

European news

This twenty-fourth selection includes news from a record 29 countries. New contacts in unrepresented West Palearctic countries will be very welcome. The official correspondents whose detailed six-monthly reports are summarised here are acknowledged at the end. This feature is intended as a news service; anyone requiring further information or quoting records in other publications should refer to the literature of the relevant country.

If you have made observations in any of the countries not included here and do not know to whom records should be sent, we suggest you send them to *British Birds*, and we shall do our best to pass them on to the appropriate person; for countries which are included here, we suggest that you send a copy of your records to the relevant 'European news' correspondent listed at the end of this summary.

Records awaiting formal verification by national rarities committees are indicated by an asterisk (*).

Unless otherwise stated, all records refer to single individuals

Black-browed Albatross *Diomedea melanophrys* SPAIN First record: immature 112 km off Tina Mayor, Asturias, on 3rd July 1984 (previous albatrosses off Spain have not been specifically identified).

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus* FINLAND Second record: Turku on 1st January 1988 (first record was in 1985: *Brit. Birds* 79: 285).

Wilson's Petrel *Oceanites oceanicus* SPAIN Second and third recent records: tideline corpses at Marín, Pontevedra, on 28th September 1987* and at Matalascanas, Huelva, on 5th June 1988* (cf. first recent record: *Brit. Birds* 80: 321).

Madeiran Petrel *Oceanodroma castro* PORTUGAL First mainland record: storm-blown at Alcochete on Tagus Estuary on 21st January 1988.

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* GREECE Highest number for 50 years: flock of 6,000 in Evros Delta on 6th February 1988. ITALY Highest-ever wintering number: 12,000 during winter 1986/87 (cf. *Brit. Birds* 81: 330). UKRAINE SSR Second winter record: West Ukraine during 1985-88.

Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis* SPAIN Balearic Islands census: 1,441-1,461 pairs in 1986, including 995 pairs on Mallorca (cf. *Brit. Birds* 77: 233).

Bittern *Botaurus stellaris* UKRAINE SSR Second winter record: West Ukraine during 1985-88.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* DENMARK Best-ever year: seen at 11 localities during summer 1988*.

Great White Egret *Egretta alba* AUSTRIA Population increase: from 217 breeding pairs in 1987 to 375 pairs in 1988 (cf. *Brit. Birds* 75: 569).

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* MOROCCO Unusually large numbers: nine in lower Aoukkos marshes near Larache on 8th May 1988.

Bald Ibis *Geronticus eremita* MOROCCO Colony threatened: building of dam at Aoulouz in Oued Sous valley will destroy famous colony.

Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia* PORTUGAL First recent breeding: three nests in heronry at Boquilobo marsh near Golegã on 9th May 1988.

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus ruber* GREECE Highest-ever total: 3,875 in seven sites in January 1988.

Bewick's Swan *Cygnus columbianus* HUNGARY Ninth record: Virágoskúti fishponds, Hortobágy, on 31st October 1987. UKRAINE SSR First spring record: migrating through Volyń Region, West Ukraine, during March to April 1988.

Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus* ESTONIAN SSR First proved breeding: pair with five young on small coastal lake, Island of Hiiumaa, on 17th June 1988*. LATVIAN SSR Increased

breeding: at least five broods in West in 1988 (first breeding was in 1973: *Brit. Birds* 72: 276; cf. recent breeding in Poland: *Brit. Birds* 77: 234).

Lesser White-fronted Goose *Anser erythropus* GREECE Fourth-largest number recorded: flock of 116 in Evros Delta on 21st January 1988. NETHERLANDS A good year: 20 records, including group of five, and four Swedish colour-ringed individuals.

Greylag Goose *Anser anser* MOROCCO Highest wintering number for five years: 458 at Merja Zerga on 18th February 1988.

Ross's Goose *Anser rossii* NETHERLANDS Second record: two amongst flock of Barnacle Geese *Branta leucopsis* at Zeeland during 19th January to 28th February 1988. (This species has not previously been mentioned in a 'European news' summary.)

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis* UKRAINE SSR Second record: Lakes Luki, Volyń Region, during 20th-29th April 1988.

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis* SWEDEN Breeding census: 880 pairs bred in 1987, including 870 on islands of Öland and Gotland (cf. recent increase: *Brit. Birds* 77: 234; 81: 15). DENMARK First breeding: pair with three fledged juveniles in West Zealand in 1988; the male of this pair had been ringed in the Netherlands in 1986.

Brent Goose *Branta bernicla* FRANCE Second to fourth records of *B. b. nigricans*: adult in Côtes-du-Nord on 14th December 1987; adult in Baie de Bourgneuf, Vendée, during 1st-28th February 1988*; immature at Perros-Guirec, Côtes-du-Nord, during 29th February to 2nd March 1988* (first record was in 1985: *Brit. Birds* 78: 339).

Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* SPAIN Continued range expansion: one or two pairs breeding in Ebro Valley since 1984 are first inland, and pair with eight young in Punta Entinas, Almería, are now southernmost (cf. *Brit. Birds* 80: 322).

American Wigeon *Anas americana* FINLAND Fourth record: male at Espoo during 29th April to 6th May 1987. SPAIN Second record: adult male on Manjavacas lagoon, La Mancha, during 1st-3rd April 1988* (the first was in Doñana on 11th October 1971).

Teal *Anas crecca* DENMARK Second record of Nearctic race *A. c. carolinensis*: Vejlerne during 2nd-5th May 1988*. GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC Vagrant of Nearctic race *caroli-*

nensis: Gohren/Rügen during 24th November to 2nd December 1986. GIBRALTAR Second record: two flying west on 18th January 1988.

Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors* CANARY ISLANDS First record: adult male in south Gran Canaria during February to March 1988. DENMARK Fourth record: Vejlerne on 28th April 1988. FINLAND Third record: male in Värtsilä on 11th May 1987. MOROCCO Fifth record: male at Sidi-Moussa, Oualidia, during January 1988.

Ring-necked Duck *Aythya collaris* FRANCE Influx: nine to 11 during winter 1987/88*, mainly in west (usually, one or two each winter: *Brit. Birds* 75: 569).

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula* UKRAINE SSR Range extension: southerly expansion in West Ukraine during 1977-88.

King Eider *Somateria spectabilis* SWEDEN Second-highest annual total: 70 individuals in 1987 (cf. highest annual total in 1986: *Brit. Birds* 81: 15).

Steller's Eider *Polysticta stelleri* SWEDEN Third-highest annual total: 220 individuals in 1987 (highest totals were in 1986 and 1987: *Brit. Birds* 80: 322; 81: 15; cf. Polish records *Brit. Birds* 81: 332).

Harlequin Duck *Histrionicus histrionicus* NORWAY Sixth record: adult male at Vardø, Finnmark, on 18th June 1986.

Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis* GREECE Twelfth record: three females in Messis lagoon on 18th January 1988.

Surf Scoter *Melanitta perspicillata* POLAND First record: adult male in Puck Bay, near Gdynia-Oskeywie, on 7th January 1988.

Bufflehead *Bucephala albeola* FINLAND First record: male in Eno during 1st-2nd December 1987.

Barrow's Goldeneye *Bucephala islandica* NORWAY Third record: adult male at Buvika near Trondheim on 22nd December 1986, returned to same locality in November 1987.

Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula* DENMARK Second breeding: unknown number in north and four pairs in west in 1988. UKRAINE SSR Range extension: southerly expansion in West Ukraine during 1982-88.

Hooded Merganser *Mergus cucullatus* NORWAY Second record: adult male at Mandal,

Vest-Agder, on 1st June 1986 (first was in 1985: *Brit. Birds* 81: 15).

Goosander *Mergus merganser* MOROCCO First twentieth-century record: male on Merja Zerga Lagoon on 18th February 1988.

Ruddy Duck *Oxyura jamaicensis* SPAIN Third record: with flock of White-headed Ducks *O. leucocephala* at Zoñar lagoon, Córdoba, during 5th November 1986 to 7th February 1987 (first and second records were in late 1983/early 1984 and November 1985 respectively: *Brit. Birds* 81: 15).

White-headed Duck *Oxyura leucocephala* GREECE Highest-ever number: flock of 405 on Lake Vistonis on 2nd February 1988 (cf. previous record number of 26: *Brit. Birds* 77: 587).

Black Kite *Milvus migrans* GIBRALTAR Record spring passage: 10,500 individuals in 1988. SWEDEN High annual total: 80 records in 1987, compared with average of 50.

Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotus* ISRAEL First captive breeding of race *negevensis*: one chick hatched and 'doing well' at Zoological Gardens of Tel Aviv University in 1988; sole remaining wild pair failed (cf. *Brit. Birds* 81: 16).

Short-toed Eagle *Circus gallicus* BELGIUM First record since 1964: near Huy from 20th July to at least 6th August 1988. FINLAND Eighth record: Espoo on 9th June 1988. GIBRALTAR Record spring passage: 821 individuals in 1988.

Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* DENMARK Good spring passage at Skagen: at least 300 in 1988, with a peak of 40 on 15th May (average spring total is around 120).

Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus* SWEDEN Influx: six or seven recorded in Öland and Gotland in May-June 1988 (cf. autumn 1987 influx: *Brit. Birds* 81: 332).

Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis* HUNGARY Eighth record of the race *buteoides*: immature male near Kunszentmiklós, central Hungary, on 6th December 1987.

Swainson's Hawk *Buteo swainsoni* NORWAY First record: second-year individual photographed at Vedøya, Røst, Nordland, on 6th May 1986. (This species has not previously been mentioned in a 'European news' summary.)

Long-legged Buzzard *Buteo rufinus* NORWAY First record: second-year individual at Bor-

revann, Vestfold, on 6th September 1986.

Lesser Spotted Eagle *Aquila pomarina* FRANCE Sixth and seventh records this century: Offendorf, Bas-Rhin, on 14th April 1988*; Frasné, Doubs, on 4th May 1988*.

Spotted Eagle *Aquila clanga* BELGIUM Tenth record: Kontich during 9th-16th February 1988* is the first since 1978.

Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca* GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC Third record: juvenile near Hettstedt on 5th June 1986. GIBRALTAR Eighth record: flying north on 6th April.

Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus* CANARY ISLANDS First record for 85 years: adult female picked up exhausted near La Laguna, Tenerife, on 4th June 1987, later released. DENMARK Excellent spring passage: at least 150 at Skagen in 1988, including 60-100 during 27th-28th May, compared with average spring total of around 25. FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY Spring influx: 'small invasion' throughout country during April and May 1988. NETHERLANDS Spring influx: approximately 100 individuals (plate 11). POLAND Spring influx: many, particularly along Baltic coast in May 1988, including flock of 30 at Bialawskie Btota on 14th. SWEDEN Spring influx: around 50 individuals in south, mainly in May 1988, but some in June. (Cf. spring influxes in 1987: *Brit. Birds* 81: 16.)

Merlin *Falco columbarius* DENMARK Good spring passage at Skagen: at least 415 in 1988, compared with average of around 190.

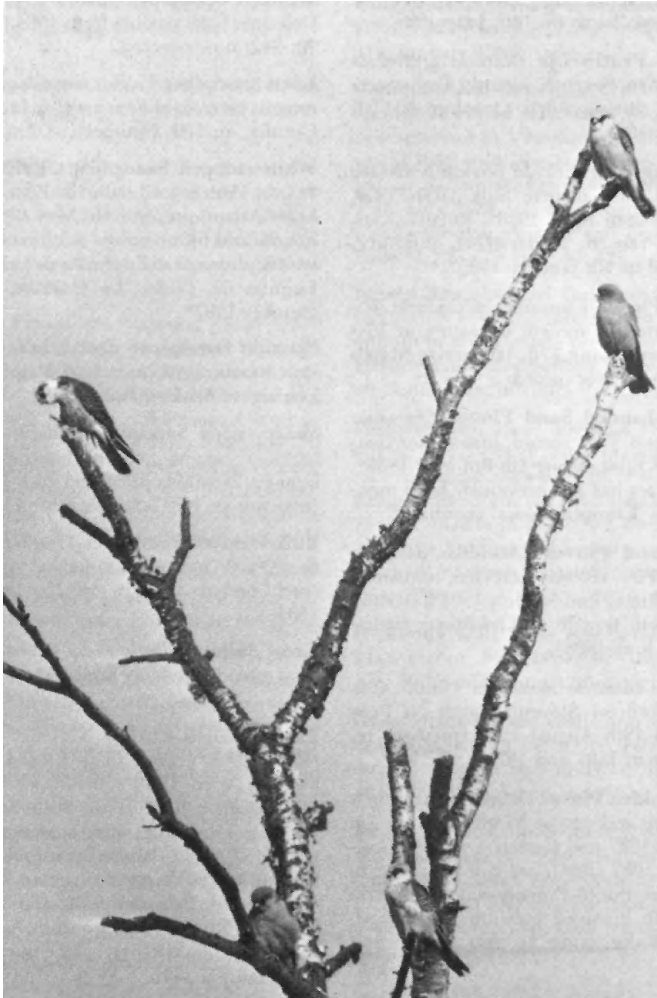
Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonora* FRANCE First record away from south: on Ouessant during 27th-29th May 1988*. HUNGARY Vagrant: light-phase individual in Kunmadaras, Hortobágy, on 22nd September 1987 (national total is below five).

Gyrfalcon *Falco rusticolus* BELGIUM Seventh record: Uiterkerke on 26th January 1988*.

Quail *Coturnix coturnix* GIBRALTAR First breeding record: chick found, reared, ringed and released during May 1988.

Little Crane *Porzana parva* SWEDEN Continued decline: only two calling in 1987 is lowest annual total since 1970; steady decline since 1983.

Baillon's Crane *Porzana pusilla* DENMARK Second twentieth-century record: Vejlerne, northwest Jutland, during June to July 1988* is fifth national record.



11. Red-footed Falcons *Falco vespertinus*, Netherlands, May 1988 (Arnoud B. van den Berg)

Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* MALTA Second breeding on Gozo: at least three pairs in 1988 (cf. *Brit. Birds* 81: 16).

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio porphyrio* SPAIN New breeding population: 26 pairs in canalised section of Guadaira River near Seville (cf. *Brit. Birds* 81: 16).

Coot *Fulica atra* CANARY ISLANDS First successful breeding on Tenerife: pair hatched six chicks, five of which survived, in south in June 1988 (previous nesting attempts in 1986 and 1987 failed, cf. *Brit. Birds* 80: 11; 81: 16).

Crane *Grus grus* DENMARK First over-wintering record: Bøtø Nor, Falster, during 1987 to 1988. FRANCE Record numbers: 25,000 together around Champagne lakes during mid March 1988. MOROCCO Highest wintering numbers north of Taza: flock of 608 on 21st February 1988.

Arabian Bustard *Ardeotis arabs* MOROCCO Sixth record for 1980s: near Rich on 29th March 1988. (This species has not previously been mentioned in a 'European news' summary.)

Stone-curlew *Burhinus oediconemus* FINLAND
Sixth record: Tervo on 14th June 1987.

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola*
NETHERLANDS Seventh record: Terneuzen,
Zeeland, during 30th October to 7th
November 1987.

Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni*
MOROCCO First record: Sidi Allah Tazi,
Rhab, on 26th April 1988*. NETHERLANDS
Sixteenth record: Nederweert, Limburg,
during 2nd to 4th January 1988.

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus* PO-
LAND Thirteenth record: immature at Vis-
tula Estuary during 17th January to March
1988 is first winter record.

Chestnut-banded Sand Plover *Charadrius
pallidus* ISRAEL First record: first-winter/first-
summer at Eilat during 4th-8th May 1988*.
(This species has not previously been men-
tioned in a 'European news' summary.)

Lesser Sand Plover *Charadrius mongolus*
DENMARK First record: Korevlen, northwest
Zealand, during 2nd-3rd July 1988*. SWEDEN
First record: female at Linköping during
29th-30th June 1988*.

Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus* YUGOSLAVIA
Third record for Slovenia: adult on Peca
Mount on 13th August 1988 (previous rec-
ords were in 1887 and 1922).

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva* SWEDEN
Correction: records at Morups Tånge on
17th June 1987 and Getterön during 22nd-
24th July 1987 (*Brit. Birds* 81: 17) relate to
this species, not to *P. dominica*; the Getterön
record also involved only one individual,
presumed the same as that at Morups
Tånge.

Spur-winged Plover *Hoplopterus spinosus* BEL-
GIUM First record: Tienen during 20th-23rd
April 1988*. Record from Kotem in 1983
(*Brit. Birds* 77: 588) has been rejected.

Sociable Plover *Chettusia gregaria* SWITZER-
LAND Fifth record: Fraubrunnen during 4th-
6th April 1988.

White-tailed Plover *Chettusia leucura* CYPRUS
Eighth and ninth records: Phasouri reed-
beds on 17th and 21st-23rd April 1988*;
Xeros Potamos, Paphos, on 8th May 1988*.

Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris* FRANCE First
record: adult at Saint-Quentin, Yvelines, on
10th April 1988*. First European record was
in Spain in 1979 (*Brit. Birds* 78: 342).

Western Sandpiper *Calidris mauri* POLAND
Deletion: both records from 1984 (*Brit. Birds*
78: 342) now rejected.

Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla* SPAIN First
record: juvenile at Ensenada de la Insua, La
Coruña, on 11th October 1987*.

White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis*
FRANCE Fifth record: adult at Pont d'Armes,
Loire-Atlantique, on 22nd May 1988*. SPAIN
Fourth and fifth records: adults moulting to
winter plumage at Ensenada de la Insua and
Laguna de Traba, La Coruña, on 18th
October 1987*.

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* GER-
MAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC Vagrant: near
Leipzig on 6th September 1986.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*
NORWAY Second and third records: Rog-
aland on 24th May 1986 and 24th June 1986
(first was in 1984: *Brit. Birds* 80: 11).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficol-
lis* GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC Fifth re-
cord: Zschorna Lakes on 27th September
1985.

Great Snipe *Gallinago media* SWEDEN Record
total outside breeding area: 80 individuals in
1987.

Slender-billed Curlew *Numenius tenuirostris*
FRANCE First record since 1968: Camargue
on 7th April 1988*. HUNGARY Vagrant:
Hortobágy fishponds on 30th September
1987; has become 'very scarce in recent
years'. MOROCCO Wintering numbers: up to
four at Merja Zerga during 2nd December
1987 to 12th February 1988, and five at the
Moulaya River mouth on 26th April 1988,
the first at this latter site since the 1950s (cf.
Brit. Birds 81: 333).

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* DENMARK
Tenth record: Vejlerne during May to June
1988*. LATVIAN SSR Confirmed breeding:
three pairs in 1988 (cf. first breeding records
in 1974 and 1975: *Brit. Birds* 72: 591). SWEDEN
Spring influx: total of 16 individuals at ten
sites, including flock of five, during spring
1988 (cf. record year of 1983, in which six
occurred: *Brit. Birds* 78: 342).

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* SPAIN
Fourth to eleventh records: Ensenada de la
Insua during 3rd-4th November 1979, on
2nd August 1981, during 1st-4th September
1983, on 19th September 1984; Puebla del
Río, Sevilla, on 26th April 1986; Laguna de
Traba, La Coruña, on 4th May 1986; Delta

del Llobregat, Barcelona, during 10th-23rd May 1986; Estarrit, Gerona, on 11th May 1987*.

Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus* LATVIAN SSR Confirmed breeding: two successful pairs in 1988 (cf. *Brit. Birds* 81: 18).

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularia* SPAIN Third and fourth records: juvenile at Ensenada de la Insua during 29th September to 9th October 1983, and juvenile moulting to first-winter there during 4th October 1986 to 1st May 1987*.

Wilson's Phalarope *Phalaropus tricolor* SPAIN Fourth record: female in summer plumage at Santa Pola salt-pans, Alicante, on 1st May 1987. SWEDEN Fifth and sixth records: Lake Vättern on 26th May 1988* and Öland in mid May 1988*. Record from Foteviken on 20th September 1983 is accepted as second, so that from Stenåsa in 1985 (*Brit. Birds* 80: 12) becomes third and that from Umeå in 1987 (*Brit. Birds* 81: 18) becomes fourth.

Grey Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius* NORWAY Correction: record at Asker (*Brit. Birds* 81: 333) was first in inner fjord since 1887, not 1987.

Great Black-headed Gull *Larus ichthyaetus* POLAND Fourth record: immature near Oświęcim, Upper Silesia, on 19th June 1988*. SPAIN Correction: Cabo de Gata on 21st May 1986 (*Brit. Birds* 80: 325) now rejected.

Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus* AUSTRIA Third confirmed breeding: two pairs in Seewinkel, Burgenland, but without success.

Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla* DENMARK Third record: Skagen on 20th and 24th July 1987* (first two records were in 1985: *Brit. Birds* 79: 288).

Sabine's Gull *Larus sabini* GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC Vagrant: Poel on 7th September 1985*.

Bonaparte's Gull *Larus philadelphia* DENMARK First record: second-year in Skagen Harbour around 14th August 1988*.

Slender-billed Gull *Larus genei* FRANCE Huge spring passage: many along Mediterranean coast in 1988, and over 250 pairs breeding in Camargue (cf. 70 pairs in 1986: *Brit. Birds* 80: 12).

Audouin's Gull *Larus audouinii* SPAIN Record numbers for Ebro Delta: at least 6,200 during April 1988.

Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis* MOROCCO Fifth record: adult at Larache during 28th-31st January 1988.

Common Gull *Larus canus* CZECHOSLOVAKIA Second breeding: pair raised two young on new reservoir at Věstonice, southern Moravia, in 1986. HUNGARY First proved breeding: pair in Kiskunlacháza, central Hungary, on 25th May 1988 (cf. range expansions into Czechoslovakia, Austria and Belgium: *Brit. Birds* 77: 237; 78: 642; 80: 12).

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus* POLAND First breeding record: nest with eggs and up to seven adults present in colony of Herring Gulls *L. argentatus* at Gardno Lake on Baltic coast in 1987.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus* FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY First breeding of the race *cachimans* in Bavaria: three fledglings in Ering-Frauenstein (cf. first breeding of this race in Austria in 1987: *Brit. Birds* 81: 334). HUNGARY First proved breeding: one young hatched in Sárrét, Transdanubia, on 15th June 1988.

Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus* HUNGARY Fifth record: first-winter on Lake Balaton near Balatonfüred on 12th March 1988.

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus* FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. First breeding record: Oehe Schleimünde on Baltic Coast of Schleswig-Holstein in 1987.

Ross's Gull *Rhodostethia rosea* DENMARK Third record: Esbjerg Harbour, southwest Jutland, during May 1988*, and 'probably the same' in Hanstholm Harbour on 16th July 1988*. SWEDEN Sixth record: Lake Vättern on 26th May 1988*.

Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia* GIBRALTAR Tenth record: first-summer individual west on 13th May 1988.

Sooty Tern *Sterna fuscata* FRANCE First French Mediterranean record: adult at Pisevache, Aude, on 17th June 1988*. ISRAEL Third record: 12 adults at Eilat on 30th July 1988 (previous records were in 1980 and 1983). SPAIN Fifth record: Ebro Delta on 24th July 1986*.

Saunders's Little Tern *Sterna saundersi* ISRAEL. First record: adult in summer plumage at Eilat during June to July 1988. (This species has not previously been mentioned in a 'European news' summary.)

African Skimmer *Rhynchops flavirostris*

MOROCCO First record: pair at Merja Zerga on 25th January 1987*. (This species has not previously been mentioned in a 'European news' summary.)

Razorbill *Alca torda* ESTONIAN SSR First breeding: 12 adults and three nests with eggs or chicks on Uhtju island, Gulf of Finland, on 8th July 1988.

Little Auk *Alle alle* FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY Third record for NRW: dead in a garden in Rheinborg on 1st March 1988*. SWEDEN Second-highest annual total: 1,385 individuals in 1987; large increase in recent years (cf. *Brit. Birds* 79: 288; 80: 326; 81: 335) believed due to southerly shift in wintering areas; 280,000 estimated in Skagerrak in winter 1987.

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* MOROCCO Continued colonisation: pair nesting in Fès on 28th May 1988 (cf. spread to Meknes: *Brit. Birds* 80: 12-13). NORWAY Continued decline throughout country: from being 'quite common in Oslo area in 1970s' to 'now almost disappeared'.

Rufous Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis* FINLAND Fourth record: Lågskär bird-station on 16th June 1987.

Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis* ITALY Third record: Isle of Linosa, Pelagie, Sicily, during April 1987.

Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius* NORWAY Third record: adult female at Mandal, Vest-Agder, on 9th May 1985.

Barn Owl *Tyto alba* SWEDEN Approaching extinction: Gotland on 31st January 1987 was only record that year (around 30 pairs bred in Scania 25 years ago: *Brit. Birds* 77: 238).

Eagle Owl *Bubo bubo* SPAIN Population estimate for Southern Andalusia: 113-180 pairs in 4,000 km².

Snowy Owl *Nyctea scandiaca* HUNGARY Tenth and eleventh records: Nyirmada, eastern Hungary, on 19th February 1985, and Lébény, western Hungary, on 20th April 1987.

Great Grey Owl *Strix nebulosa* SWEDEN Record breeding numbers: 99 pairs in 1987 (cf. *Brit. Birds* 79: 289). UKRAINE SSR Breeding season record: Syra Pogonia marsh, Rovno Region, West Ukraine, on 2nd May 1988.

Pallid Swift *Apus pallida* NORWAY Second record: Mølen, Larvik, Vestfold, on 24th

May 1986 (first record was in Vestfold in 1984: *Brit. Birds* 80:13).

Alpine Swift *Apus melba* FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY First twentieth-century record for Helgoland: dead on 11th July 1984. NETHERLANDS Influx: three during 20th-29th October 1987, the eighteenth to twentieth records. ROMANIA Range expansion in southwest: Cerna Valley, Băile Herculane, during late July 1986.

White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer* GIBRALTAR First record: 9th July 1988* (cf. range expansion in Spain: *Brit. Birds* 80: 326).

Little Swift *Apus affinis* SPAIN Fifth and sixth records: Laguna de la Janda, Cádiz, on 19th May 1987*, and Roquetas de Mar, Almería, on 13th June 1987*.

Hoopoe *Upupa epops* FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY Unusual winter records: City Refuge Disposal, Lower Saxony, on 16th January and 15th March 1988.

Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis* FINLAND Fifth record: Imatra on 25th April 1987 (fourth record was in 1976).

Three-toed Woodpecker *Picoides tridactylus* SWEDEN Southerly records: Småland on 13th February 1988 and northeast Scania in April 1988, both far south of normal range (cf. records in autumn 1987 in Denmark and Norway: *Brit. Birds* 81: 335).

Dupont's Lark *Chersophilus duponti* CYPRUS First record: near Coral Bay, Paphos, on 12th April 1988*.

Calandra Lark *Melanocorypha calandra* AUSTRIA Sixth record: singing at Kapfenberg, Burgenland, on 9th May 1988.

White-winged Lark *Melanocorypha leucoptera* POLAND Fourth record: Chałupy on Hel Peninsula on 30th March 1988*.

Black Lark *Melanocorypha yeltoniensis* POLAND First record: adult male at Kosienice near Przemyśl on 17th January 1988.

Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla* POLAND Third record: Vistula Estuary during 10th-17th January 1988.

Crag Martin *Ptyonoprogne rupestris* ROMANIA Range expansion in southwest: Cerna Valley, Băile Herculane, during late August 1986.

Red-rumped Swallow *Hirundo daurica* DENMARK Spring influx: five during 6th-17th

May 1988, and two or three later (national total to 1987 was 14). FRANCE Best-ever spring passage: around 120 individuals, all but five along Mediterranean coast (cf. *Brit. Birds* 81: 20). ROMANIA Range expansion in southwest: Cerna Valley, Băile Herculane, during late August 1986. YUGOSLAVIA First record for Slovenia: juvenile at Sečovlje on 10th August 1988.

Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni* FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY Second and third records: Helgoland during 22nd-23rd October 1986 and 3rd-7th October 1987. FINLAND Sixth and seventh records: Säppi bird-station on 2nd October 1987, and Lågskår bird-station on 2nd November 1987. NETHERLANDS First record: Texel, Noordholland, during 21st-27th October 1987.

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* DENMARK High spring total: around 50 at Skagen, compared with average of around five. POLAND Largest-ever number: 150 at Jastarnia on Hel Peninsula on 15th May 1988.

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* FINLAND First record of black-headed race, *M. f. feldegg*: male holding territory in Paimio during 30th May to 11th July 1985.

Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* AUSTRIA Seventh record: male south of Graz, Styria, on 24th April 1988. DENMARK Sixth record: male at Skagen on 26th May 1988*. FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY First Bavarian record: male at Weiden in der Oberpfalz during 12th-21st May 1986. Also, first twentieth-century record for Düne Helgoland: juvenile on 1st September 1987. ITALY Third record: salt-pans of Siracusa, Sicily, on 27th February 1987. SWEDEN Hybrid pairing: female paired and nest-building with Yellow Wagtail *M. flava* at Ottenby during May and June 1988. Juvenile on Öland on 26th July 1988 'was a pure *citreola* and may have come from a breeding nearby'. UKRAINE SSR Range extension: southerly expansion in West Ukraine during 1985-88.

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba* UKRAINE SSR Second winter record: West Ukraine during 1985-88.

White-cheeked Bulbul *Pycnonotus leucogenys* ISRAEL First records: one, and then two together, at Eilat during April 1988. (This species has not previously been mentioned in a 'European news' summary.)

Siberian Accentor *Prunella montanella* POLAND First record: Staporków near Kielce

during 26th-27th March 1988.

Black-throated Accentor *Prunella atrogularis* SWEDEN First record: ringed at Stora Fjäderägg during 14th-15th June 1988* (cf. first Finnish record in 1987: *Brit. Birds* 81: 336).

Alpine Accentor *Prunella collaris* FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY First and second twentieth-century records for Helgoland: eighth record there during 8th-11th May 1987; ninth during 14th-20th April 1988.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros* UKRAINE SSR Second winter record: West Ukraine during 1985-88.

Moussiers's Redstart *Phoenicurus moussieri*: ITALY Second record: male at Isle of Linosa, Pelagie, Sicily, on 27th February 1987.

Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina* FINLAND Third record: Värtsilä on 5th September 1987. FRANCE Second record: male on Ouessant during 31st May to 1st June 1988*.

Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius* ROMANIA Confirmed presence: Cerna Valley, Domogledul Mic, on 26th August 1986.

Hermit Thrush *Catharus guttatus* SWEDEN First record: Höganäs on 27th April 1988*. (This species has not previously been mentioned in a 'European news' summary.)

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus* ITALY First breeding away from Alps: Majella mountain in Appennines in June 1986.

Redwing *Turdus iliacus* UKRAINE SSR Range extension: southerly expansion in West Ukraine during 1980-88.

American Robin *Turdus migratorius* SWEDEN First record: Bohuslän on 24th April 1988*.

Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella certhiola* NORWAY First record: Utsira, Rogaland, on 28th September 1986.

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia* MALTA Fifth record: ringed in October 1987.

River Warbler *Locustella fluviatilis* MALTA Fourth record: ringed in May 1988. SWEDEN Highest-ever total: 138 individuals in 1987, including first breeding on Gotland (cf. recent decline: *Brit. Birds* 80: 328).

Savi's Warbler *Locustella luscinioides* FINLAND Sixth and seventh records: Inkoo during 16th-24th May 1986; Lågskår bird-station on 17th October 1987 (first autumn record).

Moustached Warbler *Acrocephalus melanopogon* GIBRALTAR Correction: record on 9th September 1987 (*Brit. Birds* 81: 337) was rejected; record on 29th September 1987 becomes second.

Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola* LATVIAN SSR Second record: trapped at Lake Pape in July 1988 (first record was in 1987: *Brit. Birds* 81: 337).

Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum* DENMARK Fifth and sixth records: ringed at Christiansø during 29th-30th May* and on 14th June 1986*. SWEDEN High annual total: 23 singing in 1987 (peak year was 1984, with 24 recorded: *Brit. Birds* 79: 290).

Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris* ITALY First breeding in Tuscany: pair at Marciano della Chiaia Pool, Arezzo, during 25th-28th June 1986.

Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* SWEDEN Highest annual total: 280 males in 1987. The increase continues (cf. *Brit. Birds* 73: 577; 75: 29).

Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina* MOROCCO Eighth record: Merzouga on 7th April 1988.

Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta* POLAND Second record: singing male at Cichmiana Góra near Kronin on 17th May 1987.

Dartford Warbler *Sylvia undata* BELGIUM First record: near Mormont, Ardenne, on 29th April 1988.

Tristram's Warbler *Sylvia deserticola* GIBRALTAR First record: male on 10th April 1988* (cf. range extension in Morocco: *Brit. Birds* 79: 290).

Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans* DENMARK Eighth to eleventh records: dead at Blåvandshuk, southwest Jutland, on 1st May*, and a female ringed there on 27th May*, singing male at Skagen during 10th-11th May*, and a female was at Christiansø on 17th June*, all in 1988. GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC Third record: near Leipzig on 21st September 1986.

Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides* DENMARK Best-ever year: around 50, mostly singing males with breeding suspected, in southeast from 26th May 1988. SWEDEN High annual total: 75 individuals in 1987, but 1988 'will probably be better' (peak year was 1978, with 110 recorded: *Brit. Birds* 79: 290).

Arctic Warbler *Phylloscopus borealis* DENMARK

First record: singing in Copenhagen on 27th May 1988* (previous record, from 1968, is 'under reconsideration').

Pallas's Warbler *Phylloscopus proregulus* CZECHOSLOVAKIA First record: trapped near Prague on 18th October 1987. DENMARK First spring record: Kongelunden, near Copenhagen, on 2nd May 1988*. UKRAINE SSR Second record: Zmiiny Island, Odessa region, in October 1980 (first was at same site and on similar date: *Brit. Birds* 81: 337).

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus* DENMARK First spring record: ringed at Christiansø on 5th May 1988*.

Radde's Warbler *Phylloscopus schwarzi* FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY Third record: Helgoland on 3rd October 1987.

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus* FRANCE First spring record: Ouessant during mid April 1988* is eighth national record. NETHERLANDS Fourth to ninth records: five during 13th October to 2nd November 1987 (cf. autumn 1987 records in Denmark, Estonian SSR, Finland, France, Poland and Sweden: *Brit. Birds* 81: 338).

Azure Tit *Parus cyanus* FINLAND Fifteenth record: Virolahti during 23rd December 1987 to 2nd January 1988.

Wallcreeper *Tichodroma muraria* DENMARK First record: Ålebæk, Møn, during 22nd January to 22nd February 1988*.

Short-toed Treecreeper *Certhia brachydactyla* DENMARK Ringing recovery: individual ringed at Danzigmand, Læso, on 16th May 1988* recovered at Falsterbo, Sweden, on 7th June 1988.

Penduline Tit *Remiz pendulinus* BELGIUM Ringing recovery: trapped with Swedish ring at Grembergen on 1st November 1987*. FINLAND Eleventh record: male at Hanko bird-station on 17th April 1988. MOROCCO Third record: four at Larache on 29th January 1988. NETHERLANDS Continued increase: 'dozens' of breeding-season records in both 1987 and 1988; several nests found, some being successful. (Cf. recent breeding population increases in Spain and Sweden: *Brit. Birds* 78: 644; 79: 291; 81: 338.)

Isabelline Shrike *Lanius isabellinus* FRANCE Correction: third record was during 14th-16th September 1987, not 14th-16th October 1987 (*Brit. Birds* 81: 338).

Siberian Jay *Perisoreus infaustus* UKRAINE SSR Second and third records: Rovno Region,

West Ukraine, in December 1976, and Eytomyr Region in January 1987.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus* NORWAY Population estimate: 350 pairs in 1986, confined to counties of Hedmark, Oppland, Rogaland and Sør-Trøndelag.

Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus* MOROCCO First record for east: two netted near Berkane on 1st May 1988 is the twenty-second national record.

Two-barred Crossbill *Loxia leucoptera* NORWAY First confirmed breeding: nest found in April 1987. Flock of 75 at Sotra near Bergen in February 1987 and some present in southeast in spring 1988. SWEDEN Third successive influx year: 750 individuals in 1987, including possible breeding.

Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra* NORWAY Large breeding population: many in south from summer 1987 (*Brit. Birds* 81: 22) to spring 1988, owing to good spruce cone crop. Most departed during summer 1988, leaving very few in August.

Trumpeter Finch *Bucanetes githagineus* CYPRIUS First winter record: Ladies Mile, Akro-

tiri, on 5th December 1987* is sixth record. FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY First record: Sylt, Schleswig-Holstein, during 26th-27th July 1987.

Scarlet Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus* FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY First breeding on Helgoland: four pairs bred in 1987. UKRAINE SSR Range extension: southerly expansion in West Ukraine during 1986-88.

Pine Grosbeak *Pinicola enucleator* FRANCE First record: male in Haut-Rhin, Alsace, on 7th May 1988*.

Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* UKRAINE SSR Range extension: southerly expansion in West Ukraine during 1982-88.

Northern Parula *Parula americana* FRANCE Correction: third record was during 17th-28th October 1987, not 14th-16th September 1987 (*Brit. Birds* 81: 338).

Pine Bunting *Emberiza leucocephalos* NETHERLANDS Influx: three between 19th October and 4th November 1987 are twenty-second to twenty-fourth records (plate 12).



12. Male Pine Bunting *Emberiza leucocephalos*, Netherlands, November 1988 (*Arnoud B. van den Berg*)

13. Black-faced Bunting *Emberiza spodocephala*, Netherlands, November 1986 (*Brit. Birds* 81: 22) (*Arnoud B. van den Berg*)



Cirl Bunting *Emberiza cirius* HUNGARY Breeding decline: following colonisation in 1975, a small population built up in the south since 1981, but only one pair with young observed in 1988.

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla* DENMARK Fifteenth record: Christiansø on 4th May 1988*. SPAIN First three twentieth-century records: first-years ringed at Comillas, Cantabria, on 9th November, 14th December and 28th December 1986.

Chestnut Bunting *Emberiza rutila* YUGOSLAVIA First record: one (probably juvenile) trapped at Idrija on 10th October 1987.

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus* GIBRALTAR Second record: female on 25th April 1988* (first record was in 1987: *Brit. Birds* 81: 339).

Black-headed Bunting *Emberiza melanocephala* DENMARK Fifth and sixth records: male and female ringed at Christiansø during 29th-30th May 1988*, and single at Frøstrup, northwest Jutland, on 28th May 1988*. FRANCE Increasing spring records: at least six males and probably two females during May and June 1988, all but one in south; 'future breeding possible'. MALTA Ninth record: July 1988. SWEDEN Fourteenth record: male at Nidingen, Kattegat, during 11th-13th June 1987.

Northern Oriole *Icterus galbula* NORWAY First record: second-year male, Utsira, Rogaland, on 28th September 1986. (This species has not previously been mentioned in a 'European news' summary.)

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No information was received from Albania, Bulgaria, the Faroe Islands, Luxembourg or Iceland.