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Dutch Birding is een tweemaandelijks tijdschrift met nummers in februari, april, juni, augustus, oktober en december. 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.

De volgorde van vogels in Dutch Birding volgt in eerste instantie een klassieke 'Wetmore-indeling'. Binnen dit raamwerk worden voor taxonomie en naamgeving de volgende overzichten aangehouden: *Zeldzame vogels van Nederland* door A B van den Berg & C A W Bosman (1999, Haarlem) (taxonomie en wetenschappelijke, Nederlandse en Engelse namen van Nederlandse vogels); *Palearctic birds* door M Beaman (1994, Stonyhurst) (Engelse namen van overige Palearctische vogels); *Vogels van de wereld – complete checklist* door M Walters (1997, Baarn) (Nederlandse namen van overige vogels van de wereld); en *Birds of the world* door C G Sibley (1996, Version 2.0, Cincinnati) (taxonomie en wetenschappelijke en Engelse namen van overige vogels van de wereld). Afwijkingen van en aanvullingen op bovenstaande overzichten zijn gebaseerd op beslissingen van de CSNA (cf Dutch Birding 19: 21-28, 1997; 20: 22-32, 1998).

Een lijst met tarieven voor de vergoeding van auteurs, fotografen en tekenaars is verkrijgbaar bij de redactie.

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Rare birds in the Netherlands in 1997

Wim M Wiegant, A (Bert) de Bruin & CDNA



This is the 18th annual report on rare birds in the Netherlands to be published in Dutch Birding. This report comprises records from 1997 as well as belated and reconsidered records, dating back to 1910, which have been evaluated by the Dutch rarities committee, the Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA). Several records from 1997 and earlier years are still under consideration, for various reasons.

Details included for each accepted record are, if available: date(s); location and/or *municipality*, province; number of birds if more than one, plumage and sex; type of record if trapped, photographed, videoed, sound-recorded or found dead (and where specimen is stored); names of up to three observers involved in finding, identifying and recording, and relevant references in the literature, which normally include (inter)national and not regional journals, and published photographs. Records from 1996 lasting into 1997, which were already published in the 1996 report, are repeated here without references, for the sake of completeness. Sequence of the records in the species accounts is from the current year backwards, with records within one year presented chronologically. A compilation of most of the birds that have been videoed can be found in Plomp et al (1998). 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: Max Berlijn, A (Bert) de Bruin, Ruud F J van Beusekom, Jan van der Laan (chairman), Karel A Mauer, C S (Kees) Roselaar, Jelle Scharringa (secretary) and Wim M Wiegant (archivist). Records should be sent to CDNA, Postbus 45, 2080 AA Santpoort-Zuid, the Netherlands, preferably using standard forms which can be obtained free of charge from CDNA.

Decisions regarding taxonomy have been delegated to the Dutch committee for avian systematics, the Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (CSNA), which on 1 January 1999 consisted of the following members: Arnoud B van den Berg, C S (Kees) Roselaar, Cornelis J Hazevoet, George Sangster (secretary) and Ronald Sluys.

CDNA has decided to no longer consider records of Black Brant *Branta nigricans* and Middle Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos medius* from 1 January 1999 onwards. Of course, older records are still welcomed by the committee.

In 1997, a cumulative total of at least 330 species was recorded with two species new to the Dutch list: Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps* and Spanish Sparrow *Passer hispaniolensis*. Two Hutchins's Canada Geese *Branta hutchinsii hutchinsii* were the first to be accepted but a number of records is still under review. In retrospect, Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla* was added to the Dutch list on the basis of a reconsidered record from 1993. Other highlights included the fifth Whistling Swan *Cygnus columbianus*, the second Laughing Gull, a breeding pair of Eurasian Eagle Owl *Bubo bubo*, the third Dartford Warbler *Sylvia undata*, the second Daurian Jackdaw *Corvus dauuricus* and a spectacular invasion of Two-barred Crossbill *Loxia leucoptera* involving more than 100 birds.

Systematic list of accepted records

Whistling Swan *Cygnus columbianus* 1,3,1
28 November to 8 February 1998, *Veendam*, and *Hoogezand-Sappemeer*, Groningen, and Nieuw-Annerveen and Spijkerboor, *Anloo*, Drenthe, adult, photographed, videoed (E Klunder et al; de Bruin & Klunder 1997, 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 317, plate 324, 1997; 20: 50, plate

20a, 278, plate 238, 1998, Birding World 11: 7, 1998).

This is the fifth record. The first two records were at Zonnemaire, Zeeland, in February 1976 and at Nijkerk, Gelderland, in February 1980. Records from Lauwersmeer, Groningen, in November 1986 and at Eenrum, Groningen, in December 1992 were close enough in time and place to suspect that possibly the same bird as in 1997/98 was involved. The 1992 bird, however, had more yellow on the left side of the bill, whereas in this bird the reverse was the case. CDNA currently investigates whether a misinterpretation in the description of one of the birds has occurred.

Greenland White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons flavirostris* -,14,2
5 March, Haskerdijken, *Heerenveen*, Friesland, photographed (S Bernardus; Dutch Birding 19: 90, plate 89, 1997); 5-16 November, Doniaburen, *Nijefurd*, Friesland, photographed, videoed (R O Winters, T Bakker, M Berlijn et al; Winters et al 1997, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 311, plate 318, 1997).

These are the first photographically documented records of this taxon.

*** Hutchins's Canada Goose** *Branta hutchinsii hutchinsii* 0,-,2
9 March, Anjumerkolken, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, photographed (J van der Laan, L Edelaar, W E Oddie et al); 16 November to 2 January 1998, Korendijkse Slikken, *Korendijk*, and Stad aan 't Haringvliet/Den Bommel, *Middelharnis/Oostflakkee*, Zuid-Holland, adult, photographed, videoed (F Verschoor, D Kok, M Berlijn; van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

An individual recorded at Vlaardingen, Zuid-Holland, on 9-12 February 1998 may have been the same individual as the one in Zuid-Holland from November to January, but the record is still circulating. These are the first records accepted as belonging to this species. All previous records, accepted as either Greater Canada Goose *B canadensis parvipes* or Hutchins's Canada Goose, or one of both, are currently under review.

Black Brant *Branta nigricans* 7,61,15
18 January to 9 March, Anjumerkolken, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult, photographed (K H Scholten, D G Duff et al); 15 February, Rammegors, *Tholen*, Zeeland, adult, photographed (H Westerlaken, G A Davidse); 21 March to 17 May, Landerum, *Terschelling*, Friesland, adult, photographed (T Bakker, A Ouwerkerk); 15-20 May, De Grieë, *Terschelling*, Friesland, adult, photographed (T Bakker, A Ouwerkerk); 15 October, Wierum, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult, photographed (O Tol, T Bakker); 18 October to 17 May 1998, eastern part of Texel, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, up to eight, six adult and two juvenile (A Wassink et al; Loos & Wassink 1999); 1 November to 20 December, Ouddorp and Goedereede, *Goedereede*, Zuid-Holland, 29 December to 19 January 1998, Scharendijke, *Middenschouwen*, Zeeland, and 29 January 1998, Scheelhoek, *Goedereede*, Zuid-Holland, adult, photographed (G Bakker, M Berlijn); 7 December to 9 February 1998, Prunjepolder, *Middenschouwen*, Zeeland, photographed (G Bakker et al).
1996 24 October to 18 May 1997, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, three, including the individual from Wieringen, adult; 14 December to 16 February 1997, Normerpolder, *Wieringen*, Noord-Holland.

A record year, with apparently a number of returning individuals, of which counting has become almost impossible. The juveniles on Texel were the first (non-hybrid) juveniles to be recorded in Europe (Loos & Wassink 1999). The 1996 records were already included in the report for that year.

Ring-necked Duck *Aythya collaris* 5,12,0
1996 12-17 April, Lutjebroekerweel, *Drechterland*, Noord-Holland, adult female (J Buysman, A Roobeek).

This is the first record of a female, after 16 consecutive males, which suggests that females tend to be overlooked. The observers kindly re-submitted the record after it was lost during the first circulation.

Steller's Eider *Polysticta stelleri* 0,4,1
11-12 January, Holwerd, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, adult male, summer plumage (J Feddema, H Hiemstra, R Kuipers).

Although this individual was associated with Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*, like the one at Verdronken Land van Saeftinge, Zeeland, in May-August 1996 (Maebe & Meininger 1997), CDNA regards this as a separate record.

American Wigeon *Mareca americana* 5,17,3
15 February to 15 March, Aalkeetbuitenpolder, *Vlaardingen*, Zuid-Holland, adult male, summer plumage, photographed (M Berlijn et al); 25-27 February, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, adult male, summer plumage, photographed (M Berlijn, E Koops et al; van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 90, plate 90, 1997); 31 May to 2 June, Jan Durkszpolder, Oudega, *Smallingerland,* Friesland, adult male, summer plumage (A de Bruin, S de Bruin et al).

Considering the high numbers of wintering Eurasian Wigeon *M penelope* in the Netherlands, one in every 100 000 to 300 000 wigeons should, statistically, be an American. It remains to be seen whether this should be taken as an encouragement to go and look for one. Clearly, places with high numbers of Eurasian Wigeon, like the Lauwersmeer, are good places to find an American.

Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors* 6,17,2
20 April to 11 May, Oostvaardersplassen, *Lelystad*, Flevoland, adult male, summer plumage, photographed, videoed (M Scholte, D Groenendijk et al; Dutch Birding 19: 140, plate 138, 1997); 19-23 May, Rustenburg, *Heerhugowaard*, Noord-Holland, adult male, summer plumage (K Kraaijeveld).

There are records from all months except March and July; 13 out of a total of 26 records date from April-May.



56 Blue-winged Teal / Blauwvleugeltaling *Anas discors*, adult male, Oostvaardersplassen, Flevoland, April 1997 *(Ruud E Brouwer)* **57** Whistling Swan / Fluitzwaan *Cygnus columbianus* with Bewick's Swan / Kleine Zwaan *C bewickii*, Anloo, Drenthe, 28 December 1997 *(Jan van Holten)* **58** Greenland White-fronted Goose / Groenlandse Kolgans *Anser albifrons flavirostris*, Doniaburen, Friesland, 9 November 1997 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*







59 Great Shearwater / Grote Pijlstormvogel *Puffinus gravis*, second-calendar year (wing, tail and skull of bird found beached at Petten, Noord-Holland, on 23 February 1997), Zoölogisch Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland *(Louis A van der Laan)* **60** Pied-billed Grebe / Dikbekfuut *Podilymbus podiceps*, adult, Akersloot, Noord-Holland, April 1997 *(Hans Gebuis)* **61** Pied-billed Grebe / Dikbekfuut *Podilymbus podiceps*, adult, Akersloot, Noord-Holland, April 1997 *(Jan van Holten)*





Green-winged Teal *Anas carolinensis* 6,8,1
15 June, Jaap Deensgat, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, adult male, summer plumage (P M Gnodde, E B Ebels et al).

This is the first record for June. Most records are from April (8), whereas there are none from February, July to October and December.

Yellow-billed Loon *Gavia adamsii* 20,11,1
23 October, North Sea, c 22 km north of Vlieland, Continentaal Plat, adult moulting from summer to winter plumage (C J Camphuysen, M F Leopold).

An early record of an individual seen during a seabird count.

*** Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps* 0,0,1
19-21 April, *Akersloot*, Noord-Holland, adult summer, photographed, videoed (J Wattel, C S Roselaar et al; Wattel & Roselaar 1997, Wattel et al 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 95-96, plate 93-94, 1997, 20: 272, plate 233-234, 1998; Birding World 10: 132, 1997, 11: 22, 1998, Birdwatch 6 (60): 57, 1997).

The first record for the Netherlands concerned an adult which could be observed at close quarters. There are c 33 previous records in Europe, of which only four on the continent, all in France. In 1997, there was a small influx in Europe, with three to six birds in Britain, two in Ireland and one in France (Wattel et al 1998).

Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis* 9,3,1
23 February, Petten, *Zijpe*, Noord-Holland, second-calendar year, found dead, photographed, wing, tail and skull retained at Zoölogisch Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland (R Costers; Prins & Costers 1997).

This is the first record for February; other records were in November (5), October (4), July (2) and April (1).

Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus* 5,59,3
27 July, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (F J Maas et al); 27 July, Camperduin, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland (N F van der Ham, E B Ebels et al); 25 August, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (A Wassink, R G Bouwman).

The records at Camperduin concerned two different individuals. This is the last year for which CDNA considers records of this species; so far, of the 19 birds reported in July-September (cf Dutch Birding 19: 206, 262, 1997), only three were accepted.

European Storm-petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus* -,55,2
2 October, Bloemendaal aan Zee, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland (R Slaterus); 25 October, *Westkapelle*, Zeeland (D Kok, P L Meininger).

Apart from the September 1990 influx, involving at least 27 birds, the number of records since 1980 averages a little below two per year, which makes 1997 an average non-influx year.

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* -,48,1
8 June, Dijkmanshuizen, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (E Feuth, S Cramer).

This is the first record since May 1995. Remarkably, no less than 52 birds were reported throughout the year, including flocks of c 25, 14 and three in September (Dutch Birding 19: 262, 1997); of these, only one (!) was submitted and accepted. Since 1980, there were six years without records and six years with one. Only in 1994 and 1995 there were more: 31 and four birds, respectively.

Eurasian Griffon Vulture *Gyps fulvus* 9,1,1
2 June, Hoge Veluwe, *Ede*, Gelderland, photographed (S de Bruin, L Davids et al; Dutch Birding 19: 140, plate 137, 1997).

This bird was discovered and photographed flying high over the just (27 May) returned Short-toed Eagle *Circaetus gallicus* at the Hoge Veluwe. A bonus one can normally only dream of.

Short-toed Eagle *Circaetus gallicus* 3,7,0
27 May to 17 August, Hoge Veluwe, *Ede*, and Hoog Buurlosche Heide, *Apeldoorn*, Gelderland, adult (H Nuijen, W B Janssen, W M Wiegant).

Of the two individuals that stayed in the same area in 1996, the dark individual (cf Dutch Birding 18: 209, plate 200, 213, plate 205, 1996) returned, but it was seen much less frequently and over a much wider area. Claims that both birds were seen were not substantiated.

Greater Spotted Eagle *Aquila clanga* 14,1,1
23-31 August, Kollumerwaard, *Kollumerland en Nieuwkruisland*, Friesland, and Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, immature (subadult), photographed, videoed (M Hirschler, W de Ruiter, O Tol et al; Tol & Ebels 1997, de Bruin et al 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 213, plate 222, 1997, 20: 284, plate 240-241, 1998).

This is the first record since 1985. There are now six field records. The previous five are from November 1943, February 1961, October-November 1964, May 1976, and May-June 1985. The other seven records concerned birds trapped or found dead, including three in 1907. 11 out of the total of 16 concerned first-winter birds; only two adults were recorded, in May 1976 and May-June 1985.

Booted Eagle *Hieraaetus pennatus* 0,4,0
1996 17 July and 14 August, Beek, *Ubbergen*, Gelderland, adult, pale morph, photographed, videoed (F Majoor, E van Winden; van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

This is the fourth record, in five years time. All records were photographically documented.

Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla* -,18,2
15-20 May, Aalkeetbuitenpolder, *Vlaardingen*, Zuid-Holland, singing male, sound-recorded (R Slaterus); 17-19 May, Blauwe Kamer, *Wageningen*, Gelderland, singing male, sound-recorded (J van der Laan, L Heemskerk, J J F J Jansen et al).

A well-visited singing male at Tjamme, Beerta, Reiderland, Groningen, from 19 June to 4 July has not yet been submitted.



62 Booted Eagle / Dwergarend *Hieraaetus pennatus*, pale morph, Beek-Ubbergen, Gelderland, 17 July 1996 *(Ward Hagemeijer)*



63 Little Bustard / Kleine Trap *Tetrax tetrax*, immature male, Etersheim, Zeevang, Noord-Holland, 8 March 1997 *(Bert van Dillen)*

Demoiselle Crane *Anthropoides virgo* 0,0,0

This species is a relatively popular cagebird in the southern parts of the country. Therefore, CDNA has decided that only records of 'proven' wild origin of the individuals can be accepted. This implies that two previously accepted records of flying birds, on Rottumeroog, Groningen, on 30 April 1993 and at Baarn, Utrecht, on 1 May 1995, are no longer accepted (contra Wiegant et al 1995, 1997), based on the fact that it could not be established whether the birds were unringed.

Little Bustard *Tetrax tetrax* -,8,1

24 February to 24 March, Etersheim, Oosthuizen, *Zeevang*, Noord-Holland, immature male, photographed, videoed (H H van Dillen et al; van Dillen 1997, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 94, plate 92, 1997).

This bird revealed its sex by displaying to a Common Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*. Most probably, the bird was present for one to two weeks before it was seen by many birders. The observer heard the news from his parents, who heard it from the daughter of friends, who herself had it from 'hearsay'!

Great Bustard *Otis tarda* -,66,2

14 January, Panningen, *Helden*, Limburg, and 17 January, Heusden, *Asten*, Noord-Brabant, probably male, photographed, videoed (B Aerts, A Mendoza et al); 6 and 15-16 February, Ypelo, *Wierden*, Overijssel, probably male, photographed (A Derks, P Knolle).

This is the first year since 1987 that more than one individual was recorded. The last influx was in the winter of 1986/87 when 20 birds were recorded, including groups of seven in Flevoland and 10 in Limburg. Since then, only single individuals were recorded, in 1994 and 1996.

Stone-curlew *Burhinus oedicnemus* -,18,2

18 May, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, photographed (P van Rij; van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 141, plate 144, 1997); 27-29 June, 's-Gravenhoekinlaag, Wissenkerke, *Noord-Beveland*, Zeeland, adult, photographed (A Hannewijk, M Hoekstein).

Again two records, as in 1996. From 1980 onwards, the best year was 1980 with three records. The species has not been recorded in 1985-87, 1991 and 1995.

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* 5,6,1

25-26 June, Eemspolder, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, adult, photographed (J Doevendans, S de Bruin, A de Bruin).

This is the third consecutive year in which this species is recorded. Although Collared Pratincole may be regarded a classic spring overshoot migrant, with most records in May-June, there are also three records from October-November.

American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominicus* 1,7,1

30 July to 9 August, Prunjepolder, *Middenschouwen*, Zeeland, adult, summer plumage, photographed (T O V Muusse et al; Dutch Birding 19: 207, plate 213, 1997).

This is the first mid-summer occurrence, which may be considered more or less typical for an adult on a 'wrong' continent, having failed to find a suitable partner. The other records were in May (2), and October-November (6).

Sociable Lapwing *Vanellus gregarius* 12,20,0

1996 17-18 April, Asselt, *Swalmen*, and Buggenum, Bouxweerd, *Haelen*, Limburg, adult, photographed (W Vergoosen, M Berlijn).

Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla* 0,2,3

16 July, Wagejot, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult, photographed (A Wassink et al; Dutch Birding 19: 207, plate 214, 1997); 16 and 23-26 July, Lepelaarsplassen, *Almere*, Flevoland, adult, summer plumage, photographed (W Leurs, T O V Muusse, M J M Muusse et al);

3 August, Zanddijk, Julianadorp, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland, adult, photographed (A Wassink, R Pop et al; van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 201, plate 205, 1997).

Amazingly, three individuals were recorded. Like with other American waders, the apparently bachelor adults turned up rather early in the migration season. The species was new to the Dutch list as recently as 1989.

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* 9,66,3
25 June, Groene Strand, *Terschelling*, Friesland, probably adult female, photographed (T Bakker, A Ouwerkerk); 10 July, Wormer- en Jisperveld, *Wormerland*, Noord-Holland, adult, photographed (J van der Geld; van den Berg & Bosman 1999); 21-30 September, Jaap Deensgat, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, juvenile, photographed (V Schmidt, R Teetz).

A rather average year by recent standards. Most records date from August-September.

Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus* 23,58,0
1995 9-10 July, Eemshaven, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, adult, summer plumage (E J Boekema, M P Olthoff).

Since 1980, there have been four blank years: 1980, 1992, 1994 and this year. The best year was 1984 with nine individuals.

Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaceus* 0,13,0

An individual present from 25 April to 1 May, in Bandpolder, Dongeradeel, Friesland, was videoed (Plomp et al 1998) but has not yet been submitted.

*** Laughing Gull** *Larus atricilla* 0,1,1
22 August to 20 October, *Groningen*, Groningen, adult moulting from summer to winter plumage, photographed, videoed (M P Olthoff et al; Olthoff 1997, 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 203, plate 208, 212-213, plate 220-221, 264, plate 274, 310-311, plate 312 & 316, 1997, 20: 107-109, plate 62-65, 1998, 21: 21, plate 22, 1999, Birding World 10: 291, 1997, Birdwatch 6 (10): 57, 1997).
1993 25 September to mid-October, *Harderwijk*, Gelderland, adult, winter plumage, photographed (Ebels & van Heusden 1999; Dutch Birding 15: 285, plate 209, 1993, 21: 19, plate 20-21, 1999).

The first, but in retrospect the second record for the Netherlands, concerned a confiding individual which took up residence in the city of Groningen, for obvious reasons close to a McDonald's restaurant. After thorough study of the moult of the Groningen individual, several observers demanded review of the rejected 1993 record which was documented by a number of (poor-quality) photographs. One of the reasons for rejection of that record were the very short primaries, but CDNA now has decided that this can well be attributed to moult. Therefore, the Harderwijk record becomes the first.

64 Pectoral Sandpiper / Gestreepte Strandloper *Calidris melanotos*, adult, Wormer- en Jisperveld, Noord-Holland, 10 July 1997 *(Jan van der Geld)*





65 Middle Spotted Woodpecker / Middelste Bonte Specht *Dendrocopos medius*, Elzetterbos, Epen, Wittem, Limburg, 22 maart 1997 *(Karel Lemmens)*



66 Middle Spotted Woodpeckers / Middelste Bonte Spechten *Dendrocopos medius*, Posterholt, Ambt Montfort, Limburg, June 1997 *(Jan van Holten)*

Pontic Gull *Larus cachinnans cachinnans* 0,19,19
22 June, De Domelaar, *Markelo*, Overijssel, first-summer moulting to second-winter (P Knolle, A Poelmans); 25 October into 1998, maximum of seven adult and two immature, Klein Vink, *Arcen en Velden*, Limburg, photographed (J J F J Jansen, P Palmen et al; Dutch Birding 19: 320, plate 327, 1997; Knolle et al 1997); 26 October, Eemshaven, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, first-winter (M P Olthoff); 8-18 November, Gooierhoofd, *Huizen*, Noord-Holland, and Maatweg, *Almere*, Flevoland, probably female, probably fourth-winter (R F J van Beusekom, G A Morel); 10 November to 15 February 1998, Gooierhoofd, *Huizen*, Noord-Holland, and Maatweg, *Almere*, Flevoland, probably male, probably fourth-winter, photographed, videoed, sound-recorded (R F J van Beusekom et al; van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 20: 51, plate 21, 1998); 23-28 November, Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel, first-winter (P Knolle); 28-29 November, Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel, first-winter, photographed (P Knolle, J van der Laan et al); 6 December, Oost-Maarland, *Eijsden*, Limburg, adult, photographed (R Schols; Dutch Birding 19: 320, plate 326, 1997); 14 December, Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel, adult (P Knolle); 20 December, Rutbekerveld, *Enschede*, Overijssel, first-winter (P Knolle, E van Boxtel, J H van Steenis); 23 December, Gooierhoofd, *Huizen*, Noord-Holland, and Maatweg, *Almere*, Flevoland, probably female, second-winter (R F J van Beusekom).
1996 5-9 January, Rutbekerveld and Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel, adult (P Knolle); 6 March, Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel, adult (P Knolle); 15 March, Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel, adult (P Knolle, C Derks); 14 November to 2 December, Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel, adult (P Knolle); 1 December, Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, second-winter (P Knolle, C Derks et al); 13 December, Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel, third-winter (P Knolle); 24-28 December, Het Rutbeek and Rutbekerveld, *Enschede*, Overijssel, at least two adult (P Knolle, W Hoogendoorn, E B Ebels et al).
1995 2 November, Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel, second-winter (P Knolle); 6 November, Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel, third-winter (P Knolle); 1-17 December, Het Rutbeek, *Enschede*, Overijssel, adult (P Knolle, C Derks, B Pieterson).

This is the last year for which this species is considered by CDNA. The sudden upsurge of records of this species, only recently split from Yellow-legged Gull *L michahellis*, comes as no surprise. The mere splitting itself has generated more attention towards its identification, which has been aided by a number of recently published identification articles. More importantly, this species appears to be a regular wintering bird in eastern parts of the country!

Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoides* -,63,4
13 January, *Amsterdam*, Noord-Holland, adult (M S Robb); 6 April, Leikeven, Loonsche Heide, *Tilburg*, Noord-Brabant, first- or second-summer, photographed (F Scheeren, H Zevenhuizen, E B Ebels); 7-9 September, Harlingen-Haven, *Harlingen*, Friesland, adult (M P Olthoff); 14-15 December, Klein Vink, *Arcen en Velden*, Limburg, first-winter (J D Eerdmans, A P Eerdmans, J M van Steenis).

The late-summer record in Harlingen suggests the return of the adult observed at the same location on 20 August 1994 (Wiegant et al 1996), although one may wonder where it has been in the years in between. Both records have been counted separately.

Ross's Gull *Rhodostethia rosea* 1,8,1
22 October, North Sea, 15 km north of Schiermonnikoog, Continentaal Plat, adult winter (C J Camphuysen, M F Leopold).

This bird, discovered during a seabird count, was loosely associated with gull flocks attending shrimp fishing boats. According to the observers, the bird was

attracted to the feeding birds but it did not really join the feeding activity and seemingly did not quite know what to do.

Ivory Gull *Pagophila eburnea* 0,2,1
17 May, Bergen aan Zee, *Bergen*, and Egmond aan Zee, *Egmond*, Noord-Holland, first-summer (M Argeloo; Argeloo 1998).

This bird was found on 17 May but it may have been present since 10 May, as from that day a local inhabitant had seen what was probably the same bird feeding on the corpse of a Harbour Porpoise *Phocoena phocoena*! Soon after the discovery, a number of birders went to see the bird but it had disappeared. Apparently, it had moved north, since the same individual was seen and photographed in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, on 21-24 May and finally found dead at Langeness, Schleswig-Holstein, on 9 June (Argeloo 1998; Dutch Birding 20: 277, plate 236-237, 1998, Birding World 10: 176, 1997, 11: 28, 1998, Limicola 11: 146-147, 1997).

Black Guillemot *Cepphus grylle* -,35,1
8 September, Paal 18, *Terschelling*, Friesland, first-winter (H J P Derks).

For the last six years, CDNA each year discusses whether or not it should still consider records of this easy-to-identify and easy-to-describe species. Each year the conclusion is that it should continue. The current record concerned a bird of the expected age at a typical time and location.

Eurasian Eagle Owl *Bubo bubo* 1,6,6
2 March to 4 August, Sint Pietersberg, *Maastricht*, Limburg, breeding pair raising four young, photographed, videoed, sound-recorded (H Koks, J J F J Jansen, P Palmen; Jansen 1997b, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 88, plate 86, 208, plate 215, 1997).

The birding community only became aware of this sensational breeding record after the news and a sound-recording were broadcasted in a radio programme!

Alpine Swift *Apus melba* 7,19,1
27 June, Den Oever, *Wieringen*, Noord-Holland (R E Brouwer).

The rejected multi-observer record on 2 May 1995 at Breskens, Zeeland, has been resubmitted but CDNA found no reason to reconsider it.

European Roller *Coracias garrulus* -,12,1
13-15 June, Ermelosche Heide and Houtdorperveld, *Ermelo*, Gelderland, photographed (H M Killian, C Derks et al; Killian & van Diek 1997, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 150, plate 157, 1997).
1984 22 May, Vosbroek, Schinveldse Bos, *Onderbanken*, Limburg (F Hustings).

67 Eurasian Eagle Owl / Oehoe *Bubo bubo*, Sint Pietersberg, Maastricht, Limburg, mei 1997 *(Karel Lemmens)*



68 Desert Wheatear / Woestijntapuit *Oenanthe deserti*, first-winter female, Verdronken Land van Saeftinge, Zeeland, November 1997 *(Jan van Holten)*



The first twitchable individual since 1982 tried its best to elude the many eager birders but after it was found back 7 km south of the original location, it finally could be studied at reasonably close quarters. Later, the bird was alternatingly seen at both locations.

Grey-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus* 1,2,0
1985 5 and 7 April, Brunssummerheide, *Brunssum*, Limburg, female (F Hustings, F J Schepers).

This is the third record, at the same location as the second, a male in 1981 and 1982. The first record concerned a male at Oosterveld, Weerselo, Overijssel, on 28 April 1974.

Middle Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos medius* -,12,28
23 January, *Venlo*, Limburg, photographed (J Rossen; Schepers et al 1997; Limb Vogels 9: 30, 1998); 16 February to May, Elzetterbos, Epen, *Wittem*, Limburg, two, male and female, photographed (F J Schepers, T Bakker et al); 10 March into June, Aerwinckel & Munningsbos, Posterholt, *Ambt Montfoort*, Limburg, 11, three pairs of which two breeding, raising one and four young respectively, photographed, sound-recorded (P Beckers, J Boeren, J J F J Jansen, P Palmen; Schepers et al 1997); 22 March, Wapserzand, *Westerveld*, Drenthe, adult male (M Brandsma, H Brandsma; Jansen 1997a); 1-24 April, Kerperbos, Epen, *Wittem*, Limburg, male, singing (R M van Dongen; Schepers et al 1997); 2 April to June, Riesenberg, Savelsbos, *Margraten*, Limburg, six, four adult and at least two young (J Creuwels, I Edens, H Reumers; Schepers et al 1997); 2-25 April, Schweibergerbos, *Wittem*, Limburg, male, singing (F Ellenbroek, F J Schepers; Schepers et al 1997); 25 April, Kruisbos, *Wittem*, Limburg, three, two males and female (F Ellenbroek; Schepers et al 1997); 3-19 May, Vogelenzang, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland, photographed, sound-recorded (L Edelaar, M Guyt et al; Jansen 1997a; Dutch Birding 19: 141, plate 143, 1997); 14 December to 27 February 1998, G J van Heekpark, *Enschede*, Overijssel, photographed (P Knolle; Knolle et al 1998; Dutch Birding 20: 54, plate 24, 1998).
1996 14 December to 8 February 1997, *Heeze*, Noord-Brabant; 22 December to 22 March, Kerperbos, Epen, *Wittem*, Limburg.

The records from Limburg are based on reports as published in Limburgse Vogels (cf Schepers et al 1997; Limb Vogels 9: 30, 1998). CDNA has decided to accept all these reports for 1997 without further investigation. The successful breeding records are the first since 1962 (cf Wiegant et al 1998). The Vogelenzang record is the first fully documented record for a coastal location. CDNA still awaits submission of a long-staying bird seen by many birders at Grebbeberg, Rhenen, Utrecht, from 1 January to 6 May. The last two 1996 records were already published in the 1996 report; the date of the last 1996 record has been extended.

Greater Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla* 3,16,2
30 April to 1 May, Grevenbicht, *Born*, Limburg, photographed (R Schols; Dutch Birding 19: 140, plate 139, 1997); 3 June, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland (R de Beer, A Schaftenaar et al).

The Grevenbicht record is the first inland. The bird was once seen to fly across the border into Belgium. The Maasvlakte record is the first for June; other records were in April (3), May (6), August (1), September (2), October (7) and November (1).

Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* 0,7,1
3-5 September, Haagse Waterleidingduinen, *Wassenaar*, Zuid-Holland, first-winter, photographed (A Remeeus, J Dijkhuizen).

This is the fifth consecutive year in which the species is recorded, concerning the third first-winter.

Thrush Nightingale *Luscinia luscinia* 7,30,3
18-19 May, Oude Waal, Ooypolder, *Ubbergen*, Gelderland, singing, sound-recorded (J J F M Jansen, P Palmen et al); 20 May, Rottumeroog, *Eemsmond*, Groningen, singing, photographed, sound-recorded (K van Dijken; Dutch Birding 19: 141, plate 147, 1997); 19 June, Spartelmeer, Kennemerduinen, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland, sound-recorded (M W H Renders).

The species has not yet been recorded from the three southern provinces Zeeland, Noord-Brabant and Limburg. The province of Friesland was host to 13 records.

Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maura* 9,18,0

A record from Texel, Noord-Holland, on 17 October 1995, already published in the 1995 report, was erroneously again published for 1996 in the 1996 report (cf Wiegant et al 1997, 1998).

Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti* 1,5,1
11-17 November, Verdronken Land van Saeftinge, *Hulst*, Zeeland, first-winter female, photographed, videoed (F van den Boogaard et al; Dutch Birding 19: 314, plate 323, 1997, Birding World 10: 452, 1997).

Apart from the second record, which was in April 1989, all records are from October to December.

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis* -,36,0
1995 20 May, Kijkduin, *Den Haag*, Zuid-Holland (V van der Spek, E Opperman et al).

River Warbler *Locustella fluviatilis* 7,22,1
18 May to 2 June, Pampushout, *Almere*, Flevoland, singing, photographed, sound-recorded (P van Rij et al; Dutch Birding 19: 144, plate 151, 1997).

Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta* 2,19,0
1995 26 June, Oostvaardersdijk, *Lelystad*, Flevoland, adult, trapped, photographed (C J Breek).

This record was already submitted in 1996 but only recently the archivist of CDNA realized it referred to a record which had not yet been accepted.

Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola* 1,7,1
12 August, *Castricum*, Noord-Holland, first-year, trapped, photographed (H Levering, J Visser, A Wijker; van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 263, plate 272, 1997).






69 Dusky Warbler / Bruine Boszanger *Phylloscopus fuscatus*, Lauwersoog, Groningen, November 1997 *(Oane Tol)* **70** Greater Short-toed Lark / Kortteenleeuwerik *Calandrella brachydactyla*, Grevenbicht, Limburg, 30 April 1997 *(Ran Schols)* **71** Arctic Warbler / Noordse Boszanger *Phylloscopus borealis*, Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, 28 September 1997 *(Frank Dröge)* **72** Woodchat Shrike / Roodkopklauwier *Lanius senator*, second-year male, Katwijk aan Zee, Zuid-Holland, 26 July 1997 *(Marc Guyt)*

After review, involving a quite heated correspondence with foreign experts about the separation of this species from Booted Warbler *A caligatus*, CDNA has decided that the only accepted field record, on Vlieland, Friesland, on 18 September 1994 (van der Veen & Ebels 1996) is still acceptable. The photograph of a Paddyfield Warbler on Fair Isle, Scotland, in October 1997 (Dutch Birding 19: 307, plate 310, 1997), showing striking resemblance to the Vlieland bird, took away the last remaining doubts among the committee members.

Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola*
1980 16 August, Brandaris, *Terschelling*, Friesland, first-year, found dead (C S Roselaar).

This species is no longer considered from 1 January 1993 onwards.

Dartford Warbler *Sylvia undata* 1,1,1
3-7 January, Brielsegatdam, Westplaat, *Westvoorne*, Zuid-Holland, male, photographed, videoed (E H Eijkelenboom, E V Eijkelenboom et al; Ebels et al 1997, Eijkelenboom & Eijkelenboom 1997, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 43, plate 45, 223, plate 227-228, 1997).

This poor bird was discovered in terribly cold weather which it most likely did not survive. This is the third record, a little over one year after the second. The other two records were at Hoophuizen, Gelderland, on 1-3 April 1959 and at Westkapelle, Zeeland, from 26 November to 3 December 1995.

Arctic Warbler *Phylloscopus borealis* 2,7,1
28 September, Maasvlakte, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, first-winter, photographed (F Dröge; van den Berg &



73 Woodchat Shrike / Roodkopklauwier *Lanius senator*, male, Hornhuizen, Groningen, 25 May 1997 *(Roef Mulder)*

74 River Warbler / Krekelzanger *Locustella fluviatilis*, Pampushout, Flevoland, May 1997 *(Peter van Rij)*



Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 259, plate 268-269, 1997, Birding World 10: 379, 1997).

This bird was discovered quite late in the afternoon, to the horror of those attending the Dutch Birding week on Texel. Without traffic jams, those who made the trip from Texel to the Maasvlakte might have seen it; now they were c 20 min late. The identification of a bird observed at Oosterend, Terschelling, Friesland, on 2 October 1996 (Wiegant et al 1998), has recently been questioned after publication of the description and a second photograph (van der Vliet & Ouwerkerk 1998, Dutch Birding 18: 277, plate 270, 1997, 20: 290, plate 246, 1998) and will therefore require reconsideration.

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus* 1,18,2
30 September, Hargen aan Zee, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland, sound-recorded (R van Splunder, W van Splunder, R Slaterus); 8-12 November, Lauwersoog, *De Marne*, Groningen, photographed, sound-recorded (O Tol, R O Winters, A de Bruin).

Four additional reports in 1997, including two from an early date like the one at Hargen aan Zee, have not yet been submitted (Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland, 29 September; Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, 2 October; Amsterdamse Waterleidingduinen, Noord-Holland, 27 October; and Westkapelle, Zeeland, 5 November; Dutch Birding 19: 266, 312, 1997).

Western Bonelli's Warbler *Phylloscopus bonelli* 5,13,1
27 September to 11 October, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, singing (A Schaftenaar et al).

Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator* -,43,6
11 May, *Enschede*, Overijssel, adult summer, probably male, photographed (P Knolle, A Poelmans); 15 May, Breskens, *Oostburg*, Zeeland, adult (J E Kikkert, E Sanders, C Beeke); 25 May, Hornhuizen, *De Marne*, Groningen, male, photographed (W Zolf, A de Bruin et al; van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 143, plate 148, 1997); 7 June, Hargen aan Zee, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland, adult male, photographed (S Lagerveld, J van der Laan et al); 14-29 June, Kennemerduinen, *Bloemendaal*, Noord-Holland, second-year male (W T de Nobel, A B van den Berg); 26-27 July, Coepelduynen, Katwijk aan Zee, *Katwijk*, Zuid-Holland, second-year male, photographed, videoed (G van der Bent et al).

The Breskens record refers to a bird flying by. Virtually all recent records are photographically documented, as seems to be the rule with rare shrikes.

Daurian Jackdaw *Corvus dauuricus* 0,1,1
8 May, Amsteldiepdijk, *Wieringen/Anna Paulowna,* Noord-Holland, 9-10 May, Donkere Duinen, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland, and 10-11 May, Egmond aan Zee, *Egmond*, Noord-Holland, adult, photographed, videoed (W Leurs, R E Brouwer, C J G Scharringa et al; Brouwer et al 1997, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 141, plate 142, 151, plate 156, 1997).

This is the second record. The timing and the slow southerly progress of this bird were strongly reminiscent of that of the first, in the coastal regions of Noord-Holland and Zuid-Holland, on 1-15 May 1995, although the bird's pace was a little faster. On the other hand, the fact that this quite conspicuous species was not seen in 1996 has led CDNA to assume that the record does not necessarily refer to the same individual.

House Crow *Corvus splendens* 0,3,1
From 17 August, Hoek van Holland, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, two adults present from April 1994 (Ebels & Westerlaken 1996) bred and successfully reared one young, photographed (C van der Wardt, M van der Wardt, F Verschoor et al; Ebels 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 209, plate 216, 1997, 20: 293, plate 247, 1998).

This is the first breeding record for Europe. If one were to consider this species an unwelcome intruder of the Dutch avifauna, then now is the time to extirpate it (cf Ebels 1998)!

Rose-coloured Starling *Sturnus roseus* 21,27,4
9 May, Noordwijk aan Zee, *Noordwijk*, Zuid-Holland, two, adult (J van Dijk, W Meijers); 12 November, *Middelburg*, Zeeland, first-winter (J M Walhout); 18 November to 12 December, Anjum, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, juvenile, photographed, videoed (K Sars, E Koops et al; Dutch Birding 19: 313, plate 322, 1997).

The Noordwijk record is the first of two adults together. The first record of two juveniles together, on Vlieland, Friesland, on 11-12 October (one bird present on 10 October) has not yet been submitted.

*** Spanish Sparrow** *Passer hispaniolensis* 0,0,1
4-15 May, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult male, photographed, videoed (B Gaxiola, A Wassink; Gaxiola & Wassink 1997, 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 144, plate 152, 1997, 20: 65, plate 33, 1998; Birding World 10: 175, 1997).

This is the first record of this very rare vagrant, with only 13 records in western Europe north of Spain: six in Britain in 1966, 1972, 1977, 1993 (2) and 1996-98, four in France, all in the south, in 1961, 1990 (2) and 1991, two in Norway in 1988 and 1990, and one in Finland in 1996. The bird was discovered in the garden of the then newly opened Texel Birdwatching Center while the finder was looking for Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus* from inside his room during a rainy evening.

Arctic Redpoll *Carduelis hornemanni* 43,48,0
1910 3 December, *Amersfoort*, Utrecht, adult female, found dead, skin retained at Zoölogisch Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland (C S Roselaar).

In retrospect, this is the first record of this species.

Two-barred Crossbill *Loxia leucoptera* 37,20,111
12 August, *Vlieland*, Friesland, female or immature male, photographed (L W Bruinzeel, C M Eising; Dutch Birding 19: 268, plate 277, 1997); 18 August, Wadden Sea between Ameland and Terschelling, *Ameland/*



75 Spanish Sparrow / Spaanse Mus *Passer hispaniolensis*, male, De Cocksdorp, Texel, Noord-Holland, 5 May 1997 *(René Pop)*

Terschelling, Friesland, male, caught by hand, photographed, released on 13 September at Franeker, Friesland (family Harsta; Dutch Birding 21: 83, plate 78, 1999); 21 August, Willemsduin, *Schiermonnikoog*, Friesland, adult male, caught by hand and released (H-G Folz, J Rosenbaum-Folz); 6 September Oost-Vlieland, *Vlieland*, Friesland, sound-recorded (R Slaterus); 6 September, Westenschouwen, *Westerschouwen*, Zeeland, adult male, trapped and ringed (L van Ree, T van Ree, H van Buren); 15-26 September, Lunterse Bos, *Ede*, Gelderland, two, male and female-type, photographed (O Faulhaber, H Heerink; van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 259, plate 270, 1997, 21: 84, plate 79, 1999); 30 October to 31 January 1998, Oranje-Nassau's Oord, *Wageningen*, Gelderland, maximum 16 on 27 December, photographed, sound-recorded, videoed (H van Oosterhout, W M Wiegant et al; Dutch Birding 19: 311, plate 314, 1997); 15 November, Corversbos, *Hilversum*, Noord-Holland, 15 (F van Klaveren et al); 2 December to 29 January 1998, IJzeren Veld, *Huizen*, Noord-Holland, maximum of 22 on 13 December, photographed, sound-recorded (R F J van Beusekom et al); 5 December to 12 January 1998, *Kuinderbos*, Noordoostpolder, Flevoland, maximum of 18 on 21 December, photographed (S Bernardus, M Berlijn, R Offereins; Dutch Birding 21: 85, plate 80-81, 1999); 20 December, Kwintelooien, *Rhenen*, Utrecht, female (R Keizer); 25 December to 25 July 1998, *Opsterland*, Friesland, at least four between 25 and 30 December, maximum of 16 on 5 January 1998, photographed (K Haas, L Davids, O Tol et al; Dutch Birding 21: 85, plate 82, 1999); 28 December, Doldersum, *Vledder*, Drenthe, 25 (M Swart); 29 December, Groet, *Schoorl*, Noord-Holland, three, including one male, sound-recorded (R Slaterus).

76 Rose-coloured Starling / Roze Spreeuw *Sturnus roseus*, juvenile, Anjum, Friesland, 1 December 1997 *(Ruud E Brouwer)*



This was by far the largest invasion ever recorded. It started in August, when it included apparently just arrived, extremely tame birds. Among these were highly strange records of a bird landing on a tripod and even one landing on a coffee table aboard a ship. The invasion progressed slowly until the end of October, when the first sizeable groups became apparent, and then peaked around Christmas. The number of recorded birds in 1997 was 111, but the total of the invasion in 1997/98 was calculated at 181 birds (Ebels et al 1999).

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla* 27,52,2
2 May, De Cocksdorp, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult summer male, photographed (E Nieuwstraten, M van der Aa, S Plat); 11 October, Noordoosthoek, *Vlieland*, Friesland (J Scharringa, A Veen, E B Ebels et al).

The Texel record is only the fourth for May. With 54 records in the last 17 years, this species is a good candidate for removal of the list of considered species.

Red-headed Bunting *Emberiza bruniceps* -,2,0
1992 29 May, Lange Paal, *Vlieland*, Friesland, adult male, photographed (W van der Waal).

All pre-1992 records are currently under review. This bird was seen on the right spot, a Wadden Sea island, at the right time, and during strong easterly winds, accompanied by migrating Grey-headed Wagtails *Motacilla thunbergi*.

Black-headed Bunting *Emberiza melanocephala* 2,3,2
5-22 May, *Den Helder*, Noord-Holland, first-summer male, photographed, videoed (D Kok, M Plomp et al; Gaxiola & Wassink 1997, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 143-144, plate 149-150, 1997, Birdwatch 6 (61): 57, 1997); 20 July, De Blocq van Kuffeler, Lepelaarsplassen, *Almere*, Flevoland, adult male, summer plumage, singing (J P Bruijntjes et al).

The Den Helder individual was remarkably tame. Since it did not show any other obvious signs of captive origin, it was accepted as a wild bird.



77 Black-headed Bunting / Zwartkopgors *Emberiza melanocephala*, first-summer male, Den Helder, Noord-Holland, 5 May 1997 *(René Pop)*

Systematic list of rejected records

This list contains all records not accepted by CDNA. Records marked with @ were rejected by all committee members in the first or second voting. Most records were rejected 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 or aberrant behaviour. Species for which CDNA unanimously decided that all records so far refer to birds of captive origin are indicated with *. This includes records of birds of which all ancestors are assumed to be of captive origin (introduced species of British category C).

Hutchins's Canada Goose *Branta hutchinsii hutchinsii* 3 March, *Brakel*, Gelderland, five (description does not rule out hybrid with Barnacle Goose *B leucopsis*). **Harlequin Duck** *Histrionicus histrionicus* 14 October, Lauwersmeer, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, male in eclipse plumage (@ incomplete description of bird seen only one minute). **American Wigeon** *Mareca americana*, 15 September, Veluwemeer, *Nunspeet*, Gelderland (hybrid origin not fully excluded, underwing and bill not described). **Cory's Shearwater** *Calonectris borealis* 25 October, *Scheveningen*, Zuid-Holland (@ description of distant bird without plumage details). **Great Shearwater** *Puffinus gravis* 1 October, Westerslag, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (no consensus amongst observers; dark-capped Cory's Shearwater not excluded). * **Lammergeier** *Gypaetus barbatus* 20 May, Tinte, *Westvoorne*, Zuid-Holland, first-summer, taken into care (van den Berg et al 1997; Dutch Birding 19: 122, plate 119, 1997; @ identification accepted, but considered escaped); 25 May, *Noordoostpolder*, Flevoland, videoed (@ identification accepted, but considered escaped; both birds originated from a reintroduction programme (van den Berg et al 1997)). **Steppe Buzzard** *Buteo buteo vulpinus* 27 June, Laag Luthem, *Zwolle*, Overijssel (@ unknown orange-coloured bird, photographed from a hot-air balloon). **Greater Spotted Eagle** *Aquila clanga* 15 March, Hoge Vorsel, Heesch, *Bernheze*, Noord-Brabant (@ description has too little detail for identification of this difficult species). **Booted Eagle** *Hieraaetus pennatus* 11 May, IJmuiden, *Velsen*, Noord-Holland, pale morph (@ incomplete description does not rule out Common Buz-

zard *Buteo buteo*). **Little Crake** *Porzana parva* 30 August, Veenhuizerstukken, *Stadskanaal*, Groningen, juvenile (@ description does not rule out Baillon's Crake *P pusilla*). * **Demoiselle Crane** *Anthropoides virgo* 30 August, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen, and Bandpolder, *Dongeradeel*, Friesland, wearing metal ring, videoed (Plomp et al 1998; @ identification accepted, but considered escaped). **Baillon's Crake** *Porzana pusilla* 18-20 May, Ooypolder, *Nijmegen*, Gelderland (@ not documented by description or sound-recording). **Collared Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola* 10 July, Katwijk aan Zee, *Katwijk*, Zuid-Holland, adult summer (description of bird seen without binoculars flying overhead considered marginally insufficient). * **Spur-winged Lapwing** *Vanellus spinosus* 17-22 May, Naardermeer, *Naarden*, Noord-Holland, 11-12 January 1998, Oude Zeug, *Wieringermeer*, Noord-Holland, and 12-16 January 1998, Hollum, *Ameland*, Friesland, photographed, videoed (Dutch Birding 19: 141, plate 145, 1997; identification accepted but considered escaped on account of a number of damaged or missing secondaries, and a remarkable travel pattern back-and-forth to England (cf Gantlett 1997; Birding World 10: 218-219, 1997). **Western Sandpiper** *Calidris mauri* 11 May, Brielsegatdam, *Westvoorne*, Zuid-Holland (@ no diagnostic features seen; identification by elimination does not rule out Southern Dunlin *C alpina schinzii*). **Least Sandpiper** *Calidris minutilla* 22 July, Jaap Deensgat, Lauwersmeer, *De Marne*, Groningen (@ description of a 'strange stint' with a very odd appearance contains elements wrong for this species, and lacks sufficient detail for acceptance as a country's first). **Stilt Sandpiper** *Micropalama himantopus* 16 August, Lepelaarsplassen, *Almere*, Flevoland (after much debate, CDNA considers this record unacceptable, despite the good description, because in all drawings the bill is too much decurved). **Great Snipe** *Gallinago media* 22 March, Eemshaven, *Eemsmond*, Groningen (@ description incomplete). **Audouin's Gull** *Larus audouinii* 5 October, IJmuiden, *Velsen*, Noord-Holland (@ description of flying bird marginally insufficient for acceptance; for a country's first, as much detail as possible should be seen; in this case, the colour of eyes and legs were not described). **Pontic Gull** *Larus cachinnans cachinnans* 1 September, Nieuwe Waterweg, Rozenburg, *Rotterdam*, Zuid-Holland, juvenile moulting to first-winter, photographed (Dutch Birding 19: 319, plate 325, 1997, 21: 40, plate 35-36, 1999); identified as Yellow-legged Gull *L michahellis* by the fact that no diagnostic features for *cachinnans* seem to be visible, with all characters seeming normal for *michahellis*, cf Garner 1999); 5 October, Kennemermeer, IJmuiden, *Velsen*, Noord-Holland, adult (@ description incomplete). **Baltic Gull** *Larus fuscus* 12 April, Putten, *Zijpe*, Noord-Holland (@ diagnostic moult pattern not fully established; description of moult considered essential in adult birds). **Greater Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella brachydactyla* 14 May, Eemshaven, *Eemsmond*, Groningen (@ incomplete description of bird flying by). **Greenish Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochiloides* 27 September, Lange Paal, *Vlieland*, Friesland (@ bird seen too briefly for positive identification; Yellow-browed Warbler *P inornatus* not excluded). * **White-shouldered Starling** *Sturnus sinensis* 6 May, Waal en Burg, *Texel*, Noord-Holland, adult, photographed (@ identification accepted but considered escaped). **African Chaffinch** *Fringilla coelebs africana/spodiogenys* 27 February 1997, male, *Capelle aan de IJssel*, Zuid-Holland (@ description incomplete).

1996

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* 20 March, immature, *Den Bosch*, Noord-Brabant (@ description incomplete). **Baltic Gull** *Larus fuscus* 23 August, *Texel*, Noord-Holland (rejected after consultation of gull expert; description of moult considered essential in adult birds). **Thrush Nightingale** *Luscinia luscinia* 11-15 June, Lomm, *Arcen en Velden*, Limburg, sound-recorded (recording reveals Common Nightingale *L megarhynchos*); **Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus* 16-21 October, Kroonspolder, *Vlieland*, Friesland, trapped (@ description incomplete). **Collared Flycatcher** *Fidecula albicollis* 11 May, *Krimpen aan de IJssel*, Zuid-Holland, female, photographed (primary patch considered too small and primaries too brown for this species).

1995

* **Demoiselle Crane** *Anthropoides virgo* 1 May, Polder Zeldert, *Baarn*, Utrecht (identification accepted, but considered escaped (contra Wiegant et al 1997); see also main text).

1993

* **Demoiselle Crane** *Anthropoides virgo* 30 April, Rottumeroog, *Eemsmond*, Groningen (identification accepted, but considered escaped (contra Wiegant et al 1995); see also main text).

1983

Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides* 27 August, Lauwerspolder, *De Marne*, Groningen (description incomplete, containing some strange details seemingly not fitting the species).

1982

Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* 13 October, Katwijk aan Zee, *Katwijk*, Zuid-Holland (@ rather late submission of a description which seems to have been made long after the actual observation; description lacks details necessary for a country's first).

Acknowledgement

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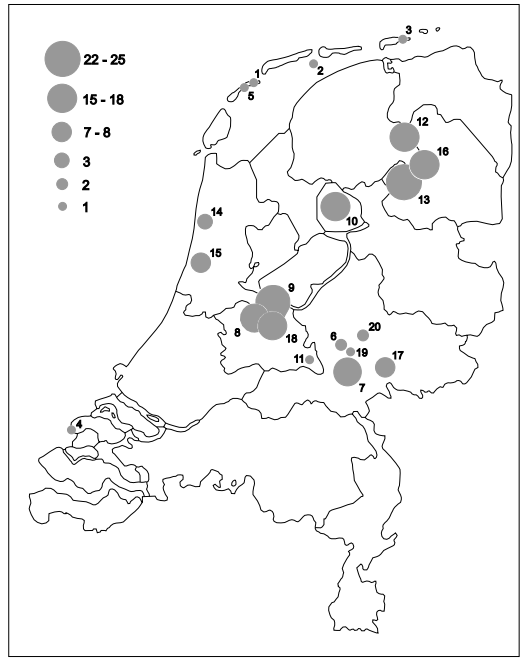
Invasion of Two-barred Crossbills in the Netherlands and Europe in 1997/98, with notes on identification, vocalizations and ecology

Enno B Ebels, Ruud F J van Beusekom & Magnus S Robb

Two-barred Crossbill *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata* is a vagrant in the Netherlands. Records usually coincide with irruptions of Common Crossbill *L curvirostra*. In some years, there are multiple records and the occurrence can then have an invasion-like character. Up to and including 1996, 20 records involving 57 individuals have been accepted by the Dutch rarities committee (CDNA). High numbers were recorded in September 1889 (two records totalling 32 individuals: a group of 22, of which three were collected, and a group of 10, of which two were collected) and in the winter of 1990/91 (nine records, 16 individuals, including a group of seven). After the small invasion of 1990/91, only one bird was accepted for 1992-96, in the winter of 1993/94 (Ebels 1993, Wiegant et al 1994, 1995, van IJzendoorn et al 1996, van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

From August 1997, a new invasion of Two-barred Crossbills became apparent, bringing record numbers to the Netherlands (cf Ebels 1997). During this invasion more than three times as many birds were recorded as in all the years from 1800 to 1996 combined; there were at least 20 records involving a calculated total of 181 birds. All records in the Netherlands in 1997/98 are presented below; each record has been accepted by CDNA, including some for which only limited information is available and which would be considered insufficiently documented to be acceptable in normal years. This policy is followed by CDNA in exceptional cases of large scale invasions of rare species (Wim Wiegant in litt). In addition, an overall analysis is given of records elsewhere in Europe during the same period. Furthermore, the cyclic nature of Two-barred Crossbill irruptions in Europe and the situation in North-America regarding irruptive movements of the Nearctic taxon *L l leucoptera* (White-winged Crossbill) in 1997/98 are briefly discussed. The large numbers of Two-barred Crossbills in the Netherlands enabled observers to study birds closely for prolonged periods. Several interesting aspects of identification, vocalizations and ecology noted during these studies are presented in this paper, a joint project by Ruud van Beusekom (mainly identification and ecology), Magnus Robb (vocalizations) and Enno Ebels (survey of records and other paragraphs).

FIGURE 1 Records of Two-barred Crossbills *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata* in the Netherlands in 1997/98; numbers on map refer to record number as listed in text / Gevallen van Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata* in Nederland in 1997/98; getallen in kaart verwijzen naar nummering van gevallen in tekst



[*Dutch Birding 21: 82-96, 1999*]

Records in the Netherlands

Information on the Two-Barred Crossbill records below comes from the CDNA archives, the Dutch Birding birdline and verbal, written and electronic messages by several people (see acknowledgments). The geographical distribution of the records is presented in figure 1.

1 On 12 August 1997, the first Two-barred Crossbill was seen for only half a minute but nevertheless photographed at IJsbaan on Vlieland, Friesland, by Corine Eising and Leo Bruinzeel (Dutch Birding 19: 268, plate 277, 1997). The greenish colour indicates a female or immature male.

2 On 18 August 1997, a male landed on the coffee table on board of a boat sailed by the family Harsta on the Wadden Sea between Ameland and Terschelling, Friesland; it was exhausted and easily caught by hand, photographed and taken into care; it was released on 13 September at Franeker, Friesland, where it flew off strongly.

3 On 21 August 1997, an adult male was observed by Hans-Georg Folz and Jutta Rosenbaum-Folz at Willemsduin on the easternmost tip of Schiermonnikoog, Friesland. It was seen coming in from the east and landed almost on the head of the first-named observer. It was exhausted and could be observed from very close range. For considerable time, the bird sat on the extended sun shield of the observers' mounted telescope (figure 2), where it was caught by hand and closely examined for 5 min, before being released.



FIGURE 2 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, adult male resting on telescope, Willemsduin, Schiermonnikoog, Friesland, 21 August 1997 *(Hans-Georg Folz)*

78 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, male, Wadden Sea between Terschelling and Ameland, Friesland, 18 August 1997 *(fam Harsta)*



4 On 6 September 1997, a bird in flight was sound-recorded by Roy Slaterus at Oost-Vlieland, Vlieland, Friesland. Because of the fact that in this period birds were clearly still on the move and that there are no reports on Vlieland between 12 August and 6 September, this record is assumed to refer to another individual than the record on 12 August.

5 On 6 September 1997, an adult male was trapped and ringed between 08:00 and 09:00 by Leen van Ree, T van Ree and H van Buren at the ringing station of Westenschouwen, Westerschouwen, Zeeland.

6 From 15 to 26 September 1997, two birds (male and female-type) stayed at Lunterse Bos, Ede, Gelderland, and were photographed from a hide at their regular drinking spot by Otto Faulhaber and Henk Heerink (Dutch Birding 19: 259, plate 270, 1997; van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

7 From 30 October 1997 to 31 January 1998, a maximum of 16 birds were present at Oranje-Nassau's Oord, Wageningen, Gelderland. A male was discovered by Harry van Oosterhout on 30 October; on 4 November a male and a female were seen, on 8 November two males and on 9 November a female and at least two males. In mid-November seven birds were recorded and on 29 November three males and two females. After only one male

on 13 December and two males on 25 December, suddenly a flock of up to 16 birds was seen on 27 December (males, females and immatures). On 1 January, 10-13 birds were seen and, on 6 January, 14-15; on 9 January, a male and five to six females were still present. The last sighting was of a single male on 31 January. Several birds were photographed (Dutch Birding 19: 311, plate 314, 1997), sound-recorded or videoed (Plomp et al 1998).

8 On 15 November 1997, a migrating flock of 15 birds was seen during counts of visible bird migration at Corversbos, Hilversum, Noord-Holland, by Fred van Klaveren and others.

9 From 2 December 1997 to 29 January 1998, a maximum of 22 birds was counted at IJzeren Veld, Huizen, Noord-Holland. On 2 December, Ruud van Beusekom discovered a group of eight to 10 birds; on 3 December, seven were seen and on 4 December again 10. On 7 December, 11 (six males and five females) were seen and on 11 December 11 plus a small group of other individuals. On 12 December 17 birds were seen in one group (nine of which appear together in a photograph) and on 13 December 22 in one group were observed by many 10s of birders. On 15 December (15-20) and 18 December (20) most birds were still present but on 21 and 28 December only four were seen. In mid-January, five birds were still present; the last sighting was of one bird on 29 January. The Two-barred Crossbills associated with small numbers of Common Crossbills, but were also observed as an unmixed flock several times. Sound-recordings were made on several dates.

10 From 5 December 1997 to 12 January 1998, a maximum of 18 birds was present at Kuinderbos, Noordoostpolder, Flevoland. On 5 December, Sietse Bernardus and Edwin de Weerd discovered five birds (three females, adult male, immature male). On 13 December, again five (two adult males, two adult females, immature male) were present. On 14 December, nine birds were seen (four adult males, three females, two immature males), on 16 December 12 and on 20 December again nine. On 21 December 18 birds, including six adult males, were seen, on 22 December 17 (six adult males, two immature males, nine females) and on 10 January still at least 16. The last sighting reported on the Dutch Birding birdline was on 12 January. It later appeared that birds were continued to be seen into May by Rolf Griffioen and that seven territories were counted; however, no successful breeding was recorded. Several birds were photographed by SB on 14 December.

11 On 20 December 1997, a female was seen with

79 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, female, Lunterse Bos, Gelderland, September 1997 *(Otto Faulhaber/Foto Natura)*





80 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, male, Kuinderbos, Flevoland, 14 December 1997 *(Sietse Bernardus)*



81 Two-barred Crossbills / Witbandkruisbekken *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, female, Kuinderbos, Flevoland, 14 December 1997 *(Sietse Bernardus)*

Common Crossbills by Robert Keizer at Kwintelooien, Rhenen, Utrecht.

12 From 25 December 1997 to 25 July 1998, a maximum of 16 birds was present at Heide van Duurswoude near Waskemeer and nearby localities, Opsterland, Friesland. On 25 December, an adult male was discoverded by Sietse Bernardus and Jan Bisschop among c 30 Common Crossbills. On 27 December, Oane Tol observed two females and a male; on 29 and 30 December, two males and two females were seen. On 31 December, SB observed seven birds. On 2 January, Bert de Bruin, Sybrand de Bruin and OT noted a group of 16 (eight males, eight females) and on 6 January again 16 were seen at nearby Blauwe Bos, Haulerwijk, 3 km east of the original location. On 10 January, a male was seen and 'several birds were heard calling' at Heide van Duurswoude. On 11 January, 16 birds were seen at nearby Allardsoog/Bakkeveen. On 9 March, three birds were observed at Heide van Duurswoude, on 14 and 15 March five (two males, three females; Lucien Davids, Klaas Haas and OT) and on 22 March two. Two birds were present here as late as 5 May, and, more surprisingly, two singing males were seen at Blauwe Bos, Haulerwijk, on 19 and 25 July. Photographs were taken by OT on 14 March and sound-recordings have been made.

13 On 28 December 1997, a group of 25 birds was seen by Meindert Swart at Doldersum, Vledder, Drenthe.

14 On 29 December 1997, three birds in flight, including one male, were sound-recorded by Roy Slaterus at Groet, Schoorl, Noord-Holland.

15 From 31 January to 5 April 1998, a maximum of seven to nine birds was present at Bakkum in Noordhollands Duinreservaat, Castricum, and Egmond, Noord-Holland. On 31 January, three birds were discovered by Harm Niesen and on 11 February again three were seen. On 13 March, seven males and possibly up to nine different birds were seen by Dirk Moerbeek and HN (figure 3; cf Vogeljaar 46: 144, 1998, sketch), on 14 and 15 March three birds and on 19 March four. On 22 March, four adult males were seen at close range at a drinking spot at nearby Egmond by C S Roselaar. On 29 March, three males were seen near the Castricum ringing station. The last report near Castricum concerned two birds on 5 April.

16 From 14 February to 1 May 1998, a calculated total of 16 birds was observed by Rob Bijlsma at Boswachterij Smilde and Berkenheuvel, Smilde/

82 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, female, Heide van Duurswoude, Friesland, 14 March 1998 *(Oane Tol)*





FIGURE 3 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, male, Noordhollands Duinreservaat, Bakkum, Noord-Holland, 15 March 1998 *(Dirk J Moerbeek)*

Diever, Drenthe. Birds were seen in small groups and in pairs on several dates and in areas a few km apart, making an accurate assessment of the numbers involved difficult; the total area of observation was more than 25 km^2. On 14 February, a male and a female were seen foraging (Amersfoort co-ordinates 220-546), on 14 and 26 March two males and a female at the same site and on 2 April two males and two females. Also on 14 February, four birds were seen 1 km to the east (co-ordinates 221-546). On 21 February, six birds, including an adult male, were observed foraging by RB (co-ordinates 217-547); on 1 May, a male was seen at the same site. Also on 14 March, a male and female were alarming and foraging near Wildrijk (co-ordinates 219-542). On 30 March, five birds were present at Hoekenbrink (co-ordinates 218-545) together with 100+ Eurasian Siskins *Carduelis spinus* and a pair was foraging inconspicuously at a distance of c 50 m from the group of five. On 2 April, two males and a female were seen at the same site. On 30 March, a male was alarming in response to a Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* (co-ordinates 216-545) and on 7 April, a male was seen here again. On 2 and 16 April, Arend van Dijk observed a male and female activily foraging and calling near Meeuwenplas, 2.5 km west of Hoekenbrink. At least eight different birds were seen on a single date (30 March) and the total number may have been as high as 26; when combining dates and locations of observation, it is calculated that c 16 birds were involved.

17 On 8 February 1998, Rob Vogel observed eight birds at Middachter Bossen, c 3 km northwest of Rheden, Gelderland. On 15 February 1998, at least two birds were at Posbank, Rheden, Gelderland; on 29 March 1998, 15 birds were recorded at Rheden. On 11 and 18 April 1998, RV observed a male and female 3 km west of Dieren, Gelderland. On the latter date, singing and displaying behaviour was noted. These records are assumed to refer to the same (group of) birds but given the large area may well have involved more than 15 birds.

18 From 25 February to 6 April 1998, a maximum of 17 birds was present at Zevenlindenweg, Baarn, Utrecht. On 25 February, Ruud van Beusekom discovered a group of 15 birds in flight. On 1 March, 14 birds (three males and 11 females) were seen and on 2 and 9 March 16. On 16 March, there were 17 birds (including a pair starting nest building) and on 19 and 20 March c 10 birds, on the latter date again nest building. On 22, 24 and 25 March, again a pair was seen nest building. On 29 March, a male and three females were seen and the last observation was of three females on 6 April, when the 'nests' were deserted. A few birds were photographed by Arnoud van den Berg and Jan den Hertog and extensive sound-recordings were made on several dates of different calls and the song (see below).

19 On 8 April 1998, a male was heard and seen alarming in response to a Northern Goshawk *Accipiter*

gentilis at Planken Wambuis, Ede, Gelderland, by Rob Bijlsma.

20 On 9 April 1998, Symen Deuzeman observed two birds (male and female) at Napoleonsgat, Ugchelse Bos, Apeldoorn. The male was singing fanatically. On later dates, the birds could not be relocated in the area despite several visits.

Records elsewhere in Europe in 1997/98

Information on records elsewhere in Europe has been gathered from recent reports in several birding journals and from contributions on Euro Bird Net (referred to as 'in litt'). Note, therefore, that some of the records listed are not yet officially accepted and that the list may be incomplete. Its main purpose is to give an indication of the situation in other European countries, without pretending to present a definite list of all European records of Two-barred Crossbills in 1997/98.

Austria A pair was reported on 27-28 October 1997 at Kirchham, Upper Austria (Peter Hirsch in litt).

Belgium None.

Britain Only four single birds were recorded: adult male, 8-12 August 1997, Isle of May, Fife, Scotland (Hamilton 1998, Birding World 10: 480-481, 1998, photo, Br Birds 91: 513, 1998); male, 21 August 1997, Thetford Forest, Norfolk, England, trapped (Br Birds 91: 513, 1998); female, 15 February to 27 March 1998, Gloucestershire, England (Birding World 11: 47, 1998, photo, Br Birds 91: 454, 1998); and female, 23-24 May 1998, Sandringham, Norfolk (Birding World 11: 174, 1998).

Denmark The first record in 1997 was on 9 August and many birds were seen from late August and especially in October-December. The largest group contained up to 46 birds. Returning migrants were seen in spring 1998, some well into June. The total number up to the end of January 1998 was estimated at 250-300 birds and the invasion may have involved over 500 birds in Denmark alone, constituting by far the biggest invasion ever. As in other invasion years, the records had a northerly bias, with very few birds observed in the south-west. Numbers at migration sites were lower than numbers recorded at foraging sites, where groups often stayed for weeks, in contrast with Common Crossbill, for which species the highest counts are normally at migration sites. Breeding or suspected breeding was not recorded. Remarkably, most Two-barred Crossbills did not feed on larch *Larix* trees but on pine *Pinus* trees, as preferred by Common (Rolf Christensen in litt).

France None.

Germany The total number of birds was at least 29 and probably more. There were reports of 21 birds in August-September: adult male, 5 August, Ellenbogen, Sylt, Schleswig-Holstein; two males, 12 August, Hiddensee, Vorpommern; one, 15 August, Berhartshöhe near Stuttgart, Baden-Württemberg; at least 17 different birds, 18 August to 4 September, Helgoland, Schleswig-Holstein. The only record later in autumn was on 25 November (eight, Kroppener Teichen, Brandenburg; Limicola 11: 270, 321, 1997, Ornithol Jahresber Helgoland 8: 69, 1998).

Hungary Two birds were recorded: juvenile male, 29 August 1997, Debrecen Botanic gardens (Birding World 11: 35, 1998) and adult male, 30 October to 13 November 1997, Zalaegerszeg (Birding World 10: 417, 1997, photo, 11: 35, 1998).

Latvia An invasion resulted in a total of about 100 birds recorded at Pape, Liepaja, during 27 August to 5 November 1997 (Br Birds 91: 252, 1998).

83 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek
Loxia leucoptera bifasciata, female, Baarn, Utrecht, 19 March 1998 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)*



84 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek
Loxia leucoptera bifasciata, female, Baarn, Utrecht, 22 March 1998 *(Jan den Hertog)*



Norway & Sweden Although several birds (including small groups) were recorded, numbers in 1997 were much lower than in Denmark (Rolf Christensen in litt). However, the summer of 1998 made it 'a good year' in northern Sweden, with up to 281 birds recorded at a single locality (Erling Jirle in litt).

Analysis

The Wadden Islands are the first places of arrival in the Netherlands for birds heading south or south-west from Scandinavia and Denmark over the North Sea and the first four Two-barred Crossbills (between 12 August and 6 September) were all seen on or near one of the islands. The fact that the first bird could be approached down to 4-5 m and that the second and third were so exhausted that they could be caught by hand, indicates that these had all recently arrived; the second and third birds were actually observed coming in from the sea and making landfall at the first available opportunity. The bird at Westenschouwen on 6 September was, in contrast, far south but still at a coastal location. The two birds at Lunterse Bos on 15-16 September constituted the first multiple record in 1997/98 and were also the first inland and the first to stay for more than one day.

From the end of October and especially from December to early January, double figure groups turned up at several inland localities; maximum numbers were mostly reached after a period of gradually increasing numbers, suggesting that new birds joined groups already settled. However, numbers varied from day to day and larger groups seemed to split up into smaller groups on several occasions. This makes it difficult to estimate the true numbers present at each locality. Maximum numbers always refer to the number of birds actually seen together at one single moment. Due to substitution over the period of observations and splitting of groups, the actual numbers may therefore have been even higher. Maximum numbers were 25 at Doldersum, 22 at Huizen, 18 at Kuinderbos, 17 near Baarn, c 16 at Boswachterij Smilde, 16 at Wageningen and at Heide van Duurswoude and 15 at Hilversum and Rheden. The group near Doldersum was the largest ever recorded in the Netherlands and the group at Huizen equalled the number of birds seen in one group on 11-19 September 1889 at Harderwijk, Gelderland (cf Ebels 1993). The number of birds in most of these groups equalled or surpassed the combined total of 16 birds seen during the 1990/91 invasion. Given the fact that the first five records concerned solitary birds on single dates, it may be assumed that in late autumn and early winter grouping of birds commenced at suitable locations with abundant supply of favourite *Larix* cones. It is, however, possible that several groups entered the Netherlands together (as illustrated by the 15 birds seen migrating at Hilversum), to be discovered after they had settled at a suitable feeding site. Most probably, two arrival peaks occurred, a first one in late summer (August to early September) and a second, larger one in late autumn (late October to early December). The distribution during the winter months with low numbers in southern Sweden, southern Norway and eastern Germany but large numbers in Denmark and the Netherlands suggests that the majority of birds arrived along a vector between NNW and NNE, and not from a more easterly direction, eg, from Finland or Russia, although the c 100 birds recorded in Latvia indicate that there were also birds on the move east of Scandinavia. The provenance of the 1997/98 Two-barred Crossbills may therefore well have been northern Sweden, where one year before, in autumn 1996, the largest invasion ever occurred. This invasion brought an estimated 143 000 to 476 000 birds to the provinces of Norrbotten and Västerbotten alone (Glutz von Blotzheim & Bauer 1997). These birds did not move south to central or southern Sweden later that year (Teus Luijendijk pers comm). It seems that a proportion of these large numbers that arrived from the east in Sweden in autumn 1996 (and their offspring) headed south in autumn 1997.

Earlier invasions appeared to originate from a more easterly or north-easterly direction. For instance, the previous invasion of 1990/91 brought more birds to the southern half of the Netherlands and also accounted for records in Belgium and France, where no birds were seen in 1997/98. In contrast with the 1990/91 invasion, when numbers recorded in Britain were about twice as high as the total recorded in the Netherlands (Ebels 1993), only four Two-barred Crossbills were recorded in Britain in 1997/98.

On basis of the record numbers in Denmark, on Helgoland and in the Netherlands, it can be concluded that the 1997/98 invasion was unprecedented in the number of birds involved but was remarkably confined to a relatively small zone extending from southern Sweden via Denmark and north-western Germany to the Netherlands.

The large areas of larch plantations in many parts of the Netherlands may have resulted in the presence of disproportionately large numbers of

Two-barred Crossbills in the Netherlands compared with neighbouring countries. The high density of birdwatchers and easy accessibility of suitable habitat may have resulted in the subsequent discovery of a relatively large proportion of the actual numbers present, exaggerating the differences with surrounding countries, where more birds may have gone undetected.

Identification: plumage and structure

None of the birds recorded in the Netherlands in 1997/98 presented major identification problems. In contrast, during the invasion of 1990/91, controversial birds or difficult-to-identify birds were recorded in both the Netherlands and England (eg, Harrap & Millington 1991, Svensson 1991, Ebels 1993). All birds in 1997/98 were easily identified by their prominent double white wing-bar and white tertial tips (although less prominent through wear on some birds), smaller size and more delicate posture compared with Common Crossbill (with longer tail and finer bill), different colour of red in males and more intensely streaked plumage on breast and flanks in females; females also tended to be slightly more contrastingly streaked on the upperparts. In addition, the dark lore and dark uppertail coverts with conspicuous white tips were often helpful. A subtle character turned out to be the 'eyeliner', a concentration of very small dark feathers just in front of and behind the eye, creating a more gentle and delicate facial expression, whereas Common has a more 'open' expression.

The only 'identification' problems that occurred related to the presumed individual variation in the prominence of the wing-bars, especially the smaller upper wing-bar. In some birds, this wing-bar seemed to be almost absent but prolonged observations revealed that posture and state of the feathers (eg, when wet during or after rain) could strongly influence the visibility of the (upper) wing-bar. Sometimes, the wing-bar seemed to be lacking completely, only to come into full view a few moments later.

Two-barred Crossbill also differed from Common Crossbill by its flight silhouette being more *Fringilla*-like with slimmer body, less broad wing base (which emphasizes the longer tail) and smaller, less protruding head and also flight actions with a more undulating flight pattern. These characters were especially conspicuous in an unmixed flock of Two-barred. However, one or two Two-barred in a larger flock of Common could be surprisingly hard to detect, also because their flight calls are weak and therefore easily lost in the noisy utterings of their more common relatives.

Vocalizations

During the 1997/98 invasion in the Netherlands, the various calls of Two-barred Crossbill and their song were extensively studied. The different vocalizations are discussed here and illustrated by sonagrams.

1 The most distinctive and best known call of Two-barred Crossbill is often described as the 'trumpet call' (figure 4), a loud, nasal *èhp*. It can indeed be compared with the sound of a toy trumpet, or even of a Trumpeter Finch *Bucanetes githagineus*, although it is less varied and less dissonant sounding than the latter. Usually, it is given at a steady pitch, although sometimes a slightly lower version is heard. Although the trumpet call may share its origin with the excitement calls or *toops* of other crossbills, it is highly unlikely to be confused with them. This call is given either in flight or perched and often in conjunction with the redpoll *Carduelis*-like flight call.

2 The redpoll-like flight call (figure 5), perhaps best described as *chet-chet*, or, in the ears of some observers, a sparrow *Passer*-like *chik-chik*, takes a little more practice to separate from the calls of certain Common Crossbills and redpolls, but once the distinction has been learned this call is almost as distinctive as the trumpet call. It should also be noted that the flight call hardly seems to vary between individuals. Sonagrams of birds recorded by RvB, MR and RS at Baarn, Huizen, Vlieland and Wageningen were virtually identical. Several observers felt confident that after having familiarized themselves with it they would be confident to identify passing Two-barred by this call alone, and indeed in the case of the records from 6 September 1997 on Vlieland and 29 December 1997 at Groet, recordings of only these calls were enough to confirm the identification. As with the flight calls of other crossbills they become particularly loud and noticeable when the caller is about to fly off, and often there is an increase in calling frequency up to the moment of take off. Interestingly, in many 100s hours of observation and recording, the third main call described for Two-barred Crossbill was not heard at all. This third call is call 2a in Cramp & Perrins (1994) where it is described as resembling the *pwit* call of Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana* or an individual note from the advertising song of Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix*.

3 The alarm call (figure 6) is structured in a



FIGURE 4 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, trumpet call, Baarn, Utrecht, 13 March 1998 *(Magnus S Robb)*

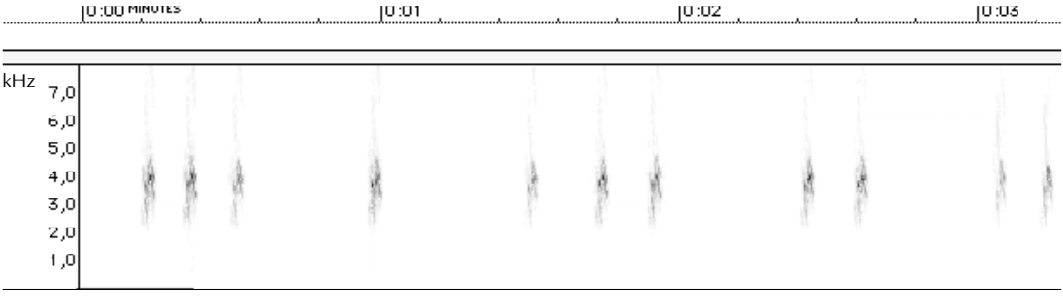


FIGURE 5 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, flight call, Baarn, Utrecht, 13 March 1998 *(Magnus S Robb)*

similar way to the trumpet call but is much quieter, lower pitched, less rich in overtones and slightly longer in duration. It is delivered at a much slower rate than the trumpet calls and very much more quietly, and shows many similarities to the alarm calls of other crossbills. It is given mainly in response to raptors, and other Two-barred Crossbills usually respond by becoming very quiet.

4 The soft contact calls (figure 7) are also rich in overtones like the trumpet calls but are much quieter and shorter and show an overall descent in pitch. In the group of c 15 Two-barred Crossbills near Baarn in February-March, this quiet, more conversational version of the trumpet call was heard almost continually as the birds foraged in the trees. On long stretches of the recordings made by MR this was the only call to be heard.

5 The two recordings of threat calls (figure 8) can be described as a rather soft *ch-ch-ch*. These are deep, scratchy sounds heard during aggressive encounters. Those of Two-barred Crossbill do not differ significantly from those of other crossbills. In particularly aggressive encounters threat calls can be drawn out into a fairly long series as the birds grapple with each other, sometimes falling to the ground in the process.

6 The function of the *choo-ie* call (figure 9) is not known, but it featured quite prominently in the repertoire of the Baarn Two-barred Crossbills. The first syllable is low and of fairly even pitch and the second tone is shorter and higher. The call is given either singly or in short series of two or more calls at a rate of up to two calls a second. It sounded as if it may share its origin with the *doei* calls of various *Serinus*, *Carduelis* and *Carpodacus* finches. On the other hand, it may just be a favourite song motif which has gained some significance of its own and has come to be given independently or in association with soft contact calls. Certain Common Crossbills heard in the Netherlands around the same time had a similar but not identical call in their repertoire.

7 The song (figure 10) of Two-barred Crossbills was quite different from that of other European crossbills, contra Elmberg (1993). It completely lacked the clear (metallic) and slurred whistles heard by Elmberg (1993) from Two-barred in Fenno-Scandinavia between June and October but instead consisted mainly of various chattering notes, some resembling the various calls described above, each repeated fairly quickly at an average of six times. The rate of repetition varied but

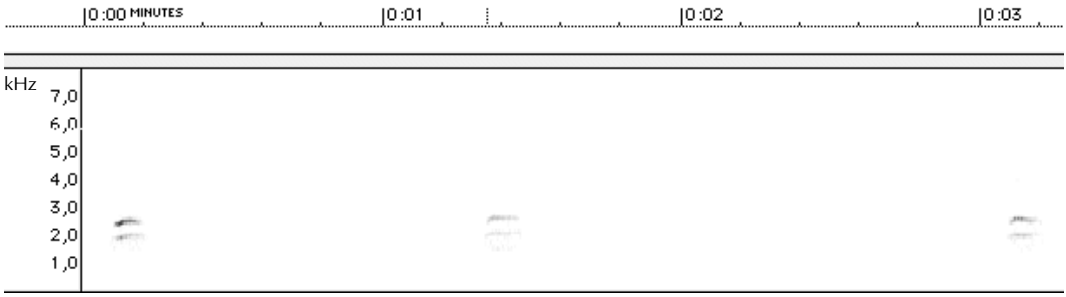


FIGURE 6 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, alarm call, Baarn, Utrecht, 9 March 1998 *(Magnus S Robb)*

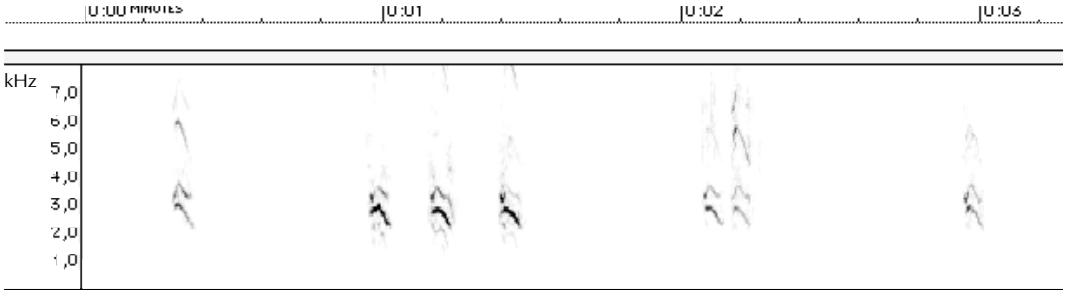


FIGURE 7 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, soft contact call, Baarn, Utrecht, 9 March 1998 *(Magnus Robb)*

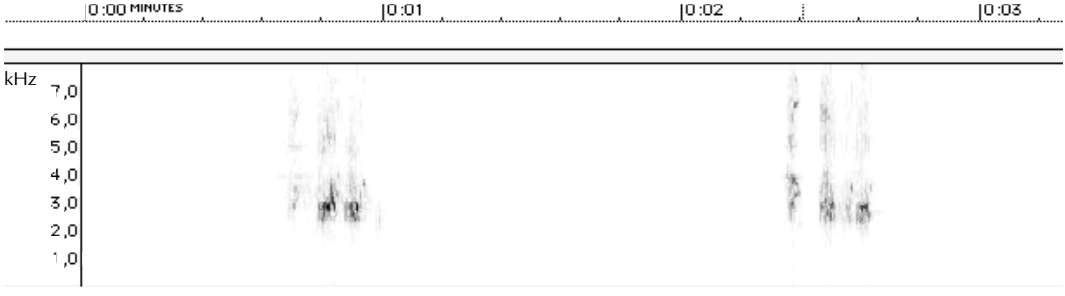


FIGURE 8 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, threat calls, Baarn, Utrecht, 9 March 1998 *(Magnus S Robb)*

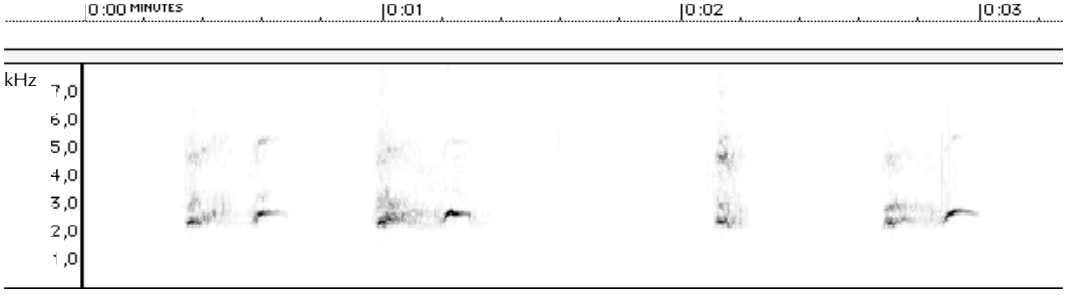


FIGURE 9 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, *choo-ie* call, Baarn, Utrecht, 9 March 1998 *(Magnus S Robb)*

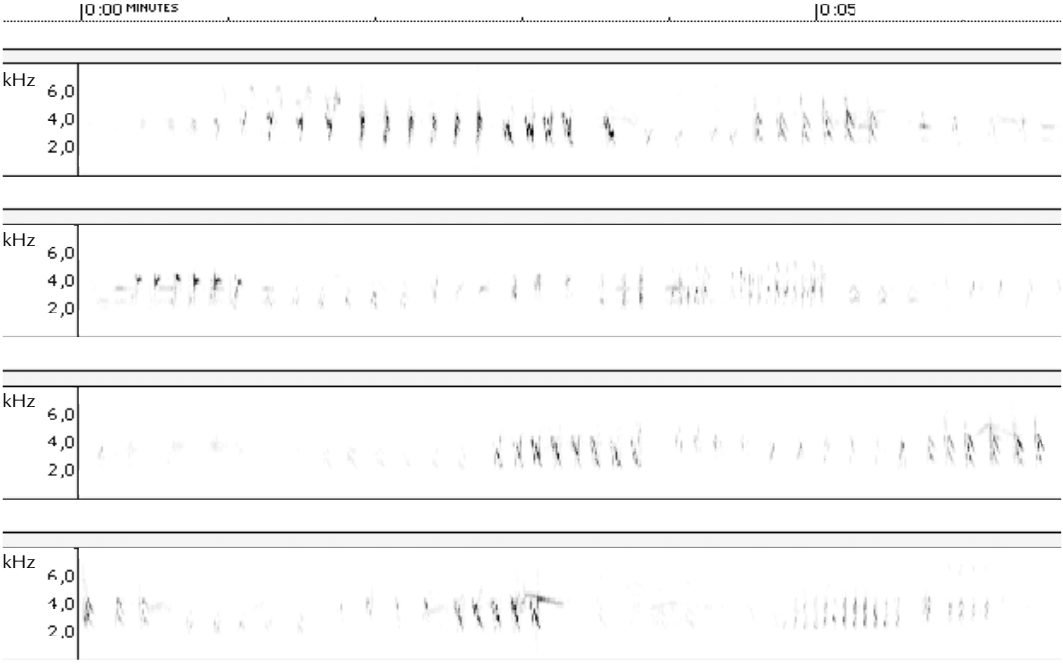
was generally much slower than can be heard in recordings of White-winged Crossbill from North America and recordings made by MR of the isolated Hispaniolan Crossbill *L (l) megaplaga* (restricted to Hispaniola – Haiti and the Dominican Republic – in the West Indies) at Sierra de Baoruco, Dominican Republic, in July 1998. This taxon is increasingly being regarded as a separate species (eg, Smith 1997). The overall effect was rather redpoll-like, but perhaps less so than for either of the two other taxa, perhaps because of the slower tempo. Often, several birds were heard singing and it is possible that the bulk of the song recordings on which this description is based (by MR at Baarn in February-March 1998) could be better described as subsong in spite of their apparent intensity and volume. Females were heard in subsong, which was simpler and included fewer trills.

Ecology: behaviour, habitats and breeding attempts

The Two-barred Crossbills regularly mixed with Common Crossbills and surprisingly often with Eurasian Siskins and other species which shared the same food source. Just like other crossbills, the birds were remarkably tame and confident with human presence, but were easily disturbed by sudden loud noise, such as falling tripods, raptors (especially Eurasian Sparrowhawk *A nisus* and Northern Goshawk) but also flitting woodpeckers or incoming pigeons. After being disturbed, the birds quite often returned in single-species flocks, separated from Common.

The larger flocks remained in areas with plenty of food for weeks, where they often could be found in the same favourite patches. These patches were invariably characterized by large amounts of cones. Especially favoured was larch *Larix flexuosa/decidua*, and to a lesser extent Spruce *Picea abies* and Douglas Fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii*. Birds mostly fed on seeds which they extracted from cones but in April leaf-buds of larch were also eaten. They were also seen nibbling off small pieces of bark and lichen, which were apparently used for food (and not for nesting material). The same technique was used to receive moisture, by nibbling off ripe and water from needles. They also liked to drink water remaining in holes of trees, especially from beech *Fagus* and birch *Betula*.

FIGURE 10 Two-barred Crossbill / Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata*, song of male, Baarn, Utrecht, 15 March 1998 *(Magnus S Robb)*



From January 1998 onwards, but more frequently during late winter and early spring (late February to early April), the Two-barred Crossbills started to show pre-breeding behaviour. This behaviour was noted particularly at Baarn. The first indications were as early as December, when courtship feeding was noted at Huizen. In January, birds started to sing in chorus. After that, song flights, chasing flights and courtship feeding was recorded in February and March; evidently pair formation was in progress. In March and April at least two, but probably three pairs established territories at Baarn in an area abundant with larch, Spruce and Douglas Fir. Within these territories, the male and female spent most of their time quietly feeding, but often the male sang quite loudly from exposed branches. At the end of the observation period, territorial pairs hardly ever joined the wandering flocks outside their territory although they 'tolerated' flocks in their territory. Solitary birds, however, were often chased off by the territory holders.

A most thrilling event (at least for Dutch birders) and unprecedented for the Low Countries, happened when Two-barred Crossbills started building nests at Baarn. At this site, at least one but possibly two pairs started to build nests on three occasions in the crowns of larches, close to the trunk. Although the female took the lead in activities of nest-site selection and nest building and clearly was the most active member of the pair, quite often the male also actively searched for potential nest sites and even carried nesting material to the nest. The female (or sometimes the male) went from site to site, walking along branches, crouching and moving round at each potential site. Sometimes the female sat down silently for long periods (up to 15 min), 'pretending' to breed, sometimes turning round and round. Meanwhile, the male was constantly in her vicinity, singing and calling softly. A few times while 'breeding', the female was seen shivering with her wings and begging for food with opened beak. This behaviour was even shown by the male. Unfortunately, the birds stopped nest building before even the first layer was finished. As the woods at Baarn are very large and the birds very inconspicuous during the pre-breeding period, it remains uncertain whether Two-barred may have bred in the Netherlands, but there is no firm evidence for any successful breeding. In this case, this was possibly due to food shortage; birds were seen feeding more and more on buds, instead of seeds. At Boswachterij Smilde, behaviour indicative of nesting was observed at least once, but no nest could be found despite searching (Rob Bijlsma in litt). At Kuinderbos, seven territories were counted of birds staying into May but their were no indications of successful breeding.

Given the events in the Netherlands 1997/98, we are strengthened in our opinion that the successful breeding pair in Berlin, Germany, in 1991 (cf Glutz von Blotzheim & Bauer 1997), were probably of wild origin (cf Ebels 1993), as the autumn and winter of 1990/91 were also characterized by an invasion of Two-barred Crossbills into western Europe. Furthermore, most crossbill species will sometimes breed far outside their normal range after irruptions.

Cyclic irruptions

Larsen & Tombre (1989) substantiated that irruptions of Two-barred Crossbills in Scandinavia follow a seven-year cycle related to a cycle of a similar timespan in the development of the major food sources of Two-barred. In the northern taiga zone, these are the cones of larch trees, *L sibirica* and *L gmelini*; in the central and southern taiga zone, where there are fewer larches, the species depends mainly on cones of spruce and pine trees, such as *Pinus sibirica*, *Picea abies* and *Abies sibirica*. In years with low levels of cone production, shortage of food supplies ensues and birds are induced to leave their regular breeding and wintering grounds in a westward or southwestward direction. These irruptive movements are strongest when poor years follow directly upon years with high cone levels, in which the population has grown substantially because of high breeding success. In Norway, large invasions of Two-barred have been recorded in 1959, 1966, 1979 and 1987; only in 1972-73 no higher-than-average numbers were noted. The 1987 irruption was also noted in Scotland, where c 25 birds were recorded in (late) summer in Shetland and Orkney (cf Ebels 1993).

The pattern of records in the Netherlands also seems to show a seven-year cycle. The large invasion of 1997/98 (181 birds) was preceded seven years earlier by the invasion of 1990/91 (16 birds). In March-April 1984, two birds were recorded, which may well have arrived in western Europe in the autumn of 1983. In all years in between, the only records were in February 1987 and November 1993-January 1994 (van den Berg & Bosman 1999). The differences between the timing of invasions into Scandinavia and the Netherlands may be explained by the fact that in different years birds from different (breeding)

areas can be affected by shortage of food supplies (cf Larsen & Tombre 1989).

Observers with a passion for Two-barred Crossbill will probably have to wait until 2004-05 before this species will again reach the Netherlands; it will probably take considerably more time before another invasion reaches the 181 birds recorded in 1997/98, let alone before a new record is set.

Situation in North America in 1997/98

The winter of 1997/98 was characterized in North America by a 'superflight': the simultaneous irruptions into southern Canada and the USA of several passerine species, mainly finches, normally wintering in the north (cf Bock & Lepthien 1976). Superflights occur once in every 5-15 years; previous ones were in and 1968/69, 1972/73 and 1982/83. The 1997/98 superflight mainly involved high numbers of Mealy Redpoll *C flammea*, Arctic Redpoll *C hornemanni*, Pine Grosbeak *Pinicola enucleator*, Common Crossbill and White-winged Crossbill, together with Red-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta canadensis*. Lower numbers of Evening Grosbeak *Coccothraustes vespertinus*, Pine Siskin *C pinus* and Purple Finch *C purpureus* were involved. The breeding range of White-winged Crossbill extends from Labrador and Newfoundland, Canada, south to northern New England and New York, west to northern Minnesota, USA, central Canada and Alaska, USA, and south via British Columbia, Canada, to western Montana and northern Idaho, USA. Information from Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology (http://birds.cornell.edu/winfin/wwcrsurv) indicated that the numbers of White-winged Crossbills were the highest in decades and that birds were recorded exceptionally far south. The largest invasion in the mid-Atlantic states before 1997/98 had been in 1972.

Most White-winged Crossbills were seen in the northern Atlantic states and to a lesser extent in states south of the Great Lakes. The invasion was much smaller on the Pacific coast. The records furthest south were (from west to east) in central California (February), northern Utah (November), Colorado (December), southern Kansas (January, one of the very few state records), Tennessee (December, only the third state record) and Alabama (January). A record in Delaware was the first for this state since 1988. In Massachusetts and New Jersey more than 200 birds were counted at single localities.

The information from North America indicates that in 1997/98 invasions of *Loxia leucoptera* (Two-barred and White-winged Crossbills) occurred simultaneously in both the New and Old World. Whether this can be attributed to a common cause or just to coincidence is as yet unknown. It should be noted that the main cone crops White-winged Crossbills feed on are Black Spruce *Picea mariana*, White Spruce *P glauca* and Tamarack *L laricina* (Benkman 1989). Although White-winged Crossbill is not an impossible vagrant to Europe, the pattern of occurrence in Europe and the numbers of birds involved excludes the possibility of a Nearctic origin of (the majority of) the Two-barred Crossbills observed in 1997/98.

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Samenvatting

INVASIE VAN WITBANDKRUISBEKKEN IN NEDERLAND EN EUROPA IN 1997/98 MET GEGEVENS OVER HERKENNING, GELUIDEN EN ECOLOGIE Witbandkruisbek *Loxia leucoptera bifasciata* is een dwaalgast in Nederland, waarvan het optreden in sommige jaren een invasie-achtig karakter heeft. Meestal hangt het optreden samen met invasies van Kruisbek *L curvirostra*. Tot en met 1996 waren er in Nederland 20 gevallen van in totaal 57 vogels, met hoge aantallen in september 1889 (één geval van 22 vogels, waarvan drie verzameld, en één geval van 10 vogels, waarvan twee verzameld) en in 1990/91 (negen gevallen van 16 vogels, waaronder één waarneming van zeven vogels; cf Ebels 1993). Na 1990/91 werd tot en met 1996 alleen voor de winter van 1993/94 één vogel aanvaard. Vanaf augustus 1997 vond een nieuwe invasie plaats die tot recordaantallen Witbandkruisbekken in Nederland leidde. Er waren ten minste 20 gevallen van in totaal 181 vogels, zodat in één invasie ruim drie keer zoveel exemplaren werden waargenomen als in de hele periode 1800-1996 te zamen. Een overzicht en analyse wordt gegeven van alle aanvaarde gevallen in Nederland in 1997/98, samen met waarnemingen elders in Europa in 1997/98; tevens wordt ingegaan op herkenning, geluid en gedrag.

Zoals te verwachten werden de eerste Witbandkruisbekken in het noorden van Nederland gezien. De Waddeneilanden zijn vaak de eerste plek waar vogels die vanuit Scandinavië en Denemarken over de Noordzee naar het zuiden of zuidwesten vliegen aan

land komen. De vangst bij Westenschouwen, Zeeland, was zo vroeg in de invasie al ver zuidelijk, maar nog wel aan de kust. De eerste meervoudige waarneming, in het Lunterse Bos, Gelderland, op 15-26 september, was tevens de eerste in het binnenland en de eerste van op meerdere dagen waargenomen vogels. Vanaf eind oktober doken op verschillende plekken in het binnenland meerdere exemplaren op, met maxima van 25 bij Doldersum, Drenthe, 22 bij Huizen, Noord-Holland, 18 in het Kuinderbos, Flevoland, 17 bij Baarn, Utrecht, c 16 in Boswachterij Smilde, Drenthe, 16 bij Wageningen, Gelderland, en op de Heide van Duurswoude, Friesland, en 15 bij Hilversum, Noord-Holland, en Rheden, Gelderland. De groep bij Doldersum was de grootste groep ooit in Nederland; die bij Huizen evenaarde de groep op 11-19 september 1889 bij Harderwijk, Gelderland. De meeste groepen telden ieder afzonderlijk evenveel exemplaren als, of meer exemplaren dan het totaal van 16 tijdens de invasie van 1990/91. Na de eerste aankomsten in augustus-september vond een tweede aankomstgolf plaats van eind oktober tot in december. Gezien het feit dat de eerste vijf waarnemingen op solitaire exemplaren betrekking hadden wordt verondersteld dat groepen vooral in de loop van de herfst werden gevormd. Grote groepen konden langere tijd op bepaalde favoriete locaties (vooral percelen met lariksen *Larix*) gezien worden. Niet uitgesloten is echter dat deze groepen als groep het land zijn binnengevlogen (zie waarneming van 15 exemplaren op trek bij Hilversum) en pas ontdekt zijn toen ze een vaste pleisterplaats hadden gevonden. Bij Baarn werd in februari-maart voor het eerst in Nederland paringsgedrag en nestbouw (door meerdere paren) vastgesteld; tot succesvol broeden is het echter vrijwel zeker niet gekomen. Ook in Boswachterij Smilde werd 'nestindicatief' gedrag vastgesteld, maar nesten konden hier niet worden gevonden. In het Kuinderbos werden zeven territoria geteld, zonder dat broeden kon worden vastgesteld. De geografische verdeling van de Nederlandse gevallen is weergegeven in figuur 1.

In tegenstelling tot de invasie van 1990/91 werden in Brittannië in 1997/98 slechts vier solitaire exemplaren waargenomen. België en Frankrijk bleven helemaal met lege handen zitten. In samenhang met de recordaantallen in Denemarken en op Helgoland, Schleswig-Holstein, Duitsland, kan worden geconcludeerd dat de invasie in aantallen ongekend groot was maar in geografische zin vrijwel beperkt is gebleven tot een smalle zone van Denemarken en de Duitse Bocht tot en met Nederland, al werden in Letland ook c 100 exemplaren vastgesteld. Een paar 'afzwaaiers' kwamen elders in Duitsland en in Groot-Brittannië, Hongarije en Oostenrijk terecht. Vermoedelijk zijn de vogels rechtstreeks uit Zweden naar het zuiden gevlogen; in Noord-Zweden vond een jaar eerder, in de herfst van 1996, een ongekend grote invasie plaats, met 143 000-476 000 exemplaren.

In tegenstelling tot de invasie van 1990/91 waren er in 1997/98 geen vogels waarvan de determinatie onzeker was of veel discussie opleverde. Alle waargenomen exemplaren konden eenvoudig herkend worden aan de brede dubbele witte vleugelstreep, de witte toppen aan de tertials, het kleinere postuur vergeleken met Kruisbek (met langere staart en fijnere snavel) en de van Kruisbek verschillende roep, met name de karakteristieke trompet-roep. De verschillende types van de roep en de zang worden aan de hand van uitgebreide geluidsopnamen die gemaakt zijn tijdens deze invasie beschreven (figuur 4-10). De sonagrammen bij dit artikel tonen opnamen van de karakteristieke trompetroep (figuur 4), de vluchtroep (figuur 5), de alarmroep (figuur 6), de zachte contactroep (figuur 7), de dreig-roep (figuur 8), de *tjoe-ie* roep (figuur 9) en de zang (figuur 10). De vogels van 6 september op Vlieland en 29 december bij Groet werden uitsluitend gedetermineerd aan de hand van de opgenomen roep. Exemplaren met extreem gesleten vleugelbanden werden niet waargenomen. Wel waren bij verschillende exemplaren de witte toppen aan de tertials (vrijwel) volledig afgesleten. De bovenste vleugelstreep bleek bij bepaalde houdingen vrijwel onzichtbaar te kunnen zijn doordat hij werd bedekt door andere veerpartijen terwijl op andere momenten dezelfde vleugelstreep prominent aanwezig was. Subtiele verschillen tussen Witbandkruisbek en Kruisbek waren de iets zwaardere donkere streping op met name de onderdelen bij vrouwtjes Witbandkruisbek en het kleine donkere vlekje voor en achter het oog bij Witbandkruisbek waardoor deze een meer delicate gezichtsuitdrukking heeft dan Kruisbek.

Larsen & Tombre (1989) toonden aan dat invasies van Witbandkruisbek in Scandinavië een cyclus van ongeveer zeven jaar kennen, gerelateerd aan een cyclus van dezelfde tijdsduur in de ontwikkeling van kegels bij lariksen, de belangrijkste voedselbron van Witbandkruisbek. In jaren met zeer weinig kegelvorming ontstaat voedselgebrek en ontstaan west- en zuidwestwaarts gerichte invasies, vooral als deze slechte jaren volgen op goede jaren met veel kegels, waarin de populatie-omvang sterk is toegenomen. In Noorwegen zijn grote invasies vastgesteld in 1959, 1966, 1979 en 1987; alleen in 1972-73 was geen sprake van bovengemiddelde aantallen. In 1987 vond ook een zeer plaatselijke invasie plaats op Shetland en Orkney, Schotland. In Nederland laten de waarnemingen een vergelijkbare zevenjaars-cyclus zien. De grote invasie van 1997/98 werd voorafgegaan door de invasie in 1990/91. In maart-april 1984 werden twee exemplaren vastgesteld, die mogelijkerwijs het voorafgaande najaar van 1983 in West-Europa verzeild waren geraakt. In de tussenliggende jaren werd nooit meer dan één vogel per jaar vastgesteld: in februari 1987 en november 1993 tot januari 1994 (van den Berg & Bosman 1999). Het feit dat deze jaartallen afwijken van de Scandinavische topjaren kan mogelijkerwijs verklaard worden doordat in verschillende jaren populaties uit verschillende broedgebieden door voedselschaarste getroffen worden (cf Larsen & Tombre 1989).

De winter van 1997/98 werd in Noord-Amerika gekenmerkt door een zogeheten 'superflight': het gelijktijdig optreden van grote invasies van noordelijk broedende vogelsoorten. De 'superflight' van 1997/98 bracht vooral vinkachtigen vanuit Canada naar de VS,

zoals Amerikaanse Roodmus *Carpodacus purpureus*, Haakbek *Pinicola enucleator*, Avonddikbek *Coccothraustes vespertinus*, Grote Barmsijs *Carduelis flammea*, Witstuitbarmsijs *C hornemanni*, Dennensijs *C pinus*, Kruisbek en Amerikaanse Witbandkruisbek *L l leucoptera*. De aantallen Witbandkruisbekken waren de hoogste sinds decennia en exemplaren werden exceptioneel ver zuidelijk aangetroffen. In de winter van 1997/98 traden derhalve gelijktijdig invasies op van Witbandkruisbekken in de Oude en Nieuwe Wereld. Of sprake was van van een gemeenschappelijke oorzaak of van een toevallige samenloop van omstandigheden is (nog) onbekend. Gezien het aantal vogels en het patroon van waarnemingen in Europa mag uitgesloten worden geacht dat de invasievogels in 1997/98 van Nearctische oorsprong waren.

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Family of Black Brants on Texel in March 1998

From 18 October 1997 to 17 May 1998, a record number of maximally eight Black Brants *Branta nigricans* was present on Texel, Noord-Holland, the Netherlands, where, since the late 1980s, one or more Black Brants have been wintering annually (cf van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

On 15 March 1998, a pair of Black Brants with two young was discovered. The young differed from the numerously present young Dark-bellied Brent Geese *B bernicla* by the extensive white neck collar, darker mantle and back, hardly visible (worn off?) white tips to median and greater wing-coverts and distinctive white flank. They were aggressively defended by both parents against Dark-bellied Brent Geese. The family was seen until 22 March (CDNA archives).

This observation constituted the first record of a pure family of Black Brants for the Netherlands and Europe. Up to now, only mixed pairs of Pale-bellied Brent Goose *B hrota* x Black Brant and Dark-bellied Brent Goose x Black Brant were reported. So far, there is only one record of such a mixed pair which had actually raised young. In the winter of 1991/92, in the Netherlands, a pair of Dark-bellied Brent Goose x Black Brant with two hybrid young was observed and photographed near Oude Tonge, Zuid-Holland (Berrevoets & Erkman 1993, van den Berg & Bosman 1999).

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Sneeuwgans met Noorse halsring in Flevoland in september-oktober 1998

Eind september 1998 werd bij het Vogeltrekstation te Heteren, Gelderland, een Sneeuwgans *Anser caerulescens* met een halsring gemeld die was waargenomen in Flevoland (Gerrit Speek pers meded via Arnoud van den Berg pers meded). Op 10 oktober zag Paul Marcus de gehalsringde Sneeuwgans bij de Praamweg, Flevoland. Nadat het nieuws langzaam was doorgedruppeld en verspreid via de Dutch Birding-vogellijn, nam de interesse van vogelaars toe. Op 21 oktober zag Enno Ebels de vogel 's ochtends vanaf de hoge bult aan de Praamweg en later op de dag zagen Teus Luijendijk, Peter van Scheepen, Aart Vink en Wim Wiegant hem langs de Ibisweg en de Kraanvogelweg. Op 22 oktober zagen EE, Jaap van 't Hof en Ferry Ossendorp de vogel langs de Wulpweg en konden hem op een afstand van c 200 m goed bestuderen; JvtH kon enkele foto's maken. De vogel bevond zich steeds in de nabijheid van Grauwe Ganzen *A anser*. Aanvankelijk gaven de meldingen aan dat het om een groene halsring met witte letters 'C 16' ging, op basis waarvan verondersteld werd dat de vogel uit Noordoost-Siberië afkomstig was. Bij betere bestudering bleek deze aflezing foutief en leek het te gaan om een azuurblauwe ring (op afstand groenachtig overkomend) met witte letters 'G 16'. Deze code stond tweemaal op de ring, de letter 'G' staand (verticaal), de cijfers liggend (horizontaal).

Het betrof een overwegend witte Sneeuwgans, herkenbaar aan het vrijwel geheel witte verenkleed, de forse, oranjeroze snavel met opvallende, donkere snijrand ('grinning patch'), de vuilroze poten en de zwarte vleugelpunten. Hij was iets kleiner dan de aanwezige Grauwe Ganzen, had een kortere hals en grotere kop met 'hoog' voorhoofd. Opvallend was dat de vogel in de vleugeltekening kenmerken van de blauwe vorm vertoonde en daarmee tot een zeldzame 'tussenvorm' gerekend kan worden. De tertials waren lang en puntig en zwart met een witte rand (in zit als sierveren zichtbaar) en de dekveren waren grijsblauw (in zit als smalle grijze baan zichtbaar). In vlucht was op de bovenvleugel te zien dat de zwarte vleugelpunt, gevormd door de zwarte handpennen, doorliep tot aan het lichaam in een zwarte band van eenderde tot eenvierde van de vleugelbreedte op de armpennen. De rest van de bovenvleugel was grijsblauw, enigszins vlekkerig. De ondervleugel was wit met hetzelfde zwarte patroon als op de bovenvleugel. Deze combinatie van kenmerken, met name de donkere snijrand, de zwarte vleugelpunten en de vorm en tekening van de ter-

tials, sluit een overwegend albino Grauwe Gans uit en past ook niet goed op een hybride van Grauwe Gans en Sneeuwgans (Madge & Burn 1988).

Na enige naspeuringen bleek de vogel op 13 juli 1997 geringd en gefotografeerd te zijn op Smålø bij Trondheim, Noorwegen, met de code 'G 9T' (Berend Voslamber in litt). Blijkbaar werd het deel '9T' in Flevoland omgekeerd per ongeluk gelezen als '16'. De ongebruikelijke kleurvorm van de vogel leidde tot twijfel bij de ringers die op het moment van ringen weliswaar dachten aan Sneeuwgans maar niet uitsloten dat het een partieel albino Grauwe Gans of een hybride van Grauwe Gans met een tamme witte gans betrof. Bij de vangst woog de vogel 2050 g; dit duidt op een vrouwtje Kleine Sneeuwgans *A c caerulescens* (1814-3175 g); mannetjes wegen 2155-3402 g. Grote Sneeuwganzen *A c atlanticus* zijn aanmerkelijk zwaarder en wegen 3175-4375 g. Het gewicht van adulte Grauwe Ganzen varieert van 2070-4560 g (Cramp & Simmons 1977).

Op 30 augustus 1997 werd de halsring afgelezen door Jan Bolding Kristensen te Rickelsbüll Koog, Klanxbüll, Schleswig-Holstein, Duitsland (54:54 N; 08:39 O). Deze waarnemer kwam ook niet helemaal uit de determinatie en gaf de vogel door als '*Anser*-hybride' met de opmerking '…dat de vogel leek op een kruising tussen een Grauwe Gans en Sneeuwgans' (Arne Follestad in litt).

Over de herkomst van deze Sneeuwgans voordat hij werd geringd is weinig te zeggen. Sneeuwganzen worden regelmatig waargenomen in Noorwegen en net als in Nederland wordt er vanuit gegaan dat het hier zowel wilde als verwilderde of ontsnapte vogels betreft. In het zuiden van Noorwegen, rond Oslo, broeden zowel Grauwe Ganzen als (verwilderde) Sneeuwganzen. In het gebied waar de vogel geringd werd, ruien voor zover bekend alleen Grauwe Ganzen die in Noorwegen broeden (Arne Follestad in litt).

Van 18 tot 26 april 1980 bevonden zich 18 Sneeuwganzen (13 witte en één blauwe adult en vier onvolwassen) bij Andijk, Noord-Holland. Eén van de witte vogels was geringd; deze bleek in 1977 als kuiken te zijn geringd in La Pérouse Bay, Manitoba, Canada. Het betrof een mannetje Kleine Sneeuwgans (Blankert 1980). Samen met een aantal recente terugmeldingen van in Noord-Amerika gehalsringde canadese ganzen *Branta canadensis parvipes/B hutchinsii* uit Ierland en

85 Sneeuwgans / Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*, Smålø, Trondheim, Noorwegen, 13 juli 1997 *(Yngve Lystad)*



Schotland (Thiede 1996, Appleton et al 1997) geeft dit geval aan dat wilde ganzen uit Noord-Amerika daadwerkelijk in Europa opduiken. De waarneming in Flevoland geeft echter aan dat ook een halsring nog niet voldoende hoeft te zijn om een wilde herkomst aan te nemen. Verder is opvallend aan het geval van Flevoland dat de kleur van de halsring verschillend werd geïnterpreteerd (groen versus blauw) en dat de inscriptie op de halsring ondanks langdurige bestudering uiteindelijk nog steeds foutief bleek te zijn afgelezen. Hoewel Arne Follestad (in litt) aangaf dat de ring 'zeer, zeer blauw' is, meldt hij ook dat dit type halsring regelmatig als groen wordt gemeld. Toen de halsring nog niet correct was afgelezen heeft de melding twee weken in het e-mailverkeer tussen Europese en Amerikaanse ringcentrales 'rondgevlogen' (Gerrit Speek in litt). Als de vogel na de eerste melding niet was teruggevonden, was de kans groot geweest dat deze als 'bewezen' Sneeuwgans uit Oost-Siberië in de boeken terecht was gekomen.

Bovenstaande ervaringen geven eens te meer aan dat (ook) bij ringmeldingen grote voorzichtigheid geboden is omdat de determinatie door de ringer zonder bewijsmateriaal (beschrijving, foto) niet feilloos hoeft te zijn en omdat de correcte ringgegevens in feite alleen met bewijsmateriaal in de vorm van foto of video als absoluut betrouwbaar kunnen worden aangemerkt. Ook als een ringer niet overtuigd is van de determinatie is het echter nuttig om de vogel in kwestie van een ring te voorzien (en bij voorkeur fotografisch te documenteren) omdat vervolgwaarnemingen alsnog kunnen bijdragen aan een zekere determinatie en interessante gegevens kunnen opleveren over de verplaatsingen van de vogel.

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Summary

SNOW GOOSE WITH NORWEGIAN NECK BAND IN FLEVOLAND IN SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1998 From late September to at least 22 October 1998, a neck-banded adult Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens* was observed with Greylag Geese *A anser* in Flevoland, the Netherlands. The bird was a rare intermediate morph: predominantly a white morph but showing characters of a blue morph in the wings. The elongated and sharply pointed tertials were black with a thin white edge, the wing-coverts were blue-grey and the secondaries were black, forming a black terminal band on both upper- and underwing. The colour of the neck band was first described as green with white inscription 'C16'; this would have indicated a bird ringed in eastern Siberia and a very spectacular ringing recovery. When observed at closer range, however, the band seemed to be (greenish) blue with inscription looking like 'G16'.

It appeared that the bird had been banded on 13 July 1997 near Trondheim, Norway, being identified in the hand as Snow Goose, partially albinistic Greylag Goose or hybrid of both. The inscription was in fact 'G9T' ('G' in vertical, '9T' in horizontal position), with '9T' apparantly easily seen as '16' when read upside down. On 30 August 1997, the bird was ring-read in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. The origin of the Norwegian bird is unknown and it may be wild or feral.

There are several proven records of wild Nearctic geese in Europe. A genuine vagrant Snow Goose, ringed in Manitoba, Canada, was observed in the Netherlands in April 1980 in a group of 14 Snow Geese and genuine vagrant canada geese *Branta canadensis parvipes/B hutchinsii* wearing neck bands have been recorded in Ireland and Scotland in recent years (Blankert 1980, Thiede 1996, Appleton et al 1997).

The interesting aspect of the Norwegian bird seen in Flevoland is not the speculation about its provenance but the lessons to be learnt when confronted with ringed or neck-banded birds. First, the identification by the ringer may not be infallible, which will be most troublesome when documentation (description and photographs) is lacking. Second, information about colour and inscription of rings and neck bands read in the field may remain questionable without photographs or video.

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Leucistische Grote Karekiet bij Tienhoven in juni 1998

Tijdens een broedvogelinventarisatie voor SOVON op zondag 21 juni 1998 hoorden Camiel Heunks en Eckhart Heunks vanuit een roeiboot bij Kievitsbuurt, Tienhoven, Utrecht, twee tegen elkaar in zingende Grote Karekieten *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*. De afstand tussen beide vogels bedroeg c 300 m. Eén van de vogels zat hoog in een struik te zingen; reeds van afstand viel zijn lichte uiterlijk op. De waarnemers konden de onverstoorbaar doorzingende vogel dicht benaderen en uitvoerig bestuderen; bovendien slaagde EH erin enkele dia's van hem te maken.

Het verenkleed was lichtbruin tot witachtig, iets donkerder op de flanken en op delen van de kop (een vage 'afdruk' van de normale koptekening was zichtbaar). De iris was bruin en de snavel en poten waren licht vleeskleurig.

Leucisme en andere vormen van atypische pigmentatie (voor een goede inleiding tot dit onderwerp zij verwezen naar Campbell & Lack 1985) worden bij *Acrocephalus*-zangers zelden vastgesteld. Zo noemen Glutz von Blotzheim & Bauer (1991) slechts vier gevallen van (gedeeltelijk) albinisme bij Grote Karekiet.

Summary

Leucistic Great Reed Warbler near Tienhoven in June 1998 On 21 June 1998, a singing leucistic Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* was observed and photographed near Tienhoven, Utrecht, the Netherlands. The plumage was pale brownish-white, with a vague 'ghost image' of the normal head pattern and slightly darker flanks. The eye was dark; the legs and bill were pale flesh-coloured. Leucism and other forms of atypical pigmentation are rarely established in *Acrocephalus* warblers. Glutz von Blotzheim & Bauer (1991) mention only four records of (partial) albinism in Great Reed Warbler.

Verwijzingen

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86 Leucistische Grote Karekiet / leucistic Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*, Tienhoven, Utrecht, 21 juni 1998 *(Eckhart Heunks)*



Trends in systematics

Cryptic species of storm-petrels in the Azores?

The recent series of records of Swinhoe's Storm-petrels *Oceanodroma monorhis* in the northern Atlantic Ocean has attracted much attention (James & Robertson 1985, Carruthers et al 1989, Dawson et al 1995). The increase and broad distribution of records (Bretagnolle et al 1991; Dutch Birding 19: 200, 1997, Birding World 11: 424, 1998) raises questions of whether this is a new phenomenon and whether it is possible that perhaps somewhere in the Atlantic there is an as-yet unknown breeding population of Swinhoe's Storm-petrels. The lack of definitive answers to these questions is a reflection of the state of knowledge of Western Palearctic seabirds.

The possibility that, even in the Western Palearctic, there may still be significant gaps in our understanding of seabird diversity is forcefully demonstrated by recent research on the populations of Madeiran Storm-petrel *O castro* in the Azores. Over the past five years, Luís Monteiro and colleagues have documented the existence of two populations of Madeiran Storm-petrels that share the same breeding sites but nest in different seasons. The morphological differences between these populations are significant and exceed those between Matsudaira's Storm-petrel *O matsudairae* and Tristram's Storm-petrel *O tristrami*, raising the possibility that they represent independent species (Monteiro & Furness 1998).

Storm-petrel populations in the Azores

The presence of Madeiran Storm-petrels in Azorean waters was first documented at the beginning of this century (Hartert & Ogilvie-Grant 1905). However, the first proof of breeding was obtained in the early 1990s (Monteiro et al 1996a, 1996b). There are three known breeding colonies of Madeiran Storm-petrels in the Azores, all on small, rat-free islands. One is situated on Vila (near Santa Maria), the others 300 km to the north-west on Baixo and Praia (both near Graciosa).

The first clue that more than one discrete population is involved came from analyses of mercury concentrations in the plumage. Levels of mercury in the plumage of individuals breeding in the hot season (ie, those sampled in March-July) turned out to be significantly lower than that of storm-petrels breeding in the cool season (ie, those sampled in September-November) (Monteiro et al 1995).

Subsequent work confirmed the presence of two seasonal populations in the Azores (Monteiro et al 1996b, Monteiro & Furness 1998). On Baixo and Praia, adults return in late March and are recorded in every month until at least mid-November. The existence of hot-season and cool-season breeding populations is demonstrated by breeding and recapture data (Monteiro & Furness 1998). Brood-patch scores revealed a distinct bimodal distribution, with peaks in May-June and October-November, an interval of four to five months. Colony attendance of the two populations overlaps during August and early September. On Vila, adult storm-petrels are absent until early August and gradually increase in September. On this island, only the cool-season population is present. Monteiro et al (1996a) estimated the breeding populations as 200 pairs in the hot season (Baixo and Praia) and 600 pairs in the cool season (400 on Baixo and Praia, 200 on Vila).

Eggs from cool-season birds were significantly longer and heavier than those from hot-season birds (Monteiro & Furness 1998). Chicks from the cool-season population also appeared to be slightly heavier than chicks from hot-season birds (Monteiro & Furness 1998). Monteiro & Furness (1998) estimated that the peak laying, hatching and fledging dates are 19 May, 30 June and 8 September for the hot-season populations on Baixo and Praia, and 1 October, 11 November and 28 January for the cool-season population on Vila. The latter dates also seem to apply to the cool-season breeders on Baixo and Praia.

Cool- and hot-season breeders showed different patterns in adult breast plumage moult: more than 50% of hot-season birds initiate breast plumage moult at the colonies in July (shortly after hatching) whereas 50% of cool-season breeders are in breast moult on arrival at the colonies in August (Monteiro & Furness 1998). In cool-season breeders, moult reappears in December and reaches a high frequency in January, a month after the peak of hatching (Monteiro & Furness 1998).

Recaptures of adults on Baixo and Praia indicated that there are very few exchanges between hot- and cool-season populations: 84



87 Madeiran Storm-petrel / Madeirastormvogeltje *Oceanodroma castro*, Furna Roques, Ilhas Desertas, Madeira, September 1996 *(Manuela Nunes)*

birds ringed in one season were recaptured in the same season in a subsequent year whereas only two possible interchanges between hot- and cool-season populations were noted. The brood-patch scores of the latter two individuals suggested that they were non-breeders (Monteiro & Furness 1998).

Measurements of nine characters were taken: head + bill, bill length, bill depth at nostrils and gonys, tarsus, wing length, tail length, tail-fork and body mass. These measurements fell into two groups, corresponding to the hot- and cool-season populations (Monteiro et al 1996b, Monteiro & Furness 1998). Island populations breeding in the same season turned out to be very similar but differences between populations breeding in different season were shown to be highly significant and were confirmed by application of several statistical methods. The two seasonal populations have different body proportions: hot-season birds are smaller than cool-season birds (as measured by head + bill, bill length and depth, tarsus and body mass) but have longer wings (relative to body size) and longer and deeper forked tails (Monteiro & Furness 1998).

Monteiro & Furness (1998) judged the differences between hot- and cool-season populations to be more pronounced than those of (hot-season) Matsudaira's and (cool-season) Tristram's Storm-petrels which co-exist on Volcano Island, Pacific Ocean. The magnitude of morphological differentiation is similar to that of different Pacific Ocean taxa that are currently considered conspecific with Leach's Storm-petrel *O leucorhoa* (Power & Ainley 1986). The taxonomy of the latter species, however, is far from settled, and there is evidence for the existence of different species-level taxa (see below).

How did the differences in timing of breeding of the two Azorean populations evolve? Monteiro & Furness (1998) suggested that one scenario to account for the existence of two seasonal populations in the Azores is that the storm-petrels were forced to share nests due to lack of space for nesting. Cool-season breeding seems to be much more widespread among Madeiran Storm-petrels than breeding in the hot season and the cool season seems to be the preferred season for breeding. Monteiro & Furness (1998) suggested that this may be due to enhanced food availability for storm-petrels in the cool season,

in combination with a longer period of darkness to exploit prey and better breeding success in the cool season. The strategy to breed in two seasons may have been a result of competition for nest sites during the cool season. The need to share nests on small, predator-free islands may have been strengthened by the historical extinction of populations on the main islands (Monteiro et al 1996a, Monteiro & Furness 1998). This scenario suggests that the two populations evolved in sympatry (Monteiro & Furness 1998), a scenario referred to as 'sympatric speciation' by evolutionary biologists. A corollary (but not necessarily proof) of this hypothesis would be that the two populations are each others' closest relatives which should be tested by phylogenetic analysis; such an analysis is now under way (see below).

Taxonomy

In view of the morphological differences and seasonal segregation of storm-petrels, Monteiro & Furness (1998) argued that the populations in the Azores have the characteristics of species and that they may be treated as sibling species. The reproductive isolation and sympatric breeding of Azorean storm-petrel populations satisfy the criteria of the so-called 'Biological Species Concept'. However, if two populations are morphologically distinct and have sympatric breeding ranges, they are likely to be considered as species by any contemporary species concept. If future studies indicate that the two Azorean populations are conspecific after all, some hypothesis will be required to explain the existence of significant morphological differences between these seasonally segregated populations.

Attempts to corroborate and extend the conclusions based on breeding and morphological characteristics with the tools of molecular systematics are promising. Preliminary results of an ongoing mitochondrial DNA study (Friesen et al 1998) indicate that hot- and cool-season breeders are genetically highly divergent and that they are genetically isolated. The same data indicate that breeders from the same season are genetically similar, and genetic differences between the cool-season populations in the Azores and off the coast of Portugal are minor (Luís Monteiro in litt). Publication of this analysis will hopefully shed further light on the issue of whether the two populations in the Azores have evolved in sympatry.

Other aspects that require investigation include the vocalizations, food requirements and non-breeding distribution of the two Azorean storm-petrel populations. Of immediate interest are inquiries into the status and relationships of other populations of Madeiran Storm-petrels. Given the results obtained so far, parallel patterns of morphologically distinct and seasonally segregated populations of storm-petrels might be expected to exist in other Atlantic populations of Madeiran Storm-petrels. For that end, studies have been initiated to assess the status of the populations of Madeiran Storm-petrels on the Desertas, Madeira (Manuela Nunes, Instituto de Conservação da Natureza, Lisboa, Portugal) and São Tomé, Gulf of Guinea (Rita Covas, University of Azores). Again, the first results are encouraging; the occurrence of hot- and cool-season populations was recently confirmed for Madeiran Storm-petrels in the Desertas (Luís Monteiro in litt) and recently collected data provide the first indications of breeding on São Tomé (Monteiro et al 1997).

Implications and prospects

The story that has begun to unfold is both spectacular and sobering. It is spectacular because it reveals the existence of previously unrecognized avian taxa in the western Palearctic and presents evidence for sympatric speciation in birds. It is sobering because it illustrates that the current state of knowledge of seabirds is lacunose even in a field as basic as taxonomy. But are the results truly surprising?

Current knowledge of Procellariiformes (the tube-nosed seabirds to which the storm-petrels belong) is unevenly distributed among species. Some species (eg, Northern Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*, Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*) are among the best-studied species of birds, yet others remain poorly known. The possibility that perhaps not all species of seabirds have been found is indicated by the relatively recent discovery of a number of new forms in the Indian Ocean, including Jouanin's Petrel *Bulweria fallax* (Jouanin 1955), Barau's Petrel *Pterodroma baraui* (Jouanin 1963) and the celebrated Amsterdam Albatross *Diomedea amsterdamensis* (Roux et al 1983). The existence of previously unrecognized species has also been revealed in the Atlantic (Spectacled Petrel *Procellaria conspicillata*; Ryan 1998) and Pacific Oceans (Henderson Petrel *Pterodroma atrata*; Brooke & Rowe 1996). In addition, two albatross forms that were originally described as subspecies in 1992, Gibson's Albatross *D gibsoni* and Antipodean Albatross *D antipodensis* (Robertson & Warham 1992), have recently been elevated to species level (Robert-

son & Nunn 1998). A further new species of albatross on the Chatham Islands awaits formal description (Robertson & Nunn 1998).

If so many species of seabirds, including large and conspicuous species such as albatrosses, can be overlooked, it is perhaps not surprising that one or two small, nocturnal species of storm-petrels have escaped attention. On the other hand, it may still come as somewhat of a surprise that previously unrecognized forms of storm-petrels are to be found in the Azores, which are part of Europe. However, the seabirds of the Azores are not well-known. For instance, the population of Little Shearwaters *P (assimilis) baroli* is currently estimated as more than 150 pairs (Monteiro et al 1996a) but the species was not found breeding in the Azores until April 1953 (Bannerman 1964). Similarly, although an estimated 800 pairs of Madeiran Storm-petrels breed in the Azores, and some possible colonies were known, breeding was not confirmed until the early 1990s (Monteiro et al 1996a, 1996b).

The situation illuminated by Monteiro & Furness (1998) mirrors that of the Leach's Storm-petrel complex in the Pacific Ocean which includes two seasonal forms on Guadalupe Island: a larger form with a white rump that breeds in winter and has fledged young by April, and a smaller form with less white on the rump that begins laying in June and fledges young in October-November (eg, Jehl & Everett 1985). If these two forms are indeed morphologically distinct and seasonally segregated (cf Power & Ainley 1986), they are evidently species-level taxa (Jehl & Everett 1985), irrespective of which species concept is applied. The taxonomic status and nomenclature of these taxa, however, remains controversial (Ainley 1980, 1983, Bourne & Jehl 1982, Jehl & Everett 1985, Power & Ainley 1986) and warrants further study. Contrary to the Azorean taxa, which have not yet been named, there is no shortage of names for the Guadalupe storm-petrels; at least four names have been applied: *macrodactyla, socorroensis, kaedingi* and *cheimomnestes* (Jehl & Everett 1985).

For birders, the presence of additional taxa of storm-petrels in the northern Atlantic will be a mixed blessing. Field identification of storm-petrels at sea already is no easy matter. The prospect of having one, perhaps several, additional species of storm-petrels may be daunting. On the other hand, it provides a new challenge and may stimulate further studies into the variability of field characters of storm-petrels. It is quite possible that the differences in shape and proportions of the two Azorean populations are visible at sea. If so, the two forms could be identifiable in the field.

Several years ago, Michael O'Brien (in litt) reported seeing 100s of Madeiran Storm-petrels on the Atlantic coast of North Carolina, USA, plus several birds off New Jersey and Virginia, all without a discernible tail-fork, which is at odds with the current identification literature (eg, Harrison 1987). Moult may influence the shape of the tail but over the course of a season one would expect at least some storm-petrels that have either completed or not yet begun their moult. This led him to ask whether there are dif-

88-89 Madeiran Storm-petrel / Madeirastormvogeltje *Oceanodroma castro*, off Salvage Islands, August 1997 *(Tony Marr)*





ferences among populations in the depth of the tail-fork (Michael O'Brien in litt). Monteiro & Furness (1998) documented such differences: cool-season breeders have shallower tail-forks than hot-season breeders. Since storm-petrels off the eastern North American coast presumably include birds from the Azores (Monteiro et al 1996b), could the peculiar square-tailed storm-petrels off the eastern North American coast have been cool-season breeders from the Azores? The possibility that at least some birds originate from the cool-season population of the Azores is strengthened by the recent recovery off the Florida coast of a cool-season adult ringed in the Azores (Luís Monteiro in litt).

In order to make hot- and cool-season storm-petrels identifiable at sea, researchers are now reviewing the feasibility of running a colour ringing program (Luís Monteiro in litt). Although identification will only be possible under excellent circumstances, colour ringing is probably the only method by which the non-breeding range of these populations can be established without having to collect the birds at sea. It will also contribute to the establishment of identification criteria of storm-petrels of known identity, which will further increase attention to storm-petrel distribution patterns. The prospect of knowing for certainty to which population a Madeiran Storm-petrel belongs and the ability to contribute to scientific research will be greeted with enthusiasm by the operators and participants of seabird tours off the eastern North American coast (eg, Brinkley & Patteson 1998).

As is usual with the discovery of previously unrecognized forms, the study by Monteiro & Furness (1998) fills an important gap in our knowledge of seabird diversity but, at the same time, raises several new questions and possibilities. Some of these, such as the genetic differentiation of Atlantic forms of Madeiran Storm-petrel populations, are already being addressed whereas others, such as the field identification, distribution and pelagic ecology of the Azorean populations will hopefully be clarified in the not too distant future.

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DBA-nieuws

Bestel *Zeldzame vogels van Nederland* nu! Eind mei 1999 zal het boek *Zeldzame vogels van Nederland*, geschreven door Arnoud van den Berg en Cecilia Bosman, beschikbaar zijn. Dit boek, gerealiseerd door de Dutch Birding Association in samenwerking met GMB-uitgeverij en KNNV-uitgeverij, is het eerste deel van de nieuwe Avifauna van Nederland en zal op woensdag 26 mei gepresenteerd worden aan de Nederlandse vogelorganisaties, de pers en andere relaties in het Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum Naturalis te Leiden. Een aantal 'eerste exemplaren' zal daarbij uitgereikt worden door DBA-voorzitter Gijs van der Bent.

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Men kan de boeken bestellen middels de acceptgiro die bij het vorige nummer van Dutch Birding was ingesloten, of door het overmaken van het benodigde bedrag naar gironummer 150697 van Dutch Birding Association, p/a Iepenlaan 11, 1901 ST Castricum, ovv 'deel 1', 'deel 2' of 'deel 1 + 2'. Zet er in dat geval wel uw lidnummer bij (te vinden op de verpakking van Dutch Birding)! Belgische begunstigers kunnen bestellen door het overmaken van BEF 1370 (deel 1 of 2) of BEF 2650 (beide delen) op postchequenummer 000-1592468-19 (eveneens ovv het lidnummer). Bestel *Zeldzame vogels van Nederland* nu!

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Top of Holland Vogelfestival Op 27, 28 en 29 augustus 1999 vindt het Top of Holland Vogelfestival plaats. Een spetterend festival voor vogelaars, natuurliefhebbers en voor iedereen die behoefte heeft aan een leuke dag die in het teken staat van de fascinerende natuur.

In de prachtige Lauwersmeer, aan de rand van het nationaal park, zal er die drie dagen van alles te zien en te doen zijn. Zo worden er excursies gehouden met de boot en met de benenwagen om de natuur eens vanuit een ander oogpunt te bezien. Ervaren gidsen geven tekst en uitleg. Er zijn workshops schilderen en fotografie onder leiding van inspirerende natuurkunstenaars. Voor kinderen is er een speciaal hands-on programma en worden er workshops vliegers-maken gegeven.

Natuurlijk wordt dit festival niet zomaar georganiseerd. De Stichting Vogelfestival hoopt mensen enthousiast te maken voor vogels en actieve natuurbeleving op een manier waarbij plezier en respect hand in hand gaan.

Producer Stephen Moss van de BBC Natural History Unit, komt zijn nieuwste natuurfilm 'Birding with Bill Oddie in Holland' vertonen. Deze film werd dit voorjaar onder andere geschoten in de Lauwersmeer en zal pas in maart 2000 op de BBC te bewonderen zijn. Stephen Moss geeft persoonlijk uitleg over de totstandkoming van de film.

Vanzelfsprekend is het Vogelfestival een goede gelegenheid om de natuur een financieel steuntje in de rug te geven. In aansluiting op de British Birdwatching Fair ondersteunt het Vogelfestival 'Brazil's Atlantic Forests'. Om dit goede doel te steunen wordt er een vogel- en natuurkunstveiling georganiseerd, maar ook een loterij waar leuke prijzen te winnen zijn.

De inzet van een groot aantal vrijwilligers zal nodig zijn om het festival tot een succes te maken. Zij zullen op allerlei plaatsen en voor allerlei taken worden ingezet: het bemannen van een informatiestand, contactpersoon voor standhouders, het regelen van verkeer, verzorgen van kinderopvang etc.

Het Vogelfestival zoekt nog steeds vrijwilligers. Wat biedt het Vogelfestival de vrijwilligers? Allereerst een leuke actieve tijd te midden van natuurliefhebbers! Verder worden de vervoerskosten en maaltijden voor vrijwilligers vergoed. Mensen die verder weg wonen dan een uur rijden van de Lauwersmeer, krijgen overnachting aangeboden. Iedereen die affiniteit heeft met de natuur en over een flinke dosis enthousiasme beschikt is zeer welkom als vrijwilliger op het Top of Holland Vogelfestival! Vrijwilligers kunnen zich melden bij: Stichting Vogelfestival, Postbus 737, 9700 AS Groningen, Nederland, telefoon 050-5258070, fax 050-5272668, e-mail vogelfestival@natuurschool.com.

De Dutch Birding Association is *supporter* van het festival en is uiteraard aanwezig met een stand. De DBA zal vanuit eigen expertise en doelstellingen verschillende bijdragen leveren aan het programma van

het festival. Er zullen elke dag door de DBA minstens twee mystery bird-competities gehouden worden (voor beginners en voor 'gevorderden'), dagelijks wordt een aantal (dia)lezingen verzorgd en er wordt ook verwacht dat de DBA gidsen levert voor de excursies. Het DBA-bestuur is al druk bezig met de voorbereidingen. Iedereen die denkt aan de bovenstaande zaken (mystery bird-competities, lezingen, gidsen) een bijdrage te kunnen leveren, wordt verzocht zo spoedig mogelijk contact op te nemen met het DBA-bestuur, Postbus 75611, 1070 AP Amsterdam, Nederland, e-mail dba@dutchbirding.nl.

Promoot vogelbescherming, vogels kijken en de DBA

Door alle jarige organisaties in Nederland (Vogelbescherming 100 jaar, SOVON 25 jaar, DBA 20 jaar, om maar enkele te noemen) zouden we het bijna vergeten; ook de Amercian Birding Association (ABA) is jarig. De ABA bestaat dit jaar 30 jaar. Toen de DBA in 1979 werd opgericht was de ABA pas 10 jaar oud. Toch waren die club uit de Verenigde Staten en haar tijdschrift Birding al een voorbeeld, en niet alleen wat de naam betreft, voor de DBA en haar tijdschrift Dutch Birding. In het eerste nummer van Birding van dit jaar (net als Dutch Birding verschijnt Birding tweemaandelijks) wordt onder het kopje 'Thirty things you can do for birds, birding and the ABA' een 30-tal aanbevelingen gedaan aan de lezers. De verjaardag van hun club indachtig zouden ABA'ers er goed aan doen deze tips na te volgen, waarmee niet alleen de vogels en het vogelen op zich, maar ook hun eigen organisatie gebaat zouden kunnen zijn.

Een aantal tips heeft vooral betrekking op vogelbescherming, en die tips zullen in Nederland neerkomen op onder meer het lid worden van Vogelbescherming en andere natuurbeschermings-organisaties, het onderhouden van een vogelvriendelijke tuin, gebruiken en propaganderen van 'eco-producten' (in de VS bijvoorbeeld het gebruik van 'shade-grown coffee', van koffieplanten waarvoor geen regenwoud gekapt hoeft te worden), meedoen aan broedvogelinventarisaties, en het verzamelen van oude verrekijkers voor natuurbeschermers in ontwikkelingslanden. Eigenlijk allemaal zaken die voor een natuurliefhebber vanzelfsprekend (zouden moeten) zijn.

Wat kunnen we doen om het vogels kijken als hobby te promoten? Volgens de ABA allereerst door op je eerstvolgende vogeltrip een 'new birder' mee te nemen, bij voorkeur een jongere. Typisch Amerikaans is de tip om vooral een 'beleidsmaker' (lokaal, regioaal, landelijk) te introduceren in de geneugten van het vogelen.

Nog enkele goeie tips:

• bekijk het aanbod aan vogelboeken en -tijdschriften in de plaatselijke bibliotheek en geef suggesties om die verzameling te verbeteren. Hier moet de lezer van Dutch Birding zeker raad mee weten!

• wordt actief in de lokale of regionale vogelvereniging en biedt op z'n minst je veldornithologische danwel redactionele vaardigheden aan, bijvoorbeeld bij excursies, clubbladen, (dia)lezingen en andere activiteiten.

• help mee aan de organisatie van een 'vogelfestival'. Dit lijkt een typisch Amerikaanse of Engels fenomeen, maar eind augustus staat er een heus vogelfestival gepland in het Lauwersmeergebied (het 'Top of Holland Vogelfestival', waarvan de DBA supporter is), dat mogelijk een trend kan zetten voor de komende jaren.

• maak vogelaars bewust van gedragsregels in het veld, en probeer deze regels in ieder geval ook zelf toe te passen.

De DBA wil dit jaar graag enkele 100en nieuwe begunstigers werven. Allereerst omdat we vinden dat Dutch Birding het waard is om door meer mensen gelezen te worden (begunstigers krijgen overigens meer dan het tijdschrift alleen!), maar ook om een betere financiële basis voor onze activiteiten te realiseren. Er zullen enkele acties gestart gaan worden, zoals het meesturen van folders met andere vogeltijdschriften en het belonen van begunstigers die een nieuwe begunstiger aanbrengen.

Iedere DBA'er kan meehelpen aan het verhogen van het aantal begunstigers. Bovenstaande tips om het vogelen in het algemeen te promoten kunnen uiteraard met een DBA-sausje overgoten worden. Nog een aantal tips, niet alleen van de ABA maar ook van de DBA:

• let goed op welke actieve, jonge, talentvolle, leergierige of ervaren vogelaar nog geen DBA'er is en maak hem of haar zo snel mogelijk begunstiger. Let op komende acties waarbij aanbrengers van nieuwe begunstigers een Dutch Birding t-shirt verdienen.

• maak ook tijdens buitenlandse vogeltochten reclame voor Dutch Birding. Het aanzien dat Dutch Birding in het buitenland geniet bij de serieuze 'birder' is buitengewoon groot, maar om daadwerkelijke begunstiger te worden heeft de buitenlandse vogelaar vaak nog een zetje nodig.

• draai je niet om als mensen kritiek hebben op de DBA, maar probeer uit te leggen wat de DBA de afgelopen 20 jaar betekend heeft voor het vogels kijken in Nederland en daarbuiten.

• wees zuinig op je DB's, maar mocht je ze toch wegdoen, zorg dan dat ze goed terechtkomen, dus bij geïnteresseerden of in bibliotheken/leeszalen.

• wees verdraagzaam ten opzichte van andere vogelorganisaties. Dutch Birding (Association) neemt een heel duidelijke plaats in binnen de Nederlandse vogelwereld, maar andere clubs en tijdschriften doen dat ook. Het DBA-bestuur streeft naar meer samenwerking met andere Nederlandse organisaties. De nieuwe Avifauna van Nederland is een mooi voorbeeld van zo'n samenwerking maar ook op gebied van ledenwerving, artikelen, wetenschap en projecten is meer samenwerking mogelijk.

De ABA wordt vanaf deze plaats gefeliciteerd met haar verjaardag, en bedankt voor de tips. GIJSBERT VAN DER BENT

Aankondigingen & verzoeken

Pelagic trips vanuit IJmuiden, Lauwersoog en Stellendam in september en oktober 1999 Gezien het succes van de pelagic trips van 1998, worden er in het najaar van 1999 door BINS opnieuw pelagische vogeltochten georganiseerd. Op zaterdag 11 september en zondag 10 oktober zullen wij vanuit IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, uitvaren, op zaterdag 25 september vanuit Lauwersoog, Groningen, en op zaterdag 2 oktober vanuit Stellendam, Zuid-Holland. Hoogtepunten van de tochten in 1998 waren onder meer de grote aantallen Jan-van-genten *Morus bassanus*, een Visarend *Pandion haliaetus*, meerdere Grote Jagers *Stercorarius skua* vlak achter de boot, een Geelpootmeeuw *Larus michahellis* en een Vorkstaartmeeuw *L sabini*. Vanuit IJmuiden kwamen wij terecht in een grote 'wolk' van Noordse Stormvogels *Fulmarus glacialis*. Uiteraard ontbraken ook waarnemingen van aan boord komende zangvogels niet. Andere jaren leverden dergelijke tochten zeldzame of schaarse zeevogels op zoals Grauwe Pijlstormvogel *Puffinus griseus*, Stormvogeltje *Hydrobates pelagicus*, Vaal Stormvogeltje *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*, een mogelijk Chinees Stormvogeltje *O monorhis*, Rosse Franjepoot *Phalaropus fulicaria*, Kleinste Jagers *S longicaudus* en Papegaaiduiker *Fratercula arctica*. Met behulp van lokaas zullen we trachten om de vogels rondom de boot te krijgen. De prijs per tocht bedraagt NLG 65.00. Boten vertrekken om 08:00 en zijn in de middag weer terug. Catering is aan boord aanwezig. Bij slecht weer gaat de tocht niet door. Wie dit spektakel wil meemaken wordt verzocht om voor 1 juni contact op te nemen met BINS (Rogier Karskens, André van Kleunen, Hein Prinsen en Roland van der Vliet), telefoon 033-2537081, e-mail BINS_TOURS@yahoo.com, internet http://www.gjvandenberg.demon.nl/bins/main.html.

Gibraltar migration monitoring scheme (MIGRES) in autumn 1999 The Strait of Gibraltar, at the southern tip of Cádiz, Andalucía, Spain, is the most important 'bottleneck' for central and western European migratory birds crossing the Mediterranean, travelling towards and from their wintering quarters on the African continent. The area is especially important for soaring birds like storks, vultures and eagles, which during autumn migration concentrate by 100 000s in the area of Tarifa, waiting for suitable winds to allow them to cross the 14 km wide strait into Africa.

The Regional Government of Andalucía (Consejería de Medio Ambiente, Junta de Andalucía) is funding from 1997 onwards, and for a period of five years, the monitoring of autumn migration of soaring birds, as a first phase of what is planned to be a complete long-term monitoring scheme of bird migration through the Strait of Gibraltar (Programa MIGRES). Co-ordination of the field work is done by the Spanish partner of BirdLife International, the Sociedad Española de Ornitología (SEO).

Each year, during four months (mid-July to mid-October), different observatories are placed along the Spanish migration front of the Strait of Gibraltar, and volunteers are needed to cover them, together with the specialists responsible for the project. Volunteers will be selected according to their experience, available time, and knowledge of the area (although not strictly necessary). Food and accommodation expenses will be fully covered by the Junta de Andalucía, and minimum periods of 12 or 15 days of staying are required from the start of the campaign (15 July), with fixed days for arrival and departure that will be confirmed. Applications should be received before 15 May 1999, and confirmation by co-ordinators, and further information, will be sent to the volunteers during June 1999.

Volunteers will be asked for a brief curriculum (not necessary for participants in previous MIGRES campaigns) and details about preferred dates. For registration and information, please contact: *1* Programa MIGRES, Sociedad Española de Ornitología, C/ Miguel Bravo Ferrer, 25 bajo, 41005 Sevilla, Spain, telephone & fax +34-954644294, e-mail migres@seo.org; *2* Huerta Grande, Parque Natural Los Alcornocales, Ctra Nacional N-340, km 96, telephone +34-956679161; or *3* the local environmental administration (Delegación Provincial de la Consejería de Medio Ambiente en Cádiz) only by e-mail sv.e.ca@cma.junta-andalucia.es.

20% korting op *The birds of the Thai-Malayan peninsula* Deze maand is het langverwachte eerste deel van het tweedelige handboek *The birds of the Thai-Malayan Peninsula* verschenen. Dit boek van David Wells behandelt de non-passerines van zuidelijk Thailand, het Maleisische schiereiland en Singapore. De prijs van het boek is GBP 74.95. Voor DBA-begunstigers is het mogelijk het boek te bestellen met 20% korting. De prijs wordt dan GBP 60.00. Hierbij moet nog wel een bedrag van GBP 6.30 aan verzendkosten bij opgeteld worden. Het boek telt 550 pagina's, bevat 70 kleurenplaten en behandelt 380 soorten. Een aantal daarvan is in dit boek voor het eerst geïllustreerd. Het boek kan besteld worden door een bedrag van in totaal NLG 220.00 per gewenst exemplaar over te maken op girorekening 4148343 van Dutch Birding Association, p/a Iepenlaan 11, 1901 ST Castricum, ovv 'Thai-Malayan'.

20% discount on *The birds of the Thai-Malayan peninsula* This month, the first volume of the long-awaited two-volume *The birds of the Thai-Malayan Peninsula* is published. This book by David Wells covers the non-passerines of southern Thailand, Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore. The price of this volume is GBP 74.95. For subscribers to Dutch Birding it is possible to order the book with a 20% discount. The price will be GBP 60.00 (excluding GBP 6.30 for postage & package). The book has 550 pages, 70 colour plates, and covers 380 species, many of which are illustrated here for the first time. The book can be order-

ed for the price of GBP 66.30 (including p&p). Payment instructions for foreign subscribers can be obtained at our Internet homepage at http://www.dutchbirding.nl, by sending an e-mail to circulation@dutchbirding.nl or by writing to Dutch Birding Association, Postbus 75611, 1070 AP Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Nieuwe avifauna van Limburg: oproep voor waarnemingen De Vogelstudiegroep van het Natuurhistorisch Genootschap is onlangs gestart met het samenstellen van een nieuwe avifauna van Limburg. De bedoeling is om in dit boek zoveel mogelijk gegevens te verwerken over broed-, trek- en wintervogels, maar ook over interessante vogelgebieden in Limburg. Mocht u over interessante Limburgse vogelwaarnemingen beschikken *en heeft u deze nog niet eerder ingestuurd* naar het Vogelarchief Limburg, SOVON, CDNA of de Nederlandse Ringcentrale, dan verzoeken we u dit alsnog snel te doen. Interessant zijn in ieder geval schaarse en zeldzame soorten, fenologie, opmerkelijke aantallen en (kleur-)ringmeldingen. Het accent ligt op de periode na 1970, maar ook materiaal uit de jaren daarvoor is welkom. Documenteer de determinatie van zeer bijzondere waarnemingen zo goed mogelijk. Gegevens die voor 1 augustus 1999 worden ingestuurd kunnen nog verwerkt worden in de avifauna. Waarnemingen die later binnenkomen worden in het Vogelarchief Limburg opgenomen en zullen in latere publicaties hun nut bewijzen.

Gegevens kunt u sturen naar: Vogelstudiegroep Natuurhistorisch Genootschap Limburg, Postbus 882, 6200 AW Maastricht (bel voor gratis waarnemingsformulieren 043-3213671) of via e-mail naar schols.burmanje@worldonline.nl.

Recensies

CHRIS FEARE & ADRIAN CRAIG 1998. *Starlings and mynas*. Christopher Helm/A&C Black, 35 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH, UK. 285 pp. ISBN 0-7136-3961-X. GBP 32.00.

It seems that Christopher Helm/A&C Black and Pica Press have nicely divided the market of the popular 'bird family' monographs, as, in all the years, there almost have not been any 'doubles'. Aimed for the birder who is primarily interested in identification, distribution and (generally) nice illustrations, these books seem to appear even more regularly than they used to do. Those who want to own all volumes, and I confess to be one of these collectors, should save for many volumes to come, as, up to the end of 1998, only 25 % of the birds of the world have been covered by one volume or the other. A third player on the 'bird family' monograph market, Oxford University Press, has taken a different course, as its monographs are more thorough than those of both Christopher Helm/A&C Black and Pica Press. Also, coverage of bird families by this publisher seems to be independent of the coverage by the other two, already resulting in a 'doubling' in bird families.

Starlings and mynas is the latest addition in the series of Helm identification guides. All living 114 members of the starling family are treated on 32 plates. Being a book in a series that specifically aims to identify birds, *Starlings and mynas* should primarily be judged by its ability to assist the reader with identification problems. In this, it must be said, it does not succeed entirely. Although the authors 'hope that this book will enable readers to identify every starling species in the field', this will not be the case. To take a few simple examples: identification of Rose-coloured Starling *Sturnus roseus* is relatively easy, but there are a few pitfalls for the unwary observer. It would have been useful to read about the so-called 'biscuit-coloured' juvenile Common Starlings *S vulgaris*, which may be confused with juvenile Rose-coloured Starlings. Also, the occurrence of atavistic Common Starlings is not mentioned, which may be a pitfall in the process of identification of adult Rose-coloured Starling. Under Spotless Starling *S unicolor* we read that the males and females differ from Common Starling in several ways, but I would not recommend identifying a suspect individual with this text. Moreover, identification of first-winter Spotless Starling from Common Starling is not treated at all, although it is this age class that may especially be expected to turn up as vagrant. We will have to turn to other sources for this. As a final example, we learn that Bronze-tailed Glossy Starling *Lamprotornis chalcurus* shows yellow eyes, whereas all individuals I have seen were obviously orange-eyed. The main point I am trying to make is that many 'bird family' guides in the Helm identification series lack the detail that would make them really helpful as identification guides. Perhaps this is why 'bird family' books published by Pica Press are not called identification guides?

The plates in *Starlings and mynas* are a mixed bunch. The plates of, eg, the glossy starlings and oxpeckers are quite attractive and pleasing to the eye. However, several plates do not live up to this standard, and the plates with such common species like Common Starling and Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis* and their closest relatives are especially disappointing. Surely it should have been possible to find someone who can paint a Common Starling well?

On the pages facing the plates there are short captions to the illustrations. For every species a map is given, which is curiously not filled-in for Raratonga Starling *Aplonis cinerascens*. Something has gone wrong with the maps of Common Starling, too, as they both illustrate the native range. Presumably, one of both should have shown the range where the species has been introduced, as in Common Myna.

The texts vary in length from less than half a page for

little known species, to 5.5 pages for a common bird like Common Starling. The texts include the usual sections but, compared with other guides in the series, there is an extra section entitled 'relations with man'. Herein, several quite unrelated matters are described, such as the effects of introductions of starlings and mynas to the native avifauna or the struggle in the process to protect rare starling species. It is distressing to read that several tagged individuals of the endangered Bali Myna *Leucopsar rothschildi* have been recovered from bird shops, having been taken from the wild by poachers. The authors say in the introduction that they 'have been deliberately controversial' in places. Despite this comment, I do not understand why for Rose-coloured Starling only a few of the countries are listed where this species has actually been reported as a vagrant. For instance, Britain, Denmark, Germany, Poland and Sweden are all mentioned, but Belgium and the Netherlands are not. This makes you wonder how complete other texts really are.

In summary, this book fails to answer all your thorny identification questions on this group of birds, but as a handsome family monograph it certainly fills a gap. In this, it does not differ from other recent additions in the series of both Christopher Helm/A&C Black and Pica Press, unlike the very first volumes like 'Seabirds' and 'Shorebirds' which were identification guides in the true sense of the word. ROLAND VAN DER VLIET

JOHANNES ERRITZOE & HELGA BOULLET ERRITZOE 1998. *Pittas of the world. A monograph on the Pitta family*. The Lutterworth Press, PO Box 60, Cambridge CB1 2NT, UK. 207 pp. ISBN 0-7188-2961-1. GBP 30.00.

Obviously, this is a labour of love, inspired by Elliot's *A Monograph of the Pittidae or Family of the Ant-Thrushes* (1861-1863, 1893-1895) and John Gould, who started work on a *Monograph of the Pittidae*, but died before the work could be finished. A comparison with the recently published *Pittas, broadbills and asities* by Frank Lambert & Martin Woodcock (Pica Press, 1996) forces itself upon us. Of course, the present work is solely devoted to the Pittidae and as such, it is a work of reference in the tradition of the grand 19th century monographs, but less grandiose and more modest. The colour plates are reminiscent (in composition and posture of the birds depicted) of certain 19th century paintings. While doubtlessly considered attractive by some, they are definitely not up to a standard that may be expected of a late 20th century work of reference.

The book starts off with an introduction to the family (including an hypothetic family tree). The bulk of the book comprises 30 species accounts, based on the study of skins and an exhaustive search of the literature. Unfortunately, the text suffers from – often very irritating – inconsistencies and spelling errors far too numerous to mention individually, as well as sloppy editing. The distribution maps are rudimentary and not up to standard; the lay-out is messy. The illustrations (both the few black-and-white photographs and the colour plates) do not do justice to this fabulous family. Thus, *Pittas, broadbills and asities* by Lambert & Woodcock remains the standard reference work for the pittas and, obviously, there is ample scope for a definitive monograph of the Pittidae. FRANK ROZENDAAL

BRINLEY J BEST, TOM HEIJNEN & ROBERT S R WILLIAMS 1997. *A guide to bird-watching in Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands*. Biosphere Publications Ltd, 9 Throstle Nest Close, Otley, West Yorkshire LS21 2RR, UK. 484 pp. ISBN 0-9520034-2-2. GBP 24.00 or USD 37.50.

This book is a highly detailed birdwatching guide to Ecuador. Although being a relatively small country by South-American standards, more than 1570 bird species can be found in Ecuador, of which 33 are endemic. This high species diversity can be fully attributed to the large variety of habitats. As distances between different habitats are often short, a travelling birder can find himself birdwatching in the high Andes in the morning, while looking at tropical rainforest species in the afternoon. As a result of this extensive geographical variety many top birdwatching localities have been identified in Ecuador during the last decades.

The primary purpose of this book is to describe in detail the major birdwatching sites. The authors have collected a wealth of information from bird reports compiled by many birders who have visited the country over the years. As a result, 120 birdwatching sites have been described accurately. Each site description includes information about habitat, travel directions and available accommodation, detailed maps and a local birdlist highlighting the key species to be found at a site. In addition to the birdlist, endemic and threatened species are mentioned in a separate box, and the text focuses on especially interesting birds of the area. This approach may seem superfluous but offers the reader the opportunity to quickly scan the ornithological value of the site in question.

This systematic approach enables the visiting birder to select those areas, which could provide him with the highest number of bird species to be seen, depending on the time and money he or she has available. The local checklists provided with each site description are comprehensive and quite often contain 100s of bird species observed over the years. Inevitably, such detailed checklists will always be out of date the moment they have been published, as the authors correctly state themselves. However, it should be recognized that publishing these extensive local checklists clearly provides the visiting birder with the necessary information to go into the field well-prepared. In addition, these lists will be a challenge for many to discover new species for the local sites. As a result, the knowledge of the Ecuadorian birdlife will clearly increase in the future. In fact, the information provided in this book is so comprehensive, that it could easily serve as an avifaunal list for this country although the quantitative information might be too limited for this purpose.

Besides writing a book with excellent site descriptions, the authors have gone beyond this primary goal by in-

cluding significant information about climate, geography, endemic and threatened areas in Ecuador. This information is very useful for the traveler as the diverse geography gives this country a complicated climate, which might cause a visiting birder to get stuck at a site for several days with heavy rainfall in the wet season. In addition, the authors give information about the endemic birdwatching areas in Ecuador and the human influence, which threatens these areas and associated bird species. Sadly, Ecuador is 10th on the world list of countries with number of threatened species. At present, c 49 of the 327 threatened neotropical bird species can still be seen in Ecuador, of which 14 are confined to this country. The serious financial crisis in Ecuador during recent years unfortunately will have more impact on nature conservation, which is already under severe threat by habitat destruction and oil industry. It is especially this part of the book which gives it an additional value compared with other (compilations of) bird reports from South America.

In summary, the authors have succeeded in writing a detailed birdwatching guide for Ecuador with a large amount of additional information, which is easy to read and use. Both the visiting birder and naturalist will find it highly useful when planning a trip to Ecuador. Therefore, I can surely recommend it to birders who are planning a visit to this country, but also to those who are merely interested in the South American avifauna. MARTIN VAN DEN BERG

TIM WESTOLL 1999. *The complete illustrated check list of the birds of the world*. Carole Green Publishing, 2-4 Station Road, Swavesey, Cambridge CB4 5QJ, UK. 800 pp. ISBN 0-9533367-0-0. GBP 39.99.

Most books are announced well before publication, but this new title may come as a surprise to many. The author, however, who certainly knew his birds and had first-hand experience with around a third of all species illustrated, has worked on it for almost 30 years and lived just long enough to see his life-work through publication, when he suddenly passed away in early February at the respectable age of 80 years.

Initially, it was intended as a concise all-country field companion, not a definitive field guide and with no significant taxonomic value, but it does include several notes on taxonomy and status (suspected hybrids, unique specimens, etc). This one-volume checklist indeed illustrates all the bird species in the world, including extinct ones and some of those recently discovered up to 1997. It follows the familiar Basel-sequence, with Ostrich *Struthio camelus* first and crows Corvidae last. The treatment of species is based on the development in world checklists over the last three decades, resulting in a combined list roughly from Peters (1931-1986: *Check-list of birds of the world*, c 8919 species) through Gruson, Walters, Clements and Howard & Moore to Sibley & Monroe (1990-1993: *Distribution and taxonomy of birds of the world* plus supplement, 9702 species).

The 23 x 15 cm plates present some 10 300 species, at an average of 28 per plate, ranging from six for some hornbills Bucerotidae to c 70 for *Phylloscopus* warblers and related species. Additionally, it presents c 3000 female, non-breeding, immature and flying birds as well as c 500 subspecies (eg, six redpolls *Carduelis* and seven Eurasian Jays *Garrulus glandarius*). As a result, it shows many species omitted in other (specialist) publications, eg, *Ducula constans* (Australia), *Ceyx goodfellowi* (Philippines), *Caprimulgus solala* & *ludovicianus* (Ethiopia), *Dendrocopus wattersi* (Formosa), *Tangara phillipsi* (Peru), *Ptiloris intercedens* (New Guinea) and *Aerodramus ocista* (Marquesas). Nevertheless, one should realize that the author was not a professional illustrator and hence the figures, varying from less than 1 up to 15 cm, cannot match recent field identification standards. For most groups, however (eg, the 46 toucans Ramphastidae conveniently brought together on only three plates, a service not available from any other source!), individual birds can easily be identified, making it an invaluable first reference for any region or family.

Opposite the plates, each species is numbered within its family and the author gives the scientific and English names (the former often alphabetically arranged within the genera), number of subspecies, length in cm, and their world distribution. Unfortunately, however, many misprints have crept in, and in five plates several species' entries have mysteriously disappeared (plate 255: figures 76-82, *Sphenocichla*, *Neomixis* & *Stachyris*; 262: 7-13, *Cettia*; 263: 90-97, *Acrocephalus*; 264: 170-175, *Phylloscopus*; and 268: 395-402, *Pholidornis*, *Stenostira*, *Eremiornis*, *Megalurus*, *Bueticoferella*, *Ortygocichla* & *Megalurulus*). Furthermore, *Lipaugus subalaris* should be inserted as no 48 on plate 210 (between *L streptophorus* and *L unirufus*), *Vireo chocoensis* should be *Vireo masteri* and the figures 26 and 27 of the birds of paradise have been switched. However, a full errata sheet has been produced and should be found in each copy, but if not, these could be requested from the author's son Richard J F Westoll by e-mail (RWestoll@aol.com).

To locate each species, there is a 48-page four-column index of scientific names (fortunately indexed on specific, rather than generic entries) but it is obvious that the author, probably considering his age, left the production of this part of the book entirely to others, who subsequently 'played old Harry with the typewriter', resulting in many typographical errors and omitted names (eg, *Doliornis*, *Locustella* and *Zimmerius*). Nevertheless, the sequence is familiar and there was not a single species that I could not find.

Anyway, the author is (posthumously) congratulated, being remembered as the first in ornithological history having had the courage, perseverance and abilities to illustrate them all. Therefore, I wholeheartedly recommend this magnificent achievement as a perfect primary source to keep within daily reach for anyone with even the slightest interest in birds. Finally, with only 2000 copies printed, this handy tool is bound to become a much sought-after collector's item certainly worth having. OSCAR VAN ROOTSELAAR

Masters of Mystery

SWAROVSKI
OPTIK

Solutions of first round 1999

The solutions of mystery photographs I and II of the first round of the 1999 competition (Dutch Birding 21: 52-53, 1999) appear below.

I The long, straight and dark bill and the blackish upperparts striped with cream give this bird a snipe-like impression. 22% of the entrants named this wader as a species of snipe (mainly Jack Snipe *Lymnocryptes minimus*), but most entrants experienced little problem in identifying this adult Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus* in worn summer plumage correctly. Although the downward kink at the tip of the bill is obscured by vegetation, the broad base of the bill, split supercilium and unmarked black centres of the wing-coverts and tertials are all well visible; together, these characters are diagnostic. This Broad-billed Sandpiper at its nest was photographed at Konigasniemi, Finland, in June 1981 by René Pop.

II This year's second mystery bird is clearly a member of the 'twin species pair' Calandra Lark *Melanocorypha calandra* and Bimaculated Lark *M bimaculata*. Perched birds which show no details of the tail and secondaries can be difficult to identify. At first glance, the strong facial pattern with clear and long supercilium, clear-cut loral stripe and dark upper border of the ear-coverts seem in favour of Bimaculated. On the other hand, the rather strong breast-streaking looks quite wrong for Bimaculated, so a more detailed study of the bird's characters is necessary.

To start with structural differences between both species, the tail projection beyond the wing-tips can be helpful. Calandra Lark is the longer-tailed bird of the two and when perched the tail projection is often more than 50% of the primary projection, whereas in Bimaculated Lark the wing-tips often fall quite close to the tail-tip (tail projection usually less than 50% of the primary projection). In the mystery bird, the tail projects well beyond the wings, indicating Calandra.

In general, the bill of Bimaculated Lark is relatively longer than that of Calandra Lark. Bill shape of both species varies both geographically and individually and is, therefore, only useful when facing long-billed individuals of Bimaculated or short-billed individuals of Calandra. For the mystery bird, however, the bill-shape is of little value. Moreover, the bill of the mystery bird is all pale without the darker culmen and bill-tip seen in many Bimaculated. Although the bill-pattern in both species is subject to variation with many Calandra showing a diffuse darker culmen, an all pale bill as in this bird is in strong favour of Calandra.

Continuing with plumage differences, the head pattern presents an important feature. The contrasting head-pattern of the mystery bird already mentioned suggests Bimaculated Lark. A closer look at the shape of the supercilium, however, reveals that it is broadest from the base of the bill to just behind the eye and narrows towards its rear end. This shape fits, after all, Calandra Lark better than Bimaculated, in which the supercilium typically is broad throughout its length, often even broadening behind the eye, and square-ended and sharply demarcated. The very prominent loral stripe of the mystery bird is indicative of Bimaculated, being different from the more uniform and less contrasting coloured loral area regularly shown by Calandra. A quite well-marked dark loral stripe in combination with a well-developed supercilium is, however, not an atypical feature for Calandra, especially in fresh plumage, and in this respect it is important to note that the plumage of the mystery bird looks fairly fresh.

Although the mystery bird may seem to exhibit a set of features indicative of both species, the breast pattern identifies this bird as a Calandra Lark. The bird shows extensive breast streaking covering the complete breast down to the belly. Although the amount of breast streaking varies strongly within both species, such a heavily streaked breast as in the mystery bird would be highly atypical for a Bimaculated Lark. Bimaculated typically shows no or only a limited amount of dark spots on the breast sides, with the central breast being unmarked, unlike Calandra which is usually more heavily streaked (although many show less breast streaking than the mystery bird). The black crescents on the breast-sides of this Calandra are large with a tendency to a square shape and the patches do not meet at the centre of the breast. In Bimaculated, the black crescents on the breast-sides are normally narrower and regularly just meet at the centre of the breast.

One of the best features to distinguish both species is the tail pattern and a good look at the mystery bird's tail would have given away its identity directly: in the mystery photograph the outer edge of the tail is white. This is of course diagnostic for Calandra Lark, which has the outer tail-feather completely white forming an obvious white outer edge to the tail. Bimaculated Lark has characteristic white-tipped tail-feathers and has the outer tail-feather only marginally paler than the inner ones.

This Calandra Lark was photographed in Jordan in December 1998 by René Pop. The large amount of breast streaking and the deep brown colour of the upperparts and flanks are indicative of the Middle Eastern subspecies *M c hebraica*. 59% of the entrants identified this mystery bird correctly, with virtually all other entrants mentioning Bimaculated Lark.

164 entries were received for the first round of this competition. Nearly half of the entrants (77) identified both mystery birds correctly and the names of all these entrants can be found at http://www.dutchbirding.nl. From them, Justin Jansen, Willem van Rijswijk en J Vrolijk were drawn as the winners of a copy of *The raptors of Europe and the Middle East* by Dick Forsman, donated by T & AD Poyser.

Second round 1999

Please, study the rules (Dutch Birding 21: 52-53, 1999) carefully and identify the birds in mystery photographs III and IV. Solutions can be sent in three different ways:

- by *postcard* to Dutch Birding Association, Postbus 75611, 1070 AP Amsterdam, Netherlands
- by e-mail to d.s.kok@students.chem.uu.nl
- by Internet via the homepage of the Dutch Birding Association, http://www.dutchbirding.nl

Entries for the second round have to arrive by **25 June 1999**. From those entrants having identified both mystery birds correctly, three persons will be drawn who will receive a copy of *Rare birds of the Netherlands* by Arnoud van den Berg & Cecilia Bosman, donated by GMB Uitgeverij. Swarovski Benelux will award a pair of the highly acclaimed Swarovski SLC 7x42 B binoculars to the overall winner at the end of the competition (after six rounds).

Diederik Kok, Pelmolenweg 4, 3511 XN Utrecht, Netherlands (d.s.kok@students.chem.uu.nl)
Nils van Duivendijk, Guldenhoeve 34, 3451 TG Vleuten, Netherlands (duivendijk@multiweb.nl)





IV

WP reports

This review lists rare and interesting birds reported in the Western Palearctic mainly in **March-April 1999** and focuses on north-western Europe. The reports are largely unchecked and their publication here does not imply future acceptance by the rarities committee of the relevant country. Observers are requested to submit records to each country's rarities committee. Corrections are welcome and will be published.

Presumably, the same **Whistling Swan** *Cygnus columbianus* which stayed in Drenthe and Groningen in the winters of 1997/98 and 1998/99 (cf Dutch Birding 20: 278-281, 1998) stayed at Welney, Norfolk, England, from 6 February to 11 March (cf Birding World 12: 125-127, 1999). An unprecedented influx of **Dark Lesser Canada Geese** *Branta hutchinsii minima* occurred this winter in the eastern USA. This may shed another light on the provenance of some of the individuals now regularly encountered in the Netherlands; until now, such *minima* reports were not accepted by CDNA as the taxon was considered to be an unlikely transatlantic vagrant because of its westerly distribution (cf Dutch Birding 19: 113-114, 1997). From 5 April, an adult male **Canvasback** *Aythya valisineria* stayed at Abberton Reservoir, Essex, England. The first **Lesser Scaups** *A affinis* for the Cape Verde Islands concerned three first-winter females at Mindelo, São Vicente, from 22 January to 24 February; these are now considered to be the same as three misidentified as Tufted Duck *A fuligula* in January (contra Dutch Birding 21: 53, 1999). A pair stayed at St Ives, Cambridgeshire, England, from 7 March onwards. The second for Sweden was an adult male at Situnaviken, Södermanland, from 20 April. A subadult male **King Eider** *Somateria spectabilis* stayed from 20 March to 6 April at Briggs, Down, Northern Ireland. On 28 February, a **Black Scoter** *Melanitta americana* was discovered in Manche, France. Another adult male stayed from 10 March onwards at Llanfairfechan, Wales. The fifth **Surf Scoter** *M perspicillata* for Germany was a male at Dassower See, Schleswig-Holstein, from 13 February to 21 March. A flock of more than 1000 **Marbled Ducks** *Marmaronetta angustirostris* was seen north of Blidette, Douz, Tunisia.

A juvenile **White-billed Loon** *Gavia adamsii* remained at Plobsheim, Bas-Rhin, France, until at least 15 April. Adult **Pied-billed Grebes** *Podilymbus podiceps* stayed at Cosmeston, Penarth, Wales, until 8 March; at Rostel-

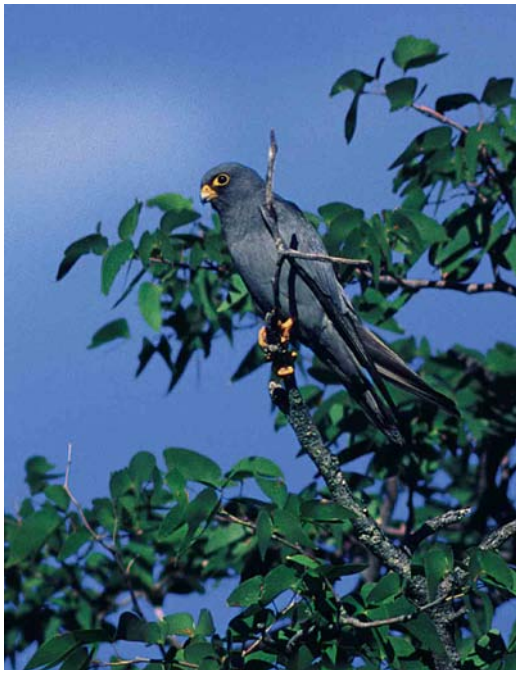


90 Ménétries's Warbler / Ménétries' Zwartkop *Sylvia mystacea*, Kibbutz Lothan, Israel, 2 April 1999 *(René van Rossum)* **91** White-tailed Lapwing / Witstaartkievit *Vanellus leucurus*, Yotvata, Israel, 21 March 1999 *(Alex Wieland)* **92** Oriental Skylark / Kleine Veldleeuwerik *Alauda gulgula*, Yotvata, Israel, 21 March 1999 *(Alex Wieland)*









93 Booted Eagle / Dwergarend *Hieraaetus pennatus*, Rogerstown Estuary, Dublin, Ireland, 6 March 1999 *(Paul Kelly)* **94** Sooty Falcon / Woestijnvalk *Falco concolor*, adult, Halali, Etosha, Namibia, 23 March 1999 *(Arnoud B van den Berg)* **95** Little Bittern / Woudaap *Ixobrychus minutus*, male, Sint Maartensvlotbrug, Noord-Holland, Netherlands, 17 April 1999 *(René van Rossum)*





96 Kumlien's Gull / Kumliens Meeuw *Larus glaucoides kumlieni*, Killybegs, Donegal, Ireland, March 1999 *(Anthony McGeehan)*



97 Ring-billed Gull / Ringsnavelmeeuw *Larus delawarensis*, second-winter, Quinta do Lago, Algarve, Portugal, 14 March 1999 *(Ray Tipper)*

lan, Cork, Ireland, until at least 20 April; in Scilly, England, until at least 20 March; and at Ashford, Kent, until at least 23 March. In England, other individuals were seen in Surrey on 16 March, in Norfolk on 17-29 March and in Cornwall in early April. A **Black-browed Albatross** *Diomedea melanophris* was seen off Ouessant, Finistère, France, on 1-2 April. A **Red-billed Tropicbird** *Phaethon aethereus* was reported off Playa Santiago, La Gomera, Canary Islands, on 11 March. On 20 February, the first **White-tailed Tropicbird** *P lepturus* for the Cape Verde Islands was an adult seen at Ilhéu de Curral Velho, Boavista. On 9 March, a **Great White Pelican** *Pelecanus onocrotalus* occurred at Hyères, Var, France. A **Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus minutus* at Sint Maartensvlotbrug, Noord-Holland, on 13 April may be one of the earliest arrivals ever for the Netherlands. In the Cape Verde Islands, dark-morph **Western Reef Egrets** *Egretta gularis* were seen on São Vicente from 19 January until at least 14 March, at Baía da Gata, Boavista, on 21 February, and at Praia, Santiago, on 11 March. The first **Great Egret** *Casmerodius albus* for the Cape Verde Islands was photographed at Rabil lagoon, Boavista, on 9 March.

From 28 March onwards, a **Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus* stayed at Saint-Julien-sur-Cher, Loire-et-Cher, France. One returned to the Lleida area in Catalonia, Spain, where the species bred for the first time in 1998. There are rumours that a pair of **Rüppell's Vultures** *Gyps rueppellii* is nesting this year in a Eurasian Griffon Vulture *G fulvus* colony in south-western Spain. In France, a **Long-legged Buzzard** *Buteo rufinus* was reported in the Camargue, Bouches-du-Rhône, from 21 February to at least 7 April. The first **Booted Eagle** *Hieraaetus pennatus* for Ireland was an adult pale morph at Rogerstown, Dublin, on 5-6 March; possibly, the same bird was also seen in mid-February on the North Slob, Wexford, on 13-14 March in Waterford, on 21 and 23 March in Wexford, and on 10 April in Bangor, Down. The first photographs of an adult **Sooty Falcon** *Falco concolor* at Halali, Etosha, Namibia, on 23 March confirmed reports about this species' presence in the past four years, and suggest that there is an, as yet, unknown wintering population in northern Namibia. On 27 February, a **Saker Falcon** *F cherrug* was present at Castel di Monte, Puglia, Italy. The one present since December 1998 at La Crau, Bouches-du-Rhône, France, remained until 20 March. The first **Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus* since 1969 for the Cape Verde Islands was seen at Mindelo, São Vicente, on 1-2 March. In the Netherlands, a **Demoiselle Crane** *Anthropoides virgo* flew north with seven Common Cranes *Grus grus* past Breskens, Zeeland, on 13 March.

The second **Oriental Pratincole** *Glareola maldivarum* for the United Arab Emirates concerned an individual staying from January to at least 20 March in Dubai. Adult **Sociable Lapwings** *Vanellus gregarius* were seen at Rochefort, Charente-Maritime, France, from 12 February to 3 March, at Sivry-sur-Meuse, Meuse, France, on 14 March, at Guelpe, Brandenburg, Germany, on 28 March and near Breskens, Zeeland, on 29 March. At least 19 **White-tailed Lapwings** *V leucurus* were present at Abassa, Egypt, on 15 February and one stayed during late March at Yotvata, Israel. On 24 April, one was discovered at Evros delta, Greece. The second **Northern Lapwing** *V vanellus* for the Cape Verde Islands was seen between Rabil and Povoaçao Velha, Boavista, on 20 February. The first and second **Semipalmated Plovers** *Charadrius semipalmatus* for the Cape Verde Islands were discovered at Mindelo, São Vicente, on 27 February and at Pedra de Lume, Sal, on 6 March. On 7 July 1998, the second successful breeding of **Eurasian Dotterel** *C morinellus* for Switzerland was recorded in the Grisons near the Italian border.

The fifth and sixth **American Golden Plovers** *Pluvialis dominicus* for the Cape Verde Islands stayed on São Vicente on 13-14 March (one was already present since 22 January), and two were at El Médano, Tenerife, Canary Islands, on 4 March. The 11th for the Netherlands and the first for April was an adult at Groote Keeten, Zijpe, Noord-Holland, on 20-22 April. The first **Semipalmated Sandpiper** *Calidris pusilla* for the Cape Verde Islands was reported at Rabil lagoon, Boavista, on 2 March. The first **Long-toed Stint** *C subminuta* for Egypt was seen on 6 March north of Ismaliya. The second **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** *C acuminata* for France stayed from 10 April onwards at Étang de Fangassier, Camargue. A female **Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax* ringed on 28 August 1998 in the Netherlands was recovered on 23 September 1998 on Barbados. The fifth **Common Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago* for the Cape Verde Islands stayed from 22 January to 2 March at Mindelo, São Vicente. Record numbers of **Icelandic Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa islandica*, possibly up to 1500 individuals, were reported during April for the Netherlands. If photographs confirm the identification, the occurrence of four **Slender-billed Curlews** *Numenius tenuirostris* at Aposelemis, Gouves, Crete, Greece, on 5-9 April is spectacular news (see http://www. birdnet.de/duebravo.htm). The fourth and fifth **Eurasian Curlews** *N arquata* for the Cape Verde Islands were seen at Curral Velho, Boavista, on 20 February and the fifth **Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus* and the sixth **Green Sandpiper** *T ochropus* were reported on São Vicente from 22 January to 14 March and on Santiago on 8 March, respectively. In Kent, a **Greater Yellowlegs** *T melanoleuca* stayed on 30-31 March at Elmley, Isle of Sheppey. The first **Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularia* for the Cape Verde Islands was reported at Mindelo, São Vicente, on 24 February; two were seen here on 28 February and one was still present on 2 March. In the Canary Islands, one stayed at Maspalomas, Gran Canaria, on 2 March; another remained at Las Galletas, Tenerife, until at least the second week of April.

On 18 March, the first **Pallas's Gull** *Larus ichthyaetus* for Belgium was an adult photographed during its three minutes stay at Gullegem, West-Vlaanderen. The first **Grey-headed Gull** *L cirrocephalus* for Egypt was an adult winter reported on 7 February at Nabaq in the southern Sinai. If accepted, an adult **Armenian Gull** *L armenicus* at Siracusa dump, Sicily, Italy, on 2 March will be the second for Italy. In Ireland, at least three first-winter and two adult **American Herring Gulls** *L smithsonianus* were present during March at Killybegs, Donegal; also in March, at the same site, at least three **Kumlien's Gulls** *L glaucoides kumlieni* were seen. The third, fourth and fifth **Caspian Terns** *Sterna caspia* for the Cape Verde Islands were reported between 21 February and 14 March on Boavista, off Raso, and on São Vicente, respectively. A first-winter **Forster's Tern**

98 Citrine Wagtail / Citroenkwikstaart *Motacilla citreola*, male, Eilat, Israel, 12 March 1999 *(Arie Ouwerkerk)*



S forsteri remained at Hamford Water, Essex, until at least 24 March. The WP's first **Long-billed Murrelet** *Brachyramphus perdix* (recently split from Marbled Murrelet *B marmoratus* by AOU) has been accepted by the Swiss rarities committee (see Dutch Birding 20: 311, 1998); it concerned a first-winter bird found dead between 15 and 18 December 1997 in a fisherman's net at Zürichsee, Switzerland (first being misidentified as Black Guillemot *Cepphus grylle*). Until 1996, there had been 36 records of this Asian species in North America of which at least 12 in the eastern half (Birding 29: 460-475, 1997).

At Maastricht, Limburg, the (only) breeding pair of **Eurasian Eagle Owl** *Bubo bubo* for the Netherlands produced at least two young (in each of the past two years, four young were raised). A **Snowy Owl** *Nyctea scandiaca* flew past Skagen, Nordjylland, Denmark, on 20 March; another was seen on Sylt, Schleswig-Holstein, on 10 and 25 March. In the Netherlands, the first singing **Tengmalm's Owl** *Aegolius funereus* since May 1987 was discovered at Norg, Drenthe, in the last days of March; on 11-12 April, it was twitched by many birders. There are rumours that **Ivory-billed Woodpeckers** *Campephilus principalis* have been rediscovered in a new site in Cuba. If accepted, a **Bar-tailed Lark** *Ammomanes cincturus* on 25 March and a **White-crowned Wheatear** *Oenanthe leucopyga* on 22 February at Cape Greco will be the first and fourth for Cyprus, respectively. The fourth **Bimaculated Lark** *Melanocorypha bimaculata* for Sweden discovered on 30 January at Landsort, Södermanland, remained through March (cf Dutch Birding 21: 55, 1999). On 17-19 April, there were three reports of **Eurasian Crag Martin** *Hirundo rupestris* in England. In France, four **Olive-backed Pipits** *Anthus hodgsoni* were found at Gigors-et-Lozeron, Drôme, on 31 March (one was still present here on 1 April; one was also seen at Oye-Plage, Pas-de-Calais, on 10 April). Between 22 January and 14 March, the third to sixth **Red-throated Pipit** *A cervinus* for the Cape Verde Islands turned up on São Vicente. A **Buff-bellied Pipit** *A rubescens* stayed at Eilat, Israel, on 14-28 March. Also in Eilat, a first-summer male **Grey Hypocolius** *Hypocolius ampelinus* remained from 24 March into April at km 20. On 28 March, a **Black Scrub Robin** *Cercotrichas podobe* was seen at Yotvata, Israel. On 28 April, a **Swainson's Thrush** *Catharus ustulatus* was reported in Orkney, Scotland. In Sweden, male **Black-throated Thrushes** *Turdus ruficollis atrogularis* were present at Landsort, Södermanland, on 28 February and at Heden, Dalarna, on 19-31 March. If accepted, a presumed **Booted Warbler** *Acrocephalus caligatus* at Paphos on 25 March will be the first for Cyprus. An **Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis* on Terschelling, Friesland, on 2 October 1996 may be reviewed by the Dutch rarities committee as photographs show characters of **Two-barred Warbler** *P plumbeitarsus* (of which, so far, one record has been accepted for the Netherlands) (cf Dutch Birding 18: 277, 1996; 20: 290-291, 1998). The second **Greenish Warbler** *P trochiloides* for Spain was trapped at Embalse de San Andrés, Asturias, on 28 March. In Israel, a **Hume's Leaf Warbler** *P humei* stayed at Yotvata from 14 March onwards. From 18 March into April, a first-summer male **Ménétries's Warbler** *Sylvia mystacea* stayed at Kibbutz Lotan, Israel. The second **Blue-and-white Flycatcher** *Cyanoptila cyanomelana* for the United Arab Emirates was seen at Masafi on 11 February. A female **Pine Bunting** *Emberiza leucocephalos* was reported at Styran, Osmo, Småland, on 10 March. A female **Cirl Bunting** *E cirlus* was trapped on Helgoland, Schleswig-Holstein, on 21 April. In the Netherlands, a male **Meadow Bunting** *E cioides* staying with Common Reed Buntings *E schoeniclus* on 9-11 April at Meinerswijk, Arnhem, Gelderland, attracted interest of only a few twitchers (this Asian species is a 'short-distance' migrant and has hardly any extralimital records, even in eastern Asia, and none of the three or four well-documented European records has been accepted as a wild bird). In Cyprus, a record flock of seven **Cinereous Buntings** *E cineracea* was seen at Cape Greco on 25 March.

For a number of reports, publications in Birding World, Birdwatch, British Birds, Limicola, Op het Vinkentouw, Ornithologische Beobachter, Ornithos, Vår Fågelvärld and Winging It were consulted. News from Britain was kindly supplied by Birdline (0891-700-222 or 0891-700-242) and Rare Bird News (0881-888-111). I wish to thank Mindy Baha El Din, Sherif Baha El Din, Theo Bakker, Christoph Bock, Cecilia Bosman, P A Buckley, Tony Clarke (Canarian Nature Tours), Agris Clemins, Andrea Corso, Eric Dempsey, Jochen Dierschke (Germany), Michalis Dretakis, Philippe Dubois, Hugues Dufourny, Marc Duquet, Enno Ebels, Johan Elmberg, Han Endt, Peter Fraser (UK), Steve Gantlett, Rob Goldbach, Jeff Gordon (Cyprus), Marcello Grussu, Morten Günther, Ricard Gutiérrez, Cornelis Hazevoet, Christopher Hines, Remco Hofland, Adrian Jordi, Peter Kennerley, Guy Kirwan, Yann Kolbeinsson, Paul Lehman, Harry Lehto, André van Loon, Pierre Le Maréchal (France), Lionel Maumary, Bruce Mactavish, Anthony McGeehan, Dirk Moerbeek, Micha Neumann, Richard Millington, Gerald Oreel, Arie Ouwerkerk, René van Rossum, Kris de Rouck, Luciano Ruggieri, Bob Scott, Nicolas Selosse, Brian Small, Uffe Sørensen, Yannis Tsougrakis and Alex Wieland for their help in compiling this review.

Arnoud B van den Berg, Duinlustparkweg 98, 2082 EG Santpoort-Zuid, Netherlands (arnoud.vandenberg@inter.nl.net)

Recente meldingen

Dit overzicht van recente meldingen van zeldzame en interessante vogels in Nederland en België beslaat voornamelijk de periode **februari-maart 1999**. 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 wordt verzocht hun waarnemingen zo spoedig mogelijk toe te zenden aan: CDNA, Postbus 45, 2080 AA Santpoort-Zuid, Nederland. Hiertoe gelieve men gebruik te maken van CDNA-waarnemingsformulieren die eveneens verkrijgbaar zijn bij bovenstaand adres.

Nederland

GANZEN TOT VISAREND Blauwe vorm **Sneeuwganzen** *Anser caerulescens* werden gemeld op 11 en 13 februari bij Alteveer, Groningen, op 24 februari nabij Gorinchem, Zuid-Holland, op 28 februari bij de Middelplaten langs het Veerse Meer, Zeeland, en op 14 en 15 maart aan de Praamweg, Flevoland. De witte vorm werd vastgesteld op 9 februari aan de Friese waddenkust, van 14 februari tot 5 maart twee tussen Mirns en Hemelum, Friesland, van 14 tot 17 februari twee bij Molkwerum, Friesland, op 20 februari twee bij Ferwoude, Friesland, en op 24 februari één vliegend over Makkum, Friesland. Behalve de groep van maximaal 27 **Dwergganzen** *A erythropus* die tot in maart verbleef bij Petten, Noord-Holland, werden er verspreid door het land nog 15 gemeld tot 6 maart. Een laat exemplaar verbleef op 27 maart in de Bandpolder, Friesland. Tot 3 maart werden nog 10 **Roodhalsganzen** *Branta ruficollis* vastgesteld, waarvan enkele van twijfelachtige oorsprong. De laatste werd op 27 maart in de Kapelsche Moer, Zeeland gezien. **Witbuikrotganzen** *B hrota* waren schaars met exemplaren op 12 februari bij de Oosterscheldekering, Zeeland, en bij Oudeschild op Texel, Noord-Holland, op 13 en 14 februari drie bij Huisduinen, Noord-Holland, op 14 februari in de omgeving van Zeeburg op Texel en op 6 maart in de Prunjepolder, Zeeland. **Zwarte Rotganzen** *B nigricans* verbleven op 6 februari aan de Groningse waddenkust, op 12 februari twee bij Oudeschild, op 14 februari nabij Zeeburg, op 6 maart bij De Bol op Texel en op 9 maart bij Scharendijke, Zeeland. Al vanaf eind februari liepen de aantallen **Krooneenden** *Netta rufina* in de Botshol, Utrecht, alweer op tot net onder de 30. **Witoogeenden** *Aythya nyroca* werden gemeld op 3 en 4 februari in de Gansoyense Uiterwaard bij Waalwijk, Noord-Brabant, op 7 februari drie bij De Blocq van Kuffeler, Flevoland, op 13 februari twee bij kilometerpaal 26.0 langs de Oostvaardersdijk, Flevoland, in de eerste week van maart bij Itteren, Limburg, en op 6 en 7 maart ten zuiden van Valkenswaard, Noord-Brabant. Ten zuiden van Bornerbroek, Overijssel, verbleef van 19 februari tot 3 maart een mannetje, met van 22 tot 24 februari ook een vrouwtje aldaar. Het maximum aantal **IJseenden** *Clangula hyemalis* bij de Brouwersdam, Zuid-Holland, bedroeg 23 op 25 februari. Een mannetje **Amerikaanse Smient** *Mareca americana* werd vanaf 24 maart gezien op de Hoeksmeerplas bij Garrelsweer, Groningen. **IJsduikers** *Gavia immer* bleven aanwezig op het Veerse Meer tot 15 maart (maximaal vier) en bij de Brouwersdam werden er nog twee gemeld op 27 februari. Andere exemplaren verbleven van 17 tot 22 februari op het IJsselmeer bij Ransdorp, Noord-Holland, en van 26 februari tot 5 maart bij De Blocq van Kuffeler. Er was een melding van een **Dikbekfuut** *Podilymbus podiceps* op 14 februari op het Oostvoornse Meer, Zuid-Holland. Een **Kuhls Pijlstormvogel** *Calonectris borealis* werd op 8 februari gemeld langs Westkapelle, Zeeland, en een **Vaal Stormvogeltje** *Oceanodroma leucorhoa* op 7 februari langs Scheveningen, Zuid-Holland. Bij IJmuiden, Noord-Holland, verbleven de gehele periode **Kuifaalscholvers** *Stictocarbo aristotelis* en nam het aantal toe tot maximaal zes. Overige waarnemingen dateerden van 9 februari langs Scheveningen, van 12 tot 18 februari twee bij de Oosterscheldekering, van 28 februari tot 13 maart in het centrum van Eindhoven, Noord-Brabant, en op 21 maart bij Den Oever, Noord-Holland. Behalve een nog steeds aanwezige **Kwak** *Nycticorax nycticorax* bij Veere, Zeeland, verbleef ook een exemplaar op 8 maart bij Naaldwijk, Zuid-Holland. De **Koereiger** *Bubulcus ibis* van Schipluiden, Zuid-Holland, werd nog tot 2 februari gezien en eind maart was er een melding van een langverblijvend exemplaar bij Kesseleik, Limburg. Behalve zeven **Kleine Zilverreigers** *Egretta garzetta* in Zeeland werden er twee gezien op 25 maart langs de Praamweg. Het aantal **Grote Zilverreigers** *Casmerodius albus* nam toe tot ruim 40, met als opmerkelijke meldingen op 2 februari vier bij Weipoort, Zuid-Holland, op 12 februari 10 bij het Drontermeer, Overijssel, op 28 februari vier bij Thorn, Limburg, op 9 maart drie bij Goudriaan, Zuid-Holland, en op 27 maart drie op de Duurswoudse Heide, Friesland. Vanaf 26 februari trokken 44 **Rode Wouwen** *Milvus milvus* door. De adulte **Zeearend** *Haliaeetus albicilla* van de Flevopolder bleef aanwezig tot 28 februari. Een onvolwassen exemplaar vloog op 28 maart over het Lauwersmeergebied, Groningen. De enige gemelde **Visarend** *Pandion haliaetus* vloog op 28 maart langs Tegelen, Limburg.

HOENDERS TOT ALKEN Een vroege **Kwartel** *Coturnix coturnix* werd op 28 februari waargenomen bij Katwijk aan Zee, Zuid-Holland. Vanaf 26 februari trokken al c 1200 **Kraanvogels** *Grus grus* door, waarvan ruim 800 op 12 en 13 maart. Een **Jufferkraanvogel** *Anthropoides virgo* vloog op 13 maart samen met zeven Kraanvogels langs Breskens, Zeeland. Op 29 maart verbleef een



99 Kuifaalscholver / European Shag *Stictocarbo aristotelis*, eerste-winter, Eindhoven, Noord-Brabant, 28 februari 1999 *(Rob G Bouwman)*

100 IJsduiker / Great Northern Loon *Gavia immer*, eerste-winter, De Blocq van Kuffeler, Flevoland, 5 maart 1999 *(Mark Nieuwenhuis)*



Steppekievit *Vanellus gregarius* bij Groede, Zeeland. Een **Bosruiter** *Tringa glareola* op 31 maart langs Breskens was de vroegste ooit voor die telpost. Het vermelden waard zijn de uit Canada afkomstige gekleurringde **Steenlopers** *Arenaria interpres* die op 8 februari gemeld werden van het Paulinaschor, Zeeland, en van de Verdronken Zwarte Polder, Zeeland. De **Ringsnavelmeeuw** *Larus delawarensis* van Goes, Zeeland, werd op 2 februari voor het laatst gemeld. Het beeld betreffende **Geelpootmeeuw** *L michahellis* en **Pontische Meeuw** *L cachinnans cachinnans* bleef ongewijzigd: weinig van de eerste en vele 10-tallen van de laatste. Vooral in trek waren de Limburgse grindgaten bij Oost-Maarland en Ool. De **Kleine Burgemeester** *L glaucoides* van Scheveningen bleef daar tot 20 februari en was er weer op 13 en 14 maart. Op 7 februari verbleven hier twee exemplaren. Verder werd de soort gemeld op 5 en 26 februari bij Katwijk aan Zee, op 9 februari op het strand ten noorden van de Brouwersdam, op 19 februari boven vliegveld Zestienhoven bij Rotterdam, Zuid-Holland, van 5 tot 27 maart bij IJmuiden, op 13 maart op een zandgat in de omgeving van Hoogeveen, Drenthe, en op 25 maart bij Bloemendaal aan Zee, Noord-Holland. De opsomming aan **Grote Burgemeesters** *L hyperboreus* omvat de volgende gevallen: tot 22 maart op het zandgat bij Hoogeveen, met op 7 en 9 maart twee exemplaren, tot 7 maart een adulte in Den Helder, Noord-Holland, op 5 februari bij Petten, op 20 februari langs Breskens, op 6 maart bij Huisduinen, en op 25 maart tussen Breskens en Vlissingen, Zeeland. 22 februari was een van de schaarse goede zeetrekdagen met bij Scheveningen 1500 **Drieteenmeeuwen** *Rissa tridactyla* en 56 **Noordse Stormvogels** *Fulmarus glacialis*. De **Zwarte Zeekoet** *Cepphus grylle* bleef tot 5 maart aanwezig in de marinehaven van Den Helder. **Kleine Alken** *Alle alle* werden gezien op 8 februari bij de Brouwersdam, op 16 februari langs Scheveningen en op 23 februari langs Westkapelle.

SPECHTEN TOT GORZEN **Middelste Bonte Spechten** *Dendrocopos medius* werden weer volop opgemerkt in Limburg met zeker 11 locaties. Een opmerkelijk aantal van 146 doortrekkende **Boomleeuweriken** *Lullula arborea* werd op 12 maart geteld bij Breskens. Een telling van **Strandleeuweriken** *Eremophila alpestris* op 6 februari langs de Groningse waddenkust leverde een totaal op van 480. Op 31 maart was er al een melding van een **Duinpieper** *Anthus campestris* bij Oudewater, Zuid-Holland. Een forse groep van 120 **Waterpiepers** *A spinoletta* zat op 13 februari op de Maasvlakte, Zuid-Holland. De forse trek van ruim 3600 **Witte Kwikstaarten** *Motacilla alba* op 25 maart langs Breskens leverde ook 37 **Rouwkwikstaarten** *M yarrellii* op. In Den Burg op Texel verbleven tot 23 februari maximaal vier **Pestvogels** *Bombycilla garrulus*. Andere verbleven op 3 februari in Groningen, Groningen (vijf), van 4 tot 9 februari in Kreileroord, Noord-Holland, op 13 februari bij Oostdijk, Zuid-Holland, op 20 februari in Zwolle, Overijssel, en op 13 maart in Assen, Drenthe (twee). De **Waterspreeuwen** *Cinclus cinclus* van Velp, Gelderland, en de Hierdense Beek, Gelderland, bleven daar respectievelijk tot 19 februari en 1 maart. Op 14 maart vloog er één over de snelweg bij Glimmen, Drenthe, en op 17 maart kwam de melding van een exemplaar dat al vanaf december 1998 verbleef bij Venray, Limburg. Een afgedwaalde **Taigaboomkruiper** *Certhia familiaris* werd op 17 februari opgemerkt in Schagen, Noord-Holland. Een poging tot uitbreiding van de **Huiskraai** *Corvus splendens* werd gestaafd door de melding op 31 maart van een rondvliegend exemplaar in het Westduinpark te Den Haag, Zuid-Holland. Een recordaantal **Rietgorzen** *Emberiza schoeniclus* van 4800 exemplaren vloog op 12 maart langs onze nationale trekteltrots Breskens.

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België

ZWANEN TOT VALKEN De 10 **Wilde Zwanen** *Cygnus cygnus* bleven pendelen tussen Beerse, Antwerpen, en Brecht, Antwerpen, tot 14 februari, de vijf van Schulen, Limburg, bleven nog tot 28 februari en bij Mariembourg-Roly, Namur, zaten er 10 op 6 februari. Op 28 februari werden er bij het Zwin te Knokke, West-Vlaanderen, twee adulte **Dwergganzen** *Anser erythropus* waargenomen en tot 9 februari pleisterden maximaal er drie te Stalhille-Oudenburg, West-Vlaanderen. Een **Roodhalsgans** *Branta ruficollis* te Geel, Antwerpen, van 23 tot 27 februari bleek gekleurringd. **Krooneenden** *Netta rufina* verbleven nog te Blankenberge, West-Vlaanderen; Dudzele, West-Vlaanderen; Gent, Oost-Vlaanderen (vijf); Gullegem, West-Vlaanderen (twee); Harelbeke, West-Vlaanderen; Lissewege, West-Vlaanderen; Mechelen (twee); Neeroeteren, Limburg; Nieuwpoort, West-Vlaanderen; Roksem, West-Vlaanderen; Turnhout, Antwerpen; en Weerde, Antwerpen. Het gekleurringde mannetje **Witoogeend** *A nyroca* van Dendermonde, Oost-Vlaanderen, bleef nog de gehele periode aanwezig; nog een ontsnapt mannetje verbleef op 14 februari te Emblem, Antwerpen. Vanaf 25 februari vertoefde een mannetje in het Mechels Broek. Op 27 maart zwom er één op Blokkersdijk, Antwerpen en wellicht hetzelfde exemplaar werd de volgende dag op De Kuifeend, Antwerpen, waargenomen. Vrouwtjes zaten op 13 februari bij Brugge, West-Vlaanderen, en op 14 februari te Broechem, Antwerpen. Het mannetje **Ringsnaveleend** *Aythya collaris* van Blokkersdijk werd op 20 maart voor het laatst gezien, een tweede mannetje zwom op 13 maart te Antwerpen-Noordkasteel, Antwerpen, en een vrouwtje van 15 februari tot 16



101 Reuzenzwartkopmeeuw / Pallas's Gull *Larus ichthyaetus*, adult, Gullegem, West-Vlaanderen, 18 maart 1999 *(Nicolas Selosse)*

maart bij Branst; deze vogel was vanwege de dichte oeverbegroeiing echter niet terug te vinden tijdens de periode tussen de twee datums. Een hybride **Tafeleend x Witoogeend** *A ferina* x *nyroca* zwom op 14 maart op Blokkersdijk. Op 31 maart dook een eerste-winter mannetje **Amerikaanse Smient** *Mareca americana* op te Zevergem-Semmerzake, Oost-Vlaanderen, dat bleef tot in april. Hoewel de adrenalinemeter niet echt de hoogte in ging, was er betrekkelijk veel interesse voor de eerste echt twitchbare **Bronskopeend** *M falcata* voor België. Het was een mannetje dat van 14 tot 25 februari optrok met de Smienten *M penelope* en vooral Krakeenden *M strepera* van het Doeldok te Kallo-Doel, Oost-Vlaanderen. De eerste **Zomertaling** *Anas querquedula* werd op 28 februari opgemerkt te Zevergem. De waarneming van een mannetje **Blauwvleugeltaling** *A discors* te Woumen, West-Vlaanderen, op 20 februari bereikte ons (te) laat. Het vrouwtje **IJseend** *Clangula hyemalis* bleef tot 28 februari present te Woumen. Het mannetje **Rosse Stekelstaart** *Oxyura jamaicensis* van Blokkersdijk bleef nog de hele periode ter plaatse. **Parelduikers** *Gavia arctica* werden waargenomen te Kluizen, Oost-Vlaanderen, van 1 tot 11 februari, langs Nieuwpoort op 17 en 23 februari en te Bredene, West-Vlaanderen, op 14 maart. Pleisterende **IJsduikers** *G immer* zwommen in de Achterhaven te Zeebrugge, West-Vlaanderen, tot 15 februari en te Dilsen-Stokkem, Limburg, tot 7 februari. Langsvliegende exemplaren werden opgemerkt te Oostende op 8 februari en te Nieuwpoort op 23 februari en 7 maart. Er werden heel wat **Noordse Stormvogels** *Fulmarus glacialis* gezien en opgeraapt; de enige donkere werd op 8 maart dood aangetroffen tussen De Panne en Nieuwpoort. Een vooralsnog niet met zekerheid gedetermineerde donkerbruine **stormvogel** vloog op 7 februari op 200 m langs de kustlijn te Oostende en werd gefotografeerd. Langs Oostende vlogen op 9 en 10 februari repectievelijk één en twee grote **pijlstormvogels** *Puffinus/Calonectris*, op 23 februari trok er bovendien een **Kuhls Pijlstormvogel** *C borealis* langs Nieuwpoort. Telkens één **Vaal Stormvogeltje** *Oceanodroma leucorhoa* vloog op 5 en 23 februari langs Nieuwpoort en op 7 en 10 februari langs Oostende. Op 5 februari verbleef een **Kuifaalscholver** *Stictocarbo aristotelis* te Stalhille-Oudenburg, op 10 (twee) en 11 februari waren er waarnemingen te Oostende, op 21 maart was er een binnenlandwaarneming te Tienen, Vlaams-Brabant, en op 22 maart vloog er één langs Nieuwpoort. Op 20 februari verbleef een adulte **Kwak** *Nycticorax nycticorax* in de Grote Kille te Assenede, Oost-Vlaanderen, en op 2 maart werd daar een eerste-zomer gezien. Op 12 maart vloog een adulte over Kontich, Antwerpen. De hele periode werden nog regelmatig tot twee **Koereigers** *Bubulcus ibis* opgemerkt bij het Zwin te Knokke, op 14 en 17 maart was er één aanwezig te Lissewege en van 28 maart tot in april één te Harchies, Hainaut. De twee overwinterende exemplaren vertoonden in tegenstelling tot de broedvogels vergroeide nagels en een gezwel op de tenen. De herkomst van deze overwinteraars is dan ook dubieus. **Kleine Zilverreigers** *Egretta garzetta* werden regelmatig gezien te Dudzele-Zeebrugge (maximaal vijf op 28 februari); Knokke-Zwin (maximaal vier op 2 maart); en Lissewege-ter Doest (maximaal 11 op 9 februari). Daarnaast waren er waarnemingen te Sint-Jan-in-Eremo, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 11 februari en te Brugge op 28 februari. **Grote Zilverreigers** *Casmerodius albus* werden nog gezien te Diepenbeek, Limburg, op 11 maart; te Geel (maximaal twee) van 25 tot 28 februari; te Harchies tot begin maart; te Kallo-Melsele op 30 maart; bij Kasterlee, Antwerpen, drie op 14 februari; te Kessenich, Limburg, tot 27 februari; te Nazareth, Oost-Vlaanderen, tot 16 februari; te Neerpelt, Limburg, maximaal twee tot ten minste 24 februari; te Schulen op 21 maart; te Wuustwezel-Nieuwmoer, Antwerpen, op 27 maart; te Zevergem onregelmatig van 13 tot 24 maart; te Zolder, Limburg, de gehele periode met maximaal acht op 12 maart; en bij Zonhoven, Limburg, één à twee tot 19 maart. Na de eerste **Purperreiger** *Ardea purpurea* te Lokeren, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 17 maart, volgden er nog zeven die maand, waaronder drie over Blokkersdijk op 21 maart. De **Ooievaar** *Ciconia ciconia* van Marche-en-Famenne, Luxembourg, bleef nog tot 19 februari aanwezig. Daarnaast werden er in februari nog zes gemeld. In maart werden 51 Ooievaars gezien, waaronder maxima van 10 over Rupelmonde, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 6 maart en vier over Oudenaarde, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 13 maart. De eerste **Zwarte Wouw** *Milvus migrans* vloog op 26 maart over Mortsel, Antwerpen, al snel gevolgd door één te Hautrage, Hainaut, op 30 maart. Vanaf 22 februari kwam de trek van **Rode Wouwen** *M milvus* op gang en er volgden 30 meldingen van in totaal 31 exemplaren. De juveniele **Zeearend** *Haliaeetus albicilla* van Oud-Turnhout, Antwerpen, werd voor het laatst gemeld op 14 februari en die van Zevergem op 27 februari. Op 4 februari vloog er één over Brakel, Oost-Vlaanderen. **Ruigpootbuizerds** *Buteo lagopus* vlogen langs Zonhoven op 7 februari; Kluisbergen, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 16 februari; Brecht op 13 maart; en Harelbeke op 31 maart.

Verrassend was de waarneming van een lichte vorm **Dwergarend** *Hieraeetus pennatus* op de Kalmthoutse Heide, Antwerpen, op 15 maart. Na de eerste **Visarend** *Pandion haliaetus* te Postel, Antwerpen, op 18 maart volgden nog 10 maart-waarnemingen, vooral in de provincie Limburg. Op 14 maart vloog over Sint Pieters Kapelle, West-Vlaanderen, een grote **valk** *Falco* van het Giervalk *F rusticolus*-type. De eerste **Boomvalken** *F subbuteo* verschenen op 20, 27 en 28 maart.

KRAANVOGELS TOT GORZEN Eind februari waren er twee waarnemingen van een overvliegende **Kraanvogel** *Grus grus* maar de trek begon eigenlijk pas op 2 maart: er werden in maart zo'n slordige 8000 exemplaren geteld. Hieronder enkele leuke tellingen, zoals 150 over Waardamme, West-Vlaanderen, op 10 maart; 200 over Halen-Geetbets, Limburg, en meer dan 6000 over Virton, Luxembourg, op 12 maart; 600 over de Hoge Venen, Liège, op 13 maart; en 130 over Virton op 24 maart. In tegenstelling tot Nederland kreeg men in België nauwelijks **IJslandse Grutto's** *Limosa limosa islandica* te zien; zo was er slechts één te Wuustwezel-Nieuwmoer op 11 maart en te Kluizen op 28 maart. Op 21 februari zwom er weer een eerste-winter **Rosse Franjepoot** *Phalaropus fulicaria* in het jachthaventje van Blankenberge, West-Vlaanderen. Langs Nieuwpoort vloog telkens één **Middelste Jager** *Stercorarius pomarinus* op 5 en 23 februari. **Kleine Jagers** *S parasiticus* vlogen langs Zeebrugge op 1 februari en langs Nieuwpoort op 17 februari. Op 5 en 17 februari trok een **Grote Jager** *S skua* langs Nieuwpoort en op 27 maart één langs Raversijde. Totaal onverwacht werd op 18 maart gedurende drie minuten een adult-zomer **Reuzenzwartkopmeeuw** *Larus ichthyaetus* waargenomen boven de Bergelenput te Gullegem, West-Vlaanderen. De foto is pijnlijk bevestigend. Op 16 februari werd kortstondig een eerste-winter **Ringsnavelmeeuw** *L delawarensis* gemeld op Blokkersdijk. Naast een waslijst **Geelpootmeeuwen** *L michahellis* waren er ook weer heel wat **Pontische Meeuwen** *L cachinnans cachinnans*; het totaal moet rond de 35 hebben gelegen, met maxima van acht te Mechelen, Antwerpen, en zeven te Gent. Van 24 to 26 maart verbleef een moeilijk vindbare tweede-zomer **Kleine Burgemeester** *L glaucoides* in de haven van Oostende. De adulte **Grote Burgemeester** *L hyperboreus* bleef daar tot 28 maart ter plaatse, zij het onregelmatig. Verder vlogen hier eerste-winters langs op 5 en 23 februari, en op 19 maart verbleef een eerste-winter te Doornzele, Oost-Vlaanderen. Hybdride meeuwen van klein formaat werden waargenomen te Oostende op 2 april; te Bredene op 1 april; te Oostduinkerke, West-Vlaanderen, op 8 april; en te Knokke-Zwin op 10 april. Langs de Belgische kust werden van februari tot begin maart 11 **Alken** *Alca torda* opgeraapt en slechts vijf werden er levend gezien. Langs Zeebrugge vloog op 7 februari

102 Zeearend / White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla*, Zevergem, Oost-Vlaanderen, februari 1999
(Norbert Huys/Fennec Films)



een **Kleine Alk** *Alle alle*, te Oostende passeerde er één op 8 februari en op 16 februari werd hier een lang dood exemplaar opgeraapt. **Papegaaiduikers** *Fratercula arctica* vlogen langs Oostende op 6 februari en langs Nieuwpoort op 23 februari (twee) en 22 maart. Op 24 februari en 8 maart werd telkens één dood exemplaar aangetroffen te De Panne-Nieuwpoort. De **Middelste Bonte Specht** *Dendrocopos medius* van Pulle, Antwerpen, bleef nog tot ten minste 6 maart aanwezig. Bovendien werd er op 28 maart één waargenomen in het Meerdaalwoud in het Brussels Gewest. De enige twee **Strandleeuweriken** *Eremophila alpestris* van de periode verbleven op 7 maart in het Zwin te Knokke. In februari waren er vijf waarnemingen van **Rouwkwikstaarten** *Motacilla yarrellii* en deze goede trend zette zich in maart voort met 36 exemplaren, met als grootste concentraties acht te Oostende op 20 maart en vijf te Nieuwpoort op 15 maart. Een vroeg **Paapje** *Saxicola rubetra* werd reeds op 27 maart gemeld te Wuustwezel-Nieuwmoer. De eerste **Beflijsters** *Turdus torquatus* verschenen op 27 maart te Beerse, op 29 maart te Brecht en op 30 maart op Blokkersdijk. Op 16 maart zong reeds de eerste **Fitis** *Phylloscopus trochilus* bij Ekeren, Antwerpen. Een **Pallas' Boszanger** *P proregulus* werd op 19 maart gemeld in een tuin te Antwerpen-Linkeroever, Antwerpen. De **Buidelmees** *Remiz pendulinus* van de Blaarmeersen te Gent was nog tot 19 februari aanwezig. Daarna verschenen er nog vier te Kallo-Verrebroek op 13 maart, te Lier-Anderstad op 14 en 27 maart, en op Blokkersdijk op 20 maart. Naast de klassieke **Klapeksters** *Lanius excubitor* van Brecht en Kalmthout (twee), werden exemplaren gezien te Kallo-Melsele op 10 februari en te Merelbeke, Oost-Vlaanderen, op 2 maart. Mogelijke **Russische Kauwen** *Corvus monedula soemmerringii* werden opgemerkt te Brugge op 6 februari, te Bijgem, West-Vlaanderen, op 20 februari en te Nieuwpoort op 1 maart. Op 17 februari pleisterde een **IJsgors** *Calcarius lapponicus* te Kallo-Doel en op 27 februari zaten er zeven in het Zwin te Knokke. Er werden nog 38 **Sneeuwgorzen** *Plectrophenax nivalis* waargenomen; de grootste groepen telden 20 exemplaren in het Zwin en 15 in de Zeebrugse Voorhaven.

Deze waarnemingsrubriek kwam tot stand met medewerking van Luk Bekaert (Oost-Vlaanderen), Peter Collaerts (Tienen), Frank De Scheemaeker (Mergus), Hugues Dufourny (Hainaut), Koen Leysen (Limburg), Willy Verschueren (Groenlink) en Didier Vieuxtemps (Luxembourg). Ook de hulp van al diegenen die (hun) waarnemingen inspraken op de Belgische Wielewaalvogellijn (03-4880194) was hier onontbeerlijk.

Gerald Driessens, Pastoriestraat 16, 2500 Lier, België

DB Actueel

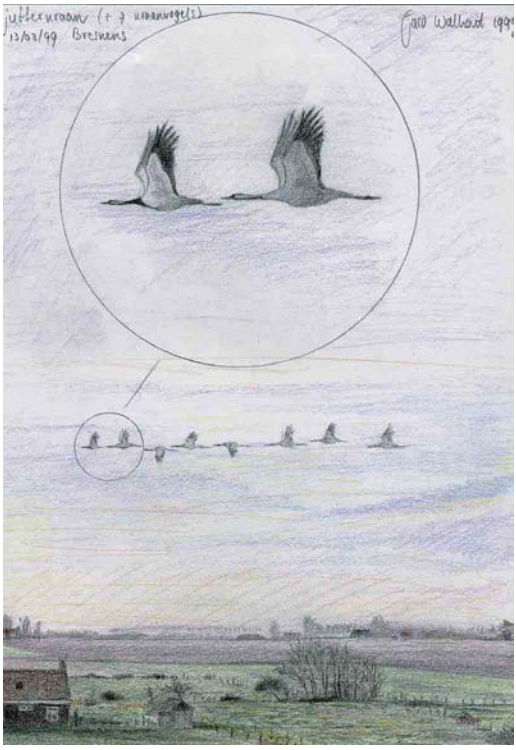
Jufferkraanvogel langs Breskens Op zaterdag 13 maart 1999 omstreeks 08:20 viel de aankomst van ondergetekende op de telpost Breskens, Zeeland (na de eerste boot gemist te hebben), samen met de ontdekking van een groepje Kraanvogels *Grus grus* door de reeds aanwezige tellers Pieter Beeke, Marcel Capello, Gido Davidse, Karel Leeftink, Sander Lilipaly, Peter Meininger, Rob Sponselee en Rob van Westrienen. Veel tijd om rustig te genieten van deze – zelfs voor Breskens – niet alledaagse gasten was er niet, daar één opvallend kleiner exemplaar al gauw alle aandacht opeiste.

De aanvankelijke scepsis van de meeste waarnemers ('jaja een Jufferkraan zeker') bleek ongegrond; de voorste van de acht op c 600 m loom naar oost wiekende kranen toonde alle doorslaggevende kenmerken van een adulte Jufferkraanvogel *Anthropoides virgo*! Gedurende ruim een minuut kon het groepje door de telescoop worden bekeken. De Jufferkraan had (in vergelijking met Kraanvogel) andere proporties, met kortere hals, snavel en poten, kortere vleugels, iets snellere diepere vleugelslag, lichter grijze boven- en onderdelen en geheel zwarte nek en hals, doorlopend tot op de borst. De vogel toonde geen zichtbare vleugelrui of ontbrekende, afgeknipte dan wel afgebroken pennen. Eventuele ringen waren door de waarnemingsafstand uiteraard niet waarneembaar. De camera's zaten nog diep in de rugzakken en foto's werden dus helaas niet gemaakt.

Sinds 1989 zijn vrijwel jaarlijks Jufferkraanvogels in Nederland waargenomen. Alle pleisterende exemplaren bleken op grond van gedrag, verenkleed, ringen en/of informatie van collectiehouders van niet-wilde origine. Twee eerder aanvaarde gevallen van overvliegende exemplaren (30 april 1993 te Rottummeroog, Groningen, en 1 mei 1995 te Baarn, Utrecht) zijn onlangs door de CDNA afgevoerd van de Nederlandse lijst.

De waarneming bij Breskens onderscheidt zich op een aantal punten van eerdere gevallen: het is de eerste waarneming van een Jufferkraanvogel in gezelschap van Kraanvogels, samenvallend met een bescheiden influx van Kraanvogels in West-Nederland (onder meer op 13 maart 1999 groepen van 7, 10 en 16 langs Breskens) en de waarneming valt binnen de normale voorjaarstrekperiode van Jufferkraanvogel (maart tot medio-april).

In diverse Europese landen is Jufferkraanvogel als dwaalgast vastgesteld. In veel gevallen ging het hierbij om solitaire exemplaren in groepen Kraanvogels (bijvoorbeeld in Scandinavië). Vrij recent (5 maart 1994)



FIGUUR 1 Jufferkraanvogel / Demoiselle Crane *Anthropoides virgo* en Kraanvogels / Common Cranes *Grus grus*, Breskens, Zeeland, 13 maart 1999 *(Jaco Walhout)*

werd een exemplaar gemeld in een groep van c 1000 Kraanvogels bij Laguna de Gallocanta, Zaragoza, Spanje (Birding World 7: 137, 1994; 8: 28, 1995); een exemplaar op dezelfde locatie in maart 1996 werd onlangs aanvaard als de eerste voor Spanje (Ardeola 45: 104-105, 1998). JACO WALHOUT

Ruigpootuil bij Norg Van eind maart tot en met 12 april 1999 bevond zich een roepend mannetje Ruigpootuil *Aegolius funereus* in het bos De Molenduinen bij Norg, Drenthe. De kenmerkende roep werd het eerst gehoord door medewerkers van Natuurmonumenten; vervolgens kwam het nieuws bij Erik Menkveld terecht. Namens Natuurmonumenten maakte EM plannen om de ongetwijfeld grote groep geïnteresseerde vogelaars een kans te bieden de Ruigpootuil te horen. Op 11 april werd het nieuws via de vogellijn bekend gemaakt en diezelfde avond vond onder leiding van EM een excursie plaats naar de plek; ruim 200 vogelaars namen hieraan deel en kregen de uil vanaf c 21:30 te horen. De grote opkomst leidde niet tot problemen en iedereen kon de roep luid en duidelijk horen. De volgende avond riep de vogel wederom vanaf c 21:30. Nogal onverwacht ontbreken echter betrouwbare meldingen van na die datum.

Dit was de eerste roepende Ruigpootuil in Nederland sinds april-mei 1987; in die periode werd voor het derde achtereenvolgende jaar vermoedelijk steeds hetzelfde exemplaar gehoord in Boswachterij Grolloo, Drenthe. Het enige aanvaarde geval tot dusverre in de jaren 1990 betrof de vondst van een raamslachtoffer in Zwolle, Overijssel, in oktober 1993; meldingen van roepende exemplaren in Drenthe en op de Veluwe, Gelderland, bleven het afgelopen decennium alle ongedocumenteerd en onbevestigd. Blijkbaar heeft de soort na ruim een decennium afwezigheid nu toch de weg naar de favoriete Drentse bossen weer gevonden, al moet natuurlijk afgewacht worden of dit van structurele aard. Hoe het ook zij, vele vogelaars konden eindelijk deze soort inhalen op de generatie die al in de jaren 1980 actief was. ENNO B EBELS & ERIK MENKVELD

New species of brush-finch Since the early 1960s, explorations in the Peruvian Andes have yielded several dozens of new species of birds. The description of a further new species, Black-spectacled Brush-finch *Atlapetes melanops* from the mountains of central Peru, indicates that the supply of new forms has not become exhausted (Valqui, T & Fjeldså, J 1999. New brush-finch *Atlapetes* from Peru. Ibis 141: 194-198). The new species, which owes its name to its distinctive black orbital area, was first seen in July 1996 near Huachocollpa, Huancavelica, Peru. Later that year, the species was encountered at a second and a third site, at Pariahuanca and in the Lampa Valley, Junín, 35 km from the original location. The bird is similar to Slaty Brush-finch *A schistaceus* and Vilcabamba Brush-finch *A terborghi* (see below) but differs in head pattern and the colour of the underparts.

The Neotropical brush-finches include a great number of distinct, geographically isolated taxa. A paper in the same issue of Ibis reports on a mitochondrial DNA study of the evolutionary relationships among brush-finches. Several previously recognized 'polytypic' species of brush-finches appear to represent unnatural, para- or polyphyletic assemblages (García-Moreno, J & Fjeldså, J 1999. Re-evaluation of species limits in the genus *Atlapetes* based on mtDNA sequence data. Ibis 141: 199-207). Based on these findings, and the fact that several forms are more distinctive than many other brush-finches currently admitted species rank, the authors propose species rank for several forms hitherto treated as subspecies of geographically disjunct species: Northern Rufous-naped Brush-finch *A latinuchus* (south-western Colombia, central Ecuador, north-western Peru), Apurimac Brush-finch *A forbesi* (south-central Peru), Vilcabamba Brush-finch *A terborghi* (south-eastern Peru; described as recently as 1993), Grey Brush-finch *A canigenis* (central Peru) and Black-faced Brush-finch *A melanolaemus* (south-eastern Peru). Because the study did not include the various grey forms of western Ecuador and Peru, and more richly coloured forms in the northern Andes, further changes are to be expected. GEORGE SANGSTER

New species of laughingthrush Hot on the heels of the description of a new Vietnamese species of barwing (cf Dutch Birding 21: 64, 1999) comes the announcement of the discovery of a new species of laughingthrush *Garrulax* in the montane forests of Vietnam. The new species was named Golden-winged Laughingthrush *G ngoclinhensis* by its discoverers (Eames, J C, Le Trong Trai & Nguyen Cu 1999. A new species of laughingthrush (Passeriformes: Garrulacinae) from the Western Highlands of Vietnam. Bull Br Ornithol Club 119: 4-15). The English name of the new species recognizes its most distinctive plumage feature; its scientific name refers to the place of its discovery: Mount Ngoc Linh, the highest point in the Western Highlands and the second-highest peak in Vietnam. In addition to its golden wing, it differs from all 14 subspecies of Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush *G erythrocephalus* by its dark grey breast, belly, mantle and back, and its golden-brown outer webs to the tail-feathers. So far, it is only known from the type locality but it is believed to occur in adjacent forests to the north and east in the Quang Nam Province. The authors consider it likely that the species will eventually be found in the neighbouring provinces of Attapu and Se Kong in Laos. On the basis of limited available evidence, it appears that the new species is not currently threatened but assessment of its conservation status must await documentation of its population size, trends and distribution. Significantly, the addition of a second distinctive new species from Mount Ngoc Linh means that the area now meets the criteria of an Endemic Bird Area. The authors propose that the area is set aside as a nature reserve. GEORGE SANGSTER

Corrigendum

In the paper on hybrids Barn Swallow x House Martin *Hirundo rustica x Delichon urbica* by Bennie van den Brink (Dutch Birding 21: 30-31, 1999), a few errors have crept in table 1. Not only were the 1992 and 1998 records missing, but also some details of the other records were incorrect. Therefore, the complete amended table 1 is given here. We apologize for this inconvenience. EDITORS

TABLE 1 Measurements (mm) and weights (g) of 10 hybrids Barn Swallow x House Martin / Boerenzwaluw x Huiszwaluw *Hirundo rustica x Delichon urbica* ringed in Netherlands during 1987-98. Adult female trapped at Haskerhorne, Friesland, on 15 May 1995 had been ringed as pullus (then not recognized as hybrid) on 28 July 1994 at same place (Jan de Jong pers comm)

date	place	age	wing	P8	tail	fork-depth	tarsus	weight
4 Sep 1987*	Elburg, Gelderland	juvenile	116.5*	-	61	-	-	18.0
7 Sep 1987*	Elburg, Gelderland	juvenile	111	-	60	-	-	17.0
19 Aug 1988	Hoophuizen, Gelderland	juvenile	115	-	61	-	-	-
19 Sep 1988	Elburg, Gelderland	juvenile	115	-	62	14	-	19.0
8 Aug 1992	Haskerhorne, Friesland	pullus	-	-	-	-	-	22.0
15 May 1995	Haskerhorne, Friesland	adult female	118	89.5	70	-	11.9	-
28 Jul 1995	Elburg, Gelderland	juvenile	116.5	87.5	57	17.5	11.6	18.7
29 Aug 1997	Elburg, Gelderland	juvenile	118.5	90.0	61	19	11.3	19.4
9 Sep 1997	Elburg, Gelderland	juvenile	114.5	88.5	59	17.5	11.7	17.4
13 Sep 1998	Terwolde, Gelderland	juvenile	121	92	56-64	-	11.9	16.8

* contra Limosa 61: 96-97, 1988

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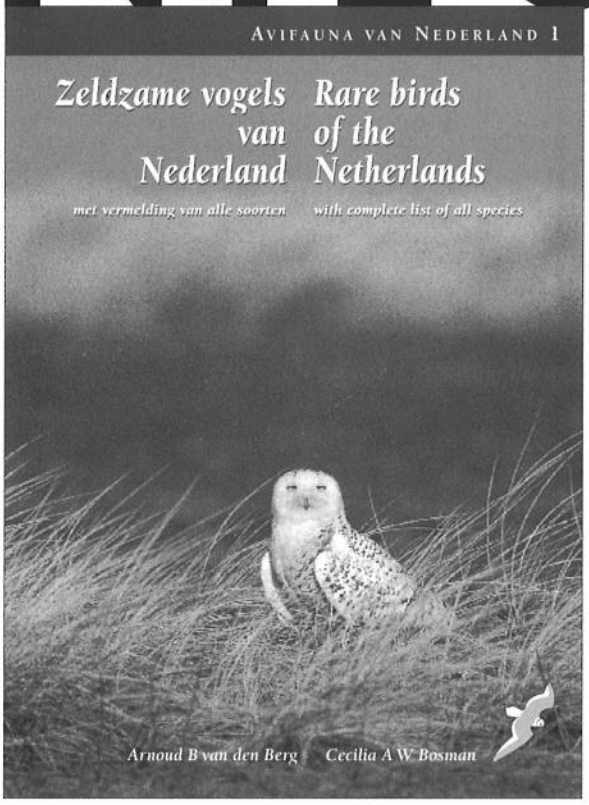
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Avifauna van Nederland

1 *Zeldzame vogels van Nederland/Rare birds of the Netherlands*

De nadruk in dit boek ligt op de meer dan 210 zeldzame (onder)soorten die in de periode 1800-1998 in Nederland zijn waargenomen. Van de algemene en schaarse soorten wordt de status en, waar nodig, enige aanvullende informatie verstrekt.
Over de zeldzame soorten wordt een overweldigende hoeveelheid gegevens gepresenteerd. Waar en wanneer deze zeldzaamheden waargenomen zijn, wordt met bijna 800 diagrammen en verspreidingskaarten en ruim 300 kleurenfoto's rijk geïllustreerd en geanalyseerd. Bij alle waarnemingen worden nauwkeurig datums, plaatsen, literatuurverwijzingen en andere bijzonderheden gegeven. Alle foto's zijn unieke opnamen en de beste die van de betreffende soorten in Nederland gemaakt zijn.
De foto's zijn niet alleen interessant uit historisch oogpunt, maar vormen ook een belangrijke aanvulling op determinatiewerken.

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The sequence of birds in Dutch Birding basically follows a classic 'Wetmore sequence'. Within this framework, the following lists are used for taxonomy and nomenclature: *Rare birds of the Netherlands* by A B van den Berg & C A W Bosman (1999, Haarlem) (taxonomy and scientific, Dutch and English names of birds recorded in the Netherlands); *Palearctic birds* by M Beaman (1994, Stonyhurst) (English names of remaining Palearctic birds); *Vogels van de wereld - complete checklist* by M Walters (1997, Baarn) (Dutch names of remaining birds of the world); and *Birds of the world* by C G Sibley (1996, Version 2.0, Cincinnati) (taxonomy and scientific and English names of remaining birds of the world). Deviations from and additions to these lists are based on CSNA decisions (cf Dutch Birding 19: 21-28, 1997; 20: 22-32, 1998).

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Dutch Birding JAARGANG 21 NUMMER 2 1999 *VOLUME 21 NUMBER 2 1999*



Artikelen / papers

65 Rare birds in the Netherlands in 1997 *Wim M Wiegant, A (Bert) de Bruin & CDNA*
82 Invasion of Two-barred Crossbills in the Netherlands and Europe in 1997/98, with notes on identification, vocalizations and ecology *Enno B Ebels, Ruud F J van Beusekom & Magnus S Robb*

97 Family of Black Brants on Texel in March 1998 *Bob Loos & Arend Wassink*
97 Sneeuwgans met Noorse halsring in Flevoland in september-oktober 1998 [Snow Goose with Norwegian neck band in Flevoland in September-October 1998] *Enno B Ebels*
100 Leucistische Grote Karekiet bij Tienhoven in juni 1998 [Leucistic Great Reed Warbler near Tienhoven in June 1998] *Eckhart Heunks*

Trends in systematics

101 Cryptic species of storm-petrels in the Azores? *George Sangster*

DBA-nieuws / DBA news

106 Bestel *Zeldzame vogels van Nederland* nu!; Order *Rare birds of the Netherlands* now!; 'Tickers' in Dutch Birding; 'Tickers' in Dutch Birding; Top of Holland Vogelfestival; Promoot vogelbescherming, vogels kijken en de DBA

Aankondigingen & verzoeken / announcements & requests

109 Pelagic trips vanuit IJmuiden, Lauwersoog en Stellendam in september en oktober 1999; Gibraltar migration monitoring scheme (MIGRES) in autumn 1999; Nieuwe Avifauna van Limburg: oproep voor waarnemingen; 20 % korting op *The birds of the Thai-Malayan peninsula*; 20 % discount on *The birds of the Thai-Malayan peninsula*; Nieuwe avifauna van Limburg: oproep voor waarnemingen

Recensies / reviews

110 *Starlings and mynas* by Chris Feare & Adrian Craig *Roland van der Vliet*
111 *Pittas of the world. A monograph on the Pitta family* by Johannes Erritzoe & Helga Boullet Erritzoe *Frank Rozendaal*
111 *A guide to bird-watching in Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands* by Brinley J Best, Tom Heijnen & Robert S R Williams *Martin van den Berg*
112 *The complete illustrated check list of the birds of the world* by Tim Westoll *Oscar van Rootselaar*

Masters of Mystery

113 Solutions of first round 1999: Broad-billed Sandpiper and Calandra Lark; Second round 1999 *Diederik Kok & Nils van Duivendijk*

WP reports

115 WP reports: March-April 1999 *Arnoud B van den Berg*

Recente meldingen

121 Nederland: februari-maart 1999 *Ruud M van Dongen, Remco Hofland & Peter W W de Rouw*
123 België: februari-maart 1999 *Gerald Driessens*

DB Actueel

126 Jufferkraanvogel langs Breskens; Ruigpootuil bij Norg; New species of laughingthrush; New species of brush-finch

Corrigendum

128

Voorplaat / front cover

Berthelots Pieper / Berthelot's Pipit *Anthus berthelotii*, Fuerteventura, Canarische Eilanden, november 1997 *(Gabriel Schuler)*

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