

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

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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, Oud-dorp 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, Prunepolder, *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 Verdrongen 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 Durkszopolder, 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.

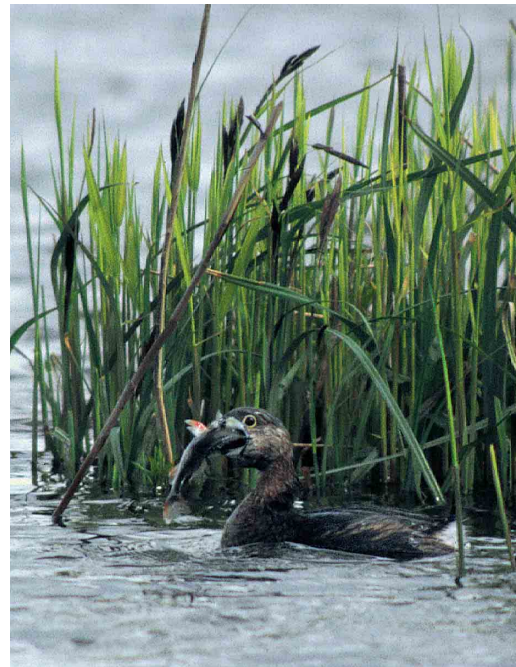
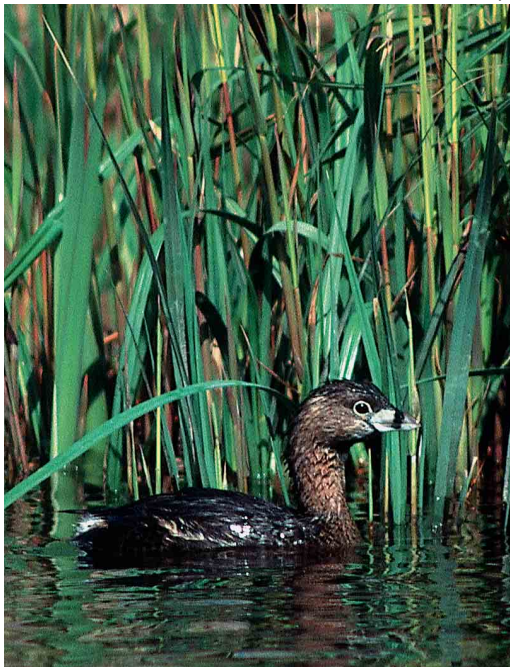


56 Blue-winged Teal / Blauwvleugeltaling *Anas discors*, adult male, Oostvaardersplassen, Flevoland, April 1997 (Ruud E Brouwer) **57** Whistling Swan / Fluitzwaan *Cygnus columbianus* with Bewick's Swan / Kleine Zwaan *C bewickii*, Anloo, Drenthe, 28 December 1997 (Jan van Holten) **58** Greenland White-fronted 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 Zoologisch 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 Nieuw-kruisland*, 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 Ma-joor, 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 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 oedipnemus* -,18,2

18 May, Maasvlakte, Rotterdam, Zuid-Holland, photo-

graphed (P van Rij; van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 141, plate 144, 1997); 27-29 June, 's-Gravenhoeke, Wissenkerke, Noord-Beveland, Zeeland, adult, photographed (A Hannevijk, 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, Eemmond, 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, Prunepolder, 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, Bousweerd, 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 Ouwkerk); 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, *Eemshoofd*, 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

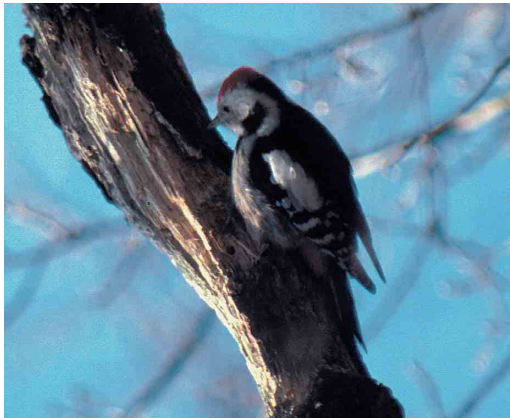
22 August to 20 October, *Groningen*, Groningen, adult moulting from summer to winter plumage, photographed, videoed (M P Olthoff et al; Olthoff 1997, 1998, van den Berg & Bosman 1999; Dutch Birding 19: 203, plate 208, 212-213, plate 220-221, 264, plate 274, 310-311, plate 312 & 316, 1997, 20: 107-109, 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 Pieterse).

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 glaucoideus* -,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 Eerdman, A P Eerdman, 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 *Cephus 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, Verdrongen Land van Saeftinge, Zeeland, November 1997 (Jan van Holten)



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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 alternately 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, Aerwinkel & 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, Riesenbergh, 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, *Wasse-naar*, Zuid-Holland, first-winter, photographed (A Re-meus, 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, *Eemmond*, 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, Verdrongen 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 / Korteleeuwerik *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 Zoologisch Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Noord-Holland (C S Rose-laar).

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, Kwinteloijen, *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 Wag-tails *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.

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



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

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-

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zard *Buteo buteo*). **Little Crane** *Porzana parva* 30 August, Veenhuizerstukken, *Stadskanaal*, Groningen, juvenile (@ description does not rule out Baillon's Crane *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 Crane** *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, *Eemmond*, 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, *Eemmond*, 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** *Ficedula 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, *Eemmond*, 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).

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