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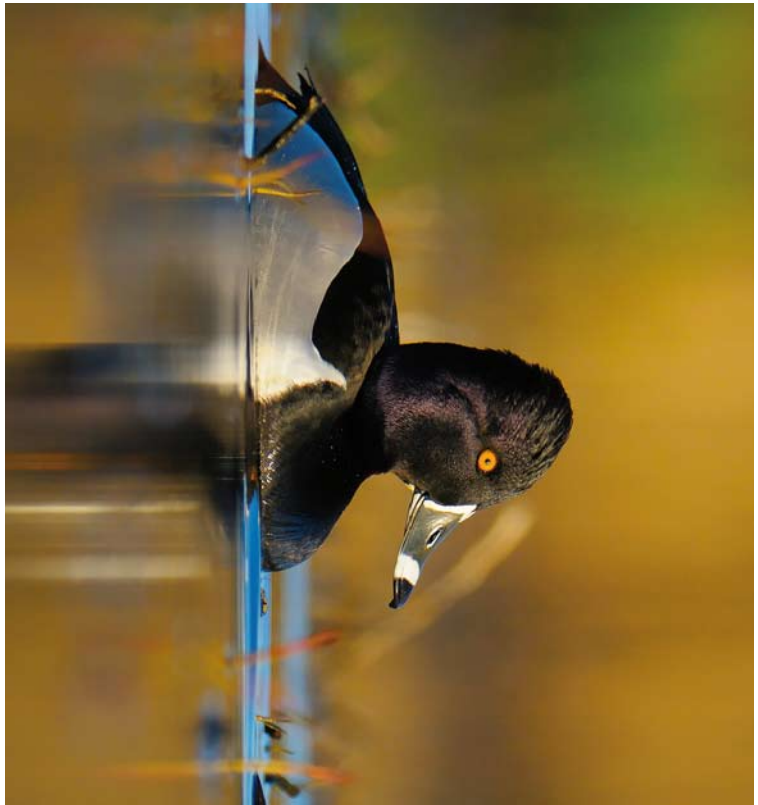

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Dutch Birding is een tweemaandelijks tijdschrift. Het publiceert originele artikelen en mededelingen over morfologie, systematiek, voorkomen en verspreiding van vogels in de Benelux, Europa en elders in het Palearctische gebied. Het publiceert tevens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

Voor taxonomie, volgorde en naamgeving van vogels in Dutch Birding worden de volgende overzichten aangehouden: *Dutch Birding-vogelnamen* door A B van den Berg (2008, Amsterdam; online update 2017, http://tinyurl.com/hfwra7b) (taxonomie en wetenschappelijke, Nederlandse en Engelse namen van West-Palearctische vogels); *The Howard and Moore complete checklist of the birds of the world* (derde editie, door E C Dickinson (redactie) 2003; vierde editie, deel 1, door E C Dickinson & J V Remsen Jr (redactie) 2013) (taxonomie en wetenschappelijke namen van overige vogels van de wereld); en *IOC world bird list 7.1* door F Gill & D Donsker (2017, www.worldbirdnames.org) (Engelse en Nederlandse namen van overige vogels in de wereld; Nederlandse namen door P Vercruijsse en A J van Loon).

Voor (de voorbereiding van) bijzondere publicaties op het gebied van determinatie en/of taxonomie kan het Dutch Birding-fonds aan auteurs een financiële bijdrage leveren (zie Dutch Birding 24: 125, 2001, en www.dutchbirding.nl onder 'Tijdschrift').

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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.

For taxonomy, sequence and nomenclature of birds in Dutch Birding the following lists are used: *Dutch Birding bird names* by A B van den Berg (2008, Amsterdam; online update 2017, http://tinyurl.com/hfwra7b) (taxonomy and scientific, Dutch and English names of Western Palearctic birds); *The Howard and Moore complete checklist of the birds of the world* (third edition, by E C Dickinson (editor) 2003; fourth edition, volume 1, by E C Dickinson & J V Remsen Jr (editors) 2013) (taxonomy and scientific names of remaining birds of the world); and *IOC world bird list 7.1* by F Gill & D Donsker (2017, www.worldbirdnames.org) (English and Dutch names of remaining birds of the world; Dutch names by P Vercruijsse and A J van Loon).

For (preparation of) special publications regarding identification and/or taxonomy, the Dutch Birding Fund can offer financial support to authors (see Dutch Birding 24: 125, 2001, and www.dutchbirding.nl under 'Journal').

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JAARGANG 39 NUMMER 2 2017 *VOLUME 39 NUMBER 2 2017*

Artikelen / papers

73 Bijzondere legsels uit Nederland in collectie van Naturalis Biodiversity Center [RARE CLUTCHES FROM THE NETHERLANDS IN COLLECTION OF NATURALIS BIODIVERSITY CENTER] *Justin J F J Jansen & C S (Kees) Roselaar*
81 Bruine Klauwier in Den Helder in februari-maart 2017 *Peter Das, Conny Das & Enno B Ebels*

86 New breeding colony of Yellow-legged Gull at Port Fouad, Egypt, in May 2016 *Mohamed Habib*
87 Presumed Pigeon Guillemots of subspecies *snowi* off Hokkaido, Japan, in February 2016 *Gerry Hinchon*
89 Lesser Moorhen captured off Laxe, Spain, in February 2000 *Pablo Pita Criado & Manuel Pose Picado*
92 Western Palearctic list update: deletion of Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Miguel Rouco & Comité de Rarezas de SEO/BirdLife*
94 Western Palearctic list update: deletion of Louisiana Waterthrush *Miguel Rouco & Comité de Rarezas de SEO/BirdLife*
97 Herziening Nederlandse avifaunistische lijst: Moltoni's Baardgrasmus afgevoerd [REVIEW OF DUTCH AVIFAUNAL LIST: DELETION OF MOLTONI'S WARBLER] *Steve C V Geelhoed & Enno B Ebels*
101 Long-tailed Shrike breeding at Atyrau, Kazakhstan, in June-August 2016 *Fedor Sarayev*
103 Olive-backed Pipits and Yellow-browed Warblers at Cap Blanc peninsula, Mauritania, in November 2016 *Rob S A van Bemmelen, Tom van Spanje & C J (Kees) Camphuysen*

Varia

106 Vanuatu Petrel *Pierre M A van der Wielen & Roland E van der Vliet*
111 Inaccessible Island Rail *Garry Bakker*

WP reports

118 February to mid-March 2017 *Łukasz Ławicki & Arnoud B van den Berg*

Recente meldingen / recent reports

133 Januari-februari 2017 *Roy Slaterus, Vincent van der Spek & Martijn Renders*

DB Actueel

141 Zwartkoprietzanger in Brabantse Biesbosch [MOUSTACHED WARBLER]; New species described in 2016

Voorplaat / front cover

Ringsnaveleend / Ring-necked Duck *Aythya collaris*, mannetje, Kołobrzeg, Pomerania, Polen, 15 april 2016 *(Miłosz Kowalewski)*

Bijzondere legsels uit Nederland in collectie van Naturalis Biodiversity Center

Justin J F J Jansen & C S (Kees) Roselaar

Op 9 augustus 1820 werd bij Koninklijk besluit door koning Willem I het 's Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie opgericht. Dit museum (nu Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden) had als doel het verwerven, conserveren en bestuderen van natuurhistorische collecties. De eerste eiercollectie die werd ingebracht in het nieuwe museum betrof 125 eieren uit de collectie van de eerste directeur, Coenraad Jacob Temminck (1778-1858). Van 21 legsels van 20 soorten in deze collectie is bekend dat deze uit Nederland kwamen; bijna zonder uitzondering waren dit tevens de eerst gedocumenteerde broedgevallen voor Nederland. De meer bijzondere legsels in Temmincks collectie zijn die van Kwartelkoning *Crex crex* en Griel *Burhinus oedicnemus* en twee van Grauwe Kiekendief *Circus pygargus*. In 2016 bevatte de collectie van Naturalis 118 635 eieren uit 37 758 legsels uit c 128 landen. Grootleveranciers waren Max Bartels sr (7318 eieren), Jan-Hendrik Becking (5955), Louis Coomans de Ruiter (2298), Willem P J Hellebrekers (11 382), Willem C van Heurn (2402), Andries Hoogerwerf (2536), Frederik P Penard (14 653), Frans E M de Roy van Zuidewijn (4641), Hendrik C Siebers (1979) en Tsjeerd G de Vries (10 207) (cf Hellebrekers 1943, 1967, Roselaar & Vlek 2011). De vroegste gedateerde legsels zijn van juni 1820 uit Java, Indonesië (verzameld door Heinrich Boie en Christiaan Macklot). Het eerste volledig gedocumenteerde broedgeval uit Nederland is dat van een Visdief *Sterna hirundo* van juli 1831 in de huidige Haarlemmermeer, Noord-Holland (verzameld door Temmincks opvolger als directeur, Hermann Schlegel (1804-1884)). In totaal 4275 legsels (12 646 eieren) hebben onvoldoende verzamelgegevens met betrekking tot datum (maand) en jaartal.

De omvang van verzamelactiviteiten door de jaren heen laat een duidelijk patroon zien: tot 1860 werd slechts een enkel legsel verzameld en daarna was er gedurende korte tijd een piek (1860-63). Het vermoeden is dat Temminck nog niet de waarde van zo compleet mogelijke datasets inzag maar zijn opvolger Schlegel wel. Na het overlijden van Temminck werkte hij hard aan de collectie, soms werden zelfs met terugwerkende kracht data toegevoegd aan de etiketten. Schlegel probeerde niet alleen de eiercollectie in orde te krijgen maar probeerde ook zo'n groot mogelijke variatie in verenkleden te verwerven voor het museum. Na een terugval volgde een geleidelijke stijging tussen 1905 en 1948, dan iets lagere aantallen tot 1952 en een sterke daling daarna. Vooral de afgenomen interesse voor de oölogie ligt hieraan ten grondslag. De aanvoer kwam nagenoeg tot stilstand in 1988 en slechts een enkel legsel volgde tot 2010.

De gevallen in dit artikel komen uit een gegevensbestand dat werd samengesteld door Kees (C S) Roselaar (afgesloten op 24 april 2012) en aangevuld met data door Justin Jansen. Echter, niet alle legsels zijn fysiek onderzocht (onder meer door de sluiting van het museum ten behoeve van de verbouwing in 2016-18). De criteria van de Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA) zoals vermeld in van den Berg & Bosman (1999, 2001) zijn overgenomen: ***1*** tijdstip ten minste tot op de maand bekend, en ***2*** locatie ten minste tot op provincie bekend.

In onderstaand overzicht worden de in Nederland verzamelde legsels in de collectie van Naturalis van beoordeelsoorten, onregelmatige broedvogels en voormalige broedvogels gepresenteerd. Per legsel zijn de volgende gegevens opgenomen: jaartal, datum (ten minste op maand nauwkeurig), locatie (ten minste op provincie nauwkeurig), *gemeente* (indeling per 1 januari 2017), provincie, aantal eieren en vinder.

Systematische lijst van bijzondere legsels

Witoogeend / Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca*
1914 18 juni, Steenwijkerwold, *Steenwijkerland*, Overijssel, zes eieren (P de Jonge).
1918 16 juni, Kalenberg, Oldemarkt, *Steenwijkerland*, Overijssel, zes eieren (P de Jonge).
1919 13 mei, Ankeveen, *Wijdemeren*, Noord-Holland, 11 eieren (T G de Vries).
1943 22 mei, Botshol, Vinkeveen, *De Ronde Venen*,

107 Legsels van Steppehoen / Pallas's Sandgrouse *Syrrhaptes paradoxus* (verzameld op Texel, Noord-Holland, op 6 juni 1888 (rechts) en te Anna-Paulownapolder, Noord-Holland, op 19 juni 1888), Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, 13 november 2013 *(Justin J F J Jansen/Naturalis Biodiversity Center)*

Noord-Holland, 10 eieren (H F van der Lee).
1944 juni, Botshol, Vinkeveen, *De Ronde Venen*, Noord-Holland, vijf eieren (H F van der Lee).
1945 11 juli, Botshol, Vinkeveen, *De Ronde Venen*, Noord-Holland, 10 eieren (W Derksen).
1947 14 juni, Botshol, Vinkeveen, *De Ronde Venen*, Noord-Holland, één ei (C J Neijssel).

CDNA-beoordeelsoort tot 1 januari 1978 en CDNA-registratiesoort in 1979-88. Een geval bij Lekkerkerk, Zuid-Holland, in 1956 (acht eieren; A Eriks) mist de verzamelmaand.

Pijlstaart / Northern Pintail *Anas acuta*
11 legsels uit 1923-73. Het legsel uit Overloon/Merselo, Noord-Brabant/Limburg, van 29 april 1923 (zeven eieren; T G de Vries) betreft het eerste gedocumenteerde broedgeval voor Nederland (van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

Korhoen / Black Grouse *Tetrao tetrix*
17 legsels tussen 1908 en 1967.

Roodhalsfuut / Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps grisegena*
1927 26 mei, Kortenhoef, *Wijdemeren*, Noord-Holland, vijf eieren (T G de Vries).

Dit betreft het eerste gedocumenteerde broedgeval voor Nederland (van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

Steppehoen / Pallas's Sandgrouse *Syrrhaptes paradoxus*
1888 6 juni, Texel, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, drie eieren (H Schut; plaat 107); 19 juni, Anna-Paulownapolder, *Hollands Kroon*, Noord-Holland, drie eieren (D van Foreest; plaat 107).

CDNA-beoordeelsoort. Twee legsels voldoen niet aan de CDNA-criteria, één uit juni 1890 van een onbekende locatie in Nederland, waarvan de eieren in het wild zijn gelegd en niet zijn uitgekomen in een broedmachine in Artis (drie eieren), en een legsel eveneens in het wild gelegd en naar Artis verscheept (één ei), zonder bekend jaar en bekende locatie.

Kleinst Waterhoen / Baillon's Crake *Zapornia pusilla*
1863 juni, Valkenswaard, *Valkenswaard*, Noord-Brabant, vier eieren (verzamelaar onbekend).
1909 24 juni, Vlijmen, *Heusden*, Noord-Brabant, drie eieren (A A van Pelt Lechner).
1937 18 juni, Giethoorn, *Steenwijkerland*, Overijssel, vier eieren (C J Neijssel).
1971 23 juli, Bijlmermeer, *Amsterdam*, Noord-Holland, één ei (A A Hinloopen).

Zie Jansen (2012). CDNA-beoordeelsoort tot 1 januari 2006.

Grote Trap / Great Bustard *Otis tarda*
1948 27 mei, Castricum, *Castricum*, Noord-Holland, twee eieren (J Benjamin).

CDNA-beoordeelsoort vanaf 1 januari 1986. Een legsel gevonden in 1914-18 bij Ballum, Ameland, Friesland (één ei; D Woltman), mist de datering tot op maand en jaar.

Kwak / Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*
1947 juli, Brabantse Biesbosch, *Drimmelen*, Noord-Brabant, één ei (T Lebret); juli, Brabantse Biesbosch, *Drimmelen*, Noord-Brabant, één ei (halve dop) (T Lebret).

Een geval bij Hilversum/Loosdrecht, Noord-Holand (één ei; D Veenman) is onvoldoende gedateerd. Een geval uit Polder de Honderddertig, Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant, in 1949 (één ei; C J Verhey) kent geen verzamelmaand.

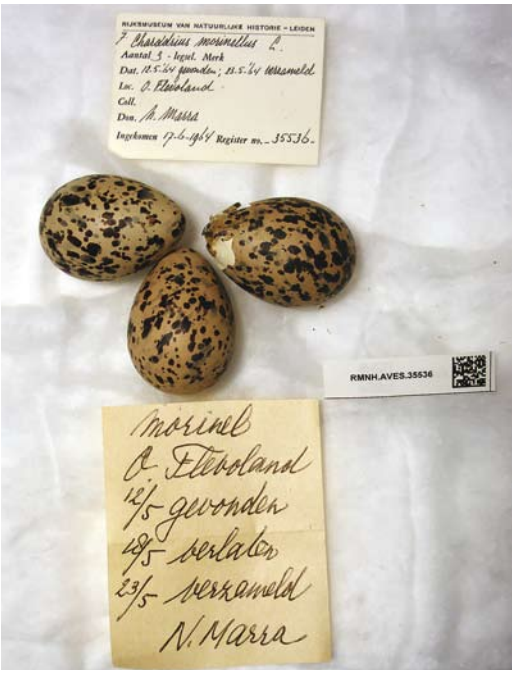
Griel / Eurasian Stone-curlew *Burhinus oedicnemus*
1860 juni, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (verzamelaar onbekend).
1861 15 juni, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (verzamelaar onbekend).
1862 3 mei, Noordwijk, *Noordwijk*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (verzamelaar onbekend); 14 mei, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (verzamelaar onbekend; plaat 108); 15 mei, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (verzamelaar onbekend); 23 mei, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (verzamelaar onbekend); 25 juni, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (verzamelaar onbekend).
1863 10 mei, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (verzamelaar onbekend).
1864 4 mei, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (verzamelaar onbekend); 4 mei, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, één ei (verzamelaar onbekend); 18 mei, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, drie eieren (verzamelaar onbekend).
1866 22 mei, Noordwijk, *Noordwijk*, Zuid-Holland, drie eieren (verzamelaar onbekend).
1905 Texel, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, één ei (J G Roeleveld).
1906 24 mei, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, één ei (W C van Heurn).
1907 16 mei, Overveen, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland, twee eieren (T G de Vries).
1910 juni, Bloemendaal, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland, twee eieren (A Burdet).
1919 23 mei, Vogelenzang, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland, twee eieren (J P Strijbos).
1920 9 mei, Vogelenzang, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland, twee eieren (H J Vermeulen).
1924 7 juli, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (W Hellebrekers).
1925 12 juni, Vogelenzang, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland, twee eieren (T G de Vries).
1926 22 april, Zandvoort, *Zandvoort*, Noord-Holland, één ei (T G de Vries).
1927 30 april, Wassenaar, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (A Sinnema sr).
1935 mei, Bergen, *Bergen*, Noord-Holland, twee eieren (J G Roeleveld).
1938 7 mei, Vogelenzang, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland, twee eieren (C J Neijssel); mei, Bergen, *Bergen*, Noord-Holland, één ei (J G Roeleveld).
1941 30 mei, Bergen, *Bergen*, Noord-Holland, één ei (T G de Vries).
1947 4 mei, Zandvoort, *Zandvoort*, Noord-Holland, één ei (C J Neijssel).
1949 15 juni, Bergen, *Bergen*, Noord-Holland, één ei (T G de Vries).
1952 13 juni, Noordwijk, *Noordwijk*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (A Eriks).

CDNA-beoordeelsoort tot 2008. Zes legsels missen een maand en jaartal: vóór 1820, onbekende locatie (één ei; C J Temminck); Overveen, Bloemendaal, Noord-Holland (één ei; E Burdet); Noordwijk, Zuid-Holland (negen eieren; verzamelaar onbekend); Castricum, Noord-Holland (twee eieren; J P Strijbos); Santpoort, Velsen, Noord-Holland (één ei; A A van Pelt Lechner); en Noordwijk, Zuid-Holland (één ei; F A Verster van Wulverhorst).

Steltkluut / Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*
1925 25 mei, Hindeloopen, *Súdwest-Fryslân*, Friesland, één ei (L Coomans de Ruiter).
1935 17 mei, Zaandam, *Zaanstad*, Noord-Holland, twee eieren (W Hellebrekers & C J Neijssel); 14 juni, Hulst, *Hulst*, Zeeland, drie eieren (W Hellebrekers); juni, Wijde Wormer, *Wormerland*, Noord-Holland, drie eieren (J Drijver).
1954 10 juni, Philippine, *Terneuzen*, Zeeland, drie eieren (W Hellebrekers).
1958 4 juni, Biddinghuizen, *Dronten*, Flevoland, drie eieren (H N Kluyver).

CDNA-registratiesoort in 1976-88. In van den Berg & Bosman (1999) wordt 1931 als jaar van het eerste broedgeval opgevoerd (cf Ardea 20: 150-152, 1931 (foto's)). De twee eieren uit één nest van 17 mei 1935 zijn verdeeld.

108 Legsel van Griel / Eurasian Stone-curlew *Burhinus oedicnemus* (verzameld te Wassenaar, Zuid-Holland, op 14 mei 1862), Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, 6 november 2009 *(Justin J F J Jansen/ Naturalis Biodiversity Center)*



109 Legsel van Morinelplevier / Eurasian Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus* (verzameld te Dronten, Flevoland, op 12 mei 1964), Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, 6 november 2009 *(Justin J F J Jansen/ Naturalis Biodiversity Center)*

110 Legsel van Witwangstern / Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* (verzameld te Nederweert, Limburg, in juni 1938), Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, 6 november 2009 *(Justin J F J Jansen/ Naturalis Biodiversity Center)*

Goudplevier / Eurasian Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*
21 goed gedocumenteerde legsels en twee niet gedocumenteerde; zie ook Jansen (2014b).

Morinelplevier / Eurasian Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus*
1964 12 mei, Dronten, *Dronten*, Flevoland, drie eieren (N Marra sr; plaat 109).

Bonte Strandloper / Dunlin *Calidris alpina*
26 goed gedocumenteerde legsels en één niet gedocumenteerd legsel; zie ook Jansen (2014b).

Bosruiter / Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*
10 legsels; zie ook Jansen (2014b).

Zwartkopmeeuw / Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*
1969 juni, Verdronken Land van Saeftinge, *Hulst*, Zeeland, twee eieren (M van der Vloet).
1986 1 juli, Bollekamer, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, twee eieren (M C Stoepker).
CDNA-registratiesoort in 1978-88.

Zwartkopmeeuw x Stormmeeuw / Mediterranean x Common Gull *Larus melanocephalus x canus canus*
1984 juni, Europoort, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, één ei (N D van Swelm).
Een legsel op Schouwen, Zeeland, in 1934 (twee eieren; P Berrevoets) is onvoldoende gedateerd.

Lachstern / Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica*
1945 4 juli, Klievertocht, Wieringermeer, *Hollands Kroon*, Noord-Holland, één ei (H F van der Lee).
1949 19 juni, De Beer, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, één ei (G A Brouwer); 20 juni, De Beer, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (F P J Kooijmans).
1951 juni, De Beer, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, één ei (W Korfmaker).
CDNA-beoordeelsoort in 1982-92.

Witwangstern / Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*
1938 juni, Nederweert, *Nederweert*, Limburg, één ei (A Burdet; plaat 110).
1945 18 juni, Eempolder, *Baarn*, Utrecht, twee eieren (G A de Vries).
CDNA-beoordeelsoort tot 1 januari 1996. Het geval uit 1938 betekent het eerste broedgeval voor Nederland.

Ruigpootuil / Tengmalm's Owl *Aegolius funereus*
1974 21 juni, Gasselte, *Aa en Hunze*, Drenthe, één ei (K H Voous). Het betreft een verlaten ei, aangetroffen na het broedseizoen. CDNA-beoordeelsoort.

Hop / Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops*
1863 16 juli, Valkenswaard, *Valkenswaard*, Noord-Brabant, vier eieren (verzamelaar onbekend).
1891 17 mei, Zelhem, *Bronckhorst*, Gelderland, één ei (C J Neijssel).
1898 21 mei, Deurne, *Deurne*, Noord-Brabant, vijf eieren (T G de Vries).

CDNA-registratiesoort in 1976-88. Drie gevallen zijn onvoldoende gedocumenteerd: Sint Michielsgestel, Noord-Brabant, in 1890 (één ei; F E M de Roy van Zuidewijn); Noord-Brabant (twee eieren; verzamelaar onbekend); en Heythuysen, Limburg (twee eieren; A A van Pelt Lechner).

Middelste Bonte Specht / Middle Spotted Woodpecker *Dendropicos medius*
1860 23 juni, Zeist, *Zeist*, Utrecht, zes eieren (A A van Bemmelen).
1862 8 juli, Zeist, *Zeist*, Utrecht, acht eieren (A A van Bemmelen).

CDNA-beoordeelsoort tot 1997. Bij een legsel uit Amerongen, Utrecht, in 1895 (één ei; A A van Pelt Lechner) ontbreekt de maand.

Roodkopklauwier / Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*
1860 13 mei, Valkenswaard, *Valkenswaard*, Noord-Brabant, vijf eieren (verzamelaar onbekend; plaat 111).
1862 17 juni, Valkenswaard, *Valkenswaard*, Noord-Brabant, vijf eieren (verzamelaar onbekend).
1863 3 mei Valkenswaard, *Valkenswaard*, Noord-Brabant, vier eieren (verzamelaar onbekend; plaat 111); 5 juni, Valkenswaard, *Valkenswaard*, Noord-Brabant, vier eieren (verzamelaar onbekend; plaat 111).
1906 13 juni, Griendtsveen, *Horst aan de Maas*, Limburg, drie eieren (T G de Vries).
1909 21 mei, Hillenraedt, Swalmen, *Roermond*, Limburg, twee eieren (W Hellebrekers).
1910 10 juni, Griendtsveen, *Horst aan de Maas*, Limburg, zes eieren (T G de Vries).
1930 28 mei, Twente, *Hof van Twente*, Overijssel, één ei (A Sinnema sr).
1942 6 juni, Kotten, *Winterswijk*, Gelderland, vier eieren (C J Neijssel).

CDNA-beoordeelsoort tot 2003. Een geval bij Hilversum, Noord-Holland, uit 1879 (één ei; J G Roeleveld) is onvoldoende gedateerd.

Raaf / Northern Raven *Corvus corax*
1896 18 april, Boschberg, ten zuidoosten van Appelscha, *Ooststellingwerf*, Friesland, vier eieren (T G de Vries).
1901 13 maart, Rozendaal, *Rozendaal*, Gelderland, vier eieren (L Joekes).

111 Legsels van Roodkopklauwier / Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator* (verzameld te Valkenswaard, Noord-Brabant, op 13 mei 1860 (links), 3 mei 1863 (midden) en 5 juni 1863 (rechts), Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, 6 november 2009 *(Justin J F J Jansen/Naturalis Biodiversity Center)*

112 113
114 115

112 Legsel van Waterrietzanger / Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* (verzameld te Ossenzijl, Overijssel, op 3 juni 1904), Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, 6 november 2009 *(Justin J F J Jansen/Naturalis Biodiversity Center)* **113** Legsel van Waterrietzanger / Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* (verzameld te Kleine Wielen, Tytsjerk (Tietjerk), Friesland, op 1 juni 1923), Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, 6 november 2009 *(Justin J F J Jansen/ Naturalis Biodiversity Center)* **114** Legsel van Waterrietzanger / Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* (verzameld te Earnewâld (Eernewoude), Friesland, op 13 mei 1924), Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, 6 november 2009 *(Justin J F J Jansen/Naturalis Biodiversity Center)* **115** Legsel van Waterrietzanger / Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* (verzameld te Boarnburgum (Boornbergum), Friesland, op 24 mei 1929), Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, 6 november 2009 *(Justin J F J Jansen/Naturalis Biodiversity Center)*

1904 19 maart, Beetsterzwaag, *Opsterland*, Friesland, vijf eieren (A A van Pelt Lechner).

Kuifleeuwerik / Crested Lark *Galerida cristata*
35 gedateerde en vier ongedateerde legsels uit 1902-62.
CDNA-beoordeelsoort vanaf 1 januari 2015.

Waterrietzanger / Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola*
1904 3 juni, Ossenzijl, *Steenwijkerland*, Overijssel, vier eieren (W Hellebrekers; plaat 112).
1923 1 juni, Kleine Wielen, Tytsjerk (Tietjerk), *Tytsjerksteradiel*, Friesland, drie eieren (T G de Vries; plaat 113).
1924 13 mei, Earnewâld (Eernewoude), *Tytsjerksteradiel*, Friesland, vier eieren (W Hellebrekers; plaat 114).
1929 24 mei, Boarnburgum (Boornbergum), *Smallingerland*, Friesland, vijf eieren (A Sinnema; plaat 115).
1933 19 mei, Nieuwkoop, *Nieuwkoop*, Noord-Holland, zes eieren (W Hellebrekers; plaat 116).
1935 20 mei, Earnewâld (Eernewoude), *Tytsjerksteradiel*, Friesland, vijf eieren (T G de Vries; plaat 117).
1941 29 mei, Belt-Schutsloot, *Steenwijkerland*, Overijssel, drie eieren (C J Neijssel).
1945 24 mei, Ryptsjerk (Rijperkerk), *Tytsjerksteradiel*,

116

117

118

116 Legsel van Waterrietzanger / Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* (verzameld te Nieuwkoop, Noord-Holland, op 19 mei 1933), Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, 6 november 2009 *(Justin J F J Jansen/Naturalis Biodiversity Center)* **117** Legsel van Waterrietzanger / Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* (verzameld te Earnewâld (Eernewoude), Friesland op 20 mei 1935), Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, 6 november 2009 *(Justin J F J Jansen/Naturalis Biodiversity Center)* **118** Legsel van Waterrietzanger / Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* (verzameld te Ryptsjerk (Rijperkerk), Friesland, op 24 mei 1945), Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, 6 november 2009 *(Justin J F J Jansen/Naturalis Biodiversity Center)*

Friesland, zes eieren (T G de Vries; plaat 118).
CDNA-beoordeelsoort tot 1992.

Graszanger / Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*
1976 3 oktober, Dijkgat, Wieringermeer, *Hollands Kroon*, Noord-Holland, twee eieren die achterbleven nadat de drie jongen waren uitgevlogen; nest verzameld (L Zijlstra).
CDNA-beoordeelsoort tot 1 januari 2000.

Waterspreeuw / White-throated Dipper *Cinclus cinclus*
1915 29 mei, Wijlre, *Gulpen-Wittem*, Limburg, vijf eieren (C J Neijssel).
CDNA-registratiesoort in 1976-88.

Engelse Kwikstaart / Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flavissima*
1921 juni, Loosduinen, *Den Haag*, Zuid-Holland, drie eieren (W Hellebrekers)

Duinpieper / Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris*
10 gedateerde en drie ongedateerde legsels uit 1862-1960.

Grauwe Gors / Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*
14 gedateerde en vier ongedateerde legsels uit 1907-54.

Ortolaan / Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*
12 gedateerde en twee ongedateerde legsels uit 1862-1963.

Nader te onderzoeken legsels

Beflijster / Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*
1915 24 mei, Noordwijk, *Noordwijk*, Zuid-Holland, twee eieren (Jan Verwey).
Dit is het enige gedocumenteerde broedgeval in een museum (en tevens een nieuwe broedvogelsoort voor Nederland). Het legsel kon echter door de tijdelijke verbouwingssluiting van de collectie nog niet worden onderzocht.

Twijfelachtige legsels

De collectie van Naturalis bevat legsels van twijfelachtige herkomst en/of onzekere determinatie

van Bokje *Lymnocryptes minimus* (acht legsels, alle uit Friesland) en Rosse Grutto *Limosa lapponica* (1887-88, Vlijmen, Noord-Brabant, één ei (ongelegd en bij het prepareren van een geschoten vogel veiliggesteld); F E de Roy van Zuidewijn) (van Erve et al 1967: 31). Voor Poelsnip *Gallinago media*, zie Jansen (2014a).

Bovengenoemde soorten (behalve Poelsnip) zijn niet vastgesteld als broedvogel in Nederland, en mogelijk was fraude in het spel – fraude is niet onbekend uit andere collecties (Knox 1993).

Ook zijn de legsels van J G Roeleveld (1910-88) (zie Griel, Roodkopklauwier) verdacht, deze kwamen via de Officier van Justitie in april 1950 in het museum binnen. Roeleveld bouwde in zijn woonplaats Eerbeek, Gelderland, aan een 'ark' van dode dieren die na het vergaan van de aarde weer tot leven gewekt zouden worden. In 1982 werden een kwart miljoen van zijn objecten (vooral opgezette vogels, maar ook veren, nesten, eieren, vogelschedels, zoogdieren, gesteenten, koralen, schelpen, vlinders, insecten etc) in beslag genomen. Een deel verdween in de vuilstort en een deel werd geveild.

Summary

Rare clutches from the Netherlands in collection of Naturalis Biodiversity Center The egg collection of Naturalis Biodiversity Center at Leiden, the Netherlands – founded in 1820 – contains no less then 118 635 eggs from 37 758 clutches from c 128 countries. Some of these clutches are from the rarest Dutch breeding species. In this paper, we describe these clutches, based on a database finalized in 2012. Notable are the clutches from Pallas's Sandgrouse *Syrrhaptes paradoxus* (1888; two), Great Bustard *Otis tarda* (1948), Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* (1945, 1949 and 1951) and Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* (1904, 1923, 1924, 1929, 1933, 1935, 1941 and 1945).

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Bruine Klauwier in Den Helder in februari-maart 2017

Peter Das, Conny Das & Enno B Ebels

Op zondag 19 februari 2016 gingen Conny Das en ik (Peter Das) op de fiets via Huisduinen naar het Timorpark in Den Helder, Noord-Holland. Daar zagen we rond 13:00 enkele Koperwieken *Turdus iliacus* waar CD haar aandacht aan gaf; zelf ging ik naar de Liniedijk waar al verschillende malen een IJsvogel *Alcedo atthis* was gemeld. CD riep echter opgewonden dat ik moest komen, want zij zag 'een rare mus'. Het duurde even voordat ik hem in beeld kreeg tussen de takken en ik zag ook dat het iets bijzonders was – gauw pakte ik de camera en probeerde foto's te maken. Dat lukte niet omdat hij onrustig was en zich steeds verplaatste; we 'achtervolgden' hem totdat we toch een paar goede foto's hadden. Toen we samen op het beeldschermpje keken konden we hem nog steeds niet determineren, mede omdat we nog maar een paar jaar vogelen. We verstuurden een foto via de Whatsapp-groep van Vogelwerkgroep Den Helder en vroegen om hulp. De antwoorden kwamen snel, eerst de suggesties Daurische Klauwier *Lanius isabellinus* of eerste-winter Grauwe Klauwier *L collurio* en daarna de juiste naam: Bruine Klauwier *L cristatus*, een zeer zeldzame soort uit Oost-Azië. Na de bekendmaking werd hij om c 14:00 gezien door c 15 waarnemers en daarna alleen nog kortstondig om 16:00 door c vijf waarnemers; in het kleine maar onoverzichtelijke stadspark bleek het dus lastig om hem terug te vinden. De volgende ochtend en de weken daarna werd hij dagelijks gezien maar vaak was hij ook uren onvindbaar; het bleek dat zijn areaal zich uitstrekte tot de tuinen achter de woningen aan de Borneolaan, de begroeiing langs het Liniepad en de singels bij de sportvelden ten zuiden van de Middenweg. De

119 Bruine Klauwier / Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*, eerste-winter, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 19 februari 2017 *(Conny & Peter Das)*

laatste waarneming dateert van 7 maart; hij leek die dag in minder goede conditie.

Beschrijving

De beschrijving is gebaseerd op foto's van vele 10-tallen fotografen (www.dutchbirding.nl, www.waarneming.nl) en videobeelden van onder meer Leo Boon, Pieter Doorn en Luuk Punt (www.waarneming.nl, www.youtube.com).

GROOTTE & BOUW Middelgrote zangvogel met stevige en vrij lange snavel met gekromde boven- en ondersnavel en haakvormige punt, vrij lange staart en naar verhouding grote kop. Handpenprojectie relatief kort, geschat 60-65%. In zit vijf handpennen zichtbaar. Staart smal en getrapt met afgeronde staartpunt. Buitenste pennen duidelijk korter dan overige (zichtbaar in vlucht). Vleugelformule: lange p1, ver voorbij handpendekveren stekend, p2 ongeveer gelijk aan p6 of tussen p6 en p7 vallend, p3 langst.

KOP Bovenkop kastanjebruin. Masker donkerbruin tot zwartbruin, scherp afgezet achter oog en vaag doorlopend op teugel. Korte en smalle witte wenkbrauwstreep, vaag aan voorzijde van oog, opvallend boven en achter oog en bijna tot einde van masker lopend; niet doorlopend tot boven snavel. Wenkbrauwstreep verbredend achter oog. Onderwang, kin en keel crèmewit. Nek iets lichter kastanjebruin dan bovenkop.

BOVENDELEN Mantel kastanjebruin zonder schubtekening, iets lichter dan bovenkop. Stuit kastanjebruin als bovenkop.

ONDERDELEN Flank en bovenborst vuilwit met prominent bruin schubpatroon, gescheiden van keel door warmbruine aanzet van borstband vanaf schouder. Flank tot anaalstreek met gemberkleurig waas. Onderstaartdekveren en buik vuilwit.

VLEUGEL Tertials met donkerbruin centrum en warmbruine randen, breedst aan binnenste tertial. Grote vleugeldekveren met donker centrum en warmbruine randen; binnenste grote dekveren met donkere subterminale tekening aan top. Handpennen en armpennen donkerbruin. Handdekveren donkerbruin met smalle lichte top. Alula donkerbruin met lichtbruine zoom.

STAART Bovenstaart kastanjebruin, als stuit. Meest rossig deel op basale zijden en centrale staartpennen wat donkerder. Buitenvlag van buitenste staartpen licht (lichtbruin tot crèmekleurig).

NAAKTE DELEN Snavel overwegend licht, met lichtgrijze basis op basale helft tot twee derde, en donkere snavelpunt. Poot grijs. Oog donker, bijna zwart.

RUI & SLEET Geen ruicontrast zichtbaar in vleugel.

GELUID Bij opjagen door Sperwer *Accipiter nisus* geagiteerd, krassend en snel herhaald *tjè tjè tjè* (Frank Coenjaerts pers meded).

GEDRAG Jagend vanaf struik of vanuit boom en dan voor prooidier naar grond duikend; regelmatig op molshoop zittend. Actief foeragerend (regelmatig prooien vangend) en zich verplaatsend van bosjescluster naar bosjescluster. Meestal rustend op 1-5 m boven maaiveld, soms hoger in bomen. Ook soms rustend in riet. Prooidieren: insecten (lieveheersbeestjes, bijen, wespen en hommels), regenwormen en kleine zoogdieren (muizen), mogelijk ook op kleine zangvogels (bij zangvogels (mezen) onzeker of deze daadwerkelijk als prooi dienst deden). Ook foeragerend op uitgelegde meelwormen (25 februari). Niet schuw, vaak jagend of rustend op c 10 m van vogelaars en fotografen en soms naar deze toe vliegend. Vanaf 4 maart teek aanwezig onder rechteroog; op 7 maart teek sterk gegroeid (www.waarneming.nl).

Determinatie en leeftijd

De donkere schubjes op de bovenstaartdekveren, schouderveren en mantel en donkere subterminale randen aan de handpendekveren en binnenste grote dekveren wijzen op een eerste-winter. Bruine Klauwier lijkt veel op (eerste-winter) Grauwe Klauwier maar heeft een relatief grotere kop, zwaardere snavel, langere en smallere, getrapte staart en kortere handpenprojectie. De handpenprojectie is ongeveer een derde tot twee derde van de tertiallengte; bij Grauwe is deze (bijna) gelijk aan de tertiallengte (90-100%). Bij de vleugelformule van Grauwe is p2 duidelijk langer dan p6, bij Bruine ligt de top van p2 gelijk aan de top van p6 of valt p2 tussen p6 en p7. Eerstewinter Grauwe toont daarnaast meer schubtekening op de bovendelen, een grijzere nek, grijsbruine stuit (kastanjebruin bij Bruine) en lichtere centra van de tertials (donkerder bij Bruine). Verwarring is verder mogelijk met Turkestaanse Klauwier *L phoenicuroides* en Daurische Klauwier maar beide soorten hebben een andere staartvorm, met langere buitenste staartpennen (dus minder sterk afgerond/getrapt). Daurische is daarnaast bleker en meer zandkleurig op de kop en bovendelen en warmer gekleurd op de volledige onderdelen, zonder of met zeer beperkte schubtekening. Turkestaanse is donkerder en kouder getekend dan Daurische en kan daarom eerder worden verward met Bruine of Grauwe. Turkestaanse mist echter de gemberkleurige zweem op de flank, heeft meer grijsbruine bovendelen en een grijsbruine kop en heeft minder duidelijke schubtekening op de onderdelen (eg, Lefranc & Worfolk 1997, Beaman & Madge 1998, Snow & Perrins 1998, Worfolk 2000, del Hoyo et al 2008, van Duivendijk 2011, Vinicombe et al 2014, Gerritsen et al 2015, Svensson et al 2016).

Ondersoort

De roodbruine kleur van de bovenkop van de vogel van Den Helder (net zo warm gekleurd als of warmer gekleurd dan de bovendelen) duidt op nominaat *L c cristatus*. Bruine Klauwier omvat maximaal vier ondersoorten: nominaat *cristatus*, *L c confusus*, *L c lucionensis* en *L c superciliosus*.

120 Bruine Klauwier / Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*, eerste-winter, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 5 maart 2017 *(Steven Wytema)* **121** Bruine Klauwier / Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*, eerste-winter, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 20 februari 2017 *(Stephan Gomez)* **122** Bruine Klauwier / Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*, eerste-winter, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 20 februari 2017 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*

Alle taxa zijn nogal variabel in uiterlijk, waarbij hybridisatie tussen de ondersoorten mogelijk een rol speelt. Nominaat *cristatus* kenmerkt zich door een bruine bovenzijde, vaak met een warmer gekleurde stuit. De bovenzijde toont vaak enige bandering maar nooit zoveel als bij Grauwe Klauwier. De onderzijde is zeemkleurig met zware bandering. De staart is koudbruin, zonder witte zijden of roodbruine tekening. Bij *lucionensis* is de bovenzijde grijsbruin, vaak met grijzere bovenkop en lichter voorhoofd (kop grijzer dan bovendelen), de stuit is contrasterend roodbruin of kaneelkleurig en de onderzijde en staart zijn als bij nominaat *cristatus*. *Superciliosus* heeft warm roodbruine bovendelen met een lichter voorhoofd en de onderzijde en staart zijn als bij nominaat *cristatus* (cf Svensson 1992, Harris & Franklin 2000, Worfolk 2000, Panov 2011, Dickinson & Christidis 2014, Gerritsen et al 2015, Gill & Donsker 2017).

Verspreiding en voorkomen

Bruine Klauwier komt als broedvogel voor in Oost-Azië, van Centraal- en Oost-Siberië en Mongolië tot Oost-China en Japan. Nominaat *cristatus* broedt het meest westelijk en noordelijk, in Centraal- en Oost-Siberië en Mongolië, en overwintert van India tot in Zuidoost-Azië. De broedgebieden worden vanaf juli (tot in september) verlaten en in maart-mei vangen vogels de terugreis aan naar de broedgebieden waar ze in mei-juni aankomen (del Hoyo et al 2008). Er zijn in Europa tot en met 2016 38 gevallen in acht landen (zie Gerritsen et al 2015 voor gevallen tot begin 2015). Daarna waren er tot eind 2016 zeven gevallen, in Brittannië (vijf: 20 oktober 2015, Porthgwarra, Cornwall, Engeland; 27-30 september 2016, Out Skerries, Shetland, Schotland; 30 september 2016, Mainland, Shetland, Schotland; 6 oktober 2016, Sanday, Orkney, Schotland; en 31 oktober 2016, Spurn, East Yorkshire, Engeland), Frankrijk (20-24 oktober 2015, Ouessant, Finistère) en Noorwegen (11-16 oktober 2015, Ervika, Sogn og Fjordane) (www.tarsiger.com, http://tinyurl.com/hruaea3, http://tinyurl.com/goeuvxs; Dutch Birding 37: 408, plate 634, 2015). De meeste vogels zijn ontdekt in september (12), oktober (15) en november (zeven), met daarnaast ontdekkingen in december (één), januari (één) en februari (één) en een geval uit mei. Twee najaarsvogels bleven tot voorbij de jaarwisseling en twee keer eerder werd een vogel in de winterperiode ontdekt, in Nederland in ja-

123 Bruine Klauwier / Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*, eerste-winter, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 24 februari 2017 *(Martin van der Schalk)*

nuari 2014 en in Spanje in december 2014.

De vogel van Den Helder was het tweede geval voor Nederland; het eerste betrof een eerste-winter in het Azewijnsche Broek bij Netterden, Gelderland, van 18 januari tot 8 mei 2014 (Gerritsen et al 2015).

Summary

Brown Shrike at Den Helder in February-March 2017

From 19 February to 7 March 2017, a first-year Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus* was present in a small city park at Den Helder, Noord-Holland, the Netherlands. Based on the subtle dark scaly markings on uppertail-coverts, scapulars and mantle, it was a first-year. First-year Red-backed Shrike *L collurio* could be excluded by the relatively large head, heavy bill, long and clearly graduated tail, short primary projection, wing formula, chestnut-brown rump and dark tertial centres. First-year Red-backed also shows more prominent scaly markings on the upperparts and a more greyish neck. The combination of uniform chestnut-brown cap, long, graduated, red-brown tail and absence of a white primary patch excluded Red-tailed Shrike *L phoenicuroides* and Daurian Shrike *L isabellinus*. These two have a longer but less graduated tail; in addition, Daurian is paler and more sandy on upperhead and upperparts and has warmer underparts, and Red-tailed has a more cold grey-brown upperhead and upperparts and less scaly underparts. The red-brown colour of the upperhead, as warm as or warmer than the upperparts, indicated the nominate subspecies *L c cristatus*. Brown Shrike breeds in eastern Asia. This was the second record for the Netherlands; the first was in January-May 2014. In Europe, there are 38 records, of which most in September-November and a few in winter.

124 Bruine Klauwier / Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*, eerste-winter, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 4 maart 2017 *(Alex van der Giessen)*

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New breeding colony of Yellow-legged Gull at Port Fouad, Egypt, in May 2016

During recent decades, gull populations have increased dramatically in Europe, North America and Australia, probably as a result of an increase in food availability derived from human activities (Blokpoel & Spaans 1991). In the Mediterranean basin, Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis* has undergone a widespread increase in the last few decades (Thibault et al 1996, Bosch et al 2000). In Egypt, Yellow-legged is a fairly common winter visitor to the Mediterranean coast, lakes and the Suez Canal area including Hurghada. It is a scarce, non-breeding summer visitor to other parts of the country. At a lagoon east of El Alamein, a breeding colony of 10-15 pairs was found on an island on 7 May 1985 and again on 18 May 1986, when 25 pairs were counted (Goodman & Meininger 1989). These were the only breeding records so far. The El Alamein area has since been developed and the breeding site there has disappeared. On 25 May 2016, while surveying nesting colonies of Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* at Port Fouad, Port Said, I found a new breeding colony of Yellow-legged for Egypt.

Surveys and counts took place from 25 May to 4 June 2016. Most of the area was surveyed using

125 Yellow-legged Gull / Geelpootmeeuw *Larus michahellis*, c 25 days old chick, El Malaha, Port Fouad, Port Said, Egypt, 27 May 2016 *(Mohamed I Habib)* **126** Yellow-legged Gull / Geelpootmeeuw *Larus michahellis*, adult, El Malaha, Port Fouad, Port Said, Egypt, 27 May 2016 *(Mohamed I Habib)* **127** Yellow-legged Gull / Geelpootmeeuw *Larus michahellis*, juvenile, El Malaha, Port Fouad, Port Said, Egypt, 27 May 2016 *(Mohamed I Habib)* **128** Yellow-legged Gull / Geelpootmeeuw *Larus michahellis*, first-summer, El Malaha, Port Fouad, Port Said, Egypt, 27 May 2016 *(Mohamed I Habib)*

[*Dutch Birding 39: 86-87, 2017*]

binoculars. Photographs were taken and resulting images were used for checking counts and identification. Counts took place between 08:00 and 12:30. For breeding colonies, the count units used were apparently occupied nests (Bibby et al 2007). Identification was mainly based on wing pattern of the adults, colour of upperparts, colour of bare parts, and head and bill shape.

Results and discussion

The breeding colony was located at El Malaha, Port Fouad, just east of Port Said (31°10'N, 32°24'E), where the species nested on small patches of exposed sand on a long dyke. Here, an alarming adult pair with an almost 25 days old chick was observed on 25 May. In total, c 50 Yellow-legged Gulls were counted at El Malaha, including juvenile, first-summer and adult birds as seen in the photographs.

This represented the first known breeding in north-eastern Egypt, with at least 16 empty nests found. At this time, it is the only known breeding colony in Egypt.

Yellow-legged Gulls predate on nests of Little Terns *Sternula albifrons* and Common Terns, which can have adverse effects on their breeding colonies. During the survey, 400-500 pairs of Little Terns were counted and the number of Common Tern nests in the colony was estimated at 400 (Habib 2016). Nesting competition may be another issue. The life of birds in the area is already under pressure due to feral dogs and people collecting chicks. In order to safeguard this significant colony for the future, it was suggested to the authorities to put op signs to keep people out of the area during the breeding season.

Acknowledgements

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Presumed Pigeon Guillemots of subspecies *snowi* off Hokkaido, Japan, in February 2016

In February 2016, I visited Hokkaido, Japan. During my trip, I observed several single guillemots *Cepphus*, from Notsuke Peninsula and Cape Nosappu and from the Habomai boat trip, which did not look like anything illustrated in Brazil (2009). The birds were large, a little smaller than Spectacled Guillemot *C carbo* and closer to Pigeon Guillemot *C columba* in size. They were very dark, almost black above rather than brownish and were white below. They seemed to have less black on the back of the neck than Spectacled and there was no white on the back or on the wings, as Pigeon would have in winter plumage. The wing-coverts had very fine wavy white markings. So, the general impression was of a dark winter plumage Spectacled but without the white around the eyes.

Although looking nothing at all like Pigeon Guillemots in winter plumage, I wondered if these birds could be Pigeon of the subspecies *C c snowi*, an endemic from Kuril Islands, Sakhalin Oblast, Russia. The range of this little known taxon overlaps with that of Spectacled Guillemot in the south and with nominate Pigeon in the north. I showed the images to Takeyoshi-san at the (for birders) famous Furen Lodge and he concurred with our tentative identification. *Snowi* is mentioned in Brazil (2009) and del Hoyo & Collar (2014) and flagged as a possible split under the name Kuril Guillemot and Snow's Guillemot, respectively, but they only depict the summer plumage. It occurs as two

129-130 Pigeon Guillemot / Duifzeekoet *Cepphus columba*, off Hokkaido, Japan, 19 February 2016 *(Beatrice Henricot*). Presumably subspecies Kuril Guillemot (Snow's Guillemot) *C c snowi*. **131** Pigeon Guillemots / Duifzeekoeten *Cepphus columba*, off Hokkaido, Japan, 19 February 2016 *(Beatrice Henricot)*. Right bird presumably Kuril Guillemot (Snow's Guillemot) *C c snowi*. **132-133** Pigeon Guillemot / Duifzeekoet *Cepphus columba*, adult, moulting into breeding plumage, Ochiishi, Hokkaido, Japan, 27 February 2016 *(Yann Muzika)*. Presumably subspecies Kuril Guillemot (Snow's Guillemot) *C c snowi*.

morphs of which one has no white and the other one very narrow white stripes on the upperwing coverts (Artukhin et al 2016). There is not a photograph of the winter plumage in Gaston (1998). In fact, a photograph of the winter plumage is hard to find and, upon my return, I was able to find only a few photographs, which were all of birds in Hokkaido. See the photographs of Yann Muzika at http://tinyurl.com/h4o47fw (cf plate 132-133).

The pale bases to the underside of the primaries may be a useful distinction from Spectacled. The thin white wavy markings on the upperwing-coverts are probably a reliable identification feature for Pigeon but this is very hard to see in the field, although it does show up in photographs.

Snowi was first described (as a new species, *Cepphus snowi*) by Stejneger (1897). It could be that *snowi* is a largely overlooked taxon that winters off the coast of Hokkaido, or maybe it is just uncommon. It is hoped that these photographs and this short note will draw observers' attention to the possibility of finding *snowi* at sea off northeastern Hokkaido. Perhaps, one day and after more research it will be (re)split and depicted in books as Kuril Guillemot or Snow's Guillemot.

We do not have a full suite of identification characters for identifying this taxon and observers could help by carefully noting and photographing what they see and by testing what has been mentioned in this short note.

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Lesser Moorhen captured off Laxe, Spain, in February 2000

In spring 2000, Manuel Pose Picado and I (Pablo Pita Criado) visited the Wildlife Recovery Center at Oleiros, A Coruña, Spain. At that time, we both prepared specimens for the Museum of Nature of Sociedade Galega de Historia Natural (SGHN) of Ferrol. This recovery center (which is responsible for wild animals found injured or sick in the province of A Coruña) was our best source for bird specimens. While we selected samples in the freezer, I was struck by a 'moorhen' which was so small that I thought it could be something unusual. Logically, it was chosen as one of the specimens to take with us; in the days after the visit, we measured and prepared it. Consultation of available literature was not very helpful. Both Baker (1993) and Cramp & Simmons (1980) refer to subspecies of Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* which are much smaller than nominate *G c chloropus* and, with some disappointment, the specimen was labeled as that species and stored in a drawer of the SGHN.

Nearly seven years later, on 14 November 2006, I received Stevenson & Fanshawe (2002). While leafing through the book, I noticed the illustration of a moorhen about half the size of Common Moorhen, Lesser Moorhen *Paragallinula angulata* (formerly known as *Gallinula angulata*; cf Sangster et al 2015). It strongly reminded me of the bird from the collection in Oleiros in 2000 and, as soon as I could, I went to the premises of the SGHN to study, remeasure and photograph the specimen. The brief text in the guide was not of much help, so I consulted del Hoyo et al (1996) for a more useful description. In this book, immatures are not illustrated and the only reference in the text is that 'young birds have pale edges to the tertials'. This was the only character that stood out in the overall dull plumage of the Oleiros bird and this strongly triggered my suspicion.

My next step was to order the monograph on rails (Taylor & van Perlo 1998). When I received it, I could quickly confirm the identification. Both the plumage description and the biometry fitted perfectly: the small moorhen collected in Oleiros six years earlier was, without doubt, a Lesser Moorhen and as such, the first record of this African species for Spain and Europe and – in hindsight – the second for the Western Palearctic 'sensu BWP'.

134 Lesser Moorhen / Afrikaans Waterhoen *Paragallinula angulata*, first-year (collected off Laxe, A Coruña, Spain, on 5 February 2000), Wildlife Recovery Center, Oleiros, A Coruña, 19 November 2006 *(Pablo Pita Criado)*

Before making the record public, I tried to get more information about the circumstances under which the bird had been collected. The specimen had no further information on the original label than 'collected. Laxe, February 5, 2000'. I requested more information from the center and received the answer that the bird had been captured by a fisherman three nautical miles offshore from the port of Laxe, A Coruña, and had been given to the staff of the Red Cross in the harbour, who subsequently contacted the recovery centre of Oleiros.

Description

SIZE & SHAPE Typical rail, with long legs, very long toes and short tail.

PLUMAGE Back, rump and wing-coverts olive-brown. Head, throat and cheek grey, same colour as chest; neck olive-brown as back. Grey-brown wing-feathers with pale brown edges on tertials of c 2 mm width. Outer primary with thin white edge over entire length of outer web. Underparts ashy grey with darker olive-grey tone on upperbreast and darker grey lower belly. Some whitish streaks along flank. Central undertail black with white side.

BARE PARTS Leg, toes and nails retaining little colour but tinged yellow-green. Bill dull yellow except for brown stain on proximal part of upper mandible, just where insertion of bill leaves bare triangle.

BIOMETRICS See table 1.

Distribution and vagrancy

Lesser Moorhen is a relatively common species in sub-Saharan Africa; it breeds from Senegal and The Gambia east to Ethiopia and south to northern and eastern Namibia, Botswana and eastern South Africa (Taylor & van Perlo 1998). This species' movements are apparently triggered mainly by rainfall patterns and water levels at wetlands (cf Matias 2009). As the Laxe bird was collected at sea, three nautical miles from the coast and not near the port which would fit an assisted travel more, and because the plumage was in good condition, showing no signs of the bird having been held in captivity, the bird can be considered a natural vagrant. In favour of a natural arrival are the age of the bird (immatures are more prone to wandering), as well as the winter date, which mirrors the movements of this and other closely related species such as Allen's Gallinule *Porphyrio alleni*. This is another sub-Saharan rail species recorded with some frequency in the Western Palearctic (cf Cramp & Simmons 1980, Taylor & van Perlo 1998), including records in the Canary Islands and Ceuta, Spain, in the winter of 1999/2000 (de Juana 2006).

TABLE 1 Measurements (lengths in mm, weight in gr) of moorhen collected off Laxe, A Coruña, Spain, on 5 February 2000 in comparison with Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* and Lesser Moorhen *Paragallinula angulata* (Taylor & van Perlo 1998)

	Common Moorhen	**Laxe specimen**	**Lesser Moorhen**
total length	270-350	240	220-240
wing span	500-550	430	–
wing length	140-192	135	125-145
tail length	68-80	53	52-62
bill length	31-44	26	24-36
tarsus length	44-55	35	35-39
weight	192-493	75	92-164

The record has been accepted by the Spanish rarities committee to Category A (Gil-Velasco et al 2017). The only previous WP record concerns a male collected at Santo Amaro, Funchal, Madeira, on 26 January 1895. This bird was previously published as Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostris* (Matias 2009, Haas 2012). A bird photographed at Algeciras, Cádiz, Spain, on 10 March 2003 (taken into care, died a few days later) was placed in Category D at the time (de Juana & Comité de Rareza de la SEO 2005); recently, it has been upgraded to Category A as the second for Spain (Gil-Velasco et al 2017; Miguel Rouco in litt). A report of an immature on Gran Canaria, Canary Islands, on 10 January 1997 (Clarke 2006) has never been submitted (cf Matias 2009). A bird photographed at Lake Nasser, Egypt, on 6 May 1997 (Haavoisto & Strand 2000) was first accepted but later rejected after review (considered Common Moorhen; Haas 2012). In the 'greater WP' (including Iran and the Arabian Peninsula), there are two records in Oman: two immatures at Hilf on 7-9 November 1991 and one at Salalah nature reserve on 1 October 2008 (Eriksen & Victor 2013). The vagrancy potential of the species is illustrated by a bird caught from a ship while swimming at sea near the archipelago of São Pedro and São Paulo, Brazil, on 10 January 2005 (Bencke et al 2005). This archipelago is a small and isolated group of rocky islets lying in the equatorial Atlantic Ocean c 960 km north-east of the coast of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil, and 1824 km south-west of Guinea-Bissau, Africa.

135-138 Lesser Moorhen / Afrikaans Waterhoen *Paragallinula angulata*, first-year (collected off Laxe, A Coruña, Spain, on 5 February 2000), Wildlife Recovery Center, Oleiros, A Coruña, 19 November 2006 *(Pablo Pita Criado)*

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Western Palearctic list update: deletion of Fork-tailed Flycatcher

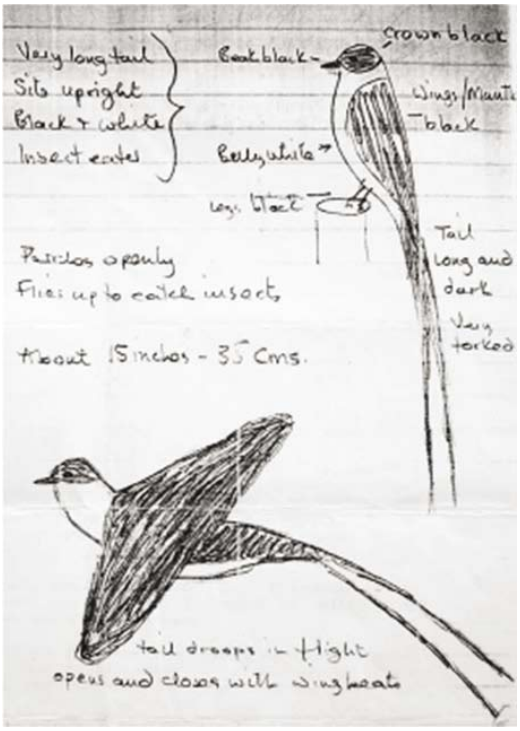
The Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savana* record at Almonte, marismas de El Rocío, Puente de Ajolí, Huelva, Spain, on 19 October 2002 was accepted by the Spanish rarities committee in 2006 (Díes et al 2007, Gutiérrez 2008). It was the first – and to date only – record of this species in Spain and the Western Palearctic.

Considering the extreme rarity of finding a Neotropical species in continental Europe and the fact that this species has never been observed in other traditional arrival places of American passerines in the WP, eg, the Azores, as well as the inaccuracies contained in the original description, the Spanish rarities committee decided to reconsider the record, with the aim of reaffirming or retracting the verdict issued in 2006. As a result of this revision, the record was now unanimously rejected. Therefore, the species should be deleted from both the Spanish and the WP lists. The reasons for this decision are explained below.

Anomalous plumage features

The observation was made during favourable conditions: a clear and sunny day, midday sun, stabilised binoculars, minimum distance of up to 5 m, and almost one minute total duration, during which the bird was observed from different angles. Despite

FIGURE 1 Observer's field notes of alleged Fork-tailed Flycatcher / Vorkstaartkoningstiran *Tyrannus savana*, as published in Ardeola (Díes et al 2007).



139 Fork-tailed Flycatcher / Vorkstaartkoningstiran *Tyrannus savana*, Chubut province, Argentina, 18 November 2008 *(César Sánchez)*. Although contrast between mantle and wing in this individual does not appear to be as strong as that in plate 140, note that mantle is clearly ashy-grey, not 'black or very dark grey' as described and drawn by observer (cf figure 1). **140** Fork-tailed Flycatcher / Vorkstaartkoningstiran *Tyrannus savana*, Misiones province, Argentina, 18 November 2008 *(Miguel Rouco)*. Note contrast between grey mantle and black wing. **141** Fork-tailed Flycatcher / Vorkstaartkoningstiran *Tyrannus savana*, Chubut province, Argentina, 13 November 2008 *(Miguel Rouco)*. Note contrast between grey mantle and black wing, with grey mantle directly bordering black cap.

these conditions, the observer did not perceive some of the typical plumage features of the species. In fact, the described features could even be considered as incompatible with it. One of these features was the colour of the wing and back, described as 'black', later specified as 'black or very dark grey' (cf figure 1). Although Fork-tailed Flycatcher could be described as having dark grey upperparts under very poor light conditions or at great distance, the ash-grey colour of the mantle and scapulars, contrasting with the dull black or dark brown wing-feathers and wing-coverts, should have been clearly perceptible in the prevailing conditions. Even in the nominate subspecies *T s savana*, being the darkest of the four that comprise the species (and the most likely to occur outside its normal range due to its manifest migratory habits), the mantle and scapulars never show the same hue as the wing. The upperside in this taxon is still markedly bitonal (ash-grey mantle – black or brown wings), and not completely uniformly dark as described and drawn by the observer. Furthermore, the observer described a white and complete collar, drawing it as very well defined all around, separating the mantle from the crown (cf figure 1). However, Fork-tailed Flycatcher does not have a complete collar but rather a semi-collar reaching the mantle but not completely surrounding the neck (cf plate 141).

142 Fork-tailed Flycatcher / Vorkstaartkoningstiran *Tyrannus savana*, Misiones province, Argentina, 18 November 2008 *(Miguel Rouco)*. Note position in flight, with tail in same plane as body, not permanently dropped down as described by observer.

Anomalous behaviour

When describing the flight action of the bird, the observer wrote: 'in flight, the tail was very obvious, long and extremely forked. The flight action was jerky and, somewhat, bat-like, obviously caused by the length/weight of the tail, which dropped down and seemed to open and close with the wing beats'. Later on, at the bottom of one of the sketches, he insisted: 'Bird flight: erratic wing beats and tail opened and closed with the wing beats'. Actually, the typical flight of Fork-tailed Flycatcher does not fit this description. On the contrary, it is strong and direct, with rapid and regular wing beats, and the tail waves behind the body but it is in the same plane as the body, without falling or bending downwards. In addition, the tail does not open and close with the wing beats but rather it is closed, opening only during manoeuvres or turns. Therefore, the fork is not always easy to see when the bird flies in a straight line (cf plate 142).

Conclusion

Despite the aberrant features mentioned above, it cannot be ruled out that the bird described really was a Fork-tailed Flycatcher, and it is true that if we try to identify it by an exclusion process, this species would be the most likely in view of the data supplied. However, from a current point of view, reviewing a sighting of such relevance – the first (and to date only) record in the WP – it is not acceptable to identify it by a simple process of elimination. Lacking a photograph or a substantiating document, it should at least be expected that the description would perfectly match the characters of the species, leaving no room for doubt. Considering the significant anomalies outlined above this is not the case here, and therefore the record should be reassigned as non-confirmed.

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Western Palearctic list update: deletion of Louisiana Waterthrush

Louisiana Waterthrush *Parkesia motacilla* (hereafter *motacilla*) was placed on the Western Palearctic (WP) list on the basis of a single record involving a bird seen and photographed at Tazacorte, La Palma, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Tenerife, Canary Islands, between 10 and 26 November 1991, found by German birder Martin Semisch. The bird was accepted by the Spanish rarities committee (de Juana & Comité de Rarezas de la SEO 1998) and an article on its identification was published (Gutiérrez & Lorenzo 1999). The species is extremely similar to Northern Waterthrush *P noveboracensis* (hereafter *noveboracensis*). The improved knowledge of the identification of the genus *Parkesia* and the chance to analyse higher quality slide scans that modern scanners provide, prompted an official review of the record by the Spanish rarities committee. The review has led to the bird's reidentification as *noveboracensis* and the subsequent removal of *motacilla* from the Spanish and the WP list.

The original slides, kindly submitted by the finder, were examined for the first time and proved to be invaluable, revealing some key features that were either misleading or not apparent in the first – and widely published – original scans, on which the acceptance of the record was mostly based

on. As an example, the differences between the old scans and the higher quality new ones can be seen in figure 1-2.

The two species in the genus *Parkesia* form one of the classic identification challenges among North American passerines. Most individuals can be readily assigned to one or the other species, though some can show such ambiguous features that their identification to species level requires detailed analysis, as has been the case with the Tenerife bird.

We list below the main features that have been analysed and their importance in finally clinching the bird's identity.

Shape and size of supercilium

This is without doubt one of the most misleading features in the old scans, where the supercilium looked more like that of *motacilla*: very long, broadening from behind the eye towards a square-shaped abrupt end at the nape. The recent examination of the new scans revealed a finer super-

FIGURE 1 Northern Waterthrush / Noordse Waterlijster *Parkesia noveboracensis*, Tazacorte, La Palma, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands, November 1991 *(Martin Semisch)*. Note how new scan (main image) reveals finer eyebrow, better-defined streaking on underparts and dirtier legs compared with old scan (inset). FIGURE 2 Northern Waterthrush / Noordse Waterlijster *Parkesia noveboracensis*, Tazacorte, La Palma, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands, November 1991 *(Martin Semisch)*. Compared with completely clean throat in old scan (right), streaks are more obvious in new scan (left), as well as on breast and underparts. **143** Northern Waterthrush / Noordse Waterlijster *Parkesia noveboracensis*, Tazacorte, La Palma, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands, November 1991 *(Martin Semisch)*. Note rounded head and short thin bill, diagnostic of Northern Waterthrush. **144** Northern Waterthrush / Noordse Waterlijster *Parkesia noveboracensis*, Tazacorte, La Palma, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands, November 1991 *(Martin Semisch)*. This new scan shows how sharp streaking on underparts is, extending towards throat as well.

cilium of a pretty similar width along its length and with a more pointed end (figure 1). However, variation is still noticeable among the new scans (due to the position of the bird and the angle of the photo), making this feature hard to judge. Still, supercilium shape and size are not completely typical of *noveboracensis* either.

Streaking on throat and underparts
Similarly, the new scans show well-defined streaking on the breast, flanks and throat. This streaking looks sparse and therefore may fit *motacilla* but its sharpness on the underparts and its presence (albeit subtle) on the throat point towards *noveboracensis* (figure 2).

Background colour of underparts
Although it has always been treated as a classic identification criterion, there seems to be some overlap as well. In the Tenerife bird, it appears to be white, which would point towards *motacilla* but does not rule out *noveboracensis*, since a few individuals can also show this coloration (Kaufman 1990, Karlson & Rosselet 2015). On the other hand, the lack of a beige hue in the rear flank would favour *noveboracensis*, although a few *motacilla* can also miss it (Karlson & Rosselet 2015).

Leg colour
This feature has only been considered supplementary, since it does not seem to be completely reliable, especially in autumn (Sibley 2012, Kaufman 2015). In all photographs, the legs look greyish-pink, giving a dirty impression, and not the brighter 'bubble-gum pink' typical of *motacilla*.

Structure
Considering that some of the visible plumage features are within the range of variation of both species, structure has turned out to be the most decisive feature for the ultimate conclusion. The overall body structure gives a delicate impression, with a proportionally small and rounded head in resting position, short and thin bill, short legs, long tail and short primary projection (see plate 143, especially for bill and head shape), all pointing towards a definite *novaboracensis*.

Conclusion
The Spanish rarities committee considers, on reassessment of the record, the Tenerife bird to be a *noveboracensis*, the first record for Spain. The species is consequently added to the Spanish list, and *motacilla* removed. As the sole record from the WP, the latter is therefore also removed from the WP list.

Acknowledgements
We want to thank firstly Martin Semisch, who kindly supplied the original slides, allowing the new scans to be made; also George Armistead, Stew Hinley, Marshal Illif, Kevin Karlson, Daniel Lane, Michael O'Brien, Peter Pyle, Carlos Sanchez and Stephen Woltmann for their invaluable comments on the bird and José Luis Copete for his help contacting Martin Semisch.

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Herziening Nederlandse avifaunistische lijst: Moltoni's Baardgrasmus afgevoerd

Op zaterdag 23 mei 1987 ontdekte Evert van Huijssteeden in de vroege ochtend tijdens een trektelling een baardgrasmus *Sylvia* bij duinmeer 't Wed in de Kennemerduinen, Bloemendaal, Noord-Holland, toen hij een voor hem onbekende zang hoorde. Toen ik (Steve Geelhoed) een paar uur later op de telpost kwam konden we de zingende vogel samen goed bekijken in een valleitje met struweel. In de loop van de ochtend zagen ook Frank Dorèl, Amon Gouw, Ferdy Hieselaar en Johan Stuart de vogel. Het nieuws werd via EvH verder verspreid en in de loop van de dag konden meerdere vogelaars de vogel waarnemen – voor velen was dit de eerste of tweede baardgrasmus in Nederland. Op 26 mei werd hij voor het laatst gezien door Tibor Gras en Hans Groot. De soort werd destijds door de Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA) aanvaard als 'Baardgrasmus *Sylvia cantillans*' (Blankert et al 1988, cf van den Berg & Bosman 2001). Bijna een kwart eeuw later concludeerde de CDNA op basis van de oorspronkelijke beschrijving van de roep (cf figuur 1) dat het de eerste Moltoni's Baardgrasmus *S subalpina* voor Nederland betrof – een taxon dat in 1987 nog niet was beschreven (van der Vliet et al 2002). In 2014 werden alle baardgrasmussen opnieuw beoordeeld als gevolg van het toekennen van soortstatus aan Westelijke Baardgrasmus *S inornata* (cf Redactie Dutch Birding 2014, Wassink & CDNA 2014). In het verlengde hiervan werd in 2014-16 de Moltoni's opnieuw beoordeeld; de uitkomst was dat de aanvaarding als *subalpina* werd herroepen.

Beschrijving

De beschrijving is gebaseerd op veldnotities van Arnoud van den Berg, EvH, JS en SG (figuur 1; er zijn geen foto's of geluidsopnamen).

GROOTTE EN BOUW Bouw als Grasmus *S communis* maar kleiner.

VERENKLEED Bovendelen (kruin, voorhoofd, nek, mantel, schouders, rug en stuit) leigrijs, naar vleugels toe meer grijsbruin wordend. Arm- en handpennen donkerbruin met lichte randen. Keel, borst en flank genoteerd als 'bruinoranje' (JS) of onderdelen beschreven als 'oranje' (AvdB). Flank naar buik toe lichter wordend en meer vuilwit met lichtbruine gloed. Witte mondstreep doorlopend tot voorbij oorstreek achter oog en grijs van oorstreek scheidend van bruinoranje van keel. Bovenstaart donkergrijs met witte buitenrand, met name bij opvliegen duidelijk zichtbaar, en ook op onderstaart zichtbaar.

NAAKTE DELEN Oog rood met rode oogring en zwarte pupil. Snavel geheel donker lijkend. Poot roodachtig.

GELUID Regelmatig roepend, hard Winterkoning *Troglodytes troglodytes*-achtig *krrrr* of *tsrrr*. Zang herinnerend aan combinatie van Grasmus *S communis* en in mindere mate Paapje *Saxicola rubetra*. Zang steeds in lengte en ritme variërend, snelheid als van Heggenmus *Prunella modularis*. Zang fonetisch weer te geven als snel *tsewiettsewiesewiesewiesewiet* soms eindigend met trillertje.

GEDRAG Veelvuldig zingend waardoor makkelijk te lokaliseren. Enkele keren staartwippend.

Determinatie

Op basis van het verenkleed werd de vogel als mannetje baardgrasmus gedetermineerd. Geen enkele andere groep grasmussen vertoont de combinatie van grijze bovenzijde, smalle witte mondstreep en rode tot bruinoranje keel en borst (cf Shirihai et al 2001).

Westelijke Baardgrasmus *S inornata* (hierna *inornata*) en Balkanbaardgrasmus *S cantillans* (hierna *cantillans*) roepen een enkelvoudig of soms enkele malen herhaald *tek*. *Subalpina* heeft als diagnostisch kenmerk een Winterkoning *Troglodytes troglodytes*-achtige ratelende roep (cf Gargallo 1994). De vogel van Bloemendaal liet uitsluitend en regelmatig een Winterkoning-achtige roep horen. Het was voor de CDNA (van der Vliet et al 2002) van belang dat dit door de waarnemers werd opgeschreven jaren voordat Gargallo (1994) het geluidskenmerk en de bijzondere taxonomische status van *subalpina* (toen *Sylvia cantillans moltonii*) voor het eerst beschreef. *Cantillans* kan door een aaneenschakeling van *tek* roepjes ook een ratelachtige roep laten horen (cf Sample 2003); het archief van The Sound Approach bevat een aantal opnamen van dergelijke *cantillans*-roepjes. De ratelroepjes van *subalpina* verschillen doordat ze van een bepaalde lengte zijn, terwijl ze bij *cantillans* zowel qua lengte als snelheid onregelmatig zijn (Magnus Robb in litt). De lengte van de roepjes van de vogel van Bloemendaal is niet beschreven.

De zang van de drie baardgrasmussoorten vormt geen diagnostisch kenmerk, hoewel die van *subalpina* gemiddeld iets hoger van toon is en wat abrupter en haastiger klinkt dan bij *inornata* en, in mindere mate, *cantillans* (Shirihai et al 2001).

Op basis van morfologische kenmerken zijn de drie baardgrasmussen lastig te onderscheiden maar *cantillans* heeft een dieper steenrood gekleurde keel en borst die sterker contrasteert met de wittere flank en buik dan bij de andere twee soorten. *Subalpina* is het 'zachtst' (meer zalmkleurig) gekleurd op de onderdelen (verlopend naar meer witachtig op het centrale deel van de buik en

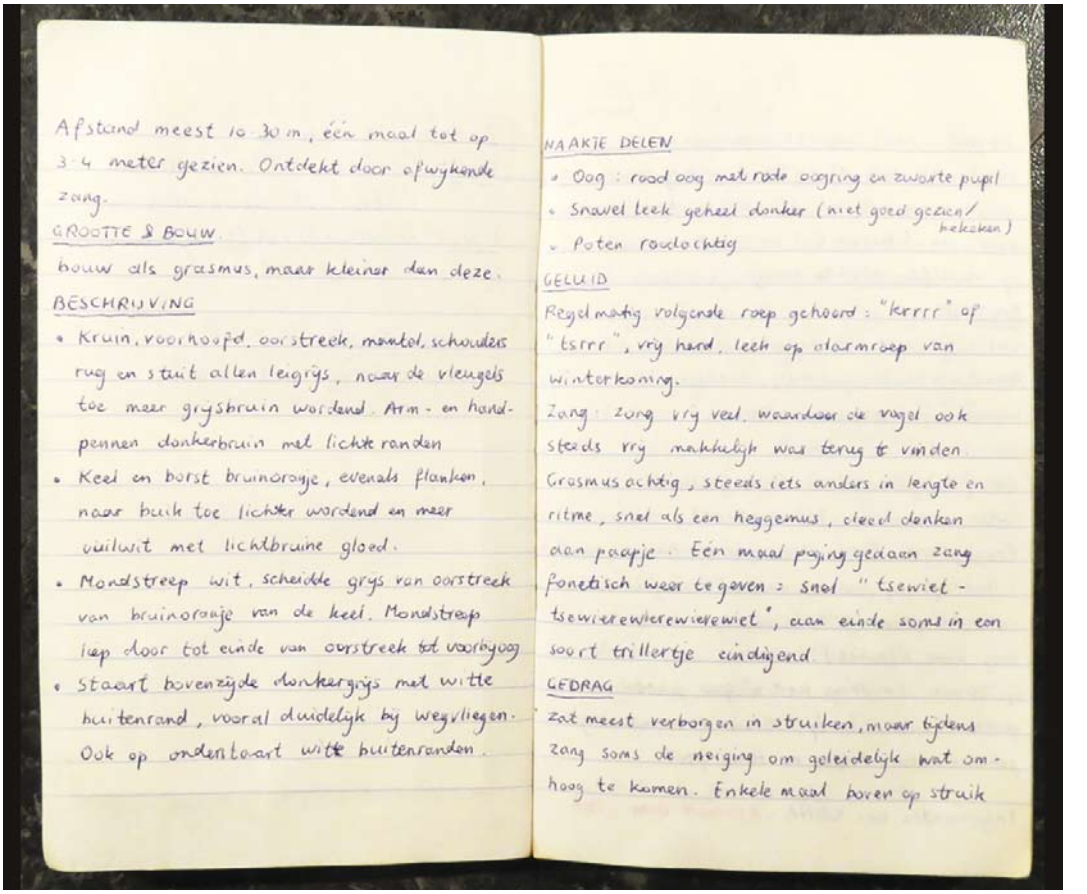
wat bleker op de flank) terwijl *inornata* dieper roodoranje is, waarbij de kleur ver doorloopt op de flank en onderbuik (Svensson 2013b, Small 2014, Stoddart 2014). *Cantillans* verschilt verder van *inornata* en *subalpina* in de hoeveelheid wit op de een-na-buitenste staartpen en de smallere witte baardstreep (Svensson 2013b). De beschrijving van de vogel van Bloemendaal is echter te summier om deze kenmerken bij de determinatie te betrekken.

Subalpina heeft een andere ruistrategie dan de andere twee baardgrasmustaxa en maakt een volledige rui door in de eerste winter (Shirihai et al 2001). Omdat de vogel van Bloemendaal niet op leeftijd werd gebracht en de beschrijving onvoldoende details biedt is het ruikenmerk niet toepasbaar.

Herbeoordeling door CDNA

Bij de herbeoordeling van dit geval in 2015-16 constateerde de CDNA dat de beschrijving van het uiterlijk geen duidelijke aanknopingspunten biedt voor determinatie als *subalpina*. Bij de determinatie van baardgrasmussen gaat het vaak om subtiele kleedkenmerken die vaak niet of slechts beperkt bruikbaar zijn vanuit een beschrijving. De vogel van Bloemendaal illustreert dit doordat de kleedbeschrijving elementen bevat die zowel als punten vóór als tegen *subalpina* kunnen worden geïnterpreteerd. Zo is de beschreven bruinoranje of oranje kleur van de onderdelen niet typisch voor *subalpina* en werd het staartpatroon niet waargenomen maar past de beschrijving ook niet goed op de steenrode borst met contrasterende witte buik van *cantillans*. De determinatie als *subalpina* was dan ook vrijwel uitsluitend gebaseerd op de beschre-

FIGUUR 1 Veldbeschrijving van baardgrasmus / subalpine warbler *Sylvia cantillans/inornata/subalpina*, mannetje, Kennemerduinen, Bloemendaal, Noord-Holland, mei 1987 *(Johan Stuart)*



Afstand meest 10-30 m, één maal tot op 3-4 meter gezien. Ontdekt door afwykende zang.

GROOTTE & BOUW

bouw als grasmus, maar kleiner dan deze.

BESCHRIJVING

- Kruin, voorhoofd, oorstreek, mantel, schouders rug en stuit allen leigrijs, naar de vleugels toe meer grysbruin wordend. Arm- en handpennen donkerbruin met lichte randen
- Keel en borst bruinoranje, evenals flanken, naar buik toe lichter wordend en meer vuilwit met lichtbruine gloed.
- Mondstreep wit, scheidde grys van oorstreek van bruinoranje van de keel. Mondstreep liep door tot einde van oorstreek tot voorbyoog
- Staart bovenzyde donkergrijs met witte buitenrand, vooral duideliyk by wegvliegen. Ook op onderstaart witte buitenranden.

NAAKTE DELEN

- Oog: rood oog met rode oogring en zwarte pupil
- Snavel leek geheel donker (niet goed gezien/bekeken)
- Poten roodachtig

GELUID

Regelmatig volgende roep gehoord: "krrrr" of "tsrrr", vrij hard, leek op alarmroep van winterkoning.

Zang: zang vrij veel, waardoor de vogel ook steeds vrij makkelijk was terug te vinden. Grasmus achtig, steeds iets anders in lengte en ritme, snel als een heggemus, eveel denken aan paapje. Eén maal poging gedaan zang fonetisch weer te geven: snel "tsewiet-tsewierewierewierewiet", aan einde soms in een soort trillertje eindigend.

GEDRAG

zat meest verborgen in struiken, maar tijdens zang soms de neiging om geleidelijk wat omhoog te komen. Enkele maal boven op struik

ven ratelroep. Hoewel dit een zeer bruikbaar kenmerk betreft, dienen ratelachtige roepjes van *cantillans* te worden uitgesloten. Het analyseren van de frequentie, duur en ratelsnelheid van de roepjes is echter niet mogelijk doordat er geen geluidsopnamen zijn, waardoor naar het oordeel van de CDNA enige twijfel op dit punt niet kan worden weggenomen. *Subalpina* is een zeer zeldzame dwaalgast in Noordwest-Europa en dit zou het eerste geval voor Nederland betreffen. In de regel aanvaardt de CDNA geen nieuwe soort voor Nederland alleen op basis van een geluidsbeschrijving. Hoewel het zeker niet is uitgesloten dat de Bloemendaalse baardgrasmus een *subalpina* betrof, kwam de CDNA daarom uiteindelijk unaniem tot de conclusie dat andere taxa niet met voldoende zekerheid waren uit te sluiten. Het geval is daarom nu aanvaard als 'baardgrasmus' *S subalpina/inornata/cantillans* (Eddy Nieuwstraten in litt).

Taxonomie, verspreiding en voorkomen

Gebaseerd op Gargallo (1994) presenteerden Shirihai et al (2001) niet alleen *subalpina* als ondersoort maar benadrukten zij tevens dat het taxon soortstatus verdiende, wat werd bevestigd door Brambilla et al (2006, 2008ac). De Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (CSNA) verleende in 2009 soortstatus aan *subalpina* (Redactie Dutch Birding 2009, Sangster et al 2009); de British Ornithologists' Union Records Committee deed hetzelfde een paar jaar later (BOURC 2014). Svensson (2013ab) vatte de huidige kennis over systematiek, taxonomie, verspreiding en herkenning aan verenkleed en geluid van het baardgrasmus-complex samen en kwam tot een onderverdeling in drie soorten (cf Redactie Dutch Birding 2014).

Inornata broedt in het uiterste noord-westen van Italië en verder westelijk in het zuid-oosten van Frankrijk en het Iberisch Schiereiland (*S i iberiae*), en in Noordwest-Afrika (*S i inornata*). *Cantillans* broedt plaatselijk op het Noord-Italiaanse vasteland en verder zuidelijk in grote delen van Midden- en Zuid-Italië, inclusief Sicilië (*S c cantillans*), op de Balkan en oostelijk tot in Turkije (*S c albistriata*). *Subalpina* broedt op eilanden in het westelijke Middellandse Zeegebied (Balearen, Corsica en Sardinië) en in het noord-westelijke deel van het vasteland van Italië (Festari et al 2002, Brambilla et al 2006, Svensson 2013ab). Binnen het areaal van *subalpina* op het Italiaanse vasteland komen geïsoleerde (sympatrische) populaties van *cantillans* voor (zie kaartje in Svensson 2013ab).

De drie soorten overwinteren in Afrika. DNA-analyse van gevangen baardgrasmussen toonde aan dat *subalpina* tijdens de voorjaarstrek twee routes volgt: een directe route door het centrale Middellandse Zeegebied en een westelijke route via de Camargue, Bouches-du-Rhône, Frankrijk (Brambilla et al 2012). Broedvogels keren vanaf maart terug in hun broedgebied, vooral vanaf half april (Svensson 2013b), waarbij de laatste individuen zich tot ver in mei kunnen vestigen (cf Moreau 1972, Glutz von Blotzheim & Bauer 1991).

Inornata en *cantillans* worden (bijna) jaarlijks als dwaalgast in Noordwest-Europa vastgesteld (bij veel, vooral oude, gevallen is door het ontbreken van foto's of geluidsopnamen niet te bepalen om welke soort het ging). Beide taxa komen ook in Nederland als dwaalgast voor, waarbij *cantillans* vaker is vastgesteld dan *inornata* (cf Wassink & CDNA 2014). Gevallen van *subalpina* ten noorden van het reguliere verspreidingsgebied (buiten het zuid-oosten van Frankrijk) zijn veel zeldzamer en er zijn tot en met 2015 zeven gevallen: in België (20-21 mei 2001, Heist, West-Vlaanderen, mannetje; De Smet & Goossens 2002); Duitsland (2-15 oktober 2009, Helgoland, Schleswig-Holstein, mannetje, ringvangst; Dierschke 2010); Engeland (11 mei 2015, Blakeney Point, Norfolk, Engeland, mannetje); en Schotland (vier: 13-14 juni 1894, St Kilda, Outer Hebrides, mannetje, verzameld; Svensson 2013b, BOURC 2014; 1-11 juni 2009, Unst, Shetland, mannetje; Pennington 2009; 16-27 mei 2014, Fair Isle, Shetland, vrouwtje, ringvangst; http://tinyurl.com/zzbnsa3); en 15-26 mei 2015, Fair Isle, mannetje, ringvangst). Een melding van 1 september 2016 in Cornwall, Engeland, is nog niet aanvaard.

Dankwoord

Arnoud van den Berg en Evert van Huijssteeden waren behulpzaam bij de totstandkoming van dit artikel. Marcel Haas hielp bij het verzamelen van informatie over gevallen van *subalpina* in Noordwest-Europa. Diederik Kok en Eddy Nieuwstraten gaven commentaar namens de CDNA.

Summary

Review of Dutch avifaunal list: deletion of Moltoni's Warbler On 23-26 May 1987, a male 'subalpine warbler' *Sylvia subalpina/cantillans/inornata* was singing and calling at Kennemerduinen, Bloemendaal, Noord-Holland. The bird was identified and accepted 15 years later as Moltoni's Warbler *S subalpina* based on the written description of its rattling call, a regularly repeated *tsrrr or krrrr* resembling Eurasian Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes* (interestingly, *subalpina* was not yet described as a valid taxon when this bird was observed, neither were its diagnostic vocalisations). The record was reconsid-

ered in 2014-16 by the Dutch rarities committee (CDNA) following a revision of all subalpine warblers. The CDNA decided that the lack of sound-recordings and the possible confusion with a rattle-like call of Eastern Subalpine Warbler *S cantillans* made it unsafe to accept this bird as *subalpina*. Also, the description of the plumage was considered insufficient to exclude *cantillans* and Western Subalpine Warbler *S inornata* with certainty. Up to and including 2016, there are (only) seven records of *subalpina* north of south-eastern France (where it occurs as a migrant): in Belgium (1), England (1), Germany (1) and Scotland (4).

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Long-tailed Shrike breeding at Atyrau, Kazakhstan, in June-August 2016

Victory Park at Atyrau (47°5′35″N, 51°53′17″E) is situated at the mouth of the Ural river in the European part of Kazakhstan. On 14 June 2016, visiting Finnish birdwatcher Ilkka Sahi found an adult Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach* of the western subspecies *L s erythronotus* at this site. An adult was photographed here again on 17 June by Askar Isabekov (plate 145). In addition, two adults (undoubtedly a pair) were recorded by Feodor Sarayev in an abandoned part of Victory Park on 25 June. The shrikes were actively hunting for Sand Lizards Lacerta agilis and impaling the dead lizards on the thorns of silverberry trees Elaeagnus. A nest could not be found, despite attempts. During a subsequent visit to the park on 6 August, FS watched two adults with three juveniles in the same part of the park where they had been previously seen. This suggested that they had bred close-by. All five birds were often seen together, so they must have been a family (plate 146-147). FS last saw the birds on 14 August, when the juveniles were trying to hunt for small lizards (plate 148). The observations of the adult birds and the family in the same place during two months in conjunction with their obvious territoriality and behaviour are strong evidence that the birds nested there.

This is the first record of breeding in the European part of Kazakhstan and in the Western Palearctic (WP) as defined by Cramp & Simmons (1977). It is also the most north-westerly breeding site of this species to date (del Hoyo et al 2008).

Description and identification

The adults were easily distinguished from other shrike species by the bright, contrasting colours and the very long tail (cf Lefranc & Worfolk 1997, del Hoyo et al 2008). The photographs show all plumage characters typical for this species: ***1*** grey crown and nape; ***2*** grey buff-tinged mantle; ***3*** bright buff back, rump and uppertail-coverts; ***4*** black forehead, lore and ear-coverts forming black mask; ***5*** faint off-white supercilium; ***6*** off-white throat, breast and belly with buff tinge (most prominent on flank and undertail-coverts); ***7*** brownish-black wing; ***8*** almost black wing-coverts; ***9*** dark brown primaries with white base,

145 Long-tailed Shrike / Langstaartklauwier *Lanius schach erythronotus*, adult, Victory Park, Atyrau, Kazakhstan, 17 June 2016 *(Askar Isabekov)*

146 Long-tailed Shrikes / Langstaartklauwieren *Lanius schach erythronotus*, adult with juveniles, Victory Park, Atyrau, Kazakhstan, 6 August 2016 *(Fedor Sarayev)*

147 Long-tailed Shrikes / Langstaartklauwieren *Lanius schach erythronotus*, adult with juvenile, Victory Park, Atyrau, Kazakhstan, 6 August 2016 *(Fedor Sarayev)*

148 Long-tailed Shrike / Langstaartklauwier *Lanius schach erythronotus*, juvenile, Victory Park, Atyrau, Kazakhstan, 14 August 2016 *(Fedor Sarayev)*

forming little speculum almost hidden by the wing-covert; ***10*** dark brown secondaries with buff edges; and ***11*** tail with blackish-brown central feathers, paler two inner feathers and pale brown outermost feather, tinged buff (all tail-feathers except the inner with pale edges). The juveniles had the crown, nape and mantle brownish-grey with a brown, scaly pattern. The rump and uppertail-coverts were rusty with a brown pattern and the flight-feathers dark brown with rufous edges. The underparts were greyish with a brown, scaly pattern. The mask was pale brown.

Distribution

The species occurs mainly in scrub and open habitats across Asia from Kazakhstan to New Guinea. Nine subspecies are recognized; only the subspecies *erythronotus* occurs in the Palearctic, where it breeds (from north-west to south-east) in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Afghanistan and has expanded its range both to the east and the west (Lefranc & Worfolk 1997, Gavrilov & Gavrilov 2005, del Hoyo et al 2008).

Status in Kazakhstan

Long-tailed Shrike breeds in southern Kazakhstan, northwards to the Dzhulek settlement in Syrdarya (possibly as far as Kzyl-Orda), Chulak-Espe, Taraz and in the Tien Shan foothills eastwards as far as Almaty. At Kazalinsk, Kyzylorda region, it is regarded as a breeding bird. Since 1982 it has colonised the Ile delta and since 1993 the area around Lake Alaköl, Almaty Oblast. Breeding birds were also recorded at Karabuta, Karabanda region, in 1999 (Gavrilov & Gavrilov 2005; www.birds.kz). The new breeding site at Atyrau represents a considerable westward expansion of the species' known breeding range (by more than 800 km).

Status in the WP

The species is an extremely rare vagrant in the WP. Apart from this new breeding record, there have been nine records in the WP 'sensu BWP' up to the end of 2016: in Israel (26 January to late February 1983), Turkey (24 September 1987), Sweden (11 June 1999), Scotland (27 October to 4 November 2000), Kuwait (two: 7 October 2004; 14 October 2006 to 9 April 2007 and again 3 November 2007 to 12 April 2008), Jordan (11-13

April 2004), Denmark (15-17 October 2007) and the Netherlands (31 October 2011) (van Dillen-Staal & Ebels 2012, Haas 2012).

In the 'greater WP' (including the Arabian Peninsula and Iran), it has also been recorded in Oman (rare passage migrant and winter visitor from mid-September to early April; Eriksen & Victor 2013), United Arab Emirates (six records: 9-11 September 1999; 3-21 March 2003; 24 October 2003 to 20 March 2004; 3 January to 26 March 2006; 13 March 2007; and 14 March 2009; Pedersen & Aspinall 2010) and Qatar (three records: 11 January to 14 April 2013; 25 October 2014; and 16-17 October 2015; Qatar Bird Records Committee 2016). The status in Iran is unclear; it is probably a scarce breeding bird and passage migrant in the north-eastern part of the country (Khani et al 2016).

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Olive-backed Pipits and Yellow-browed Warblers at Cap Blanc peninsula, Mauritania, in November 2016

In the morning of 13 November 2016, Rob van Bemmelen and Tom van Spanje observed two Olive-backed Pipits *Anthus hodgsoni* (plate 149) and a Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus* (plate 150) in the vegetable gardens 'Zraiib El Jadida' at Nouadhibou on Cap Blanc peninsula, Mauritania (20°55'46''N, 17°03'00''W). Later that morning, RvB and Kees Camphuysen found another Yellow-browed Warbler further south, near Cansado (20°51'36''N, 17°02'19''W; plate 151). The Olive-backed Pipits were detected by their high-pitched calls and easily identified by the typical size and shape of a pipit with fairly plain olive upperparts and tertial fringes, buff tips to the greater wing-coverts, broad white supercilium (behind eye), and white and black dot at the rear of the ear-coverts. Both Yellow-browed Warblers were silent but showed all key morphological characteristics: a tiny songbird with two broad, pale yellowish wing-bars formed by the tips to the greater and median wing-coverts, long and well-defined supercilium, only a hint of a central crown-stripe, green upperparts, whitish tips to the tertials and a pale base to the lower mandible. Photographs of all four individuals have been uploaded to www.observado.org.

Considering the position of Cap Blanc peninsula within arid deserts bordering the Atlantic, this area has a huge potential for observing southward landbird migration, including vagrants. In particular, the vegetable gardens of Nouadhibou, being one of very few irrigated sites, offer a suitable stopover site for migrants and easy birding amongst friendly people.

Both species are long-distance migrants, breeding in central Asia and wintering in south-eastern Asia (Cramp 1992). Despite sharing similar histories of considerable increase in recorded numbers over the past decades in Europe, they are still regarded as vagrants or scarce visitors (eg, Folvik 1992, van den Berg & Bosman 2001, Krüger & Dierschke 2004, van Bemmelen et al 2014). The first African record of Olive-backed Pipit was in Morocco in 2007 (Bergier et al 2009), followed by three records in 2012-15 (Fareh et al 2016). Until 2015, 12 Yellow-browed Warblers were recorded

149 Olive-backed Pipits / Siberische Boompiepers *Anthus hodgsoni*, Zraiib El Jadida, Nouadhibou, Mauritania, 13 November 2016 *(Rob S A van Bemmelen)* **150** Yellow-browed Warbler / Bladkoning *Phylloscopus inornatus*, Zraiib El Jadida, Nouadhibou, Mauritania, 13 November 2016 *(Rob S A van Bemmelen)* **151** Yellow-browed Warbler / Bladkoning *Phylloscopus inornatus*, Cansado, Mauritania, 13 November 2016 *(Rob S A van Bemmelen)*

in Morocco, nine of which since 2005 (Fareh et al 2016). At least four records come from Algeria, all in years (1985 and 2016) with numerous records in Europe (Isenmann & Moali 2000, Ławicki & van den Berg 2016). There is also one record in Libya and several in Egypt (Goodman & Meininger 1989, Isenmann et al 2016). South of Mauritania, we could trace only two published records of Yellow-browed Warbler: singles in The Gambia (Barlow 2007) and Senegal (Cruse 2004) but none of Olive-backed Pipit. In recent years, both species have also been recorded in the Canary Islands, and Yellow-browed Warbler is likely a regular winterer there – in small but increasing numbers (de Juana 2008, García-del-Rey & García Vargas 2013). Taking as references Isenmann et al (2010), online bird sighting databases (www.observado.org and www.e-bird.org), as well as the species checklist at www.africanbirdclub.org, our sightings constitute the first record of Olive-backed Pipit (first two individuals) and the first and second record of Yellow-browed Warbler for Mauritania.

Considering the recent increase in numbers of sightings in Europe, the occurrence of both species in Mauritania may not come as a surprise. In autumn 2016, high numbers of eastern vagrants were recorded in Europe, eg, the largest ever influx of Yellow-browed Warblers in south-western Europe (Ławicki & van den Berg 2016). Nevertheless, sightings in Africa are of interest and could feed the discussions regarding the mechanism(s) causing an increase of both species in Europe and north-western Africa (see, eg, Thorup 1998, de Juana 2008). The huge increase in sightings is undoubtedly a result of increased observer effort but,

at least for Yellow-browed Warbler, it is generally accepted that there has been a genuine increase in the occurrence in Europe, considering the huge numbers involved in recent years (Van Impe & Derasse 1994, Gilroy & Lees 2003). Accepting a genuine increase, three hypotheses have been proposed: ***1*** 'true' vagrancy (eg, due to disorientation, in combination with an increasing/expanding breeding population; Thorup 1998, Thorup et al 2012, cf Pfeifer et al 2007); ***2*** 'pseudo-vagrancy' (birds perform a routine migration to an established but currently unknown wintering area and survive to reproduce; Gilroy & Lees 2003); or ***3*** westward '*Zwischenzug*' (exploratory migration by first-year birds, which later return eastwards to the regular wintering areas; de Juana 2008). Gilroy & Lees (2003) argued that both Olive-backed Pipit and Yellow-browed Warbler are good candidates to be 'pseudo-vagrants'. A critical aspect for this hypothesis is that both species would have established a new (but yet undiscovered) wintering range. Although Saharan Mauritania is within the latitudinal range of the usual wintering area, it is unlikely that this region holds significant wintering populations of the two species, considering the sparseness of suitable habitat. In this light, the timing of the Mauritanian records is interesting: within the autumn migration period, with still sufficient time to reach potential wintering areas south of the Sahara desert.

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Varia

Vanuatu Petrel

Vanuatu Petrel *Pterodroma occulta* is one of several poorly known seabirds of the southern Pacific Ocean. Both its breeding colonies and at-sea range have remained unknown for a long time. In appearance, it is much like White-necked Petrel *P cervicalis* and it was only formally described as a new taxon in 2001 (Imber & Tennyson 2001), although the history of its discovery goes back much longer; it was on 28-29 January 1927 that this taxon was first encountered (Imber & Tennyson 2001). On these dates, Rollo Beck collected six specimens east of Mere Lava, Vanuatu, South Pacific Ocean (situated south-east of New Guinea and north of New Caledonia, Australia), during the Whitney South Sea Expedition from the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH), New York. Although the taxon most closely resembles White-necked, all six specimens were identified as Juan Fernandez Petrels *P externa* (but it should be borne in mind that Juan Fernandez was for a long time considered conspecific with White-necked; Peters 1931, Falla 1976, cf Imber & Tennyson 2001). The six specimens lay untouched at AMNH for several decades, until Falla (1976) referred to their smaller dimensions compared with both Juan Fernandez and White-necked. Falla (1976) did not note any other distinguishing features from White-necked. A seventh specimen was secured when a road-killed petrel was found in eastern Australia halfway between Brisbane and Sydney, New South Wales, on 9 April 1983. This specimen was included in the collection of the Australian Museum, Sydney, as the first White-necked for Australia, although its measurements were noted to be closer to the Vanuatu specimens (Boles et al 1985, Imber & Tennyson 2001). Further study of this and the original six specimens led to the description of Vanuatu Petrel as a new species in 2001 (eg Onley & Scofield 2007, Clements et al 2016, Gill & Donsker 2016). Nowadays, one of the original six specimens is in the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa (Tennyson & Bartle 2008), while the other five original specimens remain in AMNH.

152 Vanuatu Petrel / Vanuatustormvogel *Pterodroma occulta*, at sea between Vanua Lava and Ureparapara, Banks Islands, Vanuatu, 26 April 2014 *(Pierre M A van der Wielen)*

153-154 Vanuatu Petrel / Vanuatustormvogel *Pterodroma occulta*, at sea between Vanua Lava and Ureparapara, Banks Islands, Vanuatu, 26 April 2014 *(Pierre M A van der Wielen)*

Morphology
Apart from the smaller measurements and a relatively longer tail, Imber & Tennyson (2001) mentioned few differences between White-necked Petrel and Vanuatu Petrel. They described differences on the underside of the primaries which Shirihai & Bretagnolle (2010) likened to the differences between Cory's Shearwater *Calonectris borealis* and Scopoli's Shearwater *C diomedea* (Guttiérrez 1998). Vanuatu tends to be darker grey on the underside of the primaries while White-necked is whiter. Overlap however exists between both taxa in that feature. Shirihai & Bretagnolle (2010) also noted that other plumage differences between both taxa were unhelpful when encountered at sea. The small differences between both taxa have led several authorities to the conclusion that Vanuatu does not deserve species status (Dickinson & Remsen 2013, del Hoyo et al 2016) although others concluded differently (Onley & Scofield 2007, Clements et al 2016, Gill & Donsker 2016).

Distribution
The only known breeding site for Vanuatu Petrel is in the mountains of Vanua Lava in northern Vanuatu, where a few small colonies were discovered in February 2009 (Totterman 2009). Its range at sea still remains unknown, although Shirihai & Bretagnolle (2010) mentioned several observations including one near New Caledonia. The Australian specimen also indicates that the species may at least straggle southwest of Vanua Lava. Following this discovery, the species was successfully searched for at sea off Vanuatu in February 2010 (Harrison 2010) and December 2010 (Shirihai & Bretagnolle 2010).

Observations in April 2014
In spring 2014, Pierre van der Wielen joined a trip by Heritage Expeditions during which the breeding islands of most of the tropical south-western Pacific petrels were visited. Of course, due to the rarity of some of these birds, sightings were not guaranteed. The expedition started with visiting Macaulay, part of the Kermadec Island group off New Zealand, where the spectacle of many 1000s of White-necked Petrels and Black-winged Petrels *P nigripennis* coming to their nests could be witnessed. These very vocal birds could be studied at close range and many photographs were taken. Next stop was at the Meyer Islands in the same group of islands which holds good numbers of Kermadec Petrel *P neglecta*. These jaeger-like

155-156 Vanuatu Petrel / Vanuatustormvogel *Pterodroma occulta*, at sea between Vanua Lava and Ureparapara, Banks Islands, Vanuatu, 26 April 2014 *(Pierre M A van der Wielen)* **157** Vanuatu Petrels / Vanuatustormvogels *Pterodroma occulta*, at sea between Vanua Lava and Ureparapara, Banks Islands, Vanuatu, 26 April 2014 *(Pierre M A van der Wielen)*

158 White-necked Petrel / Kermadecwitnekstormvogel *Pterodroma cervicalis*, off Tonga, Pacific Ocean, 7 April 2014 *(Pierre M A van der Wielen)* **159-161** White-necked Petrel / Kermadecwitnekstormvogel *Pterodroma cervicalis*, off Macauley, Kermadec Islands, New Zealand, 4 April 2014 *(Pierre M A van der Wielen)*

petrels visit their colonies also at daytime and have a spectacular display during which birds fly side by side along and above the cliffs, calling constantly. One of the main targets of the trip was a visit to Gau, Fiji, which is the only known island where Fiji Petrel *Pseudobulweria macgillivrayi* can be observed. Already during the first chumming session two birds were seen, and the expedition subsequently left early for Vanuatu.

On 21 April 2014, the first three presumed Vanuatu Petrels were seen between Fiji and Port Vila, Vanuatu. White-necked Petrels could of course not be excluded but the location and observed characters, visible in the field and on the photographs, suggested the target species. The birds looked slender with rather long, thin tails, giving a slightly more shearwater-like impression than White-necked.

The main event was planned for 26-27 April, when the expedition spent both days anchored close to the breeding island of Vanuatu Petrel. On the first morning, the first individuals were seen already before sunrise but none close to the ship. Still, the first good views and photographs were obtained and excitement rose quickly. After breakfast, the zodiacs were launched and it soon became clear that the petrels were not avoiding them; the rest of the morning, excellent views of up to 20 Vanuatu were obtained, sometimes even flying over the observers' heads. Several birds were actively feeding, chasing small flying fish often over 10s of meters. In the afternoon, again several Vanuatu were seen from the zodiacs. This time, they were mostly in mixed feeding flocks with Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus pacificus*, several species of booby *Sula* and Black Noddy *Anous minutus*. The petrels were often in front of or even way before these flocks and very active (as also described by Shirihai & Bretganolle 2010), often hard to follow with the zodiacs. No petrel showed visible moult and several birds seemed to have dirt sticking to their belly feathers, indicating that breeding still took place. No juvenile bird was seen with certainty. The photographs presented here as plate 152-157 are among the first ever made of Vanuatu Petrel at sea.

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Inaccessible Island Rail

Inaccessible Island Rail (also known as Inaccessible Rail or Inaccessible Island Flightless Rail) *Atlantisia rogersi* is the sole surviving representative of the genus *Atlantisia* (del Hoyo et al 1996, Taylor & van Perlo 1998). It is endemic to Inaccessible Island (37°31′S, 12°68′W), a remote uninhabited rock of volcanic origin and UNESCO World Heritage Site in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean and part of the Tristan da Cunha archipelago (politically part of the United Kingdom). The island measures 14 km^2 and is a massive flat-topped rock, rising up to 449 m from the sea, with more or less vertical slopes on all sides. On closer look, one finds the flat plateau covered with trees and ferns and the lower slopes have tussock-grass *Spartina arundinacea*, growing up to 3 m tall.

History

The genus and species were described as recently as 1923 by Percy Lowe (Lowe 1923), who named it after H M C Rogers, the resident chaplain of Tristan da Cunha. Rogers had been responsible for sending the first specimens to England. Its genus name was derived from the name of Atlantis, the lost continent from which it, according to Lowe's believe, must have originated. Since it is the smallest flightless bird on the planet and continents are far away, Lowe was convinced these birds made it to the island on foot (Beintema 2007). However, an osteological study by Olson (1973) found two related species, Saint Helena Swamphen *A podarces* from Saint Helena and Ascension Crake *A elpenor* from Ascension, which both became extinct after human colonisation of these islands. Despite their larger size, their similarity to *A rogersi* suggested they were descendants from a common mainland ancestor species that arrived as vagrant or migrant to all three islands, after which loss of flight capacity and differences in body size evolved in response to local environmental conditions. Later, Bourne et al (2003) argued that it is more likely that these species have evolved independently and therefore placed Ascension Crake in a genus of its own, renaming it *Mundia elpenor*. Similar controversy exists for Saint Helena Swamphen, which is now considered to be not even closely related to *A rogersi* and may hence be better renamed *Aphanocrex podarces*, leaving *A rogersi* (again) as the single known representative of its genus.

162 Inaccessible Island Rail / Inaccessibleral *Atlantisia rogersi*, Inaccessible Island, South Atlantic Ocean, 13 April 2011 *(Menno van Duijn)*

163 Inaccessible Island, South Atlantic Ocean, 27 March 2006 *(Marc Guyt/Agami)*

164 Waiting for Inaccessible Island Rail *Atlantisia rogersi*, Inaccessible Island, South Atlantic Ocean, 13 April 2011 *(Garry Bakker)*

165 Inaccessible Island, South Atlantic Ocean, 13 April 2011 *(Garry Bakker)*

166 Inaccessible Island Rail / Inaccessibleral *Atlantisia rogersi*, Inaccessible Island, South Atlantic Ocean, 13 April 2011 *(Menno van Duijn)*

Ecology

There are not many publications on the ecology of Inaccessible Island Rail but, based on extensive studies from October 1982 to February 1983 and in October 1989, Fraser et al (1992) published a rather detailed account. The population was estimated at 8400 birds (an extrapolation based on observed densities), which is thought to represent the carrying capacity level based on available habitat and observed low reproduction rate. Nests are located on the ground in different types of low vegetation, particularly tussock grass, sedges and ferns. An average clutch consists of two eggs and is incubated by both sexes, who take care of the chicks together. The rails live throughout the island, in a broad range of vegetation types, at all altitudes, and both on flat and steep parts. The species is largely diurnal but also forages and calls at night. Its behaviour is characterized by slow and deliberate movements but also by extremely fast runs when alarmed or in pursuit of an intruder. Since it also uses vegetation tunnels, its behaviour has sometimes been compared to that of a mouse (Fraser et al 1992). Its diet consists of a wide variety of invertebrates. Additionally, Ryan et al (1989) studied morphometrics of 13 adult birds and body temperature and metabolic rate of eight of them, captured in September-October 1987 and October-November 1988. They measured a relatively low basic metabolic rate in comparison with non-passerines of the same weight and flying Rallidae species in particular. Therefore, they suggested that this and other energy conservative features, like flightlessness and small size, are special traits which have evolved in the absence of major predators and competitors.

Inaccessible Island Rail is highly vocal; see Fraser et al (1992) for extensive descriptions of various calls of both adults and chicks.

Morphology

As Inaccessible Island Rail has been observed by few, and good images of the bird in its natural habitat have been scarce for a long time, particularly before the digital era, it has been depicted in various (inaccurate to completely wrong) ways. Some books wrongly depict it more or less like a small *Porzana* rail, while others do more justice to its true appearance. It is a truly small bird, generally dark grey, showing a rather 'fluffy' hair-like plumage, caused by a reduced number of barbules in the body-feathers (Lowe 1928). The flight-feathers

167 Inaccessible Island Rail / Inaccessibleral *Atlantisia rogersi*, Inaccessible Island, South Atlantic Ocean, 27 March 2006 *(Marc Guyt/Agami)*

168 Inaccessible Island Rail / Inaccessibleral *Atlantisia rogersi*, Inaccessible Island, South Atlantic Ocean, 13 April 2011 *(Menno van Duijn)*

169 Spectacled Petrel / Brilstormvogel *Procellaria conspicillata*, off Tristan da Cunha, South Atlantic Ocean, 12 April 2011 *(Garry Bakker)*

and tail are poorly developed, preventing it to migrate. The legs and bill are dark grey, the eyes are red in adult birds and placed a bit to the front of the head adding to an 'evil' facial expression. Juveniles show a brown iris combined with a brown crown and brown upperparts. Sexes are alike, although males tend to be slightly larger, heavier, longer winged and longer billed than females (Ryan et al 1989, Fraser et al 1992) and there are minor differences in colour of the cheek and ear-coverts as well (Fraser et al 1992).

Threats

Although there are no reports of a recent population decline, the unintended introduction of mammalian predators (eg, Black Rat *Rattus rattus* and House Mouse *Mus domesticus*) remains a serious threat as long as people come ashore. Therefore, Inaccessible Island Rail is qualified as 'Vulnerable' (BirdLife International 2017). Reportedly, pigs, cattle, goats, sheep and dogs were introduced to the island on several occasions during the last two centuries but the last of them were removed in the 1950s (http://tinyurl.com/my4f5kc). Fires destroyed much of the islands tussock vegetation in 1872 and 1909, and hence, many rails must have died (Fraser et al 1992). Such fires have not been documented since and the rail population fully recovered but they still form a potential threat for the species.

Other bird species

Because Inaccessible Island, unlike nearby Tristan da Cunha, is still free of mammalian predators like Black Rat and House Mouse, it is one of the core breeding sites for seabirds in the South Atlantic (cf Fraser et al 1988, Ryan et al 1990, Ryan & Moloney 2000, Robson et al 2011). It has, for instance, 54 000 pairs of Northern Rockhopper Penguin *Eudyptes moseleyi*, up to two million pairs of Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis*, half a million pairs of Broad-billed Prion *Pachyptila vittata* and an estimated 10 000 pairs of Spectacled Petrel *Procellaria conspicillata*, which comprises the entire world breeding population, making this another endemic breeding species to Inaccessible. When one comes ashore at daytime, two landbirds may superficially dominate, however: Tristan Thrush *Turdus eremita gordoni* and Inaccessible Finch *Nesospiza acunhae* (the latter represented by three subspecies, nominate *N a acunhae* along the coasts, *N a dunnei* along the island's shores

170 Tristan Trush / Tristanlijster *Turdus eremita gordoni*, Inaccessible Island, South Atlantic Ocean, 13 April 2011 *(Garry Bakker)*

171 Inaccessible Island Finch / Inaccessiblegors *Nesospiza acunhae dunnei*, Inaccessible Island, South Atlantic Ocean, 13 April 2011 *(Garry Bakker)*

and in its eastern interior and *N a fraseri* only on the island's interior plateau). The thrush behaves like a scavenger and predator and forms a natural threat to the rail's nests. Other natural predators are scarce, Brown Skua *Stercorarius antarcticus hamiltoni* being the main one.

Accessing Inaccessible Island

Inaccessible Island – as its name already suggests – ranks high among the most difficult places to access on earth. It is part of the Tristan da Cunha archipelago, which further consists of Tristan da Cunha, the main island where Tristan's citizens live, Nightingale Island and Gough.

Tristan da Cunha qualifies as the most remote permanently inhabited island on earth, home to 264 people representing nine families (as of 30 November 2016; www.tristandc.com/population.php). An attempt to visit Inaccessible, implies that one first needs to get to Tristan da Cunha, 40 km to the north-east. It is located in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean, at 2816 km from the nearest point of South Africa and 3360 km from South America. The nearest (recently constructed) airport lies at 2430 km to the north on Saint Helena, another remote dot in the ocean. This means that the easiest way to get there is by boat from Cape Town, South Africa, which takes seven days.

As a nature reserve, visiting Inaccessible Island is normally restricted to inhabitants of nearby Tristan da Cunha, who infrequently visit it to collect guano and driftwood on the few accessible shores. Hence, once arrived near the main island, one needs permission and personal guidance from Tristan's citizens. Any arrangements prior to arrival should be made, which may be a challenge by itself (cf Beintema 1997). But even then, a visit is far from guaranteed. Located in the so-called roaring forties, the area has an infamous reputation for bad weather. Reportedly, c 300 days a year, circumstances are too bad to reach the island's shores. The only way to enter the shore is a 'wet' landing by zodiac. There are few places along its rocky shores readily accessible for a landing, and only when the weather and, more importantly, the swell allows.

Birders

Only few birders have had the opportunity to visit Inaccessible Island and see its rail. The Atlantic Odyssey, the annual repositioning cruise of a polar expedition vessel from Ushuaia, Argentina, to the Netherlands, pays a visit to the Tristan da Cunha archipelago and has a long history with visiting birders and dealing with their particular wishes. It offers possibly the best – and most affordable – chance for a visit. In 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007 and 2011, swells were not too heavy and Inaccessible Island became accessible for participants of the Odyssey. However, for the last five years, people did not have such luck on their side. Even Albert Beintema, a Dutch ecologist who visited the archipelago c 20 times, succeeded only once in landing on the island and seeing its holy (g)rail. He got fascinated by the archipelago, its inhabitants and its birds already decades ago and published two books (Beintema 1997, 2007), both mandatory reading for anyone considering a visit to one of the world's most difficult-to-reach birds.

The accompanying photographs were taken during the visit of MV Plancius to Inaccessible Island on 27 March 2006 and 13 April 2011.

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WP reports

This review lists rare and interesting Western Palearctic birds reported mainly from **February to mid-March 2017**. The reports are largely unchecked and their publication here does not imply future acceptance by a rarities committee. Observers are requested to submit their records to each country's rarities committee. Corrections are welcome and will be published.

GEESE TO DUCKS A **Black Brant** *Branta nigricans* at Hinactacan, Lapaz, on 4-12 February was the first for the Philippines. The sixth **Snow Goose** *Anser caerulescens* for the Azores was found at Praia do Norte, Faial, on 5 March. Following an eradication programme that started in 2000, the population of **Ruddy Duck** *Oxyura jamaicensis* in Britain declined from c 6000 individuals to 75 pairs in 2009 to only four to six pairs in 2016 (Br Birds 110: 101-103, 2017). A **Dresser's Eider** *Somateria mollissima dresseri* photographed at Clearwater beach on 19 December 2016 was the first for Bermuda. The previous winter's **American White-winged Scoter** *Melanitta deglandi deglandi* at Keflavík, Iceland, from 11 January remained into March. The adult males **Black Scoter** *M americana* remained off Rossbeigh, Kerry, Ireland, from 25 October to 3 March and off Goswick, Northumberland, England, from 29 December to 8 March. In Denmark, three returning males were reported: at Blåvand on 21-27 January; at Lakolk on 31 January; and at Asserbo Strand, Hovedstaden, on 14 February. A **Bufflehead** *Bucephala albeola* at Sandgerði, Iceland, from 9 November 2016 stayed into March. In Scotland, the male **Hooded Merganser** *Lophodytes cucullatus* remained at Lochwinnoch, Clyde, from December 2016 until at least 23 February. The first **Harlequin Duck** *Histrionicus histrionicus* for Kazakhstan on Irtysh river at Öskemen from 13 December 2016 remained into March; the first for Beijing, China, was a female at Anzhenmen from mid-January. If accepted, a male **Redhead** *Aythya americana* photographed at Plobsheim, Bas-Rhin, on 23-26 February will be the first for France. There are four pre-2016 records in the WP: in England (the same male on 8-27 March 1996 and 4-24 February 1997), Iceland (15 June to 10 July 1998 and 11-12 July 1998) and Ireland (12-15 July 2003); after a review, four previous British records from 2001-07 were removed because of identification doubts (Br Birds 108: 158-167, 2015). An unringed male in Groningen, the Netherlands, in January-March 2016 is still under consideration by the Dutch rarities committee (cf Dutch Birding 38: 183, 194, 256, 2016). A male **Baikal Teal** *Anas formosa* stayed with a flock of Eurasian Wigeons *A penelope* at Noordwijk, Zuid-Holland, Netherlands, from 4 February to at least 22 March. In Hungary, an adult male was seen at Gonyu, Győr-Moson-Sopron, on 4-7 March. The resident males **American Black Duck** *A rubripes* at Strontian, Highland, Scotland, and at Dagshög, Skåne, Sweden, remained into March.

FLAMINGOS TO DOVES In Spain, seven **Lesser Flamingos** *Phoenicopterus minor* were present in February, including three adults at Fuentedepiedra lagoon, Málaga, on 28 February. The long-staying **Pied-billed Grebe** *Podylimbus podiceps* at Estanque del Matorral, Gran Canaria, Canary Islands, from November 2015 remained into March. A **Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis* at the river Sog from 19 January to 10 March was the third for Iceland. The first-winter **Rufous Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis meena* at Revtangen, Rogaland, Norway, from 10 December remained into March. The first living ones to be seen in Cyprus concerned one at Mandria on 9 March and then two here from 19 March (the previous one was shot in December 2016). Three **Namaqua Doves** *Oena capensis* at Pedra Badejo, Santiago, on 27 February concerned the fourth record for the Cape Verde Islands (singles were seen in 1995, 2006 and 2016).

NIGHTJARS TO CUCKOOS Mitochondrial and nuclear DNA of a female **Golden Nightjar** *Caprimulgus eximius* found dead at Oued Jenna, Aousserd, Oued Ad-Dehab, Western Sahara, Morocco, on 20 April 2016 was sequenced and compared with other species in the genus *Caprimulgus*. It was concluded with strong support that Golden Nightjar is most closely related to Egyptian Nightjar *C aegyptius*; it is hypothesized that these two species may have arisen by divergence of a single ancestral species into migratory and sedentary populations. The dead bird had a large vascularized brood patch, suggesting active breeding. Up to four singing males had been found in this area in March-April 2016 (Ostrich 88: 1-6, 2017, cf Dutch Birding 38: 80-86, 186, 240, 246, 2016). This winter, up to four were heard calling at Oued Jenna from 5 February to at least mid-March. Further south in Western Sahara, one was discovered at Adrar Soutouf, Oued Ad-Dehab, on 2 March. The first **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** *Coccyzus americanus* for Tristan da Cunha in the South Atlantic Ocean was picked up alive on 19 November 2015 but died soon after, weighing 34 g

172 American Royal Tern / Amerikaanse Koningsstern *Sterna maxima maxima*, first-winter, Miellette, Guernsey, Channel Islands, 5 February 2017 *(Andy Marquis/guernseywildlife.co.uk)*

173 Ivory Gull / Ivoormeeuw *Pagophila eburnea*, adult, Sankt Peter-Ording, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, 17 January 2017 *(Reinder Genuït)* cf Dutch Birding 39: 50, 2017

174 Cape Gull / Afrikaanse Kelpmeeuw *Larus dominicanus vetula*, adult, Akhfennir, Western Sahara, Morocco, 17 March 2017 *(Arnoud B van den Berg/The Sound Approach)*

175 Cape Gulls / Afrikaanse Kelpmeeuwen *Larus dominicanus vetula*, adult, Akhfennir, Western Sahara, Morocco, 25 February 2017 *(Robert Swann)*

176 Bearded Vulture / Lammergier *Gypaetus barbatus*, second calendar-year, Delft, Zuid-Holland, Netherlands, 12 March 2017 *(Wietze Janse)*

177 Pacific Loon / Pacifische Parelduiker *Gavia pacifica*, first-winter, Druridge Bay, Northumberland, England, 23 January 2017 *(Alan Curry)*

178 Black Heron / Zwarte Reiger *Egretta ardesiaca*, Tarrafal, São Nicolau, Cape Verde Islands, 10 March 2017 *(Daniel López-Velasco)* **179** Snow Goose / Sneeuwgans *Anser caerulescens*, Sete Cidades, São Miguel, Azores, 20 December 2016 *(Gerbrand Michielsen)* cf Dutch Birding 39: 43, 2017 **180** Ring-billed Gull / Ringsnavelmeeuw *Larus delawarensis*, adult, with Black-headed Gulls / Kokmeeuwen *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*, Hitdorf, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany, 13 February 2017 *(Norbert Uhlhaas)*

(the species' typical weight is 55-70 g); it concerned the first record of this genus in the Southern Hemisphere outside South America (Bull Br Ornithol Club 136: 214-215, 2016).

RAILS A **Corn Crake** *Crex crex* photographed at Laxmi Nagar on 9-10 February was the first for Great Nicobar Island. A **Sora** *Porzana carolina* at Silves, Algarve, from early January into March was the first for mainland Portugal. An early **Baillon's Crake** *Zapornia pusilla* was seen at St Levan, Cornwall, England, on 10 March. The first **Grey-headed Swamphen** *Porphyrio poliocephalus* for Bermuda stayed at Somerset Long Bay from 25 October to 19 November 2016; presumably, it originated from the introduced population in Florida, USA. An **Allen's Gallinule** *P alleni* landing on a boat at c 240 km from the Amazon river mouth on 28 January was the first for Brazil and South America. The first for the Cape Verde Islands was at Barragem de Poilão, Santiago, on 12-13 February. The **American Coot** *Fulica americana* at Balranald, North Uist, Outer Hebrides, Scotland, from 11 November 2016 remained into March. Three individuals were present on São Miguel, Azores, during February-March.

CRANES TO BUSTARDS After its ninth winter in Mazandaran province, Iran, the last **Siberian Crane** *Grus leucogeranus* ('Omid') of the species' nearly extirpated western population left on 4 March (cf Dutch Birding 39: 44, 2017). **Great Bustards** *Otis tarda* avoid vertical structures such as hedges and trees, let alone man-made structures like power lines, wind mills and roads, which increase mortality through collisions; due to careful management dealing with these threats, the population in Austria recovered from an all-time low of 60 individuals in the 1990s to c 240 individuals by 2012; in that year, in

181 Brown-necked Raven / Bruinnekraaf *Corvus ruficollis*, Pantelleria, Italy, 2 March 2017 *(Pietro Ferrandes)* **182** Brown-necked Raven / Bruinnekraaf *Corvus ruficollis*, Teguise, Lanzarote, Canary Islands, 5 February 2017 *(Richard Katzinger)* **183** Lappet-faced Vultures / Oorgieren *Torgos tracheliotos*, Bir Shalatayn, Egypt, 14 February 2017 *(Torsten Pröhl/fokus-natur.de)*

Hungary, a total of 1555 individuals was estimated to be present at nine sites situated in six national parks (Aquila 121: 37-63, 2014). In Central Asia, remnant populations were small and isolated in the beginning of the 21st century, the species being rare or almost extinct in former Soviet republics and provinces in Russia, except for Saratov (but 'population requires continued monitoring' here after a decline from 3000 to 900 individuals in 1998-2013) and perhaps Samara ('rare') (Aquila 121: 107-132, 2014).

LOONS TO PETRELS A **Red-throated Loon** *Gavia stellata* photographed at Vijaydurga Fort, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra, on 26 December 2015 was the first for India and the third for the Indian subcontinent (Indian Birds 11: 101-102, 2016). In England, **Pacific Loons** *G pacifica* were present at Penzance, Cornwall, from 18 December to 22 February (adult); at East Chevington, Northumberland, from 18 January to at least 17 March (first-winter); and at Broadsands, Devon, from 16 February to 7 March (first-winter). As many as 326 **Common Loons** *G immer* were counted at Loch Tarbert, Argyll, Scotland, on 31 January. A **Northern Fulmar** *Fulmarus glacialis* photographed off Valparaíso on 11 February was the first for Chile and the southernmost for Pacific America. In Bermuda, a record number of 115 pairs of the endemic **Bermuda Petrel** *Pterodroma cahow* fledged 56 young in 2016. WP records of this species include the same returning individual trapped on four occasions on Santa Maria, Azores, in 2002-06, and one seen at sea off Ireland in 2014; data from geolocators show that many birds spend the winter near the Azores and reach waters up to 160-200 km off south-western Ireland and north-western Spain (Br Birds 110: 155-172, 2017, cf Bull Br Ornithol Club 124: 202-206, 2004, Dutch Birding 29: 45, 2007, 36: 267, 2014, North Am Birds 67: 546-557, 2014). If accepted, a **Black-capped Petrel** *P hasitata* flying past El Barril headland, São Nicolau, on 11 March

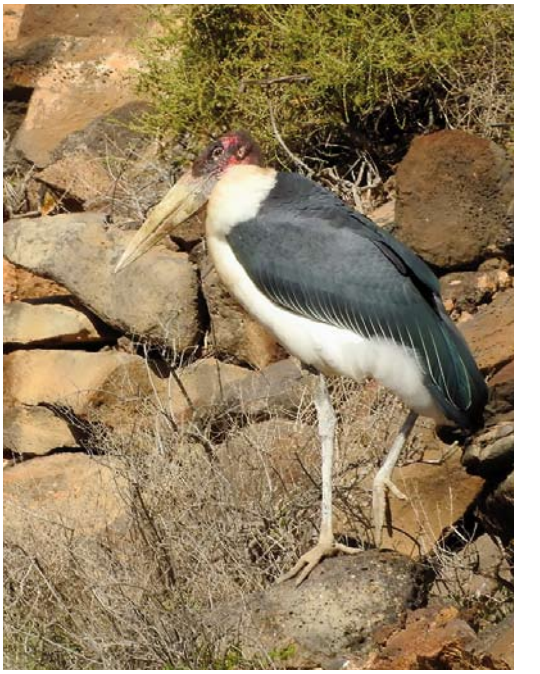
will be the first for the Cape Verde Islands and the eighth for the WP (previous ones were in Britain in 1850 and 1984, off Spain in 2002, off Azores in 2007, 2009 and 2011, and off Madeira in 2010).

PELICANS TO CORMORANTS A **Dalmatian Pelican** *Pelecanus crispus* at Umm al-Qaiwain on 1 March may be the third for the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The 10th **Black Heron** *Egretta ardesiaca* for the Cape Verde Islands was photographed at Tarrafal, São Nicolau, on 10 March; elsewhere, 'greater WP' records have been in Greece (3-12 June 2012), Israel (19-20 October 1982), Oman (9 September to 25 October 1994) and Yemen (30-31 March and 26 April 1996 and 23 January 1997). In the Cape Verde Islands, two female **Magnificent Frigatebirds** *Fregata magnificens* were seen on Boavista on 5 January, and again one was there on 18 February. A **Brown Booby** *Sula leucogaster* at Sesimbra, Setúbal, Portugal, on 22 February was the same individual as the one at the same site in July-October 2016 (cf Dutch Birding 38: 453, 2016). In the Azores, two Double-crested Cormorants *Phalacrocorax auritus* reported on São Miguel on 28 December 2016 in fact concerned **Great Cormorants** *P carbo* (contra Dutch Birding 39: 50, 2017).

WADERS The first-winter **Killdeer** *Charadrius vociferus* at Sandwick, Mainland, Shetland, Scotland, from 13 November 2016 remained through mid-March. The importance of Pakistan as a wintering area for **Sociable Lapwings** *Vanellus gregarius* was previously unclear but GPS positions of two individuals tagged in Kazakhstan in 2015 revealed the presence of a flock of 200 near Dadu, Sindh, and another flock near Khairpur Nathan Shah, Sindh, in December 2016 and January 2017. The long-staying **Hudsonian Whimbrel** *Numenius hudsonicus* at Perranuthnoe, Cornwall, from October 2015 remained at least to the end of February. The second for Spain stayed at Santoña, Cantabria, from 29 January to 4 March (the first was in 2009). Buchanan et al (2017) used stable isotope values in feather samples from 35 juvenile **Slender-billed Curlew** *N tenuirostris* museum specimens to show that potential breeding areas may have been located in the steppes of northern Kazakhstan and parts of southern Russia between 48°N and 56°N (the core of this area was around 50°N, south of the only known nesting sites in Omsk province, western Siberia, Russia). The last record of this species was at Merja Zerga, Morocco, in winter 1994/95 (http://tinyurl.com/hukzfc7, cf Dutch Birding 17: 30, 78, 1995). Pearce-Higgins et al (2017) revealed that habitat loss could lead to the extinction of over half of the world's curlew and godwit species (Bird Conserv Int 27: 6-34, 2017). The estimated breeding population of **Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa* in the Netherlands has declined from 47 000 pairs in 2007 to 33 000 in 2015 (an average of 3.7% per year); since 1967, the Dutch population dropped almost 75% (Ardea 104: 213-225, 2016). A **Great Knot** *Calidris tenuirostris* ringed and marked with a black-and-yellow flag on the left leg at the estuary of the Khairusova-Belogolovaya river, Kamchatka, Russia, on 28 July 2016 was found at 8300 km distance at Khor al Beida, UAE, on 20 January. It confirms that birds from Kamchatka reach as far west as the Arabian Gulf, where they winter regularly in the Arabian peninsula with largest concentrations at Barr al Hikman, Oman (eg, 1260 individuals in February 1996). A **Broad-billed Sandpiper** *C falcinellus* at Banc d'Arguin on 27 January was the fourth for Mauritania. The first **Stilt Sandpiper** *C himantopus* for the Cape Verde Islands was photographed at Riu Tuareg lagoon, Boavista, on 4 March. The first **Baird's Sandpiper** *C bairdii* for Mongolia was videoed at Tamir river bank on 11 February. A **Jack Snipe** *Lymnocryptes minimus* at Pedra Badejo, Santiago, on 25-27 February was the third for the Cape Verde Islands (previous ones were in 1986 and 2007). Two **Long-billed Dowitchers** *Limnodromus scolopaceus* near Narimanabad, Kizil Agach, on 31 January were the first for Azerbaijan.

GULLS In Tarfaya, Western Sahara, two adult and two presumed second-winter **Cape Gulls** *Larus dominicanus vetula* were photographed at Khnifiss on 15 February, two adults at the dump south of Akhfennir on 25 February, and a pair and a single adult on the beach south of Akhfennir on 17-18 March. On 17 March, up to six adult **Great Black-backed Gulls** *L marinus* were present at the Khnifiss lagoon. An adult **Lesser Black-backed Gull** *L fuscus* on Diego Garcia on 3-6 February 2016 was the first for the Chagos Archipelago (BirdingASIA 26: 124-125, 2016). The **Thayer's Gull** *L thayeri* spending its 10th winter at Xove, Lugo, Spain, remained into at least early March. If accepted, a third-winter **Glaucous-winged Gull** *L glaucescens* on Fair Isle, Shetland, from 2 March will be the third for Britain and the ninth for the WP; previous ones were in the Canary Islands (7-10 February 1992), Morocco (31 January 1995), England (15 December 2006 to 18 April 2007 and 31 December 2008 to 10 January 2009), Denmark (returning individual between 27 November 2009 and 11 February 2012), Norway (4-27 July 2011), Iceland (30 January to 12 March 2015) and Ireland (2 January to 2 May 2016).

TERNS A **Sooty Tern** *Onychoprion fuscatus* off Raso on 8-9 March was the first for the Cape Verde Islands. The first **White-winged Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus* for Brazil and South America was photographed at Tavares, Rio Grande do Sul, on 6 February. An adult **Roseate Tern** *Sterna dougallii* on São Nicolao on 10 March was the third for the Cape Verde Islands. In Ireland, an adult **Forster's Tern** *S forsteri* was reported at several sites in Galway during February-March. The ninth for the Azores was seen at Ponta Delgada, São Miguel, from 15 February to at least 12 March. A first-winter **American Royal Tern** *S maxima maxima* wearing a ring probably from North Carolina, USA, was present on Guernsey, Channel Islands, from 5 February to at least 13 March. A genetic study by Collinson et al (2017) shows that **African Royal Tern** *S m albididorsalis* and American Royal are not each other's closest relatives, both being part of a genetic cluster with Lesser Crested Tern *S bengalensis* and Greater Crested Tern *S bergii*, and that African Royal should be treated as a distinct species, which supports previous studies showing that morphological and genetic similari-



184 Long-billed Dowitcher / Grote Grijze Snip *Limnodromus scolopaceus*, Narimanabad, Kizil Agach, Azerbaijan, 31 January 2017 *(Jos van Oostveen/Kaukasus Plus Reizen)* **185** Marabou Stork / Afrikaanse Maraboe *Leptoptilos crumenifer*, Puerto del Rosario, Fuerteventura, Canary Islands, 24 January 2017 *(Guus van Duin)* cf Dutch Birding 39: 44, 2017 **186** Sora / Soraral *Porzana carolina*, Silves, Algarve, Portugal, 26 January 2017 *(Nigel Genn)*

187 Blue-winged Teal / Blauwvleugeltaling *Anas discors*, male, with Gadwalls / Krakeenden *A strepera* and Eurasian Coot / Meerkoet *Fulica atra*, Boisdorfer See, Kerpen, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany, 14 February 2017 *(Norbert Uhlhaas)* **188** Baikal Teal / Siberische Taling *Anas formosa*, male (right), with Eurasian Wigeon / Smient *A penelope*, Noordwijk, Zuid-Holland, Netherlands, 14 februari 2017 *(René van Rossum)* **189** Pale-bellied Brent Goose / Witbuikrotgans *Branta hrota*, adult, Tenerife, Canary Islands, 3 March 2017 *(Maarten Sluijter)* **190** Redhead / Amerikaanse Tafeleend *Aythya americana*, male, with Tufted Duck *A fuligula*, male, Plobsheim, Bas-Rhin, France, 26 February 2017 *(Tobias Epple)*

ties are poorly correlated in these taxa (http://tinyurl.com/hg8rxet).

RAPTORS TO OWLS The first **Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus* for Croatia was an adult at Bokanjačko blato, Zadar, from 28 August to 10 October 2016 (Larus 51: 38-65, 2016, cf Dutch Birding 39: 1-12, 2017). A reportedly unringed second calendar-year **Bearded Vulture** *Gypaetus barbatus* was present near Bonn, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany, from 18 January to 10 March, and the same individual (based on a damaged primary) was flying over Zuid-Holland and Noord-Brabant, the Netherlands, on 12-13 March. It concerned the 16th (!) immature, after the reintroductions in the Alps started, to turn up in the Netherlands since 1997 but the first for March. Two singles were seen in 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2011, and one occurred in 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2012, 2015 and 2016, all in May-July except for one on 21 August 1999 (see, eg, Dutch Birding 19: 121-123, 1997, 24: 234-245, 2002, 27: 195-201, 2005, 28: 242-254, 2006, 34: 178-194, 2012). The long-staying **Bateleur** *Terathopius ecaudatus* was reported from different locations in Judean plains, Israel, in January-March. In Egypt, 19 **Lappet-faced Vultures** *Torgos tracheliotos* were seen at Bir Shalatayn on 13 February. For the third consecutive winter, a **Greater Spotted Eagle** *Aquila clanga* wintered in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, from 23 October 2016 to at least 15 March. The adult male **Northern Harrier** *Circus hudsonius* remained on North Ronaldsay, Orkney, Scotland, into March. According to BTO reports, a **Common Barn Owl** *Tyto alba* ringed as a nestling near Wendlebury, Oxfordshire, England, on 5 June 2005 has been found dead 5834 km to the east in Afghanistan on 4 April 2006. In Ireland, **Snowy Owls** *Bubo scandiacus* remained at Spiddal, Galway, from 10 December to 31 January and at Aghagower, Mayo,

191 Allen's Gallinule / Afrikaans Purperhoen *Porphyrio alleni*, Barragem de Poilão, Santiago, Cape Verde Islands, 13 February 2017 *(Mads Elley)* **192** Sooty Tern / Bonte Stern *Onychoprion fuscatus*, adult, off Raso, Cape Verde Islands, 8 March 2017 *(Ernst Albegger)* **193** Stilt Sandpiper / Steltstrandloper *Calidris himantopus*, Riu Tuareg lagoon, Boavista, Cape Verde Islands, 4 March 2017 *(Ernst Albegger)* **194** Hudsonian Whimbrel / Amerikaanse Regenwulp *Numenius hudsonicus*, Santoña, Cantabria, Spain, 29 January 2017 *(Haritz Sarasa)*

from 29 January to 8 March. The one on Papa Westray and Eday, Orkney, Scotland, stayed until at least 11 February.

BEE-EATERS TO SHRIKES If accepted, a **White-throated Bee-eater** *Merops albicollis* at Attitude garden, Dakhla bay, Western Sahara, from 28 February to at least the end of March will be the second for Morocco and the WP 'sensu BWP' (the first was at Tachektent, Oued Ad-Dehab, Western Sahara, on 5-6 December 2013). In the 'greater WP', the species breeds in south-western Saudi Arabia and western Yemen, and there are two records in Oman (29 September 1989 and 26 October 2002) and one in the UAE (same individual on 20 November 1989 and 5 March 1990). In Spain, a census of **Monk Parakeets** *Myiopsitta monachus* in 2015 revealed the presence of 18 980-21 455 individuals in 27 provinces, with largest populations in Barcelona and Madrid (6000-7000 individuals and more than 2000 nests each). In an eradication programme in England, 62 individuals were killed and 21 nests destroyed in 2009-14; the population was estimated at 20-30 pairs in 2012-14, almost all in Greater London and Hertfordshire (Br Birds 110: 105-106, 2017). In Brussels, Belgium, 139 communal nests in eight colonies with a total population of 220-250 individuals were counted in 2016 (Aves 53: 19-28, 2016). A first-winter **Brown Shrike** *Lanius cristatus* at Den Helder, Noord-Holland, from 19 February to 7 March was the second for the Netherlands (the first was in January-May 2014; cf Dutch Birding 37: 229-233, 2015). A **Steppe Grey Shrike** *L lahtora pallidirostris* at Canal del Guadaíra, Coria del Río, Sevilla, from 16 January to 10 March (ringed on 9 February) was the second for Spain; the first was at Almería, Andalucía, from 29 November 2016 to 7 March (cf Dutch Birding 39: 52-53, 2017).

CROWS TO SWALLOWS **Pied Crows** *Corvus albus* in Morocco this winter included the one first seen at Tarfaya

195 Black Scrub Robin / Zwarte Waaierstaart *Cercotrichas podobe*, first-winter, Hai Bar, Yotvata, Israel, 22 February 2017 *(Zbigniew Kajzer)* **196** Dusky Thrush / Bruine Lijster *Turdus eunomus*, first-winter, Zenson di Piave, Treviso, Italy, 5 February 2017 *(Roberto Are)* **197** Marmora's Warbler / Sardijnse Grasmus *Sylvia sarda*, Dwejra, Gozo, Malta, 5 February 2017 *(Raymond Galea)* **198** Thick-billed Lark / Diksnavelleeuwerik *Ramphocoris clotbey*, Terra Boa, Sal, Cape Verde Islands, 2 March 2017 *(Inge Meijer)*

on 9 January and then at Khnifiss on 23 January and the long-stayer at M'hamid, Zagora, from November 2015 to at least 21 March; the species' first record for Morocco was in December 2009 and the first breeding occurred in spring 2010 in Western Sahara, with several additional records since (cf Dutch Birding 32: 329-332, 2010, 37: 271, 414, 2015, 38: 190, 462, 2016, 39: 53, 2017). A **Brown-necked Raven** *C ruficollis* at Teguise, Lanzarote, on 5 February may be the first for the Canary Islands. The first for Italy was photographed on Pantelleria, Sicily, on 3 March; previous European records were at Vila-Seca, Tarragona, Spain, on 11 April 2013 (presumed to be ship-assisted and placed in 'category D') and on Cape Greco, Cyprus, on 25 March 2016. Eight **Thick-billed Larks** *Ramphocoris clotbey* at Terra Boa, Sal, on 2 March were the first for the Cape Verde Islands. If accepted, a **Wire-tailed Swallow** *Hirundo smithii* photographed at Raisi dam, Sistan, Baluchestan, on 26 January will be the second for Iran (the first was on 27 December 2015).

SCRUB WARBLERS TO LEAF WARBLERS **Sahara Scrub Warblers** *Scotocerca inquieta saharae* near Dakhla, Western Sahara, on 10-11 January were the southernmost for Morocco (Go-South Bull 14: 5-10, 2017, cf Dutch Birding 35: 107-121, 2013). A leaf warbler found freshly dead on St Agnes, Scilly, England, on 21 October 2016 was identified by DNA analysis as the first **Pale-legged Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus tenellipes* for the WP (cf Dutch Birding 38: 462, 2016). The fifth **Pallas's Leaf Warbler** *P proregulus* for Israel wintered at Wadi David, Ein Gedi, from 26 January to at least 9 March (there are only c 10 records in the Middle East). During February, at least 12 **Yellow-browed Warblers** *P inornatus* were present in the Canary Islands, including up to five at Pájara, Fuerteventura.

SYLVIAS TO REED WARBLERS The third **African Desert Warbler** *Sylvia deserti* for the Cape Verde Islands was found at Santa Maria, Sal, on 16 March (previous ones

were in 1924 and 2012). DNA analysis revealed that the first nominate **Hume's Whitethroat** *S althaea althaea* for the Netherlands and Europe was trapped and ringed at Meijendel, Zuid-Holland, on 16 September 2014. If accepted, an individual at Barik on 18 February will be the fourth for Oman. A **Lesser Whitethroat** *S curruca* at Djurdjura on 3 June 2016 was the first for Algeria. The identification of a well-twitched, extremely confiding, first-year **Lanceolated Warbler** *Locustella lanceolata* at Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, on 4 October 2016 was much in doubt for months but DNA analysis of faeces confirmed its identification as the fifth for the Netherlands. A male **River Warbler** *L fluviatilis* found dead at Camp Lemonnier on 11 May 2014, and another male collected at the same site on 13 May 2014 were the first and the second for Djibouti (Bull Br Ornithol Club 137: 67-70, 2017). A **Great Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* photographed on Marion Island between 6 and 13 June 2014 was the first for the Prince Edward Islands, in the sub-antarctic Indian Ocean, constituting the species' southernmost record ever (Ornithol Observations 6: 16-18, 2015). A first-year **Caspian Reed Warbler** *A scirpaceus fuscus* found dead at Jenny Brown's Point, Silverdale, Lancashire, England, on 11 December 2011 has been identified by DNA analysis and the subspecies has been added to the British list (cf Dutch Birding 39: 56, 2017). Żmihorski et al analyzed the long-term population dynamics in 38 small populations of **Aquatic Warbler** *A paludicola* in Poland in 1969-2013, and showed a significant decline in the total number of individuals while 19 of the 38 populations became extinct; trends differed by region: stable in the south-east, moderately declining in the north-east, and sharply declining in the centre and the west of the country. The 3200-3250 males in Poland in 2012 represented almost 25% of the species' global population (Acta Ornithol 51: 245-256, 2016). A **Moustached Warbler** *A melanopogon* singing at Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant, on 18-21 March was the second for the Netherlands (the first was in April 2016).

WRENS TO THRUSHES A **Eurasian Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes* at Al-Abraq on 7 February was the third for Kuwait. The first-winter female **Dusky Thrush** *Turdus eunomus* at Beeley, Derbyshire, England, from 4 December 2016 remained until 10 February. In Italy, a first-winter was photographed at Zenson di Piave, Treviso, on 5 February. If accepted, a **Red-throated Thrush** *T ruficollis* at Sayq plateau on 29 January will be the first for Oman. In northern Europe, at least 16 **Black-throated Thrushes** *T atrogularis* were present in February and the first half of March, including five in Finland and Norway, four in Sweden and two in England. Three **Black Scrub Robins** *Cercotrichas podobe* were present at Hai Bar, Yotvata, Israel, in February (where the species bred in the previous two years). The record influx of **Eastern Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros phoenicuroides* in northwestern Europe from October 2016 to March 2017 now comprises 30 males (cf Dutch Birding 38: 465, 2016, 39: 56, 2017). Males at Vauban port, Antibes, Alpes-Maritimes, from 25 December 2016 to 16 February and at Maintenon, Eure-et-Loir, on 10 February were the third and fourth for France (previous ones were in 2011 and 2015). The long-stayer at Skinningrove, Cleveland, England, remained from 27 October 2016 into March. In Malta, a female **Moussier's Redstart** *P moussieri* was seen at Sanap, Gozo, on 2-12 January. The adult male **Blue Rock Thrush** *Monticola solitarius* at Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, England, from 27 December remained into March.

WHEATEARS TO ACCENTORS A **Desert Wheatear** *Oenanthe deserti* at Pirče-Vas, Kostel, on 4 November 2015 was the first for Slovenia (Acrocephalus 37: 69-78, 2016). A **Pied Wheatear** *O pleschanka* photographed at the Victoria Falls airport on 23 February was the first for Zimbabwe and the third for southern Africa. In Israel, another three **Basalt Wheatears** *O lugens warriae* were found around Eilat in February, bringing this winter's total to six (cf Dutch Birding 39: 60, 2017). In Scotland, a **Siberian Accentor** *Prunella montanella* was photographed at a private site near Invergordon, Highland, on 8-14 February. Another one was found at Løten, Hedmark, Norway, on 4-12 March. Long-stayers remained at Hirtshals havn, Nordjylland, Denmark, from 9 November to 13 February and in a private garden near Århus from 14 November to 15 February. In Sweden, one wintered at Lindesberg, Västmanland, from 11 December into March. The total number of the species' unprecedented influx in Europe from October 2016 to March now stands at 245 (cf Dutch Birding 38: 465, 2016, 39: 60, 2017).

SPARROWS In the Canary Islands, the male **Sudan Golden Sparrow** *Passer luteus* remained at Pajara, Fuerteventura, from 22 December 2016 to 8 February; previous ones were on Tenerife in 1990s (exact date unknown) and on 7-10 March 1998, though both were presumed to be ship-assisted. For examples of ship-assisted passage in this species, see http://tinyurl.com/hgbflcj. A male photographed at Djanet on 16 January concerned the second record for Algeria (the first was a breeding colony of c 20 nests and 40 individuals at In Guezzam near the Niger border on 29-31 January 1984; cf Malimbus 6: 73-74, 1984). At Oued Jenna and close to Aousserd village, up to 30 were seen from 6 February to at least mid-March, with another nine at Adrar Soutouf in early March (after the first at Oued Jenna in April 2009, the species has been quite regularly reported in Western Sahara since 2013).

WAGTAILS TO PIPITS Ferlini (Riv Ital Ornitol 86: 3-38, 2016) analyzed the range extension of **Black-headed Wagtail** *Motacilla feldegg* in 1830-2015. It is hypothesized that its expansion northwards has been aided by increasing temperatures as the northern limit of the range in Eurasia (especially in the east) follows the July 20°C isotherm. In Europe, there has been a shift of its distribution range to the west; it shows a greater tendency to migrate northward than White-throated Wagtail *M cinereocapilla*. **Spanish Wagtail** *M c iberiae* has been added to the British list on the basis of a photograph and a description of the call of a second calendar-year male at Filey, Yorkshire, England, on 22 April 2015. In the Netherlands,

199 Olive-backed Pipit / Siberische Boompieper *Anthus hodgsoni*, Ta' Qali, Malta, 31 January 2017 *(Natalino Fenech)* **200** Basalt Wheatear / Basalttapuit *Oenanthe lugens warriae*, Beer-Ora, Israel, 17 January 2017 *(Itai Shanni)* **201** Pale-legged Leaf Warbler / Oessoerifitis *Phylloscopus tenellipes*, St Agnes, Scilly, England, 21 October 2016 *(Laurence Pitcher)*

202 Sudan Golden Sparrow / Bruinruggoudmus *Passer luteus*, male, Pajara, Fuerteventura, Canary Islands, 4 February 2017 *(Arne Torkler)*

203 White-throated Bee-eater / Witkeelbijeneter *Merops albicollis*, Dakhla bay, Western Sahara, Morocco, 2 March 2017 *(Arnoud B van den Berg/The Sound Approach)*

204 Moussier's Redstart / Diadeemroodstaart *Phoenicurus moussieri*, female, Sanap, Gozo, Malta, 2 January 2017 *(Raymond Galea)*

the **Blyth's Pipit** *Anthus godlewskii* at Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant, from 8 January remained into late March. At Cape Kormakitis, the third for Cyprus was seen on 20 January. Others stayed at Cuxhaven, Niedersachsen, Germany, from 28 January to 18 February, and at Canet-en-Roussillon, Pyrénées-Orientales, France, on 13-16 February. An **Olive-backed Pipit** *A hodgsoni* wintered at Ta' Qali, Malta, from 13 December 2016 into February. In the Azores, an **American Buff-bellied Pipit** *A rubescens rubescens* was seen on Terceira on 27 February.

FINCHES TO BUNTINGS The fourth **Asian Crimson-winged Finch** *Rhodopechys sanguineus* for Cyprus was caught on lime sticks (exact date unknown) at Germasogeia, Limassol, and then released at Phassouri marsh on 14 February. In Ukraine, a flock of over 100 **Lapland Longspurs** *Calcarius lapponicus* was found at Askania Nova reserve, Cherson, on 29 January. The third **Pine Bunting** *Emberiza leucocephalos* for Bulgaria was a male trapped near Kostinbrod, Sofia, on 6 February. In western Europe, at least 22 individuals were noted in February alone, including eight in northern Italy and Norway and two in Belgium, Britain and the Netherlands each. In Western Sahara, singing **House Buntings** *E sahari* were found at Dakhla on 20 February and 4 March; the nearest place it was known to occur was 550 km to the north at Tarfaya. In Norway, the adult male **Yellow-throated Bunting** *E elegans* at Buksnes, Vestvågøy, Nordland, from 13-22 November 2016 was seen again between 14 February and 2 March; it was in perfect condition and another individual than the one with damaged toes at Elverum, Hedmark, on 5-7 November 2016 (cf Dutch Birding 38: 470, 2016). In the Azores, the adult male **Common Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis trichas* on São Miguel remained from 15 October 2016 to 5 February.

RARE BIRDS IN CROATIA The fourth report of the Croatian rarities committee for 2012-16 contains information on 11 species and subspecies new for Croatia. The report is available at http://tinyurl.com/goux9au.

RARE BIRDS IN SPAIN & THE CANARY ISLANDS New taxa for Spain in the Spanish rarities committee report in Ardeola 64: 161-235, 2017, include **Red-billed Tropicbird** *Phaethon aethereus*, **White-faced Storm Petrel** *Pelagodroma marina*, **Zino's Petrel** *P madeira*, **Pygmy Cormorant** *P pygmeus*, **Pallas's Gull** *L ichthyaetus*, **Cape Gull**, **Atlantic Yellow-legged Gull** *L michahellis atlantis*, **Brown Shrike**, **Caspian Stonechat** *Saxicola maurus hemprichii*, **Song Sparrow** *Melospiza melodia* and **Common Yellowthroat**. Moreover, eight (sub)species were added to the Canary Islands list: **Egyptian Nightjar**, **Abyssinian Roller** *Coracias abyssinicus*, **Siberian Chiffchaff** *P tristis*, **Siberian/Desert Lesser Whitethroat** *S althaea blythi/halimodendri*, **Eastern Subalpine Warbler** *S cantillans cantillans/albistriata*, **Eastern Olivaceous Warbler** *Iduna pallida*, **Lapland Longspur** and **Northern Waterthrush** *Parkesia noveboracensis* (replacing Louisiana Waterthrush *P motacilla*).

WP CHECKLIST Dominic Mitchell's annotated checklist of the birds of Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, ie, the 'greater WP' including the Arabian peninsula and Iran, has now been published and presents 1148 species (until late 2015) following 'IOC's taxonomy'. The book offers valuable information on taxonomy, distribution, vagrancy patterns and endemic and extinct WP taxa.

For a number of reports Birdwatch, British Birds, Go-South Bulletin, www.birdguides.com, www.netfugl.dk, www.rarebirdalert.co.uk, www.tarsiger.com and www.waarneming.nl were consulted. We wish to thank Ernst Albegger, Mohamed Amezian, Roberto Are, Patrick Bergier, Paul Bradbeer, Dan Brown, Jean Chevallier, Martin Collinson, José Luis Copete, Andrea Corso, Alan Curry, Philippe Dubois, Guus van Duin, Enno Ebels, Mads Elley, Tobias Epple, Natalino Fenech, Pietro Ferrandes, Raymond Galea, Eduardo Garcia del Rey, Nigel Genn, Rein Genuït, Marcel Gil-Velasco, Luís Gordinho, Ricard Gutiérrez, Marcel Haas, Trevor Hardaker, Ian Harrison, Magnus Hellström, Billy Herman, Wietze Janse, Zbigniew Kajzer, Richard Katzinger, Leander Khil, Peter de Knijff, Bence Kókay, Jelena Kralj, Chris Lamsdell, Alex Lees, André van Loon, Daniel López-Velasco, Andy Marquis, Dick Meijer, Inge Meijer, Gerbrand Michielsen, Geir Mobakken, Nick Netzler, Tor Olsen, Jos van Oostveen, Gerard Ouweneel, Yoav Perlman, Laurence Pitcher, René Pop, Nikos Probonas, Torsten Pröhl, Colin Richardson, René van Rossum, Juan Sagardía, Haritz Sarasa, Peter van Scheepen, Itai Shanni, Jiri Sirek, Maarten Sluijter, Vincent van der Spek, Rasmus Strack, Robert Swann, Ehsan Talebi, Arne Torkler, Hugo Touzé, Norbert Uhlhaas, Rinse van der Vliet, Jorrit Vlot, Arend Wassink and Andy Williams for their help in compiling this review.

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Recente meldingen

Dit overzicht van recente meldingen van zeldzame en interessante vogels in Nederland beslaat voornamelijk de periode **januari-februari 2017**. 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 (CDNA) wordt verzocht hun waarnemingen zo spoedig mogelijk in te dienen via www.dutchavifauna.nl.

EENDEN De meeste **Witbuikrotganzen** *Branta hrota* werden zoals gebruikelijk waargenomen in het Waddengebied, maar de grootste groep (12) werd gezien bij Nieuwvliet, Zeeland, en later bij Breskens, Zeeland. Ook kleine aantallen **Zwarte Rotganzen** *B nigricans* verbleven op de gebruikelijke plekken in het Waddengebied en in de Delta. **Roodhalsganzen** *B ruficollis* werden door het gehele land waargenomen. De grootste groep (acht) pendelde op en neer tussen verschillende plekken in Zeeland. Elders ging het om kleinere aantallen, bijvoorbeeld vier op de Kampina, Noord-Brabant, en maximaal drie op Ameland, Friesland. Tussen 15 en 29 januari werden maximaal 20 **Taigarietganzen** *Anser fabalis* waargenomen in de omgeving van Helvoirt, Noord-Brabant, waaronder enkele geringde vogels. Op 12 februari werd een groep van maximaal negen gemeld bij Siddeburen, Groningen. De **Dwergganzen** *A erythropus* bij Strijen, Zuid-Holland (maximaal 42) maakten af en toe een uitstapje naar Moerdijk, Noord-Brabant. Op 21 januari waren 15 exemplaren kortstondig aanwezig bij Camperduin, Noord-Holland. Er werden nog altijd meer **IJseenden** *Clangula hyemalis* doorgegeven dan in de voorgaande winters, met onder andere 40 langs telposten. Hoge pleisterende aantallen werden gemeld langs het Noordzeestrand van Ameland (maximaal 165 op 27 januari!), c 40 langs de Brouwersdam, Zuid-Holland/Zeeland, en 24 bij Neeltje Jans, Zeeland. De mannetjes **Buffelkopeend** *Bucephala albeola* bij Den Oever, Noord-Holland, en bij Barendrecht, Zuid-Holland, bleven de gehele periode. **Witoogeenden** *Aythya nyroca* werden op c 20 plekken verspreid over het land gemeld; bij Lelystad, Flevoland, verbleven er tot drie bij elkaar, waaronder twee geringde afkomstig uit een Duits herintroductieproject. Mannetjes **Ringsnaveleend** *A collaris* verbleven op 28 januari bij Heel, Limburg, en vanaf 11 februari in Appingedam, Groningen. Een geheel bleke **Topper** *A marila* met roze snavel (vermoedelijk een ino) verbleef op 28 januari op het Volkerak, Zeeland. Mannetjes **Kleine Topper** *A affinis* werden gemeld vanaf 21 februari bij Den Oever en op 26 februari bij Enkhuizen, Noord-Holland. Het eerste geval dateert van 1995 en vanaf 2013 is de soort jaarlijks vastgesteld. Een eerste-winter mannetje **Siberische Taling** *Anas formosa* verbleef samen met Smienten *A penelope* van 4 februari tot ten minste eind maart in de omgeving van Noordwijk, Zuid-Holland. Indien aanvaard betreft dit het 13e geval. Het mannetje **Amerikaanse Wintertaling** *A carolinensis* van de Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant, bleef de gehele periode.

205 Siberische Taling / Baikal Teal *Anas formosa*, mannetje, met Smienten / Eurasian Wigeons *A penelope*, Noordwijkerhout, Zuid-Holland, 5 februari 2017 *(René van Rossum)*

206 Grote Burgemeester / Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus*, eerste-winter (boven), en Kleine Burgemeester / Iceland Gull *L glaucoides*, eerste-winter (midden), met Kokmeeuw / Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*, Kijkduin, Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 22 januari 2017 *(Martin van der Schalk)* **207** Grote Burgemeester / Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus*, adult, met Buizerd / Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo*, Paezemerlannen, Lauwersmeer, Friesland, 17 januari 2017 *(Jan Lok)*

208 Grote Burgemeesters / Glaucous Gulls *Larus hyperboreus*, eerste-winter, en Kleine Burgemeesters / Iceland Gulls *L glaucoides*, eerste-winter, met Zilvermeeuwen / European Herring Gulls *L argentatus*, Meijendel, Wassenaar, Zuid-Holland, 3 februari 2017 *(Peter Soer)* **209** Grote Burgemeesters / Glaucous Gulls *Larus hyperboreus*, eerste-winter, en Kleine Burgemeesters / Iceland Gulls *L glaucoides*, eerste-winter, met Zilvermeeuwen / European Herring Gulls *L argentatus*, Noorderstrand, Scheveningen, Zuid-Holland, 3 februari 2017 *(John van der Graaf)*

DUIKERS TOT IBISSEN Op een 10-tal plekken langs de kust werden **IJsduikers** *Gavia immer* waargenomen, met tot wel zes tegelijk op het Volkerak, Zuid-Holland. Ook bij Heel in Limburg overwinterde weer eens een exemplaar. Een **Stormvogeltje** *Hydrobates pelagicus* werd op 4 januari gemeld langs Den Oever. Zeetrektellers meldden in totaal 36 **Noordse Stormvogels** *Fulmarus glacialis*. **Grauwe Pijlstormvogels** *Puffinus griseus* vlogen op 3 en 12 januari langs Camperduin en eveneens op 12 januari langs Westkapelle, Zeeland (twee). Op een handvol plekken werden **Koereigers** *Bubulcus ibis* waargenomen, waaronder nog één tot 22 januari tussen Weesp en Naarden in Noord-Holland. **Zwarte Ibissen** *Plegadis falcinellus* bleven op hun vaste stekken bij Leidschendam, Zuid-Holland (vier), en bij Koedijk, Noord-Holland (drie).

PLEVIEREN TOT STRANDLOPERS Een **Amerikaanse Goudplevier** *Pluvialis dominica* werd op 21 januari gefotografeerd in de Bantpolder bij Paesens, Friesland. De **Aziatische Goudplevier** *P fulva* die vanaf 6 december voor zijn tweede opeenvolgende winter bij Goedereede, Zuid-Holland, verbleef, werd voor het laatst op 21 januari gemeld. Op 1 januari verbleef bovendien een exemplaar bij Kamperland, Zeeland. Op 4 januari werden **Rosse Franjepoten** *Phalaropus fulicarius* gemeld langs Lauwersoog, Groningen, en Westkapelle. Winterse **Bosruiters** *Tringa glareola* verbleven op 14 en 15 januari in de Blauwe Kamer, Gelderland, en op 16 en 19 februari in De Hamert, Limburg.

ALKEN Er was een 10-tal meldingen van **Papegaaiduikers** *Fratercula arctica*, waaronder enkele verzwakte exemplaren die op verschillende stranden werden opgeraapt. Een adulte **Zwarte Zeekoet** *Cepphus grylle* zwom de gehele periode langs de Brouwersdam, Zuid-Holland, en was eind februari al grotendeels in zomerkleed. Andere waarnemingen kwamen op 14 en 15 januari van Terschelling, Friesland, op 3 februari van Neeltje Jans en op 12 februari van Westenschouwen, Zeeland. Het aantal van 4321 **Alken/Zeekoeten** *Alca torda/Uria aalge* dat op 24 februari langs Camperduin vloog, was voor de tijd van het jaar erg hoog: de meeste topdagen komen uit de periode november-januari. Op het Marsdiep tussen Den Helder en Texel in Noord-Holland verbleef langdurig een **Kleine Alk** *Alle alle*. Zeetrektellers zagen er ook nog eens 12 passeren (waarvan zes op 14 januari langs Lauwersoog).

JAGERS TOT MEEUWEN In deze periode vlogen in totaal 10 **Kleine** *Stercorarius parasiticus*, 10 **Middelste** *S pomarinus* en 40 **Grote Jagers** *S skua* langs. Op 4 januari waren er drie meldingen van eerstejaars **Vorkstaartmeeuwen** *Xema sabini*, namelijk langs de Eemshaven en Lauwersoog in Groningen en langs Camperduin. Een wat klein uitgevallen en contrastrijk getekende adulte **Ringsnavelmeeuw** *Larus delawarensis* – of was het toch een hybride met Stormmeeuw *L canus*? – liet zich van 19 tot 29 januari bestuderen bij Wijchen, Gelderland. Indien aanvaard betreft dit het 10e geval. Een mogelijke eerste-winter **Amerikaanse Zilvermeeuw** *L smithsonianus* hield op 19 en 20 februari de gemoederen bezig bij Callantsoog, Noord-Holland; er is poep verzameld voor DNA-analyse. Na twee januaristormen, waarbij vooral langs de Hollandse stranden veel natuurlijk voedsel aanspoelde, ontstond een prachtige influx van burgemeesters, die het meest in het oog sprong rondom Scheveningen, Zuid-Holland. **Kleine Burgemeesters** *L glaucoides* werden uit 51 uurhokken in zes provincies gemeld. In Scheveningen werden liefst acht verschillende tweede-kalenderjaar vogels gezien, met een maximum van zes op 3 februari. Daarmee werd het landelijk dagrecord van vijf op 24 januari 2012 bij Petten, Noord-Holland, gebroken. Rond IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, werden er minimaal drie gemeld, waaronder een derde-kalenderjaar. De enige in het binnenland verbleef bij Deventer, Overijssel. De enige adulte werd op 28 januari in Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, waargenomen. De influx van **Grote Burgemeesters** *L hyperboreus* was nog indrukwekkender. Ze werden uit liefst 151 uurhokken in negen provincies gemeld. Daarmee was de influx wat betreft verspreiding omvangrijker dan die van 2011/12, toen de soort in 58 uurhokken en in zes provincies werd gezien. Rondom Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, werden minimaal 12 tweede-kalenderjaar vogels gezien, met alleen al 10 op 20 januari. In Scheveningen verbleven er tot acht bij elkaar, vermoedelijk een Nederlands record. Ook op andere plekken werden meerdere gezien, zoals maximaal vijf bij Katwijk, Zuid-Holland, minimaal drie bij Noordwijk (waaronder een derde-kalenderjaar), minimaal drie bij Wijk aan Zee, Noord-Holland (waaronder liefst twee derde-kalenderjaar vogels), en drie bij Westkapelle. In het binnenland doken exemplaren op in Drenthe, Gelderland en Noord-Brabant. Opvallend was ook dat er 15 dode Grote in het noorden van het land werden gevonden, met daarnaast nog enkele meldingen van verzwakte vogels.

SPERWERS Het tweede-winter mannetje **Steppekiekendief** *Circus macrourus* verbleef de gehele periode in en rond De Onlanden, Drenthe.

KLAUWIEREN TOT STAARTMEZEN Een van de hoogtepunten van deze periode was de ontdekking van de tweede **Bruine Klauwier** *Lanius cristatus*: een eerste-winter verbleef van 19 februari tot 7 maart in en rond het Timorpark in Den Helder. Op het einde van zijn verblijf had hij een forse teek op zijn kop en oogde hij verzwakt. Het eerste geval betrof een eerste-winter van 18 januari tot 8 mei 2014 in het Azewijnsche Broek bij Netterden, Gelderland. Op de kwelder bij Hornhuizen, Groningen, werden tot vijf **Bonte Kraaien** *Corvus cornix* bij elkaar gezien: de grootste groep in deze periode… Twee **Buidelmezen** *Remiz pendulinus* trokken enige bekijks van 6 tot 8 januari bij Ridderkerk, Zuid-Holland. Van c 30 plekken verspreid over het land kwamen meldingen van kleine aantallen **Witkopstaartmezen** *Aegithalos caudatus caudatus*.

BOSZANGERS TOT SPRINKHAANZANGERS De **Bladkoning** *Phylloscopus inornatus* die vanaf 11 november in Park Bloeyendael in Utrecht, Utrecht, verbleef, werd voor het

210 Vermoedelijke Ringsnavelmeeuw / presumed Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis*, adult, Wijchen, Gelderland, 26 januari 2017 *(Herman Bouman)* **211** Bruine Klauwier / Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*, eerste-winter, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 24 februari 2017 *(Martin van der Schalk)* **212** Taigaboomkruiper / Eurasian Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*, Noordwijk, Zuid-Holland, 12 februari 2017 *(Willem Pompert)*

213 Grote Pieper / Richard's Pipt *Anthus richardi*, eerste-winter, Grijpskerke, Zeeland, 31 januari 2017 *(Marcel Klootwijk)*

214 Mongoolse Pieper / Blyth's Pipt *Anthus godlewskii*, eerste-winter, Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant, 20 januari 2017 *(Martin van der Schalk)*

215 Vermoedelijke Siberische Braamsluiper / presumed Siberian Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia althaea blythi*, Breda, Noord-Brabant, 20 januari 2017 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*

216 Oosterse Zwarte Roodstaart / Eastern Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros phoenicuroides*, eerste-winter mannetje, Barendrecht, Zuid-Holland, 15 januari 2017 *(Alex Bos)*

217 Witkopgors / Pine Bunting *Emberiza leucocephalos*, mannetje, Wolfshuis, Limburg, 14 februari 2017 *(Ran Schols)* **218** Vermoedelijke Siberische Braamsluiper / presumed Siberian Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia althaea blythi*, Nijmegen, Gelderland, 4 maart 2017 *(Harvey van Diek)* **219** Kleine Topper / Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis*, adult mannetje, Den Oever, Noord-Holland, 21 februari 2017 *(Eric Menkveld)* **220** Zwarte Zeekoet / Black Guillemot *Cepphus grylle*, eerste-winter, West-Terschelling, Terschelling, Friesland, 15 januari 2017 *(Hans van Stijn)* **221** Zwarte Zeekoet / Black Guillemot *Cepphus grylle*, adult, Brouwersdam, Zuid-Holland, 9 maart 2017 *(Edwin Winkel)*

laatst gemeld op 8 januari. **Humes Bladkoningen** *P humei* werden nog gemeld tot in maart bij Vinkel, Noord-Brabant; van 27 december tot 15 januari in Noordwijkerhout, Zuid-Holland; en op 7 en 8 januari in Middelstum, Groningen. Van c 13 plekken verspreid over het land kwamen meldingen van **Siberische Tjiftjaffen** *P tristis*. Mogelijke **Siberische Braamsluipers** *Sylvia althaea blythi* verbleven van 7 januari tot 28 februari in Breda, Noord-Brabant, en vanaf 9 februari bij het kantoor van Sovon in Nijmegen, Gelderland (geringd op 14 februari). Opzienbarend was dat DNA-analyse (aan de hand van een opgeraapt poepje) uitwees dat de sprinkhaanzanger die op 4 oktober 2016 door 100-en vogelaars was gezien op de Tweede Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, wel degelijk een **Kleine Sprinkhaanzanger** *Locustella lanceolata* was; indien aanvaard betreft dit het vijfde geval en eerste twitchbare.

PESTVOGELS TOT VLIEGENVANGERS In 85 uurhokken werden **Pestvogels** *Bombycilla garrulus* waargenomen. Het accent lag op het noorden. De grootste groepen verbleven in Groningen, Groningen (maximaal 45), Kerkrade, Limburg (maximaal 31), en Leeuwarden, Friesland (maximaal 30). De drukst bezochte **Taigaboomkruipers** *Certhia familiaris familiaris* bevonden zich van 16 januari tot 18 februari bij Oostdijk, Zuid-Holland, en van 4 tot 19 februari bij Noordwijk. **Zwartbuikwaterspreeuwen** *Cinclus cinclus cinclus* verbleven de gehele periode bij Zutphen, Gelderland, en in de dierentuin (!) in Emmen, Drenthe; andere werden tot 16 februari gezien bij Kraggenburg, Flevoland, en van 28 februari tot 4 maart in het Robbenoordbos bij Den Oever. De influx van **Oosterse Zwarte Roodstaarten** *Phoenicurus ochruros phoenicuroides* in het najaar van 2016 leverde alsnog een twitchbare vogel op het vasteland op: een eerstewinter mannetje liet zich op 12, 14 en 15 januari uitgebreid bewonderen in Barendrecht.

KWIKSTAARTEN TOT GORZEN Vanaf 2 januari waren twee **Grote Piepers** *Anthus richardi* aanwezig bij Grijpskerke, Zeeland. Overige meldingen kwamen op 4 januari van Soerendonk, Noord-Brabant, op 27 januari van Perkpolder, Zeeland, en van 6 tot 21 februari uit het Verdronken Land van Saeftinghe, Zeeland. Een op 8 januari ontdekte eerste-winter **Mongoolse Pieper** *A godlewksii* liet zich tot in maart uitvoerig bestuderen in de Brabantse Biesbosch. Indien aanvaard betreft dit het 10e geval. Twee **Grauwe Gorzen** *Emberiza calandra* werden op 1 januari gefotografeerd bij Stroe op Wieringen, Noord-Holland. Voorts werden exemplaren gemeld bij Zuidbroek, Groningen (maximaal vier) en op enkele plekken in Zuid-Limburg (maximaal 31 op 22 januari bij Doenrade). **Witkopgorzen** *E leucocephalos* werden nog gemeld tot 2 januari bij Zuidbroek (ten minste één mannetje); tot 15 januari bij Den Hoorn op Texel (mannetje); op 3 en 4 januari bij Veere, Zeeland (mannetje); van 12 tot 15 februari bij Sibbe, Limburg (mannetje); en vanaf 11 januari aan beide zijden van de provinciegrens tussen Appelscha, Friesland, en Smilde, Drenthe (vrouwtje). Na het erg goede najaar voor **Dwerggorzen** *E pusilla* waren er ook in de winter voldoende mogelijkheden om deze soort te bewonderen: de twee die al vanaf 5 november bij Noordwijk bivakkeerden bleven tot in maart en lieten zich steeds beter bekijken. Tussen 20 januari en 15 februari verbleven er maximaal drie in het Drents-Friese Wold, Drenthe, en van 28 februari tot 11 maart hield er één zich op bij Meerstad in Groningen. Op 15 februari werd een exemplaar gemeld in Leeuwarden.

Voor het samenstellen van deze rubriek is dankbaar gebruikgemaakt van de websites dutchbirdalerts.nl, waarneming.nl, trektellen.nl en sovon.nl.

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DB Actueel

Zwartkoprietzanger in Brabantse Biesbosch Het stond al een poosje in de planning om op zaterdag 18 maart 2017 naar de Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant, te gaan voor leuke voorjaarssoorten als Zomertaling *Anas querquedula* en Blauwborst *Luscinia svevica*. Uiteraard stonden ook de al langer in het gebied aanwezige Amerikaanse Wintertaling *A carolinensis* en Mongoolse Pieper *Anthus godlewskii* op de planning. Om 08:00 vertrok ik (Julian Bosch) met Nathaniël Bosch en pikte onderweg Erik-Jan Barten en Sven Valkenburg op. De Mongoolse Pieper gaf bij de eerste stop ondanks goed zoeken niet thuis; wel konden we onze eerste Blauwborst afvinken. We besloten om door te rijden en de pieper uit te stellen tot een later moment. De Amerikaanse Wintertaling werkte ook niet mee: onvindbaar, ondanks de eerdere melding die dag. Daarom besloten wij een rondje om de bewuste plas te rijden en vanuit verschillende hoeken het gebied te scannen. Dit resulteerde onder meer in maar liefst 13 Zomertalingen, enkele Waterpiepers *A spinoletta* en een mooi aantal zingende Cetti's Zangers *Cettia cetti*. Maar nog steeds geen Amerikaanse Wintertaling. Terug op de plek waar we waren begon-

222 Zwartkoprietzanger / Moustached Warbler *Acrocephalus melanopogon*, Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant, 21 maart 2017 *(Ad van Benten)*

nen met zoeken naar de taling kregen we de verrassing van de dag: was daar nou een Rietzanger *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* aan het zingen??! Verbluft keken we elkaar aan. We hoorden enkele korte strofen; hierna werd het weer stil. Na een korte discussie concludeerden we dat het toch echt het geluid van een Rietzanger was. Maar wat bizar vroeg! Normaal gesproken druppelen de eerste Rietzangers pas begin april binnen, dus 18 maart leek niet een erg aannemelijke datum. Misschien toch een paar gekke strofen van een Blauwborst? Op een antwoord hoefden wij niet erg lang te wachten want hij begon hierna vrijwel continu te zingen. De optie Kleine Karekiet *A scirpaceus* kwam voorbij (de zang bevatte namelijk veel karekiet-achtige tonen) maar toen hij enkele hoge Rietzanger-uithalen liet horen viel ook deze optie af. NB begon snel het geluid op te nemen, want dit zou de vroegst gedocumenteerde Rietzanger ooit in Nederland zijn. SV grapte nog over een Zwartkoprietzanger *A melanopogon* maar dat werd niet serieus genomen, hoewel de vroege datum wel beter zou passen op deze soort. We vergaten de vogel weer toen ik alsnog de Amerikaanse Wintertaling in beeld kreeg. Bij het teruglopen naar de auto viel de 'Rietzanger' weer op. Wij probeerden hem in beeld te krijgen om een foto te maken. Bovendien zat het geluid nog niet helemaal lekker. 'Maar het is ook niet gek dat een Rietzanger wat slomer gaat zingen met deze kou', dachten we. Het was bovendien ook alweer meer dan een half jaar geleden dat wij Rietzangers hadden gehoord. Ondanks verwoede pogingen om hem te zien, bleef hij te laag in het riet. De Mongoolse Pieper werkte ook op de terugweg niet mee. Wel lukte het ons om wat Toppers *Aythya marila* (leuk voor het binnenland) en nog wat nieuwe jaarsoorten te zien.

Na het uploaden van het geluid 's avonds begon het balletje te rollen. Onder meer Joey Braat, Thomas van der Es en Bas Verhoeven vonden het geluid van de opname veel lijken op het geluid dat de Zwartkoprietzanger vorig jaar april in de Ooijpolder, Gelderland, produceerde. Waar we naar op zoek waren, de voor Zwartkoprietzanger karakteristieke Nachtegaal *L megarhynchos*-achtige tonen, waren helaas niet terug te vinden op de opname. Daarom werd nog een slag om de arm gehouden maar het bericht werd 's avonds al wel voor de zekerheid verspreid. Zondagmorgen vroeg vonden de lokale vogelaars uit de Biesbosch de zingende vogel weer terug en konden ze betere opnames maken. Rond 11:00 uur viel het doek voor de 'Rietzanger' toen de voor Zwartkoprietzanger karakteristieke *lu-lu-lu*-strofes werden gehoord. Die dag hebben c 100 mensen de vogel gehoord maar wederom liet de vogel zich niet zien, wellicht ook vanwege de harde wind. Op 20 maart werd hij bijna de hele dag gehoord en in de middag enkele seconden gezien door TvdE en Sander van der Water. Op 21 maart werd hij om 07:00 gedurende 1-2 min gezien door c 10 vogelaars, met dank aan Dave van der Spoel, en werd de eerste en naar later bleek enige foto gemaakt door Ad van Benten; opvallend waren de zwarte kruin, sterk contrasterende witte wenkbrauwstreep, buffe onderdelen, witte keel en roodbruine bovendelen. De rest van de dag liet hij zich niet meer zien maar wel volop horen. Na een koude en heldere nacht werd de vogel op 22 maart niet meer aangetroffen.

Dit betreft het tweede geval in Nederland. De eerste werd op 21 april 2016 door Bram Ubels geringd in de Ooijpolder; deze vogel werd tot 28 april door 100en vogelaars gehoord, vaak met behulp van parabolen omdat hij op flinke afstand in niet vrij toegankelijk gebied zat. Julian Bosch

Moustached Warbler On 18-21 March 2017, a Moustached Warbler *Acrocephalus melanopogon* was singing at Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant, the Netherlands. The bird was briefly seen on just a few occasions but singing regularly. It concerned the second record, after one trapped and ringed on 21 April 2016 at Ooijpolder, Gelderland, and singing until 28 April.

New bird species described in 2016 In 2016, four new bird species have been formally described.

Himalayan Thrush / Himalayaboslijster *Zoothera salimalii* (Alström, P, Rasmussen, P C, Zhao, C, Xu, J, Dalvi, S, Cai, T, Guan, T, Zhang, R, Kalyakin, M V, Lei, F & Olsson, U 2016. Integrative taxonomy of the Plain-backed Thrush (*Zoothera mollissima*) complex (Aves, Turdidae) reveals cryptic species, including a new species. Avian Res 7 (1): 1-39). During studies in the eastern Himalayas in 2009, Per Alström and Shashank Dalvi discovered that Alpine Thrushes *Zoothera mollissima* (previously known as Plain-backed Thrush) found in coniferous and mixed forest habitats had a rather musical song, whereas individuals found in the same region, but on bare rocky habitats at higher altitudes above the treeline, had a much harsher, scratchier and unmusical song. During a further study, the team compared wild birds from India and China with specimens from 15 museums, and finally, based on analyses of plumage, morphometrics, mitochondrial and nuclear DNA, song, breeding habitat and geographical distributions confirmed that *Z mollissima* should be split into at least

three species, one of which was described as a new species – Himalayan Thrush *Z salimalii*. The new species breeds in the eastern Himalayas from eastern Nepal to south-central China (Sichuan and Yunnan), and is locally common; its winter range is poorly known but it was reported from north-eastern India to northern Vietnam. It is named after the great ornithologist Sálim Ali (1896-1987), in honour of his many contributions to Indian ornithology and conservation. The paper is available at http://tinyurl.com/hz2snn6.

Dahomey Forest Robin / Dahomeybosakalat *Stiphrornis dahomeyensis*, **Ghana Forest Robin / Ghanabosakalat** *Stiphrornis inexpectatus* and **Rudder's Forest Robin / Rudders Bosakalat** *Stiphrornis rudderi* (Voelker, G, Tobler, M, Prestridge, H L, Duijm, E, Groenenberg, D, Hutchinson, M R, Martin, A D, Nieman, A, Roselaar, C S & Huntley, J W 2016. Three new species of *Stiphrornis* (Aves: Muscicapidae) from the Afrotropics, with a molecular phylogenetic assessment of the genus. Syst Biodivers 15: 87-104 (2017); published online in September 2016). Three new species of forest robin were described in the previously monotypic genus *Stiphrornis*. Each species represents a distinct phylogenetic lineage based on genetic analysis, and also each is diagnosable by morphology and plumage (one species has a distinctive song as well). Dahomey Forest Robin is currently known from two locations at Lama Forest, Benin, and near Assin Foso, Ghana. The species is named after the Dahomey Gap, a forest-savanna mosaic region, in which the isolated Lama Forest is located. Ghana Forest Robin is currently limited to three locations in Ghana. This species is named both for the unexpected nature of its distribution and the fact that there are no obvious geographic barriers that separate it from two other members of the genus. Rudder's Forest Robin is known from two localities near Kisangani, Democratic Republic of Congo, and is named in honour of James Earl Rudder, who led a battalion during the invasion of Normandy in June 1944, and was later a president of the Texas University. The pdf of the paper is not freely available but the abstract can be found at http://tinyurl.com/hqkbhby.

Furthermore, a new seedeater *Sporophila* has been discovered in north-eastern Argentina. However, as had happened a couple of years ago with another South American new species, again an unfortunate situation has evolved in which the same bird (with even the same individual as holotype!) has been described twice separately, as result of disagreement among former collaborators. Until the situation will be resolved (when one of the names will be deemed the junior synonym of the other), we refrain from giving the formal names here. An analysis of the situation can be found on the website of the South American Classification Committee at http://tinyurl.com/zgtfe4t. Łukasz Ławicki & André J van Loon