

Red-rumped Wheatear. Tagdilt Track, Morocco. 23rd April 2009.  
Photo: Dominic Mitchell.



# List of Wheatears with References

Compiled by Joe Hobbs



## Introduction

This is the final version of the Wheatear's list, no further updates will be made. Grateful thanks to Dominic Mitchell ([www.birdingetc.com](http://www.birdingetc.com) & [www.dominicmitchell.com](http://www.dominicmitchell.com)) and Tom Shevlin ([www.irishbirds.ie](http://www.irishbirds.ie)) for the cover images and all those who responded with constructive feedback. All images © the photographers.

Please note that this and other Reference Lists I have compiled are **not exhaustive** and are best employed in conjunction with other sources.

Joe Hobbs

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The general order of species follows the International Ornithologists' Union World Bird List (**Gill, F. & Donsker, D.** (eds.) 2019. IOC World Bird List. Available from: <https://www.worldbirdnames.org/> [version 9.1 accessed January 2019]).

Note: Seeböhm's Wheatear treated by the IOC as a form of Northern Wheatear is given its own entry in this note.

## Final Version

Version 1.3 (May 2019).

## Cover

Main image: Red-rumped Wheatear. Tagdilt Track, Morocco. 23rd April 2009. Picture by © Dominic Mitchell.

Vignette: Black-eared Wheatear. Great Saltee Island, Co. Wexford, Ireland. 15th May 2010. Picture by Tom Shevlin.

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## Northern Wheatear

***Oenanthe oenanthe*** [Linnaeus].

[*O.o. oenanthe*] N & C Europe and N Asia S to N Kazakhstan & L Baikal E to E Siberia and Alaska & NW Canada. Winters N & C Africa.

[*O.o. leucorhoa*] NE Canada, Greenland, Iceland, Jan Mayen & Faeroes. Winters mainly Senegal & Sierra Leone E to Mali.

[*O.o. libanotica*] S Europe, Asia Minor, The Levant, Transcaucasia, N Iran, Turkmenistan, N Afghanistan, Tien Shan, Mongolia, S Transbaikalia & Xinjiang E to Shanxi (N China). Winters N Afrotropics & Mesopotamia.

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## Seebohm's Wheatear

*Oenanthe oenanthe seebohmi* [Dixon].

Subspecies of Northern Wheatear *per* IOC.

NW Africa. Winters SW Mauritania & Senegal.

Other name: Black-throated Wheatear.

**Henry Seebohm** (1832-1895), British businessman, amateur ornithologist and oologist who travelled widely in Greece, Scandinavia, Turkey and South Africa.

**Bannerman, D. & Bannerman, J.** 1953. A second journey to the Moroccan Sahara (in 1952) and over the great Atlas. *Ibis* 95(1): 128-139.

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**Clement, P.** 2015. ID Special: Northern, Isabelline and Desert Wheatears. *Birdwatch* 281: 45-52.

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**Gelling, G. & van der Spek, V.** 2017. Seebohms Tapuit bij Den Haag [Seebohm's Wheatear at Den Haag]. *Dutch Birding* 39(3): 221-222.

**Kok, D. & van Duivendijk, N.** 1998. Masters of Mystery – Solutions of first round 1998: Seebohm's Wheatear. *Dutch Birding* 20(2): 81-82.

**Small, B.** 2006. More Moroccan birds. *Birding World* 19(6): 254-262 (plate 6, p. 257).

## Capped Wheatear

***Oenanthe pileata*** [J.F. Gmelin].

[*O.p. pileata*] S Namibia & W South Africa.

[*O.p. neseri*] Angola & N Namibia.

[*O.p. livingstonii*] C Kenya S to Botswana & N Eastern Cape (E South Africa).

**Beesley, J.** 1956. Note on *Oenanthe pileata livingstonei*. *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club* 76(2): 33.

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## Red-breasted Wheatear

***Oenanthe bottae*** [Bonaparte].

[*O.b. bottae*] Highlands of SW Saudi Arabia & Yemen.

[*O.b. frenata*] Highlands of Eritrea & Ethiopia.

Other name: Red-breasted Chat, Botta's Wheatear.

Sometimes considered conspecific with Heuglin's Wheatear.

**Dr. Paolo Emilio Botta** (1802-1870), Italian physician, naturalist and diplomat in Egypt, Arabia and Persia between 1830 and 1846.

**Cohen, C. et al.** 2015. First records for Somalia of Bonelli's Eagle, Short-toed Snake Eagle and Red-breasted Wheatear. *Bulletin of the African Bird Club* 22(2): 225-228.

**Martins, R.P. et al.** 1996. The status of passerines in southern Yemen and records of the OSME survey in spring 1993. *Sandgrouse* 17: 54-72 (60).

**Mills, M.S. & Cohen, C.** 2015. Birds of Somalia: new records, range extensions and observations from Somaliland. *Scopus* 34: 31-39 (36).

## Heuglin's Wheatear

***Oenanthe heuglini*** [Finsch and Hartlaub].

S Mauritania & Mali E to Sudan, W Ethiopia, NE Uganda & NW Kenya.

Sometimes considered conspecific with Red-breasted Wheatear.

**Theodor von Heuglin** (1824-1876), German ornithologist, explorer and mining engineer who undertook several expeditions in Africa as well as travelling to Spitsbergen and Novaya Zemlya in 1870 and 1871.

**Macgregor, D.E.** 1950. Notes on the breeding of the Red-breasted Chat *Oenanthe heuglini*. *Ibis* 92: 380-383.

**Mayor, G. et al.** 2015. First breeding record of Heuglin's Wheatear for Senegal. *Bulletin of the African Bird Club* 22(2): 214-215.

## Isabelline Wheatear

***Oenanthe isabellina*** [Temminck].

NE Greece, E Balkans, Middle East and S & E Ukraine E to Transbaikalia, Inner Mongolia & NC China. Winters W Africa E to S Asia.

**Abdulali, H. & Pimento, R.J.** 1968. Extension of range of Isabelline Chat *Oenanthe isabellina* (Temminck). *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 65(2): 489.

**Alström, P.** 1985. Letters: Identification of Wheatear and Isabelline Wheatear. *British Birds* 78(6): 304-305.

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**Ashby, V. & Annenkova, S.** 2004. Birding Kazakhstan. *Birding World* 17(6): 242-253 (248).

**Andrew, D.G.** 2003. Letters: Derivation of the word 'isabelline'. *British Birds* 96(3): 144.

**Bauer, C-A. et al.** 2004. First record of Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina* in Thailand. *Forktail* 20: 147-147.

- Beaman, M. & Knox, A.G.** 1981. Notes: Isabelline Wheatear in Grampian. *British Birds* 74(4): 182-185.
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- Bonser, R.** 1997. The Isabelline Wheatear on Bardsey. *Birding World* 10(9): 339.
- Bosma, J. & Nanninga, K.** 2006. Izabeltapuit in Eemshaven [Isabelline Wheatear at Eemshaven]. *Dutch Birding* 28(5): 341-343.
- Bradshaw, C.** 2000. From the Rarities Committee's files: Identification of autumn Isabelline Wheatears. *British Birds* 93(10): 488-492.
- Brame, W.** 2001. The Isabelline Wheatear in Suffolk. *Birding World* 14(9): 380-381.
- Bundy, G.** 1982. Letter: Tail-wagging by wheatears. *British Birds* 75(8): 387.
- Catley, G.P.** 1981. Notes: Tail-wagging by Isabelline Wheatear. *British Birds* 74(10): 443.
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- Clement, P.** 1988. Mystery photographs: Black-eared Wheatear. *British Birds* 81(12): 624-629.
- Clement, P.** 2015. ID Special: Northern, Isabelline and Desert Wheatears. *Birdwatch* 281: 45-52.
- Corso, A.** 1997. Variability of identification characters of Isabelline Wheatear. *Dutch Birding* 19(4): 153-165.
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- Desfayes, M. & Praz, J.C.** 1978. Notes on habitat and distribution of montane birds in southern Iran. *Bonner Zoologische Beiträge* 29(1-3): 18-37 (35).
- Dijksman, W.J.M. & Maas, J.W.** 1997. Izabeltapuit op Maasvlakte in oktober-november 1996 [Isabelline Wheatear at Maasvlakte in October-November 1996]. *Dutch Birding* 19(4): 153-165.
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- Dunn, P.J.** 1990. Notes: Isabelline Wheatear in Scilly. *British Birds* 83(12): 553-554.
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- Golley, M.** 1993. Identification: Which Wheatear is it? *Birdwatch* 2(3): 39-41.
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- McGeehan, A.** 1993. Birding from the hip: October remembered. *Birdwatch* 2(2): 13.
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- Moores, N.** 2007. Selected records from Socheong Island, South Korea. *Forktail* 23: 102-124 (112).

- Nilsson, L.** 1989. Letters: The separation of Northern and Isabelline Wheatears. *British Birds* 82(5): 224.
- Pittie, A. & Ulla, M.S.** 2006. Occurrence of Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti* and Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina* in Mahbubnagar district, Andhra Pradesh. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 102(2): 234-235.
- Rogers, M.J.** 1981. Notes: Isabelline Wheatear in Norfolk. *British Birds* 74(4): 181-182.
- Roth, T.** 2008. Outward (autumn) bird migration at the Southeastern Peninsula and Cape Greco, Cyprus: the phenologies of regular migrants. *Sandgrouse* 30(1): 77-89 (86).
- Schollaert, V. & Willem, G.** 2001. The status of Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina* in Morocco. *Bulletin of the African Bird Club* 8: 136-137.
- Sharrock, J.T.R. & Mullarney, K.** 1987. Notes: Apparent tail length of Isabelline Wheatear. *British Birds* 80(4): 168-169.
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- Singh, A.P.** 2000. Birds of lower Garhwal Himalayas: Dehra Dun valley and neighbouring hills. *Forktail* 16: 101-123 (104).
- Smith, K.D.** 1971. Notes on *Oenanthe* Species in Winter in Africa. *Bird Study* 18(2): 71-80 (74).
- Tye, A. & Tye, H.** 1983. Field identification of Wheatear and Isabelline Wheatear. *British Birds* 76(10): 427-437.
- van der Spek, V. & Valkenburg, M.** 2010. Birding in Kyrgyzstan. *Dutch Birding* 32(1): 10-20 (plate 22, p. 18).
- Vinicombe, K.** 2002. Identification matters: The plain facts. *Birdwatch* 123: 28-31.
- Wallace, D.I.M.** 1984. Notes: Identification of Wheatear and Isabelline Wheatear. *British Birds* 77(8): 363-365.
- Watson, G.E.** 1961. Aegean bird notes including two breeding records new to Europe. *Journal für Ornithologie* 102(3): 301-307 (305).

## Hooded Wheatear

***Oenanthe monacha*** [Temminck].

E Egypt, S Israel, S Jordan, N, E & SE Arabian peninsula, Iran & SW Pakistan.

Other name: Hooded Chat.

- Anon.** 1991. Country varia: Israel. *Dutch Birding* 13(1): 20-28 (plate 26, p. 24).
- Bundy, G. & Sharrock, J.T.R.** 1986. PhotoSpot: Hooded Wheatear. *British Birds* 79(3): 120-123.
- Campbell, O. & Pedersen, T.** 2011. Birding in the United Arab Emirates. *Birding World* 24(4): 160-176 (plate 23, p. 173).
- Defayes, M. & Praz, J.C.** 1978. Notes on habitat and distribution of montane birds in southern Iran. *Bonner Zoologische Beiträge* 29(1-3): 18-37 (35).
- Khoury, F. & Forschler, M.I.** 2008. Habitats and foraging of Hooded Wheatears *Oenanthe monacha* in Jordan. *Sandgrouse* 30(2): 146-150.
- Martins, R.P. et al.** 1996. The status of passerines in southern Yemen and records of the OSME survey in spring 1993. *Sandgrouse* 17: 54-72 (61).
- Varu, S.N.** 2009. First record of Hooded Wheatear in Kachchh and India. *Flamingo* 6(3-4): 6.
- White, M.L.J. et al.** 2007. Bird surveys and distance sampling in St Katherine Protectorate, South Sinai, Egypt in 2007. *Egyptian Journal of Biology* 9: 60-68.
- White, M.L.J. et al.** 2008. Recent surveys of resident breeding birds in the St Katherine Protectorate, south Sinai, Egypt. *Sandgrouse* 30: 190-200 (198).

## Desert Wheatear

***Oenanthe deserti*** [Temminck].

[*O.d. deserti*] NE Egypt & Levant E discontinuously to Azerbaijan, S Kazakhstan, Afghanistan & Mongolia and probably Armenia. Winters NE Africa, Socotra & SW Asia.

[*O.d. homochroa*] N Africa E to NW Egypt. Winters Sahara and Mauritania E to Chad.

[*O.d. oreophila*] Kashmir E to Nepal, Pamir, Tibetan Plateau & S Xinjiang (W China). Winters Arabia, SW Asia and NW & C India.

The proposed forms *atroglularis* & *salina* are included in *O.d. deserti*.

- Alström, P. & Schekkerman, H.** 1988. Desert Wheatear kleptoparasitizing ants. *Sandgrouse* 10: 111.
- Alström, P.** 1986. Mystery photographs: Isabelline Wheatear. *Dutch Birding* 8(1): 12-16.
- Ash, J.S.** 1981. Desert Wheatears *Oenanthe deserti* in Ethiopia and Somalia. *Scopus* 5: 35-36.
- Aspinall, S.J.** 2002. Association between Desert Wheatear & Desert Warbler. *Tribulus* 12(1): 24-25.
- Backhurst, G.C.** 1985. Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti* in Kenya. *Scopus* 9: 140-141.
- Bannerman, D. & Bannerman, J.** 1953. A second journey to the Moroccan Sahara (in 1952) and over the great Atlas. *Ibis* 95(1): 128-139.
- Bos, E. & de Heer, P.** 1984. Desert Wheatear in France in February 1983. *Dutch Birding* 6(2): 63.
- Bundy, G.** 1982. Letter: Tail-wagging by wheatears. *British Birds* 75(8): 387.
- Clement, P.** 2015. ID Special: Northern, Isabelline and Desert Wheatears. *Birdwatch* 281: 45-52.
- Dennis, R.H.** 1971. Desert Wheatear at Fair Isle. *Scottish Birds* 6: 446-447.
- Desfayes, M. & Praz, J.C.** 1978. Notes on habitat and distribution of montane birds in southern Iran. *Bonner Zoologische Beiträge* 29(1-3): 18-37 (28).
- Dierschke, J. & Renner, M.** 1989. Ein Wüstensteinschmätzer *Oenanthe deserti* auf Sylt [Desert Wheatear on Sylt]. *Limicola* 3: 33-35.
- Eds.** 2004. Desert storm around the British coast. Desert Wheatear influx: Britain, 9-28 November 2003. *Birdwatch* 139: 51.
- Eds.** 2015. Spring Desert. Desert Wheatear: Porth Askin, St. Agnes, Scilly, 21-26 March 2015. *Birdwatch* 275: 12.
- Edwards, G.R.** 1950. Desert Wheatear wintering in the West Riding of Yorkshire. *British Birds* 43(6): 179-183.
- Elkins, N.** 1986. Letters: Vagrants and Saharan dust. *British Birds* 79(6): 304-305.
- Kočí, J. & Krištín, A.** 2006. Prvý záznam skaliarika púšťového (*Oenanthe deserti*) na Slovensku [First record of the Desert Wheatear in Slovakia]. *Tichodroma* 18: 57-58.
- Kylänpää, J.** 2000. Birds of Dera Ismail Khan District of North West Frontier Province in Pakistan. *Forktail* 16: 15-28 (24).
- Martins, R.P. et al.** 1996. The status of passerines in southern Yemen and records of the OSME survey in spring 1993. *Sandgrouse* 17: 54-72 (60).
- Neijts, F.** 1984. Woestijntapuit te Eindhoven in november 1970 [Desert Wheatear at Eindhoven in November 1970]. *Dutch Birding* 6(2): 61-62.
- Nikander, P.J.** 2001. Oman. *Alula* 7(3): 114-121 (119).
- Ouwerkerk, A.** 1990. Woestijntapuit bij Oud-Alblas in april 1989 [Desert Wheatear near Oud-Alblas in April 1989]. *Dutch Birding* 12(1): 3-5.
- Peter, H.** 1994. The first breeding record of the Desert Wheatear, *Oenanthe deserti*, in Turkey. *Zoology in the Middle East* 10: 27-29.
- Phillips, I.M.** 1998. Desert Wheatears in Scotland: a review. *Birding Scotland* 1: 73-74.
- Phillips, J. & Phillips, V.** 2011. First records for Seychelles of Alpine Swift, Desert Wheatear and the genus *Ficedula*. *Bulletin of the African Bird Club* 18(2): 223-225.
- Pittie, A. & Ulla, M.S.** 2006. Occurrence of Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti* and Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina* in Mahbubnagar district, Andhra Pradesh. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 102(2): 234-235.
- Prasad, A.** 2005. Pune birds, with special reference to distribution updates. *Indian BIRDS* 1(3): 61-67 (62).
- Santharam, V.** 1989. The Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti* in Madras. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 86(3): 452.
- Scott, H.I.** 1998. Desert Wheatear at Girdleness, 7 November 1997: the first record for North-East Scotland. *North-East Scotland Bird Report 1997* pp. 101-108.
- Sehhatiasabet, M.E. et al.** 2006. Further significant extensions of migrant distribution and breeding and wintering ranges in Iran for over sixty species. *Sandgrouse* 28(2): 146-155.
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- Small, B.** 2006. More Moroccan birds. *Birding World* 19(6): 254-262 (plate 7, p. 257).
- Smith, K.D.** 1971. Notes on *Oenanthe* Species in Winter in Africa. *Bird Study* 18(2): 71-80 (72).
- Sreekar, R. et al.** 2010. Occurrence of Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti* in ICRISAT Campus, Medak District, Andhra Pradesh, India. *Zoo's Print Journal* 25(4): 21.
- Tennant, F.** 1993. Desert Wheatear in County Wexford - a species new to Ireland. *Irish Birds* 5(1): 73-74.
- Wassink, A.** 2015. Birds of Kazakhstan: new and interesting data, part 6. *Dutch Birding* 37(1): 28-32 (31).

## Black-eared Wheatear

***Oenanthe hispanica*** [Linnaeus].

[*O.h. hispanica*] SW & SC Europe E to Italy & Croatia and NW Africa. Winters W African Sahel.

[*O.h. melanoleuca*] C & SE Europe, Asia Minor & Levant E to Caspian Sea, SW Kazakhstan & N, W & S Iran. Winters C & E Sahel & NE Africa.

Other names: Black-throated Wheatear, Western Black-eared Wheatear (*hispanica*), Eastern Black-eared Wheatear (*melanoleuca*).

- Aragüés, A.** 1988. Letters: Black-throated and white-throated Black-eared Wheatears in Spain. *British Birds* 81(9): 472.
- Azzopardi, J.** 2006. Notes: A review of the status of Black-eared Wheatear in the Maltese Islands. *British Birds* 99(9): 484-489.
- Campbell, M.** 1954. Notes: Black-eared Wheatear in Berkshire. *British Birds* 47(9): 313-314.
- Clement, P. & Harris, A.** 2001. Identification matters: Tail enders. *Birdwatch* 113: 24-28.
- Clement, P.** 1988. Mystery photographs: Black-eared Wheatear. *British Birds* 81(12): 624-629.
- de Bruin, A. et al.** 1994. Blonde Tapuit op Rottumeroog in juni 1991 [Black-eared Wheatear on Rottumeroog in June 1991]. *Dutch Birding* 16(5): 200-202.
- Dernjatin, P. & Vattulainen, M.** 2005. Black-eared and Pied Wheatear - a continuing identification problem. *Alula* 11(3): 98-107.
- Desfayes, M. & Praz, J.C.** 1978. Notes on habitat and distribution of montane birds in southern Iran. *Bonner Zoologische Beiträge* 29(1-3): 18-37 (27).
- Eds.** 2000. Bird news: Twitchable Black-eared Wheatear (just). *Birdwatch* 98: 60.
- Evans, L.G.R.** 1987. Black-eared Wheatear at Bodmin Moor Nature Reserve. *Twitthing* 1: 153-154.
- Fisher, R.H. & Sutcliffe, J.W.** 1940. Notes: Black-eared Wheatears seen in Lancashire. *British Birds* 34(5): 109-110.
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- Grace, K.** 2010. Wild western wheatear. Black-eared Wheatear: Great Saltee, Co. Wexford, 15-16 May 2010. *Birdwatch* 217: 50.
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## Cyprus Wheatear

*Oenanthe cypriaca* [Homeyer].

Cyprus. Winters Sudan and Ethiopia.

Other name: Cyprus Pied Wheatear.

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## Pied Wheatear

***Oenanthe pleschanka*** [Lepechin].

E Europe E discontinuously to S Urals, Transbaikalia, C & W Afghanistan, N Pakistan, NW Himalayas & N China. Winters NE Africa & SW Arabian peninsula.

The white-throated form, *vittata*, is here considered to be a colour morph of Pied Wheatear although it has been suggested that it could possibly be a hybrid Pied x Eastern Black-eared Wheatear.

Other names: Pleschankas Wheatear, Pleschankas Chat.

Pleschanka is the Russian name for this species and not a person.

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## White-fronted Black Chat

***Oenanthe albifrons*** [Rüppell].

[*O.a. albifrons*] Eritrea & N Ethiopia.

[*O.a. pachyrhyncha*] SW Ethiopia.

[*O.a. clericalis*] S Sudan, N DR Congo & Uganda.

[*O.a. limbata*] E Cameroon E to Central African Republic.

[*O.a. frontalis*] Senegal & Gambia E to N Cameroon.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2005 as *Pentholaea albifrons*.

Other names: White-fronted Chat, White-forehead Chat.

**Smith, K.D.** 1971. Notes on *Oenanthe* Species in Winter in Africa. *Bird Study* 18(2): 71-80 (76).

## Somali Wheatear

***Oenanthe phillipsi*** [Shelley].

N & E Somalia and SE Ethiopia.

Other name: Phillip's Wheatear.

**Ethelbert Edward Lort Phillips** (1857-1944), British big-game hunter and collector in East Africa.

The Wheatear was named in his honour by George Ernest Shelley, nephew of Percy Bysshe Shelley.

**Clancey, P.A.** 1950. *Oenanthe phillipsi* (Shelley) in eastern Abyssinia. *The Auk* 67: 393.

**Mills, M.S. & Cohen, C.** 2015. Birds of Somalia: new records, range extensions and observations from Somaliland. *Scopus* 34: 31-39 (36).

**Tye, A.** 1986. Plumage stages, moults, sexual dimorphism and systematic position of the Somali Wheatear *Oenanthe phillipsi*. *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club* 106: 104-111.

## Red-rumped Wheatear

***Oenanthe moesta*** [M.H.K. Lichtenstein].

North Africa E to Sinai and S Syria S to Israel & NW Saudi Arabia & E to W Iraq.

The proposed form *brooksbanki* is included with the nominate.

Other names: Buff-rumped Wheatear, Tristram's Wheatear.

**The Reverend Henry Baker Tristram FRS** (1822-1906), canon of Durham cathedral, traveller, archaeologist, naturalist and antiquarian.

**Bannerman, D. & Bannerman, J.** 1953. A second journey to the Moroccan Sahara (in 1952) and over the great Atlas. *Ibis* 95(1): 128-139.

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**Smith, K.D.** 1971. Notes on *Oenanthe* Species in Winter in Africa. *Bird Study* 18(2): 71-80 (73).

## Blackstart

***Oenanthe melanura*** [Temminck].

[*O.m. melanura*] Israel, Jordan & Sinai (NE Egypt) S to NW & interior C & S Arabia.

[*O.m. neumanni*] SW Saudi Arabia, W & S Yemen & SW Oman.

[*O.m. lypura*] NC & NE Sudan SE Egypt S to Eritrea.

[*O.m. aussae*] NE Ethiopia, Djibouti & N Somalia.

[*O.m. airensis*] Air (N Niger) E to C Sudan.

[*O.m. ultima*] E Mali & W Niger.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2005 as *Cercomela melanura*.

Other names: Black-tailed Chat, Black-tailed Rockchat, Black-tailed Cercomela.

**Anon.** 1991. Country varia: Israel. *Dutch Birding* 13(1): 20-28 (plate 28, p. 25).

**Bergh, M.V.D.** 2012. First record of Blackstart *Cercomela melanura* for Burkina Faso. *Bulletin of the African Bird Club* 19: 202.

**Bundy, G.** 1986. Blackstarts in southern Oman. *Sandgrouse* 7: 43-46.

**Cofta, T. et al.** 2005. First record of the Blackstart, *Cercomela melanura*, in Turkey. *Zoology in the Middle East* 36(1): 107-108.

**Dryden, M. & Allan, J.M.** 1999. A first record of Blackstart *Cercomela melanura* for the United Arab Emirates. *Tribulus* 9(1): 24.

- Leader, N. & Yom-Tov, Y.** 1998. The possible function of stone ramparts at the nest entrance of the blackstart. *Animal Behaviour* 56(1): 207-217.
- Leader, N.** 2000. Predicting the sex of blackstarts (*Cercomela melanura*) by discriminant analysis. *Israel Journal of Zoology* 46(2): 149-154.
- Martins, R.P. et al.** 1996. The status of passerines in southern Yemen and records of the OSME survey in spring 1993. *Sandgrouse* 17: 54-72 (59).
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- Sangster, G. et al.** 2013. Taxonomic recommendations for Western Palearctic birds: ninth report. *Ibis* 155(4): 898-907 (903).
- White, M.L.J. et al.** 2007. Bird surveys and distance sampling in St Katherine Protectorate, South Sinai, Egypt in 2007. *Egyptian Journal of Biology* 9: 60-68.
- White, M.L.J. et al.** 2008. Recent surveys of resident breeding birds in the St Katherine Protectorate, south Sinai, Egypt. *Sandgrouse* 30: 190-200 (199).
- Yosef, R.** 1999. Function of stone carpets at the nest entrance of blackstarts *Cercomela melanura*. *Vogelwelt* 120: 155-161.

## Familiar Chat

***Oenanthe familiaris*** [Wilkes].

[*O.f. familiaris*] W & E Cape E to R Great Kei (S South Africa).

[*O.f. actuosa*] W KwaZulu-Natal S to Drakensberg Mts (E South Africa) & Lesotho.

[*O.f. hellmayri*] SE Botswana E to S Mozambique and Northern Province & N Eastern Cape (E South Africa).

[*O.f. galtoni*] E Namibia, W Botswana and N & W Northern Cape (N South Africa).

[*O.f. angolensis*] SW DR Congo, W Angola & N Namibia.

[*O.f. omoensis*] SE Sudan, SW Ethiopia, NE Uganda & NW Kenya.

[*O.f. falckensteini*] SE Senegal E to NW Ethiopia and S Uganda & Tanzania S to Zambezi River Valley. Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2005 as *Cercomela familiaris*.

Other name: Red-tailed Chat.

**Carl Eduard Hellmayr** (1878–1944), German / American ornithologist.

**Johann Falkenstein** (1842-1817), German surgeon and collector in tropical Africa from 1873 to 1876.

**Clancey, P.A.** 1962. The South African races of the Familiar Chat *Cercomela familiaris* (Stephens). *Ostrich* 33(4): 24-28.

**Macdonald, J.D.** 1953. Variation in *Cercomela familiaris* in South Africa. *Ibis* 95(1): 70-73.

**Martins, R.P. et al.** 1996. The status of passerines in southern Yemen and records of the OSME survey in spring 1993. *Sandgrouse* 17: 54-72 (59).

**Rainey, H.J. et al.** 2009. Additions to the avifauna of Congo-Brazzaville. *Bulletin of the African Bird Club* 16(1): 53-60 (56).

**Steyn, P.** 1966. Observations on the breeding biology of the Familiar Chat, *Cercomela familiaris* (Stephens). *Ostrich* 37(3): 176-183.

**Willoughby, E.J.** 1969. Desert coloration in birds of the central Namib Desert. *Scientific Papers of the Namib Desert Research Station* 44: 39-68.

## Brown-tailed Rock Chat

***Oenanthe scotocerca*** [Heuglin].

[*O.s. scotocerca*] Red Sea hills in NE Sudan and N Eritrea.

[*O.s. furensis*] E Chad and W Sudan.

[*O.s. turkana*] S Ethiopia, E Uganda and N & NC Kenya.

[*O.s. spectatrix*] Awash Valley (E Ethiopia) and adjacent N Somalia.

[*O.s. validior*] NE Somalia.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2005 as *Cercomela scotocerca*.

Other names: Rockchat, Brown-tailed Rockchat.

**Asefa, A. & Kinahan, A.A.** 2014. Short communications: Preliminary checklists for two Important Bird Areas of Ethiopia: Sof Omar and Shek Husein in the Bale eco-region. *Scopus* 33: 80-84.

**Butchart, S.** 2007. Birds to find: a review of 'lost', obscure and poorly known African bird species. *Bulletin of the African Bird Club* 14(2): 138-157 (143).

### Sombre Rock Chat

*Oenanthe dubia* [Blundell and Lovat].

EC Ethiopia.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2005 as *Cercomela dubia*.

Other names: Sombre Rockchat, Sooty Chat.

**Butchart, S.** 2007. Birds to find: a review of 'lost', obscure and poorly known African bird species.

*Bulletin of the African Bird Club* 14(2): 138-157 (143).

### Brown Rock Chat

*Oenanthe fusca* [Blyth].

N & C India and NE Pakistan.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2005 as *Cercomela fusca*.

Other name: Brown Rockchat, Indian Chat.

**Bharos, A.M.K. & Bharos, A.** 2008. Occurrence of Brown Rock Chat (*Cercomela fusca*) in central Chhattisgarh. *Newsletter for Birdwatchers* 48(4): 59-60.

**Donahue, J.P.** 1962. Field identification of the Brown Rock Chat. *Newsletter for Birdwatchers* 2(10): 5-6.

**Jayapal, R. et al.** 2005. Some significant records of birds from the central Indian highlands of Madhya Pradesh. *Indian BIRDS* 1(5): 98-102 (100).

**Kasambe, R.M.** 2003. Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) attempting to feed on Brown Rock Chat (*Cercomela fusca*) chick. *Zoos' Print Journal* 18(1): 986.

**Khacher, L.** 2000. Brown Rock Chat *Cercomela fusca*: extension of range into Gujarat. *Newsletter for Birdwatchers* 40(3): 41.

**Mathews, W.H.** 1919. Nesting habits of the Brown Rockchat *Cercomela fusca*. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 26(3): 843-844.

**Naik, S.** 2016. Snapshot sightings: Brown Rock Chat at Saundatti, Karnataka. *Indian BIRDS* 11(1): 28.

**Parasharya, B.M. & Vyas, R.** 2003. Status of Brown Rock Chat *Cercomela fusca* in Gujarat state. *Newsletter for Birdwatchers* 43(3): 37-38.

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**White, L.S.** 1919. Nesting habits of the Brown Rockchat *Cercomela fusca*. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 26(2): 667-668.

### Variable Wheatear

*Oenanthe picata* [Blyth].

NE & SE Iran & Turkmenistan E to W Tien Shan, Pamirs and N & W Pakistan. Winters SW Asia.

Occurs in three colour morphs, *i.e.* *picata*, *opistholeuca* & *capistrata*.

Other names: Eastern Pied Wheatear, Pied Chat, Strickland's Wheatear/Chat (*opistholeuca* morph), White-capped Wheatear (*capistrata* morph).

**Hugh Edwin Strickland** (1811-1853), English ornithologist and geologist who travelled in Greece and Turkey.

1st WP Record: 24th March 2014. Liyah Reserve, Kuwait (**Jones, J.** 2014. Bird News - Western Palearctic: March 2014. *Birdwatch* 262: 23).

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## **Black Wheatear**

***Oenanthe leucura*** [J.F. Gmelin].

[*O.l. leucura*] E Portugal, Spain & extreme S France.

[*O.l. riggerbachi*] NW Africa E to Jebel Nafusa (NW Libya).

Note: Taxon *riggerbachi* replaces *syenitica* which cannot be attributed to the northwestern Africa form.

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- Soler, M.** *et al.* 1999. Weight lifting and health status in the black wheatear. *Behavioral Ecology* 10(3): 281-286.
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- Ticehurst, N.F.** 1910. The Black Wheatear (*Saxicola leucura* (Gm.)) in Sussex: A new British bird. *British Birds* 3: 289-292.
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### Abyssinian Wheatear

***Oenanthe lugubris*** [Rüppell].

[*O.l. lugubris*] Highlands of Eritrea and N & C Ethiopia.

[*O.l. vauriei*] NE Somalia.

[*O.l. schalowi*] S Kenya & NE Tanzania.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2005 as races of Mourning Wheatear.

Other names: Abyssinian Black Wheatear, Schalow's Wheatear (*schalowi*), East African Wheatear (*schalowi*).

**Herman Schalow** (1852–1925), German banker and ornithologist who was one time Vice President and later President of the German Ornithological Society.

**Boon, L.J.R.** 2004. 'Mourning wheatears' illustrated. *Dutch Birding* 26(4): 223-236.

**Förschler, M.I.** *et al.* 2010. Phylogeny of the mourning wheatear *Oenanthe lugens* complex. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 56(2): 758-767.

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**Leisler, B.** 1992. Habitat selection and coexistence of migrants and Afrotropical residents. *Ibis* 134(suppl.1): 77-82.

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### White-crowned Wheatear

***Oenanthe leucopyga*** [C.L. Brehm].

[*O.l. leucopyga*] W & C Sahara E to Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea & Djibouti.

[*O.l. ernesti*] S Israel, W & S Jordan & Sinai (NE Egypt) S to C & E Arabia, and possibly also Yemen and Oman

The proposed form *aegra* is included with *O.l. leucopyga*.

Other names: White-crowned Black Wheatear, White-rumped Wheatear, White-tailed Wheatear.

**Ernst Johann Otto Hartert** (1859-1933), German ornithologist and curator of the Rothschild Museum, Tring.

- Anon.** 1991. Country varia: Israel. *Dutch Birding* 13(1): 20-28 (plate 29, p. 25).
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- Martinez, N. et al.** 2016. First documented record of White-crowned Wheatear *Oenanthe leucopyga* in Syria and records there of Desert Lark *Ammomanes deserti annae* and Basalt Wheatear *Oenanthe lugens warriae*, all 2009. *Sandgrouse* 38: 161-164.
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- Palfery, J.** 1988. Observations on the behaviour of White-crowned Black Wheatear in eastern Arabia. *Sandgrouse* 10: 1-25.
- Ramadan-Jaradi, G. & Itani, F.** 2016. Six interesting bird records including two new species, Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus* and White-crowned Wheatear *Oenanthe leucopyga*, for Lebanon. *Sandgrouse* 38: 192-196 (194).
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- Sorace, A.** 1996. The first White-crowned Black Wheatear *Oenanthe leucopyga* in Turkey. *Sandgrouse* 18(1): 68.
- Tipper, R. & Beale, V.** 2002. White-crowned Wheatear in Algarve, Portugal, in March 2001. *Dutch Birding* 24(4): 198-201.
- Tye, A.** 1987. Clinal variation and subspeciation in the White-crowned Black Wheatear *Oenanthe leucopyga*. *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club* 170: 157-165.
- White, M.L.J. et al.** 2007. Bird surveys and distance sampling in St Katherine Protectorate, South Sinai, Egypt in 2007. *Egyptian Journal of Biology* 9: 60-68.
- White, M.L.J. et al.** 2008. Recent surveys of resident breeding birds in the St Katherine Protectorate, south Sinai, Egypt. *Sandgrouse* 30: 190-200 (198).

## Hume's Wheatear

*Oenanthe albonigra* [Hume].

Iraq & SW Iran E to S & E Afghanistan, N & S Pakistan & NE Arabia.

Other name: Black-headed Wheatear.

**Allan Octavian Hume** (1829-1912), English theosophist, poet and writer on Indian birds who became known as the 'Father of Indian Ornithology'. He was one of the founders of the Indian National Congress.

**Desfayes, M. & Praz, J.C.** 1978. Notes on habitat and distribution of montane birds in southern Iran. *Bonner Zoologische Beiträge* 29(1-3): 18-37 (28).

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- Winkel, E. et al.** 2010. Bird counting in Iran in January 2009. *Dutch Birding* 32(3): 171-188 (plate 243, p. 185).

### Finsch's Wheatear

***Oenanthe finschii*** [Heuglin].

[*O.f. finschii*] Asia Minor & Levant including extreme N Israel E to W & SW Iran. Winters also on coastal E Mediterranean, N Egypt & Middle East.

[*O.f. barnesi*] E Turkey, NE & E Iran and W Turkmenistan E to SC Kazakhstan, E Afghanistan & W Pakistan. Winters also in Mesopotamia & SW Asia.

Other name: White-backed Wheatear.

**Friedrich Hermann Otto Finsch** (1839-1917), Prussian/German ethnographer, naturalist and traveller.

**Amies, P.A.** 1990. Notes: Spectacled Warblers feeding in association with Finsch's Wheatear. *British Birds* 83(2): 73.

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**Kylänpää, J.** 2000. Birds of Dera Ismail Khan District of North West Frontier Province in Pakistan. *Forktail* 16: 15-28 (24).

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**Wassink, A.** 2009. Birds of Kazakhstan: new and interesting data, part 2. *Dutch Birding* 31(2): 101-110 (108).

### Mourning Wheatear

***Oenanthe lugens*** [M.H.K. Lichtenstein].

[*O.l. lugens*] Syria, Israel, Jordan & NW Arabia S to E Egypt & NE Sudan.

[*O.l. halophila*] N Africa E to W Egypt W of R Nile.

[*O.l. persica*] NC, WC & SW Iran on the Iranian plateau. Winters Arabia & NE Africa.

[*O.l. warrianae*] Basalt desert area north of Azraq, Jordan.

Other names: Basalt Wheatear (*warrianae*) Maghreb Wheatear (*halophila*), Western Mourning Wheatear (*halophila*) Persian Mourning Wheatear (*persica*), Iranian Wheatear (*persica*).

Iranian Wheatear *O.l. persica* is probably better treated as a full monotypic species and inserted between Arabian and Kurdish Wheatears in the list sequence (see both of **Förschler, M.I. et al.** 2010).

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**Förschler, M.I. et al.** 2010. Corrigendum to 'Phylogeny of the mourning wheatear *Oenanthe lugens* complex'. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 57(1): 483-484.

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- Martinez, N. et al.** 2016. First documented record of White-crowned Wheatear *Oenanthe leucopyga* in Syria and records there of Desert Lark *Ammomanes deserti annae* and Basalt Wheatear *Oenanthe lugens warriae*, all 2009. *Sandgrouse* 38: 161-164.
- Morris, R.P.** 1992. The identification of Mourning Wheatear *Oenanthe lugens* and its status in the UAE. *Emirates Bird Report* 16: 32-34.
- Rödl, T. & Flinks, H.** 1996. Nutrition of Stonechats (*Saxicola torquata*) and Mourning Wheatears (*Oenanthe lugens*) wintering sympatrically in Israel. *Ökologie der Vögel* 18: 107-126.
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- Smith, K.D.** 1971. Notes on *Oenanthe* Species in Winter in Africa. *Bird Study* 18(2): 71-80 (72).
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- Tye, A.** 1994. A description of the Middle Eastern black morph of Mourning Wheatear *Oenanthe lugens* from museum specimens. *Sandgrouse* 16(1): 28-31.
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## Arabian Wheatear

***Oenanthe lugentoides*** [Seeböhm].

[*O.l. lugentoides*] SW Saudi Arabia & W Yemen.

[*O.l. boscaweni*] E Yemen & S Oman.

Treated by del Hoyo et al. 2005 as races of Mourning Wheatear.

Other name: South Arabian Wheatear.

**Boon, L.J.R.** 2004. 'Mourning wheatears' illustrated. *Dutch Birding* 26(4): 223-236.

**Castell, P. et al.** 2002. Further notes on the breeding biology of some birds in Saudi Arabia. *Sandgrouse* 24(1): 33-37 (35-36).

**Dixon, A.** 2013. A description of the nest and eggs of the Arabian Wheatear *Oenanthe lugentoides*, Oman. *Sandgrouse* 35(2): 153.

**Evans, M.I. et al.** 1987. The South Arabian Wheatear in North Yemen. *Sandgrouse* 9: 82-86.

**Förschler, M.I. et al.** 2010. Phylogeny of the mourning wheatear *Oenanthe lugens* complex. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 56(2): 758-767.

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**Schweizer, M. & Shirihai, H.** 2013. Phylogeny of the *Oenanthe lugens* complex (Aves, Muscicapidae: Saxicolinae): Paraphyly of a morphologically cohesive group within a recent radiation of open-habitat chats. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 69(3): 450-461.

**Tye, A.** 1990. Wheatears of the *Oenanthe lugens* complex (Mourning wheatear) in Arabia. *Phoenix* 7: 2-3.

## Chestnut-rumped Wheatears

### Kurdish Wheatear

*Oenanthe xanthopyrna* [Hemprich and Ehrenberg].

SE Turkey to SW Iran and probably extreme NE Iraq. Winters E Egypt S to E Sudan & Eritrea, Arabian peninsula & NE Somalia.

Other names: Persian Wheatear, Rusty-tailed Wheatear.

### Red-tailed Wheatear

*Oenanthe chrysopygia* [de Filippi].

NE Turkey, Armenia & N Iran E to Pamir range (S Tadjikistan), Afghanistan & extreme W Pakistan.

Winters Arabian peninsula, S Iraq, S Iran, E Afghanistan, Pakistan & NW India.

Other names: Afghan Wheatear, Red-tailed Chat, Rufous-tailed Wheatear.

**Ananian, V. & Ghasabian, M.** 2005. On the distribution of Red-tailed Wheatear *Oenanthe chrysopygia* (de Filippi, 1863) in Armenia. *Sandgrouse* 27(2): 157-159.

**Bonser, R. et al.** 2011. Birding Kuwait. *Birding World* 24(11): 467-484 (plate 17, p. 479).

**Busuttill, S. & Ayé, R.** 2009. Ornithological surveys in Bamiyan province, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. *Sandgrouse* 31: 146-159 (157).

**Defayes, M. & Praz, J.C.** 1978. Notes on habitat and distribution of montane birds in southern Iran. *Bonner Zoologische Beiträge* 29(1-3): 18-37 (28).

**Dodsworth, P.T.L.** 1913. Occurrence of the Red-tailed Chat (*Saxicola chrysopygia*, De Filippi) in the vicinity of Simla. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* XXII(1): 196.

**Fågel, P.** 2007. Kuwait - A Birding Destination at the Southeastern Corner of the Western Palearctic. *Alula* 13(4): 166-174 (photo 10, p. 170).

**Kylänpää, J.** 2000. Birds of Dera Ismail Khan District of North West Frontier Province in Pakistan. *Forktail* 16: 15-28 (24).

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**Mlikovsky, J.** 2007. Ornithological results of the Czechoslovak–Iranian expedition in Iran in 1977. *Podoces* 2(2): 141-142.

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