List of Pipits
with References
Compiled by Joe Hobbs
Introduction
This is the final version of the Pipits list, no further updates will be made. Grateful thanks to Tom Shevlin (www.irishbirds.ie) and Paul Archer for the cover images and all those who responded with constructive feedback. All images © the photographer.
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

Index

Final Version
Version 1.6 (April 2019).

Cover

Species
Page No.
African Rock Pipit [Anthus crenatus] 32
Alpine Pipit [Anthus gutturalis] 33
Australian Pipit [Anthus australis] 6
Berthelot's Pipit [Anthus berthelotii] 30
Blyth's Pipit [Anthus godlewski] 9
Buff-bellied Pipit [Anthus rubescens] 25
Buffy Pipit [Anthus vaalensis] 16
Bushveld Pipit [Anthus caffer] 32
Chaco Pipit [Anthus chacoensis] 36
Correndera Pipit [Anthus correndera] 36
Grassland Pipit [Anthus cinnamomeus] 8
Hellmayr's Pipit [Anthus hellmayri] 37
Kimberley Pipit¹ [Anthus pseudosimilis] 38
Long-billed Pipit [Anthus similis] 14
Long-legged Pipit [Anthus pallidiventris] 16
Long-tailed Pipit¹ [Anthus longicaudatus] 38
Madanga [Anthus ruficollis] 34
Malindi Pipit [Anthus melindae] 33
Meadow Pipit \textit{[Anthus pratensis]} 17
Mountain Pipit \textit{[Anthus hoeschi]} 9
New Zealand Pipit \textit{[Anthus novaeseelandiae]} 7
Nilgiri Pipit \textit{[Anthus nilghiriensis]} 30
Ochre-breasted Pipit \textit{[Anthus nattereri]} 36
Olive-backed Pipit \textit{[Anthus hodgsoni]} 20
Paddyfield Pipit \textit{[Anthus rufulus]} 6
Paramo Pipit \textit{[Anthus bogotensis]} 37
Pechora Pipit \textit{[Anthus gustavi]} 22
Peruvian Pipit \textit{[Anthus peruvianus]} 35
Plain-backed Pipit \textit{[Anthus leucophrys]} 16
Puna Pipit \textit{[Anthus brevirostris]} 35
Red-throated Pipit \textit{[Anthus cervinus]} 23
Richard’s Pipit \textit{[Anthus richardi]} 4
Rock Pipit \textit{[Anthus petrosus]} 29
Rosy Pipit \textit{[Anthus roseatus]} 23
Short-billed Pipit \textit{[Anthus furcatus]} 35
Short-tailed Pipit \textit{[Anthus brachyurus]} 32
Sokoke Pipit \textit{[Anthus sokokensis]} 33
South Georgia Pipit \textit{[Anthus antarcticus]} 36
Sprague’s Pipit \textit{[Anthus spraguei]} 34
Striped Pipit \textit{[Anthus lineiventris]} 31
Tawny Pipit \textit{[Anthus campestris]} 11
Tree Pipit \textit{[Anthus trivialis]} 19
Upland Pipit \textit{[Anthus sylvanus]} 30
Water Pipit \textit{[Anthus spinoletta]} 27
Wood Pipit \textit{[Anthus nyassae]} 15
Yellow-breasted Pipit \textit{[Anthus chloris]} 33
Yellowish Pipit \textit{[Anthus lutescens]} 35
Relevant Publications


General Notes


Richard’s Pipit

*Anthus richardi* [Vieillot].


Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2004 as polytypic with races *richardi*, *dauricus*, *centralasiae*, *ussuriensis* and *sinensis*.

Monsieur Richard of Lunéville (c.1750-c.1820), French naturalist who collected a specimen of the species in 1815 and another the following year.


Paddyfield Pipit
Anthus rufulus [Vieillot].
[A.r. rufulus] Indian subcontinent, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Yunnan (S China), N Thailand, N Laos, N Cambodia & N Vietnam.
[A.r. malayensis] Peninsular Malaysia, S Thailand, Singapore, Sumatra, Java, N & SE Borneo.
[A.r. medius] E Lesser Sundas.
[A.r. lugubris] Philippines.
[A.r. albidus] Sulawesi, Bali & W Lesser Sundas.
The proposed form waitei is included with A.r. rufulus.
Other names: Oriental Pipit, Indian Pipit.


Australian Pipit
Anthus australis [Vieillot].
[A.a. rogersi] Coastal NW Australia E to Cape York peninsula.
[A.a. bilbali] SW Western Australia & SC South Australia.
[A.a. bistriatus] King Island & Flinders Islands (Bass Strait) and Tasmania.
Treated by del Hoyo et al. 2004 as races of Australasian Pipit Anthus novaeseelandiae.
Other name: Ground Lark.


New Zealand Pipit
Anthus novaeseelandiae [J.F.Gmelin].
[A.n. novaeseelandiae] North & South Island (New Zealand) and Stewart Island (off South Island, New Zealand).
[A.n. chathamensis] Chatham Islands (New Zealand region).
The proposed form reischeki is included with A.n. novaeseelandiae. Treated by del Hoyo et al. 2004 as races of Australasian Pipit Anthus novaeseelandiae. Other names: Pihoihoi, New Zealand Lark.


Grassland Pipit

*Anthus cinnamomeus* [Rüppell].


[A.c. *lynesi*] SE Nigeria, Cameroon, W Chad & W Sudan.

[A.c. *camaroonensis*] Mt Manenguba & Mt Cameroon (W Cameroon).

[A.c. *stabilis*] C & SE Sudan.

[A.c. *eximius*] SW Arabian peninsula.


[A.c. *itombwensis*] Highlands of E DR Congo.


[A.c. *spurium*] SE Tanzania S to NE Namibia & the Zambezi Valley and coastal lowlands of Mozambique.

[A.c. *bocagi*] W & S Angola S to Northern Cape (NW South Africa).


[A.c. *rufuloides*] South Africa (except the NW), Swaziland & Lesotho lowlands.


The form *latistriatus* (Jackson’s Pipit) has been variously treated as a full species or as a race of both Long-billed Pipit and Grassland Pipit.

Cameroon Pipit A.c. *camaroonensis* treated by some as a full species.

Other names: African Pipit, Grassveld Pipit, Cameroon Pipit (*camaroonensis*), Jackson's Pipit (*latistriatus*).

Sir Frederick John Jackson (1859-1929), English explorer and ornithologist, one time Governor of Uganda from 1911-1918.


**Mountain Pipit**

*Anthus hoeschi* [Stresemann].


**Blyth’s Pipit**

*Anthus godlewskii* [Taczanowski].

E Altai Mts (S Russia) E to Transbaikalia & W Heilongjiang (NE China) and S to S Mongolia and N & C Nei Mongol. Winters Indian subcontinent.

Other name: Godlewski’s Pipit.

Edward Blyth (1810-1873), English zoologist & author. He was Curator of the Asiatic Society of Bengal from 1842 to 1864.

Witko Ignacy Godlewski (1831-1900), Polish zoologist who was exiled to Siberia following a failed uprising, where he studied the wildlife especially in the vicinity of Lake Baikal.


Tawny Pipit

*Anthus campestris* [Linnaeus].

S Sweden, Denmark & Baltic states N to St. Petersburg (Russia) and S thru continental Europe to the Mediterranean and its islands & N Morocco, NE Algeria & N Tunisia and Belarus, Ukraine & Turkey E thru N Iran, C & N Afghanistan to C Mongolia & NW Xinjiang (NW China) and locally in the Levant. Winters Africa S of the Sahara from Senagambia E to Ethiopia, NW & S Somalia, N Kenya & the Nile valley and Arabian peninsula, S Iran, Pakistan & NE India.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2004 to be polytypic with races *campestris*, *kastschenkoi* & *griseus*. 

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Long-billed Pipit

*Anthus similis* [Jerdon].

[A.s. similis] SW India

[A.s. decaptus] Zagros Mts (S Iran) E to Baluchistan (W Pakistan). Winters S to NW India at lower altitudes.


[A.s. nivescens] S to mountains in E Ethiopia and NW Somalia.

[A.s. captus] Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Palestine & W Jordan.

[A.s. sokotrae] Socotra.


[A.s. yamethini] C Myanmar.


[A.s. captus] Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Palestine & W Jordan.

[A.s. sokotrae] Socotra.


[A.s. yamethini] C Myanmar.


[A.s. decaptus] Zagros Mts (S Iran) E to Baluchistan (W Pakistan). Winters S to NW India at lower altitudes.


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[A.s. yamethini] C Myanmar.


[A.s. captus] Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Palestine & W Jordan.

[A.s. sokotrae] Socotra.


**Wood Pipit**

*Anthus nyassae* [Neumann].


[A.n. schoutedeni] SE Gabon, S Congo & S DR Congo to S Angola, NE Namibia, N Botswana & W Zambia


Previously regarded as conspecific with A. similis.

Other names: Woodland Pipit, Brachystegia Pipit, Chaplin's Pipit.

Sir Francis Drummond Percy Chaplin (1866-1933), cival servant and administrator in Rhodesia (modern-day Zimbabwe) and Nyasaland (modern-day Malawi) between 1914 and 1923.


Buffy Pipit

Anthus vaalensis [Shelley].
[A.v. namibicus] NE & C Namibia.
[A.v. neumannii] Angolan plateau. During the rains moves S to Namibia & Botswana.
[A.v. chobiensis] S DR Congo & SW Tanzania to NE Namibia, N Botswana, Zimbabwe & W Mozambique.
Treated by del Hoyo et al. 2004 to include the races saphiroi and goodsoni are here included with Plain-backed Pipit.
Other names: Sandy Pipit, Plain-backed Pipit.


Plain-backed Pipit

Anthus leucophrys [Vieillot].
[A.l. leucophrys] SE Botswana E to extreme S Mozambique and S to E & S South Africa.
[A.l. tephridorsus] S Angola & S Zambia S to N Namibia, NW Botswana & NE Zimbabwe.
[A.l. omoensis] SE Sudan and N, C & W Ethiopia.
[A.l. gouldii] Sierra Leone, Liberia & Ivory Coast.
[A.l. ansorgei] S Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia & Guinea-Bissau.
Forms saphiroi & goodsoni treated by del Hoyo et al. 2004 as races of Buffy Pipit but here included with Plain-backed Pipit.
Other name: Goodson’s Pipit (goodsoni).

Arthur Thomas Goodson (1873–1931), assistant ornithologist at Rothschild’s Museum, Tring (now incorporated into the Natural History Museum) from 1893 to 1931. The New World butterfly Goodson’s Hairstreak is probably named after him.


Long-legged Pipit

Anthus pallidiventris [Sharpe].
Other name: Long-clawed Pipit.


Meadow Pipit

*Anthus pratensis* [Linnaeus].

SE Greenland, Iceland and N, NW & C Europe E to W Siberia and S & E to S France & C Romania also the border mountains between Georgia & Armenia in the Caucasus. Winters S to N Africa, Middle East & SW Asia.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2004 to be polytypic with races *pratensis* & *whistleri*.


Tree Pipit
Anthus trivialis [Linnaeus].
The proposed form schlüeteri is included with A.t. trivialis.


Olive-backed Pipit
Anthus hodgsoni [Richmond].
[A.h. hodgsoni] Himalayas from NW India E to S Xizang (SC China) and NE Qinghai, S Nei Mongol & Shangxi S to Yunnan & Sichuan (C China) and N Korea & Japan S to C Honshu. Winters S & SE Asia.
[A.h. yunnanensis] NW Russia from W of middle R Pechora, SW Siberia & NE Altai E to Kamchatka, Sakhalin & Kuril Islands and S to N Mongolia, NE China & Hokkaido (N Japan). Winters S & SE Asia.
Other names: Olive Tree-pipit, Oriental Tree Pipit, Spotted Pipit, Hodgson's Pipit, Indian Tree Pipit (hodgsoni), Siberian Tree Pipit (yunnanensis).

Brian Houghton Hodgson FRC (1800-1894), English civil servant, naturalist and ethnologist who described many species from the Himalayas and made considerable contributions to Indian ornithology.


Fletcher, T.B. & Inglis, C.M. 1922. Some common Indian birds. No. 18. The Indian Tree-pipit (*Anthus hodgsoni*). *The Agricultural Journal of India* 17(6): 543-545.
Pechora Pipit

*Anthus gustavi* [Swinhoe].

[A*g. gustavi*] N Russia E to the Chukotsk peninsula and S to middle R Yenisey, middle R Lena, Kamchatka & Commander Islands. Winters Philippines, N Borneo & Wallacea.

[A*g. menzbieri*] Middle Amur Valley & S Ussuriand (Far East Russia) and extreme E Heilongjiang (NE China). Winter area not fully established.

The proposed form *stejnegeri* included with *A*g. *gustavi*.

Other name Menzbier’s Pipit (*menzbieri*).

Mikhail Aleksandrovich Menzbier (1855-1935), Russian zoologist and taxonomist whose major work was on the taxonomy of raptors.

Gustaaaf Schlegel (1840-1903), German sinologist who collected with Robert Swinhoe in China and was the son of Hermann Schlegel (of Schlegel’s Petrel).


**Rosy Pipit**

*Anthus roseatus* [Blyth].

Mountains from extreme W Xinjiang (W China) S to NE Afghanistan and E in Himalayas to Arunachal Pradesh (NE India) and C Gansu E to Nei Mongol & W Hebei and S to S & E Xizang, Yunnan, W Guizhou & W Hubei (S & E China) and probably extreme N & NE Myanmar. Winters S to N India, Bangladesh & N Thailand.

Other names: Roseate Pipit, Rose-breasted Pipit, Vinaceous-breasted Pipit, Hodgson's Pipit.

Brian Houghton Hodgson FRC (1800-1894), English civil servant who made considerable contributions to Indian ornithology.


**Red-throated Pipit**

*Anthus cervinus* [Pallas].

N of the Arctic Circle in a narrow band from N Fennoscandia E to the Chukotsk peninsula and S to Kamchatka (NE Russia) and extreme W Alaska. Winters mainly in Africa S of the Sahara and SE Asia.


Buff-bellied Pipit
Anthus rubescens [Tunstall].

[A.r. rubescens] Alaska S along the coast to Oregon and N & E Canada, W Greenland and extreme NE USA. Winters S to Central America.


[A.r. japonicus] SE Taiywr (N Russia) & W Siberian plateau and R Lena, Yakutsk region & L Baikal region E to Chukotsk peninsula, Commander Islands, Sakhalin & Kuril Islands. Winters S Asia. The proposed form pacificus is included with A.r. rubescens.

Other name: Japanese Pipit (japonicus), Siberian Pipit (japonicus), American Pipit (rubescens).


Water Pipit

Anthus spinoletta [Linnaeus].


[A.s. coutellii] N, S & E Turkey, Caucasus and mountains of N Iran & Kopet Dagh (Turkmenistan). Winters adjacent lowlands and S to NE Africa & Arabia.

[A.s. blakistoni] Mountains of S Russia E to Transbaikalia and Mongolia, E Kazakhstan, Tadjikistan, Kyrgyzstan and W Xinjiang & Qinghai (NW & C China). Winters Pakistan, NW India & S China.

Other name: Alpine (Water) Pipit, Caucasian Water Pipit (coutellii).

Caucasian Water Pipit may be a full species, see Garner et al. 2015.


**Rock Pipit**

*Anthus petrosus* [Montagu].

*[A.p. petrosus]* Faroe Islands, Ireland, Britain & NW France.  
*[A.p. littoralis]* Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland & the Kola peninsula (Russia). Winters SW Sweden W & S to Portugal.  

The proposed form *kleinschmidtii* is included with *A.p. petrosus*.  
Other name: Scandinavian Rock Pipit *(littoralis)*.


King, B. 1985. Notes: Rock Pipits using rooftops as summer and autumn territories.  
*British Birds* 78(11): 596.


**Nilgiri Pipit**
*Anthus nilghiriensis* [Sharpe].
Kerala & W Tamil Nadu (Western Ghats, extreme SW India).


**Upland Pipit**
*Anthus sylvanus* [Hodgson].
NW & N Pakistan E in the Himalayas to E Nepal or possibly further and W & S Sichuan (SW China) and Yunnan E to Zhejiang & Fujian (SE China) and Hong Kong and possibly N & NE Myanmar.


**Berthelot’s Pipit**
*Anthus berthelotii* [Bolle].
Madeira, Desertas Islands & Porto Santo (Madeira archipelago) and Ilhas Selvagens & Canary Islands.
Treated by del Hoyo et al. 2004 to be polytypic with races *berthelotii* & *madeirensis*.
Sabin Berthelot (1794-1880), French naturalist and ethnologist who also served as a midshipman in the French Navy during the Napoleonic Wars and later took up residence in the Canary Islands.

Lorenzo, J.A. & Barone, R. Bisbita Caminero *Anthus berthelotii* [Berthelot's Pipit], pp. 392-393.

**Striped Pipit**

*Anthus lineiventris* [Sundevall].
Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2004 to be polytypic with races *lineiventris* & *stygium*.

African Rock Pipit

Anthus crenatus [Finsch & Hartlaub].

S & E Northern Cape E in mountains to Mpumalanga (NE South Africa), W Swaziland & Drakensberg Mts (Lesotho) and along the lower R Orange (NC Northern Cape).

Other name: Yellow-tufted Pipit.


Short-tailed Pipit

Anthus brachyurus [Sundevall].

[A.b. brachyurus] SC Mozambique, Mpumalanga & KwaZulu-Natal (NE South Africa) & E Lesotho. 
[A.b. leggei] Isolated populations in E DR Congo, SW Uganda, Rwanda, N Burundi & extreme NW Tanzania and SE Gabon & S PR Congo thru W & S DR Congo S to NE Angola and N & C Zambia and It is also possible this is the form occurring in S Tanzania.

Proposed race eludens is included with A.b. leggei.


Bushveld Pipit

Anthus caffer [Sundevall].

[A.c. caffer] SE Botswana, SW Zimbabwe, NE South Africa & W Swaziland.

[A.c. traylori] Lowlands in NE South Africa, E Swaziland and extreme S Mozambique S of R Limpopo.


Other names: Bush Pipit, Little Tawny Pipit.


Sokoke Pipit

*Anthus sokokensis* [van Someren].
Coastal forest in E Kenya & NE Tanzania.


Malindi Pipit

*Anthus melindae* [Shelley].


[A.m. mallablensis] Coast of S Somalia from 18' NE of Mogadishu S to about 1° N.


Yellow-breasted Pipit

*Anthus chloris* [M.H.K.Lichtenstein].
Drakensberg Mts. (Mpumalanga & W KwaZulu-Natal) S to NE Eastern Cape & extreme SE Free State (South Africa) and E & S Lesotho.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2004 as *Hemimacronyx chloris*.
Other name: Yellow-breasted Longclaw.


Alpine Pipit

*Anthus gutturalis* [DeVis].


[A.g. wollastoni] WC to highlands in EC New Guinea & Huon peninsula (E New Guinea).

The proposed form *rhododendri* is included with *A.n. wollastoni*.
Other name: New Guinea Pipit.


Madanga
Anthus ruficollis [Rothschild and Hartert].
Buru (Moluccas, Indonesia).
Previously included with the Zosteropidae (White-eyes), see Alström et al. (2015).
Treated by del Hoyo et al. 2008 as Madanga ruficollis.
Other name: Rufous-throated White-eye.

Alström, P. et al. 2015 Dramatic niche shifts and morphological change in two insular bird species.

Sprague’s Pipit
Anthus spragueii [Audubon].
C & SE Alberta, C & S Saskatchewan & SW Manitoba (S Canada), N & C Montana, North Dakota, N South Dakota & NW Minnesota (N USA). Winters S USA S to C Mexico.
Other name: Sprague’s Lark.
Isaac S. Sprague (1811-1895), American self-taught landscape, botanical and ornithological painter
who was America’s best known botanical illustrator of his day. He accompanied Audubon as his
assistant on the Missouri trip of 1843.

Crawford, N.G. et al. 2009. Polymorphic microsatellite loci from Sprague’s pipit (*Anthus spragueii*), a
Davis, S.K. 2009. Renesting intervals and duration of the incubation and nestling periods of
Davis, S.K. et al. 1999. Distribution and Habitat Associations of Three Endemic Grassland Songbirds
USGS Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center Paper 135.
pipits: Are planted grasslands a good substitute for native? *Biological Conservation* 144(1): 263-
271.
spragueii*). *Journal of Ornithology* 151(3): 749-753.
Harris, R.D. 1933. Observations on a nest of Sprague’s Pipit (*Anthus spragueii*). *Canadian Field
Naturalist* 47: 91-95.
(797).
Koper, N. et al. 2009. Nonlinear effects of distance to habitat edge on Sprague’s pipits in southern
McNair, D.B. 1998. Sprague’s Pipit overwinters at Apalachicola, Franklin County, and an assessment
Environmental Protection, Wildlife Management Division, Edmonton.
Spomer, R. 1981. Long-billed Curlews and Sprague’s Pipits near Pierre. *South Dakota Bird Notes* 33:
78.


Yellowish Pipits

Yellowish Pipit
*Anthus lutescens* [Pucheran].

[A.l. *lutescens*] NE Brazil, Argentina & E Bolivia.

[A.l. *parvus*] Pacific coast of Panama & NE Colombia thru NC Brazil to the Guyanas.

Peruvian Pipit
*Anthus peruvianus* [Nicholson]

Trujillo (Peru) S to Arica (extreme N Chile).

Previously regarded as a subspecies of Yellowish Pipit.


Short-billed Pipits

Short-billed Pipit
*Anthus furcatus* [d’Orbigny and Lafresnaye].

Lowlands of Argentina E to extreme SE Brazil & Uruguay.

Puna Pipit
*Anthus brevirostris* [Taczanowski].

C Peru S to W Bolivia & NW Argentina.

Previously regarded as a subspecies of Short-billed Pipit.


**Chaco Pipit**

*Anthus chacoensis* [J.T.Zimmer].
Lowlands S from Concepción (Paraguay) to EC Argentina S to SC Buenos Aires.
Other names: Pampas Pipit, Campo Pipit.


**Correndera Pipit**

*Anthus correndera* [Vieillot].
[A.c. correndera] S Paraguay, N Argentina, Uruguay & extreme SE Brazil.
[A.c. calcaratus] Mountains of Peru.
[A.c. catamarcaei] N Chile, SW Bolivia & Catamarca (NW Argentina).
[A.c. chilensis] Chile S from Atacama Desert & S Argentina S to Tierra del Fuego.
[A.c. grayi] Falkland Islands.
Other name: Falkland Pipit (*grayi*).  


**Ochre-breasted Pipit**

*Anthus nattereri* [P.L.Sclater].
S Paraguay, NE Argentina & SE Brazil.


**Hellmayr’s Pipit**

*Anthus hellmayri* [Hartert].

[A.h. hellmayri] E Andean slopes from Puno (SE Peru) S to NW Argentina.

[A.h. dabbenei] Highlands in Neuquén, W Chubut and SE Río Negro (S Argentina) and probably adjacent S Chile.

[A.h. brasilianus] SE Brazil, SE Paraguay, NE & E Argentina & Uruguay.

Charles Eduard Hellmayr (1878-1944), German zoologist who worked at the Field Museum in Chicago.


**Paramo Pipit**

*Anthus bogotensis* [P.L.Sclater].

[A.b. bogotensis] NW Venezuela and the Andes from Colombia S to N Peru.


[A.b. immaculatus] NC Peru S to Bolivia.

[A.b. shiptoni] NW Argentina.


Pipits whose status is doubtful:

**Kimberley Pipit**¹

*Anthus pseudosimilis* [Liversidge and Voelker].
Not fully established. Probably around Kimberley and other areas in the Northern Cape (South Africa), S Namibia & Kalagkadi Transfrontier Park (on the Botswana-South Africa border).
The validity of this species is suspect, see Davies & Peacock 2014.


**Long-tailed Pipit**¹

*Anthus longicaudatus* [Liversidge].
Distribution is little known, possibly the Barotse floodplains (Zimbabwe) and other unknown locations. Winters C South Africa.
The validity of this species is suspect, see Davies & Peacock 2014.


