

Citrine Wagtail. Tacumshin Lake, Co. Wexford, Ireland. 2nd June 2006.
Photo: Alyn Walsh.



List of Wagtails with References

Compiled by Joe Hobbs



Introduction

This is the final version of the Wagtails list, no further updates will be made. Grateful thanks to Alyn Walsh and Tom Shevlin (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.

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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]).

Final Version

Version 1.8 (April 2019).

Cover

Main image: Citrine Wagtail. Tacumshin Lake, Co. Wexford, Ireland. 2nd June 2006. Picture by Alyn Walsh.

Vignette: Yellow Wagtail. Tacumshin Lake, Co. Wexford, Ireland. 21st April 2003. Picture by Tom Shevlin.

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Forest Wagtail

Dendronanthus indicus [J.F.Gmelin].

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.

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Western Yellow Wagtail

Motacilla flava [Linnaeus]

[*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. thunbergi*] C & N Scandinavia & N Estonia E thru Siberia to the R Kolyma. Winters mainly sub-Saharan Africa, possibly NE Africa and across S & SE Asia.

[*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, Iraq, W Caspian, Iran, Afghanistan & S Kazakhstan E to L Balkhash, Lake Alakol and adjacent N Xinjiang (China). Winters mainly Nigeria E 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 *superciliaris* is regarded as a *feldegg* x *flava* intergrade here.

The form *leucocephala* might well be a subspecies of Eastern Yellow Wagtail.

The proposed form *plexa* previously included with *M.f. thunbergi* has been moved to Eastern Yellow Wagtail.

Other names: White-throated Wagtail (*cinereocapilla*, *pygmaea*, *iberiae*), Blue-headed Wagtail (*flava*), Yellow-crowned Wagtail (*flavissima*), Dark-headed Wagtail (*thunbergi*), Grey-headed Wagtail (*thunbergi*), Spanish Wagtail (*iberiae*), Iberian Yellow Wagtail (*iberiae*), Ashy-headed Wagtail (*cinereocapilla*), Egyptian Yellow Wagtail (*pygmaea*), Black-headed Wagtail (*feldegg*), Yellow-headed Wagtail (*lutea*), Sykes's Wagtail (*beema*), Turkestan Black-headed Wagtail (*melanogrisea*), White-headed Wagtail (*leucocephala*), Channel Wagtail (*flava* x *flavissima*), Middlewest Wagtail (*flava* x *iberiae*).

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

Col. William Henry Sykes (1790-1872), Indian army and naturalist. A director of the East India Company and MP for Aberdeen in later life. He gave the name Budytes beema to M.f. beema after the Bhima or Beema River in SW India where he first encountered this race.

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

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Eastern Yellow Wagtail

Motacilla tschutschensis [Gmelin].

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

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

[*M.t. plexa*] NC Siberia. Winters S & SE Asia.

The proposed forms *zaissanensis*, *angarensis* and *simillima* are included with *M.t. tschutschensis*. Other names: Beringian Yellow Wagtail (*tschutschensis*), Alaska Wagtail (*tschutschensis*), Chinese Yellow Wagtail (*taivana*), Green-headed Wagtail (*taivana*), Kuril Yellow Wagtail (*taivana*), Short-tailed Grey-headed Wagtail (*simillima*), Siberian Wagtail (*simillima*), Manchurian Wagtail (*macronyx*), South Siberian Yellow Wagtail (*angarensis*), North Siberian Yellow Wagtail (*plexa*).

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Citrine Wagtail

Motacilla citreola [Pallas].

[*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 ♂] 17th May 2011. Van, Eastern Anatolia, Turkey. Daniele Occhiato. Remained until the following day (Occhiato 2011).

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Cape Wagtail

Motacilla capensis [Linnaeus].

[*M.c. capensis*] W & S Namibia, SE Botswana, Zimbabwe and W & S Mozambique S to S South Africa.

[*M.c. simplicissima*] Angola E to SE DR Congo and S to NE Namibia, N Botswana & Zambia and Zambezi R (W Zimbabwe).

[*M.c. wellsii*] E DR Congo E to SW Uganda & NW Tanzania and W & C Kenya.

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

Thomas 'Jimmy' Wells (1868-1939), British civil servant who worked at the British Museum from 1883 to 1930, rising from 'Boy Assistant' to 'Higher-Grade Clerk' over 47 years service.

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Madagascar Wagtail

Motacilla flaviventris [Hartlaub].
Madagascar.

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São Tomé Shorttail

Motacilla bocagii [Sharpe].
São Tomé (Gulf of Guinea).
Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 2004 as *Amaurocichla bocagii*.
Alternative name: Bocage's Longbill.

Prof. José Vicente Barboza du Bocage (1823-1907), Portuguese ornithologist who was regarded as the father of Angolan ornithology.

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Grey Wagtail

Motacilla cinerea [Tunstall].
[*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.

[*M.c. patriciae*] Furnas & São Miguel (Azores).

[*M.c. schmitzi*] Madeira.

The proposed forms *canariensis*, *robusta* & *melanope* are included with *M.c. cinerea*.

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Mountain Wagtail

Motacilla clara [Sharpe].

[*M.c. clara*] Highlands of Ethiopia.

[*M.c. 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).

[*M.c. torrentium*] E Uganda & C & S Kenya and E & S DR Congo, Rwanda & NW & N Tanzania S to C & SW Angola, Zambia, N Zimbabwe & W Mozambique and mountains of E South Africa & Swaziland.

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

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White Wagtail

Motacilla alba [Linnaeus]

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

[*M.a. subpersonata*] Morocco.

[*M.a. 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.a. ocularis*] N & NE Siberia E from Taymyr peninsula & R Yenisey S to Lensk region, Stanovoy Mts & N Kamchatka and extreme W Alaska. Winters S Asia E from NE Indian subcontinent.

[*M.a. lugens*] S coasts of Sea of Okhotsk, Sakhalin Island, C Kamchatka & Commander Islands S to N Korea & Japan. Winters Myanmar E to SE China, Taiwan & S Japan.

[*M.a. 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.a. 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 N Laos & extreme N Vietnam. Winters at lower altitudes and S to Bangladesh & N Thailand.

[*M.a. 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 form *dukhunensis* is included with *M.a. alba*.

Other names: Pied Wagtail (*yarrellii*), Moroccan Wagtail (*subpersonata*), Masked Wagtail (*personata*), Black-backed Wagtail (*lugens*), Amur Wagtail (*leucopsis*), Hodgson's Wagtail (*alboides*), Swinhoe's Wagtail (*ocularis*), East Siberian Wagtail (*ocularis*), Indian Pied Wagtail (*dukhunensis*), West Siberian White Wagtail (*dukhunensis*), East Siberian Wagtail (*ocularis*), Himalayan Wagtail (*alboides*), Baikal Wagtail (*baicalensis*).

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.

1st WP Record (*M.a. leucopsis*): [adult ♂] 5th April 2005. Vane Tempest Colliery, Seaham, Durham, England. Stephen Addinall (Addinall 2005 & 2010).

1st WP Record (*M.a. personata*): [probably 1st winter] 22nd September 1966. Akrotiri, Cyprus (Van Gasse & Ebels 2016).

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African Pied Wagtail

Motacilla aguimp [Dumont].

[*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.

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Mekong Wagtail

Motacilla samveasnae [Duckworth].

Lower R Mekong and tributaries in NE Cambodia & S Laos and non-breeders visit Thailand and Vietnam. Winters not fully known, probably resident.

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

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Japanese Wagtail

Motacilla grandis [Sharpe].

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

Choi C. & Nam H. 2008. Distribution of the Japanese Wagtail *Motacilla grandis* in Korea.

Ornithological Science 7: 85-91.

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Nakamura, S. 1985. Clutch size and breeding success of the Japanese Wagtail *Motacilla grandis*, with a special reference to its habitat and mating system. *Journal of the Yamashina Institute for Ornithology* 17(2): 84-104.

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White-browed Wagtail

Motacilla maderaspatensis [J.F.Gmelin].

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.

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