouplevier *P fulva*, maar dan wel om een zeer recentelijk uitgestorven 'ondersoort' daarvan. Een ondersoort die aangepast was aan overwintering in zoute getijdengebieden op onze breedte, en die dus pas op het land gevangen kon worden als de wadplaten bevroren raakten. Mogelijk is de afsluiting van de Zuiderzee voor een belangrijk deel de oorzaak van het uitsterven van deze (alleen door wilsterflappers opgemerkte!) ondersoort. Het huidige voorkomen van de Aziatische Goudplevier als dwaalgast (vooral in de nazomer) lijkt in niets op het voorkomen van de 'lytse swarte'.

De afsluiting van de Zuiderzee heeft mogelijk ook gevolgen gehad voor de Dunbekwulp *Numenius tenuirostris*. Uit verhalen van oude wilsterflappers en jagers maken de auteurs op dat deze soort vroeger regelmatig werd geschoten en gegeten. De soort, die nu op de rand van uitsterven staat, moet 'heel normaal' zijn geweest in het vroegere Zuiderzeegebied. 'Pikgulpen' werden ze genoemd en ze moesten in tegenstelling tot de 'wettergulp' voor ze in de braadpan verdwenen ontdaan wor-

den van de twee 'traanblaasjes' op de borst (uniek onder de steltlopers), anders was ook dit vlees tranig. Het Zuiderzeegebied is voor de Dunbekwulp een ietwat geïsoleerd overwinteringsgebied geweest. Voor wie nog wil gaan zoeken: de 'pikgulpen' of 'gevlekte wulpen' (Wieringen) hadden een sterke voorkeur voor het zoute milieu, dus buitendijks. Beste maanden: november, december en januari. Tip: Den Oever buitendijks. Voor wie geïnteresseerd is in historische ornithologie, (onderzoek aan) trekvogels en in de passies voor het 'vogelen', op wat voor manier ook, is dit boek een echte aanrader.
GIJSBERT VAN DER BENT

BILL ODDIE & PAUL DOHERTY 2001. *Gulls – the gulls of Europe, Asia & North America* (double video; 5 h 33 min). Bird Images Video Guides, 28 Carousel Walk, Sherburn-in-Elmet, North Yorkshire LS25 6LP, UK. GBP 27.95.

In recent years, gulls – and 'large, white-headed gulls' in particular – have drawn the attention of an ever increasing group of birders and many excellent articles have been published on the subject. The most recent comprehensive publication on all the Holarctic gull species by the late Peter Grant, however, dates back from as long ago as 1986. Although this book is still the standard, a lot has changed since. Despite many websites and articles featuring the whole range of Holarctic gulls, there can hardly be ever enough pictures of any gull species available. From this point of view, a video covering all the gulls in the region is something that should be more than worthwhile, and – given good camerawork – that should be a document of lasting value.

The timing of the release of this video presents a drawback. With many developments being underway, things that are wisdom today may be foolishness tomorrow. But on the other hand, these developments mostly – if not all – deal with a rather restricted group of 'large gulls'. The video comes in two tapes and it may not be advisable to watch all five and a half hours in one go. The cover shows the title 'GULLS' so that doesn't leave much to wonder about. The subtitle is 'the gulls of Europe, Asia and North America' and this is true in the broad sense. Checking the species index reveals that no species from the region are lacking and even all – or definitely most – vagrants have been included. Altogether, 53 species/taxa have been treated. As gulls are predominantly a northern hemisphere family, the vast majority of the gull species of the world are covered - only 11 are left out.

The first tape covers the 'small gulls' and the second tape the 'large gulls'. This subdivision also means that the first tape presents the majority of rather easy to identify species while almost all the stuff that makes gulls the one-and-only attraction to some and the sickening group to others is included in the second tape. The species accounts are all presented in a clear fashion: a short introduction followed by a discussion of the various plumages. Not always are all plumages included, and not all plumages are shown extensively; you will have to be careful in timing the blinking of your eyes, otherwise you will miss the adult summer Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*. Where appropriate, comparisons are made with confusion species. Stills, enlargements, split frames and arrows are used in a balanced way to emphasize identification features. The picture quality is usually very good and the information presented is to the point. Altogether, the clear structure and good quality of pictures and comments make for pleasant viewing. This is especially true for the first tape. Comfortably seated, you are taken on a trip along a suit of species, getting happier every moment by the thought you won't have to read all those textbooks and articles anymore. When Bonaparte's *L philadelphia* and Black-headed Gulls *L ridibundus* are compared you get convinced you will never overlook either among the other anymore. On the other hand, you will wait in vain for a comparison between first-winter Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* and Sabine's Gull *L sabini*. The footage of Red-legged Kittiwake *R brevirostris* is extensive and one of the highlights of the video.

Upon reaching the 'herring gull-complex' in the second tape, something goes wrong, as if the bad guys have found a way to squeeze themselves into this feel-good movie. Throughout this section and the Yellow-legged Gull *L michahellis* section, the feeling many birders get when confronted with one of the representatives of these complex groups is very well illustrated, and in that sense, it's a work of art. For the gull addicts this section may be somewhat disappointing but a good and thorough treatment of these taxa alone would probably take the whole five and a half hours. However, the extensive footage of the little known Vega Gull *L vegae* is really worthwhile. For the best footage of Pontic Gull *L cachinnans cachinnans*, you will have to wait until the Heuglin's Gull *L heuglini* section, where it must have been quite difficult to get a clear shot of the star bird with all those big Pontic Gulls clogging around it! The 'lesser black-back section' is much more relaxed, although we will have to live with the idea there's nothing interesting to know about the form '*intermedius*' for just a little longer. When Great Black-backed Gull *L marinus* shows up, everything returns to the normal high standards and the stage is set for a happy ending.

Apart from the few points of criticism, there is a lot of very interesting and useful footage on the tapes, for 'non-gullers' as well as for 'gull aficionados', and it really adds to the material available elsewhere. After watching the video, one must admit that gulls are not that boring as the yawning Ring-billed Gull *L delawarensis* on the cover might suggest. RIK WINTERS & THEO BAKKER

Masters of Mystery

SWAROVSKI
OPTIK

Solutions of sixth round 2001

The solutions of mystery photographs XI and XII (Dutch Birding 23: 350, 2001) appear below.

XI In this last round of the 2001 competition, we are confronted with a large gull *Larus*. As large gull identification can be notoriously difficult, solving the problem requires some careful steps. Gull identification often starts with ageing and this immature large gull can be aged as a first-year by the evenly patterned plumage, pointed primaries without pale tips and (still) dark eye and bill.

Structurally, the bird looks quite heavy with a large, thick bill with marked gonys angle. The legs are rather long and the wings project not too far behind the tail. Although the mystery bird is obviously a bulky bird, when using structural differences (such as overall size and bill structure) for separating species, care is needed since structure is quite variable within a lot of species due to an often marked sexual dimorphism (females being smaller and weaker billed than males) and individual and geographical variation. Nevertheless, the mystery bird, including its bill, looks too heavy for species like Lesser Black-backed Gull *L graellsii* and Baltic Gull *L fuscus.*

The mystery bird shows a whitish head and pale coverts with narrow dark barring separated by broad pale spaces. The greater coverts are evenly barred, without darker bases. The scapulars are predominantly dark which indicates these are still juvenile feathers. First-winter (second generation) scapulars should show a more chequered pattern, often creating a dark anchor mark on a paler ground colour in many species. In the mystery bird, the pale patches towards the base on both webs of the scapulars creates a somewhat anchor-shaped dark mark that might recall first-winter scapulars, but this mark is too broad and the dark too extensive for typical first-winter scapulars of most species. In fact, the exact pattern of these juvenile scapulars presents an important clue to this bird's identity (see below). The underparts are pale with some rather clear-cut dark markings. The Nearctic species recorded in the Western Palearctic (American Herring *L smithsonianus*, Glaucous-winged *L glaucescens*, Kumlien's *L glaucoides kumlieni* and Thayer's Gull *L g thayeri*) are much more uniform on their underparts in first-year plumage. Heuglin's Gull *L heuglini* and Pontic Gull *L cachinnans cachinnans* show darker wing-coverts with often a dark base to the greater coverts. The mystery bird's white-headed appearance, heavy bill, rather long legs as well as the dark tertials with pale tip might suggest Yellow-legged Gull *L michahellis*. However, the coverts are too pale for typical Yellow-legged and a complete set of still juvenile scapulars in March would be extremely rare for Yellow-legged. Also, Yellow-legged often already shows some renewed wing-coverts in its first winter, but these are absent in the mystery bird.

13 Greater Black-backed Gull / Grote Mantelmeeuw *Larus marinus*, first-year, IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, Netherlands, 3 March 2001 *(Diederik Kok)*

The fact that the scapulars are juvenile feathers and not obviously worn is somewhat surprising, considering the month of photographing (March). This indicates a species with a northern distribution. Due to the late time of breeding in the north, first-year birds are younger compared with more southern species and, therefore, the moult is often less advanced and the juvenile feathers are less worn in winter than in southern species and this is often useful for identification.

The pale coverts in combination with the juvenile but still not worn scapulars in March is only found in Herring Gull *L argentatus* (especially, in Scandinavian Herring Gull *L a 'argentatus'* from Scandinavia and the Baltic) and Great Black-backed Gull *L marinus*. For an odd individual of another species with retained juvenile scapulars in March, one would expect these feathers to be more worn.

Scandinavian Herring (*'argentatus'*) and Great Black-backed Gulls can be surprisingly similar in first-year plumage; both species can still be in nearly complete juvenile plumage in the second part of the winter. Also structurally both species can approach one another since Scandinavian Herring is often larger than British Herring Gull *L a 'argenteus'* from western Europe. Looking closer at the greater wing-coverts, there is much white, the dark markings form irregular bars and there is a dark line along the edge of the outer web of the outer greater coverts. This pattern fits Great Black-backed but some Herring (in particular Scandinavian) can be very similar making it of limited use for identifying the mystery bird.

The tertials of the mystery bird are predominantly dark with a pale tip, which corresponds with the common variation of Great Black-backed Gull. In Herring Gull, the tertials are typically notched pale, often much more conspicuously than in the mystery bird.

The juvenile scapulars have a typical pattern, ie, dark with a pale mark at the base of both webs. The centres are evenly narrow pale fringed without pale notches. This is typical for Great Black-backed Gull; in Herring Gull, the juvenile scapulars have a uniform dark centre with variable pale notches, making the dark centre more or less angular.

This first-year Great Black-backed Gull was photographed at IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, the Netherlands, on 3 March 2001 by Diederik Kok. Plate 13 shows another photograph of the same bird. Note also the already mentioned long legs, heavy bill and pale-headed impression of the bird, which are all typical for Great Black-backed. The presence of a complete set of retained juvenile scapulars in March is late even for Great Black-backed, though not unusual. 51% of the entrants identified this bird correctly. The most mentioned incorrect answer was Yellow-legged Gull with 30% and in that way this mystery bird illustrates the pitfall provided by some first-year Great Black-backed that give (initially) a quite Yellow-legged-like impression. Other incorrect answers were Herring Gull (9%), Armenian Gull (5%) and Lesser Black-backed Gull (3%).

XII This year's last mystery photograph depicts a small songbird. The bird looks rather featureless, thereby offering little clue for identification. The head pattern is rather diffuse yet shows a long

14 Western Rufous-tailed Scrub Robins / Westelijke Rosse Waaierstaarten *Cercotrichas galactotes galactotes*, juvenile (right) and adult, Marrakech, Morocco, July 2001 *(Martijn Verdoes)*

15 Eastern Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin / Oostelijke Rosse Waaierstaart *Cercotrichas galactotes syriacus*, Lesbos, Greece, April 1996 *(Arie de Knijff)*. Note grey-brown upperpart coloration, but not as pale and greyish as birds of more eastern part of range of eastern subspecies group *(C g familiaris)* **16** Western Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin / Westelijke Rosse Waaierstaart *Cercotrichas galactotes galactotes*, Algarve, Portugal, 9 June 1998 *(Ray Tipper)*. Typical rufous-brown upperparts contrasting slightly with bright rufous tail. Also note tail pattern without darker central tail-feathers

pale supercilium reaching to the rear of the ear-coverts and a long but vague dark eye-stripe. The diffuse head pattern might suggest Booted Warbler *Acrocephalus caligatus* but in this species the supercilium is shorter and an eye-stripe is very faint or non-existent (producing pale lores). In addition, Booted would be more grey-brown above instead of warm brown, rufous-tinged as in the mystery bird. Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti* is another option that springs to mind but that species has a weaker supercilium and a more greyish-tinged face. Paddyfield Warbler *A agricola* is closer to the mystery bird in these respects but for that species one would expect to see a paler iris, a bolder head pattern and, as for Booted and Cetti's, the bill profile looks wrong.

The bill has a deep base and gives a slightly drooping but rather stubby impression. This fits only few species and, combined with the head pattern, points towards Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas galactotes*. The long supercilium and eye-stripe of the mystery bird also fit that species. Furthermore, note that the eye-stripe bends down at the rear end and that there is just a hint visible of dark framing of the pale ear-coverts area, again fitting Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin. This individual was photographed at Marrakech, Morocco, in July 2001 by Martijn Verdoes. The bird is a juvenile which accounts for the species' typical head-pattern being obscured; the bill also does not look fully grown yet. Plate 14 shows another photograph of the same bird together with an adult. 31% of the entrants identified this one correctly. Incorrect answers included Booted (17%), Paddyfield (11%), Cetti's (9%), Willow *Phylloscopus trochilus* (8%), Dusky *P fuscatus* (6%) and Greenish Warblers *P trochiloides* (6%).

Within the Western Palearctic, four subspecies of Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin are recognized and these are usually divided into a western and an eastern subspecies group. The western group (Western Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin) consists of the nominate *C g galactotes* (breeding in south-western Europe, northern Africa, Sinai, Israel, Jordan and southern Syria) and *C g minor* (southern Sahara). The eastern group (Eastern Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin) includes *G g syriacus* (breeding in south-eastern Europe, Turkey and the Levant south to Lebanon) which intergrades into

17 Eastern Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin / Oostelijke Rosse Waaierstaart *Cercotrichas galactotes syriacus*, Omer Gölu, Yumurtalik, Turkey, 25 April 1987 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*. Note drab grey-brown coloration of upperparts, contrasting strongly with rufous tail, typical of eastern subspecies group

18 Eastern Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin / Oostelijke Rosse Waaierstaart *Cercotrichas galactotes syriacus*, Lesbos, Greece, 8 May 2001 *(René Pop)*. Same bird as on this issue's cover. More difficult bird with (in this photograph) relatively dark upperparts with weak rufous tinge. Note, however, tail pattern with broad dark subterminal markings en darker central tail-feathers

19 Western Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin / Westelijke Rosse Waaierstaart *Cercotrichas galactotes galactotes*, Algarve, Portugal, 3 June 1998 *(Ray Tipper)*. Note rufous to creamy suffusion of underparts unlike more greyish suffusion of eastern subspecies group

C g familiaris (east from eastern Turkey) (Cramp, S (editor) 1988, The birds of the Western Palearctic 5, Oxford).

The main difference between the two subspecies groups is the colour of the crown and the upperparts. Eastern Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin has grey-brown crown and upperparts, whereas those of Western Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin are rufous-brown. In comparison with Western, the crown and upperparts of Eastern are typically paler, colder and more drab coloured. The rufous-tinged crown and upperparts of the mystery bird thus fit the western group. In both groups, rump, uppertail-coverts and uppertail are bright rufous and contrast with the remainder of the upperparts. As a result of the darker and rufous-tinged upperparts, this contrast is however less pronounced in Western than in Eastern. While the difference in upperpart coloration can be obvious between both groups, there is at least some variation in both groups and more difficult birds occur (see plate 18). Information from where the ranges of the two groups meet (southern Levant) is scarce, but would obviously be very interesting. In Eastern, birds from the western part of the range (*G g syriacus*) are darker above than birds from the eastern part (*C g familiaris*). Also, some Eastern can show a very weak rufous tinge to the upperparts. In Western, some birds can appear relatively pale above (then more rufous-sandy) and the extent of the rufous tinge also varies noticeably. Note, however, that light effects play a major role in the perception of such subtle colour differences. See for instance the juvenile bird in plate 14 where it appears both paler and less rufous-tinged above than the same bird in the original mystery photograph and compare plate 18 with this issue's cover, which depicts the same individual.

The difference in upperpart coloration between the two groups applies to a lesser extent also to the underparts. The variable suffusion on the

20 Western Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin / Westelijke Rosse Waaierstaart *Cercotrichas galactotes galactotes*, Fortes, Algarve, Portugal, 1 August 1999 *(Ray Tipper)*. Worn bird, more similar to eastern subspecies group due to rather pale and less rufous-tinged upperparts and whitish underparts. Note, however, lack of darker central tail-feathers

21 Eastern Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin / Oostelijke Rosse Waaierstaart *Cercotrichas galactotes familiaris*, Jubail, Gulf, Saudi Arabia, 19 April 1991 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*. Note pale grey-brown upperparts, broad black subterminal tail-band and contrastingly darker central pair of tail-feathers

breast and flanks of Eastern Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin tends to be greyer than the usually more creamy or rufous-tinged breast and flanks of Western Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin. In addition, the tail pattern differs between the two, as in Eastern the black subterminal band is broader and the white tips are slightly smaller than in Western. Also, there seems to be a tendency for Eastern to have a darker central pair of tail-feathers that contrasts stronger with the rest of the tail than in Western; in Western, there is regularly barely any contrast visible between the central pair and the other tail-feathers (compare plates 16 and 21). Other differences between the two include an on average more pronounced head pattern, shorter relative tail length and a slightly more pointed wing-tip in Eastern than in Western.

Six entrants identified both mystery birds correctly: Frank van Duivenvoorde, Menno Hornman, A Kind, Rami Lindroos, Clemens Portofeé and Dirk von Werne. From them, Frank van Duivenvoorde was drawn as the winner of a copy of *Birds of Nepal* by Richard Grimmett, Carol Inskipp and Tim Inskipp, donated by A & C Black (Publishers) Ltd.

Without mistakes in the last two rounds, Clemens Portofée (Germany) managed to come equal with Sebastiaan Klein (Denmark), who became leader after the previous round, with a total of nine correct answers out of 12 mystery birds. The runners-up are Chris Batty (Britain), Alain De Broyer (Belgium), Rami Londroos (Finland), Jyrki Normaja (Finland) and Daniele Occhiato (Italy) with eight correct answers, followed by Davy De Groote (Belgium), Jaco Walhout (Netherlands), Dirk von Werne (Belgium) and Pieter Westerbeke (Netherlands) with seven correct answers. A final overview of the 29 best entrants can be found on www.dutchbirding.nl.

Sebastiaan Klein and Clemens Portofée are the overall winners of the 2001 edition of this competition. Congratulations to both of them. Unfortunately, a draw was necessary to decide who of the two winners would become the new owner of the Swarovski AT80 telescope with 30x wide angle eyepiece, donated by Swarovski Benelux. Clemens Portofée was the winner of the draw and thus the telescope. Congratulations again to him! The unfortunate Sebastiaan Klein will receive a copy of *Thrushes* by Peter Clement and Ren Hathway, donated by A&C Black (Publishers) Ltd.

We would like to thank the following people for their help with the competition: Arnoud van den Berg, Arie de Knijff, Peter de Knijff, Anthony McGeehan, Roef Mulder, Jari Peltomäki, René Pop, Chris van Rijswijk, Ray Tipper, Martijn Verdoes and Ward Vercruysse for lending their photographs; Peter Adriaens, Arnoud van den Berg, Gunter De Smet, Enno Ebels and André van Loon for commenting on the texts; Rob Olivier, André van der Plas and Gijsbert van der Bent for help in some other way; and of course Gino Merchiers from Swarovski Benelux for sponsoring this competition.

Diederik Kok, Daendelsstraat 29 bis, 3531 GB Utrecht, Netherlands (diederik.kok@dutchbirding.nl)
Nils van Duivendijk, Guldenhoeve 34, 3451 TG Vleuten, Netherlands (duivendijk@wanadoo.nl)

First round 2002

Photographs I and II represent the first round of the sixth edition of the Masters of Mystery competition. Swarovski Benelux generously agreed to sponsor this competition this year with a splendid telescope again. This year, the overall winner after six rounds will receive a Swarovski AT 80 HD telescope, with a 20-60x zoom eyepiece. This completely watertight telescope has a brilliant image with perfect colour definition. HD stands for extra optical quality, a great advantage especially when birding in bad weather and less optimal light conditions.

The set-up and the rules (which are only slightly modified; see below) are the same as last year. Please, study the rules carefully and identify the birds in mystery photographs I and II. Solutions can be sent in three different ways:

- by *postcard* to Dutch Birding Association, Postbus 75611, 1070 AP Amsterdam, Netherlands
- by e-mail to masters@dutchbirding.nl
- from the Internet site of the Dutch Birding Association at www.dutchbirding.nl

Swarovski AT80 HD telescope

Mystery photograph I (August)

Mystery photograph II (May)

Entries for the first round have to arrive by **1 March 2002**. From those entrants having identified both mystery birds correctly, one person will be drawn who will receive a copy of *Thrushes* by Peter Clement and Ren Hathway, donated by A&C Black (Publishers) Ltd.

Rules

Only subscribers to Dutch Birding are eligible to enter. Excluded from entry are the editors and members of the editorial board of Dutch Birding and the members of the board of the Dutch Birding Association. Photographers whose work is used in the competition (both as mystery birds or as photographs accompanying the solutions) are excluded from entry in the round(s) in which their work is used. Also, the overall winner (after six rounds) of one edition is excluded from the competition in the subsequent year.

Each round usually consists of two mystery photographs, but sometimes only one or more than two can be presented.

For each round, only one entry per person is accepted (which will be the first received). Entries have to arrive by the closing date stated. The Dutch Birding Association cannot be held responsible for possible non-receipt or loss of entries.

All species in the photographs have been recorded in the Western Palearctic as defined in *Birds of the Western Palearctic* (BWP). Hybrids will not be featured.

Each mystery bird must be identified at the level of species. In this competition, decisions of the Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (Dutch committee for avian systematics; CSNA) are followed (see, for example, Dutch Birding 19: 21-28, 1997; 20: 22-32, 1998). For taxa not dealt with in these references, further changes adopted by the editors of Dutch Birding from 2002 onwards apply (Dutch Birding 24: 22-24, 2002).

In case of any dispute concerning the identity of a bird, the decision of the editorial board of Dutch Birding will be binding on all parties.

The overall winner will be the entrant who has correctly identified most mystery photographs during the competition (six rounds). In case of joint winners, one winner will be drawn.

Rob S A van Bemmelen, Gouwzee 20, 1423 DV Uithoorn, Netherlands (masters@dutchbirding.nl)
Dick Groenendijk, Elzenstraat 14, 4043 PB Opheusden, Netherlands (masters@dutchbirding.nl)

DBA-nieuws

Programma DBA-vogeldag op 9 februari 2002 te Utrecht Het programma van de DBA-vogeldag op zaterdag 9 februari 2002 ziet er als volgt uit. Om 09:00 uur gaat de zaal open. De dag begint om 09:45 uur in zaal 2 (de 'grote' zaal) met de opening door voorzitter Gijsbert van der Bent. Daarna staat voor zaal 2 op het programma: 10:00-11:00 Ian Wallace over 'Birdwatching before birding'; 11:30-12:30 Bert de Bruin & Eric Koops over Oman; 13:30-14:30 Per Alström over determinatie van 'gele kwikstaarten'; 16:00-16:15 Gerald Driessens met het Jaaroverzicht 2001 België; en ter afsluiting van 16:15-17:00 Wim Wiegant met het Jaaroverzicht 2001 Nederland. In zaal 1 staan gepland: 11:30-12:15 Max Berlijn & Magnus Robb met de Mystery bird-competitie; 13:30-14.30 iemand van de Oriental Bird Club over Goa; en 15.00-15.30 Max Berlijn & Magnus Robb met de oplossingen van de Mystery bird-competitie. De vele pauze's geven de bezoekers de gelegenheid om de stands in de hal te bezoeken. En om elkaar te spreken, want de traditionele vogeldag van de DBA blijft toch zeker ook een 'social event'.

Het programma staat ook op onze website (www.dutchbirding.nl) en kan geprint worden. Eventuele wijzigingen worden bekend gemaakt via de website of via de Dutch Birding-vogellijn (0900-2032128; EUR 0.35 per minuut).

De foyer doet dienst als sociaal ontmoetingscentrum en als 'vogelaarsbeurs'. Zoals altijd worden er broodjes, snacks en dranken verkocht. Plomp Digital Video geeft een doorlopende voorstelling van het Videojaaroverzicht 2001. Op de stand van de DBA kan men terecht voor de DBA-artikelen, back-issues en voor vragen aan bestuur en/of redactie. Verder zijn er verschillende stands met onder meer optiek, boeken, 'vogelkunst' en reizen. Meer inlichtingen en aanmelding van stands bij Leonie Olivier (leonie.olivier@dutchbirding.nl).

De locatie is zoals altijd het Hoofdgebouw Diergeneeskunde, Yalelaan 1, Utrecht (De Uithof). Deze locatie is bereikbaar met buslijnen 11 en 12 vanaf Utrecht CS, en met de auto via afslag 'De Uithof' vanaf de A27 en A28. Neem na het MCU-complex de eerste weg links (let op de Dutch Birding-borden). Op het grote parkeerterrein voor het gebouw kan gratis geparkeerd worden. De toegang voor zowel leden als niet-leden bedraagt EUR 5.00. Leonie Olivier, Rob Olivier & Gijsbert van der Bent

DBA-vogelweek op Texel 2002 De volgende DBA-vogelweek op Texel, Noord-Holland, zal beginnen op zaterdag 5 oktober 2002. Tot en met donderdag 10 oktober zal door de Dutch Birding Association een programma verzorgd worden, met interessante lezingen en videovoorstellingen op de avonden en een Big Day (mogelijk met sponsors) op een nog niet bekende datum. Over het programma en de locaties is momenteel nog niets bekend. Via Dutch Birding, de Dutch Birding-vogellijn (0900-2032128; EUR 0.35 per minuut) en de website (www.dutchbirding.nl) zal zo spoedig mogelijk nadere informatie gegeven worden. Gijsbert van der Bent

Bestuurssamenstelling DBA per 1 januari 2002 Er heeft zich een wijziging voorgedaan in de bestuurssamenstelling van de Dutch Birding Association. Met ingang van 2002 is Laurens Steijn tot het bestuur toegetreden, na het vertrek van Leon Edelaar. Leon heeft vrij kort van het bestuur deel uitgemaakt, maar wordt vanaf deze plaats heel hartelijk bedankt voor zijn 'to-the-point' bijdragen. Laurens neemt voor een deel de 'portefeuille' van Leon over en zal zich net als Leon ook gaan bezighouden met de advertenties. Overigens zoekt het bestuur hiervoor nog met spoed een geschikte medewerker! Laurens (32 jaar, bekend twitcher, gespecialiseerd in Bosgorzen en woonachtig te Amsterdam) heeft speciale interesse voor het 'doorgeven van waarnemingen' in het algemeen en het piepersysteem en de toekomst daarvan in het bijzonder, en voor de ledenwerving. Naast Laurens bestaat het bestuur momenteel uit Gijsbert van der Bent (voorzitter), Marc Plomp (secretaris), Theo Admiraal (penningmeester) en Rob Olivier (onder meer webmaster). Bovendien heeft de redactie van Dutch Birding een zetel in het bestuur. Gijsbert van der Bent

Dutch Birding foto-index De Dutch Birding website is onlangs uitgebreid met een foto-index. Deze database geeft verwijzingen naar alle foto's die in de afgelopen 23 jaargangen van Dutch Birding zijn verschenen. De database is bedoeld voor het zoeken naar een bepaalde foto of om verschillende foto's van een of meer soorten met elkaar te vergelijken. De index is te vinden op www.dutchbirding.nl; kies 'The Journal' en vervolgens 'Photo index'. Rob Olivier

Dutch Birding photo index A photographic index has recently been added to the Dutch Birding website. This database refers to all photographs that have been published in 23 volumes of Dutch Birding. It enables the search for specific photographs or comparison of all published photographs of one or more species. The index can be found at www.dutchbirding.nl; select 'The Journal' and 'Photo index'. Rob Olivier

Total birding

by Anthony McGeehan

Look, don't listen

If you can spare the time to drive the family car through axle-deep mud and park it beneath unstable avalanche slopes of stinking domestic refuse, you might be rewarded with an interesting sight. Among the multitudes of squabbling large gulls on Ulster's rubbish tips lurks an odd-looking beast. To science it is known as *Larus argentatus argentatus*, the nominate subspecies of Herring Gull that hails from Scandinavia and adjacent coasts of the Arctic. Nowadays, as we all know, gulls have become the new intellectualism but you won't catch me muttering Latin sotto voce and disporting myself like some holier-than-thou guru. So, for *L a argentatus*, read 'Argie'. Packed tight among legions of west European Herring Gulls these northern strangers stand out as something suspiciously different. Where the mind meets the soul a little voice says, 'This is not simply variation on a theme'.

The big ones are lean and gangly; they pose tall and statuesque with B52 wings to match. Overall, the effect is like watching a Herring Gull on wide-screen television. Their bills are long yet benign – reminiscent of Pinocchio or a goofy albatross. God's trick in making the birds gentle giants was to lengthen the bill, not enlarge it. The forehead is sloping, the face innocent and stretching forwards into a relatively narrow bill base. The more you stare, the more it seems as if they have had plastic surgery to lengthen the lores. The size discrepancy between individuals is considerable, more than in any other large gull. The smaller birds – presumably females – have a more conventional bill. Ah, but there's a coyness about their expression too. The underside of the lower mandible is more concave (than a Herring Gull) between the gonys and the usually pouted throat. This sets off a demure look that sticks, time after time.

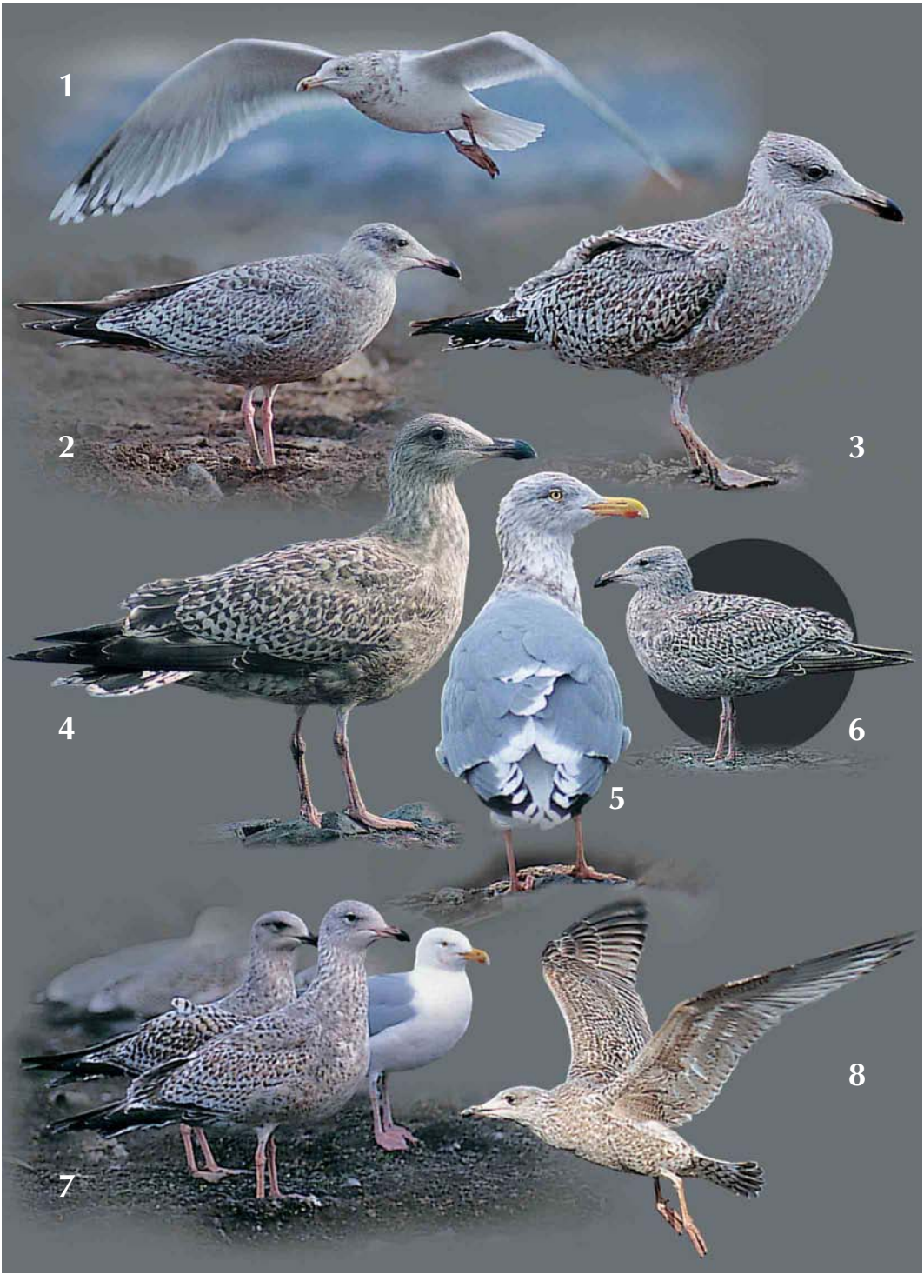
Which gull bible am I quoting? None whatsoever: the character sketch you just read is outright quackery. Except that I believe it and, I have no doubt, so do the Argies. Science takes a different view and has suffocated the birds under a carpet labelled 'cline with Herring Gull'. You know the story. A taxon is spray-painted out of existence by being buried in an identity parade of dead look-alikes on a museum bench. The gull Taliban, talking in tongues about intergrades and with a syringe clasped to their bosom ready to extract jizz-purged DNA, pace back and forth along the rows of stiffs and rail against blasphemers who rejoice in recognizing the uniqueness of a real-life personality. Punishment is the cold shower of having your claims rubbished.

Time for a change of scenery. In place of grime and guts at Belfast, let's breathe the fresh Atlantic air at Killybegs on the west coast of Donegal. From here trawlers ply their trade all the way to Russia and disgorge catches and boat-following gulls back in Ireland. Glaucous and Iceland Gulls are standard fare but a few years ago two large dusky brutes with white-rimmed wings and restricted dark in the wing-tips screamed for attention. They were outstanding and looked more like Glaucous Gulls seen through smoked glass rather than anything I would have routinely named Herring Gull. Ipso facto, these were Argies, loud and clear.

Years spent checking gull flocks never produced anything like this, so I regarded the event as notable. I sent a detailed description and photographs to the Irish Rare Birds Committee. Bang, the record was shot down. Outside of a spring lamb trotting into a slaughterhouse, there is nothing in the animal kingdom as foredoomed as the chances of *L (a) argentatus*, Thayer's Gull *L thayeri*, or Yellow-legged Gull *L michahellis* gaining acceptance at the hands of this self-appointed body. Argies, I was huffily informed, were not recognizable for the simple reason that 'clinal variation occurred in the Herring Gull complex thereby rendering subspecific identification impossible'. In other words, one size – and one coat of feathers – fits all. I cannot recall a more engaging passage in modern fiction, and I have been trying for nearly two seconds. This kind of nonsense, the canker of imposing the past's foggy status quo on the present, has caused mankind to believe that the Earth was flat, iron-hulled ships would sink, space travel was a fantasy and, whoops, that Pontic Gull *L cachinnans* was indivisible from Herring Gull – another misty Irish farce persisting to this day.

Englishmen Ho!

Blighted by Gaelic humbug, my learning curve started to soar thanks to the perceptive insights of two English birders. In 1993 Mark Golley wrote about Argies in Birding World (6: 32-38) and


1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

Martin Garner arrived in Ireland bursting with enthusiasm backed up with the best sort of knowledge – the kind learnt from looking at the birds instead of listening to armchair pontiffs. Hauled up on their shoulders, my interest was rekindled. What did I learn? The early lessons revolved around adults, since they were the better-known quantity. Their chief distinguishing marks from Herring Gulls are dark upperparts and wing-tip pattern – the latter basically a triumph of white over black. In most cases the identification is straightforward but some individuals leave you clutching at straws. Literature suggested that patterns merged to create overlap, uncertainty and confusion. Therefore, isn't it odd that, at least in Ireland, regular winter watching turns up few problems? Rather than a muddled mess I see a varied pattern with its own inherent consistency – name me any large gull that is a saint when it comes to invariability. For example, showing well at rest, the long white finger on the underside of the far wing's longest primary is always a reliable guide and, once airborne, the underwing contrast of snow-white coverts against the thundercloud grey upperwings showing through to darken the under-surfaces of the remiges is striking. Structure, moult and migratory timetable together build a brickwork that transmits a novel feel.

Christmas cannot come quickly enough. Refuse tips are in peak condition then, stuffed with surprises. Argies don't arrive in any numbers in Ulster until late December and concentrate on dumps. If you don't go there you could spend the whole winter and not see one. Exactly where the birds come from is not established. However, when they arrive, some are still in the final stages of regrowing primaries, which is a strong indication that they have travelled far – evidence of a different and predetermined moult strategy from the thousands of wheeling Herring Gulls around them.

Most readers will have switched off by now and be halfway through WP reports or Recente meldingen. Many regard gulls as boring and so too the folk who drone on about them – appearing to wallow in esoteric waffle and conducting

---

FIGURE 1 *(Anthony McGeehan)*
1, 5 *L (a) argentatus*, adults, Belfast, late February 1998
2 *L (a) argentatus*, first-winter, Belfast, February 1997
3 *L (a) argentatus*, first-winter, Belfast, January 1997
4 *L (a) argentatus*, first-winter, Donegal, February 1998
6 Presumed hybrid resembling *L (a) argentatus*, first-winter, Belfast, January 1997
7 *L (a) argentatus* (adult and first-winter *L (a) argenteus* behind), first-winter, Belfast, January 1998
8 *L (a) argentatus*, first-winter, Belfast, January 1998

In comparison to western European Herring Gulls *L (a) argenteus*, adult 'Scandinavian' *L (a) argentatus* combine darker, bluer upperparts with more white in the wing-tip. Most can be identified on wing-tip pattern alone, while size and structure contribute a distinctive character – don't you see an echo of Glaucous Gull *L hyperboreus* in these two adults? Moult timing, with primaries not fully grown until mid-winter and head streaking retained until early spring, are also at variance with the schedule followed by most adult *L (a) argenteus.* Until late winter, adult bill colours are cold and anaemic.

Young (first-winter) *L (a) argentatus* can dwarf *L (a) argenteus* and approach both Glaucous and Great Black-backed Gulls *L marinus* in size but not structure. They are not so much stocky as lean, long and often leggy. Eye-catching large birds are presumably males; smaller birds (females?) are closer in size to *L (a) argenteus* and are less gangly and smaller-billed. Bill and head shape alone make it possible, with practice, to pick one out from a crowd. However, the more finely textured plumage with a floury Glaucous Gull-look can be just as good a guide. Thin eye-crescents and widespread pink in the bill base forge a further affinity with Glaucous Gull. Many plumage traits build an appearance that is unique – among them the retention of mostly juvenile upperparts right through the winter (a hallmark of a lengthy migration), to plain, pale underwings and diffuse pale webs creating light windows across the bulk of the primaries. As with any young large gull that exhibits a well-marked tail pattern, the pattern's elements are somewhat variable. That said, first-winter *L (a) argentatus* possess distinctive tails with fine, concentric 'filigree' barring, on some reminiscent of Great Black-backed Gull. A minority of first-winters have a darker ground colour throughout the plumage (like a smoked fish or as though peat-stained) but still exhibit the above points.

A minority of birds matching 7 occur. Their appearance is remarkably constant, almost suggesting a stereotype. What are they? Perhaps they are *L (a) argentatus* in its palest form? Conflicting with this attribution is a range of features. For example, the paleness of the primaries suggests a hybrid origin that, in combination with the heavy body, favours Glaucous Gull as one parent. Furthermore, such birds are usually closer to Glaucous Gull in overall size. The peculiar expression with a 'broken nose' and the suggestion of having been hit over the head, doesn't bring *L (a) argentatus* to mind, despite some plumage similarities.

discussions with concrete shoes that end where they began. Actually, to a certain extent I agree. I have formed the indelible impression that the avian puzzle which is the Northern Hemisphere's large gull conundrum has been hijacked by individualists dabbling in power games. The first casualty has been aesthetic appreciation of the birds themselves or any sense of wonder at being baffled by Mother Nature. It is not certain what the birds are up to, but it is certain that in this world that we think we know so well, there is a great mystery and powerful music playing that we do not hear. But who am I to talk, a lone voice without portfolio? You may find it corny, but when I stumbled upon the same adult Argie shapes in young gulls and discovered that I was looking at an unfamiliar breed of first-winter gull, I was genuinely excited. My reaction was akin to a childhood fascination in seeing something brand new for the very first time – like watching Star Wars on the big silver screen.

Digging deep through onion-skins of time spent watching large gulls, it is hard to know when blinkered conformity waned and a new personal 'off piste' approach began. I hear what you say: let sleeping gulls lie. However, I'll take a chance on a little learning. Right or wrong, I see Argies, Herring Gulls and Glaucous Gulls as first cousins. Every winter I see hybrid Glaucous Gulls, genetically despoiled by inbreeding with (my guess) west European Herring Gulls in Iceland, and other hybrid products that say Glaucous Gull by Argie. Such observations do not undermine Glaucous Gull as a taxon and I regard Argie as equally distinct from Herring – a tick in its own right. It's fun playing this taxonomic game all by yourself. There are no rules except that you have to rely on empirical evidence in the field and use your eyes and brain. Furthermore, the absorbing ritual never stops – the birds are not going to fade away like ghosts at dawn.

Corrigenda

Bij de platen van de Bruine Klauwier *Lanius cristatus* (Dutch Birding 23: 367, plaat 416-417, 2001) werd helaas niet de juiste fotograaf vermeld. Beide foto's werden gemaakt door Gabriel Schuler.

In de korte mededeling over de Wilgengors *Emberiza aureola* te Zeebrugge, West-Vlaanderen, België (Dutch Birding 23: 389, 2001) wordt een eerder Belgisch geval genoemd met een foutieve datum: 19 september 1991; dit moet zijn 19 augustus 1991.

Aangaande de recensie over *African bird sounds* door Claude Chappuis (2000) moet worden benadrukt dat de geluiden van WP-soorten op de CD's van deel 1 (nummers 1-4) weliswaar ook in het boekje van deel 2 staan vermeld maar niet nog eens op de CD's van deel 2 (nummers 5-15) worden herhaald (contra Dutch Birding 23: 289-291, 2001). REDACTIE

In the captions of the two plates of the Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus* (Dutch Birding 23: 367, plate 416-417, 2001) unfortunately the wrong photographer was mentioned. Both photographs were taken by Gabriel Schuler.

In the short note on the Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola* at Zeebrugge, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium (Dutch Birding 23: 389, 2001) an earlier Belgian record is erroneously mentioned for 19 September 1991. This should be 19 August 1991.

Regarding the review of *African bird sounds* by Claude Chappuis (2000), it should be stressed that the sounds of WP species in the CDs of volume 1 (numbers 1-4) are just referred to in the booklet of volume 2 but not repeated in the CDs of volume 2 (numbers 5-15) (contra Dutch Birding 23: 289-291, 2001). EDITORS

Aankondigingen & verzoeken

Pelagic records in French waters Following the large increase of pelagic trips in the Bay of Biscay, mainly from the Portsmouth-Bilbao and Plymouth-Santander ferries, the Comité d'Homologation National (CHN, the French rarities committee) and the Commission de l'Avifaune Française (CAF, the French list committee) would like to stress that more than two-thirds of these crossings occur in the so-called French Economic Exclusion Zones. Therefore, birdwatchers are kindly requested to submit every record of Little Shearwater *Puffinus assimilis*, Wilson's Petrel *Oceanites oceanicus* and Long-tailed Jaeger *Stercorarius longicaudus* (and rarer species) seen in French (EEZ) waters to the CHN. Precise location of the observations will of course be very useful. Records can be submitted to: CHN, c/o Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux (LPO), La

[*Dutch Birding 24: 44-46, 2002*]

Corderie Royale, BP 263, 17305 Rochefort cedex, France. Thank you very much in advance for your contribution to the knowledge of seabirds in this part of the Atlantic Ocean.

Dwaalgasten in het hoogveen *Dwaalgasten in het hoogveen* is de titel van een 40 pagina's tellend, volledig in kleur gedrukt boekje. Het is een schetsboek van de Slangenarenden *Circaetus gallicus* die in de zomer van 2001 in het Fochtelooërveen, Drenthe/Friesland, verbleven. De tekeningen laten zo goed als alle voorkomende houdingen van deze arenden zien en zijn gemaakt vanuit een uniek standpunt, namelijk de hoge uitkijktoren van het Fochtelooërveen. De tekeningen zijn gemaakt door natuurillustrator Martin Brandsma uit het Friese Wânswert, die heel veel tijd doorbracht bij de Slangenarenden en op deze manier verscheidene houdingen van de vogels wist vast te leggen. Naast de Slangenarenden zijn er ook enkele tekeningen te zien van de Kraanvogels *Grus grus* (met jong) die in 2001 in het Fochtelooërveen hebben gebroed. De korte begeleidende teksten zijn geschreven door Theo van der Horn.

Dit in eigen beheer uitgebrachte boekje is met medewerking van de Vereniging Natuurmonumenten totstandgekomen. Het is te bestellen door EUR 9.55 over te maken op bankrekeningnummer 37 19 73 570 tnv M Brandsma, ovv 'slangenarenden' en een duidelijk postadres. Het boekje zal dan binnen 14 dagen worden toegezonden.

Request for photographs of black-eared wheatears For a paper on the identification of black-eared wheatears by Magnus Ullman to be published in Dutch Birding in 2002, good quality photographs of both Western *Oenanthe hispanica* and Eastern Black-eared Wheatear *O melanoleuca* are requested for publication. Photographs of any plumage and from any time of the year, both at the breeding grounds or from passage/wintering areas, are most welcome. A selection will be made for inclusion with the article. A fee will be paid for every published photograph. Please send slides (preferably) or photographs to: Magnus Ullman, Iliongr K: 104, 224 71 Lund, Sweden, or contact Magnus by telephone/fax: +46-46142828, or e-mail: ullman.apus@djingis.se. Please indicate clearly when and where each photograph was taken.

Videoband over Nederlandse meeuwen en sterns In de serie videobanden onder de titel 'Vogels in Nederland' die wordt uitgegeven door Plomp Digital Video is onlangs het derde deel verschenen, *Onze meeuwen en sterns*. De eerdere delen behandelden 'onze' roofvogels en uilen (cf Dutch Birding 21: 347-348, 1999) en 'onze' zwanen en wilde ganzen. Deze derde videoband bevat twee uur met opnames van 18 soorten meeuwen en 10 soorten sterns (inclusief moerassterns *Chlidonias*); alle opnamen zijn gemaakt in Nederland in de periode 1997 tot en met september 2001, met uitzondering van de populaire Kleine Kokmeeuw *Larus philadelphia* die werd gefilmd te Heist, West-Vlaanderen, België. Van de in Nederland vastgestelde soorten ontbreken alleen enige dwaalgasten: Reuzenzwartkopmeeuw *L ichthyaetus*, Ross' Meeuw *Rhodostethia rosea*, Ivoormeeuw *Pagophila eburnea* en Brilstern *Sterna anaethetus*, waarvan de laatste twitchbare gevallen van (ver) voor het videotijdperk dateren, en Forsters Stern *S forsteri*. Wèl op de band staan dwaalgasten als Lachmeeuw *L atricilla*, Franklins Meeuw *L pipixcan*, Ringsnavelmeeuw *L delawarensis*, Baltische Mantelmeeuw *L fuscus* en Dougalls Stern *S dougallii*. De opnames zijn gemaakt door Marc Plomp (Plomp Digital Video), Leo Boon (Cursorius) en Leo Janssen; het commentaar van Bert-Jan Luijendijk is ingesproken door Ton van der Horst. Naast de herkenning van de verschillende soorten worden ook aspecten als rui (met name bij de grote meeuwen), gedrag en voorkomen in Nederland veelal uitgebreid besproken. De video is te bestellen door EUR 25.75 (inclusief porto) over te maken op rekening 899007287 tnv Plomp Digital Video te Linschoten, ovv 'video meeuwen' en naam en adres. De band wordt direct na ontvangst van de betaling opgestuurd.

Oproep tot opnemen of doorgeven van nestelende kruisbekken Soortherkenning is bij kruisbekken *Loxia* altijd al reden voor discussie geweest, en er lijkt een nieuwe dimensie aan toegevoegd te moeten worden. Uit onderzoek in de Verenigde Staten is gebleken dat de Kruisbek *L curvirostra* daar in een aantal aparte soorten moet worden onderverdeeld, mogelijk zelfs in negen verschillende soorten. Herkenning in het veld op basis van uiterlijk is vrijwel uitgesloten, maar geluidsopnames laten grote verschillen zien tussen de types. Omdat deze geluidstypes vrijwel geen mengparen vormen als ze wel in hetzelfde gebied voorkomen, zijn deze types waarschijnlijk goede biologische soorten (dit wordt ondersteund door verschillen in favoriet broedbiotoop en afmetingen).

Recentelijk is vastgesteld dat er ook in Nederland ten minste zes verschillende geluidstypes van Kruisbek voorkomen (zie artikel van Magnus Robb in Dutch Birding 22: 61-107, 2000). We weten echter nauwelijks of deze types al dan niet gemengd broeden. Het maken van opnames van Kruisbekken is relatief gemakkelijk, het vinden van broedparen helaas minder. Afgelopen najaar zijn er redelijk veel Kruisbekken Nederland binnengekomen, en komend voorjaar zou het dus goed mogelijk moeten zijn om broedparen te vinden. Daarom verzoeken we iedereen die per ongeluk (of juist door gericht zoeken: zie artikel van Rob Bijlsma in Drentse Vogels 7: 47-58, 1994; eventueel is een kopie bij ons te verkrijgen) nesten van Kruisbekken vindt, om bij elk nest apart geluidsopnames te maken van zowel het vrouwtje als het mannetje. Een richtmicrofoon met parabool helpt hier zeker bij, maar het loont de moeite om het te proberen met wat voor apparatuur er ook maar beschikbaar is. U wordt verzocht uw opnames tijdens of direct na het broedseizoen opsturen naar Magnus Robb (adres zie onder). Uiteraard vergoeden we graag de gemaakte (verzend)kosten, bij grotere bedragen liefst overleg vooraf.

Mocht het niet mogelijk zijn om zelf opnames te maken, dan komen we zo mogelijk langs om samen met u de locatie te bezoeken, waarna één van ons op de nestplaats blijft of later terugkomt om de oudervogels op te nemen. U kunt hiervoor contact opnemen met Magnus Robb (of Pim Edelaar).

We hopen met uw medewerking veel paren te kunnen opnemen om de mate van gemengd broeden vast te kunnen stellen. De resultaten hopen we zo snel mogelijk in een artikel samen te vatten. Tevens sturen we aan alle inzenders onze determinatie van de door hen opgenomen of gevonden broedparen. Voor vragen of opmerkingen kan men terecht bij: Magnus Robb, Barentszstraat 126, 1013 NS Amsterdam, telefoon 020-6237405, e-mail robb@chello.nl; of Pim Edelaar, De Dageraad 1, 1797 SK Den Hoorn, telefoon 0222-369382 (werkuren), e-mail edelaar@nioz.nl.

WP reports

This review lists rare and interesting birds reported in the Western Palearctic mainly in **November-December 2001** and early January 2002 and focuses on northwestern 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.

SWANS TO GEESE Three flocks of **Mute Swan** *Cygnus olor* reached Malta between 20 December and 9 January but, presumably, all c 25 unfortunate individuals were shot. The first **Bewick's Swans** *C bewickii* for Cyprus concerned a flock of 11 at Spiro's Pool, Larnaca, on 12-13 January; the second record was an adult at Paphos on 14 January. On 3 November, a juvenile **Ross's Goose** *Anser rossii* was found amongst Pink-footed Geese *A brachyrhynchus* in Norfolk, England; it was seen at several Norfolk sites until at least mid-January (the first for the Netherlands at Velsen, Noord-Holland, on 30 November 1985 was amongst 35 Pink-footeds as well; cf Birding World 14: 475-478, 2001). As in recent winters, two adults were present in Zuid-Holland, the Netherlands, during the entire period. In the Azores, four **Pink-footed Geese** were at Lagoa Funda and Rasa, Flores, on 6-8 November. A colour-ringed **Lesser White-fronted Goose** *A erythropus* released in 1999 from the Swedish re-introduction scheme turned up at Villafáfila Zamora, Spain, in mid-November. In the United Arab Emirates (UAE), an unprecedented influx of **Siberian White-fronted Geese** *A albifrons albifrons* occurred from 3 November onwards, involving 10 individuals at four sites (there were six previous records). On 29 October, a pair of **Greenland White-fronted Geese** *A a flavirostris* arrived in flocks of 100s (from Iceland) at Wexford North Slob, Wexford, Ireland, wearing a black neck collar with white inscription EJS and EJV (the E being prominent and reading horizontally). It appeared that these birds had been ringed as adult female and adult male, respectively, at Polder Arkemheen, Nijkerk, Gelderland, the Netherlands, on 3 January 2001; curiously, they had been misidentified by the ringers as Siberian White-fronted Goose (cf Dutch Birding 23: 156, 354, 2001). Interestingly, this pair was also seen at De Ronde Venen, Utrecht, on 26 and 28 February and 23 March 2001. On 5-26 December, four individuals wearing similar black neck collars with three white inscriptions were present at Oostvaardersplassen, Flevoland, the Netherlands; although the inscriptions could not be read, it seems likely that these birds were also trapped and ringed as Siberian White-fronted Geese in the Netherlands. On 13-16 January, a flock of 10 Greenland White-fronted Geese (six adults and four first-winters) were at Burgervlotbrug, Noord-Holland. At least five **Lesser Canada Geese** *Branta hutchinsii* and four **Greater Canada Geese** *B canadensis* of presumably wild origin were seen by Chris Batty in Britain from 22 September to 22 December (cf Dutch Birding 23: 96, 2001). These included an **Interior (Todd's)** *B c interior* at Martin Mere, Lancashire, England, on 22-25 September and then in Norfolk through November-December and a presumed **Intermediate** *B c parvipes* near Waxham, Norfolk, from 28 October to 17 November. On Islay, Argyll, Scotland, two **Intermediates**, at least three **Hutchins's** *B h hutchinsii*, a **Taverner's** *B h taverneri* and an unidentified Lesser were present during November-December. In Ireland, an **Interior** was with Greenland White-fronted Geese at North Slob, Wexford, Ireland, from 1 November into January. In Greenland (where once rare), the canada goose population has increased enormously during the last decade, involving **Hutchins's**, **Intermediate** and **Interior** (cf Dansk Orn Foren Tidsskr 95: 173-176, 2001). A flock of six **Barnacle Geese** *B leucopsis* in Seewinkel on 18 November was the largest ever for Austria. On 20 December, the first three **Red-breasted Geese** *B ruficollis* for Malta were shot on Gozo (two) and at Mellieha bay. The fifth for Cyprus was at Köprülü from 16 December. In southern Turkey, a total of 27 in seven groups were seen mostly with Siberian White-fronted Geese at Akgöl, Akyatan Gölü and Dalyan on 3-8 January.

DUCKS On 18 November, 3000 **Red-crested Pochards** *Netta rufina* were reported from Lac de Neuchâtel, Switzerland. The largest number ever for Cyprus was 53 at Larnaca Airport Pools South on 12 January. A male **Redhead** *Aythya americana* at Kenfig, South

22 Snowy Egret / Amerikaanse Zilverreiger *Egretta thula*, juvenile, Balvicar, Seil Island, Argyll, Scotland, November 2001 *(Iain H Leach)*

Wales, from 7 November to mid-January was the second for Britain. A record 1953 **Ferruginous Ducks** *A nyroca* were counted in Tunisia in October and a flock of up to 110 was at Lentini lake, Sicily, Italy, during December. On 18-20 November, four males and four females **Ring-necked Duck** *A collaris* were at Balsa de riego de Zuares del Páramo, León, Spain. In Britain and Ireland, 12 males and five females were seen during November alone. During December, at least 10 were present at three sites in Spain and c five singles were in France. Adult females were photographed at Lobith, Gelderland, the Netherlands, on 10 November and at Lista, Vest-Agder, Norway, on 12 December. If accepted, a female **Lesser Scaup** *A affinis* at Jeziorsko on 9 December will be the first for Poland. A male returned to Kleinhüningen, Basel, Switzerland, on 26 November. In England, a first-winter female at Wilstone Reservoir on 4-7 November was the second for Hertfordshire and a first-winter male at Swineham and Studland from 11 November into January was the second for Dorset. A female returned for its third winter to Möhnesee, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany. During a survey of lake Kyzylkol, Kazakhstan, in September, 2838 **White-headed Ducks** *Oxyura leucocephala* were counted. Large concentrations in Cádiz, Spain, were 500 at Laguna de Medina on 1 November and 150 at Laguna de Tarelo in December. On 15 December, 106 were counted in the Burgas wetlands, Bulgaria. An adult female **Steller's Eider** *Polysticta stelleri* was seen at Gorki Wschodnie near Gdánsk, Poland, on 15-16 December. In Germany, a male was seen by many birders inland at Schielow, Potsdam-Mittelmark, Brandenburg, from 16 December onwards. The first for Hungary was an adult female found moribund in the Danube river on 12 January. In the Faeroes, a male and a female **Harlequin Duck** *Histrionicus histrionicus* were videoed at Kirkjubø on 11 November. In Scotland, a male **Black Scoter** *Melanitta americana* remained in Burghead Bay, Moray, from 27 October to at least 4 January. The male at Llanfairfechan, North Wales, had returned on 18 December and was still present in January; it was first seen on 19-28 January 2001 (Dutch Birding 23: 99, 2001). In the Azores, a very exhausted female **Surf Scoter** *M perspicillata* was found on the Porto Pim beach, Faial, on 19 November. In Norway, a female was at Mølen, Vestfold, from 10 November and two males were at Lista from 11 November (possibly including the male of previous winters). A male was seen off Blue Point, Isle of Man, on 14 November. A total of 10 were reported from six sites in Scotland during November. In England, singles were seen in Cornwall and Norfolk on 24-25 December. The fourth **Smew** *Mergellus albellus* for Malta (and the first since 1910) was a female at Ghadira on 20 December. The fourth **Hooded Merganser** *Lophodytes cucullatus* for Iceland was a female or young male found at Hornafjorður on 15 November. One on Anglesey, Gwynned, Wales, on 2-19 December was regarded as

an escape. From 10 December, an unringed first-winter male without signs of captivity was with Common Goldeneyes *Bucephala clangula* at Vejlerne, Nordjylland, Denmark. The first Hooded Merganser for the Canary Islands and Spain was a female at Charca de riego de Playa Paraiso, Tenerife, from 11 December to at least 9 January. In France, a female was present at Rauquemore, Camargue, Bouches-du-Rhône, from 19 December until at least 1 January (together with, eg, a Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis* and a Smew) and another was at Lozanne, Rhône, on 30 December. In Ireland and the Netherlands, a few ringed individuals were seen. A flock of more than 25 **Gadwalls** *Mareca strepera* at Eilat, Israel, on 31 November was unusual. The long-staying **American Black Duck** *Anas rubripes* in Galicia, Spain, was relocated at Ria de Foz, Lugo, on 2 December. At Lagoa Branca, Flores, Azores, two males and two females were accompanied during November by at least six hybrids with Mallard *A platyrhynchos* and one hybrid with Common Teal *A crecca*. Singles remained in Kerry, Ireland, Garður, Iceland, and in Devon and Cornwall. In South Korea, **Baikal Teals** *A formosa* reached record numbers this winter; for instance, in the Haenam area, at least 265 000 were counted on 12 December while two flocks of 15 000 (at Joonam and Keum river) and several smaller flocks of 50-5000 were found elsewhere in the same week (in the 1980s, only 20 000 were found overwintering at Joonam). In England, a male remained at Minsmere, Suffolk, from 18 November to 31 December (Birding World 14: 479-481, 2001). On 26 December, a first-winter male turned up at Güttingen, Bodensee, Switzerland.

LOONS TO PELICANS The fourth **Red-throated Loon** *Gavia stellata* for Israel was seen off Jaffa port on 2 December. In north-eastern Italy, four or five single **Great Northern Loons** *G immer* were found between 10 November and 16 December. An adult **Yellow-billed Loon** *G adamsii* was seen off Farne Islands, Northumberland, England, on 17 November. In Germany, first-winters were reported from Brandenburg on 4-24 November, Altwarmbüchensee, Niedersachsen, on 17-18 November and Neuwied, Rheinland-Pfalz, on 1-2 January. The alleged presence of a **Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps* at Schardam, Noord-Holland, the Netherlands, on 14-21 October was suppressed. The long-staying male in France was rediscovered at Étang des Landes, Mayenne, where it remained through December (it had been at Saint-Denis-d'Orcq from 24 June 2000 to at least 11 November 2001). Possibly the fourth for Spain was found at Laguna de Traba, Laxe, A Coruña, on 5 December. A **Black-browed Albatross** *Diomedea melanophris* stayed for 30 min off Le Clipon, Loon-Plage, Nord, France, on 7 November before flying further south. In the Oslofjord, eastern Norway, an adult was videoed at Vestby, Akershus, on 11 November. Another flew south off Baleal, Portugal, on 12 November. During late December, an influx of **Northern Fulmars** *Fulmarus glacialis* including quite a few dark morphs ('Blue Fulmars') occurred along the North Sea coast from the Netherlands to north-western France. The first **Manx Shearwater** *Puffinus puffinus* for Ontario, Canada, was found dead at Shirley's Bay, Ottawa-Carleton, on 26 August (Birders Journal 10: 226-227, 2001). In Switzerland, single **Pygmy Cormorants** *Microcarbo pygmeus* were seen at Greifensee, Zürich, on 15-16 October and at Triboltingen, Bodensee, on 17 November. From 7 January, a second-year was present along the Lahn river south of Marburg, Hessen, Germany. From 1 December, up to 57 were wintering on the Austrian border at Ferto lake, Hungary. In December, at least 38 were counted at Valle Mandriole, Po valley, Italy. In Bulgaria, 6829 were counted at the Burgas wetlands on 15 December. The two alleged **Double-crested Cormorants** *Hypoleucos auritus* reported from Lagoa das Furnas, São Miguel, Azores, on 2 November (cf Dutch Birding 23: 355, 2001) were photographed and re-identified as **Continental Great Cormorants** *Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis*. In Italy, three **Great White Pelicans** *Pelecanus onocrotalus* were observed at Laghi Reatini on 23 October and an adult was at Valle Santa, Po delta, from late October to at least 18 December. In England, an adult was taken into care at Shipman, Norfolk, after it flew into electric cables; presumably, it was the same as the supposed escape frequenting Norfolk in November which was last seen in Cambridgeshire on 20 December.

HERONS TO SPOONBILLS The first **Cinnamon Bittern** *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus* for Oman was at Khawr Rawri on 21 November. In England, a **Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides* was infrequently seen at Horsey, Norfolk, from late September to 10 December. The first **Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula* for Britain was a first-winter at Balvicar, Seil Island, Argyll, from 29 October to 25 November (Birding World 14: 460-464, 2001); on 22 December, the bird was rediscovered in Ayshire where it was still present in at least mid-January. The fourth for the Azores was discovered at Porto Pim beach, Faial, on 18 November. In 2001, a record number of **Little Egrets** *E garzetta* bred in the Netherlands with, from south to north, four pairs at Braakman, Zeeland, 14 at Voorne, Zuid-Holland, three at Oostvaardersplassen, two on Terschelling, Friesland, and two on Schiermonnikoog, Friesland. Also in the Netherlands, 15 nests of **Great Egret** *Casmerodius albus* were found at Oostvaardersplassen during 2001 (an increase from the 10 nests in 2000), and the species may have bred at three other localities as well. As usual in recent winters, record numbers became known for western Europe during November-December. For instance, 92 individuals were present at Ebro delta, Tarragona, Spain, during December. In Moselle, France, 74 were counted at Lindre on 9 December. In Sardinia, Italy, 50 were reported in the Cagliari lagoon on 30 October and 20 in the Colostrai pond in early December. The largest flock ever recorded for **Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* in Spain were 450 at Brazo del Este, Sevilla, on 7 December; 94 individuals were present at Ebro delta during December. Plans to build a Club Med holiday

23 Red-wattled Lapwing / Indische Kievit *Vanellus indicus*, K19, Eilat, Israel, November 2001 *(Killian Mullarney)* **24** Great Cormorants / Aalscholvers *Phalacrocorax carbo*, Lagoa das Furnas, São Miguel, Azores, 2 November 2001 *(Kris De Rouck)* **25** Killdeer / Killdeerplevier *Charadrius vociferus*, Sete Cidades, São Miguel, Azores, 10 November 2001 *(Theo Bakker/Cursorius)* **26** Snowy Egret / Amerikaanse Zilverreiger *Egretta thula*, Porto Pim beach, Faial, Azores, 18 November 2001 *(Mark Bolton)* **27** American Coot / Amerikaanse Meerkoet *Fulica americana*, Lagoa Combes, Flores, Azores, 7 November 2001 *(Theo Bakker/Cursorius)* **28** Surf Scoter / Brilzee-eend *Melanitta perspicillata*, female, Porto Pim beach, Faial, Azores, 19 November 2001 *(Mark Bolton)*

resort at Tifnit, Morocco, which were threatening the survival of the world's last wild **Northern Bald Ibis** *Geronticus eremita* (cf Dutch Birding 23: 356, 2001), have been modified to result in better prospects for the birds' future (World Birdwatch 23 (4): 2, 2001). In the Netherlands, 1100 breeding pairs of **Eurasian Spoonbills** *Platalea leucorodia* raised 950 fledglings in 2001.

RAPTORS A **Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus* was present near Mezières-en-Brenne, Indre, from 19 December to at least 12 January. An unseasonal adult **Black Kite** *Milvus migrans* was on St Agnes, Scilly, England, on 20 December. A **Eurasian Black Vulture** *Aegypius monachus* was seen at Gamla, Israel, on 24 November. The first for Cyprus since 1982 was an immature at Kensington Cliffs from 8 January (the bird was already reported on 7 December). An alleged **Shikra** *Accipiter badius* trapped and photographed on 2 May 1999 at Eilat appears to be a hybrid with **Levant Sparrowhawk** *A brevipes* (contra Dutch Birding 21: 172, 175, plate 178, 1999). From 3 November into January, an adult **Long-legged Buzzard** *Buteo rufinus* was at Mas Neuf, Camargue; a second adult was present at Bois de la Ville, Camargue, from 29 December onwards; a third individual for the Camargue turned up on the east side of Vaccarès at Rauquemore on 1 January. In southern Italy, one was at Lago Gorgo on 5 November. In Spain, at least one (possibly *B r cirtensis*) was reported at La Lantejuela, Sevilla, on 25 December. In the Azores, a very pale **Rough-legged Buzzard** *B lagopus* (different from the Faial one in October) was found at Cabo da Praia, Terceira, on 1 November. A third for this autumn in the Azores was near Praia da Vitoria, Terceira, on 17 November. A survey of **Lesser Spotted Eagle** *Aquila pomarina* in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany, revealed the presence of 89-97 breeding pairs in the 1990s and a slight decline (Vogelwelt 122: 233-246, 2001). In northern Italy, **Greater Spotted Eagles** *A clanga* were seen at Torrile on 24 November and at Ortazzo on 30 November. In Hungary, the species was found at four sites between 8 October and early December, including two in the north-western part of Balaton lake. In Sweden, two single immatures remained in Skåne through December and into January. In Spain, first-winters were at La Rocina, Doñana, from late December to mid-January and at Aiguamolls de l'Empordá, Girona, on 8 January; an adult was at La Rocina on 10 January. On 9 December, an adult returned at Niederriedstausee, Bern, Switzerland; the species has been a winterer here from February 1996. From 19 December onwards, at least four individuals were present in the Camargue (including a pale '*fulvescens*' morph). In southern Italy, a **Lesser Spotted Eagle** *A pomarina* was found at Vendicari on 7 November. There are also infrequent reports of a winterer in the Camargue from 15 December into January. Sightings of **Booted Eagle** *Hieraaetus pennatus* in England, Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland from 5 March 1999 to 22 June 2000 (cf Dutch Birding 21: 117-118, plate 93, 229, 286, 354-355, plate 375, 1999; 22: 40-41, plate 37, 115, 166, 2000) are now considered as referring to a single individual and the species is added to 'Category D' of the respective national lists (an euphemistic way of saying that it is regarded as an escape). The first in January for Cyprus was an adult at Kensington Cliffs on 12 January. The third **Amur Falcon** *Falco amurensis* for the UAE was an adult male flying over the western desert of Asab, Abu Dhabi, on 18 November (for information on passage records, see Bull Br Ornithol Club 121: 222-230, 2001). A first-winter **Lanner Falcon** *F biarmicus erlangeri* was at Aiguamolls de l'Empordá on 2 December and 1 January. Another Lanner was in the Camargue on 30 December.

RAILS TO WADERS If accepted, a male **Little Crake** *Porzana parva* at Barbatre, Noirmoutier, Vendée, on 2 December will be the third early-winter record for France. In November, an Italian lorry with 11 668 dead birds of 30 species, mostly passerines but also, eg, Ferruginous Ducks and Corn Crakes *Crex crex*, was intercepted at the Hungarian border constituting the greatest bird massacre in Hungarian history. The birds were meant for restaurants in southern Italy and were killed with the use of shotguns, mistnets and tape-luring by up to 150 hunters associated with the Italian based Green Sports Ltd and 19 Hungarian hunting companies. The seventh (and the first twitchable) **Allen's Gallinule** *Porphyrula alleni* for Spain was a first-winter in Mallorca from 8 January (it was trapped and ringed on 10 January). Probably the same **American Coot** *Fulica americana* seen on Flores, Azores, on 31 October (Dutch Birding 23: 358, 2001) was at Lagoa Combes, Flores, on 6 November where it was found shot on 7 November. Three **Siberian Cranes** *Grus leucogeranus* were photographed at the Volga delta, Russia, on 5 October. Two adults returned to Keoladeo Ghana National Park, Bharatpur, India, on 9 November. A record total of 577 were recorded on passage at Melmeg nature reserve in Jilin province, China, from 9 April to 8 May 2000. In Switzerland, a **Great Bustard** *Otis tarda* was seen at Lac de Neuchâtel, Bern, in mid-December. **Indian Bustard** *Ardeotis nigriceps* showed an almost 50% decline in the past 10-15 years and now only an estimated 400-500 individuals survive in north-western India, making it one of the world's most endangered bustard species. A **Small Pratincole** *Glareola lactea* stayed at Salalah, Oman, on 8-10 November. The ninth for the UAE was discovered at Wimpey Pits, Dubai, on 3 December and remained until at least 21 December. In the Azores, a **Killdeer** *Charadrius vociferus* remained at Sete Cidades, São Miguel, on 1-12 November and a **Semipalmated Plover** *C semipalmatus* was present at Cabo da Praia, Terceira, on at least 1-14 November. The first **Eurasian Dotterel** *C morinellus* in winter for Ireland was at Rahasane, Galway, on 28 December. A late **American Golden Plover** *Pluvialis dominica* stayed in Orkney, Scotland, on 3-11 December. The second **Red-wattled Lapwing** *Vanellus indicus* for Israel was a first-winter male at the Eilat sewage ponds at K19 from 31 October to at least late December. The **Sociable Lapwing** *V gregarius* present

29 Red-wattled Lapwing / Indische Kievit *Vanellus indicus* with Spur-winged Lapwings *V spinosus*, K19, Eilat, Israel, November 2001 *(Killian Mullarney)*

30 Upland Sandpiper / Bartrams Ruiter *Bartramia longicauda*, first-year, Karlsborg, Västergötland, Sweden, November 2001 *(Johan Hammar)*

31 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper / Siberische Strandloper *Calidris acuminata*, adult summer moulting to winter plumage, Saaremaa Tammunaneem, Estonia, 31 August 2001 *(Antti Luukkonen)*

32 Semipalmated Plover / Amerikaanse Bontbekplevier *Charadrius semipalmatus*, Cabo da Praia, Terceira, Azores, 14 November 2001 *(Theo Bakker/Cursorius)*

33 Iceland Gull / Kleine Burgemeester *Larus glaucoides*, first-winter, Huizen, Noord-Holland, Netherlands, 10 January 2001 *(Phil Koken)*

34 Ring-billed Gull / Ringsnavelmeeuw *Larus delawarensis*, second-winter, Arcachon, Gironde, France, 28 December 2001 *(Frédéric Jiguet)*

from 29 September in East Sussex, England, was again seen on 15-23 December. The sixth for Hungary was a juvenile at Polgár on 8-9 October. In Oman, a total of nine were reported on 9 November. The 16th for the UAE was on the the Emirates Hills golf course on 10 November. In Israel, 18 were counted in the Urim fields in late November. In the Azores, three **White-rumped Sandpipers** *Calidris fuscicollis* were still at Cabo da Praia on 1 November (an adult and two first-winters) (cf Dutch Birding 23: 358-359, 2001); on 5 November, two first-winters were present here and, on 13-14 November, one. Late individuals were at Ballycotton, Cork, Ireland, on 4 November, at Lauwersmeer, Groningen, the Netherlands, on 4-5 November (a juvenile), on Fair Isle, Shetland, Scotland, on 13 November, and at Strangford Lough, Down, Northern Ireland, on 28 November. The second **Pectoral Sandpiper** *C melanotos* for the UAE was at Wimpey Pits, Dubai, from 1 December to at least 21 December. An unseasonal individual remained at Stanpit Marsh, Dorset, from 11 December. An adult **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** *C acuminata* at Saaremaa Tammunaneem on 31 August was the first for Estonia (the bird was not seen in Finland; contra Dutch Birding 23: 300, 2001). During November, in the Gulf of Thailand, single **Spoon-billed Sandpipers** *Eurynorhynchus pygmeus* were seen at Khok Kham near Samut Sakhon from 21 October onwards and at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 22 October; at the first site, three were seen on 22 November and one was observed on 9 January. In the Netherlands, an adult **Long-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus scolopaceus* present on 4-28 November at Prunjepolder, Schouwen, Zeeland, was presumably the same as the one present from 17 February to 29 April (cf Dutch Birding 23: 103, 2001); on 28 November, it was briefly accompanied by an unseasonal Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*. The long-staying Long-billed Dowitcher at Belfast Harbour, Down, remained through November; the long-stayer at Sohar, Oman, was still present on at least 7 December (cf Dutch Birding 23: 158, plate 177, 161, 2001). The first **Upland Sandpiper** *Bartramia longicauda* for Sweden was a first-year at Kråk near Karlsborg, Västergötland, on 18-29 November. In the Azores, a **Spotted Redshank** *T erythropus* was found at Sete Cidades, São Miguel, on 12 November. In Spain, six **Marsh Sandpipers** were seen in a flock of 150 Common Redshanks *T totanus* at Entremuros y Dehesa de Pilas near Doñana on 7-9 December. Late **Lesser Yellowlegs** *T flavipes* were at Tophill, East Yorkshire, England, on 2-4 November, at Tacumshin, Wexford, on 3-28 November, in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, on 7-8 December, and in Pembroke, Wales, during December. In Spain, two individuals were present at Fondet de la Senieta, Elx, Alacant, on 17-18 November. In the Azores, a **Hudsonian Whimbrel** *Numenius hudsonicus* was identified at Cabo da Praia on 1 November. The only **Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularia* for Britain in 2001 at Hanningfield Reservoir, Essex, was only seen on 30 December. Another was at El Pinque, Tenerife, on 5 January. A **Red Phalarope** *Phalaropus fulicaria* was a regional rarity at Lac Léman, Geneva, Switzerland, on 16-18 December.

JAEGERS TO GUILLEMOTS The ninth and 10th **Long-tailed Jaeger** *Stercorarius longicaudus* for Malta were two singles on 11 and 16 November at Qawra. Apparently, the first-winter **Pallas's Gull** *Larus ichthyaetus* at Køge harbour, Sydsjælland, Denmark, was not seen after 2 November. The third for Malta was an adult on 29 December. In Sicily, three or four immatures were counted at Lentini lake on 16 December. In the Azores, a first-winter **Mediterranean Gull** *L melanocephalus* was found at Ponta Delgada harbour, São Miguel, on 11-12 November and a first-winter **Bonaparte's Gull** *L philadelphia* was at Praia da Vitoria, Terceira, on 5 November. An approachable adult Bonaparte's Gull was at Millbrook, Cornwall, from 19 December to at least mid-January. On 24 November, the ringed **Ring-billed Gull** *L delawarensis* at Bergen, Hordaland, returned for its eighth winter (in summer, this commuting bird has been recorded in Newfoundland, Canada). In the Netherlands, another faithful returning individual spent its fifth consecutive winter at Goes, Zeeland (still present in early January). In early January, there were (still) five individuals at Arcachon, Gironde, France. The 10th and 11th **Common Gull** *L canus canus* for Malta were first-winters at Qawra on 29 and 30 December. The fifth **Scandinavian Herring Gull** *L argentatus 'argentatus'* for Cyprus was at Larnaca Salt Lake on 13 January. In France, a second-winter **American Herring Gull** *L smithsonianus* was at Loon-Plage, Nord, on 16 December. In Ireland, second-winters were at Cobh, Cork, during December and one was in Galway on 9-15 December. In the Azores, a high number of at least 550 **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** *L graellsii* were scattered across the south-east of Terceira on 13 November. Curiously, c four **Iceland Gulls** *L glaucoides* turned up inland both in the Netherlands and in northern France (the Paris area, Ile de France) in late December and early January. A first-winter **Kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla* was found at Karatas harbour, southern Turkey, on 3 January. In the Faeroes, a first-winter **Ivory Gull** *Pagophila eburnea* was seen on Nólsoy on 9 November and an adult was on Suderoy on 12 November. A first-winter was taken into care at Scalloway, Shetland, on 12 November before it was released on 20 November. In Sør-Trøndelag, Norway, first-years were at Uthaug havn, Ørland, on 17-26 November and at Frøya on 18 December. In mainland Scotland, an adult was at Dunnet Head, Highland, on 22-26 December and a first-winter was on the Montrose Basin, Angus, from 27 December to 4 January. A late first-winter **Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica* stayed at Titchwell, Norfolk, on 16-27 November. In Ireland, a **Forster's Tern** *Sterna forsteri* was reported at Blennerville, Kerry, on 23 November. In France, an unseasonal **Little Tern** *S albifrons* remained on Oléron until at least 13 January. The 13th **Brünnich's Murre** *Uria lomvia* for Denmark was a first-winter at Hirtshals Havn, Nordjylland, on 12 November. In southern Norway, five were reported for November alone. The population has undergone a massive decline in Iceland presumably due to hunting pressures in western Greenland (World Birdwatch 23 (4): 5, 2001). If accepted, a **Black**

35-36 White's Thrush / Goudlijster *Zoothera aurea*, first-winter female, Salaspils, Latvia, 24 November 2001 *(Agris Celmins)*

37 Ménétries's Warbler / Ménétries' Zwartkop *Sylvia mystacea*, Eilat, Israel, November 2001
(Killian Mullarney)

38 Pied Bushchat / Zwarte Roodborsttapuit *Saxicola caprata*, first-winter female, Eilat, Israel, November 2001
(Killian Mullarney)

Guillemot *Cepphus grylle* flying south past Cabo Silleiro, Baiona, Pontevedra, on 27 December will be (only) the second for Spain.

OWLS TO WOODPECKERS In Poland, a young male **Snowy Owl** *Nyctea scandiaca* was reported near Hajnowka on 18 December. Presumably, individuals at Veurne, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium, and at Meerssen, Limburg, the Netherlands, concern the ship-assisted arrivals reported from October (Dutch Birding 23: 396-398, 2001). The latter was an unringed adult male discovered on 7 January and, potentially being the first for Limburg, it received much attention from the press; it was taken into care on 10 January and died the next day. The first twitchable **Northern Hawk Owl** *Surnia ulula* for Denmark since 1996 was a first-winter at Hjelm, Lolland, on 4-8 November; it was found dead on 9 November. At least two pairs of **Nubian Nightjar** *Caprimulgus nubicus* were found at Gebel Elba in the southeastern corner of Egypt in the fourth week of November. During an examination of skins of Common Swifts *Apus apus* at the Zoological Museum of the University of Copenhagen, the first **Adriatic Pallid Swift** *A pallidus illyricus* for Denmark (and northern Europe) was discovered; the bird had been collected at Kirke Helsinge, Vest-Jylland, on 11 March 1993 (Dansk Orn Foren Tidsskr 95: 169-172, 2001). It should be noted that *illyricus* (which breeds in the Adriatic region) is larger and darker than Western *A p brehmorum* (breeding from the Canary Islands and southern France east to Cyprus) and Middle Eastern *A p pallidus* (breeding from the Levant to Pakistan) and, consequently, much more difficult to separate from Common Swift (cf Birding World 12: 450-452, 1999; 13: 37, 2000). The seventh **White-throated Kingfisher** *Halcyon smyrnensis* for the UAE was at Ras al Khaimah airport on 6 November. In the Azores, the **Belted Kingfisher** *Ceryle alcyon* at Porto Pim, Faial, stayed from 2 October to at least 18 November (cf Dutch Birding 23: 362-363, plate 408, 2001). In the Netherlands, a **Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops* survived at Zwarte Haan, Friesland, from early December until at least early January. A **Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos major* was discovered south of Rathnew, Wicklow, Ireland, on 27 December. Following a credible report of a pair of **Ivory-billed Woodpeckers** *Campephilus principalis* seen in April 1999, an intensive search sponsored by Zeiss will be held in Pearl River WMA, south-eastern Louisiana, USA, from 17 January 2002 onwards. The area will be investigated on 30 good-weather days by six people, including Martjan Lammertink (cf Dutch Birding 14: 170-173, 1992). Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology will deploy remote listening devices that will record sounds continuously. For more information on the search, see www.birdingamerica.com/Ivorybill/ivorybilledwoodpecker.htm.

LARKS TO THRUSHES In Sweden, a **Crested Lark** *Galerida cristata* remained at Ystad, Skåne, into January. In southern Israel, four **Oriental Skylarks** *Alauda gulgula* were present at three sites from 24 October into December. In the UAE, three were seen at Al Wathba camel track on 9 November. The second **Eurasian Crag Martin** *Hirundo rupestris* for Sweden at Skanör, Skåne, remained during 25-29 October. During December, at least 22 **Richard's Pipits** *Anthus richardi* were reported in Spain and up to four were in the Crau, Bouches-du-Rhône. The second and third **Olive-backed Pipits** *A hodgsoni* for Spain were two birds at Estuario del Miño, A Guarda, Pontevedra, on 16-25 December (the first was in Mallorca on 10-11 October 1990). One was at Jerusalem, Israel, on 2 December. The seventh **Pechora Pipit** *A gustavi* for Norway was trapped at Randaberg, Rogaland, on 14 October. In Israel, four single **Siberian Buff-bellied Pipits** *A rubescens japonicus* were at Eilat (two), Beer-Sheva and Kfar-Ruppin during December. In Italy, **Pied Wagtails** *Motacilla yarrellii* were wintering at Foce Serchio, Toscane, from 20 November and at Torre Flavia from 16 December. The fourth **Red-flanked Bluetail** *Tarsiger cyanurus* for the Netherlands trapped at Groene Glop, Schiermonnikoog, on 5 November was not seen on subsequent days. The first record of **White-throated Robin** *Irania gutturalis* for Switzerland was a male at Ramosch, Grisons, on 25 May 2000 (Nos Oiseaux 48: 269, 2001). In the Azores, a first-winter male **Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros* was present at Mosteiros, São Miguel, on 7-8 December. If accepted, a male **Siberian Stonechat** *Saxicola maura* at Foce Serchio on 2 November will be the third for Italy. One was reported from Kent, England, on 24-27 December. A first-winter female **Pied Bushchat** *S caprata* at Eilat from 20 November to at least 21 December was the fifth for Israel (the previous record was in October 2000). The 10th **Desert Wheatear** *Oenanthe deserti* for Malta was an adult female at M'Xlokk on 13 December. From 6 January, a female was present at Niarbyl, Isle of Man. In south-eastern Egypt, c 100 **(Western) Red-tailed Wheatears** *O xanthoprymna* and 10 **Persian (or Eastern Red-tailed) Wheatears** *O chrysopygia* were found at Gebel Elba in the fourth week of November; apparently, the latter taxon had not been recorded previously for in Egypt. A **'Basalt Wheatear'**, the black morph of Eastern Mourning Wheatear *O lugens*, at K33 on 6-21 December was the second for Israel. The first **White's Thrush** *Zoothera aurea* for Latvia was a first-winter female trapped 20 km south-east of Riga on 21 November. The second for Sicily was shot at Mazara del Vallo on 9 December. UAE's ninth **Ring Ouzel** *Turdus torquatus* of the distinctive eastern taxon *amicorum* was at Abu Dhabi on 16 November. In Sweden, an adult male **Black-throated Thrush** *T ruficollis atrogularis* was at Borås golfbane, Västergötland, on 6 November and a first-winter male stayed at Grebbestad, Bohuslän, from 24 December to at least mid-January. In the UAE, one was present at Fujeirah Dairy Farm on 7 November. On Helgoland, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, a first-winter female remained from 30 December to 4 January. Very cold weather in Turkey brought huge numbers of **Song Thrush** *T philomelos* to Cyprus and it is estimated that on 13 January alone, the first day of the 'small game' hunting season, a stagger-

39 Arctic Warbler / Noordse Boszanger *Phylloscopus borealis*, Ouessant, Finistère, France, October 2001 *(Rafael A Casales)* cf Dutch Birding 23: 366, 2001

ing 900 000 were shot. A longevity record was established by a **Mistle Thrush** *T viscivorus* ringed in Switzerland on 21 September 1978 and shot in Spain on 19 December 1999, reaching an age of at least 21 years and four months (Ornithol Beob 98: 349-350, 2001).

WARBLERS The first **Cetti's Warbler** *Cettia cetti* for Oman was at Al Ansab on 14 November. During October, up to four **Zitting Cisticolas** *Cisticola juncidis* were present at Les Grangettes, Switzerland. In England, a **Paddyfield Warbler** *Acrocephalus agricola* was seen in Cot Valley, Cornwall, on 15 November. A **Blyth's Reed Warbler** *A dumetorum* (not the disputed individual without tail; cf Dutch Birding 23: 366, 2001) was trapped at Portland Bill, Dorset, on 12 November. The occurrence of a male **Moltoni's Warbler** *Sylvia cantillans moltonii* sound-recorded at Heist, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium, on 20-21 May (Dutch Birding 23: 229, 240, 2001) prompted research of sound descriptions in other countries. Consequently, the first Moltoni's for Britain appears to be an individual trapped at Portland Bill on 16 April 1975 (Birding World 14: 482-483, 2001) and probably the first for the Netherlands was at Kennemerduinen, Bloemendaal, Noord-Holland, on 23-26 May 1987 (Max Berlijn in litt). In Egypt, a wintering population of 30 **Cyprus Warblers** *S melanothorax* was found in acacia groves at Gebel Elba. The second **Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis* for Oman was at Ras al Hadd on 13 November. A **Pallas's Leaf Warbler** *P proregulus* was present at Zandvoort, Noord-Holland, the Netherlands, from 2 January; on 12-13 January, one was present south of Den Haag, Zuid-Holland. Possibly the first **Yellow-browed Warbler** *P inornatus* for the Azores was on São Miguel on 5 December. In Devon, England, one remained until at least 10 December and another was reported from Essex on 13-16 December. The first **Hume's Leaf Warbler** *P humei* for Spain was seen at Pont del Través, l'Encanyissada lagoon, Ebro delta, on 16 November. Another was at Lotan, Israel, on 17-19 November. In England, singles were at Portland Bill on 15-17 November, in Greater London from mid-November to 29 December and at Porthgwarra, Cornwall, on 23 December. Another was reported from Ouessant, Finistère, France, on 30 December. The third **Dusky Warbler** *P fuscatus* for Spain was trapped at Sot del Fuster, Vilanova de la Barca, Lleida, on 15 November. In England, one remained at Sennen, Cornwall, from 16 November into January. **Siberian Chiffchaffs** *P collybita tristis* were reported from Cape Clear, Cork, on 4-11 November and from Helgoland on 12-19 November and 25 November. At least six were reported from England from 23 December into January. In Bull Br Ornithol Club 121: 281-296, 2001, Lars Svensson demonstrated that the type specimen of **Iberian Chiffchaff** *P brehmii* is, in fact, a female Northern Chiffchaff *P c collybita* and that the correct name of Iberian Chiffchaff should be *P ibericus*. In the same paper, he presented a new discriminant formula for ringers by adding seven values which tend to be larger in Iberian and subtracting two which tend to be smaller compared with Common (*add* wing length, bill length, distance p1-p2, distance wingtip-p6, distance wingtip-p7, distance wingtip-p10, distance wingtip-s1, and *subtract* tail length and distance p1-tips of primary coverts;

40 Pallas's Leaf Warbler / Pallas' Boszanger *Phylloscopus proregulus*, Amsterdamse Waterleidingduinen, Zandvoort, Noord-Holland, Netherlands, 9 January 2002 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*

all males *P c collybita* had lower values than 73.2 and all females lower than 70.9 while most Iberians had higher values for the respective sexes). Moreover, Svensson's well-documented passage records in southern Morocco in early April 2001 support the view that Iberian Chiffchaff is a long-distance migrant (cf Dutch Birding 23: 290, 366, 2001).

TITS TO BUNTINGS In southern Poland, five **Azure Tits** *Parus cyaneus* were reported at Laka, Bielsko-Biala, on 3-4 November. An isolated breeding population of **Oriental White-eyes** *Zosterops palpebrosus* has been discovered on an islet off Oman, far west of its known breeding area. Reportedly, the number of **House Crows** *Corvus splendens* at the stronghold near the Harwich ferry terminal at Hoek van Holland, Zuid-Holland, the Netherlands, has increased to eight. The third **Western Jackdaw** *C monedula* for the Canary Islands was on Tenerife from 7 November. The second **Chestnut-shouldered Petronia** (or Yellow-throated Sparrow) *Petronia xanthocollis* for Israel was at Lotan on 14 November (the first was at Eilat in May 1982). The 10th **Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus* for Israel turned up at Hula on 17 December. The fifth **European Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis* for the UAE was at Abu Dhabi from 24 October to 10 November. Quite a few **Arctic Redpolls** *C hornemanni* reached southern Norway. On 7 December, one was at Hannover, Niedersachsen, Germany. From mid-December to at least 10 January, three were at Titchwell, Norfolk, and up to four on Texel, Noord-Holland. Up to five **Two-barred Crossbills** *Loxia leucoptera* were reported from Niedersachsen on 11-19 December and several were seen in Austria. A **Trumpeter Finch** *Bucanetes githagineus* was reported off Malta in the first week of December. The adult male **Pine Grosbeak** *Pinicola enucleator* photographed at Melissant, Zuid-Holland, on 24 March 1996 has now been accepted as the fourth for the Netherlands and the first since 1928 (see Dutch Birding 20: 69-70, plate 36, 1998; cf *Rare birds of the Netherlands* by van den Berg & Bosman 2001). The first **Yellow Warbler** *Dendroica petechia* for the Azores was a first-winter photographed on São Miguel on 5 December. Also in the Azores, a female **Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis* was at Lagoa do Ginjal, Terceira, on 13 November. In Malta, one was at Xaghra, Gozo, on 18-19 November. The third **Pine Bunting** *Emberiza leucocephalos* for Malta was a male at Ghajnsielem, Gozo, on 11 November. The fourth for Spain was a male reported at Cariño beach, A Coruña, on 2 November. Up to 10 were along the Toscane coast, Italy, from late October and up to three were at Mas Lauricet, Camargue, from 2 December onwards. The fourth **Yellow-breasted Bunting** *E aureola* for the UAE was an adult female at Al Wathba camel track on 15-23 November.

For a number of reports, publications in Birding World, Birdwatch, British Birds, Bulletin British Ornithologists' Club, Da Ziran, Dansk Ornitologisk Forenings Tidsskrift, Der Ornithologische Beobachter, Sandgrouse, Sovon-nieuws, Vogelwelt, Winging It and World Birdwatch were consulted. News from Britain was kindly supplied by Birdline (0891-700-222) and Rare Bird News (0881-888-111). I wish to thank Xavier del Acebo, Adrian Aebischer, Mashuq Ahmad (UK), Mindy Baha El Din, Sherif Baha El Din, Theo Bakker (Azores), Chris Batty, Morten Bentzon Hansen, Max Berlijn, Christoph Bock, Mark Bolton (Azores), Vegard Bunes, David Camilleri, Agris Celmins, Alain Chappuis, Rolf Christensen (www.irania.dk), Tony Clarke (Canarian Nature Tours), Mark Constantine, Andrea Corso, Sugart Daengphayon, Eric Dempsey, Gunter De Smet, Dhirendra Devarshi, Steve Dudley, Hugues Dufourny, Nils van Duivendijk, Jerzy Dyczkowski, Enno Ebels, Anders Eriksson, Frode Falkenberg, Peter Flint, Alain Fossé, Tony Fox, Peter Fraser, Rob Fray, Raymond Galea (Malta), Roberto Garavaglia, Eduardo García del Rey, Benny Gaxiola, Jeff Gordon (Cyprus), Gerard Gorman (Hungary), Barak Granit (Israel), Christophe Gruwier, Marcello Grussu (Sardinia), Ricard Gutiérrez (Spain), Klaas Haas, Andreas Hachenberg, Cornelis Hazevoet, Martin Helin, Gerrit Hiemstra, Gaukur Hjartarson, Remco Hofland, Justin Jansen, Jukka Jantunen, Jens-Kjeld Jensen, Erling Jirle, Adrian Jordi, Yves Kayser, Guy Kirwan, Yann Kolbeinsson (Iceland), Matti Koivula, Szabolcs Kókay, Martin Kraft, Andrew Kratter, Andreas Bruun Kristensen, Helmut Kruckenberg, Martjan Lammertink, Barry Lancaster, Pierre Le Maréchal, Christian Leth, Rami Lindroos, André van Loon, Dan Lupton, Antti Luukkonen, Mark Mallalieu, Anthony McGeehan, Peter Meininger, Richard Millington, Geir Mobakken, Nial Moores, Petur Mortensen, Killian Mullarney, Lajos Németh, John Oates, Mika Ohtonen, Arie Ouwerkerk, Otto Overdijk, Menotti Passarella, Yoav Perlman (IRDC), Gunnlaugur Pétursson, Asad Rahmani, Kalle Rainio, Michael Rank, Colin Richardson (UAE), Kris de Rouck (Azores), Philip Round (Thailand), Luciano Ruggieri, Jordi Márti, Santiago Villa Méndez, Michael Sammut (Malta), Nir Sapir (Israel), Holger Schritt, Bob Scott (Bulgaria), Dare Sere (Slovenia), Maurizio Sighele, Roy Slaterus, James Smith, Thomas Spencer, Vincent van der Spek, Tadeusz Stawarczyk, Willem Steenge (Azores), Frank Stühmer, Norman van Swelm, Gyorgy Szimuly, Dark Szlama, Pam Thomson, Ray Tipper, Antero Topp, Magnus Ullman, Pierre Unge, Bert Van Der Krieken, Martin Vavrik, William Velmala, Roland van der Vliet, Alyn Walsh and Maxime Zucca for their help in compiling this review.

Arnoud B van den Berg, Duinlustparkweg 98, 2082 EG Santpoort-Zuid, Netherlands (arnoud.vandenberg@inter.nl.net)

Recente meldingen

Dit overzicht van recente meldingen van zeldzame en interessante vogels in Nederland en België beslaat voornamelijk de periode **november-december 2001**. 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, e-mail cdna@dutchbirding.nl. Hiertoe gelieve men gebruik te maken van CDNA-waarnemingsformulieren die eveneens verkrijgbaar zijn bij bovenstaand adres, of via de homepage van de DBA op www.dutchbirding.nl.

Nederland

GANZEN TOT VISAREND Op negen locaties werden in totaal 18 **Sneeuwganzen** *Anser caerulescens* waargenomen, met als opvallende melding zes van de blauwe vorm op 15 december bij Stad aan 't Haringvliet, Zuid-Holland. **Ross' Ganzen** *A rossii* werden waargenomen op 7 november op de Korendijkse Slikken, Zuid-Holland (twee), en tot 18 november nog één in deze omgeving, op 23 november en 19 december bij het Stinkgat bij het Rammegors, Zeeland, van 9 tot 12 december bij Strijen, Zuid-Holland, en op 15 december bij Den Bommel, Zuid-Holland. Mogelijk gaat het in totaal om slechts twee exemplaren. Grote aantallen **Dwergganzen** *A erythropus* werden slechts op twee dagen gezien met op 3 november 16 bij de Anjumer Kolken, Friesland, en op 15 november 14 bij Strijen. In december bevond zich een groep van ten minste zes bij Petten, Noord-Holland. Buiten deze traditionele plekken werden er nog 19 gemeld. **Groenlandse Kolganzen** *A albifrons flavirostris* werden gemeld op 20 november bij de Groote Peel, Noord-Brabant, en van 9 tot 26 december vier (met halsband) langs de Praamweg, Flevoland. In totaal werden negen **Roodhalsganzen** *Branta ruficollis* doorgegeven. **Witbuikrotganzen** *B hrota* waren de gehele periode te zien op Texel, Noord-Holland, met een maximum van zeven op 31 december aan de zuidkant van het eiland, op 3 november op Ameland, Friesland, en op 31 december twee bij Wierum, Friesland. Op deze locaties werden ook **Zwarte Rotganzen** *B nigricans* gezien, en wel de gehele periode maximaal twee op Texel, op 3 november één en 26 december twee op Ameland, en van 3 tot 6

41 Amerikaanse Smient / American Wigeon *Mareca americana*, mannetje, Uithoorn, Noord-Holland, 2 november 2001 *(Hans ter Haar)*

[*Dutch Birding 24: 60-69, 2002*]

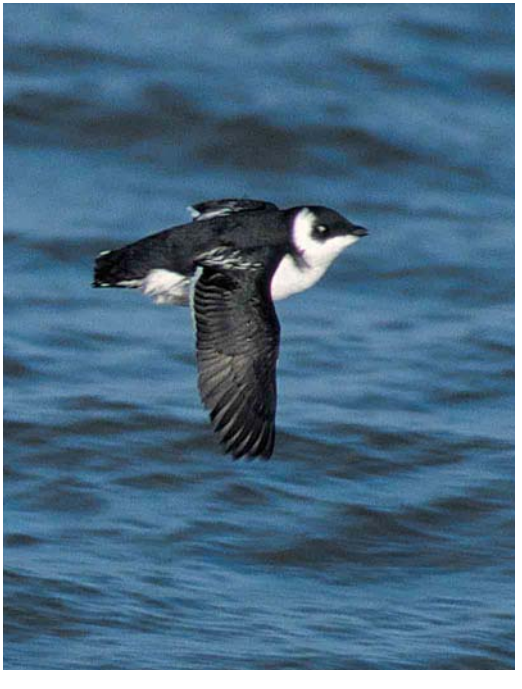
42 Hybride Witoogeend x Tafeleend / hybrid Ferruginous Duck x Common Pochard *Aythya nyroca x ferina*, vrouwtje, Oostvaardersdijk, Flevoland, 23 december 2001 *(Diederik Kok)* **43** Hybride Witoogeend x Tafeleend / hybrid Ferruginous Duck x Common Pochard *Aythya nyroca x ferina*, vrouwtje, Oostvaardersdijk, Flevoland, 23 december 2001 *(Hans ter Haar)*. Tafeleendachtig snavelpatroon met brede zwarte punt en lichte subterminale band die beide langs snijranden teruglopen richting snavelbasis, lange snavel en groot formaat verschillen van zuiver vrouwtje Witoogeend en duiden op hybride met Tafeleend **44** Ringsnaveleend / Ring-necked Duck *Aythya collaris*, vrouwtje, Lobith, Gelderland, 10 november 2001 *(Leo J R Boon/Cursorius)*

november maximaal twee bij Wierum. Een vrouwtje **Ringsnaveleend** *Aythya collaris* zwom op 10 november een middagje in de Bijland bij Lobith, Gelderland. **Witoogeenden** *A nyroca* werden opgemerkt op 4 november bij Wessem, Limburg, en op 22 december ten noorden van Eindhoven, Noord-Brabant. Een tweetal kruisingen met Tafeleend *A ferina* verbleef eind december langs de Oostvaardersdijk, Flevoland. De **Amerikaanse Smient** *Mareca americana* van Uithoorn, Noord-Holland, bleef daar tot 3 november. Andere bevonden zich op 9 november op de Ouderkerkerplas, Noord-Holland, van 25 november tot in januari in de Kapelsche Moer, Zeeland, en op 29 december bij Vlaardingen, Zuid-Holland. Een **Amerikaanse Wintertaling** *Anas carolinensis* werd op 25 november gezien op Texel. **IJsduikers** *Gavia immer* werden opgemerkt op 1 november ter plaatse en op 6 november langs Texel, op 3 november bij de Brouwersdam, Zuid-Holland, op 15 november langs Terschelling, Friesland, op 18 december op de Grevelingen, Zeeland, en op 29 december langs Westkapelle, Zeeland. Een **Dikbekfuut** *Podilymbus podiceps* zou van 14 tot 21 oktober zijn gezien bij Schardam, Noord-Holland, maar werd niet op tijd doorgegeven. Een recordaantal van 86 **Kuifduikers** *Podiceps auritus* werd op 18 december geteld bij de Veermansplaat op de Grevelingen. Eind december werden opvallend veel **Noordse Stormvogels** *Fulmarus glacialis* gemeld langs de Noordzeekust waaronder een aantal van de donkere vorm. Een vrij zekere **Grote Pijlstormvogel** *Puffinus gravis* werd op 26

45 Rosse Franjepoot / Red Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicaria*, Zwaagwesteinde, Friesland, 10 november 2001 *(Eric Koops)*

46 Kleine Alk / Little Auk *Alle alle*, Delft, Zuid-Holland, 8 november 2001 *(Chris van Rijswijk)*

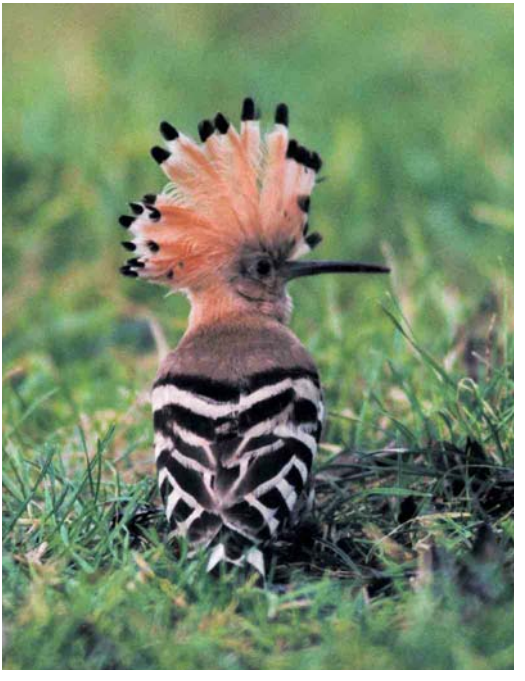
47 Blauwstaart / Red-flanked Bluetail *Tarsiger cyanurus*, eerste-winter, Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, 5 november 2001 *(Henri Bouwmeester)* **48** Kleine Alk / Little Auk *Alle alle*, IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, 2 november 2001 *(Han Zevenhuizen)* **49** Dwerggans / Lesser White-fronted Goose *Anser erythropus*, adult (rechts), Strijen, Zuid-Holland, 16 november 2001 *(Marten van Dijl)*



december gezien bij Camperduin, Noord-Holland. Een late **Noordse Pijlstormvogel** *P puffinus* vloog op 6 november langs Texel. Tot 8 november werden 12 **Grauwe Pijlstormvogels** *P griseus* gezien; opmerkelijk waren de zes in de laatste week van december. Eenzelfde beeld was te zien bij **Vaal Stormvogeltje** *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*, met tot 8 november drie en vanaf 21 december zeven exemplaren. **Stormvogeltjes** *Hydrobates pelagicus* verschenen op 14 november bij Den Helder, Noord-Holland (levend gevonden), op 28 december langs de oostrand van het Kennemermeer bij IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, en op 31 december kort ter plaatse bij Scheveningen, Zuid-Holland. **Kuifaalscholvers** *Stictocarbo aristotelis* verbleven op 10 november bij de Oosterscheldekering, Zeeland, vanaf 14 november bij IJmuiden (op veel dagen één behalve op 18 november toen er zeven werden gemeld), op 15 november en 16 december in de Eemshaven, Groningen, op 15 december bij Den Oever, Noord-Holland, op 27 december twee bij Den Helder, op 29 december vier bij Huisduinen, Noord-Holland, en op 31 december één op Texel. Maximaal vier **Kwakken** *Nycticorax nycticorax* overwinterden weer in het Veerse Bos bij Veere, Zeeland. **Koereigers** *Bubulcus ibis* pleisterden op 10 en 11 november ten westen van Kampen, Overijssel, van 24 november tot 8 december bij Heenvliet, Zuid-Holland, en op 15 december bij de Kwade Hoek, Zuid-Holland. Er werden opmerkelijk weinig (11) **Kleine Zilverreigers** *Egretta garzetta* doorgegeven. Het aantal **Grote Zilverreigers** *Casmerodius albus* bleef daarentegen op hetzelfde hoge peil als in de vorige periode met net onder de 100 gemelde vogels en als hoogste aantallen 27 op 11 november in de Oostvaardersplassen, Flevoland, 14 op 15 december ten zuiden van de Botshol, Utrecht, en negen op 19 december bij Wildervank, Groningen. Een **Zwarte Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* bleef zijn dagen slijten bij Petten. Een zeer late **Zwarte Ooievaar** *Ciconia nigra* vloog op 6 december over Hardenberg, Overijssel, en een eveneens late **Zwarte Wouw** *Milvus migrans* op 18 november ten noordwesten van Kruiningen, Zeeland. **Rode Wouwen** *M milvus* werden gezien op 16 november ten oosten van Tienhoven, Utrecht, op 18 november bij Mijnsheerenland, Zuid-Holland, op 22 november ten westen van Lochem, Gelderland, vanaf 25 november bij het Naardermeer, Noord-Holland, op 1 december bij Oostburg, Zeeland, en op 18 december op de Slikken van Flakkee, Zeeland. In totaal werden 14 **Zeearenden** *Haliaeetus albicilla* gezien, waarvan twee in de Oostvaardersplassen. Uitzonderlijk is de melding van twee **Visarenden** *Pandion haliaetus* op 23 december bij de Ventjagersplaten, Zuid-Holland.

KRAANVOGELS TOT ALKEN Naast pleisterende **Kraanvogels** *Grus grus* op 9 november ten noorden van Gieten, Drenthe, en op 10 november twee in het Fochtelooërveen, Drenthe/Friesland, werden op 17 november slechts twee kleine groepjes doortrekkers gemeld: acht over Maasbracht, Limburg, en 17 over Broekhuizenvorst, Limburg. Op 4 en 5 november werd nog een juveniele **Bonapartes Strandloper** *Calidris fuscicollis* gezien in het Lauwersmeergebied, Groningen, de vijfde of zesde melding voor dit najaar. De **Grote Grijze Snip** *Limnodromus scolopaceus* van de Prunjepolder, Zeeland, verbleef daar weer van 4 tot 28 november. Op deze plek werd op 28 november ook een **Poelruiter** *Tringa stagnatilis* gemeld. Een eveneens buitentijdse **Bosruiter** *T glareola* werd op 9 december gemeld in het Lauwersmeergebied. Een **Grauwe Franjepoot** *Phalaropus lobatus* werd op 14 november gezien op Terschelling. Nog eens 12 **Rosse Franjepoten** *P fulicaria* werden doorgegeven, voornamelijk tot 10 november. De laatste **Kleinste Jager** *Stercorarius longicaudus* van het seizoen vloog op 1 november langs Westkapelle. **Vorkstaartmeeuwen** *Larus sabini* bleven doordruppelen tot 24 november, met in totaal negen langs Lauwersoog, Groningen, en Huisduinen. De trouwe **Ringsnavelmeeuw** *L delawarensis* bleef in zijn vijfde winter bij Goes, Zeeland. Twee **Baltische Mantelmeeuwen** *L fuscus* werden op 3 november gemeld op de Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland. Een onvolwassen **Kleine Burgemeester** *L glaucoides* werd tussen 23 november en 27 december regelmatig gezien bij Beilen, Drenthe. Meestal onvolwassen **Grote Burgemeesters** *L hyperboreus* verbleven op 17 en 23 november bij Katwijk aan Zee, Zuid-Holland, op 18 november en 27 december bij Huisduinen, op 23 november bij IJmuiden, op 26 november bij Scheveningen (deze werd op 9 december dood aangetroffen), op 8 en 30 december bij Lauwersoog, op 23 en 24 december (de adulte vogel van vorig jaar) in de omgeving van Den Helder, van 25 tot 27 december (een adulte) bij Nuenen, Noord-Brabant, en op 31 december bij Wierum. Er werd weer eens een langs de kust vliegende **Ross' Meeuw** *Rhodostethia rosea* gemeld, en wel op 6 november langs Terschelling. Begin november vlogen zeer veel **Drieteenmeeuwen** *Rissa tridactyla* langs de kust, getuige de telling van 3000 op 1 november langs Terschelling en 2000 op 7 november langs Camperduin. Een wintergeval van **Grote Stern** *Sterna sandvicensis* buiten de Delta werd opgetekend van 28 tot 31 december op Terschelling. Een **Zwarte Zeekoet** *Cepphus grylle* werd opgemerkt op 3 november bij de Bruine Bank, Continentaal Plat, 80 km uit de kust ten westen van Haarlem, Noord-Holland. Een flink aantal **Kleine Alken** *Alle alle* werd geteld, in totaal ruim 240 waarvan 190 in de eerste helft van november en alleen al op 1 november 30 langs Lauwersoog en 33 langs Terschelling. Opmerkelijk zijn de waarneming van een exemplaar samen met Wilde Eenden *A platyrhynchos* op 8 november zwemmend langs de Oostsingel in Delft, Zuid-Holland, en de vondst van een levend exemplaar op 9 november in Zeist, Utrecht. **Papegaaiduikers** *Fratercula arctica* werden gezien op 1 november bij Lauwersoog, op 2 en 11 november en 31 december langs Terschelling, en op 7 november twee en 25 december één langs Scheveningen.

UILEN TOT GORZEN Op 16 november werd een **Sneeuwuil** *Nyctea scandiaca* gemeld bij de Philipsdam, Zeeland. **Hoppen** *Upupa epops* verbleven op 8 december bij Breezanddijk, Friesland, en vanaf 18 december



50 Pestvogel / Bohemian Waxwing *Bombycilla garrulus*, Julianadorp, Noord-Holland, 9 november 2001 *(René Pop)* **51** Hop / Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops*, Zwarte Haan, Friesland, 19 december 2001 *(Roland Jansen)* **52** Hop / Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops*, Zwarte Haan, Friesland, 3 januari 2002 *(Eric Koops)*

53 Zwartbuikwaterspreeuw / Black-bellied Dipper *Cinclus cinclus cinclus*, Amsterdamse Waterleidingduinen, Noord-Holland, 27 november 2001 *(Marten van Dijl)*

54 Notenkraker / Spotted Nutcracker *Nucifraga caryocatactes*, Zeewolde, Flevoland, 10 december 2001 *(Jan van Holten)*

bij Zwarte Haan, Friesland. Behalve een doortrekkende **Grote Pieper** *Anthus richardi* op 2 november bij IJmuiden, werden in december pleisteraars opgemerkt vanaf 9 december bij Delft, op 14 december ten noorden van Rilland, Zeeland, en op 31 december op de Maasvlakte. Een **Duinpieper** *A campestris* werd nog gezien op 4 november in de Duivenvoordse Polder bij Den Haag, Zuid-Holland. De aankomst van **Pestvogels** *Bombycilla garrulus* leverde ruim 50 exemplaren in november op. In december daalde het aantal echter rap en werden er nog slechts 20 gemeld. Een **Zwartbuikwaterspreeuw** *Cinclus cinclus cinclus* werd op 4 en 5 november gezien bij Egmond aan Zee, Noord-Holland, en van 22 november tot 8 december pleisterden er twee en nadien nog ten minste één in de AW-duinen, Noord-Holland. De vierde **Blauwstaart** *Tarsiger cyanurus* voor Nederland werd op 5 november gevangen op Schiermonnikoog, Friesland. Een **Cetti's Zanger** *Cettia cetti* werd op 29 december gehoord aan de zuidkant van de Oesterdam op Zuid-Beveland, Zeeland. De **Graszanger** *Cisticola juncidis* van het Kennemermeer bij IJmuiden bleef vermoedelijk de gehele periode maar werd alleen op 2 en 24 november gezien. Naar verluidt was nog tot 14 november een **Sperwergrasmus** *Sylvia nisoria* aanwezig op Terschelling. Een **Pallas' Boszanger** *Phylloscopus proregulus* werd op 3 november gevangen op de ringbaan van Castricum, Noord-Holland. **Bladkoningen** *P inornatus* werden nog gezien tot 2 november op Texel, en op 4 november bij Bloemendaal aan Zee, Noord-Holland, en op 10 november werd er één gevangen op de ringbaan van Castricum. **Siberische Tjiftjaffen** *P collybita tristis* werden gemeld op 10 november bij Castricum (vangst), op 11 november twee en op 23 december één bij IJmuiden en op 2 december bij Egmond aan Zee. **Witkopstaartmezen** *Aegithalos caudatus caudatus* in groepjes werden gezien op 11 november 20 bij Hoogwatum, Groningen, op 17 december in Veenendaal, Utrecht (drie), en op 26 december in Apeldoorn, Gelderland (vijf). Nog zeven **Taigaboomkruipers** *Certhia familiaris* werden dit najaar opgemerkt, voornamelijk langs de kust. Twee **Buidelmezen** *Remiz pendulinus* waren op 9 december nog aanwezig bij het Jaap Deensgat in het Lauwersmeergebied. **Notenkrakers** *Nucifraga caryocatactes* verbleven op 13 november bij Duiven, Gelderland, vanaf 3 december in Zeewolde, Flevoland (ten minste twee), en op 22 december in Wageningen, Gelderland. Het totale aantal **Huiskraaien** *Corvus splendens* in Hoek van Holland, Zuid-Holland, zou inmiddels zijn opgelopen tot acht. Erg late jonge **Roze Spreeuwen** *Sturnus roseus* werden gezien op 3 december in West aan Zee op Terschelling en op 16 december bij het Amsterdamse Bos, Noord-Holland. Op Texel verbleven vanaf 17 december tot in januari **Witstuitbarmsijzen** *Carduelis hornemanni* in een groepje Grote Barmsijzen *C flammea*. Werd er eerst één gemeld, na verloop van tijd liep het aantal herkende exemplaren op tot maximaal vier. Een **Dwerggors** *Emberiza pusilla* verbleef op zowel 17 als 27 november op en rond de ringbaan van Castricum maar liet zich niet vangen; op 20 november werd er één gezien in de Workumerwaard, Friesland.

Ruud M van Dongen, Taalstraat 162, 5261 BJ Vught, Nederland
Klaas Haas, Turkooisstraat 8, 9743 KZ Groningen, Nederland (klaas.haas@dutchbirding.nl)
Peter W W de Rouw, Schoolstraat 3-bis, 3581 PM Utrecht, Nederland (prouw@magmagroup.nl)

België

ZWANEN TOT FLAMINGO'S In november en december werden in totaal 45 **Wilde Zwanen** *Cygnus cygnus* opgemerkt, met maximaal 10 te Elen, Limburg, en 28 te Roly, Namur. Dit zijn – naar Belgische normen – hoge aantallen. Een witte **Sneeuwgans** *Anser caerulescens* die van 16 tot 20 december bij Oudenburg, West-Vlaanderen, pleisterde, bleek geringd te zijn. Op 16 december waren er twee (ongeringde) aanwezig in de Achterhaven van Zeebrugge, West-Vlaanderen, en vanaf 31 december een geringde bij Maaseik, Limburg; deze vogel zou eerder in Nederland zijn opgemerkt. Van 25 november tot 31 december verbleven vier adulte **Ross' Ganzen** *A rossii* in de Achterhaven van Zeebrugge; plastic ringen wezen – zoals verwacht – op ontsnapte vogels. Op dezelfde plaats vertoefde op 15 december een adulte **Dwerggans** *A erythropus* en van 16 tot 21 december verbleef er één (of dezelfde) in de Uitkerkse Polders, West-Vlaanderen. Eveneens in de Achterhaven van Zeebrugge verbleven van 15 tot 26 november twee adulte **Roodhalsganzen** *Branta ruficollis*, van 1 tot 16 december was een adulte aanwezig in de Uitkerkse Polders en op 14 december een adulte bij Klemskerke, West-Vlaanderen. Op 4 november werd een **Casarca** *Tadorna ferruginea* waargenomen bij Eisden, Limburg, en op 9 december één bij Wintam (Bornem), Antwerpen. In totaal werden 24 **Krooneenden** *Netta rufina* opgemerkt, met als grootste groep negen te Hofstade, Vlaams-Brabant. Het adulte mannetje **Ringsnaveleend** *Aythya collaris* vertoefde de gehele periode in het Antwerpse Havengebied, Antwerpen. Het mannetje dat vorige winter bij Brugge, West-Vlaanderen, werd gezien zwom op 8 en 9 december bij Beernem, West-Vlaanderen. De klassieke **Witoogeenden** *A nyroca* pleisterden op 8 november op Blokkersdijk, Antwerpen (mannetje); vanaf 15 november afwisselend te Oudenaarde, Oost-Vlaanderen, en Zingem, Oost-Vlaanderen (vrouwtje); op 19 november te Hofstade; op 20 november te Harchies-Hensies, Hainaut (vrouwtje); op 2 december te Stuivekenskerke, West-Vlaanderen; op 9 december te Oostende, West-Vlaanderen (mannetje); en op 26 december bij Mechelen, Antwerpen. Van de 37 **Grote Zee-eenden**

Melanitta fusca die in deze periode werden gezien, verbleven er maar liefst 23 in het binnenland. De grootste groepen, te Waasmunster, Oost-Vlaanderen, en te Harchies-Hensies, telden beide 11 vogels. Tot 15 december verbleven twee vrouwtjes **Rosse Stekelstaart** *Oxyura jamaicensis* te Harchies-Hensies; van 18 november tot 4 december zwom een onvolwassen mannetje op de Spaarbekkens van Kluizen, Oost-Vlaanderen. De enige **IJseend** *Clangula hyemalis* van de periode zwom op 8 december op een plas bij Boorsem, Limburg. Een mannetje **Amerikaanse Smient** *Mareca americana* zat op 6 december bij de Oostdam te Heist, West-Vlaanderen. Op 13 november zwom een mannetje **Amerikaanse Wintertaling** *Anas carolinensis* op de Schelde bij Bornem. In november werden 10 **Parelduikers** *Gavia arctica* waargenomen, alle langstrekkend over zee. **IJsduikers** *G immer* werden gezien te Oostende op 6, 7 en 28 november; te De Panne, West-Vlaanderen, op 8 november; te Heist (adult zomerkleed!) en te Roksem, West-Vlaanderen, op 10 november. November en december waren goed voor slechts zeven **Roodhalsfuten** *Podiceps grisegena* en (erger nog) zes **Kuifduikers** *P auritus*. Op 6 november trokken nog drie **Grauwe Pijlstormvogels** *Puffinus griseus* langs Oostende, op 7 en 8 november volgde er nog telkens één langs Oostende en De Panne. Twee **Noordse Pijlstormvogels** *P puffinus* vlogen op 6 november langs Oostende en de laatste van het seizoen werd hier op 22 december waargenomen. Op 22 november pleisterde kortstondig een **Stormvogeltje** *Hydrobates pelagicus* te Nieuwpoort, West-Vlaanderen. **Vale Stormvogeltjes** *Oceanodroma leucorhoa* vlogen langs Oostende op 1 november (twee) en De Panne op 8 november (drie). Op de Schelde bij Bornem zwom op 14 november een onvolwassen **Kuifaalscholver** *Stictocarbo aristotelis*, op 15 november en 26 december was er een juveniele te Oostende en op 10 december één in de Achterhaven van Zeebrugge. **Koereigers** *Bubulcus ibis* werden nog waargenomen te Klemskerke op 12 november en op de Werf van de Kluizendokken bij Gent, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 18 november. De hoogste concentraties **Kleine Zilverreigers** *Egretta garzetta* waren te vinden in Het Zwin te Knokke, West-Vlaanderen (54 op 3 november) en te Lissewege, West-Vlaanderen (69 op 16 en 17 december). Naast de verspreide, solitaire **Grote Zilverreigers** *Casmerodius albus* waren grotere concentraties aanwezig te Harchies-Hensies (zeven op 1 december), te Zolder, Limburg (13 op 23 november) en te Zonhoven, Limburg (15 van 28 tot 30 december). Op 4 november werden nog **Ooievaars** *Ciconia ciconia* gezien over Damme, West-Vlaanderen, en te Walshoutem, Vlaams-Brabant; van 11 november tot na de jaarwisseling verbleef er één te Tollembeek (Galmaarden), Vlaams-Brabant. Een verzwakte vogel met Nederlandse ring werd op 17 december gevangen te Gors-Opleeuw, Limburg. De (ondertussen klassieke) **Puna-ibis** *Plegadis ridgwayi* verbleef nog tot ten minste 18 december in en rond Het Zwin. Daar bleven ook zes **Lepelaars** *Platalea leucorodia* overwinteren. Op 16 november werd te Harchies-Hensies een **Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus roseus* van onbekende origine opgemerkt. Wellicht dezelfde vogel foerageerde van 9 tot 29 december langs de Schelde tussen Blokkersdijk en Kallo, Oost-Vlaanderen.

WOUWEN TOT ALKEN **Rode Wouwen** *Milvus milvus* vlogen over Verrebroek, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 4 november, over Aalst, Oost-Vlaanderen, en Viersel, Antwerpen, op 17 november en over Heers, Limburg, op 18 november. Op 1 november trok een juveniele **Zeearend** *Haliaeetus albicilla* over Viersel. Mogelijk dezelfde vogel vloog op 2 november eerst over Avelgem, Oost-Vlaanderen, en daarna over Sint-Denijs, Oost-Vlaanderen. Pleisterende juveniele vogels waren vanaf begin december aanwezig te Wortel-Kolonie, Antwerpen; op 8 en 9 december te Oud-Heverlee en Neerijse, Vlaams-Brabant; vanaf 15 december te Dudzele-Koolkerke, West-Vlaanderen; en op 20 december bij Boekhoute, Oost-Vlaanderen. Een late juveniele **Grauwe Kiekendief** *Circus pygargus* werd op 2 november gemeld te Sint-Denijs. Op 13 november was een juveniele **Ruigpootbuizerd** *Buteo lagopus* aanwezig in Het Zwin; op 14 en 18 november werd een exemplaar waargenomen op het Schietveld te Brecht, Antwerpen; en op 16 december pleisterde er kortstondig één bij Rijkevorsel, Antwerpen. Op 14 november trokken 25 **Kraanvogels** *Grus grus* over Lier, Antwerpen; daar was op 17 november ook een auditieve waarneming. Een solitair exemplaar vloog op 9 december laag over Woumen, West-Vlaanderen. Op 4 november werd nog een **Kleine Strandloper** *Calidris minuta* opgemerkt te Verrebroek, op 17 november waren er negen te Oostende en op 24 november (wellicht deels dezelfde) zeven te Bredene, West-Vlaanderen. Een late **Poelsnip** *Gallinago media* werd op 1 november opgestoten op een ruigte bij de Werf van de Kluizendokken bij Gent. Op 1 november en 26 december trok een **Rosse Franjepoot** *Phalaropus fulicaria* langs Oostende; van 3 tot 19 november verbleef er één in de Uitkerkse Polders, West-Vlaanderen; op 8 november trok er één langs De Panne; en op 18 november was er één aanwezig in de Gentse Kanaalzone. Tussen 1 en 8 november werden langs de kust zeven **Middelste Jagers** *Stercorarius pomarinus* opgemerkt; een laatste waarneming volgde te Oostende op 22 december. Op 8 november vlogen nog 10 **Grote Jagers** *S skua* langs De Panne. In november werden 12 en in december negen **Zwartkopmeeuwen** *Larus melanocephalus* waargenomen. Late juveniele **Vorkstaartmeeuwen** *L sabini* werden opgemerkt te De Panne op 8 november en te Oostende op 23 november. De adulte **Grote Burgemeester** *L hyperboreus* bleef nog de hele periode aanwezig op zijn vaste stek in Oostende. Op 23 november vloog er één langs Nieuwpoort en daar werd op 13 december ook een eerste-winter waargenomen. Op 8 november trok langs De Panne zowel een late **Grote Stern** *Sterna sandvicensis* als een **Visdief** *S hirundo*. Op 21 november vloog daar ook nog een **Zwarte Stern** *Chlidonias niger* langs. Tussen 1 en 10 november werden 18 **Kleine Alken** *Alle alle* waargenomen langs de Belgische kust; de hoogste telling bedroeg zes te De Panne op

55 Sneeuwuil / Snowy Owl *Nyctea scandiaca*, Leffinge, West-Vlaanderen, 10 november 2001 *(Johan Buckens)*

8 november. Er volgde nog een waarneming te Oostende op 23 november.

UILEN TOT GORZEN Van 6 tot 12 november liet een prachtig eerste-winter mannetje **Sneeuwuil** *Nyctea scandiaca* zich uitvoerig bekijken en fotograferen in het centrum van Leffinge, West-Vlaanderen. Later bleek dat deze vogel reeds op 5 november te Oostduinkerke, West-Vlaanderen, was gesignaleerd. Met overleven had deze Canadese 'verstekeling' (cf Dutch Birding 23: 396-398, 2001) geen problemen en op 21 november had hij zich gevestigd in Veurne, West-Vlaanderen. Hier bleef dit prachtbeest tot na de jaarwisseling aanwezig. Op 14 en 15 november verbleef een verzwakt exemplaar bij Schoten, Antwerpen; deze vogel werd overgebracht naar een vogelasiel. Er volgden nog tal van claims, die steeds weer uitdraaiden op (bijna) witte Buizerds *Buteo buteo*. Op 18 november pleisterde kortstondig een **Hop** *Upupa epops* te Zwijnaarde, Oost-Vlaanderen. Op 1 november verbleven 11 **Strandleeuweriken** *Eremophila alpestris* in de Voorhaven van Zeebrugge, op 2 november twee en op 6 december vier te Knokke en op 10 november één te Bredene. Late **Grote Piepers** *Anthus richardi* werden op 3 november ontdekt in de Zwinbosjes te Knokke en op 24 november in de Achterhaven van Zeebrugge. De voorlopig enige **Pestvogel** *Bombycilla garrulus* van deze winter vloog op 28 december over Wommelgem, Antwerpen. Op 17 november werd een late **Tuinfluiter** *Sylvia borin* geringd bij Kinrooi, Limburg. Bij Oostduinkerke werd op 10 november een **Siberische Tjiftjaf** *Phylloscopus collybita tristis* opgemerkt. Er werden **Buidelmezen** *Remiz pendulinus* gezien in Lokeren, Oost-Vlaanderen, en Zonhoven op 2 november, te Antwerpen-Linkeroever op 11 november en te Kallo-Melsele vanaf 2 december. Op 9 december werd gedurende slechts enkele minuten een **Notenkraker** *Nucifraga caryocatactes* waargenomen bij Rijkevorsel, Antwerpen. Het blijft een bijzonder moeilijke opgave om de soort in Vlaanderen waar te nemen. **Bonte Kraaien** *Corvus cornix* werden op 1 november en 6 december gezien te Brecht; in Het Zwin overwinterende weer een groepje (maximaal drie). Waarnemingen in Vlaanderen van **Goudvinken** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* en **Appelvinken** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes* bleven talrijker dan in andere jaren hoewel er geen sprake was van uitzonderlijke concentraties. Op 1 november verbleef een **IJsgors** *Calcarius lapponicus* te Kallo-Melsele en op 3 november werd er één gezien te Beerse, Antwerpen. Tijdens de periode werden in totaal 71 **Sneeuwgorzen** *Plectrophenax nivalis* gemeld, wat dan weer in het te verwachten beeld valt. De grootste concentratie telde 42 te Heist op 16 december. Een groep van c 130 **Grauwe Gorzen** *Miliaria calandra* overwinterde in de velden bij Bierbeek, Vlaams-Brabant.

Deze waarnemingsrubriek kwam tot stand met medewerking van Peter Collaerts (Vlaams-Brabant), Frank De Scheemaeker (Mergus), Hugues Dufourny (Hainaut), Koen Leysen (Limburg), en Willy Verschueren (Groenlink). Ook de hulp van al diegenen die (hun) waarnemingen inspraken op de Wielewaalvogellijn (03-4880194) was hier onontbeerlijk.

Gerald Driessens, Pastoriestraat 16, 2500 Lier, België

DB Actueel

New species of wagtail A new species of 'black-and-white' wagtail *Motacilla* was recently described by an international team of ornithologists. The species appeared to have been first collected in December 1972 in Ubon Ratchani province in south-eastern Thailand. The two birds collected, however, went into the books as belonging to the subspecies *M alba alboides* of White Wagtail, a mistake that was copied many times thereafter and that led to confusion surrounding many 'White Wagtail'-records in southern Indochina. It took almost 30 years before this error was realized and the true status of these birds became known (Duckworth, J W, Alström, P, Davidson, P, Evans, T D, Poole, C M, Tan, S & Timmins, R J 2001. A new species of wagtail from the lower Mekong basin. Bull Br Ornithol Cl 121: 152-182).

In February 2001, five of the authors visited several rivers in Stung Treng province, north-eastern Cambodia, and observed over 100 individuals (adults and second-year birds) of the mysterious wagtail. During the survey in February 2001, eight birds were trapped and measured and several birds were videoed, photographed and/or sound-recorded (calls and two song-types). The eight trapped birds were collected; the holotype and seven paratypes were deposited at the Natural History Museum (BMNH) at Tring, England. Juveniles were studied and photographed by one of the authors in April 2001 in Kratie province, Cambodia. The publication gives detailed descriptions of plumages, sexing, ageing, moult, vocalizations, habitat, breeding and behaviour, distribution, conservation and comparison with related species; it includes several photographs of live birds as well as the specimens. Based on all these aspects, the authors firmly substantiated that the studied wagtails present a hitherto undescribed species and named it **Mekong Wagtail** *M samveasnae*, in honour of the young Cambodian ornithologist Sam Veasna who died on 3 December 1999. The new species most closely resembles African Pied Wagtail *M aguimp* and also shares characters with White-browed *M maderaspatenis* and Japanese Wagtail *M grandis*; all four share a largely black head and back with a prominent white supercilium. Evidence is presented why the new taxon should be considered a species of its own and not a subspecies of African Pied Wagtail or one of the other species.

The species occurs along the Mekong river and its tributaries in Cambodia and Laos. Apart from the 1972 record, the species has not yet been recorded again in Thailand but could well occur there. Mekong Wagtail does not seem to be under direct threat and numbers are considered to be 'healthy' in Cambodia. However,

56 Mekong Wagtail / Mekongkwikstaart *Motacilla samveasnae*, male, Stung Treng Province, Cambodia, February 2001 *(Pete Davidson)*

[*Dutch Birding 24: 70-74, 2002*]

57 Mekong Wagtail / Mekongkwikstaart *Motacilla samveasnae*, male, Stung Treng Province, Cambodia, February 2001 *(Per Alström)*

58 Mekong Wagtail / Mekongkwikstaart *Motacilla samveasnae*, female, Stung Treng Province, Cambodia, February 2001 *(Pete Davidson)*

the many proposed projects for the construction of dams in the lower Mekong area could conceivably quickly alter the fate for existing populations. Moreover, since the area of its known world range is extremely small (and, within this range, it is confined to river banks), the species may best be considered 'near-threatened' following the IUCN (1994) red list criteria for threatened species. This status could change to 'vulnerable' if a dam project in a key stretch of river within the breeding range is developed. ENNO B EBELS

Further new species in 2001 In 2001, several new bird species have been formally described in various ornithological journals. Five of these (Gunnison Sage Grouse *Centrocercus minimus,* Scarlet-banded Barbet *Capito wallacei,* Foothill Elaenia *Myiopagis ollalai,* Caatinga Antwren *Herpsilochmus sellowi* and Chestnut-eared Laughingthrush *Garrulax konkakinhensis*) have been given attention in the previous volume of Dutch Birding (see Dutch Birding 23: 61, 172, 2001). Here, the remaining new species are shortly reviewed (one still from 2000), with the exception of Mekong Wagtail *Motacilla samveasnae* which is treated separately above.

During an expedition at sea in the South Pacific in 1927 (!), six petrel *Pterodroma* specimens were collected which were originally labelled as Juan Fernandez Petrel *P externa* and later (1976) considered to belong to an unknown, smaller form of White-necked Petrel *P cervicalis.* In 1983, another bird was found on the shores of New South Wales, Australia. These specimens have now been described as a new species, **Vanuatu Petrel** *Pterodroma occulta* (Imber, M J & Tennyson, A J D 2001. A new petrel species (Procellariidae) from the south-west Pacific. Emu 101: 123-127). The new species appears to be closely related to White-necked Petrel but is smaller, with a longer tail and entirely grey exposed primaries from below. It presumably breeds in the Banks Islands or elsewhere in northern Vanuatu but no breeding sites are known (yet). The name *occulta* refers to the taxon remaining unidentified for so long, as well as to the yet undiscovered breeding grounds.

Specimens of woodcock *Scolopax* collected (one) or ringed (four) in the 1960s at Dalton Pass, Nueva Vizcaya Province, Luzon, Philippines, had always been considered to be Eurasian Woodcock *S rusticola* which was believed to be the only woodcock species in the Philippines. In 1993, woodcocks were observed and heard displaying on Mount Kitanglad, Bukidnon Province, Mindanao, Philippines, which were definitely not Eurasian Woodcock. After the collection of another specimen from the latter location in 1995, it was realized that all these birds (including the Dalton Pass specimens) represent a new species which was named **Bukidnon Woodcock** *Scolopax bukidnonensis* (Kennedy, R S, Fisher, T H, Harrap, S C B, Diesmos, A C & Manamtam, A S 2001. A new species of woodcock (Aves: Scolopacidae) from the Philippines and a re-evaluation of other Asian/Papuasian woodcock. Forktail 17: 1-12). In this paper, morphology as well as display, vocalizations, habits and breeding behaviour are dealt with and compared with other Asian/Papuasian *Scolopax* taxa. Bukidnon Woodcock appears to be locally common above 900 m in the mountains where it has been found. These mountain forests are relatively inaccessible and seem to have little attraction for cultivation or commercial tree logging. Therefore, the species is not considered to be immediately threatened. Interestingly, Eurasian Woodcock still remains on the list of Philippine birds based on published reports of two old specimens (1929 and 1931) collected in Philippine lowlands and deposited in the National Museum of the Philippines which, however, cannot be studied anymore because they were destroyed during World War II. There are no recent records of Eurasian Woodcock.

A new species of piha (Cotingidae) was described from the Colombian Andes: **Chestnut-capped Piha**

Lipaugus weberi (Cuervo, A M, Salaman, P G W, Donegan, T M & Ochoa, J M 2001. A new species of piha (Cotingidae: *Lipaugus*) from the Cordillera Central of Colombia. Ibis 143: 353-368). It appears to be related to Dusky Piha *L fuscocinereus* but differs by, for example, its much smaller size, a distinctive chestnut cap and unique vocalizations. It occurs in a narrow belt of very humid premontane forests (1500-1820 m), which makes the new species immediately vulnerable to deforestation and habitat fragmentation.

In the family of tyrants and tyrannulets (Tyrannidae), three new species have been described. **Chapada Flycatcher** *Suiriri islerorum* was described from the cerrado region of Brazil and adjacent eastern Bolivia (Zimmer, K J, Whittaker, A & Oren, D C 2001. A cryptic new species of flycatcher (Tyrannidae: *Suiriri*) from the cerrado region of central South America. Auk 118: 56-78). It appears close to Campo Suiriri *S suiriri affinis* but it has clearly different vocalizations and unique wing-lifting displays. The authors present a lengthy comparison of morphology and vocalizations of the *Suiriri* taxa. Interestingly, they already refer to an equally elaborate study of the complex published in the next issue of The Auk (Hayes, F E 2001. Geographic variation, hybridization, and the leapfrog pattern of evolution in the Suiriri Flycatcher (*Suiriri suiriri*) complex. Auk 118: 457-471). A new tyrannulet, **Mishana Tyrannulet** *Zimmerius villarejoi* was described from Amazonian 'white sand forests' in northern Peru (Alonso, J A & Whitney, B M 2001. A new *Zimmerius* tyrannulet (Aves: Tyrannidae) from white sand forests of northern Amazonian Peru. Wilson Bull 113: 1-9). It is probably most closely related to Red-billed Tyrannulet *Z cinereicapillus*, which is however much larger. It differs from all other small tyrannids by its distinctly structured vocalizations. In 1999, the Zona Reservada Allpahuayo-Mishana was created in an effort to safeguard the largest concentration of these vulnerable white sand habitats in the amazon region of Peru. However, despite this official protection, tree felling poses a continuing threat and it is feared that much of the known population of Mishana Tyrannulet is at risk. A new tody-tyrant, **Lulu's Tody-tyrant** *Poecilotriccus luluae* was described from the north-eastern Andes in Peru (Johnson, N K & Jones, R E 2001. A new species of tody-tyrant (Tyrannidae: *Poecilotriccus*) from northern Peru. Auk 118: 334-341). It occurs in an isolated population in mountain forests (1829-2200 m) of the Cordillera de Colán, Amazonas, Peru. It appears closely related to the allopatric Rufous-crowned Tody-tyrant *P ruficeps peruvianus*, from which it is distributionally separated by the North Peruvian Low.

Finally, **Beijing Flycatcher** *Ficedula beijingnica* was described from Beijing, China (Zheng, G, Song, J, Zhang, Z, Zhang, Y, & Guo, D 2000. A new species of flycatcher (*Ficedula*) from China (Aves: Passeriformes: Muscicapidae). Journ Beijing Normal Univ (Nat Sci) 36: 405-409). Its appearance is close to Narcissus Flycatcher *F narcissina elisae* but it is reported to differ especially in song. André J van Loon

Witstuitbarmsijzen op Texel Op 17 december 2001 ontdekte Arend Wassink een Witstuitbarmsijs *Carduelis hornemanni* vlakbij zijn woning in Zuid-Eierland op Texel, Noord-Holland. De volgende dagen werd deze vogel regelmatig gezien en vanaf 20 december zag AW hier drie exemplaren. Eén van deze vogels of een ander exemplaar werd op die dag waargenomen op het nabijgelegen bungalowpark Slufterduin. De Witstuitbarmsijzen trokken op met een groep van enkele 10-tallen (begin 2002 oplopend naar c 100) Grote Barmsijzen *C flammea* en hooguit enkele Kleine Barmsijzen *C cabaret* en kwamen met regelmaat foerageren op de grond waar dagelijks door AW zaad werd gestrooid.

59 Witstuitbarmsijs / Arctic Redpoll *Carduelis hornemanni*, Zuid-Eierland, Texel, Noord-Holland, 27 december 2001 *(Marc Plomp)*

60 Witstuitbarmsijs / Arctic Redpoll *Carduelis hornemanni*, en Grote Barmsijs / Mealy Redpoll *C flammea*, Zuid-Eierland, Texel, Noord-Holland, 27 december 2001 *(Marc Plomp)*

Hierdoor konden de vogels goed worden bekeken waardoor de bij deze soort lastige determinatie werd vergemakkelijkt. Bijna dagelijks kwamen waarnemers van de vastewal naar het eiland om de vogels te bekijken en op 29 december telde een groep van c 10 vogelaars vier verschillende vogels bij elkaar. Twee waren waarschijnlijk adulte mannetjes op grond van het zeer bleke uiterlijk (vooral de mantel en de onderdelen), de roze tint op de ongestreepte witte stuit en de vage flankstreping; bij één adulte vogel was de flankstreping zelfs bijna afwezig. De andere twee waren meer gestreept, met name op de flank, en iets donkerder van tint. Dit waren waarschijnlijk vrouwtjes of eerstejaars vogels. Alle vier vertoonden – voor zover zichtbaar – ongetekende witte onderstaartdekveren; de warmbruine (gemberkleurige) tint op de kop en bovenborst was met name bij de adulte mannetjes duidelijk te zien. Bij het foerageren op de grond kon goed worden vastgesteld dat de Witstuitbarmsijzen een ander postuur hadden dan Grote Barmsijzen, met een iets groter en dikker lichaam en een verhoudingsgewijs kleine kop met een opvallend kleine snavel. Ook opvallend was de sterkere bevedering van de tibia, die een soort 'broekje' vormde. Op de grond was de witte stuitvlek vaak moeilijk te zien (eigenlijk alleen bij het opvliegen) maar toen de vogels enige tijd bij elkaar in een boompje zaten werden de stuitveren opgezet en was het wit duidelijk zichtbaar. Tot en met tenminste 11 januari 2002 werden de vogels in de omgeving van Zuid-Eierland en bungalowpark Slufterduin gemeld.

Verschillende exemplaren konden op video (zie bijvoorbeeld www.dutchbirding.nl) en foto worden vastgelegd. Tijdens bezoeken op 20, 24 en 30 december slaagde Magnus Robb er in van drie verschillende vogels geluidsopnamen te maken. Bij het foerageren lieten ze vaak een zachte, lage, Groenling *Chloris chloris*-achtige roep horen die niet in het repertoire van Grote Barmsijs lijkt thuis te horen. MR hoorde nooit een harde vluchtroep (de literatuur stelt terecht dat de soort vrij zwijgzaam is) maar soms was er sprake van een vrij hoog vluchtroep-achtig geluid dat in sonagrammen vergelijkbaar is met gepubliceerde opnames en sonagrammen. Bij ruzie lieten de vogels ook een heel hoog geluid horen, vergelijkbaar met de vluchtroep maar in een snellere serie.

Dit waren de eerste Witstuitbarmsijzen in Nederland sinds 1996. De soort vertoont een invasieachtig voorkomen in Nederland. Vaak worden de eerste in oktober-november gezien en nemen na januari de waarnemingen sterk af; er zijn slechts twee nieuw ontdekte vogels voor maart-april. Goede najaren/winters waren in 1962 (11 in oktober-november, waaronder een groep van zeven bij De Cocksdorp, Texel), 1972 (negen in oktober-december), 1975 (20 in november-december), 1988/89 (10 in november-januari) en 1995/96 (23 in november-april, waaronder een groep van vijf bij Baarn, Utrecht). In andere winters ontbraken gevallen of werden maximaal vier vogels vastgesteld. In totaal zijn voor de periode 1800-2000 92 vogels aanvaard. Veel oude gevallen hebben betrekking op ringvangsten, waarbij de determinatie voldoende veilig gesteld kon worden; bij veldwaarnemingen blijft het echter moeilijk om alle kenmerken met zekerheid vast te stellen, zeker als het om minder uitgesproken exemplaren (onvolwassen vogels en vrouwtjes) gaat en als goed foto- of videomateriaal ontbreekt. Geluidsopnamen kunnen ook van nut zijn maar vaak is het moeilijk om in een grote groep barmsijzen het geluid van een of meer Witstuitbarmsijzen te onderscheiden. ENNO B EBELS & AREND WASSINK

ARCTIC REDPOLLS From 16 December 2001 to at least 11 January 2002, up to four Arctic Redpolls *Carduelis hornemanni*, including two presumed adult males, were present in a flock of Mealy Redpolls *C flammea* at Zuid-Eierland, Texel, Noord-Holland, the Netherlands. This is the first record since 1996. In total, 92 birds have been accepted up to 2000, including only two groups of more than four birds (one of five and one of seven).

Triest einde voor Sneeuwuil in Limburg Op maandagochtend 7 januari 2002 ontdekte Rombout Dáumarie een Sneeuwuil *Nyctea scandiaca* in een klein natuurgebied direct langs de snelweg A76 bij Meerssen, Limburg. Hij waarschuwde zijn vader en via Daniel Benders werd het nieuws vervolgens breed verspreid. De uil kon zelfs vanaf de (vluchtstrook van de) snelweg gezien worden en trok vele 10-tallen bezoekers. Nadat het nieuws in de lokale dagbladen bekend gemaakt was kwamen niet alleen vogelaars maar ook journalisten en Harry-Potterfans de uil bewonderen. De laatste belangstelling had de vogel te danken aan de prominente rol die door een Sneeuwuil gespeeld wordt in de populaire boeken en film over het leven van Harry Potter. In het persbericht van het ANP was nota bene sprake van een uil met een spanwijdte van maar liefst 4 m (!); in werkelijkheid bedraagt de spanwijdte maximaal c 1.7 m. Op basis van het zeer witte verenkleed met nauwelijks zwarte vlekking en het ontbreken van bandering op de onderzijde werd de vogel gedetermineerd als (bijna) adult mannetje. De vogel werd regelmatig jagend waargenomen maar met onbekend succes. Op dinsdagochtend 8 januari had de vogel een 'aanvaring' met een passerende vrachtauto en raakte – op het oog – licht gewond. Nadat hij van de vluchtstrook was teruggedreven naar zijn oorspronkelijke ontdekkingsplaats werd de vogel in de avond ook weer jagend waargenomen. Op donderdag 10 januari werd hij in de middag zonder overleg met de terreinbeheerder (Limburgs Landschap) na enige moeite door medewerkers van de politie en van de Dierenambulance gevangen en overgebracht naar vogelopvangcentrum De Mijnstreek in Heerlen, Limburg. Bij controle door een dierenarts bleek hij vermagerd; de vogel was ongeringd. Hij werd diezelfde avond in beslag genomen door de Algemene Inspectie Dienst (AID) en overgebracht naar een opvangcentrum in Koningsbosch, Limburg, omdat bekend werd dat het opvangcentrum in Heerlen geen vergunning had om deze beschermde vogel in beheer te hebben. Op vrijdag 11 januari is de uil in Koningsbosch overleden.

Direct daarop begon het zwartepieten of het gedrag

van vogelaars, fotografen, pers en/of andere belangstellenden en het al dan niet opzettelijk opjagen of het vangen en transporteren van de vogel zou hebben geleid tot de (versnelde) dood van de uil. Deze 'soap' leidde tot een stroom aan meer of minder serieuze berichten in de lokale en landelijke pers, waaronder een uitgebreid stuk op de voorpagina (!) van De Volkskrant op 12 januari. De AID heeft de zaak in onderzoek genomen om te zien of er procedurele fouten of overtredingen zijn begaan. Onderzoek aan de dode uil vindt plaats in het laboratorium in Lelystad, Flevoland.

In de pers verschenen ook verschillende verhalen over de herkomst van de vogel; volgens de directeur van De Mijnstreek had de drie tot vier jaar oude vogel kleine geheelde wondjes aan het ellebooggewricht en gesleten staartpennen en was het op grond daarvan 'zeker een volièrevogel'. Andere mogelijkheden voor wat betreft de herkomst zijn vooralsnog echter zeker niet uitgesloten. Het lijkt goed mogelijk dat de vogel afkomstig is van de groep 'verstekelingen' uit Canada en Groenland die in oktober-december 2001 op schepen in West-Europa arriveerde en op verschillende plaatsen in België en Zuid-Nederland tot waarnemingen leidde (Dutch Birding 23: 396-398, 2001). Begin januari was nog ten minste één exemplaar in België aanwezig, bij Veurne, West-Vlaanderen. Via DNA-onderzoek is misschien zelfs te achterhalen of de vogel inderdaad van Canadese/Groenlandse herkomst kan zijn.

Keer op keer blijkt dat met name zeldzame roofvogels en uilen vatbaar zijn voor dit soort taferelen die gevoed worden door een mengsel van oprechte betrokkenheid van vogelaars, niet-vogelaars en opvangcentra, mogelijke belangen van volièrehouders van al dan niet legaal gehouden vogels, sensatiezucht bij de pers, onduidelijkheid of onwetendheid over wettelijke verantwoordelijkheden en 'claimgedrag' bij verschillende instanties. Voor een klein en voor leken en journalisten weinig aansprekend vogeltje als bijvoorbeeld de Pallas' Boszanger *Phylloscopus proregulus* van Zandvoort, Noord-Holland, meldde zich geen enkele 'beschermer' … Enno B Ebels & Max Berlijn

61 Sneeuwuil / Snowy Owl *Nyctea scandiaca*, adult mannetje, Meerssen, Limburg, 8 januari 2002 *(Marc Plomp)*

Snowy Owl From 7 to 10 January 2002, a (nearly)adult male Snowy Owl *Nyctea scandiaca* was present at Meerssen, Limburg, the Netherlands. On the last day, the weakened bird was taken into care; it died overnight. It was unringed. Further investigations may shed more light on its provenance. It can possibly be linked to the group of ship-assisted Snowy Owls from Canada and Greenland that reached western Europe (especially Belgium and the Netherlands) in October-December 2001 (Dutch Birding 23: 396-398, 2001).

COMBI FOCUS

FOCUS

THOMSONLAAN 96
2565 JE DEN HAAG
TEL.: 070 363 83 98
FAX: 070 361 71 47

KON. JULIANAPLEIN 10
2274 JD VOORBURG
TEL.: 070 386 35 19
FAX: 070 387 60 53

DÉ SPECIAALZAKEN OP HET GEBIED VAN KIJKERS - CAMERA'S - TELESCOPEN - STATIEVEN OPNAMEAPPARATUUR - VIDEO

NIEUWS EN AANBIEDINGEN

Bausch en Lomb Elite 10x42

Een zeer speciale aanbieding van slechts enkele stuks

Normaal f 2499,-
Opruimprijs
€ 800,-

Swarovski telescoop ATS-65

65 mm frontlens, compleet waterdicht
20x W, 30xW en 20-60 zoom beschikbaar.
Nu beperkt beschikbaar!

Prijs op aanvraag

Inruil van kijkers, telescopen en camera's altijd mogelijk

Kom naar de DB-dag op 9-2-2002 voor zeer scherpe aanbiedingen!

CD's met vogelgeluiden

uit bijv. Bolivia, India, Kenia en nog veel meer...

Bel voor uw keuze

Gitzo G1227

Carbon
3 secties
zeer stabiel

Bel voor prijs

Alle apparatuur geleverd met Nederlandse garantie
Verzending mogelijk door heel Nederland
Met 20 jaar veldervaring geheid een goed advies
Inruil van camera's, kijkers e.d. mogelijk

BEL VOOR DE LAATSTE PRIJS!

Prijzen incl. BTW. excl. verzendkosten. Prijswijzigingen voorbehouden.

Bausch & Lomb • Bresser • Bushnell • Bynolyt • Canon • Gitzo • Kowa • Leica • Manfrotto • Minolta • Nikon • Novoflex • Olympus • Optolyth • Pentax • Sigma • Slik • Sony • Swarovski • Swift • Tamron • Zeiss e.v.a.

RAINBOW TOURS

Creating your ideal

We offer quality birding holidays to:

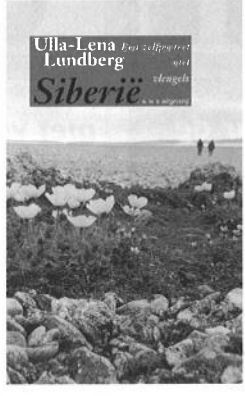
MADAGASCAR, SOUTHERN AFRICA,
UGANDA, ETHIOPIA, TANZANIA,
MAURITIUS & REUNION,
and the SEYCHELLES

Itineraries are tailor made to suit you. For more information, contact us now:
Tel: +44 - 207 - 226 1004
Fax: +44 - 207 - 226 2621
e-mail: info@rainbowtours.co.uk
www.rainbowtours.co.uk

Te koop:

Nikon F 5
Converter 1.4 X - TC 14b
Nikkor 600 AIS (manual)
alles in een koop!

Inlichtingen:
tel. 0223-690141 of 06-22396323



Ulla-Lena Lundberg – *Siberië, een zelfportret met vleugels*

Een boeiend reisverhaal van Ulla-Lena Lundberg die, op zoek naar Siberische vogels, grote delen van Oost-Siberië heeft doorkruist. Tijdens haar reizen heeft ze ook oog gehad voor de menselijke omgeving en het lot van dit door de politiek verscheurde land. Het resultaat is een soort dubbele belichting: het portret van Siberië wordt ook een zelfportret van de schrijfster.

20 x 12,5 cm – 176 pagina's
ISBN 90-74345-29-8 – € 14,95

GMB*uitgeverij*
info@gmbuitgeverij.nl

GMB UITGEVERIJ

Dutch Birding

Chief editor Arnoud van den Berg (tel +31-235378024, fax +31-235376749, e-mail arnoud.van.den.berg@dutchbirding.nl)

Deputy chief editor Enno Ebels (tel +31-302961335, fax +31-302980924, e-mail enno.ebels@dutchbirding.nl)

Executive editor André van Loon (tel / fax +31-206997585, e-mail andre.van.loon@dutchbirding.nl)

Photographic editor René Pop (tel +31-223690141, fax +31-223690142, e-mail rene.pop@dutchbirding.nl)

Editorial board Peter Adriaens, Gunter De Smet, Ferdy Hieselaar, Diederik Kok, Peter Meininger, Gerald Oreel, Roy Slaterus and Roland van der Vliet

Editorial advisory board Peter Barthel, Dick Forsman, Ricard Gutiérrez, Lars Jonsson, Paul Lehman, Anthony McGeehan, Killian Mullarney, Klaus Malling Olsen, Magnus Robb, George Sangster, Hadoram Shirihai and Lars Svensson

Editorial assistants Rob van Bemmelen, Ruud van Dongen, Gerald Driessens, Nils van Duivendijk, Dick Groenendijk, Klaas Haas, Anthony McGeehan, Hans van der Meulen, André van der Plas, Kees Roselaar, René van Rossum and Peter de Rouw

Production and lay-out André van Loon and René Pop

Advertising Laurens Steijn, c/o Dutch Birding, Postbus 75611, 1070 AP Amsterdam e-mail advertising@dutchbirding.nl

Subscriptions The subscription rate for 2002 is: EUR 30.00 (Netherlands), EUR 33.00 (Europe) and EUR 36.00 (countries outside Europe).
A subscription can be entered preferably by sending a Eurocheque, with the amount payable in Dutch guilders, to: Dutch Birding (subscriptions), c/o Jeannette Admiraal, Iepenlaan 11, 1901 ST Castricum, Netherlands. Payment may also be made by credit card (Access, Eurocard, MasterCard or Visa). Please send your credit card type and account number, indicating the expiry date and appending a signature. (Note: this latter method of payment is not applicable to subscribers resident in the Netherlands and Belgium.) British and Irish subscribers are requested to pay exclusively by Sterling cheque (GBP 26.00). The subscription starts upon receipt of payment.

Dutch Birding is a bimonthly journal. It publishes original papers and notes on morphology, systematics, occurrence and distribution of birds in the Benelux, Europe and elsewhere in the Palearctic region. It also publishes contributions on birds in the Asian-Pacific region and other regions.

The sequence of birds in Dutch Birding basically follows a classic 'Wetmore sequence'. Within this framework, the following lists are used for taxonomy and nomenclature: *Rare birds of the Netherlands* by A B van den Berg & C A W Bosman (2001, Haarlem) (taxonomy and scientific, Dutch and English names of birds recorded in the Netherlands); *Palearctic birds* by M Beaman (1994, Stonyhurst) (English names of remaining Palearctic birds); *Vogels van de wereld - complete checklist* by M Walters (1997, Baarn) (Dutch names of remaining birds of the world); and *Birds of the world* by C G Sibley (1996, Version 2.0, Cincinnati) (taxonomy and scientific and English names of remaining birds of the world). For deviations from and additions to these lists see Dutch Birding 19: 21-28, 1997; 20: 22-32, 1998; 24: 22-24, 2002.

A schedule of payment rates for authors, photographers and artists is available from the editors.

Dutch Birding Association

Board Theo Admiraal (treasurer), Gijsbert van der Bent (president, tel +31-714024547), Leon Edelaar, Rob Olivier, Marc Plomp (secretary, tel +31-348433730); also the editors of Dutch Birding have one seat in the board.

Board assistants Jeannette Admiraal, Lucien Davids, Klaas Haas, Marcel Haas, Leo Heemskerk, Sander Lagerveld, Ger Meesters, Arnold Meijer and Leonie Olivier-van Hille.

Dutch rarities committee (CDNA)

Members Theo Bakker, Max Berlijn, Ruud van Beusekom, Bert de Bruin (secretary, tel +31-503139251), Nils van Duivendijk, Jan van der Laan (chairman, tel +31-725203091), Teus Luijendijk and Roland van der Vliet (archivist). The CDNA is a committee of the Dutch Birding Association and the Netherlands Ornithologists' Union.

Dutch committee for avian systematics (CSNA)

Members Arnoud van den Berg, André van Loon, Kees Roselaar, George Sangster (secretary, tel +31-715143790) and Ronald Sluys. The CSNA is a committee of the Dutch Birding Association and the Netherlands Ornithologists' Union.

© 2002 Stichting Dutch Birding Association. The copyright of the photographs and drawings remains with the photographers and artists. ISSN 0167-2878.

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

Dutch Birding

International journal on Palearctic birds

Editors
Dutch Birding
Postbus 116
2080 AC Santpoort-Zuid
Netherlands
fax +31-235376749
e-mail editors@dutchbirding.nl

Photographic editor
Dutch Birding
c/o René Pop
Postbus 1007
1780 EA Julianadorp
Netherlands
e-mail rene.pop@dutchbirding.nl

Subscription administration
c/o Jeannette Admiraal
Iepenlaan 11
1901 ST Castricum
Netherlands
e-mail circulation@dutchbirding.nl

Board
Dutch Birding Association
Postbus 75611
1070 AP Amsterdam
Netherlands
e-mail dba@dutchbirding.nl

Dutch rarities committee
CDNA
Postbus 45
2080 AA Santpoort-Zuid
Netherlands
e-mail cdna@dutchbirding.nl

Dutch committee for avian systematics
CSNA, c/o George Sangster
Stevenshof 17
2312 GM Leiden
Netherlands
e-mail csna@dutchbirding.nl

Internet
www.dutchbirding.nl

Dutch Birding JAARGANG 24 NUMMER 1 2002 *VOLUME 24 NUMBER 1 2002*

Artikelen / papers

1 Pygmy Cormorant in Lys valley, Belgium/France, in December 2000-January 2001 *Christophe Capelle & Gunter De Smet*

7 Izabeltapuiten te IJmuiden in september 2000 en op Schiermonnikoog in oktober 2000 [Isabelline Wheatears at IJmuiden in September 2000 and on Schiermonnikoog in October 2000] *Dirk J Moerbeek, Roy Slaterus, Marc L van der Aa & André J van Loon*

12 Probable breeding of pure American Black Duck pair in the Azores in 2000 *Philippe J Dubois*

Varia

13 Display and territorial behaviour in Western Capercaillie *Miroslav Saniga*

Redactiemededelingen

22 Naamgeving van taxa in Dutch Birding *Redactie Dutch Birding*

24 Wijzigingen binnen redactie; Changes in editorial board

Recensies / reviews

25 *A field guide to the birds of Korea* by Woo-Shin Lee, Tae-Hoe Koo & Jin-Young Park *Arnoud B van den Berg*

25 *Kustbroedvogels in het Noordelijk Deltagebied* door Peter L Meininger, Floor A Arts & Norman D van Swelm *Arnoud B van den Berg*

25 *Shrikes & bush-shrikes. Including wood-shrikes, helmet-shrikes, flycatcher-shrikes, philentomas, batises and wattle-eyes* by Tony Harris & Kim Franklin *R J (Bob) Dowsett*

26 *The birds of the Cayman Islands* by Patricia E Bradley *Enno B Ebels*

26 *Voices of Amazonian birds: Birds of the rain forest of southern Peru and northern Bolivia 1-3* (three audio CDs) by Thomas S Schulenberg, Curtis Marantz & Peter H English; *Voices of Andean birds 1: Birds of the Hill Forest of Southern Peru and Bolivia* (audio CD) by Thomas S Schulenberg; *Voices of Andean birds 2: Birds of the cloud forest of southern Peru and Bolivia* (audio CD) by Thomas S Schulenberg *Sjoerd Mayer*

28 *Birds of Nepal* by Richard Grimmett, Carol Inskipp & Tim Inskipp *Enno B Ebels*

28 *Birds of Seychelles* by Adrian Skerett, Ian Bullock & Tony Disley *Enno B Ebels*

28 *Maleo – De kip met de gouden eieren* door Marc Argeloo *Theo Admiraal*

29 *The birds of Ecuador* (volumes I & II) by Robert S Ridgely & Paul J Greenfield *Laurens Steijn*

30 *Goudplevieren en wilsterflappers: eeuwenoude fascinatie voor trekvogels* door Joop Jukema, Theunis Piersma, Jan B Hulscher, Erik J Bunskoeke, Anita Koolhaas & Arend Veenstra *Gijsbert van der Bent*

31 *Gulls – the gulls of Europe, Asia & North America* (double video) by Bill Oddie & Paul Doherty *Rik Winters & Theo Bakker*

Masters of Mystery

32 Solutions of sixth round 2001: Great Black-backed Gull and Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin *Diederik Kok & Nils van Duivendijk*

38 First round 2002 *Rob van Bemmelen & Dick Groenendijk*

DBA-nieuws / DBA news

40 Programma DBA-vogeldag op 9 februari 2002 te Utrecht; DBA-vogelweek op Texel 2002; Bestuurssamenstelling DBA per 1 januari 2002; Dutch Birding foto-index; Dutch Birding photo index

Total birding

41 Look, don't listen *Anthony McGeehan*

Corrigenda

44

Aankondigingen & verzoeken / announcements & requests

45 Pelagic records in French waters; Dwaalgasten in het hoogveen; Request for photographs of black-eared wheatears; Videoband over Nederlandse meeuwen en sterns; Oproep tot opnemen of doorgeven van nestelende kruisbekken

WP reports

46 WP reports: November-December 2001 *Arnoud B van den Berg*

Recente meldingen / recent reports

60 Nederland: november-december 2001 *Ruud M van Dongen, Klaas Haas & Peter W W de Rouw*

67 België: november-december 2001 *Gerald Driessens*

DB Actueel

70 New species of wagtail; Further new species in 2001; Witstuitbarmsijzen op Texel [Arctic Redpolls]; Triest einde voor Sneeuwuil in Limburg [Snowy Owl]

Voorplaat / front cover

Rosse Waaierstaart / Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas galactotes*, Lesbos, Griekenland, 8 mei 2001 *(René Pop)*

Abstracted & indexed in

Ecological Abstracts, GEOBASE (Geo Abstracts Database), Ornithologische Schriftenschau, Recent Ornithological Literature, Wildlife Review, Zoological Record