

# DUTCH BIRDING

VOLUME 40 • NO 6 • 2018



# Dutch Birding



Internationaal tijdschrift over  
Palearctische vogels

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**ABONNEMENTEN** De abonnementsprijs voor 2018 bedraagt: EUR 40.00 (Nederland), EUR 42.50 (België), EUR 43.50 (rest van Europa) en EUR 45.00 (landen buiten Europa).

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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 2018, <https://tinyurl.com/yam3d3kg>) (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 8.2* door F Gill & D Donsker (2018, [www.worldbirdnames.org](http://www.worldbirdnames.org)) (Engelse en Nederlandse namen van overige vogels in de wereld; Nederlandse namen door P Vercruijse 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](http://www.dutchbirding.nl) onder 'Tijdschrift').

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**ADVERTISING** Debby Doodeman, c/o Dutch Birding, Postbus 75611, 1070 AP Amsterdam, [advertising@dutchbirding.nl](mailto:advertising@dutchbirding.nl)

**SUBSCRIPTIONS** The subscription rate for 2018 is: EUR 40.00 (Netherlands), EUR 42.50 (Belgium), EUR 43.50 (rest of Europe) and EUR 45.00 (countries outside Europe).

Subscribers in European countries are kindly requested to pay the subscription fee to Dutch Birding Association, Amsterdam, on bank account (IBAN): NL95 INGB 0000 1506 97; BIC: INGBNL2A; please mention 'subscription Dutch Birding' and your full address. It is also possible to pay by credit card using our webshop. You can follow the instructions on our website [www.dutchbirding.nl](http://www.dutchbirding.nl).

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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 2018, <https://tinyurl.com/yam3d3kg>) (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 8.2* by F Gill & D Donker (2018, [www.worldbirdnames.org](http://www.worldbirdnames.org)) (English and Dutch names of remaining birds of the world; Dutch names by P Vercruyjsse 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](http://www.dutchbirding.nl) under 'Journal').

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Printed by drukkerij robstolk®, Mauritskade 55, 1092 AD Amsterdam, Netherlands, [www.robstolk.nl](http://www.robstolk.nl)

# Dutch Birding



*International journal on  
Palearctic birds*

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**Artikelen /  
papers**

- 357 Rare birds in the Netherlands in 2017 *Gerjon Gelling, Vincent van der Spek & CDNA*  
381 Humes Bladkoningen in Nederland *Vincent van der Spek & CDNA*  
389 Pallas's Reed Bunting at Linosa, Italy, in October 2017 with remarks on identification pitfalls of juvenile plumage *Andrea Corso, Ottavio Janni, Michele Viganò, Raimondo Finati & MISC*  
400 Potential origin of White-crowned Wheatear in Denmark and Germany in 2010 *Marc I Förtschler, Christian C Voigt & Franz Bairlein*

**CDNA-mededelingen**

- 406 Recente CDNA-besluiten

**Corrigenda**

- 406

**WP reports**

- 407 October to mid-November 2018 *Lukasz Lawicki & Arnoud B van den Berg*

**Recente meldingen / recent reports**

- 424 September-oktober 2018 *Roy Slaterus, Hans Groot & Vincent van der Spek*

**Voorplaat / front cover**

Ross' Meeuw / Ross's Gull *Rhodostethia rosea*, eerste-winter, Vlissingen, Zeeland, 30 januari 2018 (*Filip De Ruwe*)

Sommige soorten hebben het allemaal: ze zien er goed uit, verblijven in moeilijk bereikbare uithoeken van de aardbol en zijn daardoor (wereldwijd) 'hard to get' – en om zo'n soort dan in Nederland te zien... Ross' Meeuw is bij uitstek zo'n droomsoort: één van de meest elegante en fijnzinnig getekende meeuwen en met een zeer kleine wereldpopulatie in lang onbekende en moeilijk toegankelijke Arctische broedgebieden in Noord-Amerika en Rusland. Toen de Dutch Birding Association in 1979 werd opgericht was het dan ook niet verrassend dat deze soort het logo werd. Omdat er in juni-juli 1958 een adult exemplaar was gezien op Vlieland, Friesland (uiteindelijk dood gevonden en misschien wel de eerste dwaalgast die echt getwitcht werd – met de brommer!), was duidelijk dat een nieuwe waarneming denkbaar was. Weinig mensen uit de oprichtingsperiode zullen de hoop hebben gekoesterd om deze soort ooit in Nederland te zien. Uiteindelijk bleek dat mee te vallen: in januari 1981 ontsprong eentje bij de Hondsbosscse Zeewering, Noord-Holland, door gebrekkige communicatie nog de twitchersdans maar in november 1992 brak Dirk Moerbeek de ban met de ontdekking van een twitchbare bij IJmuiden, Noord-Holland. Daarna ging het hard en verloor de soort zijn mythische status. Inmiddels zijn er 18 gevallen, waarvan er vijf meerdere dagen aanwezig waren, en de meest recente in Vlissingen, Zeeland, in januari-maart 2018 bleef zelfs twee maanden. Die laatste was tevens de eerste twitchbare eerste-winter (alle andere waren ouder) en maakte de cirkel van 40 jaar Dutch Birding rond: het logo uit 1997 gaf een eerste-winter weer maar transformeerde vanaf de omslag van jaargang 3 (1981) in een adult.

Some species just have it all: they look good, occur in hard-to-reach corners of the globe and are therefore (worldwide) hard to get. So, to see one of them in the Netherlands... Ross's Gull is such a dream species: one of the most elegant and delicately plumaged gulls and with a very small world population in long unknown and difficult to access Arctic breeding areas in North America and Russia. When the Dutch Birding Association was founded in 1979, it was therefore not surprising that this species became the logo. Because there was a record of an adult in June-July 1958 on Vlieland, Friesland (eventually found dead and perhaps the first vagrant to be actively twitched – with the moped!), it was clear that a new record in the Netherlands was not inconceivable. However, only a few 'founders' may have hoped to actually see this species. In the end, this turned out to be easier than expected. In January 1981, one at Hondsbosscse Zeewering, Noord-Holland, eluded twitchers because of poor communication but, in November 1992, Dirk Moerbeek broke the spell with the discovery of a twitchable bird at IJmuiden, Noord-Holland. Then it went fast and the species lost its mythical status. Currently, there are 18 records, of which five stayed for several days, and the most recent one at Vlissingen, Zeeland, in January-March 2018 even for two months. The latter was also the first twitchable first-winter (all others were older) and that closed the circle of 40 years Dutch Birding: the logo from 1979 showed a first-winter but transformed into an adult from the cover of volume 3 (1981) onwards.

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# Rare birds in the Netherlands in 2017

Gerjon Gelling, Vincent van der Spek & CDNA



BRAM RIJSEN

This is the 38th annual report on rare birds in the Netherlands to be published in Dutch Birding. It comprises records from 2017 as well as belated and reconsidered records, dating back to 1939, which have been evaluated by the Dutch rarities committee, the Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA). Several 2017 reports are still under review or awaiting submission and could therefore not be included. In addition, some reports for 2016 and earlier years are still under consideration for various reasons. The increase in records entered online on internet portals such as [www.waarneming.nl](http://www.waarneming.nl) reveals many new details about past records. For the sake of completeness, date extensions or corrections are presented in this report (marked with #, without full record details).

Details included for each record are, if available: date(s); location and/or *municipality* (municipal divisions as on 1 January 2018); province; number of birds if more than one, plumage and sex; type of record if ringed, photographed, sound-recorded, videoed or found dead (and where specimen is stored, if known); names of up to three observers involved in finding, identifying and recording, and relevant references in the literature, which normally include (inter)national but not regional journals, and published photographs. Records from 2016 lasting into 2017 that already have been published in the 2016 report (Haas et al

2017) are repeated here without reference. Observations not (yet) submitted but mentioned in the 2016 report are not repeated in this report. The sequence of the records in the species accounts is from the current year backwards, with records within one year presented chronologically. Numbers after each (sub)species' name refer to the total number of individuals **1** from 1 January 1800 to 31 December 1979, **2** since 1 January 1980 but excluding **3** the current year. Taxa marked with an asterisk \* are new to the Dutch list.

The following CDNA members voted on some or all of the records in this report: Garry Bakker, Christian Brinkman, Thijs Fijen, Diederik Kok, James Lidster, Eddy Nieuwstraten, Roy Slaterus, Vincent van der Spek and Rik Winters. Marcel Haas (until May 2017) and Gerjon Gelling (from May 2017), with the assistance of August van Rijn, supported the committee as non-voting archivists and assisted by submitting many reports published on national and regional websites. Reports can be submitted, preferably using the electronic submission form on [www.dutchavifauna.nl](http://www.dutchavifauna.nl) or filling in this form after entering a record on [www.waarneming.nl](http://www.waarneming.nl); the online database on [www.dutchavifauna.nl](http://www.dutchavifauna.nl) contains all records of rare birds up to 2017 (cf Dutch Birding 34: 346, 2012). Here, also recently accepted records or not accepted reports as well as reports currently under review are listed.

Decisions regarding taxonomy have been delegated to the Dutch committee for avian systematics (Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna; CSNA).

In 2017, at least 378 species were recorded, which is seven species above the average of 371 over the last 10 years, and the second-best year after 2014 (388) (figure 1). This number may rise depending on pending reports. 2017 was a reasonably good year. Three species were new to the Dutch list in 2017: Pacific Swift *Apus pacificus*, Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster* and Seebohm's Wheatear *Oenanthe seebohmi*. Also new to the Dutch list was the reconsidered Elegant Tern *Sterna elegans* from 2002. With these additions, the Dutch list now numbers 521 species. Other highlights for 2017 included the second Eastern Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca*, Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*, Moustached Warbler *Acrocephalus melanopogon* and Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius*, third Western Black-eared Wheatear *O hispanica* and Dark-eyed Junco *Junco hyemalis*, and sixth Forster's Tern *S forsteri*. In addition, 2017 was a good year for Lesser Spotted Eagle *Aquila pomarina* and Eastern Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros phoenicuroides* (both with three records), Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaceus*, Booted Eagle *A pennata* and Arctic Warbler *Phylloscopus borealis* (all with four), White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis* (five), Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* (10) and Griffon Vulture *Gyps fulvus* (four records totalling 94 individuals).



FIGURE 1 Number of species recorded in the Netherlands per year in 2008-17 (average is 371) / aantal soorten vastgesteld per jaar in Nederland in 2008-17 (gemiddeld 371)

## Systematic list of records

### Ross's Goose / Ross' Gans

*Anser rossii* 0,13,0

A series of reports from September 2017 onwards (and into 2018) is still under review.

### Greenland White-fronted Goose / Groenlandse Kolgans

*Anser albifrons flavirostris* 14,74,6

18 November to 28 December, Oeverlanden Grensmaas, Ifteren and Borgharen, Maastricht, Limburg, six, four adults and two juveniles, photographed, videoed (R van Tiel et al).

This nice flock is among the largest ever recorded, and was exceptionally far inland. The only three larger flocks were in 2002 (10 and nine, respectively) and 2004 (eight).

### Ring-necked Duck / Ringsnaveleend

*Aythya collaris* 5,37,2

28 January, Boschmolenplas, Heel, Maasgouw, Limburg, adult male, photographed (I Meeuwissen et al); 11 February to 9 April, Appingedam-Oost, Appingedam, Groningen, adult male, photographed, videoed (F de Boer, S Osinga et al; Dutch Birding 39: 215, plate 293, 2017).

### Lesser Scaup / Kleine Topper

*Aythya affinis* 0,18,1

21 February to 9 April, Zuiderhaven and Dijkwielen, Den Oever, Hollands Kroon, Noord-Holland, adult male, photographed, videoed (K de Vries, J Hendriks et al; Dutch Birding 39: 140, plate 219, 2017); 26 February, Krabbersgat, Enkhuizen, Enkhuizen, Noord-Holland, male, photographed (F C Lanfermeijer); 16-18 December, Bremerbergdijk, Biddinghuizen, Dronten, Flevoland, adult male, photographed (W Wind et al; Dutch Birding 40: 62, plate 70, 2018)

2015 # 2-26 January (was 3-26 January), Veluwemeer, Biddinghuizen, Dronten, Flevoland, male.

Classic dates and localities for this now annual species. The Den Oever and Biddinghuizen records concern returning individuals. On 2 January 2015, a second bird, already accepted, was also present at Biddinghuizen.

### Bufflehead / Buffelkoepeend

*Bucephala albeola* 0,7,0

5 November 2016 to 27 May, Gaatkensplas and surroundings, Barendrecht, Zuid-Holland, and 29 May to 3 September, Spaarbekken Petrusplaat, Brabantse Biesbosch, Drimmelen, Noord-Brabant, and 20 September to 13 May 2018, Gaatkensplas and surroundings, adult male, photographed, videoed (M Peene, G Duif, J Dijkhuizen et al); 24 December 2016 to 12 March and 13 October to 20 March 2018, Den Oever and IJsselmeer, Hollands Kroon, Noord-Holland, adult male, photographed, videoed (P van Franeker et al).

2016 19 June to 9 July, Spaarbekken Petrusplaat, Brabantse Biesbosch, Drimmelen, Noord-Brabant, male, photographed (P Borgerding).

2015 # 11 October to 26 April 2016 (was 3 November to



**483** Baikal Teal / Siberische Taling *Anas formosa*, male, with Eurasian Wigeons / Smienten *A penelope*, Noordwijk, Zuid-Holland, 14 February 2017 (René van Rossum)

26 April 2016), Gaatkensplas and surroundings, *Barendrecht*, Zuid-Holland, adult male; # 21-23 October (was 22-23 October), De Nek, Schellinkhout, *Drechterland*, Noord-Holland, male.

2014 # 4 October to 28 December 2015 (was 4 October to 26 April 2015), several locations near Den Oever, *Hollands Kroon*, Noord-Holland, male.

Both records, one from Noord-Holland and one from Noord-Brabant/Zuid-Holland, concern long-staying and returning individuals, the latter already since November 2004! At first, the bird at Brabantse Biesbosch was not accepted in 2016 since the absence of rings was not proven. In 2017, the same bird was observed again and better photographs not only proved it to be unringed but also showed that this was most likely the same individual as the one wintering at Barendrecht since 2004.

#### **Hooded Merganser / Kokardezaagbek**

*Lophodytes cucullatus* 0,2,1

12 November to 1 December, Noorderkolk, Zwarte Water and Langenholte, *Zwolle*, Overijssel, adult male, photographed, videoed (M Baljé et al).

Despite a series of sightings of certain or suspected escapes, this bird made it to the Dutch list, as it certainly did not wear a ring and was fully winged. It was seen less than 10 km away from the second record in 2010 (a female), so this is either a very attractive place for the species, or there is a very sloppy wildfowl breeder in the area.

#### **Baikal Teal / Siberische Taling**

*Anas formosa* 8,4,1

4-10 and 15-18 February, Zwitterpolder, Noordwijkerhout, *Noordwijkerhout*, and 12-15 February and 19 February to 5 April, Hoogewegpolder, Noordwijk, *Noordwijk*, Zuid-Holland, first-winter male, photographed, videoed (M Wielstra, J Duivenvoorden et al; Dutch Birding 39: 126, plate 188, 133, plate 205, 217, plate 298, 2017).

This popular immature male was unringed, fully winged and wary, associated with a flock of Eurasian Wigeons *A penelope* and left the area with them during early spring. Not bad for a suspicious species like this one!

#### **Oriental Turtle Dove / Oosterse Tortel**

*Streptopelia orientalis* 0,7,0

2012 20 October, Camping Stortemelk, *Vlieland*, Friesland, first calendar-year, photographed (H Zevenhuizen; Dutch Birding 38: 299, plate 468-469, 300, plate 470, 2012).

At the time, Oriental Turtle Dove was suspected but it could only recently be identified with certainty based on new criteria for immature birds (van Duivendijk 2016). The subspecies could not be determined with certainty, although Rufous Turtle Dove *O s meena* seemed likely. Totals include birds accepted as Rufous Turtle (four).



**484** Pallid Swift / Vale Gierzwaluw *Apus pallidus*, juvenile, Ruige Plak, Vlieland, Friesland, 20 October 2017 (Lars Buckx)

**Alpine Swift / Alpengierzwaluw**

*Apus melba* 7,58,1  
30 April, Zwanenwater, Schagen, Noord-Holland (J Helmer).

**\* Pacific Swift / Siberische Gierzwaluw**

*Apus pacificus* 0,0,1  
12 June, Noordervroon, Westkapelle, Veere, Zeeland, photographed (T Luiten; Luiten 2017; Dutch Birding 39: 223, plate 305-310, 224, plate 311, 277, plate 373, 2017).

This spectacular first was seen on a classic date for a vagrant of this species in Europe. It was a well-deserved find for an ever-active observer, who managed to take some great photographs. Unfortunately, it moved on within minutes, so even local birders arrived too late.

**Pallid Swift / Vale Gierzwaluw**

*Apus pallidus* 0,11,1  
20 October, Oostpunt, Vlieland, Friesland, first calendar-year, photographed (M van den Bergh, A Dwarshuis et al; Dutch Birding 39: 419, plate 600, 2017).

A typical date and place for this species, found after a period with strong southerly winds. The accompanying Common Swift *A. apus* allowed the observers to directly compare these two doppelgängers. The island of Vlieland now has three records, including the first two for the country (in 2006 and 2013).

**Little Crake / Klein Waterhoen**

*Zapornia parva* 36,32,0  
2013 # 6 June to 17 July (was 6 June to 1 July), Easterskar (Oosterschar), De Fryske Marren, Friesland, male.  
2012 22 June to 6 July, Easterskar (Oosterschar), De Fryske Marren, Friesland, male, sound-recorded (G Jellema).

**Yellow-billed Loon / Geelsnavelduiker**

*Gavia adamsii* 21,18,1  
3 October, Puinpad, Westkapelle, Veere, Zeeland, photographed (L Verheul; Dutch Birding 39: 419, plate 598, 2017).

Seen only in flight but well documented.

**Cory's/Scopoli's Shearwater / Kuhls/Scopoli's Pijlstormvogel**

*Calonectris borealis/diomedea* 0,11,0  
A report of a bird picked up in Aalsmeer, Noord-Holland, on 22-25 November remains under review. It was found in a garden and brought to a bird hospital where it died on 25 November. The bird is now at Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland, but still needs to be skinned. Photographs of the underwing are necessary to identify the species. Totals exclude birds accepted as Cory's Shearwater *C. borealis*.

**Squacco Heron / Ralreiger**

*Ardeola ralloides* 25 (since 1866),81,6  
23 May, Gaasperplas, Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, photographed, videoed (W Schep, A Buhr); 5 June to 1 July, Zuidlaardermeer, Leinwijk, Midden-Groningen, and 19-22 June, Oostpolder, Zuidlaardermeer, Haren, Groningen, summer plumage, photographed (J H Venema et al); 15 August, Renvogelveld, De Cocksdorp, Texel, Noord-Holland, first calendar-year, photographed (J van den Berg); 19 August to 12 September, Noordpolder te Veld, Eempolders, Eemnes, Utrecht, first calendar-year, photographed (P Logtmeier, A van Gulijk et al; Dutch Birding 39: 355, plate 503, 2017); 19-25 October, Rietput Uiterdijkenweg, Vollenhove, Steenwijkerland, Overijssel, first calendar-year, photographed (R Messemaker, R de Boer et al; Dutch Birding 39: 417, plate 596, 2017); 28 October, De Horde, Lopik, Lopik, Utrecht (A Boele, K de Leeuw).

Another good year. June is traditionally the best month. The two October records however were special: there were only two previous records for this month. 2017 was the last year this species was considered.

**\* Brown Booby / Bruine Gent**

*Sula leucogaster* 0,0,1  
20 August, De Horde, Lopik, Lopik, Utrecht, and Achthoven, Lexmond, Zederik, Zuid-Holland, adult, photographed (A Boele, K de Leeuw, F Engelen et al; Boele et al 2017; Dutch Birding 39: 361, plate 510-511, 2017).

This observation came as a bolt from the blue... It was not only a fairly unexpected new species for the Netherlands in the first place, but the inland locality made the shock amongst Dutch birders complete. The bird passed an inland migration watch point along a river in an east-



**485** Brown Booby / Bruine Gent *Sula leucogaster*, adult, De Horde, Lopik, Utrecht, 20 August 2017 (Arjan Boele)  
**486** Yellow-billed Loon / Geelsnavelduiker *Gavia adamsii*, Westkapelle, Zeeland, 3 October 2017 (Lennart Verheувel)  
**487** Pacific Swift / Siberische Gierzwaluw *Apus pacificus*, Westkapelle, Zeeland, 12 June 2017 (Thomas Luiten)  
**488** Elegant Tern / Sierlijke Stern *Sterna elegans*, summer plumage, Wassenaarse Slag, Zuid-Holland, 9 June 2002 (Pieter Thomas) **489** Squacco Heron / Ralreiger *Ardeola ralloides*, first-winter, Eempolder, Utrecht, 12 September 2017 (Roy Slaterus)

ern direction around 08:00. Northern Gannet *Morus basanus* was a species very high on the wish list for the regular observers here, so it is not hard to imagine they were left speechless after its extremely rare cousin flew by. Despite birders waiting for it at strategic places along Dutch rivers further east, nobody else in the Netherlands managed to pick it up. However, it was seen just across the border at Tinholt, Niedersachsen, Germany, at c 11:15 (c 150 km from De Horde). At 14:00 it was seen again further north-east near Bremen, Bremen, in Germany (285 km from De Horde; Boele et al 2017). It has also been accepted by the German rarities committee as a new species for Germany. Together with Pacific Swift, this was the second spectacular new species for the Netherlands that was unavailable for Dutch twitchers. The booby was accepted as the nominate subspecies *S l leucogaster*.

#### American Golden Plover / Amerikaanse Goudplevier

*Pluvialis dominica* 1,48,3

21 January, Bantpolder, Lauwersmeer, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, second calendar-year, photographed (R Piek); 8 August, Noordervroon, Westkapelle, *Veere*, Zeeland, photographed (M Pattikawa, R van Tiel); 20-21 September and 2 November, Zandvoortweg area, Sint Laurens, *Veere*, Zeeland, photographed, videoed (G Nijs, C Karst, A van Gilst et al).

2010 # 1 and 6 October (was 6 October), De Putten and Groeterpolder, *Bergen*, Noord-Holland, juvenile.

2001 9-11 September, Zandvoortweg, Sint Laurens, *Veere*, Zeeland (J Goedbloed, M Hoekstein et al).

#### Pacific Golden Plover / Aziatische Goudplevier

*Pluvialis fulva* 9,60,4

6 December 2016 to 14 February, Oostdijk, *Goedereede*, Zuid-Holland, photographed, videoed (G Tanis et al; Dutch Birding 39: 69, plate 101, 2017); 1 January, Kamperland, *Noord-Beveland*, Zeeland, photographed (M Hoekstein); 2-4 July, Noordwaard-Galeiwaard, Brabantse Biesbosch, *Werkendam*, Noord-Brabant, adult, summer plumage, photographed (B de Jong et al; Dutch Birding 39: 356, plate 504, 2017); 13-22 July, Posthuiswad, *Vlieland*, Friesland, second calendar-year, photographed (M van Oss, T Fijen); 21 July to 5 August, Utopia and De Bol, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult male, photographed (J de Bruijn et al; Dutch Birding 39: 355, plate 501, 2017).

Another good year for this species which has been annual since 2004. Remarkably, this is the more regular of the two 'lesser golden plovers', whereas American Golden Plover *P dominica* is more common in Britain.

#### Sociable Lapwing / Steppiekievit

*Vanellus gregarius* 12,41,1

28-29 May, Oostpolder, Zuidlaardermeer, *Haren*, Groningen, adult, photographed, videoed (B-J Prak et al; Dutch Birding 39: 277, plate 372, 2017).

#### Sharp-tailed Sandpiper / Siberische Strandloper

*Calidris acuminata* 0,9,1

29 August to 2 September, Ezumakeeg, Lauwersmeer,

*Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult, photographed, videoed (A van Lubeck et al; Dutch Birding 39: 352, plate 494, 2017).

This was already the fourth record (fifth bird) for this top-notch wader site.

#### Baird's Sandpiper / Bairds Strandloper

*Calidris bairdii* 0,14,0

2016 # 11-17 September (was 16-17 September), Oost and Dijkmanshuizen, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, first calendar-year.

#### White-rumped Sandpiper / Bonapartes Strandloper

*Calidris fuscicollis* 1,46,5

22 July, Scherpenissepolder Oost, Scherpenisse, *Tholen*, Zeeland, adult, photographed (R Kraaijeveld); 22 July, Posthuiswad, *Vlieland*, Friesland, adult, photographed (T Fijen, M van Oss); 2 August, Westhoek, *Het Bildt*, Friesland, adult, photographed, videoed (T Luiten, J Kollijn, C Beeke); 22-24 August, Ezumakeeg Zuid, Lauwersmeer, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult, photographed, videoed (M Olthoff, M Dagnelie et al); 26-29 August, Leenheerengorzenpolder, Goudswaard, *Korendijk*, and 28-29 August, Polder Beningerwaard, Zuidland, *Hellevoetsluis*, Zuid-Holland, adult, photographed, videoed (B-J Luijendijk, M Prins, B W van Dijk et al).

Remarkably, despite Zuid-Holland has decent (coastal) wader sites and is well covered by birders, the Korendijk/Hellevoetsluis bird was the first for this province.

#### Semipalmated Sandpiper / Grijze Strandloper

*Calidris pusilla* 0,11,1

15-16 May, Lomm, *Venlo*, Limburg, adult, photographed, videoed (H Crommentuyn, J E Kikkert et al; Dutch Birding 39: 274, plate 368, 275, plate 371, 2017).

This showy bird, accompanied by a single Dunlin *C alpina*, was widely twitched at this inland site.

#### Wilson's Phalarope / Grote Franjepoot

*Phalaropus tricolor* 6,19,0

1969 # 12-22 October (was 12-21 October), Ibisweg and surroundings, *Zeewolde*, and Knardijk, *Lelystad*, Flevoland, winter plumage.

#### Lesser Yellowlegs / Kleine Geelpootruiter

*Tringa flavipes* 2,46,2

21-22 June, De Slufter, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, summer plumage, photographed (A Wassink, J van den Berg et al); 30 September to 3 October, Polder Muggenwaard, Noordwaard, Brabantse Biesbosch, *Werkendam*, Noord-Brabant, photographed (B Verhoeven et al).

2015 # 6-7 October (was 6 October), Zandpolder, Callantsoog, *Schagen*, Noord-Holland.

Amazingly, the third for the Netherlands was as recent as 1991. The numbers steadily increased after 1991 and we celebrated our 50th bird (48 records) in 2017.

#### Long-billed Dowitcher / Grote Grijze Snip

*Limnodromus scolopaceus* 0,42,4

29 April, Groene Jonker, Zevenhoven, *Nieuwkoop*, Zuid-Holland, adult summer, photographed (W Kortleve,



**490** Black-winged Pratincole / Stepevorkstaartplevier *Glareola nordmanni*, first-winter, Stad aan 't Haringvliet, Zuid-Holland, 28 November 2017 (*Kris De Rouck*)

**491** Semipalmated Sandpiper / Grijze Strandloper *Calidris pusilla*, adult, Lomm, Limburg, 15 May 2017 (*Huub Crommentuyn*)



P van de Werken, G J Gelling et al); 7-8 May, Ezumakeeg, Lauwersmeer, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult, photographed (R S A van Bemmelen, W van der Ham, S Rijnbeek et al); 22 July to 7 August, Ezumakeeg, Lauwersmeer, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, and 12-18 August, Oude Robbengat, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, summer plumage, photographed (W Hermus, P de Jong et al); 22-24 July, Uitskijplateau Workumerwaard, *Súdwest-Fryslân*, Friesland, summer plumage, photographed (L Zijlstra et al; Dutch Birding 39: 352, plate 493, 2017).

**Long-billed/Short-billed Dowitcher / Grote/Kleine Grijsje Snip**

*Limnodromus scolopaceus/griseus* 1,6,1

29 April, Ezumakeeg Noord, Lauwersmeer, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, photographed (M Dagnelie, M Winters).

This might very well have been the Long-billed Dowitcher accepted for 7-8 May at the same site but, unfortunately, the documentation was inconclusive and this sighting was therefore accepted as an unidentified dowitcher. The Long-billed accepted for the same date at Nieuwkoop disappeared during the day, while this unidentified dowitcher was found in the evening. It was however obviously (much) longer billed than any other dowitcher seen in 2018 and was thus certainly another individual than this unspecified bird. Totals exclude birds accepted as Long-billed (46).

**Great Snipe / Poelsnip**

*Gallinago media* -,43,1

16 May, Blaugarzen, *De Fryske Marren*, Friesland, photographed (S Bernardus via J Bisschop, J Vogelzang).

**Black-winged Pratincole / Stepevorkstaartplevier**

*Glareola nordmanni* 12,31,1

7-8 November, Vockestaert, *Schiedam*, and 22-30 November, Natuurontwikkeling 't Watergat, Stad aan 't Haringvliet, *Goeree-Overflakkee*, Zuid-Holland, first calendar-year (G Goselink, R van Dijk et al; Dutch Birding 40: 62, plate 72, 2017).

At Schiedam, the (distant) bird was only seen in rather poor light conditions. Photographs in flight even seemed to suggest a hint of red on the underwing but this turned out to be a photographic aberration. The bird found at Goeree-Overflakkee was seen and photographed well, and easily identified as Black-winged; its identical moult pattern betrayed it was the same bird as at Schiedam.

**Slender-billed Gull / Dunbekmeeuw**

*Chroicocephalus genei* 0,11,1

2 May, Molenpolder, Ossensisse, *Hulst*, Zeeland, adult, photographed (J Kolijn).

Probably the same bird was observed on 26 and 27 April just across the border at Doel, Antwerpen, Belgium (Faveyts et al 2018).

492 Ring-billed Gull / Ringsnavelmeeuw *Larus delawarensis*, adult, Wijchen, Gelderland, 26 January 2017  
(Herman Bouman)





**Franklin's Gull / Franklins Meeuw***Larus pipixcan* 0,10,1

30 July intermittently to 11 August, Ezumakeeg Zuid, Lauwersmeer, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult, photographed (E van Winden, L Brinkhuizen et al).

**Ring-billed Gull / Ringsnavelmeeuw***Larus delawarensis* 0,9,1

19-29 January, Loonse Waard, *Wijchen*, Gelderland, probable female, photographed, videoed (J Nagtegaal, via V Hart, R Wester et al; Dutch Birding 39: 137, plate 210, 2017).

This was certainly not a typical Ring-billed Gull and therefore the first observer did not submit his find. It took other birders more than a year to do so. It was a slender built bird, with a fairly obvious white tertial crescent and a relatively dark mantle. The bill and primary pattern on the other hand, were spot on for Ring-billed. The very rare possibility of hybrid Ring-billed x Common Gull *L. delawarensis* x *canus* (that has never been proven) could perhaps not be fully excluded but after some discussion it was decided that the full set of characters fell within the variation of Ring-billed. The previous record in 2012 concerned a more classic bird that was found by the same observer.

**Baltic Gull / Baltische Mantelmeeuw***Larus fuscus fuscus* 0,36,1

12 September, De Banken, 's-Gravenzande, *Westland*, Zuid-Holland, third calendar-year, wearing colour-ring, photographed (M Zevenbergen).

Acceptance was based on the presence of a Finnish colour ring.

**Forster's Tern / Forsters Stern***Sterna forsteri* 0,5,1

12 June, Wagejot, Oosterend, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, second calendar-year, photographed (M Leopold et al; Dutch Birding 39: 277, plate 374, 2017).

Amazingly, while doing his research on Common Terns *S. hirundo*, the same observer also found the previous one (an adult in 2016) at a nearby site.

**\* Elegant Tern / Sierlijke Stern***Sterna elegans* 0,1,0

2002 9 June, Meijendel Strand and Wassenaarse Slag, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland; and 10 June, De Putten, Camperduin, *Bergen*, Noord-Holland, summer plumage, photographed, videoed (T den Outer, R E Brouwer et al; den Outer et al 2002; Dutch Birding 24: 257, plate 228-229, 258, plate 230, 2002).

At the time, this record was considered not accepted. In the eyes of many, this was not a classic Elegant Tern, and since interbreeding between Elegant and Sandwich Tern *S. sandvicensis* was known to occur in Europe, a hybrid Sandwich Tern x 'orange-billed tern' seemed to be a realistic option. However, genetic work by Dufour et al (2017) showed that three Elegants sampled in France and Spain were all pure birds. One of the birds was actually quite similar to the Dutch bird (that was seen in Norfolk, England, two weeks later) (Laurent Raty in litt, Paul

French in litt) – it could even be the same individual. Furthermore, two hybrid fledglings showed (largely) Sandwich-like black bills (Dufour et al 2017), so with current knowledge we know: **1** that the phenotype of the Dutch bird fits within the variation of the species; and **2** that currently known hybrids do not fully resemble Elegant. The single photograph of an 'orange-billed tern' at Mokbaai, Texel, Noord-Holland, on 16 July 2006 and initially regarded as a potential Elegant (van den Berg & Haas 2006) does not show enough details for identification. In fact, the fairly heavy bill does not seem to fit Elegant (and possibly fits one of the royal terns *S. maxima/albididorsalis* better).

**Black-winged Kite / Grijsze Wouw***Elanus caeruleus* 1,17,10

28 March, Telpost Hazewater, Leusden, *Leusden*, Utrecht (J Vreeman); 31 March, Wierholt, *Hollands Kroon*, Noord-Holland, adult, photographed (P van Franeker et al; Dutch Birding 39: 217, plate 294, 2017); 11 May, Wateren, *Westerveld*, Drenthe, adult, photographed (R Middelbos, J D Ibanez); 11 May, Preekhilpolder, Oud-dorp, *Goeree-Overflakkee*, Zuid-Holland, photographed (V van der Spek, W van der Ham et al); 22 July, Pad naar de Zeearend, Oostvaardersplassen, *Lelystad*, Flevoland, photographed (J Scholten et al); 1 August to 3 October, several locations around Schildmeer, *Midden-Groningen*, Groningen, and 17 October, Ezumakeeg, Lauwersmeer, *Dongeradeel*, and 21 October to 8 February 2018, Blikplaatgat, Sennerplaat and Blikplaat, Lauwersmeer, *Kollumerland en Nieuwkruisland*, Friesland, first to second calendar-year, photographed, videoed (A ten Hoeve, J Horneman, V Douwes et al; Dutch Birding 39: 351, plate 491, 352, plate 492, 2017; 40: 64, plate 75, 2018); 19 August, Haarlerberg, Sallandse Heuvelrug, *Hellendoorn*, Overijssel, adult, photographed (J van den Berg); 14 October, Kwintelooyen, Veenendaal, *Rhemen*, Utrecht, photographed (A Bos, P G Gelderblom); 6 November, Leeuwarderbos, Leeuwarden, *Leeuwarden*, Friesland, photographed (C Procee Dorenbos); 8-9 November, Jacobapolder, Kamperland, *Noord-Beveland*, Zeeland, photographed (M Jeras, M Hoekstein, R Joos et al).

With yet another record year, there seem to be no limits to the incredible increase of this species. From a total of 28 records, 25 were in the past nine years. The birds on 31 March, 11 May and 19 August were identified and accepted as the nominate subspecies *E. c. caeruleus*.

**Short-toed Snake Eagle / Slangenarend***Circaetus gallicus* 3,70,-

2011 29 July, Strabrechtse Heide, *Heeze-Leende*, Noord-Brabant, photographed (R Kasteleijns, R van de Heuvel, K A Koenraads et al).

The species is no longer considered since 1 January 2012 but the CDNA still welcomes reports from before this date.

**Griffon Vulture / Vale Gier***Cypus fulvus* 9,320,94

19 May, Groote Veld, Vorden, *Bronckhorst*, and Almen, *Lochem*, Gelderland, photographed (A Westendorp,



**493** Black-winged Kite / Grijze Wouw *Elanus caeruleus*, first-winter, Kollumerwaard, Lauwersmeer, Friesland, 21 December 2017 (*Diederick Meinen*) **494** Black-winged Kite / Grijze Wouw *Elanus caeruleus*, first-winter, Overschild, Groningen, 13 August 2017 (*Marnix Jonker*) **495** Eastern Imperial Eagle / Keizerarend *Aquila heliaca*, fourth calendar-year, Hasselt, Overijssel, 4 October 2017 (*Michel Veldt*) **496** Eastern Imperial Eagle / Keizerarend *Aquila heliaca*, fourth calendar-year, Brobbelbies, Schaijk, Noord-Brabant, 27 September 2017 (*Toy Janssen*)



R Vermeer); 20 May, Het Reeland and Merwedehavengebied, Dordrecht, *Dordrecht*, and Papendrecht, *Papendrecht*, and Molenaarsgraaf, Bleskensgraaf, Goudriaan, Liesveld and Brandwijk, *Molenwaard*, and Hoornaar, Polder Noordzijde, Noordeloos and Giessenburg, *Giessenlanden*, Zuid-Holland, and Acquoysemeer, *Acquoy, Geldermalsen*, Gelderland, and Leersum, *Utrechtse Heuvelrug*, Utrecht, and 20-21 May, Barneveldsestraat and surroundings, *Renswoude, Renswoude*, Utrecht, and Gooswilligen, *Scherpenzeel, Scherpenzeel*, Gelderland, and 21 May, Lunteren, *Ede*, and Wolsbergerweg/Burgveenseweg, Voorthuizen, Rootselaar and Bloembuurt, Barneveld, *Barneveld*, and Ermelo, *Ermelo*, and Vaassensche Broek, *Vaassen, Epe*, and De Zwaluwenberg, 't Harde, *Elburg*, and Wapenveld, *Heerde*, and Almen, *Lochem*, Gelderland, and several locations near Zwolle, *Zwolle*, and De Enk en 't Loo, Luttenberg, *Raalte*, Overijssel, maximum of 27, photographed, videoed (M Kapoen et al); 30 May, Uilenbeken, Exloo, *Borger-Odoorn*, Drenthe, c 60, photographed (G Sterk, G Middelkoop); 5-9 June, Westeremden, Middelstum, Stedum, Loppersum and Ten Post, *Loppersum*, Groningen, maximum of six, photographed (J Smit et al). 2014 6 June, Bels Lijntje, Riel, *Goirle*, Noord-Brabant, second calendar-year, photographed (C Brinkman et al).

Another superb year, with a now more or less predictable peak of groups showing up after favourable southerly winds in late May and June.

#### Lesser Spotted Eagle / Schreeuwarend

*Aquila pomarina* 3,8,3

11 May, Koedijk, *Langedijk*, Noord-Holland, most likely second calendar-year, photographed (F-J Maas); 10 July, Bovenrijge, Thesinge Buitengebied, *Ten Boer*, Groningen, second calendar-year, photographed (J Bosma, P van Veelen, M Olthoff); 29 August, Natte Graslanden, Lepelaarplassen, *Almere*, Flevoland, second calendar-year, photographed (A Hinkema).

A record year for this increasingly recorded species.

#### Greater Spotted Eagle / Bastaardarend

*Aquila clanga* 15,16,1

4 June, Kollummerwaard, Lauwersmeer, *Kollumerland en Nieuwkruisland*, Friesland, and Marnewaard, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, and 13 July, Koningsdiep, *Opsterland*, Friesland, and 14 July, Fochteloërveen, *Ooststellingwerf*, Friesland, second calendar-year, photographed (M Olthoff, M Kopijn, J van Rotten; Dutch Birding 39: 353, plate 496, 2017).

#### \* Lesser Spotted x Greater Spotted Eagle / Schreeuwarend x Bastaardarend

*Aquila pomarina x clanga* 0,0,1

30 March, Oelemars, *Losser*, Overijssel, immature, photographed (B Hulsebos, J Verloop; Dutch Birding 39: 217, plate 295, 2017).

This bird was submitted as an unidentified eagle, and for good reason. It quite obviously showed mixed characters between both parental species and it was therefore accepted as the first hybrid Lesser Spotted x Greater Spotted Eagle for the Netherlands.

#### Lesser Spotted/Greater Spotted Eagle / Schreeuwarend/Bastaardarend

*Aquila pomarina/clanga* 0,4,1

5 July, Polder Muggenwaard, Noordwaard, Brabantse Biesbosch, *Werkendam*, Noord-Brabant, second calendar-year, photographed (J Dijkhuizen, J Dijkhuizen). 2015 25-26 October, Hazenweg, Weert, *Weert*, Limburg, photographed (G Jenniskens et al).

In both records, the bird resembled Greater Spotted Eagle, but a hybrid could not be excluded.

#### Booted Eagle / Dwergarend

*Aquila pennata* 0,26,4

30 April, Onnerpolder, Zuidlaardermeer, *Haren*, Groningen, pale morph, photographed (C van Schijndel); 14 May, Brobbelbies Noord, *Landerd*, Noord-Brabant, pale morph, photographed (T Janssen, M Bakker); 17 May, Dijkzicht, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult, pale morph, photographed (G Christenhuis, L de Kreek; Dutch Birding 39: 277, plate 375, 2017); 10 June, Bloemenwijk, Oud-Beijerland, *Oud-Beijerland*, Zuid-Holland, pale morph, photographed (B-J Luijendijk).

A record year for the species. The previous best years were 2000 and 2006, each with three. Despite 30 records, a twitchable bird remains hard to come by.

#### Eastern Imperial Eagle / Keizerarend

*Aquila heliaca* 0,1,1

27 September, Brobbelbies Noord, *Landerd*, Noord-Brabant, and 3 October, Zwarte Water, Cellemuiden, *Zwartewaterland*, and 3-4 October, Stadsgaten, Hasselt, Staphorsterveld, and Zuideindigerslag, *Staphorst*, Overijssel, and 4 October, Hasselt, Genemuiden, Zwarte Water, Mastenbroek and Zwartsluis, *Zwartewaterland*, and De Wieden-Venemaat, Vollenhove and Barsbekerinnenpolder, *Steenwijkerland*, Overijssel, and Vogel-eiland, Zwarte Meer, *Noordoostpolder*, Flevoland, and 8 October, Boetelerveld, *Raalte*, Overijssel, and 9 October, several locations around Zwolle, *Zwolle*, Overijssel, and 9-10 October, Olde Maten, Staphorsterveld and Rouveen, *Staphorst*, Overijssel, and 10 October, Zwartsluis and Olde Maten, *Zwartewaterland*, and De Wieden and Polder 't Wijde Zicht, *Steenwijkerland*, Overijssel, fourth calendar-year, photographed, videoed (T Janssen et al; Janssen & Bakker 2017; Dutch Birding 39: 393, plate 549, 429, plate 614-615, 2017).

This bird was one of the highlights of the year, with a legendary story. It was first seen at a migration site in the province of Noord-Brabant, where it was twitchable (in flight) for the fastest twitchers only. Unexpectedly, it was relocated in the north-west of the province of Overijssel six days later (a distance of 105 km). Despite the fact that it constantly moved over large areas (also crossing the Flevoland province border), and often disappeared out of sight, modern-day communication allowed most birders to (eventually) connect with it, mainly on 4, 9 and 10 October. This plumage is the hardest to separate from Spanish Imperial Eagle *A adalberti*, and the identification would have faced serious problems had it not been wearing a metal ring. Although the inscription was not fully read, the ring could be retraced to Hungary. The perhaps

only likely candidate, A506, had been ringed as a nestling in 2014 and was – for some reason – nicknamed Ladybug. In the aftermath, an analysis by a former committee member revealed that this was the same individual that was seen in Italy in February 2017, where it was reported as a Spanish Imperial! And, to make the story complete, probably the same bird was reported in Denmark in February 2018.

### Eurasian Pymy Owl / Dwerguil

*Glaucidium passerinum* 0,9,0

2016 2 April to 6 June, Groote Peel, *Asten*, Noord-Brabant, photographed, sound-recorded (T Bakker et al; Dutch Birding 38: 409, plate 626, 2016).

This seemingly territorial bird was suppressed for all the right reasons.

### European Roller / Scharrelaar

*Coracias garrulus* 52,20,0

1954 # 4 and 15-16 June (records joined), Krimweg, Beekbergen, *Apeldoorn*, and Deelen, *Ede*, and Deelen, *Arnhem*, Gelderland.

Formerly accepted as two separate records but based on new and more accurate information, both are now considered to concern the same bird.

### Brown Shrike / Bruine Klauwier

*Lanius cristatus* 0,1,1

19 February to 7 March, Indische Buurt, Den Helder, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland, second calendar-year, photographed, videoed (C Das, P Das, C Spijkerboer et al; Das et al 2017; Dutch Birding 39: 81, plate 119, 83, plate 120-122, 84, plate 123, 85, plate 124, 137, plate 211, 2017).

The second record followed soon after the first in 2014. Remarkably, both concerned a wintering bird.

### Daurian Shrike / Daurische Klauwier

*Lanius isabellinus* 0,15,1

19-25 October, Vuurtorenvlakte, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, first-winter, photographed, videoed (N Peeters, A van Bente et al; Dutch Birding 39: 424, plate 611, 2017).

### Lesser Grey Shrike / Kleine Klapekster

*Lanius minor* 21,30,1

19-20 June, Witte Hoek and Polder Wassenaar, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, photographed (A Wassink, J van den Berg, P Duin et al; Dutch Birding 39: 282, plate 383, 2017).

### Greater Short-toed Lark / Kortteenleeuwrik

*Calandrella brachydactyla* 3,55,4

9 May, Hoog-Zalk, *Kampen*, Overijssel, photographed (P Schermerhorn); 14 May, Polder de Westerkogge, Hoorn, *Koggenland*, Noord-Holland, photographed (P van Franeker, G Kenter et al); 13-26 August, Polder Lies, *Terschelling*, Friesland, photographed (H Schekerman, A de Jong, E van Winden et al; Dutch Birding 39: 359, plate 509, 2017); 22 September, Jan Ayeslag, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, sound-recorded (C S Roselaar, R F J van Beusekom).

2016 6 May, Flauuwe Werk, *Ouddorp*, *Goeree-Overflakkee*, Zuid-Holland, sound-recorded (T van Oerle, O van Herwaarden); 7 May, Springertduinen-Noord, *Ouddorp*, *Goeree-Overflakkee*, Zuid-Holland, photographed (G Tanis).

The Terschelling bird was actively moulting its remiges. The CDNA discovered that the supposed sound-recordings of an accepted bird also from Terschelling on 15-25 October 2006 actually belonged to a Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis*. The record remains valid since the bird, that was in the company of Eurasian Skylarks, was photographed well.

### Arctic Warbler / Noordse Boszanger

*Phylloscopus borealis* 2,22,4

15 September, Oost, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, photographed (J A de Raad, L I Kooistra, R F J van Beusekom et al; Dutch Birding 39: 421, plate 605, 2017); 16 September, Vinkenbaan Westenschouwen, *Schouwen-Duiveland*, Zeeland, first calendar-year, ringed, photographed (C Oskam, G Oskam, B Oskam); 25 September, Rottumerplaat, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, photographed (G Mensink, E Goutbeek, P Doombos); 8-10 October, Camping Seedune, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, photographed (D Beuker, D Paalvast, A W Faber et al).

A record equalling year for the species, matching 2001.

### Hume's Leaf Warbler / Humes Bladkoning

*Phylloscopus humei* 2,60,6

28 November 2016 to 18 March, Vinkel, *Den Bosch*, Noord-Brabant, photographed, sound-recorded; 27 December 2016 to 15 January, Noordwijkerhout, *Noordwijkerhout*, Zuid-Holland, photographed, sound-recorded; 7-8 January, Stiltswerderweg, Middelstum, *Loppersum*, Groningen, photographed (A-E de Winter via W-J Fontijn and B-J Prak); 7 November, Vogelringstation Meijndel, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, ringed, photographed (V van der Spek, N Aarts, H Lucas; Dutch Birding 40: 65, plate 78, 2018); 8-11 November, Noordhollands Duinreservaat, *Castricum*, Noord-Holland, photographed, sound-recorded (H Groot et al); 30 November, Vogelringstation Castricum, Noordhollands Duinreservaat, *Castricum*, Noord-Holland, ringed, photographed (J Visser et al; Dutch Birding 40: 65, plate 76-77, 2018); 17-24 December, Noordereng, *Heiloo*, Noord-Holland, photographed, sound-recorded (P Stroeken, G van Duin et al; Dutch Birding 40: 68, plate 86, 2018); 17-27 December, *Oudorp*, *Alkmaar*, Noord-Holland, photographed, sound-recorded (A de Moel, A van Halem et al).

2016 remains the best year, with nine, but this year equals the second-best year (2003). Feathers of both ringed birds were analysed and, as expected, proved that the nominate subspecies *P h humei* was involved rather than the Chinese subspecies *P h mandellii* (van der Spek & CDNA 2018). To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time the genetics of this species were analysed in Europe. 2017 was the last year this Central Asian species was reviewed. Who would have thought that a decade or two ago?



**497** Hume's Leaf Warbler / Humes Bladkoning *Phylloscopus humei*, Heiloo, Noord-Holland, 19 December 2017  
(Ruud E Brouwer)

**498** Arctic Warbler / Noordse Boszanger *Phylloscopus borealis*, Oost, Texel, Noord-Holland, 15 September 2017  
(Ruud F J van Beusekom)





499 Booted Warbler / Kleine Spotvogel *Iduna caligata*, first-winter, Neeltje Jans, Zeeland, 19 September 2017 (Marcel Klootwijk) 500 Blyth's Reed Warbler / Struikrietzanger *Acrocephalus dumetorum*, first-winter (left), and Eurasian Reed Warbler / Kleine Karekiet *A. scirpaceus*, first-winter, Kennemerduinen, Noord-Holland, 28 August 2017 (Arnoud B van den Berg/Vrs Van Lennep)





**501** Brown Shrike / Bruine Klauwier *Lanius cristatus*, first-winter, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 20 February 2017 (Arnaud B van den Berg)



**502** Red-flanked Bluetail / Blauwstaart *Tarsiger cyanurus*, first-winter, Beijum, Groningen, Groningen, 26 November 2017 (Thijs Glastra)

**Radde's Warbler / Raddes Boszanger**

*Phylloscopus schwarzi* 2,41,2

13 October, Vogelringstation Van Lennep, Kennemerduinen, Nationaal Park Zuid-Kennemerland, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland, first calendar-year, ringed, photographed (R Luntz, L J R Boon); 21 October, Bomenland, *Vlieland*, Friesland, photographed (M van den Bergh, A Dwarshuis et al).

With 14 records, *Vlieland* is the hotspot for this species.

**Iberian Chiffchaff / Iberische Tjiftjaf**

*Phylloscopus ibericus* 2,37,4

9 April to 12 May, Prins Hendrikweg, Noordwijk aan Zee, *Noordwijk*, Zuid-Holland, singing, photographed, sound-recorded (C Zuyderduyn et al); 29-30 April, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, singing, photographed, sound-recorded (V van der Spek et al); 8 May to 26 June, Heidepaed, *Lycklamabos*, Nijemirdum, *De Fryske Marren*, Friesland, singing, photographed, sound-recorded (J Postma et al); 14-15 July, Bosjes van Poot, Den Haag, *Den Haag*, Zuid-Holland, adult, photographed, sound-recorded (V van der Spek et al).

Another good year for the species: only 2010 (six) and 2016 (five) were better. The July bird represented only the second record of a calling (and not singing) bird; it was actively moulting its remiges.

**Siberian Lesser Whitethroat / Siberische Braamsluiper**

*Sylvia althaea blythi* 0,7,0

The CDNA awaits the DNA analysis of two submitted records: a bird ringed on *Texel*, Noord-Holland, on 30 September and one in *Nijmegen*, Gelderland, which was present from 9 February to 15 March. Furthermore, the CDNA awaits the submission of two records of presumed birds, both ringed in *Castricum*, Noord-Holland, and on which DNA analyses were performed.

**Western Subalpine Warbler / Westelijke Baardgrasmus**

*Sylvia inornata* 0,7,0

2016 8 May, Tweede Water, Zwanenwater, *Schagen*, Noord-Holland, second calendar-year, ringed, photographed (F J Koning, P Spannenburg).

This female was submitted as an unidentified subalpine warbler but the CDNA found enough clues to identify it as a Western Subalpine Warbler. The tail pattern easily ruled out Eastern Subalpine Warbler *S cantillans* but ruling out Moltoni's Warbler *S subalpina* was less easy. The bird's moult, however, did not fit the strategy of Moltoni's, which was kindly confirmed by Gabriel Gargallo (in litt).

**Eastern Subalpine Warbler / Balkanbaardgrasmus**

*Sylvia cantillans* 1,32,1

20 May, Robbenjager, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, male, photographed (A Klaren).

The CDNA awaits the submission of a bird seen and photographed on Texel, Noord-Holland, on 9 September.

**subalpine warbler / baardgrasmus**

*Sylvia inornata/subalpina/cantillans* 4,35,1  
21-22 May, Wimmenummerduinen, Noordhollands Duinreservaat, Bergen, Noord-Holland, male, sound-recorded (A Wijker, K Klaij, N F van der Ham).

Totals include birds accepted as *inornata/cantillans* (ie, *subalpina* being excluded).

**Dartford Warbler / Provençaaalse Grasmus**

*Sylvia undata* 1,9,1  
22 April, Berkheide, Wassenaar, Zuid-Holland, photographed (A van Egmond et al; Dutch Birding 39: 217, plate 297, 2017).

The CDNA could not assign this bird to subspecies. Totals include four birds accepted as *S u dartfordiensis*.

**Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler / Siberische Sprinkhaanzanger**

*Locustella certhiola* 0,10,1  
17 September, Vogelringstation Castricum, Noordhollands Duinreservaat, Castricum, Noord-Holland, first calendar-year, ringed, photographed (A Wijker et al; Dutch Birding 39: 422, plate 606, 2017).

Here we go again: out of 11 records, eight (!) have been ringed at this site. There is only one field record, at Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, in October 2009.

**Booted Warbler / Kleine Spotvogel**

*Iduna caligata* 0,28,1  
19 September, Neeltje Jans, Oosterscheldekering, Veere, Zeeland, first calendar-year, photographed (J Walhout et al; Dutch Birding 39: 423, plate 608, 2017).

**Paddyfield Warbler / Veldrietzanger**

*Acrocephalus agricola* 1,40,1  
13 October, Vogelringstation Paradijsveld, Amsterdamse Waterleidingduinen, Zandvoort, Noord-Holland, first calendar-year, ringed, photographed (J van Ee).

Already the sixth record in 10 years' time for this ring-ing site.

**Blyth's Reed Warbler / Struikrietzanger**

*Acrocephalus dumetorum* 0,39,2  
28 August, Vogelringstation Van Lennep, Kennemerduinen, Nationaal Park Zuid-Kennemerland, Bloemendaal, Noord-Holland, first calendar-year, ringed, photographed (A B van den Berg, A van Aken, M Koster; Dutch Birding 39: 359, plate 508, 2017); 25 September, Vogelringstation Castricum, Noordhollands Duinreservaat, Castricum, Noord-Holland, first calendar-year, ringed, photographed (A J van Loon, J Visser, L Knijnsberg).

The CDNA still awaits the submission of two birds ringed on Vlieland, Friesland, in autumn 2016.

**Moustached Warbler / Zwartkoprietzanger**

*Acrocephalus melanopogon* 0,1,1  
18-21 March, Polder Maltha, Brabantse Biesbosch, Werendam, Noord-Brabant, singing, photographed, sound-

recorded (J Bosch et al; Bosch 2017; Dutch Birding 39: 142, plate 222, 2017).

Who would have thought that the second record would come only a year after the first? For twitchers, it was déjà (non) vu. Although the distance to the bird was much smaller than in 2016 and it sang more or less continuously, this bird too refused to show to all but a few lucky observers. The trick to find this species seems to be to check singing *Acrocephalus* warblers in very early spring.

**Eyebrowed Thrush / Vale Lijster**

*Turdus obscurus* 2,5,1  
20-21 October, Oost-Vlieland, Vlieland, Friesland, first calendar-year male, photographed, videoed (J Denee et al; Denee & Hart 2017; Dutch Birding 39: 423, plate 609, 432, plate 618, 2017).

The first twitchable since 1988 (!) was very much appreciated by those who were on the island or who travelled by boat to it, where it showed well within walking distance from the ferry. At the end of the second day, it suddenly took off, never to be seen again. The previous record was in 2001.

**Black-throated Thrush / Zwartkeellijster**

*Turdus atrogularis* 0,9,0  
A bird ringed on Vlieland, Friesland, on 30 October 2017 (Dutch Birding 39: 422, plate 607, 2017) has been submitted only recently.

**Red-flanked Bluetail / Blauwstaart**

*Tarsiger cyanurus* 1,24,2  
31 October, Groene Glop, Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, first calendar-year, ringed, photographed (K Oosterbeek, O Verhoeven, C Eising); 25-27 November, Beijum, Groningen, Groningen, first calendar-year, photographed (J Bosma et al; Dutch Birding 40: 68, plate 87, 155, plate 208, 2018).

What is it with the suburb of Beijum and rare birds? Within 13 years' time, this urban oasis has now hosted Pine Grosbeak *Pinicola enucleator*, Hume's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei*, Dark-eyed Junco *Junco hyemalis*, (a still pending) Dusky Thrush *Turdus eunomus* and this species. Three of these rarities were found by the same observer.

**Eastern Black Redstart / Oosterse Zwarte Roodstaart**

*Phoenicurus ochruros phoenicuroides* 0,7,3  
12-15 January, Smitshoek, Barendrecht, Barendrecht, Zuid-Holland, second calendar-year male, photographed, videoed (M van der Schalk, E B Ebels, H Moerman et al; Ebels et al 2018; Dutch Birding 39: 55, plate 77, 139, plate 216, 2017, 40: 143, plate 193, 158, plate 213, 2018); 29 November to 2 December, Bantpolder and Anjumer en Lioessenserpolder, Lauwersmeer, Dongeradeel, Friesland, first calendar-year male, photographed, videoed (W Solarz, M Kopijn et al; Ebels et al 2018; Dutch Birding 40: 67, plate 85, 156, plate 210, 2018); 3-9 December, Zanddijk, Zuid-Eierland, Texel, Noord-Holland, first calendar-year male, photographed (fam van den Dries, A Wassink et al; Ebels et al 2018; Dutch





**503** Western Black-eared Wheatear / Westelijke Blonde Tapuit *Oenanthe hispanica*, first-winter male, Waal en Burg, Texel, Noord-Holland, 19 October 2017 (Eric Menkveld)



**504** Isabelline Wheatear / Izabeltapuit *Oenanthe isabellina*, first-winter, Dorpszicht, Texel, Noord-Holland, 26 October 2017 (Klaas de Jong)

Birding 40: 67, plate 84, 155, plate 209, 2018). 2011 13 November, Oosterend, *Terschelling*, Friesland, male, photographed (H van Diek; Ebels et al 2018; Dutch Birding 34: 68, plate 90, 2012, 40: 155, plate 202, 2018).

The recent history of this taxon is remarkable. The January record was part of the autumn influx of 2016 that already delivered three birds. The bird appeared to be very weak and it was speculated to have died after it was last seen. With two more birds in late autumn 2017 and – as will be mentioned in next year’s report – another one in early 2018, no less than seven were found within 15 months’ time (plumage analyses proved them to be different individuals). The 2011 bird was not accepted at the time but new identification insights (van der Spek & Martinez 2018) led to the acceptance of this now second record. Therefore, within two years the number of records increased from three to no less than 11! A previously not accepted report on Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, on 31 October 2005 is currently being reconsidered.

#### Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush / Rode Rotslijster

*Monticola saxatilis* 2,11,1

3-4 May, Noordoostduinen, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland, male, photographed, videoed (H J Bouma et al; Dutch Birding 39: 213, plate 290, 2017).

#### Blue Rock Thrush / Blauwe Rotslijster

*Monticola solitarius* 0,1,1

25-26 April, Noordoosthoek, and 26 April, Oude Eendenkooi, *Vlieland*, Friesland, second calendar-year male, photographed, videoed (A Zijlstra et al; Zijlstra et al 2017; Dutch Birding 39: 192, plate 256, 194, plate 257-258, 220, plate 302, 2017).

The morning of the second day of the bird’s stay, it apparently tried to leave the eastern tip of the island several times but seemed to get cold feet when confronted with so much water. At c 10:30, it took off again, this time in

a westerly direction, and disappeared out of sight above the island. Amazingly, this needle in a haystack was relocated 7 km to the west, near a forester’s house in a small wooded area, where it was twitched until dusk. This was the second record, after a first calendar-year bird at Westkapelle, Zeeland, on 20 September 2003.

#### Stejneger’s Stonechat / Stejnegers Roodborsttapuit

*Saxicola stejnegeri* 0,1,0

The CDNA awaits the DNA analysis of an already submitted bird on Vlieland, Friesland, on 16-17 October 2017 (Buckx et al 2017). The CDNA furthermore awaits the submission of a bird ringed on Vlieland on 9 October 2016 (Dutch Birding 38: 477, plate 726, 2016).

#### \* Seebohm’s Wheatear / Seebohms Tapuit

*Oenanthe seebohmi* 0,0,1

22 May, Kijkduin and Solleveld, *Den Haag*, Zuid-Holland, second calendar-year male, photographed, videoed (N van der Marel, G J Gelling, V van der Spek et al; Gelling & van der Spek 2017; Dutch Birding 39: 221, plate 303, 222, plate 304, 284, plate 388-389, 2017).

With the Pacific Swift and Brown Booby unavailable for birders, this probably was the birding highlight of 2017. The throat-patch was on the larger end for the taxon but all other features were spot on for Seebohm’s. It came unexpected but one could also argue that a spring overshoot record to north-western Europe of this medium-distance migrant was long overdue. Previous vagrants have turned up in Cameroon, the Canary Islands, Gibraltar, Malta and Tunisia.

#### Isabelline Wheatear / Izabeltapuit

*Oenanthe isabellina* 0,12,1

23 October, Zwanewaterduinen, *Ameland*, Friesland, and 26 October, Dorpszicht, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, first calendar-year, photographed (M Bot, K de Jong et al; Dutch Birding 39: 424, plate 610, 2017).



**505** Blue Rock Thrush / Blauwe Rotslijster *Monticola solitarius*, first-summer male, Noordoosthoek, Vlieland, Friesland, 25 April 2017 (*Andries Zijlstra*) **506** Pine Bunting / Witkopgors *Emberiza leucocephalos*, first-winter male, Loodsmansduin, Texel, Noord-Holland, 8 January 2017 (*Alex Bos*) **507** Eyebrowed Thrush / Vale Lijster *Turdus obscurus*, first-winter male, Oost-Vlieland, Vlieland, Friesland, 21 October 2017 (*Jaap Denee*)





**508** Seebohm's Wheatear / Seebohms Tapuit *Oenanthe seebohmi*, first-summer male, Solleveld, Zuid-Holland, 22 May 2017 (Gerjon Gelling)

**509** Desert Wheatear / Woestijntapuit *Oenanthe deserti*, first-winter male, Schiphol, Noord-Holland, 22 November 2017 (Rob Half)



Remarkably, plumage analysis showed that the bird seen briefly on Ameland was the same individual as the one on Texel three days later.

#### Desert Wheatear / Woestijntapuit

*Oenanthe deserti* 1,39,2

4 November, Paal 48, *Vlieland*, Friesland, female, photographed (B Lagerveld, L Stegeman, C Zuhorn et al; Dutch Birding 40: 66, plate 82, 2018); 17 November to 2 December, Amsterdam-Airport Schiphol, *Haarlemmermeer*, Noord-Holland, first calendar-year male, photographed, videoed (P Marcus et al; Dutch Birding 40: 66, plate 83, 2018).

#### Western Black-eared Wheatear / Westelijke Blonde Tapuit

*Oenanthe hispanica* 0,2,1

19 October, Waal en Burgerdijkje, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, first calendar-year male, photographed, videoed (K Stork et al; Stork & Ebels 2017; Dutch Birding 39: 431, plate 617, 2017).

This bird was found by a teenage birder biking his way to school. The structure and several plumage features pointed towards Western Black-eared rather than Eastern Black-eared Wheatear *O melanoleuca* so, despite the collected faeces not yet having been analysed, the CDNA decided not to await mtDNA results and to accept the record.

#### Pied Wheatear / Bonte Tapuit

*Oenanthe pleschanka* 0,22,1

25 October, Hondsbossche Zeewering, *Bergen*, Noord-Holland, male, photographed (R Costers).

#### Spanish Wagtail / Iberische Kwikstaart

*Motacilla cinereocapilla iberiae* 0,0,0

A bird photographed and sound-recorded at Kooiplaats, *Schiernonnikoog*, Friesland, on 3-5 May (Dutch Birding 39: 284, plate 391, 2017), submitted as a male Spanish Wagtail, is still under review.

#### Citrine Wagtail / Citroenkwikstaart

*Motacilla citreola* 0,51,4

2 May, Kustweg, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, second calendar-year male, photographed (M Oudega); 5 May, Vijfhuizenweg/IJweg, *Haarlemmermeer*, Noord-

Holland, adult female, photographed (H van der Meulen, H Moerman et al; Dutch Birding 39: 284, plate 390, 2017); 25 August, Crezéepolder, *Hendrik-Ido-Ambacht*, Zuid-Holland, first calendar-year, photographed, sound-recorded (C Fokker, D van der Spoel); 6 September, Groote Meer, Kalmthoutse Heide, Grenspark de Zoom, *Woensdrecht*, Noord-Brabant, first calendar-year, photographed (J van der Linden, F Franken). 2009 27 April, Polder Hardenhoek, Noordwaard, Brabantse Biesbosch, *Werkendam*, Noord-Brabant, adult male (R Los, L van Beest et al).

#### Blyth's Pipit / Mongoolse Pieper

*Anthus godlewskii* 0,10,1

8 January to 22 April, Noordwaard, Brabantse Biesbosch, *Werkendam*, Noord-Brabant, second calendar-year, photographed, sound-recorded, videoed (J Lidster et al; Dutch Birding 39: 57, plate 79, 138, plate 214, 2017). 2014 19 October, Oosterkwelder, *Schiernonnikoog*, Friesland, sound-recorded (M van Oss, O van Herwaarden).

The popular bird at Brabantse Biesbosch was found by one of the committee members who instantly recognized the call from the many trips he guided to Mongolia. Its prolonged stay did not only allow many to connect with the bird, it also offered an opportunity to follow its progressing moult.

#### African Chaffinch / Afrikaanse Vink

*Fringilla coelebs africana/spodiogenys* 0,2,0

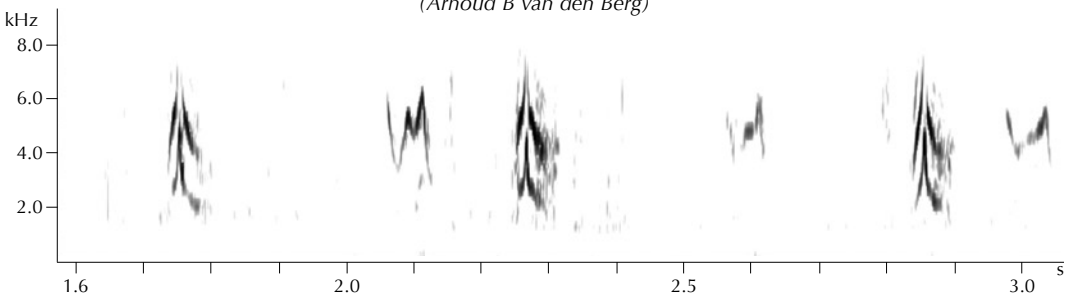
A male winter plumage at Onnerweg, Haren, Groningen, from 28 November 2003 to 6 January 2004 (Brinkhuizen et al 2004; Dutch Birding 26: 85, plate 144-145, 2004; see 2003) remains not accepted after a second review. The tail pattern does not perfectly fit either Atlas Chaffinch *F c africana*, Tunisian Chaffinch *F c spodiogenys* or Common Chaffinch *F c coelebs* (cf Corso et al 2015). Furthermore, the very pinkish bill looks odd and some subtle plumage colours also look atypical for African or Common. Calls of these taxa differ diagnostically but were not recorded. In all, this raised too many questions about the identification.

#### Dark-eyed Junco / Grijsje Junco

*Junco hyemalis* 1,1,1

7-8 May, Bergen aan Zee, *Bergen*, Noord-Holland, male, photographed (N Spaarkogel, via D Groenendijk; Groe-

FIGURE 2 Blyth's Pipit / Mongoolse Pieper *Anthus godlewskii*, Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant, 12 January 2017 (Arnoud B van den Berg)





510 Blyth's Pipit / Mongoolse Pieper *Anthus godlewskii*, first-winter, Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant, 4 February 2017 (Edial Dekker)

511 Yellowhammer x Pine Bunting / Geelgors x Witkopgors *Emberiza citrinella x leucocephalos*, male, Terschelling, Friesland, 3 April 2017 (Arie Ouwerkerk)



nendijk 2018; Dutch Birding 40: 328, plate 433, 2018).

During a small spring influx of the species in Europe, this bird was photographed with a smartphone in a garden. The (poor) shots showed just enough detail for a birding colleague to recognize the species. By then, the bird was no longer present. It belonged to the subspecies group *hyemalis*. Previous records were in 1962 and 2015.

#### **Black-headed Bunting / Zwartkopgors**

*Emberiza melanocephala* 2,14,1

31 May, Maasvlakte, Rotterdam, Zuid-Holland, male, photographed (M Benders et al).

#### **Pine Bunting / Witkopgors**

*Emberiza leucocephala* 15,32,3

18 December to 15 January 2017, Loodsmansduin, Texel, Noord-Holland, first-winter male, photographed, videoed; 3-4 January, Oosternieuwlandpolder, Vrouwenpolder, Veere, Zeeland, second calendar-year male, photographed (M Klootwijk et al); 10-31 January and 4-13 March, Buitengebied Westzijde, Smilde, Midden-Drenthe, Drenthe, and Nieuwe Vaart, Appelscha, Ooststellingwerf, Friesland, female, photographed, videoed (T Bakker et al); 12-15 February, Wolfshuis, Eijsden-Margraten, Limburg, male, photographed (H Kossen, A Bouns, M Berlijn et al; Dutch Birding 39: 140, plate 217, 2017).

2016 27 October, Koarnwerterstân (Kornwerderzand), Súdwest-Fryslân, Friesland, first calendar-year female, photographed (M O Bleijerveld);

The left-overs of the autumn 2016 influx further increased the number of records. The number of records for 2016 now stands at 10, which by far makes this the best year for the species.

#### **\* Yellowhammer x Pine Bunting / Geelgors x Witkopgors**

*Emberiza citrinella x leucocephala* 0,0,1

3 April, De Plaat, Terschelling, Friesland, male, photographed (H Schouwenburg, A Ouwerkerk, I Navarro; Dutch Birding 39: 219, plate 301, 2017).

This beauty of a bird looked just like a male Pine Bunting except for the prominent yellow fringes on its primaries. The CDNA decided to classify these types of birds as hybrids.

#### **Systematic list of not accepted reports**

This list contains all records not accepted by the CDNA. Records marked with @ were not accepted by all committee members in the first or second voting. Most records were not accepted because the identification was not fully established (often due to lack of documentation) or when the bird showed signs of captivity, such as dubious rings, excessive wear and/or aberrant behaviour.

#### **Richardson's Cackling Goose / Kleine Canadese Gans**

*Branta hutchinsii hutchinsii* 5 May, Oosterboer, Meppel, Drenthe, videoed (@ video shows subspecies *B h minima*); 2 July, Jan van den Boschpad, Oostvaardersplassen, Lelystad, Flevoland, photographed (description incom-

plete and photographs show too little detail to exclude other taxa). **Ross's Goose / Ross' Gans** *Anser rossii* 5 February, Het Leuven, Groessen, Duiven, Gelderland, blue morph, photographed (@ photographs show known escape, most likely hybrid individual, wandering around area for longer period of time). **Ross's x Barnacle Goose / Ross' Gans x Brandgans** *Anser rossii x Branta leucopsis* 3 February, Grutte Wielen, Tytsjerksteradiel, Friesland, photographed (@ photographs show too little detail to exclude other taxa or hybrids). **Greenland White-fronted Goose / Groenlandse Kolgans** *Anser albifrons flavirostris* 5 February, Twijzel, Achtkarspelen, Friesland (description incomplete and photographs do not exclude Greater White-fronted Goose *A a albifrons*); 25 February, De Grind, Doesburg, Gelderland, second calendar-year (description incomplete and photographs do not exclude Greater White-fronted Goose *A a albifrons*); 28 February, Rommelpot, Waal en Burg, Texel, Noord-Holland (description incomplete and photographs do not exclude Greater White-fronted Goose *A a albifrons*). **Hooded Merganser / Kokardezaagbek** *Lophodytes cucullatus* 9-18 December, Gouwzee, Waterland, Noord-Holland, adult male (@ identification accepted but photographs do not document absence of rings). **Lesser Scaup / Kleine Topper** *Aythya affinis* 17 April, Breezanddijk, IJsselmeer, Súdwest-Fryslân, Friesland, male, photographed (description incomplete and photographs do not support identification). **Pallid Swift / Vale Gierzwaluw** *Apus pallidus* 20 October, Telpost Doesburg, Eldrik, Bronckhorst, Gelderland (@ description incomplete). **Grey-headed Swamphen / Grijskoppurperkoet** *Porphyrio poliocephalus* 16-18 June, Zijdekade, Overheicop, Zederik, Zuid-Holland, adult, photographed (@ not considered genuine vagrant as a small zoo within a few kilometres of this location is known to breed swamphens; bird was documented to be unringed). **American Golden Plover / Amerikaanse Goudplevier** *Pluvialis dominica* 19 August, Hoek van de Bant, Lauwersmeer, Dongeradeel, Friesland (@ description incomplete). **Collared Pratincole / Vorkstaartplevier** *Glareola pratincola* 15 October, Dordrecht, Eierland, Texel, Noord-Holland (@ description incomplete). **Baltic Gull / Baltische Mantelmeeuw** *Larus fuscus fuscus* 29 March, Vuilstort Barneveld, Barneveld, Gelderland, photographed (features of this bird do not comply with criteria to identify this taxon); 27 August, Netterdensch Broek, Netterden, Oude IJsselstreek, Gelderland, photographed (@ features of this bird do not comply with criteria to identify this taxon). **Griffon Vulture / Vale Gier** *Cypus fulvus* 23 May, Mijdrecht, Ronde Venen, Utrecht (@ description incomplete); 10 June, Venemaat, De Wieden, Steenwijkerland, Overijssel, two (@ description incomplete). **Lesser Spotted Eagle / Schreeuwend** *Aquila pomarina* 28 August, Paal 6, De Hors, Texel, Noord-Holland (@ description incomplete). **Long-legged Buzzard / Arendbuizerd** *Buteo rufinus* 18 July, Oostvaardersplassen, Lelystad, Flevoland, photographed (@ description incomplete and photographs show too little detail to exclude other taxa); 9 August, Pomona, De Weiden, Wageningen, Gelderland (@ description incomplete). **Snowy Owl / Sneeuwuil** *Bubo scandiacus* 21

January, Oosterhout-Oost, *Oosterhout*, Noord-Brabant (@ description incomplete). **Gyr Falcon / Giervalk** *Falco rusticolus* 7 October, Oud-Reemsterveld, Nationaal Park De Hoge Veluwe, *Ede*, Gelderland, white morph (@ description incomplete). **Greater Short-toed Lark / Kortteenleuwerik** *Calandrella brachydactyla* 24 September, Geldermalsen, *Geldermalsen*, Gelderland (@ description incomplete); 16 October, Westenschouwen, *Schouwen-Duiveland*, Zeeland, photographed, sound-recorded (@ photographs and sound seem to fit Eurasian Skylark *Alda arvensis* better). **Radde's Warbler / Raddes Boszanger** *Phylloscopus schwarzi* 1 October, Grebbeberg, *Rhene*, Utrecht (description incomplete). **Red-spotted Bluethroat / Roodsterblauwborst** *Luscinia svecica svecica* 15 June, Bloemendalergouw, Waterland, *Amsterdam*, Noord-Holland, male, photographed (@ photographs show orange-spotted White-spotted Bluethroat *L. s. cyaneula*). **Red-flanked Bluetail / Blauwstaart** *Tarsiger cyanurus* 17 November, Osdorper Bovenpolder, *Amsterdam*, Noord-Holland (@ description incomplete). **Siberian Stonechat / Aziatische Roodborstapuit** *Saxicola maurus* 26 April, Haarlerberg, Sallandse Heuvelrug, *Hellendoorn*, Overijssel (@ description incomplete). **White-throated Wagtail / Witkeelkwikstaart** *Motacilla cinereocapilla* 3 May, Ketelhaven, Ketelmeer, *Dronen*, Flevoland (@ possibly same bird as Ashy-headed Wagtail of 1 May at same location, for which see below, but description incomplete and no photographs to confirm this). **Ashy-headed Wagtail / Italiaanse Kwikstaart** *Motacilla cinereocapilla cinereocapilla* 1 May, Ketelhaven, Ketelmeer, *Dronen*, Flevoland, male, photographed, sound-recorded (@ sound-recordings show song element, so no sound-recording of call, which CDNA requires for acceptance of this taxon). **Black-headed Wagtail / Balkan-kwikstaart** *Motacilla feldegg* 19 April, Lancasterdijk, Zeeburg, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, male, photographed (Dutch Birding 39: 218, plate 381, 2017), sound-recorded (@ sound-recordings show no distinctive call, which CDNA requires for acceptance of this taxon); 3-4 May, Hoogveenkeren, Engbertsdijksvenen, *Twenterand*, Overijssel, male, photographed (@ photographs show male Grey-headed Wagtail *M. thunbergi*); 9 May, Informatiecentrum Fochteloërveen, *Ooststellingwerf*, Friesland, male (@ no sound-recording of call, which CDNA requires for acceptance of this taxon).

2016

**Dalmatian Pelican / Kroeskoppelikaan** *Pelecanus crispus* 27 July to 23 September 2017, Oer de Wiel, Feanwâlden (Veenwouden), *Dantumadiel*, Friesland, and several locations in seven, mostly northern, provinces, maximum of two, photographed (@ identification accepted but both birds were known escapees from nearby zoo at Leeuwarden, Friesland, in July 2016, together with two Great White Pelicans *P. onocrotalus*). **Azure Tit / Azuurmees** *Cyanistes cyanus* 12 November, *Opmeer*, Noord-Holland, photographed (@ identification accepted but photographs show presence of ring used in captivity). **Pine Bunting / Witkopgors** *Emberiza leucocephalos* 17 October, Sebastopol, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, photographed (description incomplete and photographs show too

little detail to exclude Yellowhammer *E. citrinella* or hybrid); 29 October, Hondsbossche Zeewering, *Bergen*, Noord-Holland, sound-recorded (no photographs and sound-recording not enough to exclude hybrid); 30 October, Trektepost De Punt, Westenschouwen, *Schouwen-Duiveland*, Zeeland, photographed, sound-recorded (@ description incomplete and photographs show too little detail to exclude hybrid); 30-31 December, Legeweg, Zuidbroek, *Menterwolde*, Groningen, photographed (observation duration was short and photograph shows too little detail to exclude hybrid).

2011

**Pallid Harrier / Steppekiekendief** *Circus macrourus* 3 October, Wimmenummerduinen, Noordhollands Duinreservaat, *Bergen*, Noord-Holland, first calendar-year (@ description incomplete).

2006

**Elegant Tern / Sierlijke Stern** *Sterna elegans* 16 July, Mokbaai, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, photographed (Dutch Birding 28: 247, plate 341, 2006; not accepted after review, see main text).

2004

**African Chaffinch / Afrikaanse Vink** *Fringilla coelebs africana/spodiogenys* 28 November 2003 to 6 January, Onnerweg, *Haren*, Groningen, male, winter plumage, photographed, videoed (Brinkhuizen et al 2004; Dutch Birding 26: 85, plate 144-145, 2004; see 2003).

2003

**African Chaffinch / Afrikaanse Vink** *Fringilla coelebs africana/spodiogenys* 28 November to 6 January 2004, Onnerweg, *Haren*, Groningen, male, winter plumage, photographed, videoed (Brinkhuizen et al 2004; Dutch Birding 26: 85, plate 144-145, 2004; not accepted after review, see main text).

1989

**Marsh Sandpiper / Poelruiter** *Tringa stagnatilis* 3 June, Vogelringstation Castricum, Noordhollands Duinreservaat, *Castricum*, Noord-Holland (description incomplete).

1987

**Baird's Sandpiper / Bairds Strandloper** *Calidris bairdii* 12 August, Wagejot, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (@ bird re-identified as Temminck's Stint *C. temminckii* by other observers; description is not conclusive, with some elements indeed matching Temminck's better than Baird's).

1977

**Greater Flamingo / Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus roseus* 6 October, Hoekplas, Oostvaardersplassen, *Lelystad*, Flevoland (@ description incomplete).

1971

**Rosy Starling / Roze Spreeuw** *Pastor roseus* 5-6 May, Oost-Vlieland, *Vlieland*, Friesland, ringed (@ no description, photographs or other information to review).

1968

**Red-headed Bunting / Bruinkopgors** *Emberiza bruniceps*  
27 July, Boschplaat, *Terschelling*, Friesland, male (@ description incomplete).

1939

**Yellow-breasted Bunting / Wilgengors** *Emberiza aureola*  
12 September, Vinkenbaan van Hoos, Monster, *Westland*, Zuid-Holland, adult male, trapped, photographed (this formerly accepted report was not accepted after review in the 1990s. A previously unknown photograph of the bird, showing a male Yellow-breasted Bunting, prompted a reconsideration of the report. However, because Dekker & Voous (1964) considered the report to be a prank, it was again not accepted, despite the impeccable reputation of ringer Dirk Hoos, who is often considered the godfather of ringing in the Netherlands. However, the CDNA could not ignore the shadow cast over this record.)

### Acknowledgements

The CDNA wishes to thank Bram Rijkse who kindly provided the drawing of the Brown Booby on p 357. The editors of Dutch Birding assisted in checking record details. Jan van der Laan provided the statistics among which the total number of bird species recorded in 2017. On our request, Chris Batty, Nils van Duijvendijk, Dick Forsman, Paul French, Gabriel Gargallo and Fred Visscher shared their expertise during the assessment of several records. British Birds kindly provided several identification papers to the committee members.

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# Humes Bladkoningen in Nederland

Vincent van der Spek & CDNA

De eerste Humes Bladkoning *Phylloscopus humei* voor Nederland én Europa stamt uit 1958, maar pas sinds (eind) jaren 1990 neemt het aantal duidelijk toe. Dit overzichtsartikel beschrijft de aantalsontwikkeling, fenologie en verspreiding in Nederland in de periode 1958-2017. Daarbij komen tevens biometrie en genetica van gevangen vogels aan de orde en wordt kort stilgestaan bij de determinatie.

## Taxonomie

Tot de jaren 1980 werd Humes Bladkoning als ondersoort van Bladkoning *P inornatus* (hierna *inornatus*) beschouwd. Deze twee taxa verschillen echter genetisch, morfologisch en akoestisch (zowel zang als roep) aanzienlijk van elkaar. De broedgebieden overlappen deels en bij geluidsexperimenten blijkt dat ze niet op elkaar reageren (Irwin et al 2001). Er bestaat onder taxonomen dan ook brede consensus dat het aparte soorten zijn (Sangster et al 1997). Humes kent twee on-

dersoorten: de nominaat *P h humei* (hierna *humei*) broedt in een band van bergketens die via het noorden van het Indiase subcontinent via Centraal Azië en het zuiden van Rusland naar Mongolië loopt. Ze overwinteren op en rondom het Indiase subcontinent. Mandelli's Bladkoning *P h mandellii* (hierna *mandellii*) broedt in centraal-China en overwintert met name in Zuidoost-Azië. In tegenstelling tot *humei* en *inornatus* liggen de broedgebieden van *humei* en *mandellii* daarmee op aanzienlijke afstand van elkaar, op het smalste punt c 1500 km. Ook deze twee taxa verschillen genetisch, morfologisch en akoestisch (zowel zang als roep) van elkaar, maar de verschillen zijn beduidend kleiner dan met *inornatus* (Irwin et al 2001). Ongeveer 2.4 miljoen jaar geleden raakten *inornatus* en *humei* genetisch van elkaar gescheiden, terwijl *humei* en *mandellii* ongeveer een miljoen jaar geleden een gezamenlijke voorouder hadden (Irwin et al 2001).

*Mandellii* is bruiner en valer dan *humei*, heeft

512 Humes Bladkoning / Hume's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei*, Heiloo, Noord-Holland, 22 december 2017  
(Hans van Zummeren)



een wat grijzere kopkap, meestal een geheel ontbrekende bovenste vleugelstreep en een gelige was op wenkbrauwstreep en onderzijde (Clement 2017). De akoestische verschillen zijn subtiel. Zowel *humei* als *mandellii* hebben twee zangtypen: een dubbele noot en een hoog, langgerekt, dalend geluid, als van een slippende V-snaar. De dubbele noot is bij *mandellii* een fractie hoger, en het totale bereik iets groter (Irwin et al 2001). Het tweede zangtype verschilt niet noemenswaardig. Bij geluidsexperimenten brengt de zang van het andere taxon altijd enige tot zelfs sterke reactie teweeg, terwijl dit voor beide taxa bij het afspelen van de zang van *inornatus* niet geldt (Irwin et al 2001). De structuur van de roepjes is niet exact gelijk, maar wel vergelijkbaar. De roep van *mandellii* is duidelijk hoger: dat is niet alleen zichtbaar op sonogrammen, maar is ook voor het menselijk oor hoorbaar (Irwin et al 2001). Daarmee lijkt de roep iets meer op die van *inornatus* dan bij *humei* het geval is. De akoestische experimenten en genetische gegevens zijn vooralsnog voldoende reden om ze als ondersoorten te beschouwen. In geen van de bekende/gangbare checklists zijn deze taxa dan ook gesplit. Duidelijk is wel dat ze in een stadium van allopatrische divergentie verkeren, ofwel, beide ondersoorten zijn op weg om verder van elkaar gescheiden te raken en zich daarmee mogelijk tot aparte soorten te ontwikkelen.

#### **Aantalontwikkeling: van dwaalgast naar schaarse soort**

Tom van der Have en Cees Roselaar stelden begin jaren 1980 op basis van een balg in het toenmalige Zoölogisch Museum Amsterdam (ZMA) met terugwerkende kracht het eerste geval van *humei* voor Nederland én Europa vast (van der Have 1985). Deze vogel was in de nacht van 27 op 28 november 1958 verongelukt op lichtschip Texel, Continentaal Plat; opvallend genoeg het enige slachtoffer die nacht. De vogel werd door tweede gezagvoerder Lampers op 4 december aan het ZMA geschonken (Smit & Voous 1959). Destijds viel al op dat de vogel bleker en grijzer was dan andere bladkoningen en dat de vleugelformule beter op *humei* paste. Mede vanwege (foutieve) interpretatie van de in de literatuur beschreven kleur werd de vogel 'voorlopig' als *inornatus* gedetermineerd (Smit & Voous 1959). De balg bevindt zich thans in Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Zuid-Holland.

Na enkele gevallen in de jaren 1970 en begin jaren 1980 bleef *humei* lang zeer zeldzaam: een melding bracht begin jaren 1990 nog aanzienlijke

aantallen vogelaars op de been (Anonymus 1991). In de kwart eeuw daarna nam het aantal gevallen dusdanig toe dat de soort sinds 2018 niet meer door de Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA) wordt beoordeeld. Tot en met 2017 zijn 67 gevallen (68 vogels) aanvaard. Het gemiddelde aantal voor de periode 1988-2017 ligt op twee per jaar ( $n=62$ ; figuur 1) en daarmee werd het criterium voor beoordeling (gemiddeld minder dan twee gevallen per jaar in de laatste 30 jaar) overschreden. Ook binnen die periode van 30 jaar is er een toename: het gemiddelde over de laatste 20 jaar (1998-2017) lag op 2.7 en voor 2008-17 (10 jaar) op 3.3. Alleen tussen 2011 en 2017 waren er al 31 gevallen (46% van het totaal).

*Humei* kent een lange geschiedenis van 'achteraf-determinatie'. Pas het vierde geval werd in het veld herkend (van der Have 1985). Overwinterende boszangers gedetermineerd als Grauwe Fitis *P trochiloides* en/of *inornatus* in 1975 bij Hoogeveen, Drenthe (Nuyten 1984), en in 1982/83 bij Delft, Zuid-Holland (Steinhaus 1984), bleken goed genoeg vastgelegd om achteraf als *humei* te determineren en aanvaarden. Maar er is bijvoorbeeld ook een goed gedocumenteerde overwinterende 'Grauwe Fitis' in Meijendel, Zuid-Holland, in de winter van 1974/75 (cf Remeus 1976) die niet is geaccepteerd. Enkele inconsistenties deden dit geval de das om maar de beschrijving van zowel kleed als geluid wijst, naast de periode, sterk richting *humei*. Inmiddels is er een hogere waarnemersdichtheid en hebben vogelaars gemiddeld meer kennis van zowel determinatie als fenologie. Daarnaast is er controle van waarnemingen via internet (alleen al in 2016 en 2017 werden vier als *inornatus* gemelde vogels via internet als *humei* ontmaskerd) en betere apparatuur om de determinatie rond te krijgen. Al met al wekt dit de indruk dat waarnemerseffecten een cruciale rol spelen in de toename. Voor een reële toename zijn geen concrete aanwijzingen. Opvallend is dat er ondanks de toename vrij recent ook jaren zijn zonder waarnemingen. In deze eeuw ontbrak de soort in 2002 en 2010, terwijl in 2006 geen nieuwe vogels werden gevonden (wel was er een overwinterende vogel die al in 2005 was ontdekt). Topjaren zijn er ook: 1999 (5), 2003 (6), 2012 (5), 2016 (9) en 2017 (6). Hoewel het om kleine aantallen gaat, lijkt het reël dat er goede en minder goede jaren zijn.

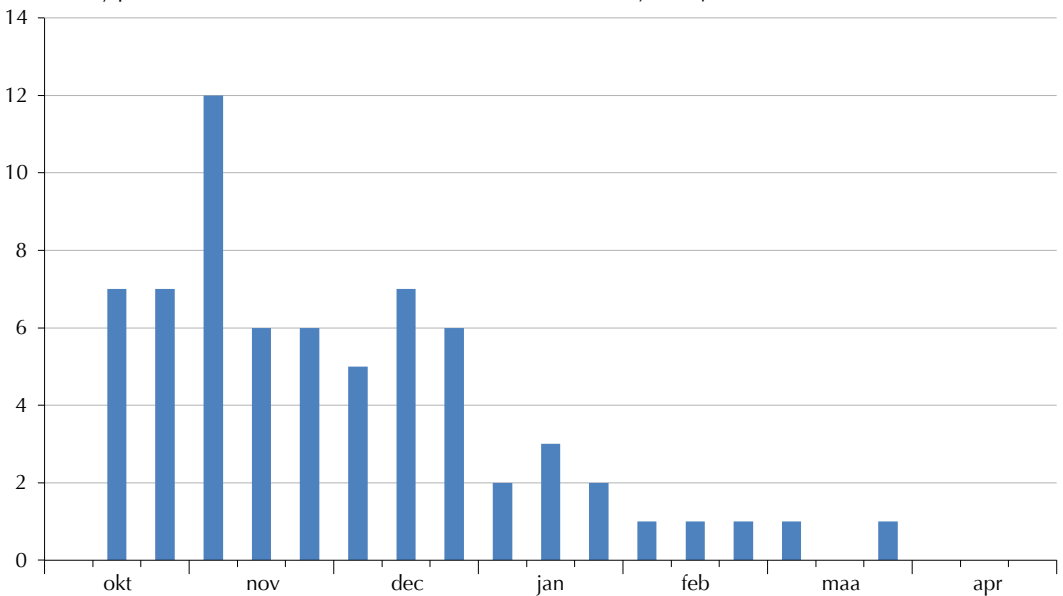
#### **Fenologie**

*Humei* overwintert onregelmatig in Nederland, mogelijk in toenemende mate. Overwinteraars



FIGUUR 1 Aantal Humes Bladkoningen *Phylloscopus humei* in Nederland per jaar in 1955-2017 (n=67 exemplaren). Van overwinterende vogels is alleen jaar van ontdekking gebruikt. Ringvangsten zijn rood gekleurd. / Number of Hume's Leaf Warblers *Phylloscopus humei* per year in 1955-2017 (n=67 individuals). For wintering birds only year of discovery is used. Ringed birds are marked in red.

FIGUUR 2 Decaden in 1958-2017 waarin Humes Bladkoningen *Phylloscopus humei* werden ontdekt (n=68) / 10-day periods in 1958-2017 in which Hume's Leaf Warblers *Phylloscopus humei* were first found (n=68)





513 Humes Bladkoning/ Hume's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei*, Beijum, Groningen, Groningen, 27 december 2012 (Gerrit Kiekebos)

blijven vaak weken of zelfs maanden aanwezig en wellicht wordt de soort daarom vaak met de winter geassocieerd. Dat vertelt maar een deel van het fenologische verhaal, want in werkelijkheid worden de meeste tijdens de najaarstrek waargenomen (figuur 2). Dan trekken ze pas laat door, tussen half oktober en half november. De vroegste werd op 11 oktober ontdekt, ruim vijf weken na de vroegst gedocumenteerde *inornatus* (5 september; waarneming.nl). De mediane doortrekperiode ligt in de eerste decade van november; voor *inornatus* is dat (op basis van ingevoerde gevallen op waarneming.nl) in de eerste decade van oktober.

De gemiddelde verblijftijd van najaarsvogels ligt op 4.7 dagen. Zonder de drie langst verblijvende exemplaren (die met respectievelijk 13, 15 en 30 dagen het gemiddelde sterk omhoog brengen) is dat 2.8 dagen. Interessant is dat overwintersaars daadwerkelijk later in het jaar lijken te arriveren. Van de 30 vogels die voor half november werden ontdekt, bleef er maar één tot (begin) december aanwezig; alle andere waren toen (al lang) vertrokken. Lang pleisterende overwintersaars werden daarentegen juist pas laat in het jaar gevonden,

vanaf de laatste decade van november, en vaak zelfs later. De gemiddelde verblijfsduur na half november is bijna 32 dagen. Daarmee ligt de trefkans van late vogels hoger dan die van de korter verblijvende doortrekkers, waardoor wellicht een vertekend beeld ontstaat: er zullen meer doortrekkers dan overwintersaars gemist worden.

Figuur 3 toont wanneer *humei* in Nederland aanwezig was, dus inclusief alle decaden ná ontdekking. In december en januari zijn de aantallen het hoogst. In het voorjaar stammen de laatste twee waarnemingen van 22 april (beide in 2012), maar de meeste vogels verlaten hun overwinteringsgebied weken eerder: na januari zijn minder vogels aanwezig. Aangezien er maar drie 'nieuwe' vogels in februari, twee in maart en geen enkele in april werden gevonden, is geen (duidelijke) voorjaarstrek zichtbaar: de lichte toename in maart ten opzichte van februari betreft slechts enkele exemplaren en kan berusten op overwintersaars die pas laat werden ontdekt. Incidenteel is in het voorjaar zang te horen (zie <https://tinyurl.com/y7k7c2ng> met beide zangtypen in één opname; de zang met dubbele noot is in het onderschrift abusievelijk als roep omschreven).



FIGUUR 3 Decaden in 1958-2017 waarin Humes Bladkoningen *Phylloscopus humei* aanwezig waren (n=68) / 10-day periods in 1958-2017 in which Hume's Leaf Warblers *Phylloscopus humei* were present (n=68)

### Verspreiding

Het leeuwendeel van de gevallen van *humei* is afkomstig uit de kustprovincies. De soort is in 10 van de 12 provincies vastgesteld en daarnaast is er een geval van het Continentaal Plat. Alleen Overijssel en Limburg wachten nog op de eerste (tabel 1).

Vooral Zuid-Holland (21) en Noord-Holland (17) zijn erg goed vertegenwoordigd, terwijl Zeeland opvallend genoeg maar twee gevallen heeft. De algehele tendens lijkt te zijn dat vogels in het noorden slechts kort aanwezig zijn, dat er

een zwaartepunt ligt langs de kust van Zuid-Holland en dat de soort ten zuiden daarvan aanmerkelijk zeldzamer wordt. Dat geldt niet alleen voor Zeeland maar ook voor België, waar tot en met 2016 slechts 13 gevallen waren. Met name een strook van 23 km van Noordwijk, Zuid-Holland, tot Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, is met 15 gevallen (16 exemplaren) opmerkelijk rijk beëeld. Andere hotspots zijn de Waddeneilanden (14 gevallen), met name Texel, Noord-Holland (vijf), en Terschelling, Friesland (vier). De eilanden zijn typische doortrekplekken: er is slechts één overwinteraar vastgesteld, alle andere waarnemingen betroffen doortrekkers in oktober en november. Een erkende zeldzaamhedenplek als de Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, heeft maar één geval – en dat terwijl het hemelsbreed slechts 13 km ten zuiden van Den Haag ligt. De gemeenten met de meeste gevallen zijn Katwijk, Texel en Wassenaar (alle vijf).

### mtDNA-analyse van Nederlandse vogels

Het ligt gezien de verspreidingsgebieden het meest voor de hand dat *humei* ons land bereikt, en niet *mandellii* (waarvan geen gevallen in de WP bekend zijn). Ook het uiterlijk en de roep van vogels die in Nederland worden vastgesteld, geven geen aanleiding om (incidenteel) aan *mandellii* te denken. Om de nominaat in Nederland te bevestigen werd van exemplaren die werden gevangen en geringd in Meijndel, Zuid-Holland, op 7 november 2017 en Castricum, Noord-

TABEL 1 Aantal Humes Bladkoningen *Phylloscopus humei* per provincie in 1958-2017 / number of Hume's Leaf Warblers *Phylloscopus humei* per Dutch province in 1958-2017

Provincie	Exemplaren
Zuid-Holland	21
Noord-Holland	17
Friesland	12
Groningen	7
Drenthe	2
Zeeland	2
Noord-Brabant	2
Gelderland	2
Flevoland	1
Utrecht	1
Overijssel	0
Limburg	0
Continentaal Plat	1
<b>Totaal</b>	<b>68</b>

Genetic variation among *inornatus*, *humei* and *mandellii* in a 309 bp cytB fragment.



FIGUUR 4 Analyse van mtDNA van twee in Nederland geringde Humes Bladkoningen *Phylloscopus humei* in Castricum, Noord-Holland, en Meijendel, Zuid-Holland, in 2017. De resultaten passen binnen genetische variatie van nominaat *P. humei humei*. / Analysis of mtDNA of two Dutch ringed Hume's Leaf Warblers *Phylloscopus humei*, in Castricum, Noord-Holland, and Meijendel, Zuid-Holland, in 2017. Results fit within genetic variation of nominate *P. humei humei*.

Holland, op 30 november 2017 veermateriaal verzameld. Daarvan werd van het mitochondriale cytochroom-B-gen van 309 baseparen de volgorde bepaald. Het verschil tussen *inornatus* en *humei* is ongeveer 24 posities, en tussen *humei* en *mandellii* ongeveer acht, waarmee verschillen goed zijn aan te tonen. De sequenties werden vergeleken met die van *inornatus* (één referentie uit GenBank en zeven niet eerder geanalyseerde monsters uit Nederland en Mongolië), *humei* (twee referenties uit GenBank) en *mandellii* (één referentie uit GenBank). Beide Nederlandse vogels hadden als verwacht een genetisch profiel dat past op *humei* en niet op *mandellii* (figuur 4). Daarmee is deze ondersoort nu voor het eerst genetisch aantoonbaar in Nederland én Europa vastgesteld. Wel was door de analyse van mtDNA

*humei* eenmaal eerder genetisch vastgesteld in Israël (Martin Collinson pers meded).

TABEL 2 Biometrie van gevangen of verzamelde Humes Bladkoningen *Phylloscopus humei* in Nederland, in vergelijking met gegevens van Svensson (1992) en Demongin (2016) / measurements of trapped or collected Hume's Leaf Warblers *Phylloscopus humei* in the Netherlands, compared with measurements from Svensson (1992) and Demongin (2016)

	vleugellengte / wing length (mm)	gewicht / weight (g)
Nederlandse vogels / Dutch birds	53-60 (n=7)	5.6-6.1 (n=5)
Svensson (1992)	51-62	–
Demongin (2016)	50.5-62	5-9 (10)



**514** Humes Bladkoning / Hume's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei*, Meijndel, Zuid-Holland, 7 november 2017 (Vincent van der Spek/Vrs Meijndel). **A** tertials donkergrijs en met diffuse witte randen; bij Bladkoning *P inornatus* tertials donkerder met meer scherp afgetekende randen; **B** grijsgroene bovendelen, met name op bovenste deel van mantel en kop; mosgroen bij Bladkoning; **C** vuilwitte wenkbrauwstreep zonder geeltinten; bij Bladkoning met geeltinten; **D** relatief 'schone' oorstreek; gevlekt bij Bladkoning; **E** witachtige onderdelen, zonder geel (bij Bladkoning doorgaans met geeltinten); **F** onopvallende bovenste vleugelstreep (kan prominenter zijn, maar ook nagenoeg ontbreken) en vleugelstrepen witachtig; bij Bladkoning altijd twee duidelijke vleugelstrepen, doorgaans met geeltinten; **G** donkere 'schaduw' tussen beide vleugelstrepen en onder onderste ontbreekt; bij Bladkoning vaak donker (maar kenmerk variabel in beide soorten) / **A** tertials dark grey and with diffuse whitish edges; tertials darker with more clear-cut edges in Yellow-browed Warbler *P inornatus*; **B** greyish-green upperparts, especially on upper mantle and head; moss green in Yellow-browed; **C** buff supercilium without yellow tones (contra Yellow-browed); **D** relatively clean ear-coverts; darker and more diffuse in Yellow-browed; **E** whitish underparts, without yellow (contra Yellow-browed); **F** faint upper wingbar (may be more prominent but may also be absent almost completely); wing-bars whitish, not yellowish; **G** areas between wing-bars and below second wing-bar without very obvious dark shades of Yellow-browed (but note this feature is variable in both).

**515** Humes Bladkoning / Hume's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei*, Meijndel, Zuid-Holland, 7 november 2017 (Vincent van der Spek/Vrs Meijndel). Aanwijsstrepen wijzen naar bruinige randen aan dekveren, armpennen en handpennen; soms groener, als bij Bladkoning *P inornatus* / arrows point to brownish edges of wing-coverts, primaries and secondaries; sometimes more greenish as in Yellow-browed Warbler *P inornatus*.

### Determinatie en biometrie

Voor determinatie van *humei* zijn goede bronnen beschikbaar (cf Svensson 1992, van Duivendijk 2011, Demongin 2016, Svensson et al 2017). De belangrijkste determinatiekenmerken zijn samengevat in plaat 514-516. In Nederland zijn zeven exemplaren geringd. De biometrie van deze vogels plus die van de balg (Smit & Voous 1959) is samengevat in tabel 2. De maten komen goed overeen met die uit de literatuur.

### Dankwoord

Tom van der Have wordt bedankt voor zijn hulp bij de totstandkoming van dit artikel. Tess van der Voorde (Vogeltrekstation), Peter van Horssen,



**516** Humes Bladkoning / Hume's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei*, Meijndel, Zuid-Holland, 7 november 2017 (Vincent van der Spek/Vrs Meijndel). Zie donkere poten en voeten, bij Bladkoning *P inornatus* vaak oranje, of, bij donkerdere poten, met oranje voeten / note dark legs; in Yellow-browed Warbler *P inornatus* usually orange, or, if darker, with orange feet.

Nico Rensen, Jos Tramper en Jan Wouters verstreken gegevens over ringangsten in Nederland. Het veermateriaal werd geanalyseerd in het lab van Peter de Knijff (LUMC Leiden) en PdK leverde daarvoor figuur 3 aan. Martin Collinson leverde informatie over een genetisch vastgestelde *humei* in Israël. James Lidster en Jan Visser stuurden achtergrondinformatie en Max Berlijn, Johan Buckens en Jan-Hein van Steenis reageerden constructief op een deel van dit artikel dat eerder op [www.dutchbirding.nl](http://www.dutchbirding.nl) verscheen (zie <https://tinyurl.com/y9yg72nh>).

### Summary

**HUME'S LEAF WARBLERS IN THE NETHERLANDS** This article reviews the status of Hume's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei* in the Netherlands, and includes an account of the increase in records, temporal distribution, taxonomy, mtDNA analyses and measurements of birds trapped in the Netherlands, as well as some key identification features. The first Dutch and European record of Hume's dates from 1958. In the early 1990s the species was still a mega rarity but since then the number of records has increased. Up to and including 2017, 67 records (68 birds) have been published by the Dutch rarities committee (CDNA). With an average of two a year over the past 30 years, the species is no longer reviewed from 1 January 2018 onwards. Within these 30 years, the species increased over time, with on average 2.7 a year over the past 20 years and 3.3 over the past 10 years. Between 2011 and 2017, no less than 31 were recorded (46% of all records). Note, however, that despite this increase, both poor (occasionally even blank) and good years occur. The increase of records seems to be related to increased observer coverage, knowledge and awareness. In winter, Hume's often linger for weeks, or even months on end, and are therefore widely twitched. In reality, however, most Hume's actually have been found in autumn. Both the earliest recorded bird (11 October) and the mean migration period (the first 10 days of November) are about a month later than in Yellow-browed Warbler *P. inornatus*. Remarkably, winterers seem to arrive late: all but one bird that was found before mid-November were long gone by December, while all winterers were found from late November onwards. They have been recorded in 10 out of 12 Dutch provinces but by far the most have been found in the coastal provinces. In the northern part of the country, eg, on Wadden Sea islands, nearly all records relate to migrating individuals: only one Hume's ever wintered there. Zuid-Holland has most

records, of both migrating and wintering birds. Further south, Hume's becomes increasingly rare.

Hume's Leaf Warbler has two subspecies, nominate *P. h. humei* and Mandelli's Leaf Warbler *P. h. mandellii*. They differ phenotypically, acoustically (both song and call) and in mtDNA, although not as much as either of them does from Yellow-browed Warbler. Playback experiments show that *humei* and *mandellii* respond to each other's vocalizations, despite a gap of at least 1500 km between their breeding ranges. Given the ranges of *humei* and *mandellii*, the former is the likely vagrant to Europe. This was confirmed by mtDNA analysis of two birds trapped in the Netherlands in 2017. These birds are the first genetically proven *humei* in Europe. Differences in plumage are illustrated in plates 514-516.

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# Pallas's Reed Bunting at Linosa, Italy, in October 2017 with remarks on identification pitfalls of juvenile plumage

Andrea Corso, Ottavio Janni, Michele Viganò, Raimondo Finati & MISC

Starting in spring 2005, a team of experienced birders known as the 'MISC' (acronym for, in Italian: Malati di Isolitudine allo Stadio Cronico) – Andrea Corso, Raimondo Finati, Ottavio Janni, Hans Larsson, Igor Maiorano, Lucio Maniscalco and Michele Viganò – began visiting Linosa to monitor bird migration and search for rarities. Linosa is a small volcanic island that belongs to the Pelagie archipelago, Italy, located in the southern part of the Sicilian Channel, halfway between Africa and Europe. During these years, we documented the regular occurrence of several species formerly considered vagrants in Italy and the Mediterranean basin. To give just a few examples of the yearly numbers of annually recorded rare migrants: Desert Grey Shrike *Lanius elegans* (1-2, *L. e. elegans* more regularly, *L. e. algeriensis* rarely), Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus* (up to 80-90), Red-breasted Flycatcher *Ficedula parva* (up to 35+), Moussier's Redstart *Phoenicurus moussieri* (1-2), Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni* (1-12 since 2010), Trumpeter Finch *Bucanetes githagineus* (up to 12+) and Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla* (up to 12). We also recorded an impressive range of vagrants during our spring and autumn visits, which included several first national records, some of which being great rarities also for the whole of Europe and the Western Palearctic. To mention only a few: the first Rufous Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis meena*, the first and third Sooty Falcons *Falco concolor*, the first Western Olivaceous Warbler *Iduna opaca*, the third Atlas Pied Flycatcher *F. speculigera* and the first Blyth's Pipit *A. godlewskii* for Italy and many other such records.

The autumn of 2017 will be remembered as the best so far. We arrived on Linosa on 15 October just after sunrise and by late morning we had seen a Desert Grey Shrike (*elegans*), several Yellow-browed Warblers, three Red-breasted Flycatchers, two Olive-backed Pipits and a good variety of other migrants. Around noon, AC flushed a small,

delicate bunting from a sorghum patch, which he initially thought to be a Little Bunting on naked-eye views. The bunting then perched on a wire, and through binoculars it immediately appeared different and suggested a major rarity. The general appearance, a 'Dunnock *Prunella modularis*-like' bunting, clearly pointed to one of the very rare far-eastern buntings: Chestnut-eared *E. fucata*, Chestnut *E. rutila*, Black-faced *E. spodocephala* or Pallas's Reed Bunting *E. pallasii*, though if the latter it showed an unfamiliar plumage. After a few seconds, the bird flew off, uttering several sparrow *Passer*-like calls followed by a call more reminiscent of White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*. AC shouted 'Pallas's Reed Bunting!' as the bird flew over MV's head and disappeared towards the sea. Had it gone forever? AC, Francesco Cecere and MV ran towards where the bird flew but could not relocate it. In a case like this, there is only one thing to do: call the other guys, wait for a while, calm down, then return to the site of the original sighting: 'the vagrant re-finding strategy'. We thus went home, had a good Italian-style lunch, then we all (Ciro Amata, AC, FC, Ivan Ellena, RF, OJ, Giovanni Soldato, MV and Nestor Vinals) went back to the spot where the bird was first seen. On approach, we saw it once again flying towards the sea and utter the same two call types as in the morning, completely unlike Common Reed Bunting *E. schoeniclus* or other buntings we are familiar with. After a few frantic minutes, we relocated the bird along the sea shore, where CA and MV could finally start photographing it and AC managed to get a sound recording. The bird then flew back to the sorghum patch, where we all enjoyed excellent views down to a few meters. It appeared to be a bird still largely in juvenile plumage.

In spite of a thorough search, the bird was not relocated the following day. Our record has been accepted by the Italian rarities committee (COI) as the first Pallas's Reed Bunting for Italy. The observation of such a rare plumage in Europe gave us



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**517** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, juvenile, Linosa, Pelagie archipelago, Italy, 15 October 2017 (*Ciro Amata*). Note pinkish lower mandible and bill structure, with straight or almost concave upper mandible, quite like Little Bunting *E pusilla*. **518** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, juvenile, Linosa, Pelagie archipelago, Italy, 15 October 2017 (*Michele Viganò*). Note characteristic drab brownish (almost sandy coloured but still not visibly grey or greyish) lesser wing-coverts, these being warm chestnut or rusty-brown in all plumages in Common Reed Bunting *E schoeniclus*. Note also lack of obvious pale 'braces' on mantle. **519** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, juvenile, Linosa, Pelagie archipelago, Italy, 15 October 2017 (*Michele Viganò*). Typical poorly marked face pattern (plain facial expression), with inconspicuous pale supercilium lacking dark upper border. Note obviously bicoloured bill with characteristic pinkish lower mandible. Note also pale pinkish legs, usually duller/darker in Common Reed Bunting *E schoeniclus*. Heavily streaked breast is typical of juvenile. **520** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, juvenile, Linosa, Pelagie archipelago, Italy, 15 October 2017 (*Ciro Amata*)

an opportunity to study its tricky and challenging field identification. The aim of this paper is to share our impressions, a selection of photographs and brief comments and to review European records. More in depth identification reviews are already available (Riddiford & Broome 1983, Bradshaw 1992, Alström & Olsson 1994, Ouwert-

kerk 1994, Byers et al 1995, Peltomäki 1996, Votier 2001, Howell et al 2014) but here we would like to emphasize the potential pitfalls associated with birds still largely in juvenile plumage, whose appearance can be rather different from the standard 'search image' of Pallas's Reed Bunting that European rarity hunters may have.



FIGURE 1 Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas's Rietgors *Emberiza pallasii*, Common Reed Bunting / Rietgors *E schoeniclus* and Chestnut-eared Bunting / Grijskopgors *E fucata* (Lorenzo Starnini). Pallas's Reed is smallest and most slender of these, with smallest and most minute bill, showing highly characteristic pinkish lower mandible. Plumage of Pallas's Reed is least 'colourful' of these three buntings. Plain face, poorly marked head and streaked underparts are characteristic of juvenile plumage.

**Description (with some comparisons with adult female and first-winter)**

**GENERAL FIELD IMPRESSION** Dunnock-like appearance, with rather dull plumage tone, thus lacking strong rusty or chestnut tinges and grey mostly absent. Appearance strikingly variable depending on position and light, usually looking rather dull, dark and uniform but at times acquiring colder and greyer plumage tones and a more contrasting look. Never really suggesting Common Reed Bunting.

**SIZE** Small bunting, roughly size of Little Bunting but with rather daintier feel. Compared with Little, looking slightly 'puffier', with blunter wing (no primary projection visible) but longer, less square tail.

**HEAD** Crown heavily streaked. Furthermore, head rather nondescript with only weak and incomplete supercilium, rather well-marked moustachial stripe, clean and obvious pale sub-moustachial area and blackish gular stripe and triangle. Different pattern than in adult female and first-winter, in which crown less streaked and more uniform.

**UPPERPARTS** Mantle very streaked, with both dark and pale lines well defined and marked. Upperparts at some time and position not clearly showing pale stripes over mantle but rather very defined dark streaking over dull-brownish background, therefore not showing very obvi-

ous pale 'lines' (or 'braces') over mantle and pale rump.

**UNDERPARTS** Rather pale, off-white or just slightly tinged creamy, rather abraded and bleached, with obvious and well-defined dark streaking chiefly over breast area, less so along upper flank. Adult and first-winter normally having narrower and less extensive streaking.

**WING** Rather rounded and short, with pretty short primary projection. No grey or lead-grey detectable anywhere in upperwing-coverts, with rather well visible and contrasting creamy and brownish-rusty fringing to most feathers. Tertiaries particularly well visible and contrasting, with typical bunting pattern – black broad centre and pale brownish-rusty fringe. Greater coverts with black centre and creamy-white tip and fringe. On open wing, lesser coverts brownish-drab, dull and not particularly rich in colour. General impression of rather dull brownish wing, with two narrow pale wing-bars, whereas adult and first-winter having paler wing, with broader pale fringing in all feathers and paler, cleaner and wider pale wing-bars.

**BILL** Small, rather straight and delicate, at some point appearing almost concave just as in Little Bunting (plate 517 and 520). Strongly bi-coloured, with clean pink lower mandible and darkish upper mandible.

**VOICE** Often and repeatedly uttering low-pitched, subdued *cheep, cheep*, recalling call of Eurasian Tree Spar-

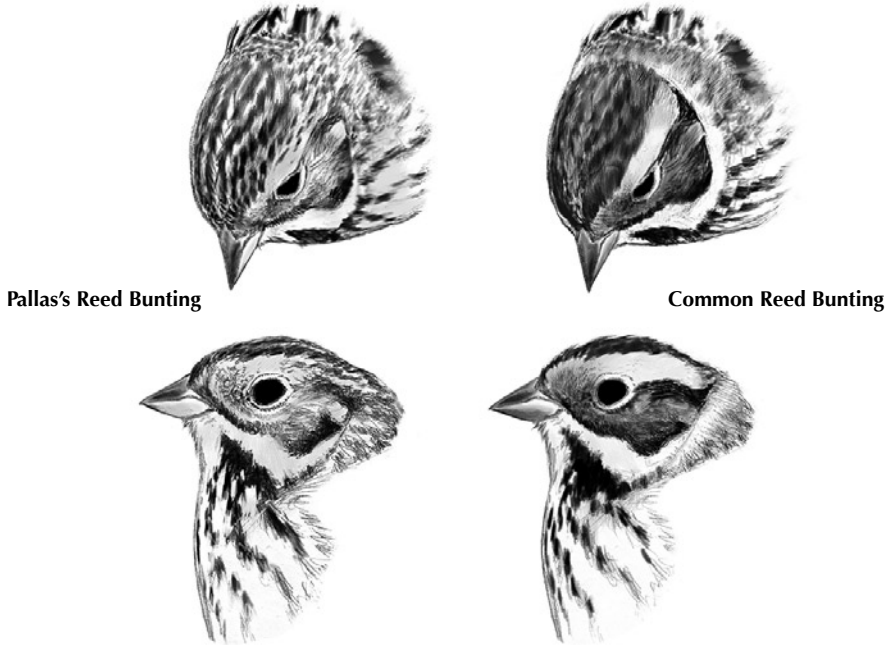


FIGURE 2 Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasii* and Common Reed Bunting / Rietgors *E schoeniclus* (Lorenzo Starnini). Note key characters for identification of juvenile and first-winter Pallas's Reed: **1** obviously bi-coloured bill with much paler lower mandible in Pallas's Reed, more uniform in Common Reed, in which lower mandible is of same colour as upper mandible or only slightly paler; **2** less defined pale supercilium, often faint behind eye, lacking dark upper border usually shown by Common Reed. On frontal view, Pallas's Reed shows very uniformly streaked crown, Common Reed usually has dark sides to crown and paler central stripe. Beware that a few fresh juvenile Common Reed may lack dark crown sides, showing uniformly narrowly streaked crown as Pallas's Reed.

row *P montanus*, both while perched and feeding and in flight; also higher-pitched and louder *tsleep*, or *trsleep*, recalling White Wagtail or even less explosive and less harsh version of call of Richard's Pipit *A richardi*. Recording available on <https://www.xeno-canto.org/390181>.

### Field identification criteria

Unlike the search image that many birders have of adult or first-winter Pallas's Reed Bunting, juveniles are dull, darkish birds, with rather dark streaked underparts, mostly over the breast, and to a lesser extent, the flanks. The pale 'lines' or 'braces' on the upperparts, usually reported in field guides as typical of Pallas's Reed, are narrower, less marked and less obvious than in adult and first-winter plumage. Juveniles also lack the pale rump, which is instead well streaked, although on average the streaks are narrow and there is still a contrast between the paler rump and darker uppertail-coverts. The juvenile plumage is normally lost by mid-September, sometimes by late August, when first-winter plumage is ac-

quired after the first partial (post-juvenile) moult. This moult mostly involves the head, breast, lesser and median coverts, a variable number of greater coverts (or sometimes none) and often the whole mantle (Svensson 1992, Cramp & Perrins 1994). It differs from first-winter plumage by the head pattern, the colour and pattern of upperwing-coverts, the colour and pattern of rump and uppertail-coverts, the streaked breast and, partially, flank and by the shape of the tail feathers (very pointed and narrower in juvenile). First-winter birds show a head pattern like adults (male or female), visible grey on lesser coverts, paler fringing (less rusty) to median and greater coverts, and paler rump and uppertail-coverts (Lewington et al 1991, Cramp & Perrins 1994). In some vagrants, eg, the Fair Isle bird of late September 1981 (see below) and our bird, the moult takes place later. Likewise, some birds from Eastern Asia are still largely in juvenile plumage by early October (Paul Leader pers comm).

The best field marks are given below.



**521** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, juvenile, Beidaihe, Hebei, China, 10 September 2013 (*Gabriel Norevik*). Perfect example of juvenile plumage. Note poorly marked face and head, with no dark side to crown, and pinkish lower mandible. Ear-coverts are often (or always) more completely bordered dark in juvenile and first-winter Common Reed Bunting *E schoeniclus*. **522** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, juvenile, Beidaihe, Hebei, China, 10 September 2013 (*Gabriel Norevik*). Same bird as in plate 521. Note drab brownish (almost sandy coloured) lesser coverts, quite unlike rustier, warmer lesser coverts of Common Reed Bunting *E schoeniclus*.





**523** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, first-winter female, Beidaihe, Hebei, China, 26 October 2012 (*Gabriel Norevik*). Perfect first-winter, with plain, pale face and head, lacking dark borders to crown side and ear-coverts. Under certain light conditions, lower mandible may not appear pinkish in some individuals but is always paler than in Common Reed Bunting *E schoeniclus*. Note that mantle now shows typical obvious pale 'braces'. **524** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, first-winter female, Beidaihe, Hebei, China, 26 October 2012 (*Gabriel Norevik*). Same bird as in plate 523. Lesser coverts are still not bluish grey (or blue-grey as in adult male), yet they are duller and drab compared with chestnut or rusty-brown lesser coverts of Common Reed Bunting *E schoeniclus*.





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**525** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, juvenile, Mai Po Nature Reserve, Hong Kong, China, 7 October 2014 (*Paul J Leader*). Note pale, plain face, pink lower mandible and weak supercilium. **526** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, juvenile, Mai Po Nature Reserve, Hong Kong, China, 7 October 2014 (*Paul J Leader*). Same bird as in plate 525. Mantle of juveniles appears heavily streaked, rump and uppertail-coverts are slightly paler but streaked as well, unlike first-winter and adult birds. Note drab-brownish sandy coloured lesser coverts. **527** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, first-winter female, Mai Po Nature Reserve, Hong Kong, China, 1 November 2010 (*Paul J Leader*). This first-winter already shows rather grey lesser coverts and very clean and pale rump and uppertail-coverts. Note pinkish lower mandible and almost Little Bunting *E pusilla*-like bill. **528** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, first-winter, Mai Po Nature Reserve, Hong Kong, China, 6 December 2012 (*Paul J Leader*). Often, lesser coverts are completely concealed by scapulars and mantle feathers, as shown here; therefore, bill shape and colour, rump and uppertail pattern and vocalizations are essential.

### *Bill*

The first field mark to attract attention is the tiny bill with straight upper mandible, in some angles almost concave as in Little Bunting. It appears small and minute, usually short, although it is slightly longer and more pointed in some individuals (plate 517-531). Common Reed Bunting is one of the passerines with the most variable bill structure (Cramp & Perrins 1994, Svensson et al 2015), from heavy and with a heavily curved upper mandible, giving a convex-shaped bill, to a

much lighter, smaller, delicate bill with an almost straight upper mandible. Some of the smallest-billed Common Reed have bills almost perfectly matching that of average Pallas's Reed Bunting (plate 534). Bill colour is therefore the single best field character for juvenile and first-winter birds – a darker upper mandible strikingly contrasting with a pink or pinkish-flesh lower mandible. In Common Reed, the bill is either uniformly darkish-grey, or more often bi-coloured, with dark blackish upper mandible and paler greyish or



**529** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, first-winter, Happy Island, Bohai Sea, Tangshan, Hebei, China, 8 October 2005 (*Sebastien Reeber*) **530** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, male, winter plumage, Happy Island, Bohai Sea, Tangshan, Hebei, China, 8 October 2005 (*Sebastien Reeber*). In this winter plumage male, lesser coverts are strikingly and uniquely lead-grey. **531** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, first-winter, Happy Island, Bohai Sea, Tangshan, Hebei, China, 8 October 2005 (*Sebastien Reeber*). Close view of head to show bill structure and colour and head pattern.

horn-grey lower mandible. In some Common Reed – in both juveniles and first-winters, chiefly of the eastern taxa (but also in some European birds), the lower mandible may show a yellowish or yellowish-pink tinge, and could appear rather pale under field conditions (plate 534). However, the lower mandible is never distinctly pinkish as in Pallas's Reed.

#### *Head pattern*

In juvenile Pallas's Reed Bunting, the head looks rather uniform and less patterned than in Common Reed Bunting, with uniformly streaked crown lacking the darkish lateral crown-stripes or at most showing just a hint, unlike Common Reed in

which the lateral crown stripes are generally quite visible. In juvenile Pallas's Reed, the supercilium is strongest just above the eye, being suffused and narrow behind it, almost merging with the pencil-like dark streaks on the crown. It looks 'open' and broad over the lores, while in Common Reed, the supercilium is clean and well marked from over the lores (usually darker) to behind the eye (further enhanced by the lateral crown-stripes), giving the face a more contrasting expression. Care must be taken when facing a freshly fledged juvenile Common Reed, as the crown in some birds may appear uniformly streaked, lacking the darker lateral crown mark and paler central stripe, and thus very similar to that of a juvenile Pallas's Reed. This



plumage is usually lost quickly, being moulted soon after fledging, but the odd late juvenile may turn up anywhere. It must be stressed, however, that a few juvenile/first-winter Common Reed may show an almost identical head and face pattern.

#### *Upperparts*

Rather well streaked, with obvious dark and pale lines or stripes. However, it is helpful to remember that compared with adult and first-winter birds, the pale 'braces' on the back – often touted as a major field mark – are not as striking in birds still mostly in juvenile plumage, and under some viewing conditions may not differ all that much from a well marked Common Reed Bunting.

#### *Wing-coverts*

The lesser wing-coverts are rather brownish or drab-brown in juvenile Pallas's Reed Bunting; these are always rustier and brighter in any Common Reed Bunting and usually chestnut tinged. Juveniles have no obvious greyish or grey median coverts before moulting into first-winter plumage (Lewington et al 1991, Cramp & Perrins 1994; Paul Leader & Gabriel Norevik pers comm; pers obs; contra Shirihai & Svensson 2018).

#### *Underparts*

The underparts of fresh juveniles are clearly washed with pale creamy buff over the flanks, and more intensely over the breast and neck sides. Our bird was worn and faded, therefore the flanks and belly were a much paler off-white.

#### **Distribution and occurrence in WP**

Three subspecies of Pallas's Reed Bunting are recognized (*E p polaris*, *E p pallasi* and *E p lydiae*). *E p polaris* breeds from north-eastern European Russia across Siberia to the Okhotsk Sea, Chukchi peninsula and northern Kamchatka. The two other subspecies breed from the Tien Shan mountains to southern Siberia and probably also in north-eastern China. The species winters in China, southern Ussuriland, Russia, and Korea (Copete 2018). It has been recorded as vagrant in Alaska, USA, Hong Kong, China, and Taiwan (Howell et al 2014, Copete 2018). Main autumn passage in southern Siberia and north-eastern China takes place from mid-September to late October. Wintering areas are occupied mainly between October and March, with some individuals still present until May. Main spring migration is during the second half of April, and in central Siberia mostly between May and early June (Copete 2018).



**532** Pallas's Reed Bunting / Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi*, Happy Island, Bohai Sea, Tangshan, Hebei, China, 8 October 2005 (*Sebastien Reeber*). Note rump and uppertail pattern, often a good field character but not helpful at all in juvenile plumage and before post-juvenile moult. Additionally, Common Reed Bunting *E schoeniclus* can sometimes be paler than usual and show much paler rump than normal.

There are now eight records of Pallas's Reed Bunting in the WP (outside Russia): four in Britain and one each in Belarus, Italy, Portugal and Sweden (table 1). Both Fair Isle birds were considered to show characters of the highly migratory *E p polaris* (Pennington et al 2004).

#### **Final remarks**

As our bird and the Fair Isle bird in 1981 show, vagrant Pallas's Reed Buntings can occur in Europe in mostly juvenile plumage. In light of this, it is worth keeping in mind that potential vagrants may not necessarily look like the standard 'search image' for this species, which is based on birds that have completed their post-juvenile moult. The key points are: **1** when facing a potential out of range Pallas's Reed, be aware that they might lack a contrastingly paler rump; **2** breast and underparts are unmarked and very pale in adults and some first-winters but they are streaked in juveniles, often markedly so; **3** bill shape and size are helpful but



**533** Common Reed Bunting / Rietgors *Emberiza schoeniclus schoeniclus*, adult female, Torre Flavia, Roma, Lazio, Italy, 18 October 2007 (Enzo Savo/INSPIRA). Note richer coloured wing-coverts in this species (at any age), with median and lesser coverts rich rusty-chestnut, unlike drabber, duller colour in Pallas's Reed Bunting *E pallasii*.

**534** Common Reed Bunting / Rietgors *Emberiza schoeniclus schoeniclus*, first-winter, Torre Flavia, Roma, Lazio, Italy, 28 October 2007 (Enzo Savo/INSPIRA). Small-billed bird. Note that some smallest billed European birds may have bill shape almost identical to Pallas's Reed Bunting *E pallasii*, with upper mandible just barely more convex. Colour of lower mandible can be extremely hard to assess and could, under field conditions, appear almost as pale as in Pallas's Reed; usually it is tinged greyish but can occasionally look pinkish-horn. These birds may require extreme care and close scrutiny, with sound recordings of call being essential.



some extremely small-billed Common Reed Bunting could overlap; **4** over-reliance on the presence of the pale mantle streaks ('braces') may be misleading for birds in mostly juvenile plumage, where this feature is not as obvious as in adult and first-winter birds; additionally, it should be kept in mind that this feature is variable in Common Reed as well, with some birds approaching the typical pattern of Pallas's Reed; **5** the bluish-grey lesser coverts are not shown by juveniles (and quite difficult to see in the field in adult and first-winter birds) although dull, drab-brownish lesser coverts as opposed to warm-chestnut ones are indicative and may help; and **6** focus first on the colour of the lower mandible and on vocalizations, as the call is by far the best character for a firm field identification. Other rare buntings should be considered as well, for example juvenile/first-winter Chestnut-eared Bunting which at first glance could look similar: the obviously rusty scapulars and ear-coverts, as well as the very similarly patterned/coloured bill (but stronger and longer) should easily distinguish it from even the richest coloured fresh juvenile Pallas's Reed.

TABLE 1 Records of Pallas's Reed Bunting *Emberiza pallasi* in Western Palearctic outside Russia (Broad & Oddie 1980, Rogers & the Rarities Committee 1994, Moore & Armelin 1999, Gritschik et al 2002, Slack 2009, Hudson & the Rarities Committee 2011; Dutch Birding 38: 468, plate 712, 2016; this paper). A report from Spain and two reports from Norway were not accepted, as an eastern race of Common Reed Bunting *E. schoeniclus* could not be excluded (Slack 2009). A report from Italy (female on 13 January 1997) mentioned by Slack (2009) was not accepted by the Italian rarities committee.

<i>Belarus (1)</i> 29 March 2001, Knyaz'-Bor, Zhitkovichy, Gomel, singing male	9-10 June 2010, Dogger Bank, at sea, female on vessel, died on 10 June
<i>Britain (4)</i> 29 September to 11 October 1976, Fair Isle, Shetland, Scotland, adult female, ringed on 10 October 17-18 September 1981, Fair Isle, Shetland, Scotland, juvenile, ringed on 17 September 17 October 1990, Icklesham, Sussex, England, first-winter male, ringed. This bird was not identified until two years later when the ringers read the identification paper by Bradshaw (1992).	<i>Italy (1)</i> 15 October 2017, Linosa, Pelagie archipelago, juvenile <i>Portugal (1)</i> 12 and 19 January and 4 February 1997, Lagoa de Santo André, Setúbal, first-winter female <i>Sweden (1)</i> 13-16 October 2016, Horssten, Uppland, first-winter (with some retained juvenile feathers)

## Acknowledgements

We wish to thank Fabio Tuccio for his help with logistics on Linosa since our first visit. Łukasz Ławicki kindly compiled the table with the European records. Paul J Leader, Gabriel Norevik and Sebastien Reeber are warmly thanked for promptly sending us many photographs for reference, some of which are reproduced in the paper. Ciro Amata, Francesco Cecere, Ivan Ellena, Giovanni Soldato and Nestor Vinals observed the bunting with us and shared their impressions. Francesco Corrà and Nanette Roland (Leica Camera AG) are thanked for the optical instruments supplied to AC.

## Samenvatting

PALLAS' RIETGORS OP LINOSA, ITALIË, IN OKTOBER 2017 MET AANDACHT VOOR HERKENNINGSVALKUILEN VAN JUVENIEL KLEED Op 15 oktober 2017 werd op Linosa, Italië, een Pallas' Rietgors *Emberiza pallasi* waargenomen. De vogel was nog grotendeels in juveniel kleed en daardoor was de herkenning lastig. Hij werd in eerste instantie herkend aan de roep. Weinig later kon hij worden gefotografeerd en het geluid opgenomen. Hierdoor was het mogelijk om in detail dit weinig bekende kleed te bestuderen en te vergelijken met foto's van gevangen vogels in de hand en met museumbalgen. De determinatiekenmerken worden samengevat met nadruk op de verschillen met het meer klassieke zoekbeeld van een eerste-winter Pallas' – contrasterende bleke stuit, opvallende 'bretels' op de mantel en grijze kleine dekveren – dat bij de meeste Europese vogelaars waarschijnlijk beter bekend is. Het juveniele kleed wordt doorgaans al snel (in augustus-september) tijdens de postjuveniele rui geruid naar eerste-winterkleed. Sommige individuen, zoals is vastgesteld bij geringde vogels in Oost-Azië, en dus ook

de vogel op Linosa houden het juveniele kleed echter langer, tot in oktober. De belangrijkste kenmerken waarmee een laat ruiende juveniele Pallas' in Europa is te onderscheiden van een Rietgors *E. schoeniclus* zijn: **1** de duidelijk tweekleurige snavel met een rozeachtige ondersnavel; **2** de vaalbruine kleine vleugeldekveren, zonder de warm kastanjebruine tinten zoals bij alle Rietgorzen; en **3** de kenmerkende musachtige roep, herinnerend aan die van Ringmus *Passer montanus* (het beste veldkenmerk).

Er zijn zeven eerdere gevallen in de WP (buiten Rusland): in Brittannië (vier) en in Portugal, Wit-Rusland en Zweden (elk één) (tabel 1).

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# Potential origin of White-crowned Wheatear in Denmark and Germany in 2010

*Marc I Förschler, Christian C Voigt & Franz Bairlein*

**T**he breeding range of White-crowned Wheatear *Oenanthe leucopyga* lies almost entirely in northern Africa and the southern Middle East. Two subspecies are currently recognised: nominate *O l leucopyga* (hereafter *leucopyga*) occurs from western and central Sahara eastwards to Egypt and Sudan, Eritrea and Djibouti, and *O l ernesti* (hereafter *ernesti*) occurs in southern Israel, southern Jordan, and from north-eastern Egypt (Sinai) southwards to central and eastern Arabia (del Hoyo et al 2005, Gill & Donsker 2018). In general, White-crowned Wheatears are described as largely sedentary. However, in north-western Africa birds may move south in winter, in Israel young birds disperse south out of the country as well for the winter and also in the Arabian peninsula birds wander occasionally well outside their usual breeding range (del Hoyo et al 2005).

As a vagrant, the species has occurred in several countries of the Middle East: Bahrain, Iran, Iraq,

Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Syria, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates (Mitchell 2017). There are 26 records in Europe and Macaronesia, most of them in the Mediterranean countries. Exceptional records far north are known, eg, in Britain and Poland. In Europe and Macaronesia, the species was found in all months from January to August (excluding July), with a clear peak in March and April (table 1).

Note that several individuals have been classified as probable escape or escape. An adult male at Buchenhüll near Eichstätt, Bayern, Germany, on 9-13 May 1986 (Wüst 1986, Glutz von Blotzheim et al 1988, Karcher & Siering 1988) is currently classified as of unknown origin (category D; Barthel & Helbig 2005). There are two recent records from the Netherlands: a male at Oegstgeest, Zuid-Holland, from 23 September to 3 December 2014, which was not accepted as wild bird due to the poor condition of its plumage and toes; in the same year, a proven escape (wearing a red



535 White-crowned Wheatear / Witkruintapuit *Oenanthe leucopyga*, second-calendar year, Saltbæk Vig, Sjælland, Denmark, 1 July 2010 (Klaus Malling Olsen) 536-537 White-crowned Wheatear / Witkruintapuit *Oenanthe leucopyga*, second-calendar year, Wremen, Niedersachsen, Germany, 23 September 2010 (Jens Voß). Same bird as in plate 535.

ring) was photographed on Ameland, Friesland, on 2 November (Haas et al 2015). A recent bird, observed in gardens in Lincolnshire, England, on 1-2 December 2017 was also a confirmed escape (for other reports in Britain and Ireland, see Slack (2009)).

In this article we discuss the potential origin of an additional record of the same White-crowned Wheatear observed in 2010 in both Denmark and Germany.

#### Record in Denmark and Germany in 2010

On 30 June 2010, a second-year White-crowned Wheatear was discovered in Saltbæk Vig, Sjælland,

Denmark, and stayed in the area until 3 July. Afterwards, it disappeared and left the observers behind with mixed feelings about its origin. Luckily, almost two months later it reappeared 290 km south-west of the Danish site at the beach of Wremen, Niedersachsen, Germany, where it was first seen and photographed on 28 August and subsequently observed regularly from 18 September onwards. The German bird was identified as identical with the Danish one due to some characteristic small deformations of one claw on the right leg, visible on several photographs (plate 535-537; cf Dutch Birding 32: 267, plate 355, 273, plate 370, 344, plate 475-476, 2010). The wheatear was

Potential origin of White-crowned Wheatear in Denmark and Germany in 2010

TABLE 1 Records of White-crowned Wheatear *Oenanthe leucopyga* in Europe and Macaronesia (Brown 1986, Muzinic 2002, Tipper & Beale 2002, Smit & Keizer 2005, Jiguet & CAF 2007, Hazevoet 2010, Deutsche Avifaunistische Kommission 2012, Hansen 2013, Marchal 2017, Pietrasz et al 2017; Dutch Birding 40: 193, plate 255, 2018; Jochen Dierschke in litt, Raymond Galea in litt, Ottavio Janni in litt, Nikos Probonas in litt, Colin Richardson in litt)

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<i>Britain</i> (1) 2-5 June 1982, Kessingland, Suffolk, England, male	<i>Germany</i> (1) 28 August to 6 November 2010, Wremen, Cuxhaven, Niedersachsen, second-calendar year, ringed on 22 September, found dead on 10 November 2010, specimen at Landesmuseum Natur und Mensch Oldenburg, Niedersachsen, Germany
<i>Canary Islands</i> (2) 10 January 2005, La Palma, first-year 28 March 2018, Costa Teguisse, Lanzarote, first-winter	<i>Greece</i> (1) 15 April 1993, between Lakkoi and Omalos, Chania, Crete, adult male
<i>Cape Verde Islands</i> (1) 16 January 2005, Cidade Velha, Santiago, first-winter	<i>Italy</i> (4) 11 May 2010, Siracusa, Sicily 30 April 2013, Civitavecchia, Lazio, adult 30 April to 2 May 2013, Marettimo, Sicily 26 March 2017, Campo Gallo, Tuscania, Lazio, second-calendar year
<i>Croatia</i> (1) 1-4 August 2001, Pelješac peninsula	<i>Malta</i> (2) 18 April 1872, tal-Kapuccini, specimen at Florence Museum, Italy 25 March 2016, Xaghra l-Hamra, male
<i>Cyprus</i> (8) 11-24 March 1970, Akrotiri, adult 28 May 1985, Temple of Apollo, Curium, adult 30 March 1993, Avagas Gorge 22 February 1999, Cape Greco, adult male 12-23 April 2000, Baths of Aphrodite and Fontana Amorosa 13 April 2005, Mandria-Nikokleia, immature 6-10 March 2008, Natura Beach Hotel, Polis 23-26 February 2016, Cape Greco, immature	<i>Poland</i> (1) 5-17 May 2015, Winduga, Kujawsko-Pomorskie, second-calendar year
<i>Denmark</i> (1) 30 June to 3 July 2010, Saltbæk Vig, Sjælland, second-calendar year (same individual as in Germany)	<i>Portugal</i> (1) 25 March 2001, Mexilhoeira Grande, Algarve, probably first-summer
<i>France</i> (2) 21 April 1884, southern France, first-summer, specimen at Yorkshire Museum of Natural History, England 1-5 May 2015, Palavas-les-Flots, Hérault, second-calendar year male	

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ringed on 22 September and stayed until early November, when it was found dead on 10 November after probably being killed by a cat (last time seen alive on 6 November). The specimen is preserved at Landesmuseum Natur und Mensch Oldenburg, Niedersachsen, Germany. During its stay at Wremen, it performed a complete moult of its plumage. Some dropped-out unmoulted old feathers were collected for further analyses when the bird was ringed. The record was accepted earlier by both the German and Danish rarities committee as a bird in category A (Deutsche Avifaunistische Kommission 2012, Neergaard 2013). However, the Kommission Artenliste der Vögel Deutschlands der Deutsche Ornithologen-Gesellschaft (German bird list committee of the German Ornithological Society) has recently reviewed the status and has now accepted it as a bird in category E (escape; Thorsten Krüger in litt) and the Danish

rarities committee has re-opened the file about the categorization of the Danish record (Andreas Bruun Kristensen in litt).

### Stable isotopes analysis

Stable isotopes may help to reveal information about the origin of migratory birds, since there is a latitudinal signal contained in the ratio of stable isotope in the feather tissues. Most of the hydrogen (deuterium) in the feathers is linked to the nutrition during feather growth.

In order to obtain a hint on the geo-spatial origin of the White-crowned Wheatear, we determined the deuterium value for one primary, and compared the value with previously collected tail-feathers of White-crowned sampled by us on breeding grounds in Israel (n=5, June-July 2007, Reuven Yosef), Jordan (n=4, August 2007, MIF) and Morocco (n=7, April 2008, MIF). Stable-hydrogen

isotope ratios ( $\delta D$ ) of feathers were analysed at the stable isotope laboratory of Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, Berlin, Germany. A small section of feather tissue was clipped from the tip of the feather ( $350 \pm 7 \mu g$ ) and encapsulated in silver capsules. Keratinous lab standards were used to determine the  $\delta D$  of non-exchangeable H2 (Wassenaar & Hobson 2003).

Comparing the average isotope value of one feather from the White-crowned Wheatear from Wremen ( $-42.5$ ;  $n=1$ ) with the birds collected in the Middle East ( $-27.4 \pm 15.9$ ;  $n=9$ ) (mean  $\pm$  SD) and north-western Africa ( $-37.2 \pm 14.7$ ;  $n=7$ ), the value was closer to the north-western African samples.

**Morphometry**

Additionally, we compared the morphological character traits in *leucopyga* and *ernesti* from various European museums (table 2) according to the methods of Leisler & Winkler (1985, 1991). Thereafter, *leucopyga* and *ernesti* differ significantly in wing length, tail length, tail fork, bill length, bill height and the maximal extent of black on the central tail-feather, however, with a substantial overlap between these measurements (table 2). In two of the measurements – the extent of black on the central tail-feather and the tail length – the bird from Wremen seems to belong to *leucopyga* as well.

**Conclusions**

According to our results from stable isotopes analysis and morphometry, the White-crowned Wheatear showed a deuterium signature similar to conspecifics from its native range in Africa and it

seems that it belonged more likely to *leucopyga*. In the 10 days prior to the discovery in Denmark, there was a strong Azores high, which might have been of influence on the occurrence of the bird. The bird of the single accepted British record (category A) has been suggested to have arrived as well on the back of a conveyor belt of winds straight from northern Africa (Brown 1986). Also Jiguet & CAF (2006) assumed that the first French record can be traced back to a wild bird, which was possibly supported by strong southern winds. However, in these cases there is no final proof that those birds really used these wind. Nevertheless, the long migration of the bird from Denmark to Wremen (290 km south-west) remains remarkable and, interestingly, the direction of this movement ( $217.3^\circ$ ) leads in a prolongation directly over Spain to potential breeding grounds of *leucopyga* in western Morocco, Western Sahara and Mauritania ( $>3000$  km distance); together with the isotope values and the tail pattern and tail length, this might be a good hint for a possible north-western African origin.

However, we cannot exclude that the bird has been transported either passively (eg, completely or partially ship assisted) or by illegal bird trade. Additionally, the deuterium values could have been caused in the worst case also by the use of food (crickets, locust) in captivity from southern origin, which might cause similar isotope values. Whether the bird has to be treated as a record of category A or rather category D has to be further clarified by the German and Danish rarities and/or bird list committees.

TABLE 2 Comparison of morphometric variables between eastern White-crowned Wheatear *Oenanthe leucopyga ernesti* and western White-crowned Wheatear *O. leucopyga*, by means of ANOVA. Given are means with standard error (SE), minimal and maximal values, F-values and significance. Bird of Wremen (as measured by Kay Fuhrmann) showed *leucopyga* (LEU) values for TL and BTF1. Measurements: (WL) wing length (distance between carpal joint and tip of flattened wing); (WW) wing width (distance between carpal joint and tip of longest secondary); (TL) tail length (from insertion of central pair of feathers to tip of longest tail-feather); (TF) tail fork (difference from longest to shortest inner tail-feather); (BL) bill length (from tip to skull); (BW) bill width (at rear end of nostrils); (BH) bill height (maximum depth); (TaL) tarsus length (from notch of intertarsal joint to lower edge of last complete scale); (BTF1) maximal extent of black on central tail-feather (t1); (BTF6) maximal extent of black on outer tail-feather (t6).

variables	<i>ernesti</i> (n=17)			<i>leucopyga</i> (n=25)			F	significance	Wremen bird value
	mean $\pm$ SE	min	max	mean $\pm$ SE	min	max			
WL	107.6 $\pm$ 1.1	100	114	103.4 $\pm$ 0.8	94	110	10.40	p=0.003	104.2
WW	75.7 $\pm$ 0.8	70.0	79.0	74.0 $\pm$ 0.5	65.0	79.0	3.39	p=0.073	73
TL	72.2 $\pm$ 0.7	67.9	77.6	69.5 $\pm$ 0.8	63.5	81.3	5.94	p=0.019	<b>67 (LEU)</b>
TF	4.8 $\pm$ 0.4	2	7	3.2 $\pm$ 0.2	1	6	12.95	p=0.001	5
BL	22.8 $\pm$ 0.3	20.1	25.6	21.7 $\pm$ 0.2	20.7	23.7	13.51	p=0.001	20.7
BW	6.1 $\pm$ 0.1	5.5	6.9	6.1 $\pm$ 0.1	5.6	6.7	0.31	p=0.581	5.3
BH	5.1 $\pm$ 0.1	4.5	5.6	4.8 $\pm$ 0.1	4	5.3	4.58	p=0.039	5.2
TaL	26.4 $\pm$ 0.3	24	28	26.1 $\pm$ 0.2	22.9	28.9	0.66	p=0.422	27.4
BTF1	43.2 $\pm$ 1.2	40	52	36.9 $\pm$ 0.7	32	44	22.46	p<0.001	<b>35 (LEU)</b>
BTF6	1.4 $\pm$ 1.4	0	13	2.1 $\pm$ 1.1	0	19	0.13	p=0.721	3.3

## Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Jochen Dierschke and Heiko Schmaljohann (Institute of Avian Research, Wilhelmshaven) for collecting feathers of the White-crowned Wheatear during the ringing session. Further, we thank Oliver Nüssen, Reiner Petersen and Erik Roedenbeck for the collection of the remains and Kay Fuhrmann (Landesmuseum Oldenburg) for measuring morphometric parameters of the skin.

## Samenvatting

MOGELIJKE HERKOMST VAN WITKRUINTAPUIT IN DENEMARKE EN DUITSLAND IN 2010 In 2010 overzomerde een Witkruintapuit *Oenanthe leucopyga* in Saltbæk Vig, Sjælland, Denemarken (30 juni tot 3 juli), en vervolgens 290 km naar het zuidwesten in Wremen, Niedersachsen, Duitsland, op 28 augustus en van 18 september tot en met 6 november (laatste waarneming, de vogel werd op 10 november dood gevonden). We onderzochten de mogelijke herkomst met behulp van een stabiele-isotopenanalyse (deuterium) en een vergelijking van morfologische kenmerken. De isotoopwaarde lag het dichtst bij die van monsters van de Noordwest-Afrikaanse populatie (*O. leucopyga*). Ook de vergelijking van morfologische kenmerken wees op *leucopyga* (tabel 2).

Het blijft echter onzeker of de vogel in Denemarken op eigen kracht arriveerde of daar passief terecht kwam (bijvoorbeeld aan boord van een schip of via illegale vogelhandel). Echter, de migratie van de vogel van Denemarken naar Duitsland in zuidwestelijke richting is opmerkelijk en weerspiegelt mogelijk terugtrek in de richting van het gebied van herkomst.

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The German rarities committee (Deutsche Avifaunistische Kommission – DAK), has commented on the categorization of the German White-crowned Wheatear as follows:

‘In Germany, there are currently two records of White-crowned Wheatear *Oenanthe leucopyga*: at Eichstätt, Bayern, on 9-13 May 1986 (Karcher & Siering 1988); and at Wremen, Niedersachsen, from 28 August to 6 November 2010 (Deutsche Avifaunistische Kommission 2012).

The Eichstätt bird was first assigned by the German bird list committee of the German Ornithological Society (Kommission Artenliste der Vögel Deutschlands der Deutschen Ornithologen-Gesellschaft) in category D (unknown origin; Barthel & Helbig 2005). This presumed adult bird stayed in a garden at the edge of a small village surrounded by agricultural fields.

The second bird, as discussed in the paper above, was assigned in category A by the Danish rarities committee (Neergaard 2013). The German rarities committee had provisionally treated the Wremen bird as belonging to category A (Deutsche Avifaunistische Kommission 2012), as no decision from the German bird list committee was available at that time. Recently, the German bird list committee assigned White-crowned Wheatear in category E (escape) in the upcoming new *Checklist of the birds of Germany* (Thorsten Krüger & Peter Barthel in litt), so including both German records. The DAK disagrees with this decision for the reasons detailed below.

White-crowned Wheatear is generally regarded as a sedentary species (Collar 2018), although Thévenot et al (2003) suggested southward movements of few individuals breeding in Morocco during autumn. Further, there are records of White-crowned Wheatears outside its breeding range, mainly in the Mediterranean region, but also along the coast of Mauritania, in Nigeria, Europe, and the Canary Islands (see also table 1 above). Some vagrant White-crowned Wheatears had therefore obviously crossed large bodies of water several times, indicating that at least some individuals are capable of flying several 100s of kilometres non-stop. The two northernmost records so far were in Britain and Poland. The responsible national rarities committees assigned both records in category A.

A natural occurrence of White-crowned Wheatear in Denmark in late June seems unrealistic at first glance, because most records in the Mediterranean region were between February and May. The three northernmost birds (Bayern, Britain, Poland) were all recorded in May and the beginning of June. Since it is unknown how long the bird had stayed in Denmark before discovery (it was observed in an area closed for the public) or elsewhere, the bird could have potentially arrived much earlier. If so, also this record would fit with the temporal occurrence

of this species in Central Europe.

As reported above by Marc Förschler and colleagues, the results of a stable isotope analyses indicated an origin of the bird from breeding areas in north-western Africa. Furthermore, the provisional subspecies identification based on measurements suggests the bird's origin from this area. Obviously, the bird was able to fly from Denmark to Germany (c 300 km). Prolonging this route leads exactly to north-western Africa, its presumed breeding area. Thus, the bird directed its general flight direction homewards (Deutsche Avifaunistische Kommission 2012). Similar deuterium values could have originated by exclusively consuming food with the ‘same’ isotope composition as found in the breeding areas in north-western Africa. This scenario, however, seems unlikely because bird breeders usually do not import food like mealworms from this area but simply buy it from local companies. Whether the bird could have reached Denmark ship-assisted remains unknown. Recently, there have been several proven escaped White-crowned Wheatears in the Netherlands and in Britain, all in autumn. Whether the Danish and German record could be attributed to such an escaped bird is hard to rule out. Nevertheless, it then needed to be freshly imported from the breeding areas (at least after the last performed moult), because of the deuterium value characteristic for the breeding area in north-western Africa. There is further no indication that the bird had been in captivity for long.

At the discovery site in Denmark, the plumage/feathers of the bird were in very good condition. On its second day in Denmark, the bird was injured at one leg, but it was proven by videos that this injury had not been present at discovery (Hansen 2013). Later during its stay in Germany, the plumage was much more worn and looked scruffy due to undergoing a complete moult. A minor deformation of one claw was noted in Germany, but this is not unusual in ground-living species and might also be related to the injury in Denmark. The bird further showed a slightly prolonged upper mandible, which is common in other wheatear species, eg. Northern Wheatear *O oenanthe* trapped on Helgoland and elsewhere (Heiko Schmaljohann & Thomas Klinner pers comm). Additionally, photographs of White-crowned Wheatears from the breeding areas often show even longer upper mandibles than the one observed in Germany. This may indicate that this is a common feature in this species and no indication of a captive origin at all.

Therefore, the German rarities committee still recommends assigning the White-crowned Wheatear from 2010 in Denmark and Germany in category A of the German list. At the time of writing this comment, the final categorization by the German bird list committee has not yet been published.’ EDITORS

# CDNA-mededelingen

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**Recente CDNA-besluiten** Tijdens de zomerperiode van 2018 heeft de Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA) verschillende dossiers besproken en zijn de volgende beslissingen genomen.

*Aanscherping van werkwijze bij beoordeling van 'status'* De CDNA heeft besloten de huidige werkwijze bij de beoordeling van status aan te scherpen om zo beter recht te kunnen doen aan diverse status-gerelateerde discussies bij zeldzaamheden. Met betrekking tot de beoordeling van status wordt het handboek op de volgende punten aangepast:

**AANPASSEN VAN KEUZEOPTIES** De huidige formulering in het CDNA-handboek biedt twee mogelijke uitkomsten voor de beoordeling van status, namelijk 'wilde status' en 'wilde status uitgesloten'. Formeel zou hiermee een geval alleen als 'niet wild' beschouwd mogen worden als er zekerheid is dat de vogel ontsnapt is. Hiermee wordt de beslissruimte beperkt. De commissie heeft besloten de formulering in het CDNA-handboek aan te passen tot: 'wilde status aannemelijk' of 'wilde status uitgesloten, niet aannemelijk of (te) twijfelachtig'.

**OMGEKEERDE BEWIJSLAST** De lijst met soorten waarvoor een omgekeerde bewijslast geldt, heeft de CDNA aangepast en met enkele soorten uitgebreid. De volledige lijst met soorten waarbij bij de beoordeling de omgekeerde bewijslast in ieder geval gehanteerd wordt is als volgt (waarbij nieuwe soorten op deze lijst gemarkeerd zijn met \*): Ross' Gans *Anser rossii*, Buffelkopeend *Bucephala albeola*, Kokardezaagbek *Lophodytes cucullatus*, Marmereend *Marmaronetta angustirostris*\*, Amerikaanse Tafeleend *Aythya americana*\*, Siberische Taling *Anas formosa*, Bronskopeend *A falcata*, Jufferkraanvogel *Grus virgo*, Kroeskoppelikaan *Pelecanus crispus*\* en Roze Pelikaan *P onocrotalus*. Deze lijst zal gehanteerd worden als een richtlijn waarbij de volgende aanvullende opmerkingen gelden:

De CDNA kan er voor kiezen om een soort die niet op de lijst staat toch te onderwerpen aan de eis van de omgekeerde bewijslast. Dit zal gemotiveerd worden toegepast in specifieke gevallen waarbij de situatie naar het oordeel van de CDNA daar aanleiding toe geeft (bijvoorbeeld een Harlekijnend *Histrionicus histrionicus*

op een binnenlandlocatie).

Andersom is het denkbaar dat de CDNA in een bijzonder geval kan kiezen de omgekeerde bewijslast soepeler te hanteren vanwege een bijzondere context. Bijvoorbeeld als er van een soort op de lijst een duidelijke influx is in Noordwest-Europa.

Ook met betrekking tot nieuwe soorten voor Nederland waarbij het escaperisico door de commissie als groot wordt ingeschat, kan de omgekeerde bewijslast worden toegepast.

De CDNA is verder van mening dat voor de categorie vogels van de lijst met omgekeerde bewijslast een strenge toepassing van criteria op zijn plaats is. De bestaande beoordelingscriteria (**1** aanwezigheid van ringen/merktekens; **2** afwijkend gedrag; **3** afwijkend habitat; en **4** verdachte rui/slijtage/vergroeiingen, beschadigingen aan veren en naakte delen) zullen daarom scherp worden toegepast. Als voorbeeld: het criterium 'verdachte rui en beschadigingen' zal bij soorten met een omgekeerde bewijslast streng worden meegewogen. Als de vogel opvallende beschadigingen aan het kleed of naakte delen heeft (ook als deze in theorie ook in het wild kunnen voorkomen) zullen deze in principe worden geïnterpreteerd als tekenen van verblijf in gevangenschap en daarmee (conform de intentie van de omgekeerde bewijslast) 'het nadeel van de twijfel krijgen'.

*Actief oppakken van 'ijskastgevallen'*

Het begrip 'ijskast' is in 2014 geïntroduceerd voor gevallen waarvoor kennis ontbreekt om tot een oordeel te komen maar waarvoor aanwijzingen zijn dat die kennis op korte termijn beschikbaar kan komen. De CDNA heeft besloten tot een actievere benadering van de bestaande gevallen in de 'ijskast'. Deze dossiers worden opnieuw bekeken om te bepalen welke kennis ontbreekt voor besluitvorming en op welke termijn die kennis te verwachten is. Waar mogelijk worden acties geformuleerd om deze besluitvorming te bespoedigen. De intentie is om dit over een jaar te evalueren, waarbij in die periode alle bestaande ijskastgevallen tegen het licht gehouden zijn, en te bezien of de 'ijskast' in de huidige vorm nuttig is en gehandhaafd blijft. EDDY NIEUWSTRATEN, CHRISTIAN BRINKMAN & CDNA

## Corrigenda

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In het bijschrift van plaat 330 (Dutch Birding 40: 255, 2018) werd de verkeerde locatie genoemd. De Oosterse Vorkstaartplevier *Glareola maldivarum* werd gefotografeerd in Sik, Varberg, Zweden. REDACTIE

In the caption of plate 330 (Dutch Birding 40: 255, 2018), the wrong location was mentioned. The Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum* was photographed at Sik, Varberg, Sweden. EDITORS

# WP reports

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This review lists rare and interesting Western Palearctic birds reported mainly from **October to mid-November 2018**. 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 male **Lesser White-fronted Goose** *Anser erythropus* ('Mr Blue') tagged in Norway in May started its autumn migration on 18 September and arrived at Kerkini lake, Greece, on 21 September, flying more than 3000 km in only three days; on 29 October, 104 were counted here (<https://tinyurl.com/yajycwrm>). In the Netherlands, the maximum at the species' regular winter haunt at Strijen, Zuid-Holland, from 29 September to late November was 40; at Meerlebroek, Limburg, one was accidentally killed by a goose hunter on 3 November. The long-staying male **American White-winged Scoter** *Melanitta deglandi deglandi* at Keflavík, Iceland, was still present in early November. Another male was present at Musselburgh, Lothian, Scotland, from 25 September into November. An adult male **Asian White-winged Scoter** *M. d. stejnegeri* at Wyspa Sobieszewska, Gdańsk bay, Poland, on 10 November was probably the same individual as the one in the previous winter. A **Common**

**Scoter** *M nigra* flying past Besh Barmag on 15 November may be the first for Azerbaijan. In Denmark, adult male **Black Scoters** *M americana* returned to Blåvand on 26 September and to Melby on 10 October. In late October and early November, males were seen in Northumberland, England, and off Rossbeigh, Kerry, Ireland. The non-breeding population of **Ruddy Shelduck** *Tadorna ferruginea* of Bodensee, Austria/Germany/Switzerland, increased from a few individuals in 1990-2002 to c 100 in 2003-09 and c 250 in 2010-15. The winter maximum was 730 in January 2014, with individuals marked in north-western Germany and the Netherlands (Ornithol Beob, Suppl 13: 1-320, 2018). Ouassou et al (2018) showed an increase in wintering **Ferruginous Ducks** *Aythya nyroca* in Morocco, from up to 400 in 1983-2005 to up to 1800 in 2011-17 (Int J Zool 2018: 5767194). The long-staying male **American Black Duck** *Anas rubripes* at Strontian, Highland, Scotland, remained into November. A male **Wood Duck** *Aix sponsa* was still present on São Miguel, Azores, in November.

**GREBES TO NIGHTJARS** Long-staying **Pied-billed Grebes** *Podilymbus podiceps* remained in Argyll and Shetland, Scotland, into November. The fourth for Iceland was discovered at Norðurkot, Sandgerði, on 22 October. A first-winter **Oriental Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis*

538 Grey Catbird / Katvogel *Dumetella carolinensis*, Trevescan, Cornwall, England, 20 October 2018  
(Richard Stonier)



*orientalis* was reported at Berga, Småland, Sweden, on 14 November. The third **Rufous Turtle Dove** *S o meena* for Turkey was photographed at Milleyha, Hatay, on 18 September. In Finland, one was seen at Siikalatva on 7 November. A **Mourning Dove** *Zenaida macroura* at Ballyconneely, Galway, from 12 November was the third for Ireland; the previous ones were in November 2007 and October 2009. If accepted, a freshly killed female **Common Nighthawk** *Chordeiles minor minor* at Hal-Ghaxaq on 27 October will be the first for Malta.

**SWIFTS** In the Azores, **Chimney Swifts** *Chaetura pelagica* were seen on Flores on 18 October (one), 19 October (three) and 20 October (one), and on Corvo on 21-22 October. A juvenile **White-rumped Swift** *Apus caffer* photographed and seen by many birders at Hornsea Mere, Yorkshire, England, on 14 October was the first for Britain. Also in England, a **Little Swift** *A affinis* was twitched by many at Hartlepool Headland, Cleveland, on 11-12 November. A large influx of c 60 **Pallid Swifts** *A pallidus* occurred in north-western Europe in November, including c 25 in England (most along the North Sea coast between Durham and Kent, with multiple records from Norfolk and Yorkshire), more than 10 in the Netherlands (the best year ever), six in Belgium, six in Sweden, two in Denmark, two in Germany, two in Ireland, two in Wales, and singles in Finland (picked up exhausted at Viikki, Helsinki, on 1 November; third record), Norway, Poland (at Władysławowo, Hel peninsula, on 1 November; second record) and Scotland. The best day was 11 November with eight in England, six in the Netherlands and three in Belgium (at Nieuwpoort, West-Vlaanderen). The first **Common Swift** *A apus* for Corvo was photographed on 5 October.

**CUCKOOS TO BUSTARDS** An adult **Black-billed Cuckoo** *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus* found dead at Brimnes, Fáskrúðsfjörður, in August was the third for Iceland and the first since 1982. In the Azores, **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** *C americanus* were seen on Flores on 13 and 18 October and on Corvo on 17 October. One found exhausted at Antwerpen port, Antwerpen, Belgium, on 22 October died two days later and supposedly arrived by boat; previous ones concerned birds found dead at Lessines, Hainaut, in October 1874 and moribund at Antwerpen port in October 2008. An adult **Sora** *Porzana carolina* photographed on Corvo on 26 October was the sixth for the Azores. A record c 160 000 **Common Cranes** *Grus grus* were counted at Hortobágy, Hungary, on 14 October. The third **Macqueen's Bustard** *Chlamydotis macqueenii* for Azerbaijan was found at Besh Barmag, Siyazan, on 30 October.

**LOONS TO SHEARWATERS** The first **Pacific Loon** *Gavia pacifica* for Denmark at Grenen, Skagen, Nordjylland, from 13 August remained until 3 November. Returning adults turned up at Crookhaven, Cork, Ireland, on 7 October, and at Mount's Bay, Cornwall, England, on 12 November. On 24 September, a **Black-browed Albatross** *Thalassarche melanophris* was first reported off Winterton and then past Cromer, Norfolk, England. An

unidentified **albatross** was seen from Malin Head, Donegal, Ireland, on 10 October. If accepted, a **Swinhoe's Storm Petrel** *Hydrobates monorhis* filmed at Wangerooge, Niedersachsen, on 3 October may be the first for Germany. If accepted, a **Fea's/Zino's Petrel** *Pterodroma feae/madeira* flying past Kikhavn, Sjælland, on 3 October will be the first for Denmark. A **Cory's Shearwater** *Calonectris borealis* flying along the Dutch and Flemish coast from The Hague, Zuid-Holland, southwards to De Panne, West-Vlaanderen, from 10:00 on 25 October to 10:00 on 26 October was photographed and videoed at multiple seawatching posts. Along the Baltic coast, **Manx Shearwaters** *Puffinus puffinus* photographed at Kąty Rybackie on 24 September and at Kołobrzeg and Pogorzela on 3 October concerned the third and fourth record for Poland, respectively. The 10th for Switzerland was found at Yverdon, Vaud, on 24 September.

**STORKS TO PELICANS** In Georgia, 2227 **Black Storks** *Ciconia nigra* were counted migrating past Batumi between 17 August and 16 October. The British Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (BOURC) has added **Dalmatian Pelican** *Pelecanus crispus* to category A of the British list based on the long-staying third-calendar-year or older bird in Cornwall and Devon from 7 May to 20 November 2016; this individual has also been accepted for category A by the French and Polish rarities committees but, in Germany, it has been placed in category D (ie, unknown origin).

**HERONS TO CORMORANTS** The first **Eurasian Bittern** *Botaurus stellaris* for the Cape Verde Islands was photographed on Santiago on 28 October. In the Azores, an **American Bittern** *B lentiginosus* was found on Corvo on 3 November. The **Dwarf Bittern** *Ixobrychus sturmii* on Fuerteventura from 1 December 2017 remained until at least 11 November and constituted the longest staying individual of this species in the WP; the previous one remained on Tenerife for 9.5 months (cf Dutch Birding 40: 98-101, 2018). In the Azores, a **Green Heron** *Butorides virescens* was seen on Terceira on 27 September. Others photographed at Quinta do Lago, Algarve, from 19 October to 5 November and at Herdade da Arreira, Almada, on 1-2 November concerned the first and second for mainland Portugal. If accepted, a **Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides* on La Désirade, Guadeloupe, on 10 November will be the first for North America. The eighth **Western Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis* for Norway was present from 5 to 25 October in Telemark and Vest-Agder; then, two were staying at Vareid, Flakstad, Nordland, on 3-11 November. The first for Estonia was seen at Salme, Saaremaa, on 4-9 November. In Britain, a record c 400 were present in the last decade of October, mainly in south-western England, including the largest flock ever of 99 at Catcott Lows reserve, Somerset, on 23 October. In the Azores, an **American Great Egret** *Ardea egretta* was photographed on Flores in the first days of October. The fourth **Intermediate Egret** *A intermedia* for the United Arab Emirates (UAE) was seen at Al Badia Golf Club on 21 October. A **Tricolored Heron** *Egretta tricolor* on São Miguel from 27 October to at least



**539** Cinereous Vulture / Monniksgier *Aegypius monachus*, second calendar-year, Kirkkonummi, Uusimaa, Finland, 24 October 2018 (*Petteri Hytönen*) **540** Chimney Swift / Schoorsteengierzwaluw *Chaetura pelagica*, Corvo, Azores, 22 October 2018 (*Vincent Legrand*) **541** White-rumped Swift / Kaffergierzwaluw *Apus caffer*, first-winter, Hornsea Mere, Yorkshire, England, 14 October 2018 (*James Lowen/jameslowen.com*) **542** Green Heron / Groene Reiger *Butorides virescens*, adult, Quinta do Lago, Algarve, Portugal, 19 October 2018 (*Nick Giles*) **543** Solitary Sandpiper / Amerikaanse Bosruiter *Tringa solitaria*, juvenile, Værlandet, Sogn og Fjordane, Norway, 7 October 2018 (*Anders Braanaas*)



**544** Red-flanked Bluetail / Blauwstaart *Tarsiger cyanurus*, first-winter, Kulu lake, Konya, Turkey, 28 October 2018 (*Hüseyin Bugday*) **545** Siberian Rubythroat / Roodkeelnachtegaal *Calliope calliope*, first-winter male, Skohalls, Hammarö, Värmland, Sweden, 26 October 2018 (*Stefan Göransson*) **546** White-crowned Sparrow / Witkruingors *Zonotrichia leucophrys*, first-winter, Foula, Shetland, Scotland, 3 October 2018 (*Dennis Morrison*) **547** Blyth's Pipit / Mongoolse Pieper *Anthus godlewskii*, first-winter, Jastarnia, Pomerania, Poland, 30 September 2018 (*Michał Radziszewski*) **548** Buff-breasted Sandpiper / Blonde Ruiter *Calidris subruficollis*, juvenile, Gaash, Israel, 24 October 2018 (*Gal Sherbelis*) **549** Audouin's Gull / Audouins Meeuw *Larus audouinii*, adult, Mzymta river mouth, Sochi, Krasnodar, Russia, 16 April 2018 (*Alexander Naumov*) cf Dutch Birding 40: 333, 2018

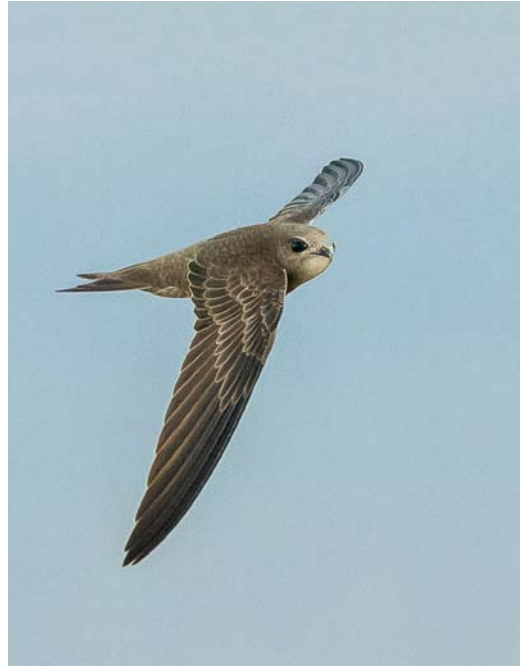
12 November was the fourth for the Azores and the WP; previous ones were on Pico in 1985, on São Miguel in 2007 (regarded as the same individual as in the Canary Islands in 2007/08), and on Terceira in 2012. The third **Eurasian Spoonbill** *Platalea leucorodia* for the Faeroes (and the first since 1896) turned up at Skopun, Sandoy, on 27 September and the fourth **Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* at Sandavágur on 30 September. The long-staying **Pygmy Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax pygmeus* at Auderghem, Bruxelles, Belgium, from 12 January remained into November. In the Azores, a **Double-crested Cormorant** *P. auritus* was photographed on São Jorge on 9 October.

**WADERS** The third **American Golden Plover** *Pluvialis dominica* for Finland stayed at Bjökboda, Kemiö, on 4-6 October. A **Pheasant-tailed Jacana** *Hydrophasianus chirurgus* at Ajman on 9-10 November was the fourth for the UAE. The first for Iran was photographed at Lamerd, Fars, on 12 November. In the Azores, two **Hudsonian Whimbrels** *Numenius hudsonicus* were reported on São Miguel on 9 October. In Ireland, a first-winter **Stilt Sandpiper** *Calidris himantopus* was found at Inch Island Lake, Donegal, on 27 September. A **Baird's Sandpiper** *C. bairdii* at Reve, Rogaland, on 16-17 October was the sixth for Norway; one at Deventer, Overijssel, on 2-3 November was the latest ever in autumn for the Netherlands. A **White-rumped Sandpiper** *C. fuscicollis* at Macaneta on 22 September was the first for Mozambique. A **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** *C. subruficollis* photographed at Gaash north of Tel Aviv on 24-26 October was the first for Israel. The fifth **Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularius* for Poland was found at Wizna, Podlasie, on 3 May. The first **Solitary Sandpiper** *Tringa solitaria* for Norway stayed at Værlandet, Sogn og Fjordane, on 3-26 October. A **Long-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus scolopaceus* at Sorbulak lake on 7 October was the third for Kazakhstan. After nearly 40 years without a confirmed sighting, **Common Buttonquail** *Turnix sylvaticus* has now been declared extinct in Europe by the Spanish government; the last confirmed record was near Doñana National Park in 1981 (cf Biodivers Conserv 15: 3895-3908, 2006, Dutch Birding 33: 75-93, 2011). A first-winter **Cream-colored Courser** *Cursorius cursor* was photographed at Digny, Eure-et-Loir, France, on 16 November.

**SKUAS TO TERNS** A **Great Skua** *Stercorarius skua* at Ptuj lake on 23 September was the second for Slovenia. The fourth **Black-legged Kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla* for Belarus was found at Lyuban reservoir on 17 November. The first breeding of **Black-headed Gull** *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* for Tunisia occurred at Korba lagoon, Cap Bon, in June 2017 (Alauda 86: 157-158, 2018). The best year ever for **Pallas's Gull** *Larus ichthyaetus* in Poland was 2017 with 18 individuals (Ornis Pol 59: 119-153, 2018). In Portugal, a **Cape Gull** *L. dominicanus vetula* was photographed at Espinho near Porto on 5-6 October, and maybe the same individual was found at Praia de Matosinhos on 11 October. An adult **Cape** and at least three **Great Black-backed Gulls** *L. marinus* were seen at Lagune de Khnifiss, Western Sahara, Morocco, on 31

October. In Spain, the **American Herring Gull** *L. smithsonianus* returned for its seventh winter to Lires, Muxia, A Coruña, on 4 November (cf Dutch Birding 34: 294-301, 2012). If accepted, a first-winter **Slaty-backed Gull** *L. schistisagus* photographed at Simrishamn, Skåne, on 28 October may be the first for Sweden and the ninth for the WP. A **Bridled Tern** *Onychoprion anaethetus* flew past Castlegregory, Kerry, on 12 October. Also in Ireland, the adult **Forster's Tern** *Sterna forsteri* was seen again off Soldier's Point, Louth, on 10-14 October; in November, the adult returned to Galway for its 16th winter. A first-year **Lesser Crested Tern** *S. bengalensis* stayed at Hendaye, Pyrénées-Atlantiques, France, on 15-19 October. The first **Elegant Tern** *S. elegans* for the Netherlands, seen at several sites in Noord-Holland and Zuid-Holland on 9-10 June 2002, has recently been accepted.

**RAPTORS** For a reintroduction project of **Western Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus* in Portugal in 2011-15, a total of 56 nestlings from Finland and Sweden were used, of which 47 successfully dispersed. The species bred in Portugal until 2002 but two pairs already bred in 2015 and, in 2018, there were five pairs, of which one bred successfully (Raptors Conserv, Suppl 1: 147-148, 2018). From a total of 55 803 individuals ringed in Finland in 1913-2017, 3847 rings were recovered and, of these, 41% had been killed/shot, 28% died in fishing operations and 14% were wire victims; these ringing recovery data suggest that persecution decreased strongly during the last decades (Raptors Conserv, Suppl 1: 150-152, 2018). The third **Eastern Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus vociferus* for Cyprus was seen at Phassouri marsh on 18 October. In the Channel Islands, a **Western Black-winged Kite** *E. c. caeruleus* flew over Jersey on 18 October. In October-November, three were reported in Belgium and another one or two stayed in the Netherlands. Canevet et al (2018) showed that, in the 21st century, raptor breeding populations in France increased for **Western Osprey** (80-90 pairs in 2015) and **Short-toed Snake** *Circaetus gallicus* (2500-3300 pairs in 2012), **Lesser Spotted** *Aquila pomarina* (one pair in 2018; the first breeding was in 2003), **Golden** *A. chrysaetos* (450-500 pairs in 2012), **Bonelli's** *A. fasciata* (33 pairs in 2016), **Booted** *A. pennata* (585-810 pairs in 2012) and **White-tailed Eagle** *Haliaeetus albicilla* (one pair in 2018; the first breeding was in 2011) (Raptors Conserv, Suppl 1: 63-64, 2018). The first **Rüppell's Vulture** *Gyps rueppelli* for Saudi Arabia was photographed at Tanoumah, Asir mountains, on 12 October. A second calendar-year **Cinereous Vulture** *Aegypius monachus* at many sites in southern Finland during October was the same individual as the one in September (cf Dutch Birding 40: 339, 2018). Weiss (2018) showed that, in 2014-18, on average 15 039 **Steppe Eagles** *A. nipalensis* per year migrated over Eilat, Israel; 95% of them passed between 10 February and 31 March. This number is 20% lower than the annual average for 1977-88 (Raptors Conserv, Suppl 1: 92-93, 2018). In Hungary, the breeding population of **Eastern Imperial Eagle** *A. heliaca* increased from 150-160 pairs in 2013 to 230-240 in 2018 (Raptors Conserv, Suppl 1: 106-107, 2018). Between 17 August and 16 October, 1 145 774 raptors



**550** Rüppell's Vulture / Rüppells Gier *Gyps rueppelli*, immature, Tanoumah, Asir mountains, Saudi Arabia, 12 October 2018 (*Jem Babbington*) **551** Pallid Swift / Vale Gierzwaluw *Apus pallidus*, juvenile, De Cocksdorp, Texel, Noord-Holland, Netherlands, 11 November 2018 (*Jos van den Berg/birdingtexel.com*) **552** Red-tailed Wheatear / Roodstaarttapuit *Oenanthe chrysopygia*, Mount Amsa, Negev, Israel, 9 November 2018 (*Yosef Kiat*)







**553** Tricolored Heron / Witbuikreiger *Egretta tricolor*, immature, Ribeira Quente, São Miguel, Azores, 29 October 2018 (David Monticelli) **554** Paddyfield Pipit / Oriëntaalse Pieper *Anthus rufulus*, Wamm Farms, Fujairah, United Arab Emirates, 12 October 2018 (Huw Roberts) **555** Sora / Soraral *Porzana carolina*, adult, Ribeira da Ponte, Corvo, Azores, 26 October 2018 (David Monticelli)





556 Paddyfield Warbler / Veldrietzanger *Acrocephalus agricola*, first-winter, Zeebrugge, Belgium, 20 October 2018  
(Filip De Ruwe)

557 Chestnut Bunting / Rosse Gors *Emberiza rutila*, first-winter, Säppi, Eurajoki, Finland, 25 October 2018  
(Petteri Hytönen)





558 Taiga Flycatcher / Taigavliegenvanger *Ficedula albicilla*, first-winter, Galley Head, Cork, Ireland, 25 October 2018 (Tom Shevlin)

559 Veery / Veery *Catharus fuscescens*, first-winter, Cape Clear, Cork, Ireland, 18 October 2018 (Harry Hussey)



were counted at Batumi, Georgia, including 498 405 **European Honey Buzzards** *Pernis apivorus*, 11 **Crested Honey Buzzards** *P ptilorhynchus*, 4533 **Lesser Spotted**, 464 **Greater Spotted** *A clanga* and 5355 **Booted Eagles**, 8941 **Western Marsh** *Circus aeruginosus*, 569 **Pallid** *C macrourus* and 2099 **Montagu's Harriers** *C pygargus*, 159 271 **Black Kites** *Milvus migrans* and 329 237 **Steppe Buzzards** *Buteo buteo vulpinus* (<https://tinyurl.com/yad9H6dn>). From August to 12 November, no less than nine satellite-tagged juvenile **Hen Harriers** *C cyaneus* have suddenly 'disappeared' in suspicious circumstances at or near grouse hunting areas in Britain; studies have shown that the main factor limiting the species' population is illegal killing by humans (<https://tinyurl.com/y8zejm9y>). A first-year **Northern Harrier** *C hudsonius* was photographed on Corvo on 4 October. A **Pallid Harrier** on Corvo on 25-30 October was the first for the Azores. The breeding population of **Red Kite** *M milvus* in the Netherlands increased from a single pair in 2010 to 12 pairs in 2017 despite a low breeding success of only one nestling per pair. Several breeding birds may have been killed by deliberate or accidental poisoning by rodenticides (*Limosa* 91: 3-15, 2018). By analysing mitochondrial cytochrome b gene polymorphism of c 550 **Black Kites** of four taxa from different locations in Eurasia and Australia, Andreenkova et al (2018) showed that the geographical distribution of haplotypes corresponds with the distribution of three Eurasian taxa (*migrans*, *lineatus* and *govinda*) and is in agreement with phenotypic analyses. The study showed that the Black Kite population in northern Eurasia was divided in eastern and western groups during the Pleistocene glaciations and then, due to warming and forest expansion, the range of these populations began to grow and have now formed a wide intergradation zone in western Siberia (from the Middle Volga to Altai). It also turned out that the South Asian *govinda* and the Australian *affinis* belong to the same branch of the phylogenetic tree, despite being cut off nowadays without having contact with each other (*Raptors Conserv*, Suppl 1: 222-223, 2018).

OWLS TO PARAKEETS **Northern Hawk-Owls** *Surnia ulula* were found at Kaderi, Kuldiga, Latvia, on 13 October and at Klaipeda, Lithuania, on 1 November. If accepted, a **Tengmalm's Owl** *Aegolius funereus* photographed in Orkney, Scotland, on 2 November will be the first for Britain since 1986 (five from seven British records in 1959-86 were also in Orkney). During October-November, **Snowy Owls** *Bubo scandiacus* were reported in Gwynedd, Wales; on St Kilda, Western Isles; on Eday, Orkney; and in Shetland at North Roe, Mainland, and on Fetlar. After being picked up with a broken wing by locals in a nearby forest, a **Turkish Fish Owl** *B semenowi* was treated for nine months at the Tarsus Animal Park, Mersin, Turkey, before it was strong enough to be released (<https://tinyurl.com/yc9qork5>). A **European Roller** *Coracias garrulus* at Sårup, Nordjylland, Denmark, on 17-28 October was identified as the same individual as on Texel, Noord-Holland, the Netherlands, on 24-26 September. If accepted, a **Lesser Kestrel** *Falco naumanni* reported at Laaer Becken, Niederösterreich, on 8 Sep-

tember will be the third for Austria since the 1980s, when the species became extinct as a breeding bird. An **American Kestrel** *F sparverius* photographed at Pico das Terças, Graciosa, on 5 November was the fourth for the Azores and the eighth for the WP; previous ones were in the Azores in 1968, 1970 and 1980, in Britain in 1976 (two), in Denmark in 1901 and in Malta in 1967. The third **Saker Falcon** *F cherrug* for Denmark at Ballum, Sønderjylland, from 4 August remained until 26 October. The population of **Rose-ringed Parakeet** *Psittacula krameri* in Turkey was estimated to be over 1350 individuals, with most in Istanbul, Izmir, Ankara, Yalova, Antalya and Şanlıurfa (*Zool Middle East* 64: 297-303, 2018).

PEEWEEES TO VIREOS The third **Eastern Wood Pewee** *Contopus virens* for the Azores and the WP stayed on Corvo on 20-21 October; previous ones were also on Corvo in 2015 (cf *Dutch Birding* 40: 285-296, 2018). The first **Western Kingbird** *Tyrannus verticalis* for the WP was photographed on Flores, Azores, on 13-14 October. For the first time, four vireo *Vireo* species were recorded in the same year in the WP, even on one day – 20 October – on Corvo! The fourth **White-eyed Vireo** *V griseus* for the WP was photographed on 20 October; the previous ones were also on Corvo in 2005, 2008 and 2009 (cf *Dutch Birding* 34: 38-41, 2012). A **Yellow-throated Vireo** *V flavifrons* on 16-26 October was the fifth for the Azores and the seventh for the WP, and a **Philadelphia Vireo** *V philadelphicus* was seen on Corvo on 16-26 October. Between 20 September and 27 October, c 31 **Red-eyed Vireos** *V olivaceus* were found in western Europe, including c 19 in the Azores (c 18 on Corvo and one on Flores), four in England, three in Ireland, three in Iceland, and singles in Portugal (at Barrinha de Esmoriz, Aveiro, on 17-18 October; first mainland record) and the Netherlands (at De Cocksdorp, Texel, on 27-30 October; ninth record).

SHRIKES TO TITS In England, **Brown Shrikes** *Lanius cristatus* were reported at The Lizard, Cornwall, from 29 September to 2 October; at Predannack Head, Cornwall, on 14 October; and at Kelling, Norfolk, on 21 October. A first-year trapped at Mulvika, Vestfold, on 21 October and staying to at least mid-November was the fourth for Norway. The third **Red-backed Shrike** *L collurio* for the Azores was seen on Corvo on 14 October. The first **Long-tailed Shrike** *L schach* for Switzerland remained at Grandson, Vaud, from 18 November onwards. In Sweden, a first-winter **Eastern Woodchat Shrike** *L senator niloticus* was reported at Ronningen, Norrbotten, on 20-22 September. If accepted, a **Masked Shrike** *L nubicus* at Danube delta on 7 September will be the first for Romania. The first **Pied Crow** *Corvus albus* for Oman and the Arabian peninsula was photographed on Masirah on 3 October. The fifth **Azure Tit** *Cyanistes cyanus* for Lithuania was reported from Baltoji Vokė on 19 October. The first for Hungary was photographed at Feher lake, Szeged, on 18 November. A **Grey-headed Chickadee** (Siberian Tit) *Poecile cinctus* was seen far south of the sedentary and tiny population of southern Norway at Fornebu, Akershus, on 27-29 October.



**560** Western Kingbird / Arkansaskoningstiran *Tyrannus verticalis*, Flores, Azores, 14 October 2018 (*Thijs Valkenburg*)  
**561** White-eyed Vireo / Witoogvireo *Vireo griseus*, Corvo, Azores, 20 October 2018 (*Radosław Gwóźdź*)  
**562** Wilson's Warbler / Wilsons Zanger *Cardellina pusilla*, first-winter female, Corvo, Azores, 13 October 2018 (*Radosław Gwóźdź*) **563** Magnolia Warbler / Magnoliazanger *Setophaga magnolia*, Corvo, Azores, 27 October 2018 (*David Monticelli*) **564** Eastern Wood Pewee / Oostelijke Bospiewie *Contopus virens*, first-winter, Corvo, Azores, 20 October 2018 (*Vincent Legrand*)

LARKS TO SWALLOWS Due to doubt about its provenance, BOURC removed the first **White-winged Lark** *Alauda leucoptera* for Britain collected near Brighton, Sussex, on 22 November 1869. Therefore, the only British record now concerns the one at King's Lynn, Norfolk, on 22-24 October 1981 (Ibis 160: 241-248, 2018). The first **Eurasian Skylark** *A. arvensis* for Malaysia was found on Mantanani on 2 November, and the first for Singapore was photographed at Pandan Gardens on 3 November. A **Greater Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella brachydactyla* on Corvo on 10 October was the second or third for the Azores. A **Tree Swallow** *Tachycineta bicolor* flying over Udra cape, Beluso, Pontevedra, on 15 October was potentially the first for Spain (<https://tinyurl.com/ya55a3ce>). The fourth **Eurasian Crag Martin** *Ptyonoprogne rupestris* for Finland stayed at Kirkkolampi, Rovaniemi, from 30 September to 2 October. DNA analysis confirmed the identification of the first **Asian House Martin** *Delichon dasypus* for Lithuania and the WP sensu BWP which was found dead at Ventès Ragas on 28 October 2016; other WP records were in the UAE (three) and in Israel in December 2016.

LEAF WARBLERS TO SYLVIAS If accepted, a **Green Warbler** *Phylloscopus nitidus* photographed on Lundy, Devon, on 7 October will be the fifth for Britain. The eighth **Two-barred Warbler** *P. plumbeitarsus* for Britain was reported at Holkham Pines, Norfolk, on 16-17 October. The first **Pallas's Leaf Warbler** *P. proregulus* for Azerbaijan was found at Besh Barmag on 19 October and the third for Switzerland at La Fouly, Valais, on 9 November. For Britain, 2016 was the record year for **Yellow-browed Warbler** *P. inornatus* (4500 individuals), **Dusky Warbler** *P. fuscatus* (70), **Siberian Chiffchaff** *P. tristis* (434) and **Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla* (169) (Br Birds 111: 519-542, 2018). From mid-October to early November, a record c 80 **Yellow-browed Warblers** were counted on Linosa, Italy. The first for Iran since 1975 was photographed at Park-e Shahr, Tehran, on 14 October. Four stayed on Corvo between 23 October and 2 November, including three on 26 October (there were two previous records for the Azores). The first **Dusky Warbler** for Albania was trapped at Orikum on 12 October. The second **Hume's Leaf Warbler** *P. humei* for Romania was ringed at Grindul Chituc, Constanța, on 12 October. Geolocator data from three male **Willow Warblers** *P. trochilus yakutensis* revealed a migration of c 13 000 km from the breeding sites in Far Eastern Russia (departing between 17 and 21 August 2016) to the wintering sites in southern Tanzania and northern Mozambique (arriving between 20 November and 17 December 2016) (Mov Ecol 6: 20, 2018). If accepted, the **Iberian Chiffchaff** *P. ibericus* photographed and sound-recorded on São Miguel on 6 November may be the first for the Azores. An **Asian Desert Warbler** *Sylvia nana* on Helgoland, Schleswig-Holstein, on 19-27 October was the fourth for Germany. The first **Western Lesser Whitethroat** *S. curruca* for the Azores was found on Corvo on 16 October. The BOURC recently added **Eastern Orphean Warbler** *S. crassirostris* to the British list based on a first-winter on St Agnes, Scilly, on 12-17 October 2017. A male **Sardinian Warbler** *S. melanocephala* trapped at Burgumer Mar, Friesland, on

28 August appeared to be still present on 9-14 October when it was heard (and sometimes seen) by many birders, being the first twitchable for the Netherlands in 24 years. A **Common Whitethroat** *S. communis* on Corvo on 30 October was the third for the Azores.

GRASSHOPPER WARBLERS TO REED WARBLERS The second **Lanceolated Warbler** *Locustella lanceolata* for Iceland was photographed at Fagranes, Nes, on 13-17 October. A **Booted Warbler** *Iduna caligata* on Mandø on 13-15 October was the seventh for Denmark. If accepted, an **Eastern Olivaceous Warbler** *I. pallida* photographed at Krynica Morska, Vistula spit, on 1 October will be the second for Poland (the first was on 7 June 2018). In France, one was found on Île d'Yeu, Vendée, on 11 October. A **Paddyfield Warbler** *Acrocephalus agricola* at Hali, Suðursveit, on 16-20 October was the second for Iceland. The sixth for Kuwait was found at Jahra pools reserve on 24 October. A **Sedge Warbler** *A. schoenobaenus* photographed at Gambell, St Lawrence Island, Alaska, on 5 October was the second for North America; the previous one was also at Gambell on 30 September 2007. A **Moustached Warbler** *A. melanopogon* ringed at Remerschen on 3 October was the fourth for Luxembourg.

NUTHATCHES TO CATBIRDS In April, a new breeding site of **Algerian Nuthatch** *Sitta ledanti* was discovered by Riadh Moulai and Mohamed El Arbi Mayache at Ghabet Ezzen, Wilaya of Jijel, Algeria; in late May, six birds were seen or heard in an area of more than 30 ha. Until now, this endemic species of Algeria discovered in 1975 was known only from four sites: the forests of Babor, Guerrouch, Tamentout and Djimla (Alauda 86: 73-74, 2018). A **Grey Catbird** *Dumetella carolinensis* at Trevescan, Cornwall, on 15-29 October was the second for Britain and the 11th for the WP.

THRUSHES In Norway, **White's Thrushes** *Zoothera aurea* were seen at Nordskaget, Frøya, Trøndelag, on 1 October, and found dead on Røstlandet, Røst, Nordland, on 3 October. In Shetland, one was seen on Fair Isle on 13 October. If accepted, a freshly killed at Fawwara on 25 October will be the first for Malta. A **Wood Thrush** *Hylocichla mustelina* photographed on Corvo on 16-21 October was the fifth for the WP; previous ones were in the Azores (before 1900 and in 2012), Iceland in 1967 and England in 1987. On 9-13 October, a **Hermit Thrush** *Catharus guttatus* was present at Hallskot, Flói, Iceland. As many as eight **Swainson's Thrushes** *C. ustulatus* were recorded in western Europe in October, including three (two trapped) at Höfn, Iceland, on 6, 7 and 19 October; three on Corvo on 15, 16 and 28 October; and singles on Yell, Shetland, on 10-14 October; and on Cape Clear, Cork, Ireland, on 17 October. Five **Grey-cheeked Thrushes** *C. minimus* this autumn in Europe were on Corvo on 15-17 October; in Scilly on 17-31 October; at Hlíðarendi, Ölfus, Iceland, on 24 October; and at Rendall, Orkney, on 28-30 October. On 5 November, the first for the Netherlands was picked up and taken into care at Monster, Zuid-Holland, and released at Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, on 20 November. The first **Veery** *C. fuscescens*



**565** Asian Desert Warbler / Woestijngrasmus *Sylvia nana*, Helgoland, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, 19 October 2018 (René van Rossum) **566** Grey-cheeked Thrush / Grijswangdwerglijster *Catharus minimus*, first-winter (picked up at Monster, Zuid-Holland, Netherlands), Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, 5 November 2018 (Vincent van der Spek/Vogelasiel De Wulp)

for Ireland stayed on Cape Clear on 17-18 October. If accepted, a first-winter female **Naumann's Thrush** *Turdus naumanni* photographed at Patamalm, Mönsterås, Småland, on 11-13 November will be the first for Sweden. A **Dusky Thrush** *T. eunomus* was briefly seen at Easington, East Yorkshire, England, on 4 November. Male **Black-throated Thrushes** *T. atrogularis* were found at Käärnelahti, Maaninka, Finland, on 21 October and at Burnham Overy, Norfolk, on 27 October. In England, an **American Robin** *T. migratorius* turned up on Lundy on 26 October. The sixth for Iceland was photographed at Seltjörn, Njarðvík, on 29 October.

**NIGHTINGALES TO FLYCATCHERS** In Sweden, an **Eastern Nightingale** *Luscinia megarhynchos golzii* was reported at Hoburgens, Gotland, on 7 September. A **Bluethroat** *L. svecica* found near Santa Maria, Sal, on 2 October was the first for the Cape Verde Islands. The first **Siberian Rubythroat** *Calliope calliope* for Sweden was discovered at Skohalls, Hammarö, Värmland, on 26 October. In Shetland, a male was on Fair Isle on 28 October. A **Red-flanked Bluetail** *Tarsiger cyanurus* ringed at Grindul Chituc, Constanța, on 13 October was the second for Romania (the first was at the same site in 2017). In Italy, one was ringed at Monte Pizzoc, Treviso, on 18 October. The ones trapped at Jurmalsciems, Nica, on 7 October and at Lauteri, Salacgriva, on 20 October were the second and the third for Latvia. A first-winter photographed

near Kulu lake, Konya, on 28 October was the second for Turkey (the first was at Istanbul on 22 December 2001). The second for Bulgaria was found at Byala, Warna, on 29 October. Three trapped in Poland between 9 and 20 October made this the best year ever. The second for the Balearic Islands was photographed at Port de Pollença, Mallorca, on 6-7 November. At Valdevacas de Montejo, Segovia, Spain, one was seen on 10-11 November. A record c 30 **Red-breasted Flycatchers** *Ficedula parva* for Italy were counted on Linosa from mid-October to early November. One on Corvo on 30 October was the second for the Azores. A **Taiga Flycatcher** *F. albicilla* at Galley Head, Cork, on 21-25 October was the first for Ireland. The fourth **European Pied Flycatcher** *F. hypoleuca* for the Azores turned up on Corvo on 5 October.

**REDSTARTS TO WHEATEARS** In Italy, a male **Moussier's Redstart** *Phoenicurus moussieri* was present on Lampedusa on 2-7 November. The first **Pied Bush Chat** *Saxicola caprata* for Sweden was photographed at Ulricehamn, Västergötland, on 8 November. The identifications of first-winter **Stejneger's Stonechats** *S. stejnegeri* at Finå, Finland, on 13 October and at Salthouse, Norfolk, from 19 October to 8 November were confirmed by DNA analysis. The first **Isabelline Wheatear** *Oenanthe isabellina* for the Cape Verde Islands was photographed on Sal on 29 September. The 10th for Germany was seen on Helgoland on 3 November. The fifth **Desert Wheatear**



**567** Dickcissel / Dickcissel *Spiza americana*, first-winter, Corvo, Azores, 22 October 2018 (Vincent Legrand)  
**568** Wood Thrush / Amerikaanse Boslijster *Hylocichla mustelina*, first-winter, Corvo, Azores, 17 October 2018 (Vincent Legrand) **569** Lincoln's Sparrow / Lincolns Gors *Melospiza lincolni*, first-winter, Corvo, Azores, 18 October 2018 (Vincent Legrand)







570 Yellow-throated Vireo / Geelborstvireo *Vireo flavifrons*, first-winter, Corvo, Azores, 16 October 2018  
(Vincent Legrand)

571 Blue Grosbeak / Blauwe Bisschop *Passerina caerulea*, first-winter, Corvo, Azores, 17 October 2018  
(Vincent Legrand)





572 Bay-breasted Warbler / Kastanjezanger *Setophaga castanea*, first-winter female, Corvo, Azores, 17 October 2018 (Vincent Legrand)

*O deserti* for Latvia was photographed at Liepaja harbor on 31 October. A juvenile on Linosa on 3 November was the first ever in autumn for Italy. A **Red-tailed Wheatear** *O chrysopygia* trapped at Amsa mount, Negev, Israel, on 9 November may be the same individual as the one here in March-April (cf Dutch Birding 30: 191, 2018).

SPARROWS TO FINCHES A male **Spanish Sparrow** *Passer hispaniolensis* at Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, on 3 November concerned the eighth record (17th individual) for the Netherlands. In Western Sahara, a male **Sudan Golden Sparrow** *P luteus* was reported along Aousserd road on 30 October. Another male turned up at Línea de la Concepción, Cádiz, Spain, on 6-7 November (possibly ship-assisted). If accepted, a **Yellow-throated Sparrow** *Gymnoris xanthocollis* photographed at Lahami on 19-20 September will be the second for Egypt; the first was in 2010. In Britain, presumed **eastern yellow wagtails** *Motacilla tschutschensis/plexa* were reported in Shetland from Unst and Sumburgh on 3 October and (two) on 8-13 November, and on Tresco, Scilly, on 10-14 October and another one in November. One was found at Sauzon, Morbihan, France, on 18 October. The second **Paddyfield Pipit** *Anthus rufulus* for the UAE was photographed at Wamm Farms, Fujairah, on 12 October; the first was in November 2017 (cf Dutch Birding 40: 58-59, 2018). Other 'greater' WP records were in Iran in 2010 (two). Due to doubt about its provenance, BOURC removed the first **Blyth's Pipit** *A godlewskii* for Britain collected at Brighton, Sussex, on 23 October 1882, so the first record

becomes one on Fair Isle on 13-22 October 1988 (Ibis 160: 241-248, 2018). If accepted, one at Jastarnia on 29-30 September will be the first for Poland. The fourth for Denmark was reported at Grenen, Skagen, on 16 November. The second **Olive-backed Pipit** *A hodgsoni* for Iceland was found at Höfn on 12-14 October. In Norway, three **Pechora Pipits** *A gustavi* were seen between 2 and 11 October (the species was seen in Shetland and Outer Hebrides in early October as well). **American Buff-bellied Pipits** *A rubescens rubescens* were reported on Foula, Shetland, on 1 October; on Pico, Azores, on 13 October (two); at Brusand, Rogaland, Norway, from 28 October to 3 November; and at Nanjizal, Cornwall, on 29-31 October. Also in Norway, a presumed **Siberian Buff-bellied Pipit** *A r japonicus* was reported at Oгна, Hå, Rogaland, on 13 November. The third **Trumpeter Finch** *Bucanetes githagineus* for Norway was seen at Åndalsnes, Møre og Romsdal, on 19 October. In Italy, four were reported on Linosa in October and early November. Parchman et al (2018) explain why **Atlas Crossbill** *Loxia curvirostra poliogyna* and **Balearic Crossbill** *L c balearica*, both resident and geographically isolated, are genetically the most divergent of all Western Palearctic crossbills. In south-eastern Spain, the resident *L c hispana* is also genetically differentiated from northern populations but not as significant as Atlas and Balearic. In contrast, no or very little genetic differentiation was found for vocal types; there was a very slight genetic divergence for **Parrot Crossbill** *L pytyopsittacus* (J Evol Biol 31: 1715-1731, 2018).

AMERICAN SPARROWS TO BUNTINGS A **Lincoln's Sparrow** *Melospiza lincolnii* photographed on Corvo on 18-19 October was the fifth for the WP; previous ones were on Corvo in 2010, 2012 and 2016 and in Iceland in 2013/14 (cf Dutch Birding 40: 285-296, 2018). The ninth **White-crowned Sparrow** *Zonotrichia leucophrys* for Britain stayed on Foula, Shetland, from 30 September to 14 October. BOURC has added the subspecies *Z l gambelii* to the British list based on the second-calendar-year bird trapped at Woolston Eyes, Cheshire, England, on 30 April 2016 (cf Dutch Birding 38: 250, plate 383, 2016); the only previous WP record of this subspecies was on Corvo on 20-22 October 2013 (cf Dutch Birding 35: 404, 406, 2013). A **White-throated Sparrow** *Z albicollis* on Foula from 7 September remained until 10 October. The third for the Azores was photographed on Corvo on 13-18 October. Three **Scarlet Tanagers** *Piranga olivacea* were found on Corvo between 15 and 26 October and two on Flores on 15 October. The sixth for Ireland was seen on Cape Clear, Cork, on 16-21 October. Two first-winter male **Dickcissels** *Spiza americana* on Corvo on 13-14 and 22-26 October concerned the seventh and the eighth for the WP, respectively (except for the first in Norway in 1981, all were in the Azores in 2009-17). Two **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** *Pheucticus ludovicianus* stayed on Corvo on 15-26 October and another was found on Flores on 22 October. If accepted, a first-winter **Blue Grosbeak** *Passerina caerulea* photographed on Corvo on 17-24 October will be the first for the WP; previous ones from Britain, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden were considered uncertain or escapes from captivity. Also on Corvo, c nine **Indigo Buntings** *P cyanea* were reported between 12 and 26 October (with up to four individuals in one day). A first-winter **Chestnut Bunting** *E rutila* at Säppi, Eurajoki, on 24-25 October was the second for Finland and the 11th for the WP. A **Rustic Bunting** *E rustica* photographed at Annaba on 2 November 2013 was the first for Algeria and the second for Africa; the first was in Egypt on 20 October 1971 (Afr Bird Club Bull 25: 211-212, 2018). A male ringed at Ghadira on 29 September was the first for Malta since 1998. The first for Belarus was trapped and ringed near Lisna, Verhnyadzvinsk, on 2 October.

BOBOLINKS TO AMERICAN WARBLERS **Bobolinks** *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* were reported on St Mary's, Scilly, on 15 October and on Corvo on 16 October. Also on Corvo, first-winter male **Baltimore Orioles** *Icterus galbula* were present on 11 October and 14-24 October. Another was seen on Barra, Outer Hebrides, Scotland, on 17-21 October. Four **Ovenbirds** *Seiurus aurocapilla* were reported on Corvo between 16 and 31 October. A **Northern Waterthrush** *Parkesia noveboracensis* turned up on Flores on 15 October. Using bioacoustic, morphometric and genetic data, Toews et al (2018) demonstrated that a female hybrid **Golden-winged x Blue-winged Warbler**

*Vermivora chrysoptera x cyanoptera* (so-called Brewster's Warbler) successfully bred with a **Chestnut-sided Warbler** *Setophaga pensylvanica*. A putative male *chrysoptera x cyanoptera x pensylvanica* hybrid at Roaring Spring, Pennsylvania, USA, in May 2018 was singing like Chestnut-sided but showed morphometric features similar to *Vermivora* warblers. The triple hybrid's maternal parent had Golden-winged mitochondrial DNA (Biol Lett; <https://tinyurl.com/y9zc73aw>). On Corvo, two **Common Yellowthroats** *Geothlypis trichas* were present on 18-22 October; c eight **American Redstarts** *S ruticilla* between 10 and 24 October; four **Northern Parulas** *S americana* between 15 and 19 October; a **Magnolia Warbler** *S magnolia* on 24-27 October (fifth for the Azores and ninth for the WP); a first-winter female **Bay-breasted Warbler** *S castanea* on 16-21 October (third for the WP; previous ones were in England in 1995 and on Corvo in 2017); **Myrtle Warblers** *S coronata* on 18-21 October (first-winter female), on 22-24 October (first-winter male) and a nocturnal migrant sound-recorded in the night of 18/19 October; **Black-throated Green Warblers** *S virens* on 15 October (one) and 16 October (three); and a first-winter female **Wilson's Warbler** *Cardellina pusilla* on 12-16 October (first for the Azores and fourth for the WP; previous ones were in England in 1985, in Ireland in 2013 and in Scotland in 2015). **Blackpoll Warblers** *S striata* were seen at Hallskot, Flói, on 26 September and on Inishbofin, Galway, on 7-8 October. A first-winter female **Black-throated Blue Warbler** *S caerulescens* on Flores on 21-26 October was the eighth for the Azores and the 10th for the WP.

For a number of reports Birdwatch, British Birds, Go-South Bulletin, Sovon-nieuws, [www.birdguides.com](http://www.birdguides.com), [www.dutchavifauna.nl](http://www.dutchavifauna.nl), [www.hbw.com](http://www.hbw.com), [www.magornitho.org](http://www.magornitho.org), [www.netflug.dk](http://www.netflug.dk), [www.rarebirdalert.co.uk](http://www.rarebirdalert.co.uk), [www.tarsiger.com](http://www.tarsiger.com) and [www.waarneming.nl](http://www.waarneming.nl) were consulted. We wish to thank José Alves, Mohamed Amezian, Jem Babbington, Patrick Bergier, Will Bowell, Anders Braanaas, Paul Bradbeer, Mika Bruun, Hüseyin Buğday, José Luis Copete, Magnus Corell, Andrea Corso, Philippe Dubois, Nils van Duivendijk, Enno Ebels, Natalino Fenech, Raymond Galea, Eduardo Garcia del Rey, Nick Giles, Stefan Göransson, Ricard Gutiérrez, Radosław Gwózdź, Kari Haataja, Karim Haddad, Harry Hussey, Petteri Hytönen, Zbigniew Kajzer, Leander Khil, Yosef Kiat, Henrik Knudsen, Bence Kókay, Yann Kolbeinsson, Richard Kvetko, Vincent Legrand, André van Loon, James Lowen, Lionel Maumary, Gerbrand Michielsen, Geir Mobakken, David Monticelli, Dennis Morrison, Killian Mullarney, Alexander Nastachenko, Alexander Naumov, Pedro Nicolau, Yoav Perlman, René Pop, Nikos Probonas, Michał Radziszewski, Brian Rasmussen, Colin Richardson, Magnus Robb, Huw Roberts, René van Rossum, Gal Sherbelis, Tom Shevlin, Roy Slaterus, Vincent van der Spek, Richard Stonier, Rasmus Strack, Uwe Thom, Arne Torkler, Hugo Touzé, Thijs Valkenburg, Roland van der Vliet, Peter de Vries and Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu 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 **september-oktober 2018**. 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](http://www.dutchavifauna.nl).

**EENDEN** Een vroege **Witbuikrotgans** *Branta hrota* trok op 25 september langs telpost Lauwersoog, Groningen. In oktober volgden nog drie exemplaren langs kusttelposten. Verder waren alleen op Griend, Friesland, en Ameland, Friesland, nog solitaire vogels aanwezig. Een respectabel aantal van 19 795 **Rotganzen** *B bernicla* passeerde op 18 oktober telpost de Marlijn op Schiermonnikoog, Friesland (derde dag ooit). Op c 10 locaties doken **Ross' Ganzen** *Anser rossii* op; in een aantal gevallen ging het om zekere escapes omdat ze ringen droegen. Mogelijk ongeringde werden aangetroffen op 8 september in de Bantpolder, Friesland (drie); op 28 september nabij Lexmond, Zuid-Holland; op 5 oktober in de Ezumakeeg, Friesland (twee); en op 21 oktober bij

Maarssen, Utrecht. **Dwergganzen** *Anser erythropus* werden gemeld van vijf plekken, waarbij zowel de eerste waarneming (27 september) als het hoogste aantal (40) van het Oude Land van Strijen, Zuid-Holland, kwamen. Op officiële trektelposten werden vijf **Ijseenden** *Clangula hyemalis* genoteerd. Daarbuiten werden vanaf de Waddeneilanden nog meer langstreckende vogels gezien, met een maximum van zes op 17 oktober langs Vlieland, Friesland. Op enkele plekken waren exemplaren ter plaatse, waaronder het langdurig op het Markermeer, Flevoland, verblijvende vrouwtje. Een mannetje **Koningseider** *Somateria spectabilis* in eclipskleed werd op 6 oktober gefotografeerd zwemmend langs de kust nabij Paal 17 op Texel, Noord-Holland; zou het de langdurige aanwezige vogel van dit voorjaar zijn geweest? **Buffelkopeenden** *Bucephala albeola* zwommen van 1 september tot 19 oktober in het Lauwersmeer, Groningen (onvolwassen mannetje), van 3 tot 27 september op het Eemmeer, Noord-Holland (onvolwassen mannetje) en vanaf 9 oktober in de Zuiderhaven bij Den Oever, Noord-Holland (adult mannetje); tot begin november was het trouwe mannetje van Barendrecht, Zuid-Holland (vanaf november 2004), nog niet gemeld... Op 2 september werd een mannetje **Witoogeend** *Aythya nyroca* gezien in het Harderbos, Flevoland, en mogelijk hetzelfde exemplaar zwom op 10 oktober op het nabijgelegen

573 Roodoogvireo / Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus*, first-year, Krimbos, Texel, Noord-Holland, 28 oktober 2018  
(Alex Bos)





574 Grijze Wouw / Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*, adult, Grootte Peel, Limburg, 17 september 2018 (Ran Schols) 575 Stepevorkstaartplevier / Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni*, eerste-winter, Batenburg, Gelderland, 21 oktober 2018 (Jordy Houkes) 576 Blonde Ruiter / Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Calidris subruficollis*, juveniel, Sophiapolder, Oostburg, Zeeland, 25 september 2018 (Jaco Walhout)



## Recente meldingen

Wolderwijd, Flevoland. Een vrouwtje was van 9 september tot 28 oktober present bij Zanderij Crailo bij Hilversum, Noord-Holland. Vanaf 13 september werd een mannetje gezien in het Dwingelderveld, Drenthe.

**DUIVEN TOT DUIKERS** Traditioneel is **Houtduif** *Columba palumbus* een soort die vooral door trekters in het binnenland in grote aantallen wordt gezien. Die trek verliep dit najaar sterk gepiekt, met op 28 oktober een landelijk dagrecord van 265 300 over De Hamert, Limburg, en tevens 174 000 langs telpost Azewijnse Broek, Gelderland. Het oude dagrecord betrof 260 090 op 1 november 2014 over Schijndel, Noord-Brabant. Een kortstondig rondvliegende **Alpengierzwaluw** *Apus melba* verblijdde op 13 oktober de trekters van telpost Hoogekampse Plas bij De Bilt, Utrecht. Het is bijna niet te bevatten dat **Vale Gierzwaluw** *A pallidus* in 2006 een nieuwe soort voor Nederland was en vanaf 2013 al bijna een jaarlijkse gast is. Het eerste exemplaar van dit jaar werd gezien op 13 oktober boven de Kwade Hoek, Zuid-Holland. Daarna volgden exemplaren op 14 oktober over telpost De Vulkaan bij Den Haag, Zuid-Holland, en op 15 oktober over een boot enkele kilometers ten zuidoosten van Rottumeroog, Groningen. Niet alledaags was de waarneming van een **Kwartelkoning** *Crex crex* die op 16 oktober een keuken in Haarlem, Noord-Holland, binnenwandelde; de vogel werd gevangen en dezelfde dag nog losgelaten in een nabijgelegen polder. Bijna 2000 **Kraanvogels** *Grus grus* werden geregistreerd op trekposten, met het hoogste aantal van 501 op 28 oktober over telpost Oelemars bij Losser, Overijssel. In totaal 48 **Parelduikers** *Gavia arctica* werden genoteerd door zeetrekters, met het hoogste aantal (10) langs Paal 18 op Terschelling, Friesland. Acht **Ijsduikers** *C immer* trokken langs zeetrekposten.

**TUBENOSES** Er werden zes **Stormvogeltjes** *Hydrobatas pelagicus* gezien op telposten, plus enkele langsvliegende exemplaren op andere plekken langs de kust. Op 9 oktober werd een dood exemplaar gevonden in een plantsoen in Baflo, Groningen. Een uitgeputte vogel viel neer op een vissersboot op de Noordzee ter hoogte van Callantsoog, Noord-Holland, op 30 oktober. Een mooi aantal van 415 **Vale Stormvogeltjes** *H leucorhous* vloog langs telposten. De beste dag was 23 oktober, met 45 langs Camperduin, Noord-Holland. Leuk waren twee exemplaren die op 24 oktober langs de IJsselmeerdijk bij Lelystad, Flevoland, vlogen. Redelijk wat **Noordse Stormvogels** *Fulmarus glacialis* passeerden de telposten, namelijk 241. Dit was het hoogste aantal in september-oktober sinds 2012. Zeer bijzonder en zelfs enigszins twitchbaar was de **Kuhls Pijlstormvogel** *Calonectris borealis* die op 25 oktober om 10:00 werd ontdekt bij Den Haag. De vogel passeerde vervolgens Monster, Zuid-Holland (10:10), Maasvlakte (11:00), Ouddorp, Zuid-Holland (11:35), en Westkapelle, Zeeland (14:00). Daarna werd hij in Belgische wateren opgemerkt bij Wenduine (16:30) en Oostende (17:45), West-Vlaanderen. Hij is daar blijkbaar op zee gaan slapen getuige de waarneming de volgende ochtend langs De Panne, West-Vlaanderen (09:45). Dit was de eerste langsvliegende

Kuhls die uitgebreid kon worden vastgelegd. **Grauwe Pijlstormvogels** *Puffinus griseus* waren met 274 langsvliegende vrij mager vertegenwoordigd op telposten. Het hoogste aantal bedroeg 58 op 22 september langs Westerslag op Texel. Van **Noordse Pijlstormvogel** *P puffinus* werden 233 exemplaren geteld op telposten, waaronder 19 op 21 september langs Ouddorp. Maar vier **Vale Pijlstormvogels** *P mauretanicus* werden gemeld; de eerste vloog op 8 september langs Westkapelle, gevolgd door een exemplaar langs Vlieland op 21 september en twee vogels vanaf Westerslag op Texel op 22 september.

**OOIEVAARS TOT JAN-VAN-GENTEN** Er werden 50 **Zwarte Ooievaars** *Ciconia nigra* gezien op telposten, waarvan precies de helft over Loozerheide bij Weert, Limburg (onder meer 13 op 1 september). Het zwaartepunt van pleisterende vogels lag in het zuidoosten van het land, met de grootste groep van 17 op 9 september in de Mariapeel, Limburg. Vanaf eind oktober werden weer eens minimaal twee ontsnapte **Roze Pelikanen** *Pelecanus onocrotalus* waargenomen, één in Zuid-Holland en Zeeland en één in de Kop van Noord-Holland. Op telposten werden 17 **Koereigers** *Bubulcus ibis* opgemerkt. In totaal waren er waarnemingen uit ruim 50 uurhokken, vooral in het zuidwesten van het land, waar de grootste groep 11 vogels betrof in de Sliedrechtse Biesbosch, Zuid-Holland. **Grote Zilverreiger** *Ardea alba* blijft maar toenemen, getuige het aantal van 6393 langs telposten, het hoogste aantal in september-oktober van de afgelopen 10 jaar. Op 25 oktober vloog een **Zwarte Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* over telpost Dordtse Biesbosch, Zuid-Holland. Opvallend was dat deze soort veel meer verspreid over het land werd gezien dan afgelopen jaar, met waarnemingen uit 22 uurhokken, en afwezig was op traditionele plekken als Koedijk, Noord-Holland, en de Vlietlanden en Berkel en Rodenrijs in Zuid-Holland. Nu zat de grootste groep (vijf) op Tiengemetten, Zuid-Holland. Bijzonder was de melding van een juveniele **Jan-van-gent** *Morus bassanus* die op 23 oktober laag over Arnhem, Gelderland, vloog.

**STELTKLUTEN TOT STRANDLOPERS** **Steltkluten** *Himantopus himantopus* werden gemeld tot 12 september (maximaal twee) in het Zuidlaardermeergebied, Groningen; op 8 september overvliegend bij de Horsmeertjes op Texel; op 9 september langs de Philipsdam, Zeeland; op 13 september in het Noordervroon bij Westkapelle; en op 16 september (twee) in de Breebaartpolder bij Termunten, Groningen. Een in vlucht veelvuldig roepende **Aziatische Goudplevier** *Pluvialis fulva* werd op 6 september kortstondig waargenomen nabij Hornhuizen, Groningen. Nog 22 **Morinelplevieren** *Charadrius morinellus* verschenen boven telposten. De soort was aanwezig in 18 uurhokken maar nergens werden er meer dan drie bij elkaar gezien. Intrigerend zijn de (matige) foto's van een mogelijke **Amerikaanse Regenwulp** *Numenius hudsonicus* die op 10 september samen met een Regenwulp *N phaeopus* in zuidelijke richting langs Westkapelle vloog. **Breedbekstrandlopers** *Calidris falcinellus* werden gemeld op 8 september op de Punt van Reide bij Termunterzijl, Groningen, en op 11 september in de Ezumakeeg. **Blonde Ruiters** *C subruficollis* verble-



577 Mongoolse Pieper / Blyth's Pipit *Anthus godlewskii*, Vlieland, Friesland, 20 oktober 2018 (*Jurriën van Deijk*)  
 578 Vale Gierzwaluw / Pallid Swift *Apus pallidus*, Waddenzee bij Rottumeroog, Groningen, 15 oktober 2018 (*Marnix Jonker*)  
 579 Aziatische Roodborsttapuit / Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maurus*, eerste-winter mannetje, Vlieland, Friesland, 6 oktober 2018 (*Wietze Janse*)  
 580 Siberische Boompieper / Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni*, Puinhoop, Katwijk, Zuid-Holland, 12 oktober 2018 (*René van Rossum*)  
 581 Velddrietzanger / Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola*, eerste-winter, Castricum, Noord-Holland, 15 oktober 2018 (*Piet Admiraal*)  
 582 Bosgors / Rustic Bunting *Emberiza rustica*, Westerplas, Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, 20 oktober 2018 (*Peter Lindenburg*)



**583** Kleine Zwartkop / Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala*, adult mannetje, Burgumer Mar, Friesland, 28 augustus 2018 (*Germ de Vries*) **584** Kleine Zwartkop / Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala*, adult mannetje, Burgumer Mar, Friesland, 10 oktober 2018 (*Herman Bouman*) **585** Raddes Boszanger / Radde's Warbler *Phylloscopus schwarzi*, Castricum, Noord-Holland, 8 oktober 2018 (*Rob van Bemmelen*) **586** Grauwe Fitis / Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides*, Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, 2 september 2018 (*Julian Bosch*)

ven op 31 augustus en 1 september op het Westerstrand van Schiermonnikoog; van 6 tot 9 september op de Marker Wadden, Flevoland; van 21 september tot 1 oktober in de Sophiapolder bij Oostburg, Zeeland; en van 11 tot 16 oktober bij Oost op Texel. **Gestreepte Strandlopers** *C melanotos* werden op acht plekken gevonden. Het ging steeds om solitaire vogels, behalve in de Ezumakeeg, waar op 13 september twee exemplaren foerageerden. **Grauwe Franjepoten** *Phalaropus lobatus* draaiden hun rondjes in c 20 uurhokken, met een duidelijke voorkeur voor het noordwesten van het land. Hier werden ook de grootste groepjes gezien; telkens vier in de Oostvaardersplassen, Flevoland, Dijkgaatsweide in de Wieringermeer, Noord-Holland, en Polder Koegras onder Den Helder, Noord-Holland. In totaal 15 **Rosse Franjepoten** *P fulicarius* werden opgemerkt op trekelposten en op c 20 locaties langs de kust werden pleisterende waargenomen. Bijzonder was een exemplaar ver in het binnenland bij Nederweert, Limburg, op 30 sep-

tember. **Poelruiters** *Tringa stagnatilis* waren nog te vinden op acht plaatsen. Op 5 oktober werden twee vogels gemeld uit het Verdronken Land van Saeftinghe, Zeeland. Een eerstejaars **Steppevorkstaartplevier** *Glareola nordmanni* liet zich van 21 oktober tot 7 november fraai bekijken bij Batenburg, Gelderland (tweede geval voor deze provincie).

ALKEN TOT STERNS Zeetrektellers noteerden acht langsvliegende **Papegaaiduikers** *Fratercula arctica*, zes **Zwarte Zeekoeten** *Cephus grylle* en 17 **Kleine Alken** *Alle alle*. Vanaf verschillende plekken op Texel werd bovendien op 28 en 30 september en 14 oktober een zwemmende Zwarte Zeekoet op de Noordzee gezien. Indrukwekkend was het aantal van 487 **Alken** *Alca torda* op 23 oktober langs Westkapelle (nieuw landelijk record). In totaal 28 **Kleinste** *Stercorarius longicaudus*, 1407 **Kleine** *S parasiticus*, 211 **Middelste** *S pomarinus* en 1426 **Grote Jagers** *S skua* passeerden de telposten. Van laatstgenoemde



soort vlogen er alleen al op 22 september 247 langs Paal 18 op Terschelling (achtste dag ooit). Voor **Vorkstaartmeeuwen** *Xema sabini* was het met 14 exemplaren langs telposten een matig najaar. Met overige waarnemingen erbij zijn er deze periode 21 gezien, alle langs de kust. Een langsvliegende eerste-kalenderjaar **Lachmeeuw** *Larus atricilla* werd op 3 oktober gemeld bij telpost Paal 18 op Terschelling (indien aanvaard pas het vierde geval). Op vier plekken doken **Baltische Mantelmeeuwen** *Larus fuscus* op met kleuringen uit Noorwegen. Op 15 en 16 september verbleef een tweede-kalenderjaar in de Buitenwatering van Katwijk aan Zee, Zuid-Holland. Op 30 september hing een eerste-kalenderjaar achter een boot op de Noordzee ter hoogte van Schouwen-Duiveland, Zeeland, tijdens een pelagische tocht. Op de Zandmotor bij Ter Heijde, Zuid-Holland, zaten twee verschillende adulte op 5 en 17 oktober en een eerste-kalenderjaar op 13 oktober. Leuk om te vermelden is dat de voor het eerst hier waargenomen adulte vogel van 5 oktober (NJ237) wel al drie keer in Gambia is afgelezen. De inmiddels adulte, gekleurde **Kleine Burgemeester** *L. glaucooides* keerde voor in ieder geval de derde winter op rij terug in Westerpark, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland, op 26 oktober. Een eerste-kalenderjaar **Grote Burgemeester** *L. hyperboreus* werd op 27 oktober gemeld op Ameland. Er werden nog drie zuidwaarts trekken **Lachsterns** *Gelochelidon nilotica* gezien, waaronder een exemplaar in het binnenland, bij Vlist, Zuid-Holland, op 4 september. Maximaal drie bleven tot 4 september in de Waterberg Twisk, Noord-Holland. Van **Reuzenstern** *Hydroprogne caspia* werden 40 exemplaren geteld op telposten. Op nachtelijke geluidsopnamen werden er nog eens vijf vastgelegd. Naar schatting 100 exemplaren pleisterden op 6 september in de Wokumerwaard, Friesland. De laatste vogel werd op 16 oktober op de Marker Wadden gezien. Een juveniele **Witvleugelstern** *Chlidonias leucopterus* trok op 14 en 15 september aardig wat bekijks bij Middelaar, Limburg. Late exemplaren werden waargenomen tot 14 oktober in de Oostvaardersplassen en tot 15 oktober bij Den Oever (twee).

**ROOFVOGELS** Op de telposten werden onder meer de volgende aantallen roofvogels vastgesteld: 212 **Visarenden** *Pandion haliaetus*, 297 **Wespendieven** *Pernis apivorus*, 539 **Blauwe Kiekendieven** *Circus cyaneus*, 19 **Steppekiekendieven** *C. macrourus*, vier **Grauwe Kiekendieven** *C. pygargus*, 48 **Zeearenden** *Haliaeetus albicilla*, twee **Zwarte Vrouwen** *Milvus migrans*, 63 **Ruigpootbuizerds** *Buteo lagopus* (het hoogste aantal in september-oktober sinds 2011, toen er maar liefst 539 werden geteld), 41 **Velduil** *Asio flammeus*, vijf **Roodpootvalken** *Falco vespertinus* en niet minder dan 592 **Smellekens** *F. columbarius* (waarvan 44 langs telpost Loozerheide). **Grijze Vrouwen** *Elanus caeruleus* blijven maar komen. Het exemplaar dat op 21 augustus werd ontdekt in het Fochteloërveen, Drenthe/Friesland, bleef tot 3 september. Daarna volgden waarnemingen van 17 tot 19 september bij Ospel, Limburg (eerste voor deze provincie), en op 28 september over telpost Brobbelbjes-Noord, tussen Uden en Oss, Noord-Brabant. Tot 14 september hing

een **Slangenarend** *Circaetus gallicus* eveneens rond op het Fochteloërveen. Er werden buiten de telposten nog eens 35-40 **Steppekiekendieven** gemeld. Spectaculair was het vrouwtje ('Selja') dat op 1 juli 50 km ten zuiden van Oulu, Finland, was gezenderd en van 16 tot 18 oktober verbleef in Waadhoeke, Friesland. Tijdens het schrijven van deze rubriek was de vogel in het zuiden van Marokko aanbeland (<https://tinyurl.com/y7tdwmkx>). Het bekende inmiddels vierde-kalenderjaar mannetje was vanaf 7 oktober weer op zijn winterplek van De Onlanden, Drenthe. Het was een magistraal najaar voor overtrekkende **Rode Vrouwen** *M. milvus*. De hele maand oktober was goed, maar eind oktober doken ongekend grote groepen op met op 29 oktober een groep van 30 (!) bij Leusden, Utrecht, op 30 oktober 10 over Berkheide, Zuid-Holland, en een groep van eerst negen en later 10 langs de Zuid-Hollandse kust op 31 oktober. Voor trekkers kwam het dagrecord van 38 bij Geleen op 15 maart 1988 niet in gevaar maar 26 over De Horde bij Lopik, Utrecht, zorgde wel voor de tweede dag ooit. Veel telposten boekten (na)jaarrecords. Koploper in deze periode was de Loozerheide met liefst 60.

**HOPPEN TOT STAARTMEZEN** Op ruim 10 plekken werden **Hoppen** *Upupa epops* waargenomen, waaronder een escape met een blauw ringetje in Barendrecht, Zuid-Holland. De enige melding van **Bijeneter** *Merops apiaster* betrof twee overvliegende op 13 september bij het Oostvoornse Meer, Zuid-Holland. Een **Scharrelaar** *Coracias garrulus* werd op 24 september ontdekt in De Nederlanden ten noorden van De Koog op Texel. Hij bleef tot 26 september op het eiland en maakte onder meer een uitstapje naar De Cocksdorp. Dezelfde vogel hield zich van 17 tot 28 oktober op bij Sårup, Nordjylland, Denemarken. Het najaarstotaal (augustus-oktober) aan ringvangsten van **Draaihals** *Jynx torquilla* kwam uit op 37, iets minder dan het gemiddelde over de afgelopen 10 jaren (het hoogste aantal was 78 in 2013). De soort van het najaar was een onvolwassen **Roodoogvireo** *Vireo olivaceus* die van 27 tot 30 oktober in het Krimbos bij De Cocksdorp op Texel verbleef en daarmee veel vogelaars gelukkig maakte die de eerdere twitchbare gevallen van Vlieland (1996) en Westkapelle (2005) hadden gemist. Het was het negende geval en een nieuwe soort voor Texel. Van 14 tot 18 oktober verbleef een onvolwassen **Daurische Klauwier** *Lanius isabellinus* op Griend. De opmars van **Cetti's Zanger** *Cettia cetti* zet nog altijd door. Ze lijken daarbij (eindelijk) ook door te breken in de kuststreek, in elk geval tijdens de dispersieperiode: alle vijf de ringstations langs de Hollandse en Zeeuwse kust, alsmede de ringbaan op Vlieland verbroken (ruim) hun oude jaarrecords. Er kwamen weer wat **Witkopstaartmezen** *Aegithalos caudatus* naar Nederland. De eerste goed gedocumenteerde werd op 5 oktober op telpost Blauwe Kamer, Gelderland, gezien. Vooral de laatste dagen van oktober werden er serieuze aantallen waargenomen, met als hoogtepunt een groep van c. 50 op 30 oktober op Schiermonnikoog.

**BOSZANGERS** Een **Grauwe Fitis** *Phylloscopus trochiloides* werd op 1 en 2 september waargenomen in de Kob-



587 Scharrelaar / European Roller *Coracias garrulus*, adult, Akiab, Texel, Noord-Holland, 25 september 2018  
(Co van der Wardt)

588 Bonte Tapuit / Pied Wheatear *Oenanthe pleschanka*, eerste-winter mannetje, Banckspolder, Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, 4 november 2018 (Marco van der Velde)





589 Roze Spreeuw / Rosy Starling *Pastor roseus*, juveniel, Ameland, Friesland, 20 oktober 2018  
(Alex Bos)

590 Roodmus / Common Rosefinch *Erythrina erythrina*, eerste-winter, Vlieland, Friesland, 19 oktober 2018  
(Julian Bosch)



Recente meldingen



591 Kleine Spotvogel / Booted Warbler *Iduna caligata*, eerste-winter, Vlieland, Friesland, 16 september 2018  
(Jaap Denee)

592 Kleine Spotvogel / Booted Warbler *Iduna caligata*, eerste-winter, Castricum, Noord-Holland, 5 september 2018  
(Arnold Wijker)





593 Struikrietzanger / Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum*, eerste-winter, Robbenjager, Texel, Noord-Holland, 5 oktober 2018 (Diederik Kok)

594 Struikrietzanger / Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum*, eerste-winter, Castricum, Noord-Holland, 7 oktober 2018 (Arnold Wijker)





595 Roodoogvireo / Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus*, eerste-winter, Krimbos, Texel, Noord-Holland, 27 oktober 2018 (Jos van den Berg/birdingtexel.com)

beduinen op Schiermonnikoog; op 2 september waren het er zelfs twee vlak bij elkaar. Op 2 september werd ook een exemplaar gevonden in Egmond aan Zee, Noord-Holland. De laatste vogel van deze periode verbleef op 9 september nabij Oosterend op Terschelling. De eerste **Pallas' Boszanger** *P proregulus* van het najaar verscheen op 9 oktober in de duinen bij Hoek van Holland, Zuid-Holland. Hierna volgden een vangst op 20 oktober op Vlieland en op dezelfde dag een waarneming bij Hoorn op Terschelling, en op 28 oktober werd een exemplaar gehoord in het Leeuwarderbos bij Leeuwarden, Friesland. Dat **Bladkoning** *P inornatus* al enkele jaren in de lift zit, zal niemand zijn ontgaan. Het aantal ingevoerde meldingen op waarneming.nl en de verspreiding (met meldingen uit ruim 350 uurhokken) was vergelijkbaar met het topnajaar 2016. Er werden echter bijzondere records geboekt. Een gefotografeerde vogel op 5 september in Lauwersoog was het vroegst bezwene najaarsgeval ooit. Vlieland streek met de eer van het hoogste aantal, toen een optelsom op 5 oktober uitwees dat er zeker 100 op het eiland verbleven. Ook ringers vingen grotere aantallen dan ooit: in totaal werden er minimaal 270 geringd (145 in dezelfde periode in 2016, 170 in 2017), waarvan liefst 109 bij Castricum, Noord-Holland. Opvallende aantallen op deze locatie waren onder andere 13 op 5, 25 (!) op 8 en 12 op 10 oktober: de drie beste dagen voor ringers ooit. Op 8 oktober hing een **Raddes Boszanger** *P schwarzi* in de netten bij Castricum. Ook in de Kroonspolders op Vlieland werd op 17 oktober een exemplaar gevangen (en terug-

gevangen op 19 en 24 oktober). De enige veldwaarneming kwam van 19 oktober, van een traditioneel skulkende vogel op Ameland. Op 15 oktober werd een **Bruine Boszanger** *P fuscatus* waargenomen bij Klein Zwitserland op Schiermonnikoog. De soort bleef deze periode exclusief voor de Waddeneilanden, met op 18 oktober nog een waarneming op de Boschplaat op Terschelling. Zwijgzame **bergfluiters** *P bonelli/orientalis* die ook nog eens kortstondig gezien werden, waren onmogelijk op naam te brengen; er waren waarnemingen op 15 september in Bomenland op Vlieland, op 23 september bij Oosterend op Terschelling en op 27 september in het Krimbos op Texel. De laatste **Fluiter** *P sibilatrix* van het jaar werd op 18 oktober geringd bij Westenschouwen, Zeeland. Van ongeveer 20 plekken werden **Siberische Tjiftjaffen** *P tristis* gemeld, zowel in het veld als op ringstations. Er waren daarbij ook (zeer) vroege vogels, zoals een zeer waarschijnlijk hier op 30 september op Vlieland en op 7 oktober in Meijendel, Zuid-Holland (vangst). Het vroegste aan de hand van mtDNA bewezen geval dateert van 7 oktober 2014 in Groningen.

**GRASMUSSEN TOT GRASZANGERS** Op acht locaties langs de kust werden in totaal 24 eerstejaars **Sperwergrasmussen** *Sylvia nisoria* geringd. Bijzonder was dat het exemplaar van 17 september in Meijendel hier op 20 oktober en 4 november (49 dagen later) werd teruggevangen, steeds in uitstekende conditie. Daarmee is dit met afstand de langst aantoonbaar verblijvende Sperwergrasmus voor het land. Naast de ringvangsten werden nog op

ruim 20 andere locaties exemplaren gevonden, met als meest opmerkelijke plaatsen (namelijk in het binnenland) de stad Groningen, Groningen, op 3 september en bij Tull en 't Waal, langs de Lek, Utrecht, op 4 september. Waarschijnlijke **Siberische Braamsluiers** *S althaea blythi* werden gevangen op 16 september en 7 en 15 oktober bij Castricum; op 6 oktober in de Eemshaven, Groningen; op 8 oktober op Schiermonnikoog; en op 12 oktober op Vlieland. Ook in het veld werden in deze periode enkele kandidaten opgemerkt. Verrassend was dat het mannetje **Kleine Zwartkop** *S melanocephala* dat op 28 augustus werd geringd op de ringbaan bij het Burgumer Mar (Bergumermeer), Friesland, op 9 oktober werd teruggevangen en via twee georganiseerde excursies op 10 en 14 oktober door een flink aantal vogelaars kon worden gehoord en soms gezien. Op 2 en 5 oktober werd een **Orpheusspotvogel** *Hippolais polyglotta* gefotografeerd in Bomenland op Vlieland (eerste waarneming voor dit eiland; een exemplaar dat op 27 mei en 2 juni 1996 werd gevangen is nooit ingediend bij de CDNA). Een eerstejaars **Kleine Spotvogel** *Iduna caligata* werd op 5 september geringd bij Castricum. Een andere eerstejaars verbleef van 14 tot 17 september op de oostpunt van Vlieland. Verrassend was dat waarschijnlijk dezelfde vogel op 19 september werd gevangen en geringd aan de westzijde van het eiland, hemelsbreed ruim 10 km verderop. Ook was er nog een melding op 16 september bij Castricum. Een **Grote Karekiet** *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* werd op 2 september geringd in de Amsterdamse Waterleidingduinen, Noord-Holland, en een **Veldrietzanger** *A agricola* hing op 15 en 16 oktober in een mistnet bij Castricum. Het was een bijzonder najaar voor **Struikrietzanger** *A dumetorum*, al kregen veldvogelaars daar weinig van mee: die moesten het doen met een enkel twitchbaar geval op 5 oktober op de noordpunt van Texel. Het was zoals vaker vooral een soort voor ringers. De eerste werd op 5 september op Vlieland gevangen. Tussen 6 september en 20 oktober werd een ongewoon aantal van zeven geringd bij Castricum. Tussendoor was er op 15 september nog een vangst in de Amsterdamse Waterleidingduinen. Een late eerstejaars **Bosrietzanger** *A palustris* werd op 6 oktober geringd in de Eemshaven. Tot 7 september werden nog **Waterrietzangers** *A paludicola* gezien bij Vockestaert, Zuid-Holland; in Waterland, Noord-Holland; bij Raalte, Overijssel; in Lentevreugd, Zuid-Holland; en in de Ezumakeeg. Ringvangsten vonden plaats op 3 september bij Elburg, Gelderland, en op 5 september in het Verdrongen Land van Saeftinghe. Op 16 september werden twee zingende **Graszangers** *Cisticola juncidis* gemeld in het Verdrongen Land van Saeftinghe. De dag erna zongen er eveneens twee bij Westkapelle, waarvan er ten minste één tot 19 september bleef. Het bleef met deze soort een Zeeuws feestje, met ook nog een waarneming op 6 oktober bij Breskens.

**PESTVOGELS TOT VLIENGENVANGERS** In oktober bereikten kleine aantallen **Pestvogels** *Bombycilla garrulus* ons land maar niet verder zuid dan grofweg de lijn Rotterdam-Nijmegen. Op telposten werden 28 exemplaren waargenomen. Op 25 oktober waren er 30 in West-Terschelling, Terschelling, de grootste groep van deze periode.

Op 20 oktober werd een exemplaar geringd op Vlieland. Op een 10-tal plekken werden juveniele **Roze Spreeuwen** *Pastor roseus* gezien, waaronder op 15 september in Westkapelle; op 19 september langs telpost Houten-Zuid, Utrecht; van 27 september tot 10 oktober in Arne-muiden, Zeeland; van 12 tot 14 oktober op Schiermonnikoog; en op 20 oktober op Ameland. In de laatste decade van oktober waren er regelmatig meldingen van meer en minder zekere **IJslandse Koperwieken** *Turdus iliacus coburni*. Op 24 oktober werd op Vlieland een op IJsland gekleurde vogel teruggevangen (zwart 940). Een **Noordse Nachtegaal** *Luscinia luscinia* werd op 2 september van een ring voorzien in de Kennemerduinen, Noord-Holland. **Kleine Vliegenvanger** *Ficedula parva* was opvallend schaars met slechts drie waarnemingen, namelijk op 7 oktober bij Ouddorp, op 11 oktober in de Kennemerduinen (vangst), en op 28 en 29 oktober – een vanwege de Roodoogvireo veel bezocht exemplaar – bij De Cocksdoorp op Texel. De enige **Aziatische Roodborsttapuit** *Saxicola maurus* van deze periode vertoefde op 6 oktober op de oostpunt van Vlieland. Op 9 oktober werd een **Bonte Tapuit** *Oenanthe pleschanka* gefotografeerd op een niet toegankelijke locatie in Nationaal Park De Oude Venen, Friesland. Vanaf 28 oktober (zo bleek later op basis van foto's) verbleef een eerstejaars mannetje in de Banckspolder op Schiermonnikoog dat daar op 3 november werd 'herontdekt' en tot 6 november bleef.

**KWIKSTAARTEN** Een vrouwtje **Citroenkwikstaart** *Motacilla citreola* werd op 11 oktober gemeld over telpost Kinderdijk, Zuid-Holland. Op telposten werden 120 **Grote Piepers** *Anthus richardi* waargenomen. Ook werd in de nacht van 4 op 5 oktober een overtrekkend exemplaar opgenomen boven Grevenbicht, Limburg. Op 1 september vloog een exemplaar zowel langs telpost Castricum aan Zee als telpost de Puiinhoop bij Katwijk. Dit betekende een evenaring van de vroegste datum ooit. Groepjes van drie verbleven op 3 oktober in de Brabantse Biesbosch, Noord-Brabant, en op 15 oktober op de noordpunt van Texel. Bijzonder was het voorkomen van **Mongoolse Pieper** *A godlewskii* op Vlieland. Op 14 oktober werd een roepend exemplaar op de Vliehors opgenomen. Daarna werd op 20 oktober opnieuw een exemplaar aan het begin van de Vliehors roepend vastgelegd en gefotografeerd. Vermoedelijk dezelfde vogel werd even later boven de noordpunt van Texel opgemerkt. Verrassend genoeg dook enige uren later nog (of weer?) een exemplaar op de Vliehors op. In totaal 57 **Duinpiepers** *A campestris* passeerden telposten, met het hoogste aantal (zes) op telpost Loozerheide. Het grootste groepje pleisteraars betrof vijf op 3 september bij Meerssen, Limburg. Op telposten werd een in oktober mooi aantal van 15 **Siberische Boompiepers** *A hodgsoni* geregistreerd. De soort wordt steeds vaker vastgesteld, getuige ook de zes waarnemingen van vogels ter plaatse, allemaal in de buurt van de kust. Er werden 26 **Roodkeelpiepers** *A cervinus* vastgesteld op telposten. Daarnaast waren er nog vijf waarnemingen van pleisterende vogels.

**VINKEN TOT GORZEN** De Vulkan bij Den Haag is van oudsher de plek waar tijdens de najaarstrek (veruit) de

## Recente meldingen

meeste **Vinken** *Fringilla coelebs* passeren. Dit najaar werd voor het eerst in de Benelux de magische grens van een miljoen doortrekkers doorbroken, waarvan c 950 000 in september-oktober. Juveniele **Roodmussen** *Erythrura erythrura* werden geringd op Vlieland op 8 en 25 september en bij Vleuten, Utrecht, op 17 oktober. Van 19 tot 26 oktober vertoefde een juveniel op de oostpunt van Vlieland en op de noordpunt van Texel was er één aanwezig op 20 oktober. Vorig najaar was prima voor **Grote Kruisbek** *Loxia pytyopsittacus* maar ook dit jaar druppelden in oktober wat exemplaren binnen. Op telposten werden 22 exemplaren gemeld. Op 4 oktober was een exemplaar kort aanwezig op Vlieland; op 6 oktober onderbraken twee vogels kort hun trek in het Noordhollands Duinreservaat bij Bakkum, Noord-Holland; van 13 tot en met 21 oktober verbleven maximaal drie vogels in het Drents-Friese Wold, Drenthe; en op 22 oktober werd een vogel opgenomen bij Ter Borg, Groningen. In totaal 243 **Ijsgorzen** *Calcarius lapponicus* werden op trek geteld. Telpost Eemshaven had met 38 het grootste aandeel. Het hoogste aantal ter plaatse bijeen bedroeg 12 op 14 oktober op Schiermonnikoog. Op telposten waren vijf **Grauwe Gorzen** *Emberiza calandra* opgemerkt. Uitsluitend in het zuidoosten van het land waren ook vogels ter plaatse, met een maximum van 10 nabij Doenrade, Limburg. Tot half oktober werden 56 **Ortolanen** *E hortulana* op telposten opgemerkt (twee meer dan in augustus). Bovendien werden er 37 geregistreerd op nachtelijke geluidsoptnamen (24 minder dan in augustus). In een kleine 30 uurhokken werden exemplaren aan de grond waargenomen. Vanaf eind september werden in totaal 18 langsvliegende **Dwerggorzen** *E pusilla* opgemerkt vanaf telposten, voornamelijk langs de kust. Daarnaast waren er waarnemingen op c 18 locaties, met als meest



596 Bladkoning / Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*, Vlieland, Friesland, 19 oktober 2018  
(Julian Bosch)

opvallende een pleisteraar van 11 tot 15 oktober nabij Leeuwarden. Er waren ringvangsten op 6, 13 en 16 oktober bij Kamperhoek, Flevoland, op 15 oktober op Vlieland en op 18 oktober bij Castricum. Nabij de Westerpas op Schiermonnikoog liet een **Bosgors** *E rustica* zich van 20 tot 22 oktober bij tijd en wijle goed bekijken.

We bedanken Marcel Sandifort en Robert van Tiel voor hun hulp bij het samenstellen van deze rubriek. Ook is dankbaar gebruik gemaakt van de websites dutchbirdalerts.nl, sovonn.nl, trektellen.nl en waarneming.nl.

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