List of Wagtails
with References
Compiled by Joe Hobbs
Introduction
I have endeavoured to keep typos, errors, omissions etc in this list to a minimum, however when you find more I would be grateful if you could mail the details during 2015 & 2016 to: josephobbs@gmail.com.
Grateful thanks to Alyn Walsh and Tom Shevlin (www.wildlifesnaps.com) for the cover images. All images © the photographers.
Joe Hobbs

Index

Version
Version 1.6 (August 2015).

Cover

Species
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African Pied Wagtail</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape Wagtail</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrine Wagtail</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Yellow Wagtail</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Wagtail</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey Wagtail</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese Wagtail</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madagascar Wagtail</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mekong Wagtail</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Wagtail</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wagtail</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-browed Wagtail</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Wagtail</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Relevant Publications

General Notes


### Forest Wagtail

*Dendronanthus indicus* [J.F. Gmelin 1789, India].

S Ussuriland (Russian Far East) S to SW Sichuan, N Guizhou & N Fujian (SE China) and SW Honshu & NW Kyushu (Japan) and fragmented in the Cachar Hills (Assam, NE India). Winters S to Sumatra, Java, Borneo & Philippines.

1st WP Record: 10th October 2006. Al-Abraq Al-Khabari, Kuwait. Mike Pope and Brian Foster (Pope *et al* 2006).


Yellow Wagtail

*Motacilla flava* [Linnaeus 1758, southern Sweden]

- **M.f. flava** S Scandinavia W to France and C European mountain ranges E to the Urals. Winters sub-Saharan Africa.
- **M.f. flavissima** Ireland (intermittently), Britain & adjacent coastal Europe. Winters Africa.
- **M.f. iberiae** Iberia, SW France and NW Africa S to islands of Banc d’Arguin (Mauritania). Winters W & NC Africa.
- **M.f. cinereocapilla** Italy, Sardinia, Sicily, SW Slovenia & NW Croatia. Winters along Mediterranean coast and Mali E to Lake Chad.
- **M.f. pygmaea** Nile valley & NW Sinai (Egypt).
- **M.f. feldegg** Bulgaria, S Romania, S Slovenia, W Croatia, Bosnia, S Serbia, Albania, Macedonia, Greece & Crete NE to S Ukraine and E to Turkey, E Mediterranean, Iran, Iraq, W Caspian, Iran, Afghanistan & S Kazakhstan E to L Balkhash, Lake Alakol and adjacent N Xinjiang (China). Winters mainly N Nigeria to Sudan and S to Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi & N DR Congo.
- **M.f. lutea** SW Russia between lower R Volga and R Irtysh and N Kazakhstan E to L Chany & L Zaysan. Winters Africa & Indian subcontinent.
- **M.f. beema** Upper R Volga E to SW Siberia and S to N Kazakhstan & Altai Mts and Ladakh & possibly also N Kashmir (W Himalayas). Winters mainly Indian subcontinent also Arabia & E Africa.
- **M.f. leucocephala** NW Mongolia, N Xinjiang (extreme NW China) and adjacent parts of far eastern Russia. Winters in India probably.

The proposed form *melanogrisea* is included with **M.f. feldegg**.

The proposed form *plexa* is included with **M.f. thunbergii** but see Bot et al 2014 (p. 297) for an examination of the *plexa-thunbergii* relationship.

The proposed form *superciliaris* is regarded as a *feldegg x flava* intergrade here.

The forms *leucocephala* and *plexa* might be forms of Eastern Yellow Wagtail.


Baron Christoph Feldegg (1780-1845), Austrian army officer and naturalist.

Col. William Henry Sykes (1790-1872), Indian army and naturalist.

Carl Peter Thunberg (1743-1828), Swedish doctor, botanist and traveller.


Eastern Yellow Wagtail

*Motacilla tschutschensis* [Gmelin 1789].

[M. *tschutschensis*] NE Siberia and N & W Alaska & extreme NW Canada. Winters mainly SE Asia E to Philippines & S to Indonesia.

[M. *macronyx*] SE Transbaikalia E to Amurland and Ussuriland and S to NE Mongolia & C Manchuria. Winters SE Asia S to Malay peninsula & SE China.

[M. *taivana*] NE Siberia, Amurland, Sakhalin & N Hokkaido (Japan). Winters Myanmar, S China & Taiwan S to Greater Sundas, Philippines & Wallacea.

The proposed forms *zaissanensis*, *angarensis* and *simillima* are included with *M. *tschutschensis*.


Citrine Wagtail

*Motacilla citreola* [Pallas 1776, Siberia].

- **[M.c. citreola]** Finland & N Russia E to C Siberia, Transbaikalia, Mongolia & NW Manchuria and S to E Poland, Belarus & Ukraine and E to Russian Altai, N & E Kazakhstan & N & C China. Winters mainly Indian subcontinent & SE Asia.
- **[M.c. calcarata]** E Iran, Afghanistan and Tien Shan E to C Gansu & Sichuan (C China mountains) and S to N Himalayas. Winters S Afghanistan E to Myanmar.

The proposed form *werae* is included with **M. c. citreola**.

Other names: Yellow-headed Wagtail, Black-backed Citrine Wagtail (*calcarata*).

1st WP Record (M. c. calcarata); [1st summer S?] 17th May 2011. Van, Eastern Anatolia, Turkey. Daniele Occhiato. Remained until the following day (Occhiato 2011).

---


**Cape Wagtail**

*Motacilla capensis* [Linnaeus 1766, Cape of Good Hope, South Africa].


Other names: Angolan Wagtail (*simplicissima*), Wells's Wagtail (*wellsii*).

Thomas ‘Jimmy’ Wells (1868-1939), British civil servant who worked as an assistant at the British Museum from 1883 to 1930, beginning as a ‘Boy Assistant’ and retiring after 47 years as a ‘Higher-Grade Clerk’ in the bird section.


Munday, T.L. 2006. *The search for the reason(s) causing feet abnormalities in the Cape Wagtail (Motacilla capensis)*. MSc Thesis, University of Johannesburg.


Madagascar Wagtail
Motacilla flaviventris [Hartlaub 1860, Bombetoke Bay, Madagascar].
Madagascar.


Grey Wagtail
Motacilla cinerea [Tunstall 1771, no locality = Wycliffe, Yorkshire, England].
[M.c. cinerea] Scandinavia S thru Ireland, Britain & W Europe to the Mediterranean and the Atlas Mts (NW Africa) and Asia Minor & the Caucasus E thru Iran & Afghanistan to the Himalayas and NE to Tien Shan (W China) and the Urals E to Kamchatka and S to S Gansu, Shaanxi, Shanxi & Hebei (C & E China) and Japan S thru islands in the East China Sea to Taiwan. Winters W & S Europe and W, N & E Africa and Middle East, Arabia, Iraq, Iran & the Indian subcontinent E to S China, SE Asia, Philippines, Indonesia & W New Guinea.
The proposed forms canariensis, robusta & melanope are included with M.c. cinerea.


**Mountain Wagtail**  
\textit{Motacilla clara} [Sharpe 1908, Simien Mountains, north Ethiopia].  
\[\text{M. clara}\] Highlands of Ethiopia.  
\[\text{M. chapini}\] SW Mali, S Sierra Leone, Liberia & W Ivory Coast and SE Nigeria & Cameroon S to Gabon and E to the Central African Republic & N & S PR Congo and Bioko Island (Fernando Póo).  

Other name: Long-tailed Wagtail, Grey-backed Wagtail.


White Wagtail

*Motacilla alba* [Linnaeus 1758, Sweden]

[M.*alba*] Extreme SE Greenland, Iceland, Faroe Islands, Shetland, S Novaya Zemlya and Europe (except Ireland & Britain) E to the Urals. Winters, some populations S to S Europe and Africa as far S as Kenya & Malawi.

[M.*yarrellii*] Ireland, Britain & locally along adjacent coasts of continental Europe. Winters, some resident, some populations mainly to SW France, Iberian peninsula & coastal Morocco.

[M.*subpersonata*] Morocco.

[M.*baicalensis*] Upper R Yenisey E to Stanovoy Mts (SC Siberia) and S to Mongolia & NE China. Winters N India E to SE China & C Indochina.


[M.*lugens*] S coasts of Sea of Okhotsk, Sakhalin Island, C Kamchatka & Commander Islands S to N Korea & Japan. Winters, some populations S to S Europe and Africa as far S as Extreme SE Greenland, Iceland, Faroe Islands, Shetland, S Novaya Zemlya and Europe (except Ireland & Britain) E to the Urals. Winters, some populations S to S Europe and Africa as far S as Kenya & Malawi.

[M.*leucopsis*] Amurland & Ussuriland (Far East Russia), Korea and SW to Yunnan & Guizhou (S China), N Myanmar, extreme NE Laos & SE China, Taiwan & S Japan.

[M.*leucopsis*] Qinghai E to Heilongjiang & W Zhejiang and S to N Guangxi & N Guangdong (C & E China), Amurland & Ussuriland (Far East Russia), Korea and SW Honshu & N Kyushu (Japan).

Winters S Asia E from N India.

[M.*alboides*] Himalayas E from NE Pakistan thru S Xizang, S & SE Qinghai E to S Shaanxi and S to Yunnan & Guizhou (S China), N Myanmar, extreme NE Laos & S China, Taiwan & S Japan.

[M.*personata*] Transcaspia & N Iran E to S Russia, W Mongolia, extreme NW & W Xinjiang (NW China) and S to N Afghanistan, N Pakistan & Kashmir. Winters Iran & E Arabia E to Indian subcontinent.

The proposed forms dukhunensis & persica are included with *M.* alba.


William Yarrell (1784-1856), English naturalist.

Brian Houghton Hodgson FRC (1800-1894), English civil servant who made a significant contribution to Indian ornithology.

Robert Swinhoe (1836-1877), Anglo-Indian diplomat and naturalist.


African Pied Wagtail

*Motacilla aguimp* [Dumont 1821, Lower Orange River, South Africa].

[M.a. aguimp] S Namibia and C & E South Africa.

[M.a. vidua] S Egypt along the Nile to Aswan and S along Blue Nile in Ethiopia & Sudan and Sierra Leone & S Mali E to S Sudan and NW & E Kenya S to Angola, N & E Botswana & E South Africa S to the E Cape.


Mekong Wagtail

*Motacilla samveasnae* [Duckworth *et al.* 2001, San River, Stung Teng province, Cambodia].

Lower R Mekong and tributaries in NE Cambodia & S Laos. Winters not known, probably resident.

Sam Veasna (1966-1999), Cambodian naturalist who was head of the Provincial Wildlife Department in Siem Reap province.


Japanese Wagtail

*Motacilla grandis* [Sharpe 1885, Japan].

Japan. Winters, some populations S to Taiwan & coastal E China.


**White-browed Wagtail**
*Motacilla maderaspatensis* [J.F. Gmelin 1789, Madras, Tamil Nadu, India].
N Pakistan E thru Himalayan foothills to Bangladesh and probably to Arunachal Pradesh (extreme NE India) and S thru most of peninsular India. Other name: Large Pied Wagtail.


