

## Bird Migration in Iran in the Late 1960s and 1970s

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### ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this report is to document the timing of bird migration in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s with a view to providing baseline information for present and future studies on the effects of climate change on bird migration in Iran. Prior to the 1960s, ornithological studies in Iran had been irregular and uncoordinated. This report attempts to summarise all the observations of birds in Iran known to the author between 1967 and 1978. The grand total of 88,720 records includes almost 55,000 records taken from the author's own detailed field notes, some 25,000 records collected from other observers, and over 8,000 records from the Larian Dam/Lashgarak area near Tehran. The species accounts that make up the bulk of this review are based on a total of 70,584 records. By the end of 1978, a total of 520 species had been recorded in Iran, following the taxonomic treatment adopted in the IOC List of the Birds of the World Version 7.3 (2017). Of the 420 species considered to be of regular occurrence in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s, 302 (71.9%) can be classified as long-distance migrants and a further 21 species (5%) as short-distance migrants. The remaining 97 species are almost entirely sedentary, showing only local movements. Accounts are given for all except six of the 323 migratory species of regular occurrence in Iran, the exceptions being rare species for which little if any information on migration seasons was available, viz. Siberian Crane *Grus leucogeranus*, Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*, Mountain Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus sindianus*, Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola*, Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris*, and Cinereous Bunting *Emberiza cineracea*. Each species account includes a paragraph summarising the status, distribution and abundance of the species in Iran as deduced from observations made during the period 1967–1978. Charts are provided for species that are primarily seasonal in their occurrence in one or more of the three major regions of Iran (northern, central and southern). The total number of species believed to be breeding in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s was 317 (220 migratory species plus the 97 residents).

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The main purpose of this report is to document the timing of bird migration in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s in order to provide baseline information for present and future studies on the effects of climate change on bird migration in Iran. In parts of Western Europe, many migrant birds are arriving earlier in spring than they did only a few decades ago and this has been attributed to the recent warming in the climate (Lehikoinen *et al.* 2019). It seems likely that this is also happening in Iran.

Prior to the 1960s, ornithological studies in Iran had been irregular and uncoordinated (Roselaar & Aliabadian 2009). However, with the establishment of the Game and Fish Department in the late 1960s and creation of an Ornithology Unit within the Department, ornithological studies were then carried out throughout Iran and on a systematic basis until the late 1970s. Very little of the new information on the birds of Iran acquired during this period was published in the international literature at the time. Bird ringing activities in Iran and ringing recoveries during the late 1960s and 1970s were reported by Cornwallis & Ferguson (1970) and Argyle (1975, 1976), and some material has been published in recent years, notably a review of the breeding waterbirds in Iran in the 1970s (Scott 2007), a report on rare birds in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s (Scott 2008), and a summary of waterbird census data (Scott 2010). Here the author focuses on the migratory status and migration seasons of birds in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s.

No attempt is made in this report to discuss the migration routes (flyways) and origins and destinations of migratory birds in Iran. Rather this should be the focus of another paper, which should include a review of all ringing recovery data available for Iran (birds ringed in Iran and recovered abroad, and birds ringed abroad and recovered in Iran). For this to be successful, contacts would have to be established with all other bird ringing schemes in the Middle East, as well as in Russia and Europe. Information on the general patterns of bird migration in Western Eurasia is widely available in the published literature. The flyways of all waterbird species are now relatively well known and have been summarised in successive editions of *Waterbird Population Estimates* (Rose & Scott 1994, 1997; Delany & Scott 2002), while the flyways of Anatidae and waders have been discussed at some length in two flyway atlases (Scott & Rose 1996, Delany *et al.* 2009). It would not be possible to provide details of 'flyways' for many of the land-birds without a detailed analysis of ringing recoveries throughout the region, but the major migration routes of most species can be assumed from the known breeding and wintering distributions. Thus, for example, it is known that all Green Warblers *Phylloscopus nitidus*, Red-breasted Flycatchers *Ficedula parva*, Rose-coloured Starlings *Sturnus roseus*, Black-headed Buntings *Emberiza melanocephala*, Red-headed Buntings *E. bruniceps* and Common Rosefinches *Carpodacus erythrinus* migrate in a south-easterly direction through Iran in autumn simply because all known wintering areas for these species (even for the birds breeding far to the west of Iran in northern Europe) are in the Indian subcontinent and south-east Asia. Similarly, many other long-distance migrants are known to move in a south-westerly direction through Iran in autumn, as all their wintering areas are in Sub-Saharan Africa. Information on the known breeding ranges and wintering areas for all migrant species occurring in Iran is readily available in the published literature, e.g. in *Birds of the Western Palearctic* (Cramp *et al.* 1977–1994) and *Handbook of the Birds of the World* (del Hoyo *et al.* 1992–2013). Observations made by ornithologists in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s revealed much about when and where migratory species occurred in Iran, but added nothing to our knowledge of the origins and destinations of these migrants, except in the case of those few migratory waterbirds (mainly Anatidae and the Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus ruber*) for which useful numbers of ringing recoveries became available.

By the end of 1978, a total of 520 species had been recorded in Iran, following the taxonomic treatment adopted in the IOC List of the Birds of the World Version 7.3 (2017). The 420 species considered to be of regular occurrence in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s are listed in Table 1, along with an indication of their migratory status. Of these 420 species, 302 (71.9%) can be classified as long-distance migrants and a further 21 species (5%) as short-distance migrants. The latter undertake regular movements in autumn, but these are mostly altitudinal migrations from the mountains onto the adjacent plains, and seldom if ever continue for more than about 200 km. The remaining 97 species listed in Appendix I are almost entirely sedentary, showing only local movements (dispersal of juveniles, foraging movements, local altitudinal migration *etc.*). Species which breed in the highlands of northern Iran and winter in the lowlands of southern Iran, *e.g.* Plain Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus neglectus*, are considered to be long-distance migrants, as they make annual migrations of many hundreds of km.

Splitting the long-distance migrants in Iran into three groups (summer visitors, winter visitors and passage migrants) is not as easy as it might seem, simply because most species fit equally well into two or more categories. There are quite a few species that are present year-round (resident) in some parts of Iran (*e.g.* south-central Iran), common summer visitors in other parts (*e.g.* Azarbaijan and the Alborz), common passage migrants in yet other parts (*e.g.* through the Tehran area and central plateau) and common winter visitors in the southern lowlands. Rather few species fit neatly into only one group. A species that is referred to only as a winter visitor is a species that winters as far south as Iran but no further. Similarly, a species that is referred to only as a summer visitor is a species that breeds as far north as Iran but no further. However, most winter visitors to Iran also occur as passage migrants, because some (and in some cases probably most) of the birds arriving in autumn continue on through Iran to wintering areas in Africa or southern Asia. These are referred to as winter visitors and passage migrants. Similarly, most of the summer visitors breeding in Iran also occur as common passage migrants continuing on through Iran to breeding areas further to the north, north-west or north-east. These are referred to as summer visitors and passage migrants.

The situation is further complicated by the enormous size of Iran and huge climatic differences within the country. Thus many species which are only summer visitors and passage migrants in most of Iran are able to remain throughout the winter in the almost subtropical conditions of the Persian Gulf coast and southern Baluchestan. Some of these species occur in very small numbers in winter, but it is important to note this, as these are species that might respond quickly to any warming in the climate and become much commoner in years to come. Good examples include Booted Eagle *Hieraaetus pennatus*, Eurasian Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*, Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*, Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*, Rufous-tailed Rock-Thrush *Monticola saxatilis* and Eastern Orphee Warbler *Sylvia crassirostris*.

The status of the 323 species that were identified as being at least partly migratory is summarised in Table 2. Of these 323 species, those in the categories marked with an asterisk are breeding species in Iran, *i.e.* 220 species. Thus the total number of species believed to be breeding in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s was 317 (220 plus the 97 residents).

Of the 100 species that had been recorded only as rarities in Iran up to the end of 1978 (Appendix II), 70 are known to be long-distance migrants, 13 are short-distance migrants, 12 are non-migratory, two are irregular migrants or nomadic species, two are seabirds, and one is probably an escaped cage-bird. Most of the 12 non-migratory species may have been resident breeding birds in Iran in the past, but were not found during the late 1960s and 1970s. Thus, of the 520 species that had been recorded in Iran up to the late 1970s, a total of 372 (71.5%) are long-distance migrants, *i.e.* almost three-quarters, while a further 34 (6.5%) are regular short-distance migrants.

## 2. METHODS

This report attempts to summarise all the observations of birds in Iran known to the author between 1967 and 1978. The total numbers of records used in this analysis are given in Table 1. The grand total of 88,720 records is only a minimum, as it does not include the full totals for seven of the commonest species in Iran (Rock Dove, Crested Lark, Barn Swallow, White Wagtail, House Sparrow, Eurasian Magpie and Hooded Crow). Records were obtained from a variety of sources. Much the most important source, accounting for almost 55,000 records, was the author's own detailed field notes. Between 1 October 1970 and 21 March 1976, the author spent a total of 973 days in the field in Iran, mostly on Department of Environment (DOE) expeditions in company with other personnel of the Ornithology Unit or visiting ornithologists collaborating with the DOE. The 81 expeditions which the author led varied in length from three days to a maximum of 37 days, and covered virtually every part of Iran that was accessible by Land Rover (see Figure 1). In addition, the author made a large number of one-day field trips usually at weekends to localities of ornithological interest in the Tehran area. Between June 1973 and February 1976, he and Nick Paul, an English bird-watcher resident in Tehran, visited the Larian Dam and Lashgarak area in the foothills of the Alborz northeast of Tehran on a total of 191 occasions throughout the year. These visits produced a total of 8,984 bird records and provided valuable information on bird migration through the Tehran area (see Scott 2007a).

Some 25,000 records have been collected from other observers. Many of these records came from Ornithology Unit personnel on field trips in which the author did not take part, while many others came from expatriate bird-watchers who were resident in Tehran at sometime during the period under review and who submitted their records and unpublished field notes directly to the author. Records were also extracted from the small number of published accounts of bird surveys in Iran during the period 1967–1978. These included Nielsen (1969), Erard & Etchecopar (1970), Gyllin (1970, 1974), Misonne (1976), Desfayes & Praz (1978), Reynolds (1978), Dejonghe (1980), Rogers (2001) and Mlikovsky (2007). All observers whose records have been used in the compilation of this report are listed in Appendix 3.

The species accounts that follow are based on a total of 70,584 records. Accounts are given for all but six of the 323 species summarized in Table 2, the exceptions all being rare species for which little if any information on migration seasons was available. These are Siberian Crane *Grus leucogeranus* (a rare and local winter visitor to Mazandaran); Long-eared Owl *Asio otus* (a scarce winter visitor, possibly resident in the northwest); Mountain Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus sindianus* (a local summer visitor in the northwest, may also have overwintered in the south); Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola* (a scarce passage migrant, and a scarce and local summer visitor in the southeast Caspian); Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris* (a scarce summer visitor in the northwest, probably also a passage migrant); and Cinereous Bunting *Emberiza cineracea* (a scarce summer visitor and passage migrant in the west). Details of all records of these six species during the period under review are to be found in Scott (2008).

Each species account includes a paragraph summarising the status, distribution and abundance of the species in Iran as deduced from observations made during the period 1967–1978. It does not take into consideration any previously published records of birds in Iran even though, in some cases, these might indicate a more extensive range or different status. This paragraph also draws attention to any unusual records and, in the case of long-distance migrants, often gives earliest and latest dates of occurrence in Iran. For many migratory species, much the best information on migration seasons and periods of peak passage came from the south Caspian region and the Larian Dam and Lashgarak area near Tehran, as these regions were especially well worked.

Charts are provided for species that are primarily seasonal in their occurrence in one or more of the three major regions of Iran (northern, central and southern). No chart is provided for species that, although migratory, occur commonly somewhere in northern, central and southern Iran at all times of the year. The charts provide a summary of the seasonal distribution of records in northern, central and southern Iran based on quarter-month ('week') periods (1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup>). The three regions are defined as follows:

Northern Iran (N): West Azarbaijan, East Azarbaijan, Ardabil, the south Caspian region (Gilan, Mazandaran and Golestan), northern Khorasan, and the high Alborz.

Central Iran (C): the western provinces (Kordestan, Hamadan, Kermanshah, Ilam and Lorestan), the central plateau (Zanjan, Qazvin, Tehran, Markazi, Qom, Semnan, Esfahan, and Yazd), the Zagros south to central Fars (Chahar Mahal and Bakhtiary and, Fars, except the south), northern and central Kerman, and southern Khorasan.

Southern Iran (S): Khuzestan, Bushehr, southern Fars, Hormozgan, southern Kerman, and Seistan and Baluchestan.

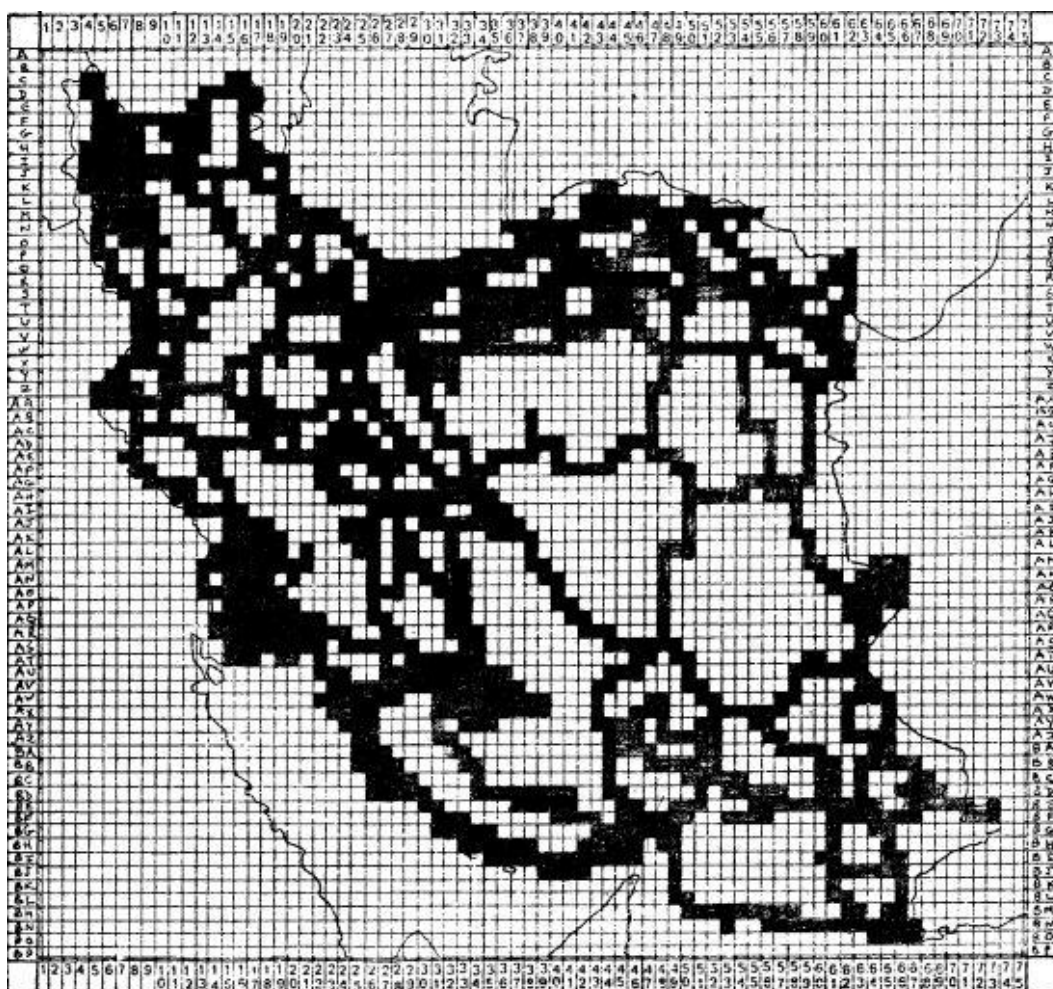
A pale grey square in the charts indicates that there was only one record in the region in question during that quarter-month ('week') period; a dark grey square indicates that there were two or three records, and a black square indicates that there were more than three records. Note that a record may refer to an observation of many individuals, *e.g.* 10,000 Common Teal at a small lake on a particular date would count as only one record. The charts should be used only as a general indication of how frequently birds were recorded at various times of the year in the three main regions, and should not be taken as a true indication of when the birds were actually present because of inadequacies in coverage in some regions at some times of the year. Much the most serious gap in coverage was in the southern region in the second half of the year. Very few observations were made in the southern lowlands from Khuzestan to Baluchestan between the end of June and the end of September. Other significant gaps in coverage include:

- northwestern Iran during the spring migration season;
- parts of the central Zagros, especially the higher altitudes;
- some parts of the interior deserts, notably the sand dunes of the Dasht-e Lut;
- most of the small offshore islands in the Persian Gulf, notably the Tonb islands, the Farur islands and Abu Musa;
- the Hawr al Azim marshes on the Iraqi border in Khuzestan;
- eastern Khorasan-e Razavi in winter.

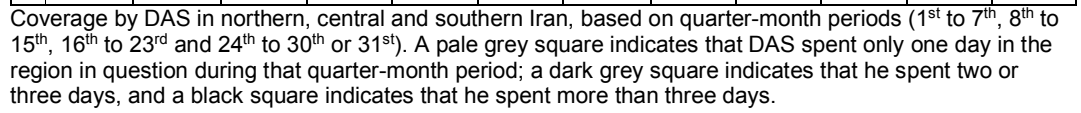
In a number of cases, mostly for common species in the northern and central regions of Iran, some attempt has been made to 'smooth' the chart when it was known that the species in question was abundant throughout the summer and/or winter, and arrival and departure dates were well known. In these cases, a sufficient number of records are available to make allowances for gaps in coverage. To give one example, coverage of the northern region (Azarbaijan, the south Caspian, the high Alborz and northern Khorasan) was very good almost throughout the year. However, there was almost no coverage in this region in the second quarter of February. Smoothing has been used to remove such anomalies when it is known, from surveys just before and surveys just after, that a species was not only present but common during the gap in coverage. However, no attempt has been made to smooth the charts for species for which there are relatively few records. The main problem with this smoothing has been that even for some of the commonest species, there is uncertainty in the southern region (Khuzestan, the Persian Gulf coast, Seistan and Baluchestan), because this region was hardly ever visited by ornithologists between the end of June and the middle of October. In most cases, however, the charts simply indicate how often the birds were recorded in each quarter-month period, and thus inadequacies in coverage should always be taken into consideration.

The review of the status of breeding waterbirds in Iran in the 1970s in Scott (2007b) provides useful additional information for all those species of waterbirds that were found breeding during the period 1967–1978, while the accounts of rare birds in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s in Scott (2008) give details of all records of all those species that were recorded on fewer than about 13 occasions during the period under review.

Tables 3, 4 and 5 summarize the arrival and departure dates of 33 scarce summer visitors, 31 scarce winter visitors and 18 scarce passage migrants respectively, while Table 6 summarizes the arrival and departure dates of 24 species of wintering Anatidae. Table 7 gives the estimated wintering population of all species of waterbird for which estimates were available in the 1970s. These estimates were based on the waterbird counts carried out by the Ornithology Unit in the Department of the Environment between 1970 and 1978.



**Figure 1: DAS coverage map and regional coverage by quarter-month period**  
**25x25 km grid squares visited by DAS between October 1970 and 21 March 1976**  
 (1,243 squares visited at least once, out of a total of 2,746 squares in Iran)



**Table 1.** Migratory status of birds in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s (excluding rarities).

Species	Total	Primary status	Secondary status	Remarks
Caucasian Grouse <i>Lyrurus mlokosiewiczi</i>	9	Scarce and local resident		No movements known
Caspian Snowcock <i>Tetraogallus caspius</i>	43	Scarce resident		No movements known
Chukar Partridge <i>Alectoris chukar</i>	321	Resident		No movements known
See-see Partridge <i>Ammoperdix griseogularis</i>	290	Resident		No movements known
Black Francolin <i>Francolinus francolinus</i>	172	Resident		No movements known
Grey Francolin <i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>	22	Scarce resident		No movements known
Grey Partridge <i>Perdix perdix</i>	8	Scarce resident		No movements known
Common Quail <i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	161	SV & PM	Scarce WV in south	Rare in winter in north
Common Pheasant <i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	94	Locally common resident		No movements known
Greylag Goose <i>Anser anser</i>	267	WV & PM	SV at breeding sites	A few breed in northwest
Greater White-fronted Goose <i>Anser albifrons</i>	71	WV	PM at some sites	
Lesser White-fronted Goose <i>Anser erythropus</i>	119	WV	PM at some sites	Mainly PM in northwest
Mute Swan <i>Cygnus olor</i>	126	WV in variable numbers		Rare south of Alborz
Tundra Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	21	Scarce WV		South Caspian & Azarbaijan only
Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus Cygnus</i>	85	WV in variable numbers		Rare south of Alborz
Common Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	399	Resident, PM & WV		
Ruddy Shelduck <i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	556	Resident, PM & WV	SV at some sites	
Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i>	402	WV & PM	SV ?	A few probably breed in northwest
Eurasian Wigeon <i>Anas Penelope</i>	392	WV & PM		Few summering non-breeders in NW
Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	953	Resident, WV & PM		Summering NBs at many sites
Northern Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i>	489	WV & PM	SV in north-west	A few pairs bred in northwest
Northern Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>	511	WV & PM		Few non-breeders in summer in NW
Garganey <i>Anas querquedula</i>	352	PM	SV in north-west	Rare in winter
Eurasian Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>	908	WV & PM		May have bred in northwest
Marbled Duck <i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>	125	Resident, SV & WV	PM in south Caspian	SV in Azarbaijan
Red-crested Pochard <i>Netta rufina</i>	186	WV	SV ?	Irregular breeding bird in Fars
Common Pochard <i>Aythya ferina</i>	419	WV & PM	SV in north and west	
Ferruginous Duck <i>Aythya nyroca</i>	175	Resident, SV, PM & WV		
Tufted Duck <i>Aythya fuligula</i>	400	WV & PM	Scarce SV in northwest	A few non-breeders in summer
Greater Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i>	26	Scarce WV		South Caspian only
Common Goldeneye <i>Bucephala clangula</i>	181	WV		Rare south of Alborz
Smew <i>Mergellus albellus</i>	125	WV		Scarce south of Alborz



Species	Total	Primary status	Secondary status	Remarks
Common Merganser <i>Mergus merganser</i>	29	Scarce WV		
Red-breasted Merganser <i>Mergus serrator</i>	52	WV	PM	Rare on passage inland
White-headed Duck <i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>	82	Scarce SV, PM & WV	Resident in central Fars	
Black-throated Loon <i>Gavia arctica</i>	12	Scarce WV		South Caspian only
Persian Shearwater <i>Puffinus persicus</i>	20	SV		Movements poorly understood
Little Grebe <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	372	Resident	WV, mainly in north	Scarce WV in southeast
Red-necked Grebe <i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	20	Scarce WV		Has bred once in northwest
Great Crested Grebe <i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	427	Resident & WV	PM at some sites	
Horned Grebe <i>Podiceps auritus</i>	56	WV		Rare south of Alborz
Black-necked Grebe <i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	372	WV & PM	SV in north-west	Local and irregular breeding bird
Greater Flamingo <i>Phoenicopterus (ruber) roseus</i>	552	Resident, SV, PM & WV		Mostly a SV to Lake Urumiyeh
Black Stork <i>Ciconia nigra</i>	65	SV, PM & WV		Summering NBs in SE Caspian
White Stork <i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	408	SV, PM & WV	Resident	Year-round at some sites in south
African Sacred Ibis <i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	21	WV	May have bred	Scarce WV in Khuzestan
Glossy Ibis <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	182	SV, PM & WV		
Eurasian Spoonbill <i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	283	SV, PM & WV		Summering NBs at many sites
Eurasian Bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	54	Resident & WV	PM at some sites	Movements poorly understood
Little Bittern <i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	163	SV & PM		Rare in winter in south
Black-crowned Night Heron <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	239	SV & PM	WV in southwest	Rare in winter in north & central Iran
Squacco Heron <i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	383	SV & PM	WV in southwest	Rare in winter in south Caspian
Indian Pond Heron <i>Ardeola grayii</i>	33	Resident		No movements known
Western Cattle Egret <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	129	SV & PM	Resident in southwest	A few overwinter in north
Grey Heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1246	WV & PM	Resident	Breeds in north and northwest
Goliath Heron <i>Ardea goliath</i>	28	Rare resident		Hormozgan only
Purple Heron <i>Ardea purpurea</i>	301	SV & PM	WV in south	Small numbers overwinter
Great Egret <i>Ardea alba</i>	840	WV & PM	Resident in S Persian Gulf	A few summering NBs in north
Little Egret <i>Egretta garzetta</i>	794	SV and PM	WV, mainly in south	A few winter in north
Western Reef Heron <i>Egretta gularis</i>	178	Resident		Local movements only
Great White Pelican <i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	181	SV (northwest); WV (south)	PM at some sites	Scarce on passage in south Caspian
Dalmatian Pelican <i>Pelecanus crispus</i>	231	WV	Resident in Fars	Summering NBs at many sites
Pygmy Cormorant <i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>	149	WV	Resident ?	Probably bred in south Caspian
Great Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	635	Resident & WV	PM at some sites	
Socotra Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax nigrogularis</i>	9	Scarce and local resident		Probably only local movements

Migrant Birds of Iran in the 1970s- *D.A. Scott*

Species	Total	Primary status	Secondary status	Remarks
Western Osprey <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	232	WV, SV & PM	Resident in Persian Gulf	Scarce on passage inland
Bearded Vulture <i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	76	Scarce resident		No movements known
Egyptian Vulture <i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	324	SV & PM	WV in southeast	
European Honey Buzzard <i>Pernis apivorus</i>	27	Scarce SV & PM		
Griffon Vulture <i>Gyps fulvus</i>	269	Resident		Wanders widely in search of food
Cinereus Vulture <i>Aegypius monachus</i>	74	Resident & WV		Wanders widely in search of food
Short-toed Snake Eagle <i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	108	SV & PM		
Lesser Spotted Eagle <i>Clanga pomarina</i>	38	Scarce SV & PM		
Greater Spotted Eagle <i>Clanga clanga</i>	236	WV & PM		A few remain throughout the summer
Booted Eagle <i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	56	SV & PM	WV in southeast	A few overwinter in southeast
Tawny Eagle <i>Aquila rapax</i>	5	Rare resident		Movements, if any, unknown
Steppe Eagle <i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	73	PM	Scarce WV	
Eastern Imperial Eagle <i>Aquila heliaca</i>	210	WV & PM	SV ?	A few may breed in Caspian forests
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	288	Resident		Some dispersal of juveniles
Bonelli's Eagle <i>Aquila fasciatus</i>	23	Scarce resident		Movements, if any, unknown
Shikra <i>Accipiter badius</i>	54	SV, PM & WV		
Levant Sparrowhawk <i>Accipiter brevipes</i>	20	Scarce SV & PM		
Eurasian Sparrowhawk <i>Accipiter nisus</i>	314	Resident, WV & PM		
Northern Goshawk <i>Accipiter gentiles</i>	37	Scarce WV	SV ?	May breed in northwest
Western Marsh Harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	599	Resident, SV, PM & WV		
Hen Harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i>	204	WV & PM		
Pallid Harrier <i>Circus macrourus</i>	241	WV & PM		
Montagu's Harrier <i>Circus pygargus</i>	25	Scarce SV & PM		
Black Kite <i>Milvus migrans</i>	852	Resident, SV, PM & WV		
White-tailed Eagle <i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	440	WV & PM	Resident in S Caspian	
White-eyed Buzzard <i>Butastur teesa</i>	12	Scarce resident		Movements, if any, unknown
Rough-legged Buzzard <i>Buteo lagopus</i>	17	Scarce WV		Rare south of Alborz
Long-legged Buzzard <i>Buteo rufinus</i>	662	Resident & WV		
Common Buzzard <i>Buteo buteo</i>	282	Resident ( <i>men.</i> ), PM ( <i>vulp.</i> )	Scarce WV ( <i>vulpinus</i> )	<i>menetriesi</i> is resident in S Caspian
Lesser Kestrel <i>Falco naumanni</i>	146	SV & PM		
Common Kestrel <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1277	Resident & WV		
Merlin <i>Falco columbarius</i>	219	WV & PM		
Eurasian Hobby <i>Falco subbuteo</i>	315	SV & PM		
Saker Falcon <i>Falco cherrug</i>	138	WV & PM	Resident	Breeding range poorly known

Species	Total	Primary status	Secondary status	Remarks
Peregrine Falcon <i>Falco peregrines</i>	247	WV & PM		Some records in summer
Barbary Falcon <i>Falco pelegrinoides</i>	33	Scarce resident		Movements, if any, unknown
Great Bustard <i>Otis tarda</i>	158	SV in west, WV in northeast	PM at some sites	Rare in winter in northwest
Macqueen's Bustard <i>Chlamydotis macqueenii</i>	117	SV, WV & PM	Resident in some areas	
Little Bustard <i>Tetrax tetrax</i>	52	WV	SV in eastern Alborz	A few bred in southeast Caspian
Water Rail <i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	129	Resident & WV	PM at some sites	
Corn Crake <i>Crex crex</i>	28	Scarce PM		
Little Crake <i>Porzana parva</i>	19	Scarce PM	SV ?	May breed in northwest
Baillon's Crake <i>Porzana pusilla</i>	18	Scarce SV in south	Scarce PM in north	
Spotted Crake <i>Porzana porzana</i>	87	SV & PM		A few may winter in south Caspian
Purple Swampphen <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	27	Locally common resident		Some occasional wanderings
Common Moorhen <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	213	Resident & WV	SV in northwest	Some influx in winter
Eurasian Coot <i>Fulica atra</i>	626	Resident, WV & PM	SV in northwest	
Siberian Crane <i>Grus leucogeranus</i>	7	Rare and local WV		Mazandaran only
Common Crane <i>Grus grus</i>	166	WV & PM		Rare in summer in northwest
Eurasian Stone-curlew <i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>	99	SV & PM		
Great Stone-curlew <i>Esacus recurvirostris</i>	33	Scarce resident		No movements known
Eurasian Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	173	WV & PM	SV in northwest	Breeds in East & West Azarbaijan
Crab-plover <i>Dromas ardeola</i>	52	Resident		Local movements within Persian Gulf
Black-winged Stilt <i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	561	Resident, SV, PM & WV		
Pied Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	320	SV, PM & WV	Resident in southwest	
Northern Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	715	SV, WV & PM		Breeds widely in northwest
Red-wattled Lapwing <i>Vanellus indicus</i>	286	Resident		Local movements only
White-tailed Lapwing <i>Vanellus leucurus</i>	271	Resident, SV, PM & WV		Resident in southwest
European Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	51	Scarce WV		Rare south of Alborz
Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	304	WV & PM		Few summering NBs on south coast
Common Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	268	WV & PM		
Little Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius dubius</i>	482	SV & PM		Rare in winter in southwest
Kentish Plover <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	532	Resident, SV, PM & WV		
Lesser Sand Plover <i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	69	WV & PM		Rare away from south coast
Greater Sand Plover <i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	207	WV & PM	Scarce SV in NW & NE	
Caspian Plover <i>Charadrius asiaticus</i>	39	Scarce PM		

Migrant Birds of Iran in the 1970s- *D.A. Scott*

Species	Total	Primary status	Secondary status	Remarks
Eurasian Dotterel <i>Charadrius morinellus</i>	19	Scarce WV & PM		
Eurasian Woodcock <i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	97	WV & PM		
Jack Snipe <i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>	87	WV & PM		
Great Snipe <i>Gallinago media</i>	71	Scarce PM		Rare in winter
Common Snipe <i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	682	WV & PM		
Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i>	364	WV & PM		Few summering NBs in some areas
Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i>	138	WV & PM		Few summering NBs on south coast
Whimbrel <i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	198	PM	WV in south	Small numbers winter on south coast
Eurasian Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>	331	WV & PM		Few summering NBs in NW & south
Spotted Redshank <i>Tringa erythropus</i>	237	WV & PM		
Common Redshank <i>Tringa tetanus</i>	856	SV, WV & PM	Resident at a few sites	Breeds widely in west
Marsh Sandpiper <i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	246	WV & PM		Few summering NBs in northwest
Common Greenshank <i>Tringa nebularia</i>	485	WV & PM		Few summering NBs in northwest
Green Sandpiper <i>Tringa ochropus</i>	734	WV & PM		Few summering NBs in north
Wood Sandpiper <i>Tringa glareola</i>	438	WV & PM		Few summering NBs in NW & SW
Terek Sandpiper <i>Xenus cinereus</i>	170	WV & PM		Few summering NBs in Persian Gulf
Common Sandpiper <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	503	SV & PM	WV in south	Rare in winter in north
Ruddy Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i>	200	WV & PM		Few summering NBs on south coast
Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i>	250	WV & PM		
Little Stint <i>Calidris minuta</i>	452	WV & PM		
Temminck's Stint <i>Calidris temminckii</i>	169	WV & PM		
Curlew Sandpiper <i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	188	PM	Scarce WV in south	
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i>	456	WV & PM		
Broad-billed Sandpiper <i>Limicola falcinellus</i>	40	WV & PM		
Ruff <i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	331	PM	WV	Relatively small numbers in winter
Red-necked Phalarope <i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	202	PM	WV	Winters at sea off southeast coast
Cream-coloured Courser <i>Cursorius cursor</i>	85	SV & PM		
Collared Pratincole <i>Glareola pratincola</i>	181	SV & PM		
Slender-billed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>	474	Resident, SV, PM & WV		
Black-headed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	754	WV & PM	SV in northwest	
Little Gull <i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	152	WV in variable numbers		Scarce south of Caspian
Pallas's Gull <i>Ichthyaeetus ichthyaeetus</i>	254	WV & PM		
Sooty Gull <i>Ichthyaeetus hemprichii</i>	86	Non-breeding visitor		Mostly in April & May

Species	Total	Primary status	Secondary status	Remarks
Mew Gull <i>Larus canus</i>	157	WV in variable numbers	PM at some sites	
Caspian Gull <i>Larus cachinnans</i>	507	WV & PM		A few in summer in south Caspian
Armenian Gull <i>Larus armenicus</i>	107	SV	Resident	A few winter at Lake Urumiyeh
Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus fuscus</i>	98	PM	Scarce WV in south	Rare in north
- (Heuglin's Gull <i>Larus fuscus heuglini</i> )		WV & PM		Winters mainly on south coast
Gull-billed Tern <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	210	SV, PM & WV	Resident in southwest	
Caspian Tern <i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	175	SV, PM & WV	Resident in southwest	
Greater Crested Tern <i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	128	Resident		Probably mostly local movements
Lesser Crested Tern <i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>	135	Resident		Probably mostly local movements
Sandwich Tern <i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	217	WV & PM		A few overwinter in south Caspian
Little Tern <i>Sternula albifrons</i>	192	SV & PM		
Saunders's Tern <i>Sternula saundersi</i>	69	SV	Scarce WV in south	A few winter in southern Persian Gulf
Bridled Tern <i>Onychoprion anaethetus</i>	64	SV	PM in southeast	
Common Tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i>	237	SV & PM		Rare in winter in north and south
White-cheeked Tern <i>Sterna repressa</i>	64	SV		
Whiskered Tern <i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	299	SV, PM & WV		Rare in winter in north
White-winged Tern <i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	190	PM		Few summering NBs in northwest
Black Tern <i>Chlidonias niger</i>	33	Scarce PM		Few summering NBs in northwest
Pomarine Skua <i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	26	Scarce WV & PM		Rare in south Caspian
Parasitic Jaeger <i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	40	WV & PM		Scarce in south Caspian
Pin-tailed Sandgrouse <i>Pterocles alchata</i>	39	Resident & WV		WV to Turkoman Steppe
Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse <i>Pterocles exustus</i>	25	Resident		No movements known
Spotted Sandgrouse <i>Pterocles senegallus</i>	65	Resident		No movements known
Black-bellied Sandgrouse <i>Pterocles orientalis</i>	331	Resident		No movements known
Crowned Sandgrouse <i>Pterocles coronatus</i>	39	Resident		No movements known
Lichtenstein's Sandgrouse <i>Pterocles lichtensteinii</i>	12	Resident		No movements known
Rock Dove <i>Columba livia</i>	1,000+	Resident		No movements known
Stock Dove <i>Columba oenas</i>	129	Resident & WV	PM in some areas	
Common Wood Pigeon <i>Columba palumbus</i>	189	Resident, SV & WV	PM in some areas	SV in northwest
European Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	612	SV & PM		
Eurasian Collared Dove <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	192	Resident & SV	PM in some areas	Resident in Tehran and southern Iran

Migrant Birds of Iran in the 1970s- *D.A. Scott*

Species	Total	Primary status	Secondary status	Remarks
Laughing Dove <i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	420	Resident		No movements known
Alexandrine Parakeet <i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	7	Introduced resident		No movements known
Rose-ringed Parakeet <i>Psittacula krameri</i>	26	Introduced resident		No movements known
Common Cuckoo <i>Cuculus canorus</i>	228	SV & PM		
Western Barn Owl <i>Tyto alba</i>	3	Rare and local resident		Movements, if any, unknown
Pallid Scops Owl <i>Otus brucei</i>	9	Scarce resident		Movements, if any, unknown
Eurasian Scops Owl <i>Otus scops</i>	66	SV & PM		
Eurasian Eagle-Owl <i>Bubo bubo</i>	34	Resident		Local movements only
Tawny Owl <i>Strix aluco</i>	23	Resident		No movements known
Little Owl <i>Athene noctua</i>	323	Resident		No movements known
Spotted Owlet <i>Athene brama</i>	32	Resident		No movements known
Long-eared Owl <i>Asio otus</i>	10	Scarce WV	Possibly resident in NW	
Short-eared Owl <i>Asio flammeus</i>	39	Scarce WV		
European Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	95	SV & PM		
Egyptian Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus aegyptius</i>	18	Scarce SV & PM		Breeding range poorly known
Sykes's Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus mahrattensis</i>	3	Scarce and local resident		Movements, if any, unknown
Alpine Swift <i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	227	SV & PM		
Common Swift <i>Apus apus</i>	389	SV & PM		
Pallid Swift <i>Apus pallidus</i>	87	Resident		Local movements only
Little Swift <i>Apus affinis</i>	25	Scarce SV & PM		
Indian Roller <i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	199	Resident		No movements known
European Roller <i>Coracias garrulus</i>	837	SV & PM		
White-throated Kingfisher <i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	117	Resident		No movements known
Common Kingfisher <i>Alcedo atthis</i>	358	Resident, PM & WV	SV in northwest	
Pied Kingfisher <i>Ceryle rudis</i>	156	Resident	WV	Wide dispersal in winter
Green Bee-eater <i>Merops orientalis</i>	220	Resident		No movements known
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater <i>Merops persicus</i>	330	SV & PM		
European Bee-eater <i>Merops apiaster</i>	700	SV & PM		
Eurasian Hoopoe <i>Upupa epops</i>	603	SV & PM	WV in south	A few winter in extreme south
Eurasian Wryneck <i>Jynx torquilla</i>	53	Scarce PM		Rare in winter in south
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos minor</i>	10	Scarce resident		No movements known
Middle Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos medius</i>	18	Scarce resident		No movements known
Sind Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos assimilis</i>	43	Scarce resident		No movements known
Syrian Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>	353	Resident		No movements known
Great Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos major</i>	53	Resident		No movements known
Black Woodpecker <i>Dryocopus martius</i>	5	Scarce resident		No movements known
European Green Woodpecker <i>Picus viridis</i>	60	Resident		No movements known

Species	Total	Primary status	Secondary status	Remarks
Red-backed Shrike <i>Lanius collurio</i>	352	SV & PM		
Isabelline Shrike <i>Lanius isabellinus</i>	332	SV, PM & WV		
Red-tailed Shrike <i>Lanius phoenicuroides</i>		SV, PM & WV		
Bay-backed Shrike <i>Lanius vittatus</i>	43	Scarce SV	PM at some sites	
Lesser Grey Shrike <i>Lanius minor</i>	255	SV & PM		
Great Grey Shrike <i>Lanius excubitor</i>	383	Scarce WV		A few winter in southeast Caspian
Southern Grey Shrike <i>Lanius meridionalis</i>		Resident, PM & WV		Resident in south
Steppe Grey Shrike <i>Lanius pallidirostris</i>		SV, PM & WV		SV in northeast
Woodchat Shrike <i>Lanius senator</i>	101	SV & PM	Scarce WV in south	
Masked Shrike <i>Lanius nubicus</i>	41	Scarce SV & PM		
Eurasian Golden Oriole <i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	228	SV & PM		
Eurasian Jay <i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	120	Resident		No movements known
Eurasian Magpie <i>Pica pica</i>	1,000+	Resident		No movements known
Pleske's Ground Jay <i>Podoces pleskei</i>	27	Scarce resident		No movements known
Red-billed Chough <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	429	Resident		No movements known
Alpine Chough <i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>	49	Scarce resident		Local altitudinal movs. in winter
Western Jackdaw <i>Corvus monedula</i>	117	Resident & WV		
House Crow <i>Corvus splendens</i>	6	Local resident		Introduced
Rook <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	558	Resident & WV		
Hooded Crow <i>Corvus cornix</i>	1,000+	Resident		No movements known
Brown-necked Raven <i>Corvus ruficollis</i>	420	Resident		No movements known
Common Raven <i>Corvus corax</i>	499	Resident		No movements known
Grey Hypocolius <i>Hypocolius ampelinus</i>	32	Locally common SV	Scarce WV in south	
Sombre Tit <i>Poecile lugubris</i>	49	Resident		No movements known
Caspian Tit <i>Poecile hyrcanus</i>	11	Resident		No movements known
Coal Tit <i>Periparus ater</i>	61	Resident		Some local dispersal in winter
Great Tit <i>Parus major</i>	445	Resident		No movements known
Cinereus Tit <i>Parus cinereus</i>	23	Resident		No movements known
Eurasian Blue Tit <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	123	Resident		Some local dispersal in winter
Eurasian Penduline Tit <i>Remiz pendulinus</i>	74	SV, PM & WV		
Black-headed Penduline Tit <i>Remiz macronyx</i>		Resident		Movements, if any, unknown
Greater Hoopoe-Lark <i>Alaemon alaudipes</i>	186	Resident		Perhaps some local movements
Calandra Lark <i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>	257	SV, PM & WV	Resident in some areas	
Bimaculated Lark <i>Melanocorypha bimaculata</i>	97	SV & PM	WV in southeast	
White-winged Lark <i>Melanocorypha leucoptera</i>	18	WV		Irregular WV in south Caspian
Bar-tailed Lark <i>Ammomanes cinctura</i>	139	Resident	SV in some areas	Movements poorly understood
Desert Lark <i>Ammomanes deserti</i>	566	Resident		No movements known

Migrant Birds of Iran in the 1970s- *D.A. Scott*

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Greater Short-toed Lark <i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>	219	SV & PM		One winter record in southeast
Sand Lark <i>Calandrella raytal</i>	21	Scarce resident		No movements known
Lesser Short-toed Lark <i>Calandrella rufescens</i>	353	Resident, SV, PM & WV		
Asian Short-toed Lark <i>Calandrella cheleensis</i>		Uncertain		
Crested Lark <i>Galerida cristata</i>	1,000+	Resident		No movements known
Woodlark <i>Lullula arborea</i>	54	Scarce resident	SV & WV in some areas	Altitudinal movements in winter
Eurasian Skylark <i>Alauda arvensis</i>	306	SV, PM & WV		
Oriental Skylark <i>Alauda gulgula</i>	22	Scarce SV & PM		A few may winter in southeast
Black-crowned Sparrow-Lark <i>Eremopterix nigriceps</i>	19	Scarce SV	WV in south	A few winter in southern Persian Gulf
Horned Lark <i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	223	SV & WV	Resident in some areas	A few northern migrants in winter
White-eared Bulbul <i>Pycnonotus leucotis</i>	425	Resident		No movements known
Sand Martin <i>Riparia riparia</i>	347	SV & PM		Rare in winter
Barn Swallow <i>Hirundo rustica</i>	1,000+	SV & PM		Rare in winter
Eurasian Crag Martin <i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	174	SV	PM	Seldom observed on passage
Pale Crag Martin <i>Ptyonoprogne obsoleta</i>	233	Resident, SV & WV		SV to central deserts
Common House Martin <i>Delichon urbicum</i>	169	SV & PM		Rare in winter
Red-rumped Swallow <i>Cecropis daurica</i>	80	SV	Scarce PM in north	
Cetti's Warbler <i>Cettia cetti</i>	257	Resident, SV & WV		SV in northwest & Alborz
Scrub Warbler <i>Scotocerca inquieta</i>	148	Resident		No movements known
Long-tailed Tit <i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	84	Resident		No movements known
Willow Warbler <i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	169	PM		
Common Chiffchaff <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	517	SV, PM & WV		SV in breeding areas in Alborz
Mountain Chiffchaff <i>Phylloscopus sindianus</i>	2	Local SV		May overwinter in south
Plain Leaf Warbler <i>Phylloscopus neglectus</i>	86	SV & WV	PM	SV to high-altitude breeding areas
Hume's Leaf Warbler <i>Phylloscopus humei</i>	37	Scarce WV & PM		
Green Warbler <i>Phylloscopus nitidus</i>	125	SV & PM		Rare in winter
Great Reed Warbler <i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	153	SV & PM		
Clamorous Reed Warbler <i>Acrocephalus stentoreus</i>	106	SV	Resident	A few remain in winter in south
Moustached Warbler <i>Acrocephalus melanopogon</i>	160	Resident	SV, PM & WV	Mainly resident in breeding areas
Sedge Warbler <i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	47	Scarce PM	SV ?	Probably bred in northwest
Paddyfield Warbler <i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>	11	Scarce PM	SV in SE Caspian	
Blyth's Reed Warbler <i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>	19	Scarce PM		
Eurasian Reed Warbler <i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	125	SV & PM		



Species	Total	Primary status	Secondary status	Remarks
Marsh Warbler <i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>	6	Scarce SV, probably also PM		
Booted Warbler <i>Iduna caligata</i>	167	PM		
Sykes's Warbler <i>Iduna rama</i>		SV & PM		
Eastern Olivaceous Warbler <i>Iduna pallida</i>	215	SV & PM		
Upcher's Warbler <i>Hippolais languida</i>	120	SV & PM		
Icterine Warbler <i>Hippolais icterina</i>	17	Scarce SV & PM		
Common Grasshopper Warbler <i>Locustella naevia</i>	23	Scarce PM	SV ?	Probably bred in northwest
Savi's Warbler <i>Locustella luscinioides</i>	27	Scarce PM		
Zitting Cisticola <i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	8	Scarce and local resident		Confined to extreme southwest
Graceful Prinia <i>Prinia gracilis</i>	223	Resident		No movements known
Iraq Babbler <i>Turdoides altirostris</i>	6	Scarce and local resident		No movements known
Afghan Babbler <i>Turdoides huttoni</i>	281	Resident		No movements known
Eurasian Blackcap <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	186	SV & PM	WV	A few winter in north and south
Garden Warbler <i>Sylvia borin</i>	89	PM		
Barred Warbler <i>Sylvia nisoria</i>	47	PM	SV ?	May breed in northwest
Lesser Whitethroat <i>Sylvia curruca</i>	98	SV & PM		Rare in winter
Desert Whitethroat <i>Sylvia minula</i>	155	WV & PM		
Hume's Whitethroat <i>Sylvia althaea</i>	50	SV & PM		Rare in winter
Eastern Orphean Warbler <i>Sylvia crassirostris</i>	65	SV & PM	Scarce WV in southeast	
Asian Desert Warbler <i>Sylvia nana</i>	91	SV, PM & WV		
Common Whitethroat <i>Sylvia communis</i>	331	SV & PM		
Menetries's Warbler <i>Sylvia mystacea</i>	181	SV & PM	Scarce WV in south	
Goldcrest <i>Regulus regulus</i>	21	Scarce WV		Very scarce south of Alborz
Eurasian Wren <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	197	Resident & WV		
Eurasian Nuthatch <i>Sitta europaea</i>	64	Resident		No movements known
Western Rock Nuthatch <i>Sitta neumayer</i>	165	Resident		No movements known
Eastern Rock Nuthatch <i>Sitta tephronota</i>	307	Resident		No movements known
Wallcreeper <i>Tichodroma muraria</i>	26	Scarce resident	WV in lowlands	Altitudinal movements in winter
Eurasian Treecreeper <i>Certhia familiaris</i>	13	Scarce resident		No movements known
Common Myna <i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	22	Scarce resident		No movements known
Rosy Starling <i>Pastor roseus</i>	145	SV & PM		Local breeding bird in north
Common Starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	863	Resident & WV		
Ring Ouzel <i>Turdus torquatus</i>	41	SV & WV		SV to high-altitude breeding areas
Common Blackbird <i>Turdus merula</i>	282	Resident & WV		
Black-throated Thrush <i>Turdus atrogularis</i>	125	WV in variable numbers		
Fieldfare <i>Turdus pilaris</i>	98	WV		Rare in south
Redwing <i>Turdus iliacus</i>	88	WV		Scarce in south

Migrant Birds of Iran in the 1970s- *D.A. Scott*

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Song Thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	248	Resident, PM & WV		
Mistle Thrush <i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	56	Scarce resident & WV		
European Robin <i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	294	Resident & WV	PM in northwest	
Bluethroat <i>Luscinia svecica</i>	134	PM & WV		
Thrush Nightingale <i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	51	Scarce PM		
Common Nightingale <i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	234	SV & PM		
White-throated Robin <i>Irania gutturalis</i>	50	SV & PM		Seldom seen on passage
Rufous-tailed Scrub-Robin <i>Cercotrichas galactotes</i>	273	SV & PM		
Eversmann's Redstart <i>Phoenicurus erythronotus</i>	48	WV & PM		
Black Redstart <i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	297	SV, PM & WV		SV to high-altitude breeding areas
Common Redstart <i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	333	SV & PM		A few may winter in extreme south
Whinchat <i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	74	PM	SV in northwest	
Siberian Stonechat <i>Saxicola maurus</i>	282	SV, PM & WV	Resident in some areas	
Pied Bush Chat <i>Saxicola caprata</i>	47	Scarce SV		
Isabelline Wheatear <i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	756	SV & PM	WV in south	
Northern Wheatear <i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	337	SV & PM		
Kurdish Wheatear <i>Oenanthe xanthopyrna</i>	4	Scarce and local SV		
Red-tailed Wheatear <i>Oenanthe chrysopygia</i>	279	SV, PM & WV		SV to high-altitude breeding areas
Pied Wheatear <i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>	199	SV & PM		
Black-eared Wheatear <i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	296	SV & PM		
Desert Wheatear <i>Oenanthe deserti</i>	301	SV, PM & WV		
Mourning Wheatear <i>Oenanthe lugens</i>	69	SV & PM		
Finsch's Wheatear <i>Oenanthe finschii</i>	201	SV, PM & WV		
Variable Wheatear <i>Oenanthe picata</i>	220	SV, PM & WV		
Hume's Wheatear <i>Oenanthe albonigra</i>	287	Resident		No movements known
Hooded Wheatear <i>Oenanthe monacha</i>	50	Scarce resident		No movements known
Common Rock Thrush <i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	142	SV & PM		A few may winter in extreme south
Blue Rock Thrush <i>Monticola solitarius</i>	111	SV, PM & WV	Resident in central Fars	
Spotted Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa striata</i>	474	SV & PM		
Semi-collared Flycatcher <i>Ficedula semitorquata</i>	98	SV & PM		
Red-breasted Flycatcher <i>Ficedula parva</i>	261	SV & PM		
White-throated Dipper <i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	94	Resident		Local altitudinal movs. in winter
Purple Sunbird <i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>	157	Resident		No movements known

Species	Total	Primary status	Secondary status	Remarks
House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	1,000+	Resident		No movements known
Spanish Sparrow <i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	176	Resident, PM & WV		
Sind Sparrow <i>Passer pyrrhonotus</i>	4	Rare and local resident		Confined to extreme southeast
Dead Sea Sparrow <i>Passer moabiticus</i>	17	Local resident		No movements known
Eurasian Tree Sparrow <i>Passer montanus</i>	546	Resident		No movements known
Pale Rockfinch <i>Carpodacus brachydactyla</i>	148	SV & PM		
Rock Sparrow <i>Petronia petronia</i>	211	Resident	WV in lowlands	Altitudinal movements in winter
Yellow-throated Sparrow <i>Gymnoris xanthocollis</i>	113	SV & PM		Rare in winter
White-winged Snowfinch <i>Montifringilla nivalis</i>	46	Resident		Local altitudinal movements in winter
Indian Silverbill <i>Euodice malabarica</i>	7	Scarce resident		
Alpine Accentor <i>Prunella collaris</i>	19	Scarce resident		Local altitudinal movs in winter
Radde's Accentor <i>Prunella ocularis</i>	55	SV, PM & WV		SV to high-altitude breeding areas
Dunnock <i>Prunella modularis</i>	88	Resident & WV		
Western Yellow Wagtail <i>Motacilla flava</i>	468	SV & PM		Rare in winter
Citrine Wagtail <i>Motacilla citreola</i>	140	PM & WV	Scarce SV in east	
Grey Wagtail <i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	275	SV, PM & WV	Resident in some areas	
White Wagtail <i>Motacilla alba</i>	1,000+	Resident, PM & WV	SV in northwest	
Tawny Pipit <i>Anthus campestris</i>	213	SV & PM	WV in south	
Long-billed Pipit <i>Anthus similis</i>	26	Scarce resident & SV	PM in some areas	Perhaps mainly a SV
Meadow Pipit <i>Anthus pratensis</i>	197	WV & PM		
Tree Pipit <i>Anthus trivialis</i>	206	SV & PM	Scarce WV in south	
Red-throated Pipit <i>Anthus cervinus</i>	84	PM	Scarce WV in N & S	
Water Pipit <i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	378	SV, PM & WV		SV to high-altitude breeding areas
Common Chaffinch <i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	447	Resident, WV & PM		
Brambling <i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	136	WV		
Red-fronted Serin <i>Serinus pusillus</i>	124	Resident	WV in lowlands	Altitudinal movements in winter
European Greenfinch <i>Chloris chloris</i>	131	Resident & WV		
Eurasian Siskin <i>Carduelis spinus</i>	68	WV	Scarce SV	Scarce breeder in Caspian forest
European Goldfinch <i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	467	Resident & WV		
Twite <i>Carduelis flavirostris</i>	29	Resident	WV in lowlands	Altitudinal movements in winter
Common Linnet <i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	330	SV & WV	Resident in some areas	
Eur. Crimson-winged Finch <i>Rhodopechys sanguinea</i>	80	SV & WV		Altitudinal movements in winter
Trumpeter Finch <i>Bucanetes githagineus</i>	126	Resident	WV in some areas	Wide dispersal in winter

Migrant Birds of Iran in the 1970s- *D.A. Scott*

Species	Total	Primary status	Secondary status	Remarks
Mongolian Finch <i>Eremopsaltria mongolica</i>	29	Scarce SV & WV		Movements poorly known
Desert Finch <i>Rhodospiza obsoleta</i>	104	Resident	SV & WV	Most populations sedentary
Common Rosefinch <i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	166	SV & PM		
Hawfinch <i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	50	Resident & WV	PM at some sites	
White-winged Grosbeak <i>Mycerobas carnipes</i>	6	Scarce resident		Movements, if any, unknown
Corn Bunting <i>Emberiza calandra</i>	395	Resident, SV & WV		
Yellowhammer <i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	123	WV		
Pine Bunting <i>Emberiza leucocephalos</i>	48	Scarce WV		Rare south of Alborz
Rock Bunting <i>Emberiza cia</i>	181	Resident	WV in lowlands	Altitudinal movements in winter
Grey-necked Bunting <i>Emberiza buchanani</i>	106	SV & PM		
Cinereous Bunting <i>Emberiza cineracea</i>	5	Scarce SV	Scarce PM in northwest	
Ortolan Bunting <i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	86	SV & PM		
Striolated Bunting <i>Emberiza striolata</i>	31	Scarce resident		No movements known
Black-headed Bunting <i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>	416	SV & PM		
Red-headed Bunting <i>Emberiza bruniceps</i>	120	SV & PM		
Common Reed Bunting <i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	241	WV & PM	SV in north & Fars	Local & perhaps irregular breeder
420 species, plus <i>Larus fuscus heuglini</i>				

**Notes:** Not all records of Rock Dove, Crested Lark, Barn Swallow, White Wagtail, House Sparrow, Eurasian Magpie and Hooded Crow have been entered onto data sheets and the total numbers of records are not available for these species, although in each case the number of records exceeds 1,000. The numbers of records of the other species are only approximate as some 'records' relate to multiple observations of the same individuals at a particular locality over a period of time, and some records (birds seen by two observers) have been entered twice. A few of L. Cornwallis's records (mostly of waterbirds) from central Fars in 1965 and 1966 have been included. Details of all records of the rarities recorded in the late 1960s and 1970s and not included in this table are given in Scott (2008). See *Podoces* 3(1/2): 1–30.

**Table 2. Status of the regularly occurring migratory species in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s**

Status in Iran	Total
*Resident and passage migrant (Common Buzzard <i>Buteo buteo</i> )	1
*Resident and summer visitor	4
*Resident and winter visitor	30
*Resident, passage migrant and winter visitor	16
*Resident, summer visitor and passage migrant (Cattle Egret <i>Bubulcus ibis</i> )	1
*Resident, summer visitor and winter visitor	9
*Resident, summer visitor, passage migrant and winter visitor	20
*Summer visitor	11
*Summer visitor and passage migrant	78
*Summer visitor and winter visitor	5
*Summer visitor, passage migrant and winter visitor	44
Winter visitor	30
Winter visitor and passage migrant	48
Passage migrant	24
Non-breeding visitor summer (Sooty Gull <i>Ichthyophaga hemprichii</i> )	1
*Uncertain (Asian Short-toed Lark <i>Calandrella cheleensis</i> )	1
Total	323
* breeding species	

**Table 3.** Arrival and departure dates of scarce summer visitors in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s.

Species	No.	Earliest arrival	Latest departure	Remarks
European Honey Buzzard <i>Pernis apivorus</i>	27	14 April	16 September	Seldom recorded on passage
Lesser Spotted Eagle <i>Clanga pomarina</i>	38	5 April	16 September	1 on 18 October 1978 (Azarbaijan)
Booted Eagle <i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	56	27 March	16 October	A few overwinter in southeast
Shikra <i>Accipiter badius</i>	54	23 April (Khorasan)	24 September (Khor)	In northern Iran
Levant Sparrowhawk <i>Accipiter brevipes</i>	20	14 April	17 October	
Montagu's Harrier <i>Circus pygargus</i>	25	4 April	8 September	
Eurasian Stone-curlew <i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i>	99	20 February 4 April	6 December 27 September	In south In north
Cream-coloured Courser <i>Cursorius cursor</i>	85	20 January 21 March	15 November 18 October	On south coast In breeding areas
Eurasian Scops Owl <i>Otus scops</i>	66	23 March	20 September	
European Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	95	21 April	24 October	
Egyptian Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus aegyptius</i>	18	19 April	25 October	
Little Swift <i>Apus affinis</i>	25	21 March	20 September	
Bay-backed Shrike <i>Lanius vittatus</i>	43	21 February 2 April	19 November 3 November	On southeast coast In breeding areas
Woodchat Shrike <i>Lanius senator</i>	101	5 April (Zagros)	12 September (Tehr.)	A few overwinter on south coast
Masked Shrike <i>Lanius nubicus</i>	41	7 April	10 August	
Grey Hypocolius <i>Hypocolius ampelinus</i>	32	8 March	15 November	A few overwinter in south-west
Bimaculated Lark <i>Melanocorypha bimaculata</i>	97	2 April (Fars & Esfah)	31 October (Semnan)	A few overwinter in Golestan and southeast
Oriental Skylark <i>Alauda gulgula</i>	22	5 March (Baluch)	15 November (Khor)	Exceptionally 16 January (Baluchestan)
Red-rumped Swallow <i>Cecropis daurica</i>	80	21 February (Bush)	19 November (Bal)	Last in north: 3 November (Mazandaran)
Plain Leaf Warbler <i>Phylloscopus neglectus</i>	86	2 <sup>nd</sup> week of April	2 <sup>nd</sup> week of October	In breeding areas
Upcher's Warbler <i>Hippolais languida</i>	120	1 April (Baluchestan)	25 September (Tehr)	
Icterine Warbler <i>Hippolais icterina</i>	17	16 April (Tehran)	27 August (Gilan)	
Hume's Whitethroat <i>Sylvia althaea</i>	50	29 April (Fars)	Unknown	In breeding areas
Eastern Orphean Warbler <i>Sylvia crassirostris</i>	65	10 April (Fars)	9 October (Tehran)	A few overwinter in southeast
Asian Desert Warbler <i>Sylvia nana</i>	91	Mid-April	September	In breeding areas
White-throated Robin <i>Irania gutturalis</i>	50	9 April	26 August	Very scarce on passage
Pied Bush Chat <i>Saxicola caprata</i>	47	4 March	14 October	Earliest north of Baluchestan on 27 April
Mourning Wheatear <i>Oenanthe lugens</i>	69	22 March	30 October	In breeding areas
Blue Rock Thrush <i>Monticola solitarius</i>	111	22 March	14 November	In northern Iran
Yellow-throated Sparrow <i>Gymnoris xanthocollis</i>	113	2 April (Baluchestan)	10 August (Fars)	
Grey-necked Bunting <i>Emberiza buchanani</i>	106	2 April (Baluchestan) Last week of April	7 October (Fars) Mid-September	In south In breeding areas in north
Ortolan Bunting <i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	86	7 April (Hormozgan)	30 October (Khor)	
Red-headed Bunting <i>Emberiza bruniceps</i>	120	24 April (Khorasan)	5 August (Khorasan)	

**Table 4.** Arrival and departure dates of scarce winter visitors in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s.

Species	No.	Earliest arrival date	Latest departure date	Remarks
Greater White-fronted Goose <i>Anser albifrons</i>	71	16 October	25 March	
Lesser White-fronted Goose <i>Anser erythropus</i>	119	20 October (Mazandaran)	19 April (Mazandaran)	Most leave by middle of March
Tundra Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	21	30 December	24 March	
Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	85	12 December	30 April	
Greater Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i>	26	29 October	1 March	
Common Merganser <i>Mergus merganser</i>	20	27 November	2 March	
Red-breasted Merganser <i>Mergus serrator</i>	52	2 November	5 May	
White-headed Duck <i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>	82	1 <sup>st</sup> week Nov	17 April	South Caspian region
Red-necked Grebe <i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	20	7 October	16 April	Has bred in Azarbaijan
Horned Grebe <i>Podiceps auritus</i>	56	24 September	26 March	
Steppe Eagle <i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	73	30 August	6 June	
Northern Goshawk <i>Accipiter gentiles</i>	37	22 August	3 <sup>rd</sup> week April	Mostly from 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of October
Rough-legged Buzzard <i>Buteo lagopus</i>	17	22 October	2 February	
Little Bustard <i>Tetrax tetrax</i>	52	Late October	End of March	1 on 16 April 1967 (Esfahan)
European Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	51	10 August	25 March	Main arrival in late Oct/early Nov
Lesser Sand Plover <i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	69	Unknown	Late May/early June	Common by 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of October
Eurasian Dotterel <i>Charadrius morinellus</i>	19	27 October	25 March	
Jack Snipe <i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>	87	8 September	9 May	
Short-eared Owl <i>Asio flammeus</i>	39	28 September (Gilan)	16 April (Gilan)	
Eurasian Penduline Tit <i>Remiz pendulinus</i>	74	24 October	11 April	Away from breeding areas
Hume's Leaf Warbler <i>Phylloscopus humei</i>	37	3 <sup>rd</sup> week of September	3 <sup>rd</sup> week of April	
Goldcrest <i>Regulus regulus</i>	21	28 October (Fars)	22 March (Tehran)	
Wallcreeper <i>Tichodroma muraria</i>	26	2 December (Azarbaijan)	15 March (Tehran)	Away from breeding areas
Ring Ouzel <i>Turdus torquatus</i>	41	31 October	31 March	Away from breeding areas
Fieldfare <i>Turdus pilaris</i>	98	28 October	28 March	
Redwing <i>Turdus iliacus</i>	88	31 October	17 April	Most depart by end of March
Mistle Thrush <i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	56	2 <sup>nd</sup> week of October	30 March (Tehran)	Away from breeding areas
Eversmann's Redstart <i>Phoenicurus erythronota</i>	48	26 September (Tehran)	15 March (Tehran)	
Eurasian Siskin <i>Carduelis spinus</i>	68	3 <sup>rd</sup> week of October	Last week of April	Away from breeding areas
Hawfinch <i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	50	28 October (Mazandaran)	10 April (Fars)	Away from breeding areas
Pine Bunting <i>Emberiza leucocephalos</i>	48	28 October	30 March	

Migrant Birds of Iran in the 1970s- *D.A. Scott*

**Table 5.** Extreme dates for scarce passage migrants in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s.

Species	No.	Earliest in spring	Latest in spring	Earliest in autumn	Latest in autumn	Remarks
Corn Crane <i>Crex crex</i>	28	5 April (Tehran)	16 May (Tehran)	9 August (Tehran)	24 October (Tehran)	
Little Crane <i>Porzana parva</i>	19			Last week of July	3 <sup>rd</sup> week Nov	Rare in spring
Spotted Crane <i>Porzana porzana</i>	87	22 February (Teh)	27 May (Tehran)	24 July (Tehran)	29 November (Teh)	
Caspian Plover <i>Charadrius asiaticus</i>	39	23 February in S 22 March in N	16 May	13 July	12 November in S 27 September N	
Great Snipe <i>Gallinago media</i>	71	29 March	20 May	14 August	20 November	
Broad-billed Sandpiper <i>Limicola falcinellus</i>	40	3 May	3 June	25 July	15 September	Winters in S
Black Tern <i>Chlidonias niger</i>	33	19 April			29 September	
Eurasian Wryneck <i>Jynx torquilla</i>	53	22 March	29 April	23 August	30 October	A few in winter
Sedge Warbler <i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	47	15 April	2 June	19 August	9 September	Few in autumn
Blyth's Reed Warbler <i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>	19	8 March	31 May	1 September	5 September	Few in autumn
Common Grasshopper Warbler <i>Locustella naevia</i>	23	7 April	3 June	24 July	19 August	
Savi's Warbler <i>Locustella luscinioides</i>	27	1 March	31 May	23 July	6 December	
Garden Warbler <i>Sylvia borin</i>	89	25 April	3 June	22 August	24 October	
Barred Warbler <i>Sylvia nisoria</i>	47	9 April	29 May	10 August	12 October	
Lesser Whitethroat <i>Sylvia curruca</i>	98	16 March			28 October	Breeds in NW
Thrush Nightingale <i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	51	14 April	17 May	15 August	6 October	
Whinchat <i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	74	5 April	24 May	30 August	1 November	Breeds in N
Red-throated Pipit <i>Anthus cervinus</i>	84	Late April	Mid-May	3 <sup>rd</sup> week August	Mid-November	A few in winter



**Table 6.** Arrival and departure dates of wintering Anatidae in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s.

Species	No.	Earliest	Latest	Main arrival	Main departure
Greylag Goose <i>Anser anser</i>	267	17 October	9 May	November	By the end of March
Greater White-fronted Goose <i>Anser albifrons</i>	71	16 October	25 March	Second half of November	March
Lesser White-fronted Goose <i>Anser erythropus</i>	119	20 October	19 April	Second half of October	By the middle of March
Mute Swan <i>Cygnus olor</i>	126	18 November	13 May	End of December or January	By the end of March
Tundra Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	21	30 December	24 March	-	-
Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	85	12 December	30 April	End of December or January	By the end of March
Common Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (Caspian only)	399	26 July	5 May	Second half of September	April
Ruddy Shelduck <i>Tadorna ferruginea</i> (Caspian only)	556	12 August	17 May	Second half of October	April
Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i>	402	14 October	27 May	Second half of November	By the end of March
Eurasian Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i>	392	31 August	19 May	Second half of October	By the end of March
Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	953	19 August	16 May	September & October	By 3 <sup>rd</sup> week of April
Northern Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i>	489	8 August	24 May	Last week of August	By the middle of May
Northern Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>	511	10 July	13 May	Last week August & September	By 3 <sup>rd</sup> week of April
Eurasian Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>	908	1 August	16 May	Second half of August & second half of October (wintering)	By the end of March
Red-crested Pochard <i>Netta rufina</i>	186	9 November	19 April	Second half of November	By the end of March
Common Pochard <i>Aythya ferina</i>	419	14 October	8 May	Late October & November	By the beginning of April
Ferruginous Duck <i>Aythya nyroca</i>	175	26 July	22 May	Late August and September	March
Tufted Duck <i>Aythya fuligula</i>	400	20 October	16 May	November & December	By the end of March
Greater Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i>	26	29 October	1 March	-	-
Common Goldeneye <i>Bucephala clangula</i>	181	23 October	5 May	Second half of November	By the end of March
Smew <i>Mergellus albellus</i>	125	5 November	25 March	End of November or December	Early March
Common Merganser <i>Mergus merganser</i>	29	27 November	2 March	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser <i>Mergus serrator</i>	52	2 November	5 May	November	By the end of March
White-headed Duck <i>Oxyura leucocephala</i> (Caspian)	82	2 November	17 April	End of November or December	By the end of March

**Table 7.** Estimated wintering populations of migratory waterbirds in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s. Estimates in brackets are provisional. An asterisk denotes that the wintering population was highly variable, depending on the severity of the winter in the north Caspian and/or in Iran.

Species	Scientific name	Estimated total	1971/72
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	15,000–32,000	
Greater White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>	2,500–5,000	
Lesser White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser erythropus</i>	4,000–7,500	
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	100–550*	9,000 in 71/72
Tundra Swan	<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	20–100*	
Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	25–900*	
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	15,000–25,000	
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	7,000–11,000	
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	30,000–80,000	
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>	100,000–150,000	
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	250,000–700,000*	
Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	25,000–120,000	
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	230,000–600,000	
Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	0–50	
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	800,000–1,350,000	
Marbled Duck	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>	9,000–30,000	
Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	500–1,000*	20,000 in 71/72
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	55,000–85,000	
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	200–1,000	
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	20,000–65,000*	
Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>	0–50	
Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	400–2,500*	
Smew	<i>Mergellus albellus</i>	100–250*	3,000 in 71/72
Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	50–100	
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	50–500*	
White-headed Duck	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>	25–100*	700 in 71/72
Black-throated Loon	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	0–10	
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	1,250–1,500	
Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	10–20	
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	5,000–7,000	
Horned Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	50–200*	
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	3,500–4,500	
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	35,000–70,000	
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	50+	
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	750–2,050	
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	50–100	
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	100–200	
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	700–1,200	
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	300–500	
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	10–20	
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	50–100	
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	2,750–3,600	
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	50–100	
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	4,500–6,500	
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	600–1,400	
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	500–2,300	
Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>	1,000–1,250	
Pygmy Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>	800–1,100	
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	25,000–30,000	
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	300,000–500,000	
Siberian Crane	<i>Grus leucogeranus</i>	7–14	
Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>	2,000–3,200	
Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	9,000–12,000	
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	2,500–3,000	
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	1,500–2,500	
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	25,000–35,000	
White-tailed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>	1,200–1,600	

Species	Scientific name	Estimated total	1971/72
European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	500–1,000	
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	1,000–2,000	
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	(2,500–5,000)	
Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	(5,000–10,000)	
Lesser Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	(2,500–5,000)	
Greater Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	(5,000–10,000)	
Eurasian Dotterel	<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>	(500–1,000)	
Eurasian Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	>5,000	
Jack Snipe	<i>Limnocyttus minimus</i>	>1,000	
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	>10,000	
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	10,000–15,000	
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	25,000–35,000	
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	100–250	
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	15,000–25,000	
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	250–500	
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	15,000–25,000	
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	(500–1,000)	
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	350–750	
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	750–1,500	
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	20–50	
Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	(2,000–3,000)	
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	(50–150)	
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	(500–1,500)	
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	(10,000–15,000)	
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	(500–1,500)	
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	100–250	
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	10–50	
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	50,000–90,000	
Broad-billed Sandpiper	<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>	(500–1,000)	
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	100–250	
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>	35,000–55,000	
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	35,000–60,000	
Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	100–3,000*	
Pallas's Gull	<i>Ichthyaeus ichthyaeus</i>	800–4,000*	
Sooty Gull	<i>Ichthyaeus hemprichii</i>	100–150	
Mew Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	300–3,000*	
Caspian / Armenian / Heuglin's Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans / armenicus / fuscus heuglini</i>	20,000–35,000	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus fuscus</i>	20–40	
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	1,000–3,000	
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	750–1,500	
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	many thousands	
Saunders's Tern	<i>Sternula saundersi</i>	small numbers	
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	<50	
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	100–400	

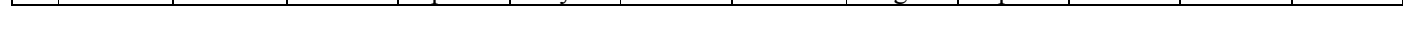
### 3. SYSTEMATIC LIST OF MIGRANTS

The number in brackets following the scientific name is the number of records available for the period 1967 to 1978.

### Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix* (161)

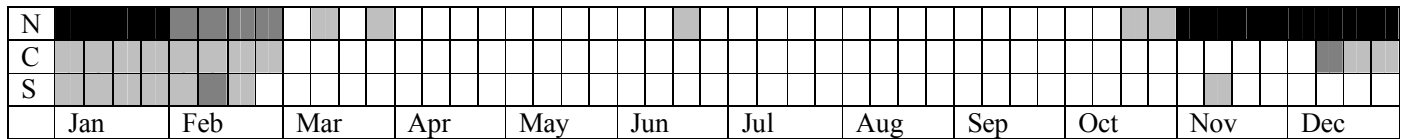
A common summer visitor to the north and west, occurring south through the Zagros to central Fars, and also locally in the Kerman highlands and northern Baluchestan. A few birds remained throughout the winter on Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, and on the Turkoman Steppes, Golestan, and there was one mid-winter record in Gilan, a bird at Selke Wildlife Refuge on 20 January 1972. Small numbers of birds also wintered in Khuzestan (four January records) and central Fars (one December record and three January records). Spring migrants began to arrive in southern Iran in the second week of April (earliest records: two birds near Shushtar, Khuzestan, on 7 April 1978, and a calling bird near Shiraz, Fars, on 8 April 1968), and in northern Iran a week later (earliest records: two birds at Galugah, Gilan, on 16 April 1970, and a calling bird in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 17 April 1973). Most birds had departed by the middle of September, and the only later records in the north were of a bird in the coastal dunes near Lapoo-Zargmarz Ab-bandans, Mazandaran, on 18 September 1971, two birds near Sarakhs, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 21 September 1974, a bird at Aju in the central Alborz, Mazandaran, on 21 September 1976, and a bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 10 October 1974. The only other records of Common Quail at Lashgarak were of single birds on 30 August 1973 and 13 September 1973. A bird in a garden at Tis, near Chahbahar, Baluchestan, on 17 October 1975, and a bird near Garmabit, Gandu Protected Area, Baluchestan, on 22 October 1975 were probably late migrants rather than wintering birds.

[illegible]



## Greater White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons* (71)

A locally common winter visitor to East and West Azarbaijan and the south Caspian region, south in smaller numbers to Khuzestan and central Fars, and occasionally reaching the northern Persian Gulf coast in Bushehr. The first birds to arrive in autumn appeared in the third week of October (earliest record: nine birds at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 16 October 1973), and all had departed by the end of March (latest record: 26 birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 25 March 1972). In the early 1970s, the wintering population in Iran was estimated at between 2,500 and 5,000 birds. A count of 3,500 on the plains south of Shushtar, Khuzestan, on 11 November 1973 was exceptional, and presumably involved birds on their way to wintering areas in Mesopotamia. A single bird on the north shore of Lake Urmieh, East Azarbaijan, on 17 June 1972 was presumably an injured bird.





**Mute Swan** *Cygnus olor* (126)

A fairly common winter visitor to the south Caspian region, the numbers fluctuating widely from year to year depending on the severity of the winter. The earliest arrivals in autumn were in the third week of November (eight birds at Now Farahabad, Mazandaran, on 18 November 1971), but in most years the main arrival came with the onset of severe weather in December or January. Most of the birds had left the south Caspian region by the end of March, but in some years a few birds lingered on until the second week of May (latest record: 41 birds at Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 13 May 1977). In most winters, only a few hundred birds appeared in the south Caspian, but in the extremely severe winter of 1971/72, an estimated 8,500–9,000 were present in January and February. The only record south of the Alborz was of a bird shot in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 22 February 1973.

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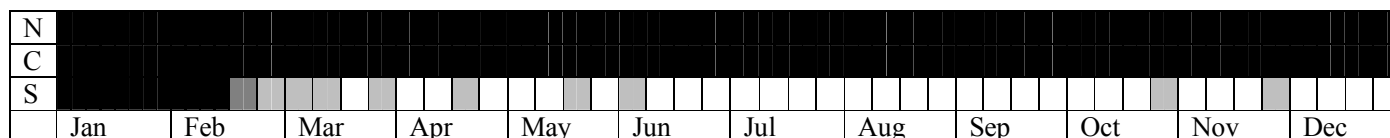
## Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus* (85)

A fairly common winter visitor to the south Caspian region, the numbers fluctuating widely from year to year depending on the severity of the winter. The earliest arrivals in autumn appeared with the onset of severe weather in December (earliest records: seven birds at Gharpuzabad Marshes, Alborz, on 12 December 1968, and five birds at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 12 December 1969). Most birds had departed by the end of March, but in some years a few birds lingered on until the end of April (latest record: three birds at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 30 April 1969). In most years there were fewer than 100 birds wintering in the south Caspian, but in the extremely severe winter of 1971/72, an estimated 700–900 were present, and over 260 were counted in the following winter. There were three records of birds south of the Alborz: three birds at Lapuyee Marshes, Fars, on 22 February 1965; seven birds at Gharpuzabad Marshes on 12 December 1968; and four birds at Kamjan Marshes, Fars, on 8 February 1969.

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**Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* (399)**

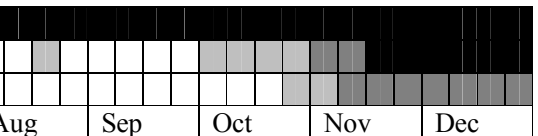
An abundant breeding bird at Lake Urumiyeh in East and West Azarbaijan (4,000–5,000 pairs), and a fairly common breeding bird at saline lakes in central Fars (110–260 pairs). A few pairs may have bred in the Seistan basin in some years, as there were three records in spring and summer: two birds near Shileh on 17 May 1967; two in the Hamoun-e Puzak marshes on 20 April 1972, and four birds on the western shore of Hamoun-e Sabari on 5 June 1973. A common winter visitor to the southeast Caspian region (particularly Gorgan Bay and Gomishan Lagoons), Khuzestan, the northern Persian Gulf coast in Bushehr, the wetlands of central Fars and the Seistan basin. Also recorded in small numbers in winter at wetlands in Gilan (maximum: 69 at the mouth of the Sefid Rud on 24 February 1972), and at Gavkhouneh Lake, Esfahan (maximum: 30 on 5 January 1973), and seen twice at Gharpuzabad Marshes, Alborz (four birds on 25 December 1970, and one on 12 January 1972). Huge numbers of birds congregated on Lake Urumiyeh in late summer to undertake their moult; over 34,700 adults and 3,900 chicks were counted during an aerial survey of the lake on 29–31 August 1973, while over 18,600 birds were recorded during an aerial survey on 6–7 July 1975. Large numbers of birds remained at Lake Urumiyeh throughout the winter, especially in mild years, e.g. 3,360 were counted during a ground survey in January 1971. In the south Caspian region, the earliest record in autumn was of a juvenile at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 26 July 1973, but the main arrival did not occur until the second half of September; a flock of 40 flying south at Astara, Gilan, on 25 September 1975 was noteworthy. The latest record in spring was of a flock of 120 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 5 May 1971. All records in Khuzestan and Bushehr were between 25 November (22 on the Karun River near Ahwaz in 1968) and 9 March (20 in Shadegan Marshes in 1972). The only records of Common Shelduck at Latian Dam, Tehran, were of one bird on 3 and 5 September 1974, eight on 17 October 1974, and two from 18 and 24 October 1974, with one of these remaining until 13 February 1975. Others records in northern-central Iran included four birds at Deh Namak, Semnan, on 15 March 1972, two on the Rud-e Shur near Ahmadabad in Touran Protected Area, Semnan, on 23 April 1975, and a juvenile at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 25 July 1975. There were only three records of birds in winter on the southeast coast: three birds in Chahbahar Bay, Baluchestan, on 9 January 1973; a flock of nine birds at Bandar-e Tang, Baluchestan, on 21 January 1975; and two birds in the delta of the Rud-e Shur and Rud-e Shirin east of Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, also on 21 January 1975.



**Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea* (556)**

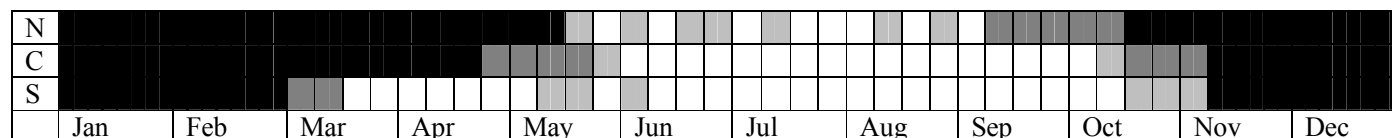
A very common breeding bird at the wetlands of East and West Azarbaijan and central Fars, breeding in much smaller numbers at a number of other wetlands south to the Seistan basin and northern Persian Gulf coast in Bushehr. Mainly a summer visitor to breeding areas in the northwest. In the Urumiyeh basin, where there was a breeding population of 450–750 pairs, high counts in late summer and autumn included 2,760 on 21–23 November 1972, and 1,630 in late August 1973, while mid-winter counts ranged from as few as 50 to about 3,000, depending on the severity of the winter. In central Fars, the breeding population of about 200–250 pairs was joined in autumn by large numbers of winter visitors; high mid-winter counts included 4,230 in January 1973, 4,830 in January 1974, and 4,080 in January 1975. Also a common winter visitor to Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, the Turkoman Steppe, Golestan, the plains of north-central Khorasan-e Razavi, the lower Zaindeh Rud and Gavkhouneh Lake, Esfahan, the wetlands of Khuzestan and the Seistan basin. At Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, where up to about 300 occurred in mid-winter, the earliest record in autumn was of a flock of 18 flying west on 12 August 1972, but the main arrival did not occur until the second half of October; the latest record in spring was of two birds on 10 May 1973. All records in Khuzestan were between 10 November and 19 February, except for four birds in Shadegan Marshes on 13 May 1972. At Latian Dam, Tehran, the Ruddy Shelduck was an uncommon passage migrant in spring (28 February to 17 May) and autumn (9 September to 24 October), with no more than two being recorded in a day. Occasionally recorded in very small numbers on passage at wetlands elsewhere in north and central Iran, but not known from Hormozgan or Baluchestan.

lands in East and West Azarbaijan, spread winter visitor, occurring in Turkmenistan, and occasionally reaching Iran. In the early 1970s was estimated at 30,000–40,000. At Ab-bandan, Mazandaran, on 16 June 1974, were unusual. The first records: 56 at Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 17 October 1970; five at Lake Urmia, on 20 October 1970; and 200 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 19 December 1971. Numbers then declined to 10 in Gilan on 22–23 March 1972, had departed by the end of March, and 10 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 23 April 1973, and 1,390 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 10 May 1973, lingered on into May. There were 1,000 birds at Dasht-e Arjan on 11 May 1974, Dam on 14 May 1974, and three at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 15 April 1974), but the only records from the south were four on 20 November 1975, and one at a pond at Jask, Hormozgan, on 1 November 1974, and a bird on 13 November 1974, and a bird on



**Eurasian Wigeon** *Anas penelope* (392)

A very common and widespread winter visitor, occurring in all the main wetland areas south to Bushehr, central Fars and Seistan, and occasionally reaching the southern Persian Gulf coast and south-eastern Baluchestan. The wintering population in the early 1970s was estimated at 100,000–150,000. A few individuals, presumably sick or injured birds, occasionally remained throughout the summer at wetlands in East and West Azarbaijan. Three males in the Hilleh Delta, Bushehr, on 9 July 1974 were presumably also summering birds. The first migrants in autumn usually arrived in the south Caspian region in the middle of September (earliest records: four at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 31 August 1974, six at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 14 September 1971, 10 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 15 September 1973, and 10 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 18 September 1971), but numbers remained very low until the third week of October, when high counts included 100 at Zibakenar, Gilan, on 16 October 1973, 350 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 21 October 1974, and 150 at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 22–23 October 1970. The main arrival occurred in late October and November (e.g. there were over 4,000 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 29 October 1971). The earliest records of birds in central and southern Iran included five at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 14 October 1973, 100 at Lake Tashk, Fars, on 16 October 1973, three at Bandar-e Khamir, Hormozgan, on 18 October 1973, and one at Takhte Shah Marshes, Seistan, on 25 October 1975. Numbers peaked in January and February, and many birds had departed by the end of March. An unusually high count of 36,860 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 24–25 March 1972 probably included many birds on their northward migration. However, substantial numbers of birds remained well into April, e.g. 2,000 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 17 April 1973, and 140 at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 23 April 1970. Most birds had left by the end of April, but a few lingered on into May. There were still 1,200 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 10 May 1973, but this was unusual. Late spring records included nine males in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 13 May 1972, two birds at Latian Dam, Tehran, from 17 to 24 May 1973, and two near Shushtar, Khuzestan, on 19 May 1973. At Latian Dam, the Eurasian Wigeon was a fairly common passage migrant in spring (15 March to 24 May; maximum of 40 on 2 May 1974) and an uncommon passage migrant in autumn (28 October to 23 November; maximum of five on 20 November 1975). Unusual records included two birds shot near Sarakhs, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 10 January 1972, and one on the Bampur River west of Iranshahr, Baluchestan, on 11 January 1973.



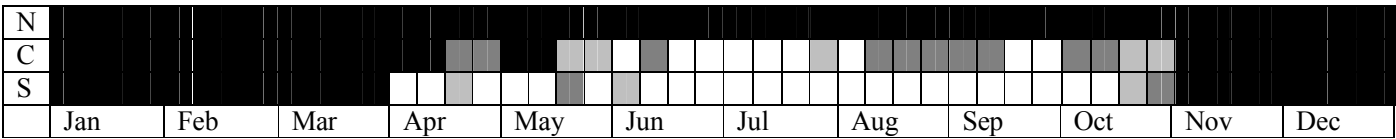
**Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* (953)**

A fairly common breeding bird at wetlands in East and West Azarbaijan and the western provinces southeast to central Fars, and a widespread and abundant winter visitor occurring at wetlands throughout Iran, although scarce in the extreme southeast. The breeding population in the early 1970s was estimated at 500–800 pairs; the wintering population was estimated at between 250,000 and 450,000 birds in most years, but about 700,000 during the extremely severe winter of 1971/72. Small numbers of birds were present throughout the summer in the south Caspian region, and it is possible that a few pairs may have bred in Gilan and Mazandaran. One or two birds were also recorded in summer in the Tehran area, wetlands of Khuzestan and Hilleh Delta, Bushehr, but these were probably sick or injured birds. In the south Caspian region and Tehran area, the first few migrants of the autumn appeared in the second half of August, e.g. three at Latian Dam, Tehran, on 19 August 1973, 50 flying east at Zibakenar, Gilan, on 23 August 1974, 200 at the mouth of the Sefid Rud, Gilan, on 24 August 1974, five at Latian Dam on 27 August 1974, and 45 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 31 August 1972, but numbers remained low throughout September and the first half of October. The main arrival of winter visitors began in the second half of October and continued throughout November and early December, with peak numbers occurring from the end of December through to the end of February. At Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, numbers never exceeded fifty until the last week of October, when the first major influx occurred, e.g. 880 on 28 October 1970, and 1,030 on 29 October 1971. The winter visitors began to depart in early March and most birds had left by the end of the month, although small numbers of birds continued to occur on passage until early May. Late migrant flocks included 34 birds at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 5 May 1971, 89 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 8 May 1967, 20 at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 9 May 1971, 18 at Latian Dam on 14 May 1973, and 20 at Latian Dam on 14 May 1975. Three birds on a pond in the southern Dasht-e Lut, Kerman, on 16 May 1972 and two birds at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 16 May 1975 were unusually late. All records of Mallard in the wetlands of Khuzestan, were between 2 October (20 birds in Dez Wildlife Refuge in 1967) and 21 March (two birds near Susangerd in 1974). At Latian Dam, the Mallard was a common winter visitor and passage migrant. The main spring passage was between late February and the middle of April (maximum count: 200 on 27 February), and the main autumn passage was between the middle of October and the end of November (maximum count: 680 on 10 November 1974). In 1973, five birds lingered on at Latian Dam until at least 10 June, but showed no signs of breeding.

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### Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata* (489)

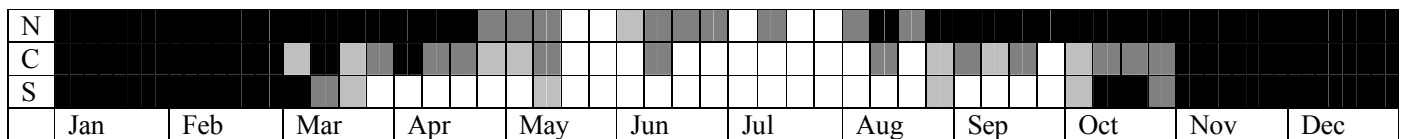
An uncommon breeding bird in the wetlands of East and West Azarbaijan, and a very common passage migrant and winter visitor occurring at wetlands throughout Iran, although scarce in the southeast. Estimates of the wintering population in the period 1971–1975 ranged between 25,000 and 120,000. One or two birds were recorded during June or July in Mazandaran, Golestan, Kordestan, Khuzestan and central Fars, but these were thought to be non-breeders. An injured bird at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 10 August 1975 had probably been there throughout the summer. The earliest migrants in autumn were single birds at Latian Dam, Tehran, on 8 August 1974 and 14–17 August 1973, and four at Zargmarz Ab-bandan, Mazandaran, on 16 August 1973, but the autumn migration usually began in the last week of August, e.g. 25 at Lake Tashk, Fars, on 24 August 1967, five at Zibakenar, Gilan, on 24 August 1974, and three at the mouth of the Sefid Rud, Gilan, on 27 August 1974. There were already over 1,320 in the wetlands south of Lake Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan, on 29–31 August 1973, and 95 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 31 August 1974. The main arrival of winter visitors occurred in October and November, and numbers then remained high until the end of March. The spring passage continued throughout April and into early May, e.g. there were 1,450 at Siahkesheem and Selke Wildlife Refuges, Gilan, on 13 April 1973, 700 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 17 April 1973, 200 in Kuh-e Khvajeh Marshes, Seistan, on 20 April 1972, 115 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 8 May 1967, and 200 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 10 May 1973. The latest migrants in spring were 15 near Zabol, Seistan, on 18–19 May 1967, 13 in marshes south of Shushtar, Khuzestan, on 19 May 1973, three at Latian Dam on 23 May 1974, and two at Latian Dam on 24 May 1973. At Latian Dam, the Northern Shoveler was a fairly common passage migrant in spring (13 March to 24 May) and an uncommon passage migrant in autumn (8 August to 10 November); the maximum counts in spring were 30 on 22 April 1974 and 30 on 2 May 1974. A single bird at Latian Dam on 11 June 1974 was very unusual. The only records of Northern Shoveler in Hormozgan were of a bird on the Rud-e Shirin east of Bandar Abbas on 12 and 16 October 1973, and two at Bandar-e Khamir on 18 October 1973; the only records in Baluchestan were of a bird on the lower Sarbarz River on 19 November 1970, three at Govater on 3–4 March 1971, two on the lower Sarbarz River on 10 January 1973, and one at Bampur Dam, west of Iranshahr, on 8 February 1974.





**Northern Pintail *Anas acuta* (511)**

A widespread and abundant passage migrant and winter visitor occurring at wetlands throughout Iran, although scarce in the extreme southeast. The wintering population in the early 1970s was estimated at between 230,000 and 600,000. Small numbers of birds were present throughout the summer in the wetlands of East and West Azarbaijan, but there were no indications that any of these were breeding. Two birds at Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 12 June 1971, four at Lake Tashk, Fars, on 14 June 1971, and one at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 10–20 June 1976 were probably sick or injured birds. In northern Iran, the autumn migration began as early as the second week in July (earliest records: 21 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 10 July 1972, and 15 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 14 July 1977), but numbers remained very low until about the middle of September, when high counts included 350 at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 15 September 1971, and 515 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 13 September 1973. The earliest migrant in the Tehran area was a female at Ghale-Now Marshes on 10–14 August 1975; the earliest migrants in southern Iran were three in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 25 August 1973, and one at Lake Tashk on 31 August 1967. The main arrival of the winter visitors occurred in October, and by the middle of the month, large numbers of birds had arrived in southern Iran, e.g. 500 at Lake Parishan on 14 October 1973, 30,000 at Lake Bakhtegan, Fars, on 16 October 1973, and 350 at Takhte Shah Marshes, Seistan, on 25 October 1975. Numbers remained high until about the middle of March and most birds had departed by the end of the third week in April, although a few continued to pass through until the middle of May. The latest high count was 730 in Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 23 April 1970; the latest records were of 30 at Selke Wildlife Refuge on 9 May 1971, nine at Dasht-e Arjan, Fars, on 9 May 1972, a bird at Latian Dam, Tehran, on 9 May 1974, 10 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 10 May 1973, and 25 in Shadegan Marshes on 13 May 1972. At Latian Dam, the Northern Pintail was a fairly common passage migrant in spring (8 March to 9 May; maximum 65 on 22 April 1974) and an uncommon passage migrant in autumn (5 September to 10 November), when no more than four were recorded in a day. A male at Band-e Fariman Dam, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 12 June 1973 was very unusual.

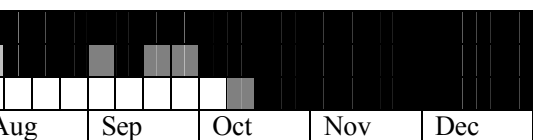


**Garganey** *Anas querquedula* (352)

An uncommon summer visitor to the wetlands of East and West Azarbaijan, and a very common passage migrant occurring at wetlands throughout Iran, although scarce in the southeast. The spring migration began in Khuzestan in the third week of February (earliest records: 11 in Shadegan Marshes North on 16 February 1971 and 50 in Shadegan Marshes South the next day) and in the south Caspian region in the last week of February (earliest records: one at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 25 February 1973, and two on the Caspian Sea near Fereidoon Kenar Mazandaran, on 26 February 1972), and continued until the middle of May, with the main passage occurring in March and April. High counts during the spring migration included: 5,000 in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 3 March 1972; 12,500 in Shadegan Marshes on 9 March 1972; 2,000 in Siahkesheem Wildlife Refuge and 1,500 in Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 13 April 1973; and 660 on the Caspian Sea between Babolsar and Now Farahabad, Mazandaran, on 16 April 1973. The autumn migration began in the first week of July (earliest records: eight birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 1 July 1974; a flock of 120 flying east over the Caspian Sea off Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 3 July 1972, and a flock of 15 at Lake Zaribar, Kordestan, on 3 July 1975), reached a peak in the second half of August and first half of September, and continued until the end of October or early November (latest records: one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 1 November 1974, and 10 in Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 3 November 1971). High counts during the autumn migration included: 1,000 at Dorgeh Sangi Lake, West Azarbaijan, on 16 August 1972; 1,055 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 31 August 1972; 1,500 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 15 September 1972; 21,600 in wetlands at the south end of Lake Urumiyeh, East and West Azarbaijan, on 30 August 1973; 5,000 at Nowruzlu Dam, West Azarbaijan, on 31 August 1973; 1,000 at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 1 September 1973; 3,550 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 31 August 1974; and 1,570 at the south end of Lake Urumiyeh on 7 July 1975. The highest count in the wetlands of central Fars was of 500 in Gumoon Marshes, Lake Tashk, on 31 August 1967. At Latian Dam, Tehran, the Garganey was a common passage migrant in spring between 13 March and 17 May, and in autumn between 17 July and 1 November; the maximum count in spring was 51 on 22 April 1974, the maximum in autumn, 29 on 16 August 1973. Small numbers of birds were recorded in summer in Mazandaran, Lorestan, Bushehr and central Fars, but these were thought to be non-breeders. There were only four records of wintering birds: an injured individual at Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 7 January 1973; a bird at Papkeyadeh Ab-bandan, Gilan, on 30 January 1973; a bird at Hamoun-e Sabari, Seistan, on 5 and 6 February 1973; and a bird on the lower Sarbarz River, Baluchestan, on 28 January 1974.

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occurring at wetlands throughout 1975 ranged between 800,000 and the summer at wetlands in East and although this was never confirmed. Counts in June or July at wetlands in central Fars, but most if not all of counts of the autumn appeared in early August 1974, three at Lapoo-Zargmarz Wetland Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 4 August at Cheghakhor Marshes, Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari, and increased rapidly in the second half of the year. Counts at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari, on 1 August 1972, and 6,360 on 31 August 1973. Most of these birds were on Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge was only 750 on 17–19 September, second half of October, e.g. 18,000 on 10 October 1970, 1,900 at Lake Tashk Wetland Wildlife Refuge on 21 October 1975. Most of the numbers then remained high until the end of the Urumiyeh basin on 21–24 September. Most of the wintering birds had arrived throughout April and into early May. Counts on 13 April 1973, 4,720 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 9 May 1971, and most migrants in spring were 39 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 10 May 1970. At Latian Dam, the Eurasian Coot (to the middle of May) and autumn counts were 80 on 22 April 1974. Single counts on 20 June 1974 were unusual.

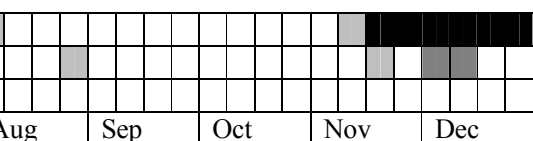


### Marbled Duck *Marmaronetta angustirostris* (125)

A common resident breeding bird in Khuzestan and central Fars, and a scarce breeding summer visitor to the wetlands of the Urumiyeh basin in West Azarbaijan. Probably also bred in the Seistan basin when conditions were suitable, as small numbers were recorded in May 1967 and June 1973. Also an abundant winter visitor to the wetlands of Khuzestan, central Fars and the northern Persian Gulf coast in Bushehr. Much the most important wintering area was Shadegan Marshes in Khuzestan, where there were high counts of 12,622 on 17 February 1971, 10,000 on 8 January 1972 and 14,480 on 8 January 1973. Other notable concentrations in mid-winter included 1,100 at Bamdej Marshes, Khuzestan, on 23 January 1974, 1,000 in the Hilleh Delta, Bushehr, on 18 January 1975, 2,000 at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 20 January 1971, and 1,500 at Lake Bakhtegan, Fars, on 19 January 1974. The arrival and departure dates of the small breeding population in West Azarbaijan were not known, but seven birds were still present at Shur Gol on 22 November 1972. A single bird at Nowruzlu Dam on 24 January 1971 and 10 at Yadegarlu Lake the next day were probably exceptional. The Marbled Duck was only a very scarce passage migrant in the south Caspian region and Tehran area. There was one spring record in the south Caspian, a flock of 29 on the sea off Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 28 February 1972, and three records in autumn: a bird at Amirkelayeh Lake, Gilan, on 23 November 1969; three near Ashuradeh, Golestan, on 28 October 1970; and one on the Caspian Sea near Babolsar, Mazandaran, on 18 December 1971. The only records in the Tehran area were of two birds at Latian Dam on 30 March 1973 and three birds at Latian Dam on 31 October 1975.

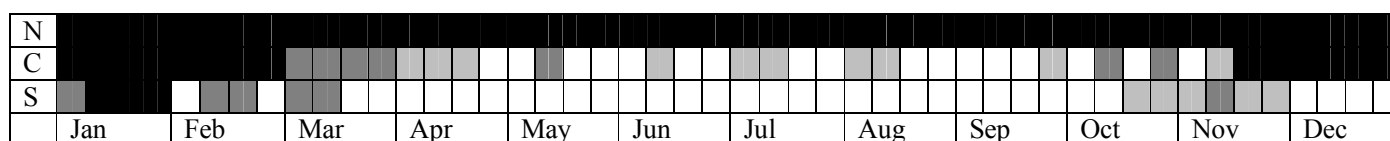
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and a regular winter visitor in the south Caspian, but very scarce in Khuzestan. The first record was in November (earliest records: two at the Vankhah Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, and two in Mazandaran, on 18 November and 20 November, the first week of March, but in the north Caspian in the flux of Red-crested Pochards into the Caspian in March 1972, and 155 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge in the south Caspian was recorded on 9 April 1973. The species was also recorded only at Lake Parishan in Fars in November 1971 and at the Hamoun-e Sabari Wildlife Refuge related to non-breeding individuals. The first record in the Mahabharat Marshes on 15 February 1972. The only record in the extreme south Caspian, on 4 March 1971.



### Common Pochard *Aythya farina* (419)

A scarce and perhaps only irregular breeding bird at wetlands in East and West Azarbaijan; a few pairs probably bred at Lake Zaribar, Kordestan, in 1973 and 1974. Birds were present during the summer months and may have bred at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, in 1970 and 1971, at Lapoo-Zargmarz Ab-bandans, Mazandaran, in 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975 and 1977, and at Lake Parishan, Fars, in 1971, 1972 and 1976. Twenty-two birds at Voshmigr Dam, Golestan, on 1 August 1975 were thought to be summering non-breeders. A common and locally abundant winter visitor and passage migrant at wetlands throughout Iran, south to the Monde River delta in Bushehr, also occurring regularly in small numbers along the lower Sarbarz River in south-eastern Baluchestan (maximum: 25 on 28 January 1974). The species was particularly common in winter in the wetlands of Gilan, where over 67,000 were counted in January 1973. The wintering population in the early 1970s was estimated at between 55,000 and 85,000 birds. The wetlands of the Urumiyeh basin in East and West Azarbaijan were an important staging area in autumn; over 9,500 were counted on 22–23 November 1971, but only 167 were recorded on 30–31 December 1971. The first migrants of the autumn appeared in the second half of October. A flock of 610 at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 14 October 1973 was unusually earlier. Otherwise, the earliest records were of 245 in the Anzali Mordab area, Gilan, on 20–23 October 1970, 10 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 24 October 1974, 100 in Takhte Shah Marshes, Seistan, on 25 October 1975, 46 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 26 October 1970, and over 2,000 at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 28 October 1974. Numbers increased throughout November and December, reached a peak in January and February, and remained high until late March, e.g. there were still 21,735 in Gilan on 22–23 March 1972 and 930 in Mazandaran on 24–25 March 1972, but most birds had left by the beginning of April. A count of 500 at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 23 April 1970 was exceptional, as the only other records of migrants after the middle of April were of one at Latian Dam, Tehran, on 16 April 1975, three at Galugah Ab-bandan, Gilan, on 18 April 1970, 11 at Lapoo-Zargmarz Ab-bandans on 19 April 1973, and eight at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 8 May 1967. At Latian Dam, the Common Pochard was recorded on nine occasions in spring between 14 February and 16 April (maximum of 39 on 4 April 1975), but only once in autumn (three on 14 August 1975). Unusual records included a male at Band-e Fariman Dam, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 12 June 1973, an immature male on the Rud-e Shirin east of Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 16 October 1973, the three birds at Latian Dam on 14 August 1975, and a bird at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 6 August 1976.



**Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca* (175)**

A fairly common and widespread breeding bird in East and West Azarbaijan, Kordestan, Hamadan, Kermanshah, Lorestan, Khuzestan and central Fars, and a fairly common winter visitor to the south Caspian region, Khuzestan and central Fars from about the middle of October to the middle March. A few pairs probably bred in the south Caspian region (Gilan, Mazandaran and Golestan) in most years, and there were small breeding populations in the Seistan basin in 1967 and 1973, when the wetlands were extensively flooded. Ninety birds were observed in the wetlands of the Seistan basin in late January 1970, but no more than nine were recorded in subsequent winters. The Ferruginous Duck was almost entirely a summer visitor to the wetlands of East and West Azarbaijan and the western provinces, from April or May to November, although a few birds sometimes remained throughout the winter in Kordestan and Kermanshah. The only records in the northwest after the end of November were of five birds at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 3 December 1971 and one bird at Mahabad Dam, West Azarbaijan, on 31 December 1971. There were only four records of Ferruginous Ducks away from the regular breeding and wintering areas: a bird on the Kalshur-e Jajarm River north of Sabzevar, North Khorasan, on 18 September 1974; a bird near Mashad, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 30 November 1974; a bird on the lower Sarbaz River in Gandu Protected Area, Baluchestan, on 28 January 1974; and a party of 10 on the Zaindeh Rud east of Esfahan on 9 January 1975.

**Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula* (400)**

A rare and perhaps irregular breeding bird in East and West Azarbaijan; known to have bred only at Lake Gori, East Azarbaijan, but may also have bred at Lake Kobi, West Azarbaijan. One or two birds were occasionally recorded in summer at wetlands in the south Caspian region, but these were thought to be non-breeders. Two birds at Haft Barm lakes, Fars, on 19 July 1968, a bird at Hashelan Marsh, Kermanshah, on 29 September 1972, an immature male at Lake Zaribar, Kordestan, on 13 July 1974, and a bird at Latian Dam, Tehran, on 17 August 1975 were probably also summering non-breeders. An abundant winter visitor to the south Caspian region and a common winter visitor to the other main wetland areas south to Khuzestan, central Fars and the Seistan basin. The wintering population in the early 1970s was estimated at between 20,000 and 65,000, depending on the severity of the winter. The first migrants in autumn usually arrived in the south Caspian region in the last ten days of October (earliest records: three at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 20 October 1970, 28 at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 21 October 1970, five at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 21 October 1974, and six at Ashuradeh, Golestan, on 22 October 1974). Numbers built up gradually throughout November and December, e.g. there were counts of 440 in Gilan and 290 in Mazandaran between 25 November and 2 December 1972, and counts of 880 in Gilan and 4,665 in Mazandaran between 16 and 22 December 1971. Numbers were usually at their highest in January and February, and then decreased rapidly in March, but in the very severe winter of 1971/1972, numbers remained high until late March, when there were counts of 690 in Gilan and 9,000 in Mazandaran between 22<sup>nd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Most birds had departed by the end of March, although a few lingered on through April and into early May. Late high counts included 50 at Siahkesheem Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 13 April 1973, and 90 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 17 April 1973; the latest records were of 15 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 8 May 1967, and three at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 9 May 1967. In central and southern Iran, the earliest records of migrants in autumn were of a bird at Latian Dam on 17 October 1974, two birds at Takhte Shah Marshes, Seistan, on 25 October 1975, and a bird at Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 27 October 1974. The latest records in spring were of seven at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 10 May 1972, one at Latian Dam on 10 May 1974, three at Latian Dam on 12 May 1974, and two at Pol-e Dokhtar Marsh, Lorestan, on 16 May 1972. At Latian Dam, the Tufted Duck was a fairly common passage migrant in spring (22 February to 12 May), the maximum counts being 36 on 22 March 1973 and 38 on 28 February 1974, but there were only two records in autumn: a bird on 17 October 1974, and one on 14 August 1975. The only other record of a bird in the Tehran area was of one at Ghale-Now Marshes on 28 December 1972. The only record of Tufted Duck on the Persian Gulf coast was of two birds in the Hilleh Delta, Bushehr, on 25 January 1974, and there were no records from the southeast.

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	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec



An uncommon winter visitor to the south Caspian coast, usually in company with flocks of Tufted

**Common Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula* (181)

A fairly common winter visitor to the south Caspian region, occurring mainly on the Caspian Sea and in Gorgan Bay, Mazandaran and Golestan. The earliest arrivals in autumn were an immature male at Siahkesheem Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 23 October 1970, and three birds at Siahkesheem on 7 November 1969. However numbers remained very low until December, when the main arrival occurred. In most years, most birds departed in the first half of March, but in the extremely severe winter of 1971/72, there were still 1,100 birds in Gorgan Bay on 25 March 1972. Other exceptionally high counts included 583 on the Caspian Sea between Ramsar and Fereidoon Kenar, Mazandaran, on 25 February 1972, and 845 in Gorgan Bay on 2 March 1973. The latest birds to leave in spring were two birds in Gorgan Bay on 17 April 1974, and a female at Lapoo-Zargmarz Ab-bandans, Mazandaran, on 5 May 1971. There were only five records away from the south Caspian: three birds at Miandoab, West Azarbaijan, on 24 January 1971, four birds at Dorgeh Sangi Lake, West Azarbaijan, on 25 January 1971, four birds on a park lake in Kermanshah City, Kermanshah, on 3 January 1972, an immature male at Bamdej Marshes, Khuzestan, on 15 February 1971, and a female on an oxbow lake by the Karun River, Khuzestan, on 15 January 1975.

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**Common Merganser (Goosander) *Mergus merganser* (29)**

A regular winter visitor in small numbers to the southeast Caspian and Tehran area, and perhaps also East and West Azarbaijan and Kordestan. The earliest in autumn were three at Ashuradeh, Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Golestan, on 27 November 1971; the latest in spring was one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 2 March 1973. Most of the records in the south Caspian were from Mazandaran, especially Miankaleh Peninsula and Gorgan Bay, and there were only two records from Gilan: a male and a female on the sea south of Astara on 16 January 1972, and a female on the Sefid Rud below Menjil Dam on 21 February 1972. There were two records of birds on lakes on the Turkoman Steppes in Golestan: 10 at Incheh Borun Lake on 31 January 1972 and one at Voshmigir Dam on 1 February 1972. Goosanders were recorded twice in winter at wetlands in the northwest: six were seen on the Aras River on the Dasht-e Moghan, East Azarbaijan, on 31 December 1968, and there was a male at Shur Gol, West Azarbaijan, on 30 December 1971. The species was probably a regular winter visitor to Lake Zaribar, Kordestan, where there were 35 on 17 January 1970 and 31 on 2 January 1972. It was also a regular winter visitor in small numbers to Latian Dam near Tehran between 24 December and 28 February, the highest count being 22 on 14 February 1974.

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Caspian in widely fluctuating numbers, and an d coast of Persian Baluchestan. The earliest in 2 November 1971, and the latest in spring were y 1971. Much the largest numbers occurred in re high counts included 762 from 31 December 71, 313 on 1–2 December 1972 and 201 on 1–2 69, 1969/70, 1973/74 and 1974/75, fewer than surprisingly scarce in Gilan, where there were these were at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon. There ast: a party of seven on the sea at Chahbahar, elta, Hormozgan, on 8 January 1973; two in a 73; one near Bandar-e Moqam, Hormozgan, on ur, Hormozgan, on 1 February 1974. The only Tehran, on 3 November 1974.

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**White-headed Duck *Oxyura leucocephala* (82)**

An uncommon summer visitor to the wetlands of East and West Azarbaijan and Kordestan, and an uncommon resident in central Fars. A regular winter visitor, usually in small numbers, to the southeast Caspian (Miankaleh Peninsula and Gorgan Bay), but surprisingly scarce in the southwest Caspian. The wintering population in the southeast Caspian began to arrive in the second half of November (earliest record: two on the sea off Jambol Marsh, Mazandaran, on 18 November 1971) and had usually departed by the end of March, although there was one record in the third week of April (three birds at Miankaleh Peninsula on 17 April 1973). In the extremely severe winter of 1971/72, there was an exceptional influx into the south Caspian region, with numbers on Gorgan Bay building up to at least 453 by 25 March 1972. The only records in Gilan were during this severe winter and included a count of 25 at Anzali Mordab on 22 March 1972. Two males on a small dam at the west end of Miankaleh Peninsula from 9 to 11 July 1972 were very unusual. The breeding population in East and West Azarbaijan had usually departed by the end of November, the latest record being of one at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 3 December 1971. There were no records from the wetlands of Khuzestan, and the only record in the Seistan basin was of 42 on the Hamoun-e Puzak on 24 January 1970.

A scarce winter visitor to the south Caspian coast, occurring from early November to the middle of April. The earliest in autumn was a bird at the east end of Miankaleh Peninsula, Golestan, on 5 November 1976, and the latest in spring were two birds flying east over the sea near Babolsar, Mazandaran, on 16 April 1973. All except two records were from Mazandaran: a bird at Lake Ulmagol, Golestan, on 30 January 1972; and a bird on the sea off Amirkelayeh Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 13 January 1974.

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### Persian Shearwater *Puffinus persicus* (24)

A common visitor to the southern Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormoz from early October to May or June, but largely absent during the summer months and rare in inshore waters. The species probably bred on islands off the Iranian coast in the southern Persian Gulf, but this was never confirmed. Much the largest numbers occurred between October and March, with high counts including 300 in the Strait of Hormoz on 23 October 1968, about 240 near the Tunb Islands on 21 November 1972, 100 in the Strait of Hormoz on 25 November 1973, 73 at sea off Kish Island on 26 November 1974, and several large groups between Farur and the Tunb Islands on 12 March 1978. The only record between mid-June and the beginning of October was of three birds near the Tunb Islands on 2 July 1973. The only record outside the Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormoz was of a bird flying east off Chahbahar, Baluchestan, on 6 April 1972.

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**Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* (372)**

A common breeding bird at wetlands throughout northern and western Iran south to Khuzestan, central Fars and the Seistan basin. Present throughout the year in most breeding areas, but mainly a summer visitor to wetlands in East and West Azarbaijan, although a few birds occasionally overwintered in wetlands south of Lake Urumiyeh, and probably only a summer visitor to Lake Zaribar, Kordestan, where there were no records in mid-winter. A very common winter visitor to wetlands in the south Caspian region, especially in Gilan, where high counts at Anzali Mordab included 180 on 25–29 December 1968, 200 on 12 January 1971, 450 on 3 November 1971, and at least 450 on 14–18 January 1972. Other high counts in Gilan included 120 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon on 26 October 1970, 125 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon on 17 November 1971, and 100 at Amirkelayeh Wildlife Refuge on 17 November 1971. It seems that few if any birds continued on south across the Alborz into north-central Iran, as the species was very rare in the Tehran area. There were no records from Latian Dam, and the only records were from Ghale-Now Marshes, where single individuals were seen on 17 September 1975, 19 February 1976 and 6 August 1976, and a pair was found breeding on 23 July 1977. Much the highest counts at many of the wetlands in western and southern Iran were during the winter months, suggesting an influx of wintering birds, although these may have been birds moving in from breeding sites at small wetlands in the surrounding areas, rather than long-distance migrants. Notable counts included 140 at four wetlands in Kermanshah Province on 3 January 1972, 18 at Pol-e Dokhtar Marsh, Lorestan, on 16 January 1975, at least 20 along the Zaindeh Rud east of Esfahan on 9 January 1975, 400 at Lake Parishan, Fars, in November and December 1975, 100 at Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 17 February 1978, and 70 at a reservoir in Abadan, Khuzestan, on 14 November 1973. The Little Grebe was possibly a winter visitor in small numbers to the lower Sarbarz River in south-eastern Baluchestan, where between four and seven birds were seen on three occasions between 18 November 1970 and 4 March 1971. Other unusual records included two at a small lake north of Khaf, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 13 May 1970, and three on a river west of Khonj, southern Fars, on 8 October 1975.

Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps grisegena* (20)

An uncommon winter visitor to the south Caspian coast, recorded on 19 occasions between 7 October and 16 April. Most records were of single birds, but there were two records of two birds and two of three birds; a total of 19 individuals on the sea off Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 4 March 1976 was exceptional. Four records were from Gilan: a bird on the sea at Bandar Anzali on 7 October 1973; two birds at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon on 12 January 1974; one bird on the sea west of Bandar Anzali on 12 January 1975; and two birds on the sea east of Bandar Anzali on 14 January 1975. The remainder were in Mazandaran, mostly on the sea off Miankaleh Peninsula, although there was a bird on the sea at Sisangan near Chalus on 28 February 1973 and one on Zargmarz Ab-bandan on 16 April 1973. At least one pair bred at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, in 1971 – the first breeding record for Iran (Scott 2007).

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**Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus* (427)**

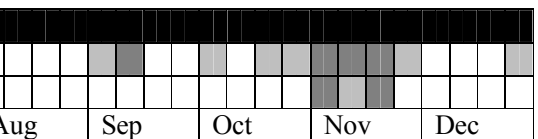
A fairly common breeding bird at wetlands in East and West Azarbaijan, Kordestan, the south Caspian region and central Fars, but scarce and local in Khuzestan; also found breeding in the Seistan basin in wet years. Mainly a summer visitor to breeding areas in the northwest, although a few birds occasionally overwintered at wetlands south of Lake Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan, and six were recorded at Lake Zaribar, Kordestan, on 2 January 1972. An abundant winter visitor to the south Caspian region, and a common winter visitor to the wetlands of central Fars. The first migrants appeared in the south Caspian region in the middle of September e.g. 33 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 13 September 1973, but numbers built up very slowly, and it was not until late November or early December that counts regularly exceeded 100. Some early high counts included 460 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 27 November 1975, 210 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 1–2 December 1972, 340 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 17 December 1971, and 500 on the sea between Fereidoon Kenar and Now Farahabad, Mazandaran, on 18 December 1971. The main arrival occurred in late December and January, with numbers reaching a peak in February and early March. High counts included at least 2,000 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 31 December 1970, 2,250 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 29–30 January 1973, 8,750 on the sea between Nowshahr and Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 28 February and 1 March 1973, and 2,850 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 1–2 February 1976. Most of the wintering birds had departed by the end of March, although a few lingered on until the middle of April and, exceptionally, early May, e.g. two in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 9 May 1973. At the wetlands in central Fars, high counts in winter included 239 at Lake Parishan on 25 January 1973, 62 at Dorudsan Dam on 29 January 1973, 300 at Lake Parishan on 17 November 1973, 200 at Lake Parishan on 28 October 1974, 300 at Lake Parishan in December 1975, and 150 at Lake Maharlu on 17 February 1978. Relatively small numbers of birds also wintered along the Persian Gulf coast in Hormozgan (highest count: 15 on the sea at Bandar Abbas on 29 January 1974) and along the Makran coast in south-eastern Baluchestan (highest count: 65 in Chahbahar Bay on 28 January 1975). The earliest record in autumn along the south coast was of one at Govater Bay, Baluchestan, on 19 October 1975; the latest birds in spring were two in Govater Bay on 8 April 1972. The only mid-winter record in the Seistan basin was of 14 birds at Hamoun-e Sabari on 5 and 6 February 1973, but counts of 160 in the Takhte Shah, Mahmoodi and Shaugali areas on 4 November 1972 and 60 in the Takhte Shah Marshes on 25 October 1975 suggested that these wetlands were being used as a staging area for migrants bound for the Makran coast. The only records in the Tehran area were at Latian Dam, where the Great Crested Grebe was a regular passage migrant in spring and autumn and an occasional visitor in winter. The latest in spring was one on 16 May 1974, and the earliest in autumn were two on 13 September 1973; the highest counts were eight on 2 April 1974 and eight on 20 April 1975. A bird collected near Mashad, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 11 September 1970 was presumably on passage. A bird on the Bampur River west of Iranshahr, Baluchestan, on 11 January 1973 was exceptional.

**Horned (Slavonian) Grebe *Podiceps auritus* (56)**

A fairly common winter visitor to the south Caspian region, from late October to late March. The largest numbers occurred on Gorgan Bay, Mazandaran and Golestan, where the highest count was 58 on 28 January 1972. Elsewhere, counts of 10–12 were recorded from Anzali Mordab and Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon in Gilan, and on the Caspian Sea between Nowshahr and Fereidoon Kenar, Mazandaran. Two birds at Galugah Ab-bandan, Gilan, on 24 September 1975 were unusually early. The next earliest arrivals were two birds at Amirkelayeh Lake, Gilan, on 26 October 1970. The latest in spring was a bird on Gorgan Bay, Mazandaran, on 26 March 1975. There was one record from the Persian Gulf coast: a single bird in Bandar Abbas harbour, Hormozgan, on 1 February 1974.

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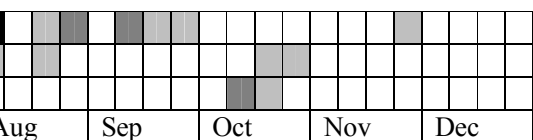
ite being at Lake Gori in East Azarbaijan, and Dasht-e Arjan, and Haft Barm Lakes in Fars in Iran, in 1974. Also a very common winter visitor to the wetlands of Gilan Baluchestan, but uncommon in Shushtar on 13 January 1973), and Rud east of Esfahan on 5 January 1975 were presumably in autumn usually appeared in the Gilan, on 4 September 1973, two in October 1973, and four at Bandar-e Sea off Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge in Gilan, very low until the end of October, and until late March. Most birds had been on the sea off Ghazian, Gilan, Iran, on 19 April 1973, but the only one in May 1971, one at Zargmarz Ab-eleh, Golestan, on 9 May 1973. In Dasht-e Arjan, Fars, on 1 October 1973 on the sea off Hormoz Island, and in Gilan, in East and West Azarbaijan in autumn, with large numbers in early autumn. Early arrivals included five birds in Gilan and 500 at Dorgeh Sangi Lake on 7 November 1971, and on 21–23 November 1971, and substantial numbers of birds were in Gilan, e.g. 110 on 13 January 1970, and in Gilan (necked Grebe was an uncommon visitor in September to 24 December); the only other records were on 7–10 September 1973 and 19 September 1979 in the Takhte Shah Marshes on the coast of Gilan, Sabari, on 12 November 1973. A record of 3 was unusual.



### **Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus* (552)**

An abundant breeding bird at Lake Urumiyeh, East and West Azarbaijan, where mainly a summer visitor, although a few hundred birds usually remained throughout the winter (maximum mid-winter count: 1,600 on 17 January 1977). For details of the breeding colonies at Lake Urumiyeh, see Scott (2007). Several thousand non-breeders remained throughout the summer at wetlands in central Fars and Khuzestan, and small numbers of birds, mostly immatures, were also recorded in summer in Gorgan Bay, Mazandaran and Golestan, at Hamoun-e Sabari, Seistan, and on the southern Persian Gulf coast in Hormozgan. The species was also an abundant winter visitor to the salt lakes of central Fars and a very common winter visitor to the southeast Caspian region, southern Khuzestan and the entire south coast east to the Pakistan border, but there were only two mid-winter records in the Seistan basin: nine birds at Hamoun-e Sabari on 14 January 1973, and 14 near Zabol on 19 January 1976. The only record from Gavkhouni Salt Lake, Esfahan, was of 560 on 6 February 1977. The wintering flock of 3,000–4,000 birds in Gorgan Bay began to arrive at the end of October (earliest records: 140 on 21 October 1973, 200 on 25 October 1974, and 52 on 29 October 1971), and numbers then built up gradually during November and December (earliest big count: 2,730 on 27–28 November 1975). Numbers remained high until late March, e.g. 3,980 on 25 March 1972, but most birds had departed by the middle of April (latest records: 24 on 17 April 1973 and 75 on 22 April 1977). These birds were a much deeper pink in colour than the birds breeding at Lake Urumiyeh, and were thought to originate from the breeding colony at Lake Tengiz in Kazakhstan, while the birds wintering in central Fars and along the south coast were assumed to originate mainly from Lake Urumiyeh. The Greater Flamingo was a rather scarce winter visitor and passage migrant in Gilan, where all records were between late October and the end of March except for eight birds at Selke Wildlife Refuge on 9 May 1971, 22 birds flying south up the Sefid River from its mouth on 24 August 1974, and 30 birds flying north along the coast at Astara on 25 September 1975. Much the highest counts in Gilan in winter were of 124 in Siahkesheem Wildlife Refuge on 7 February 1969, and 133 at Bandar-e Kiashahr and the mouth of the Sefid Rud on 24 February 1972. The species was very scarce elsewhere in Iran, the only records being of two immatures at Akh Gol, West Azarbaijan, on 9 July 1974, up to six birds on three occasions at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, and three immatures at a pond on the Dasht-e Gaz near Sanandaj, Kordestan, on 9 July 1974.

visitor. Apparently bred in small  
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of non-breeding birds remained  
Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, where  
August 1975. There were also 10  
d in the south Caspian on autumn  
on the Serif Rud, Gilan, on 28  
a bird by the Rud-e Shur east of  
n 5 August 1974, and a bird at  
all numbers of birds wintered at  
an, from Esfahan southwards. The  
z, Fars, on 6 January 1973, 12 at  
around Hormud Protected Area,  
Ardebil on 1 January 1974 was



**White Stork *Ciconia ciconia* (408)**

A common breeding bird in the western half of Iran, occurring mostly around towns and villages from East and West Azarbaijan east, south of the Alborz, to the region of Garmsar, Semnan, and south through the western provinces to Khuzestan and central Fars. A national survey of the breeding population in 1974 produced an estimate of 3,180–3,375 pairs. Most of the birds breeding in northern Iran were migratory, but there were a few records of birds apparently overwintering, e.g. five between Zanjan and Mianeh, Zanjan, on 11 January 1970, one by the Araxes River near Parsabad, Ardebil, on 27 November 1971, three near Mianeh, East Azarbaijan, on 3 December 1971, and one at Menjil Dam, Gilan, on 6 January 1974. Substantial numbers of birds wintered in the wetlands of Khuzestan and central Fars, and a few individuals occasionally remained throughout the winter at wetlands in Kordestan and Kermanshah, along the Zaindeh Rud in Esfahan, and in the Hilleh Delta, Bushehr. A flock of 18 at Gandoman Marsh, Chahar Maharl & Bakhtiari, on 29 January 1970 was unusual. The total wintering population was estimated at 750–2,050. Birds began to arrive back in northern Iran in late March (earliest records: one at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 22 March 1975, several at Ghale-Now Marshes on 23 March 1977, and three at Ghale-Now Marshes on 27 March 1974), and most were back at their nest sites in early April. The main departure was in August, and very few birds remained in the breeding areas after the end of the month. Late records included 18 birds at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, and two near Ardebil on 1 September 1973, and a bird at Ghale-Now Marshes on 8 September 1975. The White Stork was a rather scarce passage migrant in the south Caspian region, occurring in spring between 6 April and 11 May, and in autumn, between 20 August and 16 September; a flock of 15 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 10 July 1972 was exceptional. High counts in spring included 68 flying west over Galugah, Gilan, on 20 April 1967, 45 at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 5 May 1967, and 44 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 9 May 1973. The highest counts in autumn were 14 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 31 August 1972 and 11 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 4 September 1972; the latest record was of a bird near Beshahr, Mazandaran, on 16 September 1973. There were only three records in eastern Iran, all in April: two birds near Darzin, Kerman, on 29 April 1975, a flock of 15 about 40 km south of Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 18 April 1970, and a single bird over Zahedan on 18 April 1972.

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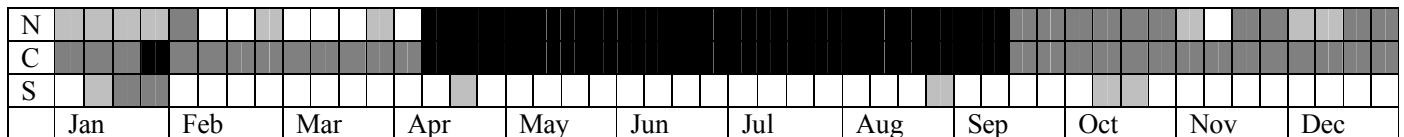
**African Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus* (21)**

Mainly a winter visitor in small numbers to the wetlands of Khuzestan, but some individuals remained into spring and early summer, and it is possible that breeding occurred in 1972 and 1974. The highest count in mid-winter was of 96 during an aerial survey on 15 January 1975, but an estimated 200 were present in the southern part of Shadegan Marshes on 8 April 1978. Most of the birds wintering in Iran presumably originated from the breeding population in the Mesopotamian Marshes in neighbouring Iraq. However, two parties of four including one juvenile were found in Shadegan Marshes on 13–14 May 1972, and a party of nine was seen in Bamdej Marshes on 6 June 1974, suggesting that a few pairs were breeding somewhere in Khuzestan.

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### Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* (182)

A locally common breeding bird in wetlands in West Azarbaijan and central Fars; a fairly common passage migrant in the south Caspian region and wetlands elsewhere in the western half of the country, and a regular winter visitor in small numbers to the wetlands of Khuzestan, the northern Persian Gulf coast (Hilleh Delta, Bushehr) and central Fars. Most records in the south Caspian region were of passage migrants in spring (April) and autumn (August, September and October), but small flocks remained throughout the winter in most years, especially at Anzali Mordab in Gilan, and there were two records in summer: a bird at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 5 July 1972, and a bird at the lagoons north of Gomishan, Golestan, on 12 July 1972. There were five records of single birds on passage at Lashgarak, Tehran: two in spring (on 21 April 1973 and 22 April 1974), and three in autumn (on 13 September 1973, 27 August 1974 and 19 September 1974). There was only one record in the Seistan basin (two birds near Kuh-e Khvajeh, Hamoun-e Sabari, on 20 April 1972), and only one record on the southern Persian Gulf coast (a bird at the Rud-e Shirin east of Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 12–16 October 1973).



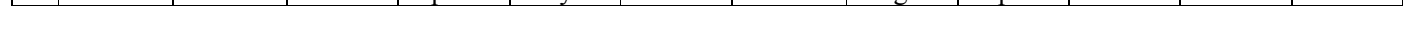
East and West Azarbaijan, where recorded only Fars and in the Seistan basin (in 1973), but may 1974. Small numbers of non-breeding birds were in the south Caspian region, Khuzestan and the wetlands of Khuzestan, central Fars, Seistan on passage in the south Caspian region, but very The main spring passage in the south Caspian with high counts at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, on 11 May 1973 and 400 on 26 March 1975. The b-bandan on 30 April 1969. The main autumn September and the end of October, and apparently counts at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge were only 1971, 28 on 10 September 1972 and 54 on 13 ere observed migrating along the coast on three est over the sea off Pasabandar in south-eastern totalling 114 birds flew east over Jask Creek, of 86 flew east along the coast at Bandar-e rds of spoonbills inland away from the main van, North Khorasan, on 18 June 1973; a bird at flying down Ghazel Owzan Valley near Daran, am, Tehran, in May 1977. See Scott (2007) for

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## Eurasian Bittern *Botaurus stellaris* (54)

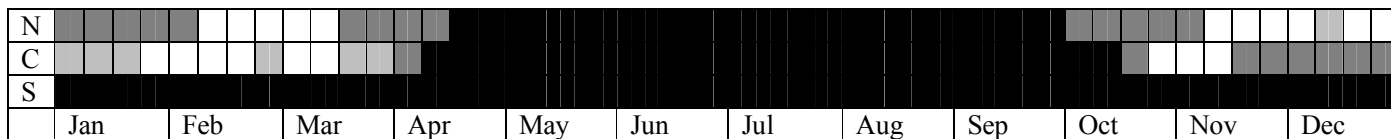
A scarce and local breeding bird, heard booming in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, and wetlands in the Seistan basin, and also recorded during the breeding season at Dasht-e Arjan, Fars. Probably a fairly common winter visitor in wetlands with suitable unfrozen reed-bed habitat, but very secretive and easily overlooked. The first migrants in autumn were single birds at Siahkesheem Wildlife Refuge on 11 September 1969 and 15 September 1971, and at Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 22 September 1978. The last in spring were single birds at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 13 April 1978, and at Lake Tashk, Fars, on 14 April 1967. The only record in the Tehran area was at Lashgarak, where a bird remained from 15 March to 5 April 1974; the only record in north-western Iran was of a bird at Lake Gori, East Azarbaijan, on 10 November 1971.

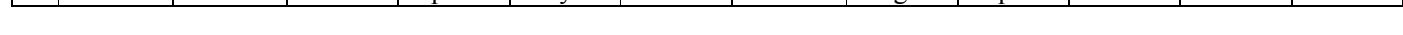
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### Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* (239)

A fairly common breeding bird in the wetlands of East and West Azarbaijan, the south Caspian region, Khuzestan, central Fars and Bushehr, and also found breeding in Seistan in wet years. Wintered in very small numbers in the south Caspian region and central Fars, and commonly in the wetlands of Khuzestan. There was one record of wintering birds in Esfahan: five birds by the Zaindeh Rud in Esfahan on 6 January 1974. Occurred on passage in spring and autumn at wetlands throughout Iran. The spring passage began in the third week of March, reached a peak in the second half of April, and ended in the third week of May. The earliest records of spring migrants in northern Iran were of two birds at Latian Dam, Tehran, on 21 March 1975 and 22 birds at Anzali Mordab on 22 March 1972. A single bird in Bahu Kalat Protected Area, Baluchestan, on 4 March 1971 was probably an early migrant. The main autumn passage was between the end of August and late October. Late migrants in northern Iran included 25 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 26 October 1970, and single birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 27 October 1972 and 2 November 1973. At Latian Dam, Tehran, the Black-crowned Night Heron was a fairly common passage migrant in spring (21 March to 22 May; maximum of 10 on 26 April 1973), and a scarce passage migrant in autumn (15 September to 18 October). See Scott (2007) for details of the breeding colonies.





## Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* (129)

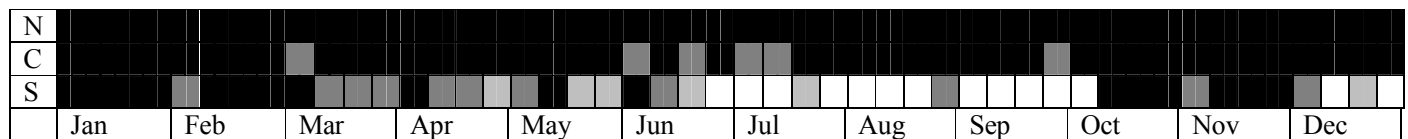
A locally fairly common breeding bird in the wetlands of Gilan, Mazandaran and Khuzestan. The population breeding in the south Caspian region was largely migratory, but a few birds remained in the wetlands of Gilan throughout the winter. Numbers reached their peak in August and the first half of September, when high counts included 110 near Langarud, Gilan, on 14 September 1971, 120 at Larim Sara Plains, Mazandaran, on 3 September 1972, 200 at Galugah Ab-bandan, Gilan, on 6 September 1972, 150 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 15 September 1972, and 150 at Ghazian, Gilan, on 8 August 1973. Most birds had departed by the end of October, and the highest count in winter was only 25 at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 25 December 1968. The small breeding population in Khuzestan (estimated at about 45 pairs) was probably partly migratory, as the highest count in midwinter was only 65 on 15 January 1975. Cattle Egrets were recorded on 14 occasions on spring passage at Latian Dam, Tehran, between 19 April and 26 May, the highest count being five on 20 April 1973. The only records elsewhere in Iran were of a single bird at Lake Kobi, West Azarbaijan, from 2 June to at least 2 July 1971, a bird at an irrigation pond near Bushehr, Bushehr, on 11 May 1972, a bird at a pond in the Dasht-e Lut, South Khorasan, also on 11 May 1972, and a bird at a pond near Qazvin, Qazvin, on 14 April 1974.

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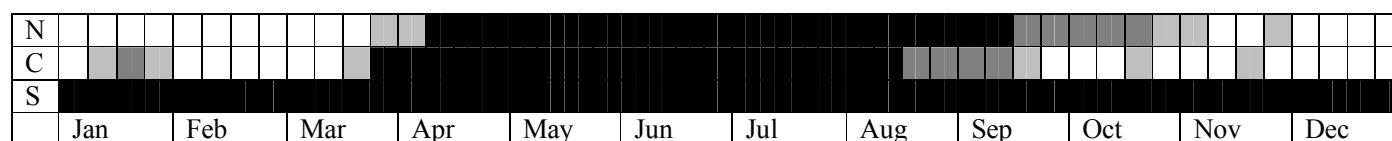
**Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* (1,246)**

A fairly common breeding bird in the wetlands of West Azarbaijan and the south Caspian region; also found breeding in the Seistan basin in wet years. A very common winter visitor to wetlands throughout Iran, and a widespread passage migrant. Small numbers of non-breeding individuals remained throughout the summer at wetlands in the western provinces, Khuzestan and central Fars, and also along the south coast in Bushehr, Hormozgan and Baluchestan. The autumn migration began in northern Iran as early as July, e.g. 24 in Ghazel Owzan Valley, Zanzan, on 10 July 1975, eight at Latian Dam, Tehran, on 17 July 1975, 10 at Latian Dam on 18 July 1974, and 100 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 26 July 1973. However, the main arrival was in late August and September. High counts at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge included 367 on 2–3 August 1975, 306 on 31 August 1974, 1,170 on 11–12 September 1975, 1,200 on 13 September 1973, 750 on 26 October 1972, and 850 on 29 October 1971. A total of 340 were seen flying south over the Caspian Sea at Astara, Gilan, on 2 September 1973. In central and southern Iran, the first of the autumn migrants began to appear in late August, e.g. 37 in Shadegan Marshes and 62 near Khorramabad, Khuzestan, on 25 August 1972, and 20 at Hashelan Marsh, Kermanshah, on 29 August 1971. The departure of winter visitors in spring began in late February and continued until late April. High counts at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge included 350 on 22 February 1974, 405 on 2 March 1973, 670 on 25 March 1975, and 108 on 17 April 1973. Most of the birds remaining at wetlands in central and southern Iran after the end of April were probably summering non-breeders. Late records of migrants included 10 at Tabas, South Khorasan, on 26 April 1975, 13 at Latian Dam on 12 May 1974, and seven at Latian Dam on 14 May 1973. The latest records of birds thought to be still on passage in the south Caspian region were 19 at the mouth of the Sefid Rud, Gilan, on 8 May 1967, and 86 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 10–11 May 1973. At Latian Dam, the Grey Heron was a common winter visitor and passage migrant from late July to the end of April. The main spring passage was between the middle of February and the end of April, and the main autumn passage was between early September and the end of November (maximum count: 53 on 3 November 1974). See Scott (2007) for details of breeding colonies.



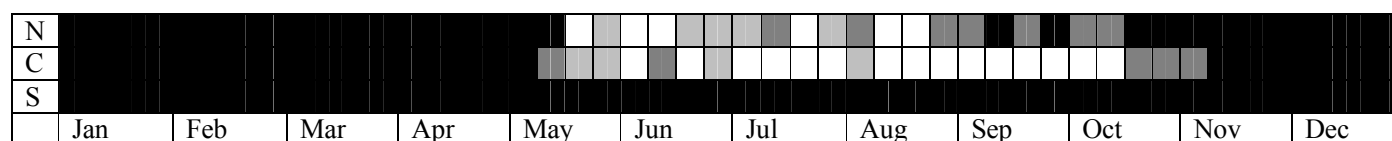
### Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* (301)

A fairly common summer visitor breeding at wetlands with suitable reed-bed habitats throughout northern and western Iran south to the northern Persian Gulf coast, and also in the Seistan basin in wet years. Occurred on passage throughout Iran, and wintered in small numbers in Khuzestan, Bushehr, central Fars and Seistan. Spring passage began in the third week of March, and reached a peak in the second half of April and first half of May. The earliest records in spring in northern Iran were of two birds at Latian Dam, Tehran, on 22 March 1973 and a bird near Mashad, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 24 March 1971. Autumn passage began in the third week of July and continued until the end of September, with small numbers of birds lingering in the south Caspian until late November (latest record: one bird at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 27 November 1972). The main arrival in autumn appears to have been via the west coast of the Caspian Sea, as flocks of 300 and 220 birds were observed passing south along the coast at Astara, Gilan, on 2 September 1973. However, other birds apparently entered Iran via the east coast of the Caspian, as flocks totalling 384 were observed flying west or southwest over Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, between 28 August and 12 September 1972. At Latian Dam, Tehran, the Purple Heron was a common passage migrant in spring between 22 March and 10 June (maxima of 27 on 20 April 1973 and 28 on 11 April 1974), but only a scarce passage migrant in autumn, with single birds appearing on ten dates between 17 July and 19 September. See Scott (2007) for details of breeding colonies.



**Great Egret *Ardea alba* (840)**

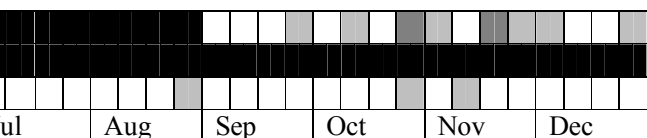
The nominate race was a very common passage migrant and winter visitor occurring at wetlands throughout Iran. The first autumn migrants began to appear in the south Caspian region in the last week of August or early September, e.g. 14 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 31 August 1974, and 11 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 5 September 1972, but the main arrival of winter visitors began in the last week of October and early November. High counts at this time of year included 82 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 22 October 1974, 239 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 26 October 1972, 160 flying east along the coast near Now Farahabad, Mazandaran, on 31 October 1971, 100 flying east at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon on 1 November 1971, and 418 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 1 November 1973. Birds continued to arrive well into December, with numbers at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge reaching a peak in mid-December, e.g. 2,210 on 19 December 1971, and 750 on 19–20 December 1974. The earliest records of winter visitors south of the Alborz were of a bird at Lake Tashk, Fars, on 17 October 1973, one at Latian Dam, Tehran, on 20 October 1976, and 10 at Takhte Shah Marshes, Seistan, on 25 October 1975. The main departure of wintering birds occurred during the second half of March and first half of April. At Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, the highest counts during the spring passage were 1,933 on 2 March 1973, 810 on 20 March 1974, 500 on 25 March 1972, and 490 on 25 March 1975. Most birds had departed by the middle of April, e.g. there were only 121 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 16 April 1973, but a few birds continued to pass through until the middle of May, e.g. flocks of 14 at Sisangan, Gilan, on 6 May 1971, 10 at Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 13 May 1972, and nine at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 10 May 1973. The latest migrants in the Tehran area were single birds at Latian Dam on 17 May 1973, 24 May 1973 and 14 May 1975. A few non-breeding individuals remained throughout the summer at wetlands in West Azarbaijan, the south Caspian region, Khuzestan and central Fars. Elsewhere, records of summering birds included two at Latian Dam on 24 June 1975, one at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 6 August 1976, one at Hashelan Marsh, Kermanshah, on 14 June 1972, and one at Hamoun-e Sabari, Seistan, on 5 June 1973. At Latian Dam, the Great Egret was a regular winter visitor in very small numbers (from early November), and a fairly common passage migrant in spring, with the main passage occurring from the end of March to the middle of April (maximum of 12 on 5 April 1974). The race *modesta* was a locally common resident in the southern Persian Gulf, breeding in the mangroves in Hara Protected Area in the Khouuran Strait, and probably in other large mangrove areas in Hormozgan. See Scott (2007) for further details of the breeding population.



**Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* (794)**

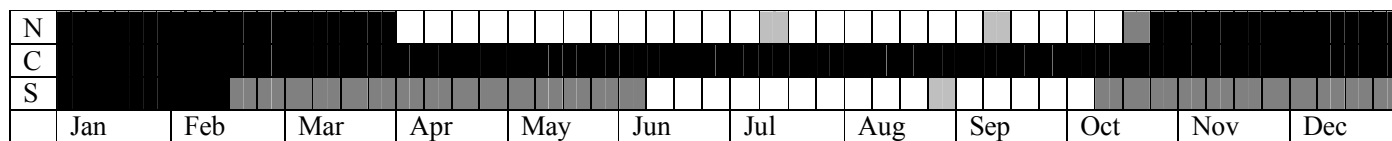
A fairly common breeding bird in the wetlands of West and East Azarbaijan, the south Caspian region, Khuzestan and central Fars, and also found breeding in the Seistan basin in wet years. Some hundreds of birds remained throughout the winter at wetlands in Gilan, especially at Anzali Mordab and Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, and also in Khuzestan, central Fars and Bushehr; a few birds overwintered at wetlands in Mazandaran, Kermanshah, Esfahan and Seistan. Also a common passage migrant in spring and autumn at wetlands in northern and western Iran, but very scarce in Hormozgan, Seistan and Baluchestan. In the Tehran area, the first spring migrants appeared in the last ten days of March (earliest records: one at Ghale-Now Marshes on 20 March 1975, five at Latian Dam on 22 March 1973, one at Latian Dam on 26 March 1974, and one at Latian Dam on 26 March 1975). Early spring migrants in the southeast Caspian included a flock of 18 at Mahmudabad, Mazandaran, on 23 March 1972, and 25 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 25 March 1975. The spring passage reached a peak in the first three weeks of April and continued into early May. Late spring migrants included a bird at the eastern edge of the Dasht-e Lut, South Khorasan, on 11 May 1972, a bird at Pol-e Dokhtar Marsh, Lorestan, on 16 May 1972, and a bird at Latian Dam on 17 May 1973. The autumn passage began in the middle of August and continued throughout September and October and into early November. The earliest autumn records in the Tehran area were of a bird at Ghale-Now Marshes on 3 August 1973, two at Ghale-Now on 5 August 1973, and one at Ghale-Now on 10 August 1975. High counts in autumn included 300 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon on 26 October 1970, 585 at Anzali Mordab and Galugah on 6 September 1972, 360 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 8 September 1972, 435 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 13 September 1973, and 300 at Larim Sara, Mazandaran, on 16 September 1973. In the southeast Caspian, most birds had departed by the middle of November (latest high count at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge: 53 on 19 November 1971), while the latest migrants in the Tehran area were a bird at Latian Dam on 7 November 1974, and two at Latian Dam on 17 November 1972. At Latian Dam, the Little Egret was a common passage migrant in spring (22 March to 17 May; maximum of 27 on 4 April 1974), and regular in small numbers in autumn (27 August to 17 November; maximum of six on 5 October 1972). See Scott (2007) for details of breeding colonies.

Urmieh in East and West Azarbaijan, and a few in Fars and Seistan, but scarce on passage and in the northern Persian Gulf coast. The timing of migration was no coverage in April or May. Large numbers were in the basin at the end of August but most had left by September. In the south of Lake Urmieh, on 31 December 1972 there were exceptional. Small numbers of birds were recorded in the region between 15 October and 5 March, but reliable figures were 13 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, near Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 25 February 1973, and 10 on 10 November 1975. Two birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge. At 70 pairs bred at Lake Tashk, Fars, in 1965, and in the wetlands of central Fars in all months of the year. Evidence of breeding. The number of wintering birds was 800; flocks of several hundred birds were recorded in the wetlands, and between 50 and 150, mainly immature birds. An important wintering area was in the wetlands of the Hamoun-e Sabari recorded on 9 February 1974. In the wetlands of the Hamoun-e Sabari on 5 June. Small numbers were recorded in the wetlands of Khuzestan and in the



### Dalmatian Pelican *Pelecanus crispus* (231)

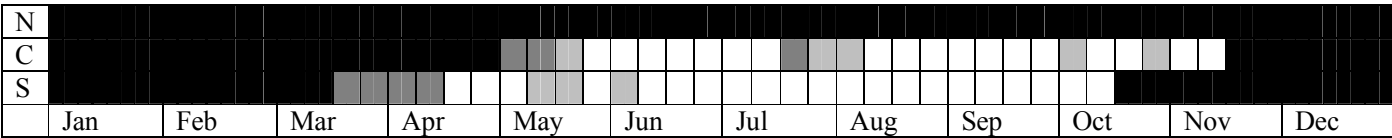
An uncommon breeding bird in the wetlands of Fars and Khuzestan, and a common winter visitor to the south Caspian region (especially Miankaleh Peninsula and Gorgan Bay, Mazandaran, where up to 350 were recorded in mid-winter), the wetlands of Khuzestan, central Fars and Seistan, and river mouths and creeks along the entire south coast. Wintering birds began to arrive in the south Caspian region in late October (earliest record: seven in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 20 October 1974) and had departed by the end of March (latest record: three in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 26 March 1975). A bird at the east end of Miankaleh Peninsula on 11 September 1975 was unusually early. The earliest records of wintering birds on the south coast were of a bird at Jask, Hormozgan, on 15 October 1973, and a bird at Govater, Baluchestan, on 18 October 1975; the latest record was of a bird over the Dasht-e Ari, Baluchestan, on 6 April 1971. Summering non-breeders were recorded at many wetlands in Khuzestan, central Fars and Seistan, and also once at lakes on the Turkoman Steppes, Golestan (an immature bird at Lake Alagol on 13 July 1972), and once in the delta of the Hilleh Rud, Bushehr (six immatures on 3 June 1974).



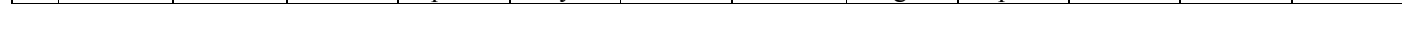
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## Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* (635)

A locally abundant breeding bird in Gilan and western Mazandaran, and an abundant winter visitor throughout the south Caspian region and along the entire south coast east to the Pakistan border; also wintering commonly at wetlands in Khuzestan, central Fars and Seistan, and in much small numbers along the Araxes River in northern Ardebil and along the Zaindeh Rud in Esfahan. At Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge and Gorgan Bay in eastern Mazandaran and Golestan, the first of the winter visitors arrived in mid-September (earliest record: 20 on 11 September 1975), but numbers built up very slowly and the main arrival was not until the second half of November, e.g. 260 on 18-20 November 1971, and 1,300 on 27-28 November 1975. Numbers remained high until late March, e.g. 500 on 24-25 March 1972, but only a few immature birds remained after the middle of April. Birds began to arrive in their wintering areas in southern Iran in October (earliest record: four at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 3 October 1978) and most had left by the end of March, although a few immature birds lingered on until May (latest records: two at Lake Parishan on 10 May 1972, and one in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 14 May 1973). An immature bird on Hormoz Island, Hormozgan, on 23 May 1974 and eight immatures in Shadegan Marshes on 4 June 1974 may have been summering. The Great Cormorant was occasionally recorded on passage at Nowruzlu Dam and Mahabad Dam, West Azarbaijan, between 10 July (five birds at Mahabad Dam in 1975) and 23 November (100 at Nowruzlu Dam in 1972), but the only mid-winter record in the Urumiyeh basin was of five birds at Nowruzlu Dam on 31 December 1971. At Latian Dam, Tehran, the Great Cormorant was a common passage migrant in spring, with the main passage occurring between the end of February and the middle of April, and the last birds departing in May (maximum count: 30 on 9 April 1973; latest record: one on 22 May 1975). Small numbers of birds appeared in autumn (earliest record: one 14 October 1974), and in some years, a few birds lingered on until late December or early January, e.g. six on 27 December 1974, and two on 12 January 1976. There were three records of birds at Latian Dam in summer: one on 3 August 1973, three on 17 July 1975 and two on 22 July 1976. Other records on the south side of the Alborz included three birds flying northwest over the desert near Qazvin on 21 February 1972, one on a river in the hills northeast of Qazvin on 7 August 1975, seven at Karadj Dam, Alborz, on 7 March 1969, and single birds at Ghale-Now marshes, Tehran, on 20 March 1975 and 25 July 1975. A bird flying up the Bampur Valley west of Bampur, Baluchestan, on 23 October 1975 was very unusual.







### Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus* (324)

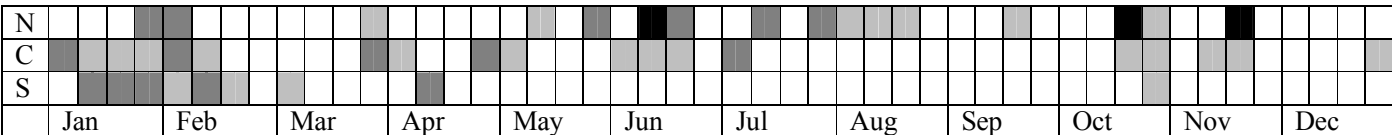
A common and widespread summer visitor and passage migrant, breeding in mountainous regions throughout Iran. Fairly common in winter along the south coast from the region of Bandar-e Charak, Hormozgan, east to the Pakistan border. A bird at Deh Noh near the Dez River, Khuzestan, on 15 February 1971 may have been a wintering bird or a very early migrant. The first spring migrants arrived in March, but the main arrival occurred in early April. Away from the south coast, the earliest records in spring were of 11 birds over Kerman City, Kerman, on 12 March 1971, one in Kavir National Park, Semnan, on 22 March 1975, four near Bazargan, West Azarbaijan, on 27 March 1974, and one by the Rud-e Shur at Robat Karim, Tehran, on 28 March 1974. Most of the summer visitors had left by the end of August, and the only records after the first week of September were of one between Karadj and Qazvin, Qazvin, on 12 September 1968, two at Aju in the Central Alborz Protected Area, Mazandaran, on 13 September 1971, and one near Kalaleh, Golestan, on 16 September 1974. There were only two records of birds on passage at Lashgarak, Tehran: two birds on 12 April 1974 and one on 29 May 1975.

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## Cinereous (Eurasian Black) Vulture *Aegypius monachus* (74)

A widely distributed but rather scarce resident in northern and western Iran, wandering widely in search of food, but apparently only a winter visitor to the southern coastal lowlands, Seistan and Baluchestan. All records in the south were between 24 October (10 birds at a carcass near Hormak, Seistan, in 1975) and 11 April (two birds in Bahu Kalat Protected Area, Baluchestan, in 1972). The only record in Khuzestan was of four birds near Behbahan on 1 February 1968. There were three records of Cinereous Vultures at Lashgarak, Tehran: two birds on 26 April 1973, two on 17 October 1974, and one on 10 November 1974.



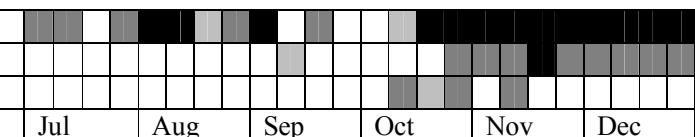
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### Lesser Spotted Eagle *Clanga pomarina* (38)

A fairly common summer visitor to the Caspian forests, but seldom seen on migration outside the south Caspian region. All except one of the 38 records were between the last week of March (earliest record: one over Karadj, Karadj, on 24 March 1967) and third week of September (latest record: one near Kalaleh, Golestan, on 16 September 1974). The exception was an immature bird at Lake Gori, East Azarbaijan, on 18 October 1978. Records of birds on spring migration included the bird over Karadj on 24 March 1967, single birds flying west at Galugah, Gilan, on 6, 7 and 20 April 1967, and one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 5 April 1978. Birds on autumn migration included three in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 11 September 1972, 14 flying west over Semeskandeh Protected Area, Mazandaran, on 12 August 1973, one flying southwest over the Alborz divide west of Astara, Gilan, on 3 September 1973, the bird near Kalaleh, Golestan, on 16 September 1974, and one flying south over Mulkabad in Kavir National Park, Semnan, on 19 September 1975.

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the south Caspian region, Khuzestan, central Fars and at other wetlands south to southern Persian Gulf throughout the summer in the south Caspian region. They were mostly immature birds and there was no record in the south Caspian region as early as the Turkoman Steppes, Golestan, on 1 August 1975. However, apart from a bird in Bamou National Park south of the Alborz was of a bird near Minab, birds wintering in the south Caspian region departed and flying west over Galugah Ab-bandan, Gilan, on 1 April 1967 and one on 20 April 1967. The latest record south of the Alborz was on 17 April 1967. Single birds were recorded on 1 April 1974 and 2 April 1974 and on 26 March 1975.

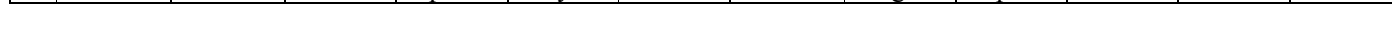


**Booted Eagle *Hieraaetus pennatus* (56)**

A fairly common summer visitor to the forests of the Alborz Mountains east to Golestan, the Kalibar Mountains in East Azarbaijan and the extreme western Zagros Mountains in southern West Azarbaijan, Kordestan and Kermanshah. Breeding was assumed although never proven. A bird seen in the Zagros near Borujerd, Lorestan, on 7 April 1978 was probably still on migration. All other records of birds on passage were in the north and east of the country, and there were no records from Khuzestan, Fars or the northern Persian Gulf coast. The earliest on spring passage was a bird near Bazargan, West Azarbaijan, on 27 March 1978, and the latest, a bird north of Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 8 May 1967. The earliest on autumn passage were two birds near Mashad, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 8 August 1969, and the latest were a bird at Lapoo-Zargmarz Abbandans, Mazandaran, on 16 October 1970, and a bird in Bahu Kalat Protected Area, Baluchestan, on 20 October 1975. A few birds apparently overwintered in the coastal lowlands of Hormozgan and Baluchestan. Two were seen near Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 2 and 3 February 1974, and there was one in Chahbahar, Baluchestan, on 21 and 24 January 1975.

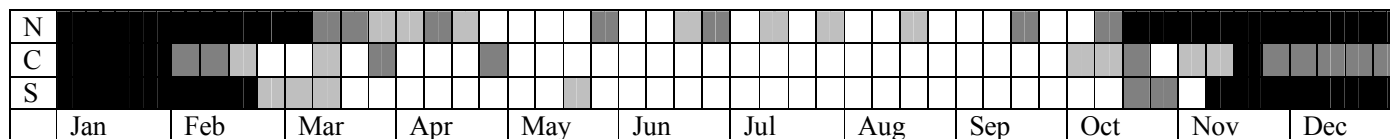
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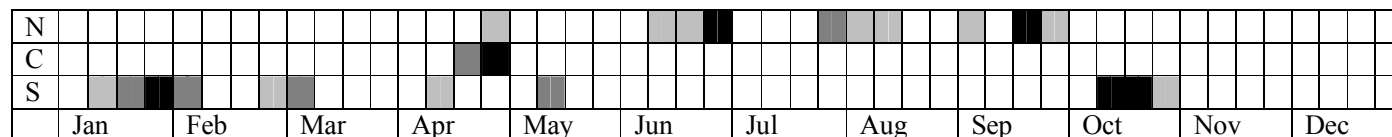
**Eastern Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca* (210)**

Probably a scarce breeding bird in the central and eastern Alborz. There were ten records of one or two birds in Mazandaran, Golestan and North Khorasan between late May and the middle of September, and a pair was seen in display flight in Golestan National Park on 3 February 1972, but breeding was never confirmed. A fairly common winter visitor to the south Caspian lowlands and principal wetland areas south to Khuzestan, the Persian Gulf coast and southern Persian Baluchestan. The total wintering population was conservatively estimated at 80–110 individuals, including 25–30 in the south Caspian region, 15–20 in central Fars, 20–25 in Khuzestan and 10–12 in the Seistan Basin. The earliest arrivals in autumn were a bird at Dasht-e Arjan, Fars, on 1 October 1978 and two birds at Ghale-Now, Tehran, on 11 October 1970, but the main arrival occurred in the second half of October and early November. Most birds had departed by the end of March. Seven immatures were seen flying west over Galugah, Gilan, on 7 April 1967, and another immature was seen flying west over Galugah on 20 April 1967. Other late migrants included a bird flying north over Tehran on 27 April 1973, and a bird in Khosh Yeilagh Protected Area, Semnan, on 29 April 1974. The only records in West Azarbaijan were of single birds between Maku and Bazargan on 12 November 1970 and near Maku on 14 November 1973; the only record in East Azarbaijan was of a bird by the Araxes River north of Arasbaran Protected Area on 2 December 1971. At Lashgarak, Tehran, single birds were recorded on spring passage on 30 March 1973, 13 March 1975 and 26 March 1975. An adult near Zabol, Seistan, on 19 May 1967 was exceptional, and may have been sick or injured.



**Shikra** *Accipiter badius* (54)

A fairly common summer visitor and passage migrant in the northeast, occurring sparingly west through the south Caspian region to Gilan, and a fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor in the southeast. The earliest records in spring north of Baluchestan were of five birds in Touran Wildlife Refuge, Khorasan, on 23 April 1975, and two at Galugah, Gilan, on 24 April 1970; the latest record was of a bird in the hills south of Sabzevar, Khorasan-e Razavi on 24 September 1974. All records in Hormozgan and Baluchestan were between 13 October and 13 May.

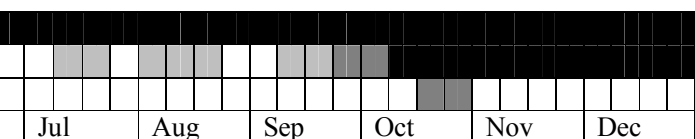


Levant Sparrowhawk *Accipiter brevipes* (20)

Status uncertain; probably a scarce summer visitor to the Zagros forests and forests of northern East Azarbaijan, and a scarce passage migrant elsewhere. There were five records in July and August which probably related to breeding birds: a male calling near Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 6 July 1974; a bird in Arasbaran Protected Area, East Azarbaijan, on 1 July 1974; a male in Zagros oak forest near Sisakht, Kohgeluyeh & Boyer-Ahmad, on 10 August 1974; two pairs in display flight near Nowsud in the western Zagros, Kermanshah, on 2 July 1975; and a bird near Lake Zaribar, Kordestan, on 3 July 1975. Birds were observed on spring passage on 10 occasions, the earliest being a bird near Nikshahr, Baluchestan, on 14 April 1972, and the latest being a bird over the Ilrud Range in the Central Alborz, Mazandaran, on 1 May 1972; of the five records in autumn, the earliest was a bird at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on the 20 September 1973, and the latest was a bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 17 October 1974.

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forests and forests of the Kalibar Mountains in a visitor occurring throughout Iran, but chiefly in migrants arrived in northern Iran in September 1975, on 5 September 1975, and one at Lashgarak, arrival was in October. Big movements were noted in October 1973 (nine birds on 14<sup>th</sup>, 56 birds on 18<sup>th</sup> began to arrive in the second and third weeks of March, Kerman, on 12 October 1975, one at Bahu one at Bandar-e Assalu, Bushehr, on 21 October 1975, and the only records in April were 1975, a bird of Qeshm Island, Hormozgan, on 7 April, on 10 April 1972, and a bird at Nikshahr, Bushehr, spring passage continued until early May, the Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 10 May 1973, Protected Area, Mazandaran, on 10 May 1974. Big movements, in April 1967, when 20 were recorded on 7<sup>th</sup> April. A Sparrowhawk was a regular winter visitor and 12 September and 6 May.



**Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis* (37)**

A rather scarce winter visitor, mainly to the south Caspian region and Alborz mountains, but recorded south to the northern Persian Gulf coast and central Baluchestan. May have bred in Arasbaran Protected Area, East Azarbaijan, where an adult was seen on 27 May 1978. All but two of the other records were between 11 October (a bird over the Alborz divide above Astara, Gilan, in 1973) and 23 April (a bird at Galugah, Gilan, in 1970). The two birds recorded in the second half of August (a bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 26 August 1973, and a bird in Parvar Protected Region, Semnan, on 22 August 1975) were probably early migrants. One or two individuals were recorded on 14 occasions at Lashgarak between 3 November and 11 April.

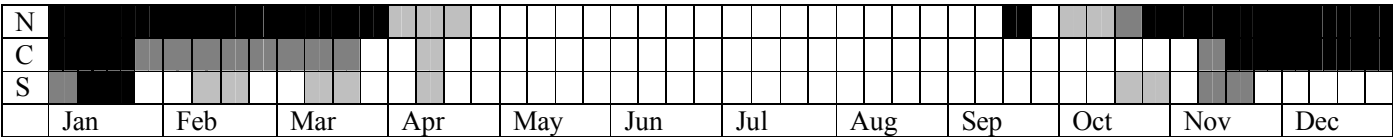
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**Western Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* (599)**

A common breeding bird at wetlands in the south Caspian region, western Iran, Khuzestan, the Hilleh Delta in Bushehr, central Fars and the Seistan basin. A summer visitor to the wetlands of East and West Azarbaijan and Kordestan, but present year round in other breeding areas. Also a common winter visitor to the south Caspian region, Khuzestan, central Fars and Seistan, and a regular winter visitor in small numbers to Ghale-Now and Ashkerabad Marshes, Tehran, marshes along the lower Zaindeh Rud, Esfahan, and mangrove areas in the southern Persian Gulf and Persian Baluchestan. All records in the northwest were between 13 April (two birds near Evaghli, West Azarbaijan, in 1969) and 23 November (an immature bird at Nowruzlu Dam, West Azarbaijan, in 1972). In the marshes near Tehran, the earliest in autumn was a bird at Ghale-Now Marshes on 13 September 1974, and the latest in spring was a bird at Ghale-Now Marshes on 19 April 1974. All records on the southern Persian Gulf coast and coast of Baluchestan were between 15 October (a bird at Jask Creek, Hormozgan, in 1973) and 16 April (a bird at Bandar-e Khamir, Hormozgan, in 1978), except for a bird in the mangroves in Hara National Park, Hormozgan, on 7 June 1975. This was probably a summering non-breeder. There were only four records of birds on passage elsewhere in Iran: a bird by the Rud-e Shur at Robat Karim, Tehran, on 9 April 1967; a bird by the Rud-e Shur near Saveh, Markazi, on 25 April 1968; a bird over the steppe near Doruneh, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 25 April 1975; and a bird by a river southeast of Bam, Kerman, on 12 October 1975. High counts in winter included 85 in the Anzali Mordab area, Gilan, in January 1971, 60 at Seyed Mohalli Ab-bandans and Larim Sara, Mazandaran, in February 1972, 70 in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, in January 1972, 40 at Lake Parishan, Fars, in December 1975, and 50 in the wetlands of the Seistan basin in January 1976.

**Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* (204)**

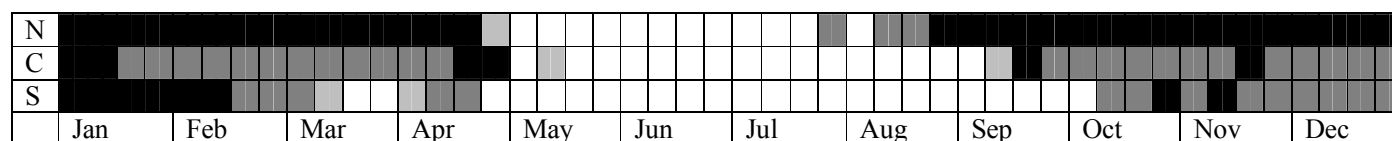
A common winter visitor to northern Iran, especially the south Caspian region, and a fairly common winter visitor to Khuzestan, central Fars and Seistan. The earliest arrivals in autumn appeared in the northeast in late September (earliest records: a bird on the Turkoman Steppes near Band-e Fariman, Golestan, on 16 September 1974, and a bird near Sarakhs, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 20 September 1974), but the main arrival did not occur until the second half of October. The great majority had departed by the end of March and there were only five records in April, the latest being a bird flying west at Galugah, Gilan, on 20 April 1967. Single birds were recorded on passage at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 4 October 1973, 13 and 15 November 1975, and 26 December 1975. The only records from the southeast were of single birds near Bampur, Baluchestan, on 14 April 1972, and at Govater, Baluchestan, on 18 October 1975.





**Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus* (241)**

A common and widespread passage migrant and winter visitor, although there were no records from the extreme northwest. The main spring migration was from the middle of March to the third week of April; the autumn migration began in the last week of July and reached a peak in the last week of August and September. The latest records in spring were of two birds at Khosh Yeilagh Protected Area, Semnan, on 30 April 1974, and a male near Borujerd, Lorestan, on 15 May 1969; the earliest records in autumn were of a bird at Lapoo-Zargmarz Ab-bandans, Mazandaran, on 27 July 1973, and a bird near Maraveh Tappeh on the Turkoman Steppes, Golestan, on 31 July 1975. At Lashgarak, Tehran, single birds were recorded on passage on 19 April 1973, 26 September 1974, 10 November 1974 and 13 November 1975.



### Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus* (25)

A scarce and local breeding summer visitor in wetlands south of Lake Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan, and probably also breeding at Akh Gol, West Azarbaijan, where there was a female on 9 July 1974, and along the Hari Rud south of Sarakhs, Khorasan-e Razavi, where there were two males on 11 June 1973. Also a scarce passage migrant in the north and west, particularly in the south Caspian region where there were ten records in spring between 4 April and 10 May and five in autumn, all in August. The earliest record in spring was of two birds near Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 4 April 1978; the latest record in autumn was of a bird over Kuh-e Asara, Tehran, on 8 September 1972. The only other record in the Tehran area was of a bird at Ghale-Now Marshes on 14 August 1975. An immature male east of Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 17 April 1978 was very unusual.

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### **Black Kite *Milvus migrans* (852)**

A fairly common and widespread breeding bird in northern Iran, occurring south in the Zagros at least as far as Lorestan, and south in the uplands of eastern Iran to the region of Birjand in South Khorasan. A few pairs were apparently breeding around Bandar Abbas and on Qeshm Island, Hormozgan, in 1967, but there were no further indications of breeding in southern Iran. Possibly as many as 200 birds remained throughout the winter in the lowlands of Gilan and Mazandaran, and up to 40 were present in Tehran City and suburbs throughout the winter, but otherwise the Black Kite was only a summer visitor to the breeding areas, arriving in spring in the last week of March and early April. The earliest records were of a bird near Qazvin on 20 March 1972, a bird near Varamin, Tehran, on 22 March 1975, and a bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 23 March 1975. Some 240 birds were counted flying northwest over Galugah, Gilan in late March and April 1967, including 82 on 6 April, 79 on 7<sup>th</sup> and 50 on 20<sup>th</sup>. The main departure in autumn was in August and the first half of September, with notable counts of migrants including flocks totalling 100 near Sanandaj, Kordestan, on 31 August 1971, a flock of 100 near Mahabad, West Azarbaijan, on 16 August 1972, 123 flying west over Semeskandeh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 12 August 1973, and 60 at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 5 August 1974. A few birds lingered on until the end of September and occasionally October (e.g. two birds in Qazvin on 16 October 1973); a bird at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 11 November 1970, five birds in Tabriz, East Azarbaijan, on 11 November 1971, two birds in Tabriz on 14 November 1973, and a bird near Ardebil on 24 November 1972 were exceptionally late. The Black Kite was a common winter visitor to Khuzestan, Fars, Bushehr, Hormozgan and the Seistan basin, but was surprisingly scarce in Baluchestan, where there were only five records: a few birds around Zahedan on 21–23 May 1967, 11 birds in a garden in Zahedan on 18 April 1972, a single wintering bird in Zahedan on 30 January 1975; a bird near Iranshahr on 13 October 1975, and a bird southwest of Bampur on 23 October 1975. Birds began to arrive in southern Iran in the first half of October (earliest records: two at Persepolis and one at Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 6 October 1975, two in Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 10 October 1975, and one at Lapuyee Marshes, Fars, on 12 October 1973). High counts in mid-winter included 350 around Abadan, Khuzestan, on 16 February 1971, 400 in Bandar Abbas on 3 February 1974, 500 in Bandar Abbas on 20 January 1975, and 70 near Zabol, Seistan, on 17 January 1976. Most birds had departed by the middle of April, but a few birds lingered on into late May; the latest records were of two birds on Khark Island, Bushehr, on 29 May 1974, and one on Khark Island on 1 June 1974. A bird in Esfahan City on 6 January 1974 and possible the same bird east of the city on 15 January 1974 were unusual. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Black Kite was a fairly common passage migrant in spring (earliest date: 23 March), a common passage migrant in autumn (latest date: 30 September), and an occasional visitor during the summer months.

**White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla* (440)**

A fairly common resident in the south Caspian lowlands (15–20 pairs) and also a common winter visitor from mid-October to late March or early April, especially in the Gorgan Bay area (50–100 individuals) and around Anzali Mordab (c. 20 individuals). A regular winter visitor to major wetland areas elsewhere in Iran, particularly the wetlands of central Fars, the Seistan basin, and coastal wetlands from the Strait of Hormoz through southern Persian Baluchistan to the Pakistan border. The total wintering population was estimated at between 150 and 250 individuals. Apart from two birds at the south end of Lake Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan, on 30 August 1973, a bird near Bandar-e Khomeini, Khuzestan, on 23 March 1974, and a bird at Lake Tashk, Fars, on 17 and 18 August 1967, all records away from the Caspian region were between late October and mid-February (earliest: a bird at Dasht-e Arjan, Fars, on 20 October 1978; latest: a bird at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 14 February 1969). The highest single count was of a concentration of 40 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 5 February 1971; the highest counts south of the Caspian region were of six at Lake Tashk, Fars, on 20 December 1967, ten in the wetlands of the Seistan basin on 14 January 1973, and six in the deltas of the Rud-e Gaz and Rud-e Hara, Hormozgan, on 21 January 1975. A bird by the Rud-e Jowin near Esfaryen, North Khorasan, on 17 November 1974 was presumably on passage.

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**Long-legged Buzzard *Buteo rufinus* (662)**

A common and very widespread breeding bird, breeding in hilly and mountainous regions throughout Iran, and present all year round throughout its breeding range. Also a fairly common winter visitor to lowland areas outside the breeding range, including the southeast Caspian region, Khuzestan, the Persian Gulf coast and southern Persian Baluchestan. All records in the lowlands of Mazandaran and Golestan were between 20 October (a bird in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, in 1974) and 13 March (a bird near Bandar-e Shah, Golestan, in 1972), except for a bird at Ghareh Tappeh, Mazandaran, on 30 August 1972, two birds near Gonbad-e Qaboos, Golestan, on 16 September 1974, and a bird at Larim Sara, Mazandaran, on 16 April 1973. All records in the lowlands of Khuzestan and on the coastal plain of the Persian Gulf and Persian Baluchestan were between the second week of October (earliest records: a bird near Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 10 October 1975, and three birds near Bandar Abbas on 16 October 1973) and late March (latest records: a bird in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 9 March 1972, and a bird in Dez Wildlife Refuge, Khuzestan, on 25 March 1975), except for a bird in Dez Wildlife Refuge on 5 May 1978. The Long-legged Buzzard was also a regular winter visitor in small numbers to the plains to the south and east of Tehran, where all records were between the middle of August (earliest records: single birds at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 10 August 1973 and 14 August 1975) and the middle of April (latest records: a bird at Mulkabad in Kavir National Park, Semnan, on 11 April 1975, and two birds at Ghale-Now Marshes on 19 April 1974), except for a bird at Ghale-Now Marshes on 5 May 1978. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Long-legged Buzzard was an occasional visitor in small numbers, recorded in every month but most frequent in spring.

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### Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni* (146)

A locally common summer visitor to north-central and north-eastern Iran and the western Zagros south to central Fars. Breeding colonies were located along the south slope of the Alborz Mountains, in the southeast Caspian region, in North Khorasan, Khorasan-e Razavi and South Khorasan, and in Lorestan and central Fars, and birds were recorded during the breeding season in Zanjan, Kordestan and Ilam. The first spring migrants arrived in central Fars in the second half of February, and in northern Iran in the last ten days of March. The earliest record in the south was of four birds near Shiraz, Fars, on 19 February 1974; the earliest record in the north was of four birds near Tehran on 18 March 1974. The autumn migration began in early September and continued until early October. The latest records were of a male in the Lar Valley north of Tehran on 9 October 1970, and an exceptionally late male at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 29 October 1971. There were only three records of birds on passage at Lashgarak, Tehran: a party of four on 3 August 1972, several flocks totalling 150 moving south down the Jajerud Valley on 3 October 1974 and a single bird on 26 March 1975.

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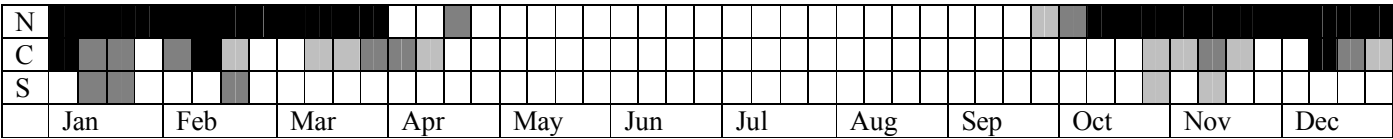


**Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* (1,277)**

A common breeding bird in all hilly and mountainous regions except in southern Persian Baluchestan. Present all year round throughout the breeding range, but also a common winter visitor almost throughout the country, absent only from the most arid desert regions. In the lowlands of Khuzestan, where the Common Kestrel was only a winter visitor, all records were between 6 November (a bird at Susangerd in 1973) and 21 March (a bird at Susangerd in 1974), while in southern Persian Baluchestan, all records were between 16 October (two birds at Chahbahar in 1975) and 4 March (a bird in Bahu Kalat Protected Area in 1971). At Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, there was some evidence of through passage in spring and autumn, with the highest numbers being recorded in the second half of March (e.g. 10 on 15 March 1972, and seven on 25 March 1975) and between late September and early November (e.g. nine on 27 September 1973, 10 on 4 November 1973, and 16 on 22 October 1974). Observations of birds on spring passage elsewhere in Iran included a total of 28 birds moving west over Bandar Anzali and Galugah, Gilan, in late March and April 1967, several small groups migrating near Meimeh, Esfahan, on 15 April 1967, and 10 birds at Delbar oasis in Touran Protected Area, Semnan, on 23 April 1975. Observations of birds on autumn passage included 12 birds flying west over Semeskandeh Protected Area, Mazandaran, on 16 September 1973, six flying south over Kuh-e Asara, Alborz, on 21 September 1973, a total of 17 in the Upper Lar Valley, Tehran, on 5 September 1975, and nine flying south along the coast at Astara, Gilan, on 25 September 1975.

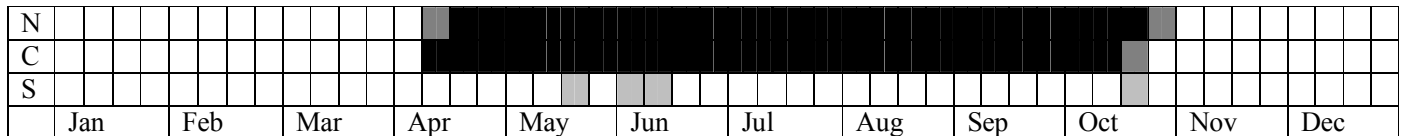
## Merlin *Falco columbarius* (219)

A common winter visitor to West and East Azarbaijan, the south Caspian region, North Khorasan and Khorasan-e Razavi, and a fairly common winter visitor to the western provinces and Tehran area, occurring in smaller numbers south to Khuzestan (six records), central Fars (two records) and the Seistan Basin (three records). The first migrants arrived in the south Caspian region in late September or early October (earliest records: a bird at Astara, Gilan, on 25 September 1975, and a bird at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 5 October 1973), but the main arrival occurred in the last week of October and early November. The species was particularly common on passage at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, where 10–15 birds were recorded on several occasions in late October and November. The earliest records of birds south of the Alborz were of a bird near Rudehen, Tehran, on 25 October 1971, and a bird at Sefidabe, Seistan, on 27 October 1975. Most birds had departed by the end of March, and the only records in April were of a bird at Jambol Marsh, Mazandaran, on 16 April 1973, two birds at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 17 April 1973, a long-staying individual at Lashgarak, Tehran, which remained until 12 April 1974, and a bird in the suburbs of Tehran on 1–3 April 1978. The only other records of Merlins at Lashgarak were of one on 3 November 1974, one on 13 November 1975, and two on 6 February 1976.



### Eurasian Hobby *Falco subbuteo* (315)

A common summer visitor to the north and west, occurring south-east through the Zagros to the region of Shiraz in central Fars, and a widespread passage migrant. All records were between 11 April (one at Lashgarak, Tehran, in 1974) and 25 October (two in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, in 1974). The main spring passage was in the second half of April and first half of May, and the main autumn passage was from the end of August to the beginning of October. At Lashgarak, the Eurasian Hobby was a fairly common passage migrant in April and September, and an occasional visitor during the summer months; all records were between 11 April and 17 October, and the maximum count was six on 10 May 1974.

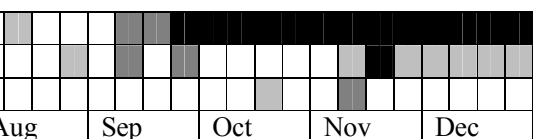


**Saker Falcon *Falco cherrug* (138)**

Primarily a winter visitor to Iran, arriving in late September and October and departing in March and early April, although a small number of birds undoubtedly bred in the mountains in the north and west of the country. No proof of breeding was obtained, although members of the falconry community claimed to know of nest sites and to have obtained young birds for falconry. A regular winter visitor in small numbers to the south Caspian lowlands; 39 of the 51 records in the south Caspian region were in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, where up to four individuals were present from the end of September to early April (earliest, two on 28 September 1973; latest, two on 16 April 1973). Also found wintering in East and West Azarbaijan, Ardebil, North Khorasan, Khorasan-e Razavi, Tehran, Esfahan, Khuzestan, central Fars, the Seistan basin and Baluchestan. Birds were observed in suitable breeding habitat during the breeding season in North Khorasan, Khorasan-e Razavi, the Alborz, East Azarbaijan and the Zagros south to central Fars. At Lashgarak, Tehran, there were five records of single birds between 9 October and 12 April.

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uncommon winter visitor to the Caspian and Baluchestan. The Peregrine was observed on 31 May 1970, and two were observed on 24 and 25 May 1971. In June and July were thought to relate to the Caspian region appeared in the Rud Valley and two at Zibakenar, Mazandaran, on 15 September and early October. Most birds lingered on until late April. Late April 1973, one flying west at Karadj, Karadj, in 1968) and (1972). The two exceptions, a bird at Ferdowsi Square in Tehran on 30 December, and one in spring, on 2



## Great Bustard *Otis tarda* (158)

A scarce breeding bird in upland areas of cultivation and steppe in West Azarbaijan, Kordestan, Hamadan and Kermanshah provinces. Mainly a summer visitor to the breeding areas from the end of April to late November, but a few birds were recorded in winter on the plains south of Lake Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan. Important breeding areas included the plains southwest of Lake Urumiyeh (maximum 20 birds) and plains around Miandoab (maximum 37) in West Azarbaijan, the plains near Gorveh (maximum 25), the Zarrineh Owbatu area near Divandareh (maximum 16), the plains near Saqqez (maximum 11) and Dasht-e Gaz near Deh Golan (maximum nine) in Kordestan, Assadabad Plain (maximum 40) in Hamadan, and the Doh Tappeh area near Hashelan (maximum 12) and Telesm area near Kerend (maximum seven) in Kermanshah. The Great Bustard was also a locally common winter visitor to areas of cultivation and steppe in North Khorasan, arriving in the middle of November and departing in February. There was a report of several hundred birds in the Amirabad, Ghalamabad and Rahmanabad areas on 17 December 1972, while other high counts in North Khorasan included 64 on the plains west of Shirvan on 30 December 1972, 98 in the Azadvar and Mohammabad areas on 22 November 1973, and 117 in the Shirvan and Esfaryen areas on 12–15 December 1974. Smaller numbers of birds also wintered on the plains near Tayebad and Torbat Heydariyeh in Khorasan-e Razavi, where the highest counts were 23 on the plains near Tayebad on 17 November 1973 and 26 in the same area on 1 February 1975. There were two records from the Caspian lowlands in Mazandaran: a female on Miankaleh Peninsula on 3 January 1971, and two birds near the coast north of Shahi on 22 September 1975. Three birds on Silakhor Plain, Lorestan, in November or December 1973 were presumably on passage.

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## 17)

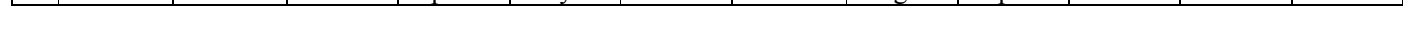
in well vegetated deserts around Wildlife Refuge, Semnan, in the north. Mainly a summer visitor to the south. Birds arrived in March or April, and a male in Kavir had left the breeding areas by the end of May. The Macqueen's Bustard was common in the southern lowlands from Khuzestan to southern Kerman and Hormozgan to the north. One near Takhte Shah northeast of Shiraz (latest record: one near Bandar-e Lengeh Protected Area, Fars, on 13 April 1978). Wintering grounds included 14 on the plains near Mehrrouyeh Protected Area, Fars, in December 1974, 24 on the mudflats of the Persian Gulf Protected Area, Fars, on 12 January 1975, and 16 on the plains near Mehrrouyeh Protected Area. Three records of birds on passage in November 1973, a single bird on the plains near Mehrrouyeh Protected Area and another bird on Miankaleh

### Little Bustard *Tetrax tetrax* (52)

A scarce and perhaps only irregular breeding bird on Miankaleh Peninsula in Mazandaran (where at least two pairs probably bred in 1972 and 1973); also reported by local Department of Environment personnel during the breeding season in the high grassland above Almeh Valley in Golestan National Park, North Khorasan. A very common winter visitor to the Turkoman Steppes, Golestan, and Miankaleh Peninsula, with the main arrival occurring in late October and early November (earliest flock: 31 on 28 October 1970), and most birds departing by late March (latest flock: 246 on 15 March 1972). The highest count on Miankaleh Peninsula was 504 on 26 January 1972; the highest count on the Turkoman Steppes was 430 near Lake Eymar on 1 February 1972. A bird flying east over the Caspian Sea off Now Farahabad, Mazandaran, on 31 October 1971 was unusual. Little Bustards were also found in winter on the Dasht-e Moghan in Ardebil (two birds on 28 November 1971), and at Ahu Dasht in Khuzestan (four birds on 23 January 1974). A male near Abadeh in Fars on 16 April 1967 was exceptional.

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### Corn Crane *Crex crex* (28)

Probably a fairly common passage migrant in spring and a scarce passage migrant in autumn, but easily overlooked. Spring migrants were recorded between 5 April and 16 May; autumn migrants between 9 August and 24 October. Nineteen of the 28 records were from the Lashgarak area, Tehran, where one or two birds were recorded on sixteen occasions in spring between 5 April (one in 1973) and 16 May (one in 1974), and single birds on three occasions in autumn: on 9 August 1973, 13 September 1973 and 4 October 1973. Records elsewhere in spring included a bird at Robat-e Karim southwest of Tehran on 20 April 1967, single birds at two locations in north Tehran on 11 April 1967, single birds at two locations in the eastern part of Golestan National Park, North Khorasan, on 3 May 1971, one at Aju in the Central Alborz, Mazandaran, on 8 May 1971, and one near Shush, Khuzestan, on 16 May 1972. The only other records of birds on autumn passage were of six in a plantation at Nahalestan, Tehran, on 24 September 1975, and one at Hormak oasis north of Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 24 October 1975.

[illegible]

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## Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla* (18)

A fairly common breeding bird in the wetlands of central Fars where apparently only a summer visitor, arriving in early April (earliest record: one at Lake Maharlu on 4 April 1975). No less than eight adults and two small chicks were seen at Dasht-e Arjan on 13 June 1971. The only other records were of single birds on passage at Lashgarak, Tehran: on 21 April 1973, 4 May 1973, 19 July to 16 August 1973, and 8 August 1974.

[illegible]

[illegible]

**Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* (213)**

A fairly common breeding bird at wetlands almost throughout Iran. Most breeding populations appeared to be sedentary, but there were no records from East or West Azarbaijan in winter and it seemed likely that the species was only a summer visitor to these provinces. Numbers seemed to increase at many wetlands in autumn and winter, suggesting some immigration of migrants from farther north. Unusually high counts included at least 100 at Siahkesheem Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 23 October 1970, 75 at Galugah Ab-bandan, Gilan, on 17 October 1973, and 40 along the Zaindeh Rud near Esfahan on 7 January 1976. At Lashgarak, Tehran, up to three birds were present in the winter of 1972/73 (26 October to 30 March), but the only other records were of single birds on 19 August, 1 November and 27 December 1973. The only records in Baluchestan were of small numbers (maximum five) along the Sarbarz River in Bahu Kalat Protected Area between 15 October and 4 May.

**Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra* (626)**

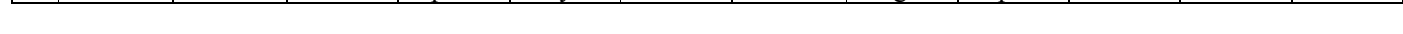
A fairly common breeding bird and locally abundant winter visitor at wetlands in the south Caspian region, East and West Azarbaijan, the western provinces, Khuzestan, central Fars and the Seistan basin, and a common winter visitor to wetlands along the Zaindeh Rud, Esfahan, and the Hilleh Delta, Bushehr, also wintering in small numbers at Latian Dam and Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, and in the Sarbarz Valley in south-eastern Baluchestan. Seven birds at Cheshmeh Ali near Damghan, Semnan, on 28 January 1974 were presumably overwintering there. Most breeding populations appeared to be sedentary, except in East and West Azarbaijan, where many of the wetlands were frozen over in winter and the number of birds remaining throughout the winter varied widely from fewer than 100 to over 15,000, depending on the severity of the winter. The wintering birds began to arrive in the south Caspian region in early September (earliest big counts: 420 at Zargmarz Ab-bandans, Mazandaran, on 12 September 1973, and 1,710 at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 15 September 1972). Numbers built up gradually in October and the first half of November, and then remained high until the end of February or early March. Numbers decreased rapidly in late March and early April, and most of the wintering birds had left by the middle of April (latest big counts: 1,850 at Anzali Mordab on 12–13 April 1973, and 820 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 17 April 1973). Arrival and departure dates of wintering birds at wetlands in southern Iran were poorly known, but there were already 3,000 at Dasht-e Arjan, Fars, on 1 October 1978, and still several hundred in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 23 March 1974. Wetlands south of Lake Urumiyeh in West Azarbaijan and Gori Gol in East Azarbaijan were important staging areas for Eurasian Coots in late autumn. Over 66,000 were counted at the wetlands south of Lake Urumiyeh on 22–23 November 1972, while at Gori Gol, there were 15,000 on 11 November 1970, 12,500 on 3 December 1971, 11,500 on 24 November 1972, and 10,000 on 18 October 1978. At Latian Dam, the Eurasian Coot was an uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant between 14 August and 17 April, with much the highest count being 14 on 23 November 1973; a bird on 6 June 1974 was unusual. The highest count at Ghale-Now Marshes was 16 on 12 February 1973. The species was very scarce elsewhere in Iran: the only records in the northeast were of a bird collected near Nishabur, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 27 March 1970, and a bird on a small lake near Khaf, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 13 May 1970; the only records in Hormozgan were of two birds on the sea off Hormoz Island on 11 November 1970, one on the Rud-e Shirin east of Bandar Abbas on 12 October 1973, and one on a river south of Minab on 16 October 1973.

## Common Crane *Grus grus* (166)

A common winter visitor, occurring in large numbers in the wetlands of Khuzestan and central Fars, and in smaller numbers in Khorasan-e Razavi, Esfahan, Seistan and Bushehr (Hilleh Delta and Monde Delta). The first birds arrived in their wintering areas in central Fars in early October (earliest record: 45 at Dasht-e Arjan on 2 October 1970), and large numbers were present by the middle of the month. The birds left again in March, and the only records in Fars in April were of a flock of 10 flying north over Bamou National Park on 2 April 1975, and a single bird at Lake Maharlu on 4 April 1975. A flock of 66 at Gandoman Marsh, Chahar Mahal & Bakhtiary, on 2 April 1970 may have been birds from Fars heading north. The Common Crane was a regular passage migrant in small numbers in northern Iran in both spring and autumn. The earliest records in spring were of seven birds near Deh Namak, Semnan, on 15 March 1972, and three birds in Kavir National Park, Semnan, on 23 March 1974; the latest records were of two birds at Gori Gol East Azarbaijan, on 3 May 1976, and eight in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 5 May 1971. The earliest record in autumn was of two birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge from 31 August to 4 September 1972, and the latest record was of one at Miankaleh on 6 October 1970. Observations of flocks on migration included 31 flying west over Galugah, Gilan, on 20 April 1967, 110 arriving from the north at Miankaleh on 27 September 1973, flocks of 96 and 16 flying south along the coast near Astara, Gilan, on 26 September 1975, and 21 flying south over Abbasabad Dam, Gilan, on 27 September 1975. There were five records of summering non-breeders: four birds at Gumoon Marshes, Lake Tashk, Fars on 27 June 1967; one at Pol-e Dokhtar Marsh, Lorestan, on 16 May 1972; one on the Turkoman Steppes near Lake Ajigol, Golestan, on 13 July 1972; one at Akh Gol, West Azarbaijan, on 9 July 1974; and one at Dasht-e Arjan, Fars, in early June 1976. Some of these were probably sick or injured birds.

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### Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* (173)

Probably a regular breeding bird in small numbers along major rivers in the Urumiyeh basin in East and West Azarbaijan, where all records were in June and early July. A fairly common passage migrant in the south Caspian region, mainly in the southeast, and a regular winter visitor to Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, where the wintering population numbered about 50–100 birds. A very common winter visitor to the entire south coast, occurring in greatest numbers in the southern Persian Gulf and along the coast of Persian Baluchestan. In the south Caspian region, spring migration began in mid-March and continued until early May; autumn migration began in the middle of July and numbers remained relatively high until the beginning of November. The latest records in spring were of five birds at the mouth of the Sefid Rud, Gilan, on 8 May 1967, and single birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 9 and 11 May 1973; the earliest records in autumn were of 22 birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 10 July 1972, and 16 birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 26 July 1973. Small numbers of birds apparently remained throughout the summer on the south coast in Hormozgan and Khuzestan, as there were 12 records of flocks of up to 18 in the Bandar Abbas area and in Hara National Park in late May, June and early July, and one record of a party of nine at Khor Musa, Khuzestan, on 19 July 1967. There were only two records of birds on passage inland: two birds at Latian Dam, Tehran, on 31 March 1974, and a single bird at Takht-e Shah, Seistan, on 25 October 1975.

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**Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* (561)**

A common and locally abundant breeding bird at wetlands in northern and western Iran south to central Fars and the Hilleh Delta in Bushehr, and also in the Seistan basin. Almost entirely a summer visitor to East and West Azarbaijan and the western provinces, although a few birds remained throughout the winter in the Urumiyeh basin in some years. Mainly a summer visitor and common passage in the south Caspian region, although 100–200 birds remained throughout the winter. Mainly resident in other breeding areas, although numbers increased during the migration seasons and in winter. Only a scarce passage migrant and occasional winter visitor on the southern Persian Gulf coast and coast of Persian Baluchestan. In the south Caspian region and Tehran area, spring migration began in the second week of March and continued until the middle of May; autumn migration began in the second week of July and continued until the middle of October. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Black-winged Stilt was a regular passage migrant in small numbers in spring (11 March to 6 May) and autumn (17 July to 23 August).

**Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* (320)**

A very common breeding bird around Lake Urumiyeh in East and West Azarbaijan, where largely a summer visitor, although small numbers (maximum 100) remained throughout the winter. Also bred in much smaller numbers in Khuzestan, in central Fars and in the Hilleh Delta in Bushehr, and probably bred at Gharpuzabad Marshes, Alborz, in 1972. A common winter visitor and passage migrant in the south Caspian region (mainly the southeast), Khuzestan, central Fars, the northern Persian Gulf coast and Seistan, and a local winter visitor in relatively small numbers in the southern Persian Gulf and southeast Persian Baluchestan. Birds began to arrive in the south Caspian region in July, but the main arrival did not occur until mid-September; most birds had departed by the end of the first week of May. Scarce on passage elsewhere in Iran, and recorded on only 10 occasions in the Tehran area: on three occasions in spring between 19 March and 22 May, and on seven occasions in autumn between 25 July and 14 September. The maximum count in the Tehran area was of 16 at Latian Dam on 13 April 1973.

**Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* (715)**

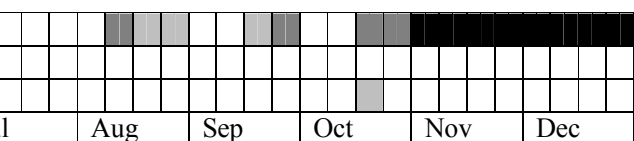
A common breeding bird in the wetlands of East and West Azarbaijan, occurring in much smaller numbers south through Kordestan and Hamadan to Kermanshah, and occasionally breeding at Dasht-e Arjan in central Fars. An abundant winter visitor to the south Caspian region, and a common winter visitor to wetlands and arable land from Ardebil, East and West Azarbaijan, the Tehran area and Khorasan-e Razavi south to Khuzestan, central Fars and Seistan. The first few wintering birds began to arrive in northern Iran in late July (earliest records: two birds at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 23 July 1977, and five birds at Voshmigr Dam, Golestan, on 1 August 1975); numbers increased considerably in the second half of August and September, but the main arrival did not occur until the second half of October. Most birds had departed by the middle of March, although a few lingered on until the third week of April and exceptionally early May. The latest records were of one bird at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 6 May 1977, and 30 birds at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 9 May 1971. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Northern Lapwing was an uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant, most frequent in November and in late February and early March (extreme dates: 5 October and 15 March); the highest count was of 17 on 8 March 1974. There was a single record in Baluchestan: a group of six birds flying over Zahedan on 8 February 1974.

### White-tailed Lapwing *Vanellus leucurus* (271)

A fairly common breeding bird in the wetlands of Khuzestan and central Fars; also found breeding in small numbers in the Hilleh Delta, Bushehr, at wetlands in the Seistan basin, on the shores of Gorgan Bay at Bandar-e Gaz, Golestan, and at lakes on the Turkoman Steppes, Golestan. Several pairs probably bred at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, in 1976 and 1977. Also a common winter visitor to Khuzestan, central Fars and the northern Persian Gulf coast in Bushehr, with high counts including 350 in Bamdej Marshes, Khuzestan, on 15 January 1975, 320 in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 16 January 1975, 160 at Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 16 January 1974, and 150 at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 20 January 1974. There were three records of wintering birds in the south Caspian region: a bird at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 9 January 1971; a bird at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 20 January 1972; and two birds at Incheh Borun Marsh, Golestan, on 31 January 1972. A bird at Dasht-e Zohab, Kermanshah, on 4 January 1972, was also presumably over-wintering. The species was a regular passage migrant in small numbers in spring and autumn in the south Caspian region and Tehran area. The spring migration began in the last week of March (earliest records: one at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 23 March 1977, and three in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 25 March 1975) and continued until early May (latest record: one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 5 May 1971); the autumn migration began in late July (earliest record: two in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 27 July 1973) and continued until the end of October and, exceptionally, November (latest record: one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 20 November 1971). The only records at Lashgarak, Tehran, were of four birds on 11 October 1973 and single birds on 12 October 1973 and 26 March 1975. The White-tailed Lapwing was a common passage migrant in the Seistan basin and occasionally recorded on passage at wetlands elsewhere in the southeast, where the earliest record in spring was of a bird by the Sarbarz River in southeast Baluchestan on 4 March 1971. The highest counts in Seistan were of 126 at Hamoun-e Sabari on 9 March 1971 and 100 in Kuh-e Khvajeh Marshes on 30 March 1972. Other records in the southeast included seven birds at a river southeast of Bam, Kerman, on 12 October 1975, a bird by the Rud-e Shirin east of Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 16 October 1973, and two birds at Jask Creek, Hormozgan, on 15 & 16 October 1973. The only record in northwestern Iran was of a bird near Tabriz, East Azarbaijan, on 11 May 1973.

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region, most numerous in Mazandaran. The first record was in the second week of August (earliest records: one at the Tir Tash plains south of Gorgan Bay, Mazandaran, where large numbers did not occur until the end of October; another at Sari by the end of the first week of March). The next record: two in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran. An important wintering area was in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge: 200 on 20 December 1971 and 250 on 3 March 1972; 170 on Tir Tash plains south of Gorgan Bay, Mazandaran; 100 off Sari on 30 November 1972. The highest concentration was near Maharlou, Fars, on 18 January 1972. There were only three birds near Maharlou, Fars, on 19 January 1974; a bird near Govater, southeast of Shiraz, on 20 February 1974; and a bird near Govater, southeast



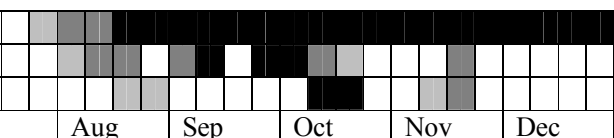
### Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* (304)

A common winter visitor and passage migrant in the south Caspian and on the entire south coast from Khuzestan to the Pakistan border. Three birds were found at Lake Parishan, Fars on 25 January 1973, and there was one there on 14 January 1975. The first autumn migrants appeared in the south Caspian region in the second week of July (earliest records: one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 10 July 1972, and 81 in Miankaleh Refuge on 26 July 1973), and the main passage was from the last week of August to the end of October. The highest counts were of 500 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 6 October 1970 and 450 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 29 October 1971. Spring migration in the south Caspian reached a peak in late April and the first ten days of May, and there was only one record after the middle May; a bird at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 19 May 1976. The highest count was of 284 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 9 May 1973. Grey Plovers were common along the entire south coast from the middle of October to early May, and a few birds apparently remained throughout the summer in Bushehr and Hormozgan, as there were several records of up to seven birds in late May, June and early July. Twelve birds in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 4 June 1974 were probably late spring migrants. Grey Plovers were seldom seen on migration inland, either in spring or in autumn. There were only three records in spring: a bird at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 14 April 1969; a bird by the Rude Shur near Karadj, Alborz, on 25 April 1968; and a bird in Mahmoodi Marshes, Seistan, on 10 March 1971. There were six inland records in autumn: two birds at Gori Gol on 6 August 1969; two at the mouth of the Jogatu Chay, East Azarbaijan, on 30 August 1973; five at the south end of Lake Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan, on 2 November 1972; three on the southwest shore of Lake Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan, on 30 August 1973; one at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 14 October 1973; and three in Takhte Shah Marshes, Seistan, on 25 October 1975.

[illegible]



migrant in the south Caspian region, and a  
entire south coast from Khuzestan, to the  
the south Caspian region in the last week  
two birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge,  
aleh Wildlife Refuge on 2 August 1975).  
to the end of October, with high counts  
and Now Farahabad, Mazandaran, on 17  
an, on 27 August 1974, 239 in Miankaleh  
kaleh Wildlife Refuge on 12 September  
March and continued until the middle of  
the highest counts in the south Caspian  
mbol and Miankaleh, Mazandaran, on 16  
26 March 1975. The latest record in the  
lan, on 19 May 1976, but there was a bird  
grants in southern Iran included a total of  
4 May 1972, six birds at Bandar Abbas,  
l, Hormozgan, on 24 May 1974. Six birds  
at Bandar Abbas on 5 June 1975 were  
ring non-breeders. Ringed Plovers were  
g, but were recorded in small numbers in  
in spring: five birds near the edge of the  
s, South Khorasan, on 8 April 1972; one  
near Zabol, Seistan, on 20 April 1972; two  
s at Latian Dam on 24 April 1974 and 12  
utumn passage, mostly of fewer than 10  
er half of these were from Latian Dam,  
ugust and 12 October), and Ghale-Now  
14 August and 4 October). Flocks of 70  
0 at Lake Bakhtegan, Fars, on 16 October  
aribar, Kordestan, on 25 September 1973



### Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* (482)

A common and widespread summer visitor, occurring in all major wetland areas and along permanent rivers and streams throughout the country. Breeding birds arrived in the second half of February in the south, and during the second half of March in the north (earliest in the Tehran area: 13 at Lashgarak on 15 March 1974; earliest in the south Caspian: one at the east end of Miankaleh Peninsula, Golestan, on 2 March 1973). Most birds had left by the end of September, although a few lingered on until early November and exceptionally December (latest records: one at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 11 November 1970, two in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 18 November 1972, and two on Larim Sara Plains, Mazandaran, on 17 December 1974). At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Little Ringed Plover was a very common passage migrant in spring and autumn, and a common summer visitor. The main spring passage was from the end of March to the middle of April (earliest date: 15 March), and the main autumn passage was in August; the highest count was 50 on 14 August 1973 and the latest in autumn were two birds on 5 October 1972. A few birds probably remained throughout the winter in Khuzestan (four records of one or two birds in January and the first half of February), and possibly also on the northern Persian Gulf coast (two birds near Borazjan, Bushehr, on 27 January 1976).

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**Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus* (532)**

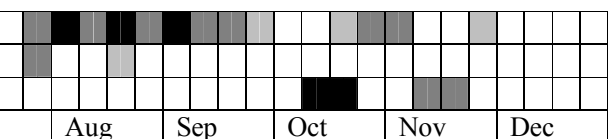
A common breeding bird along the south Caspian coast, on the south coast from Khuzestan to the Pakistan border, and at brackish to saline wetlands in East and West Azarbaijan, Khuzestan, central Fars and Seistan. Probably an irregular breeding bird at temporary brackish to saline wetlands on the central plateau when conditions were suitable. Only a summer visitor to the wetlands of East and West Azarbaijan, where all records were between mid-April and the end of August, but present all year round in the other main breeding areas. Also a common passage migrant and winter visitor in the south Caspian region, Khuzestan, central Fars and Seistan, and along the entire south coast. In the south Caspian region, the main spring passage was from the last week of March to the end of April; the main autumn passage was from the middle of July to the middle of September. At Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, the highest count in spring was of 270 on 24–26 March 1975; the highest counts in autumn were of 670 on 16 August 1973, 1,380 on 2–3 August 1975, and 720 on 11–12 September 1975. In the Tehran area, the Kentish Plover was a very scarce passage migrant in spring, the only records being of a bird by the Rud-e Shur at Robat Karim on 14 April 1967, a bird at Ghale-Now Marshes on 13 April 1972, four birds at Latian Dam on 19 April 1973, and single birds at Latian Dam on 26 April 1974 and 14 May 1974. It was a regular passage migrant at Ghale-Now Marshes and Ashkerabad Marshes in autumn, from late July to late September or early October. The earliest records were of 25 on 23 July 1977 and 13 on 25 July 1975, the highest count was 29 on 16 August 1976, and the latest records were of four on 21 September 1976 and four on 3 October 1975. The only records at Latian Dam in autumn were of a single bird from 14 to 17 August 1973, three on 5 August 1974, and one from 26 September to 3 October 1974. The only record in mid-winter in the Tehran area was of five birds at Gharpuzabad Marshes, Alborz, on 25 December 1970. There were four records of birds on autumn passage in eastern Iran: four birds by the Rud-e Kalshur south of Sabzevar, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 24 September 1974; a flock of 17 by the Rud-e Shur west of Nishabur, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 17 November 1974; one by the Rud-e Shur west of Sabzevar, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 18 November 1974; and one by a river southeast of Bam, Kerman, on 12 October 1975.

### Lesser Sand Plover *Charadrius mongolus* (69)

A fairly common winter visitor and passage migrant along the northern Persian Gulf coast, and a common passage migrant and winter visitor along the southern Persian Gulf coast and coast of Persian Baluchestan. Arrival times in autumn were unknown (through lack of surveys in late summer and early autumn), but the species was already common by the second week of October. Spring passage continued until late May or the beginning of June. A few non-breeding birds lingered on until at least July (two on Ummal Karam Island, Bushehr, on 16 June 1975, and one on Sheedvar Island, Hormozgan, on 19 July 1977 were the latest). There was only one record in northern Iran: a bird on Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 31 August 1974.

[illegible]

and breeding near Tayebad, Khorasan-e  
all numbers around Lake Urumiyeh, East  
hes, Tehran, in 1977. A bird seen on the  
71 and a bird seen in the hills south of  
been breeding locally. A fairly common  
at Miankaleh Peninsula, where up to 10  
began in early March, reached a peak in  
en Babolsar and Miankaleh Peninsula,  
ghout April and into early May (latest  
and one at the mouth of the Neka River,  
in late June or early July (earliest record:  
shed a peak in the second week of July  
72), and continued until late August. The  
h coast from Khuzestan to the Pakistan  
e Parishan, Fars, on 25 January 1973.  
roughout the summer on the south coast,  
nal Park, Hormozgan, and on the small  
Chahbahar, Baluchestan, on 3 May 1978  
rk Island, Bushehr, on 4 July 1977 were  
arce passage migrant elsewhere in Iran.  
orthwest (single birds at Gori Gol, East  
10 birds on the northwest shore of Lake  
ve records in the Tehran area (four birds  
Latian Dam, Tehran, on 11 and 14 April  
on 25 July 1975, 30 July 1976 and 16  
of a flock of 22 on 10 March 1971.



### Caspian Plover *Charadrius asiaticus* (39)

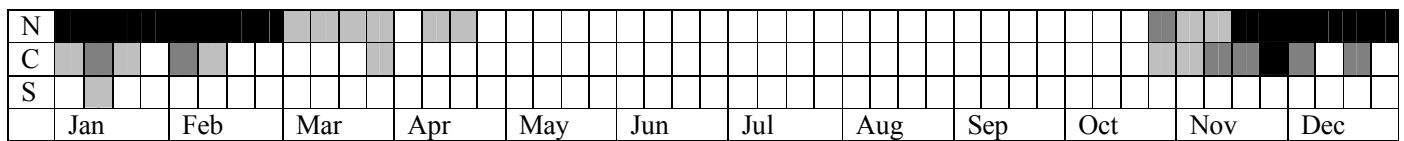
A regular passage migrant in small numbers in spring and autumn in western Iran, with most records coming from the south Caspian region, especially Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, and Tehran area. Apparently commoner in spring than in autumn. The earliest records in spring were on the Persian Gulf coast in Bushehr: two birds near Bandar-e Deylam on 20 February 1971 and 30 birds at Bandar-e Assaluyeh on 23 February 1971. In northern Iran, all records in spring were between 20 March (one near Astara, Gilan, in 1976) and 23 April (two near Bandar Anzali, Gilan, in 1970), except for a group four near Semnan on 16 May 1978; all records in autumn were between 13 July (110 on the Turkoman Steppes, Golestan, in 1972) and 27 September (one near Astara, Gilan, in 1975). Much the highest count was of 400 birds, mostly in two large flocks, on the Caspian shore between Bandar Anzali and Tis Rud, Gilan, on 14 April 1967. The only record in West Azarbaijan was of three birds at Yadegarlu and six at Lake Kobi on 12 August 1971. Two birds near Shushtar, Khuzestan, on 12 November 1973 were very late. Single birds in the Hilleh Delta, Bushehr, on 3 June 1974 and on Lavan Island, Hormozgan, on 3 June 1978 were unusual.

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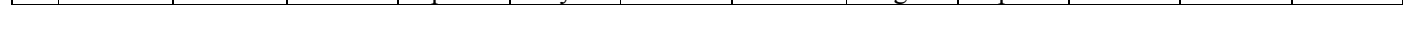
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## Eurasian Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola* (97)

A very common winter visitor to the south Caspian region from the end of October to March, also occurring regularly in small numbers south of the Alborz in the Tehran area but apparently very scarce further south. The first arrivals in autumn appeared in late October; one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 24 October 1974 and one at Dash-e Naz Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 28 October 1970 were the earliest. The main departure occurred in March; a bird at Lashgarak on 30 March 1973 and single birds at Galugah, Gilan, on 12 April 1973 and 20 April 1970 were the latest. A bird seen near Marand, East Azarbaijan, on 14 November 1973 was presumably still on passage. At Lashgarak, the Eurasian Woodcock was an occasional winter visitor, with one or two individuals being recorded on 14 dates between 24 October and 30 March. Further south, there was one record in Chahar Mahal & Bakhtiary (a bird at Deh Noh Marsh on 3 January 1971), one record in Fars (a bird at Dasht-e Arjan on 21 January 1974), and one record in Baluchestan (a bird in a public garden in Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 13 January 1973).





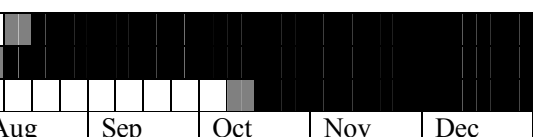


## Great Snipe *Gallinago media* (71)

Probably a fairly common passage migrant in spring and autumn, but much overlooked. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the species was recorded on 40 occasions in spring between 29 March and 20 May (maximum 10 on 3 and 4 May 1973), and on 14 occasions in autumn between 14 August and 25 October (maximum seven on 20 September 1973). Elsewhere, birds were occasionally recorded on spring and autumn passage in Gilan and central Fars, but there was only one record from Mazandaran (a bird in the Ilrud Valley in the Central Alborz on 26 October 1971) and one record in East Azarbaijan (a bird at Gori Gol on 11 November 1970). The earliest in spring were two birds at Lashgarak on 29 March 1974, and the latest in spring was a bird at Lashgarak on 20 May 1973. The first of the autumn was a bird at Lashgarak on 14 August 1973, and the latest, a bird at Lake Tashk, Fars, on 20 November 1973. A bird at Gandoman Marsh, Chahar Mahal & Bakhtiary, on 29 January 1970 was probably overwintering.

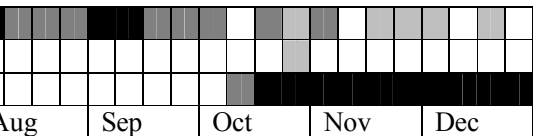
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mouth to Khuzestan, central Fars, recorded on passage in the northeast Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on low Marshes on 5 August 1973, and crants usually arrived in the second August 1973, one at Lake Tashk, 3, and five at Ghale-Now Marshes half of August, and the autumn at the middle of November. High 300 at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on er 1968, 100 at Gori Gol, East kegaz Marshes, Seistan, on 25-26 26 October 1970. The main spring most birds had departed by the end Arjan, Fars, on 9 May 1972 was bird at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 10 n, on 10 May 1973, two birds at rshes on 20 May 1977, and a bird here between 10 and 20 birds 1974; the highest counts in autumn the southern lowlands, the earliest 11 October 1973, and one at Jask, ing were of a bird at Hormak, n. Hormozgan, on 5 May 1975





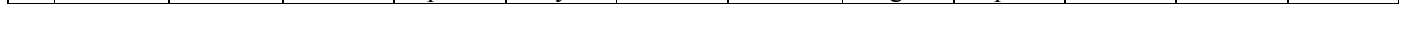
from the Khouran Strait east to the south Caspian region, with most only spring records in the south on six occasions between 4 and 11 April at Galugah Ab-bandan, Gilan, and one in the second week of July (earliest records: two on the Gachsaran Peninsula on 26 July 1973) and none in the north until late December. The highest count was 10 on 19 November 1971. The only records in the south on 13 September 1968, and one at Gachsaran east of Chalus, Mazandaran, on 10 January 1972 were presumably breeding birds, the only records being of a bird at Gachsaran on 29 August 1973, one at Dasht-e Kavir on 27 October 1974. A bird at Lake Urmia on the Basin on 19 January 1976 were seen on the south coast by the end of the year. The bird was east and in Hormozgan throughout the year, being non-breeders. Notable counts were 10 on 1975, and 23 on Morghu Island,



**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus* (198)

A very common passage migrant in spring and autumn in the south Caspian region, and a winter visitor in small numbers to the south coast, mainly from the Khouran Straits and region of Bandar Abbas east to the Pakistan border. In the south Caspian region, the spring migration began in the second week of April (earliest records: three at Gomishan Lagoons, Golestan, on 5 April 1978, and several flocks at Galugah, Gilan, on 9 April 1967) and continued until the middle of May (latest record: 157 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 11 May 1973). High counts at Miankaleh included 450 on 4–6 May 1971 (mostly flying east), 278 on 16 April 1973, and 359 on 9 May 1973. The autumn migration began in the second week of July (earliest records: two at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 3 July 1972, and six at Now Farahabad, Mazandaran, on 8 July 1972) and continued to the end of September, with a few birds lingering on until late October (latest records: single birds at Miankaleh on 21 October 1973 and 29 October 1971). High counts at Miankaleh included 525 on 26 July 1973, 500 on 17 August 1973, 311 on 13 September 1973, and 853 on 3 August 1975. A total of 21 Whimbrel were recorded at three sites on the shore of Lake Urumiyeh in West Azarbaijan on 29–30 August 1973, and one was seen on Shahi Island, East Azarbaijan, on 29 August 1973, but the only other inland records were of single birds at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 22 April 1974, at Takht-e Shah, Seistan, on 25 October 1975, and at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 16 April 1976. Small numbers of non-breeders remained throughout the summer along the south coast, particularly in Hara National Park, Hormozgan, where at least 50 birds were present on 5–8 June 1975, including many in moult.

[illegible]



**Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus* (237)**

A fairly common winter visitor and passage migrant in the south Caspian region, Khuzestan, the northern Persian Gulf coast, central Fars and Seistan basin, and a fairly common passage migrant in the Urumiyeh basin, East and West Azarbaijan. Occasionally recorded on passage at wetlands elsewhere in Iran. Spring migration began in late March and continued until early May; the latest records were of nine birds at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 10 May 1972, and 80 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 10 May 1973. Autumn migration began in the second week of July and continued until the end of October; the earliest records were of two birds in the coastal marshes north of Gomishan, Golestan, on 12 July 1972, a bird at Lake Zaribar, Kordestan, on 13 July 1974, and a bird at Ashkerabad Marshes and a bird at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 23 July 1977. High counts of birds on passage included 100 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 26 October 1970, 50 at Dorgeh Sangi Lake, West Azarbaijan, on 12 August 1971, 80 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 10 May 1973, and 50 in Takhte Shah Marshes, Seistan, on 25 October 1975. Only a few hundred birds remained in Gilan and Mazandaran throughout the winter, much the highest single count being of 85 birds in Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, in January and February 1970. The only records of wintering birds in western Iran were during the unusually mild winter of 1969/70, when there were 40 at Lake Kobi, West Azarbaijan, on 15 January 1970, and two at Hashelan Marsh and 10 at Sarab Yavari Marsh, Kermanshah, on 19 January 1970. A single bird at Shur Gol, West Azarbaijan, on 2 June 1971 was probably a summering non-breeder.

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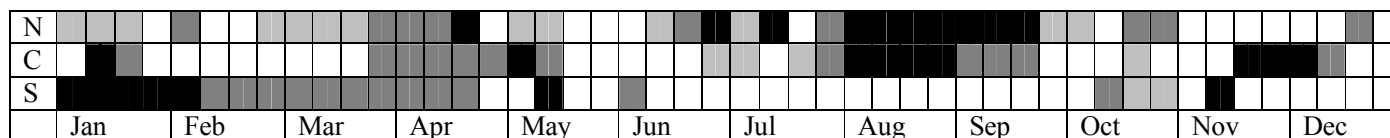


**Common Redshank *Tringa tetanus* (856)**

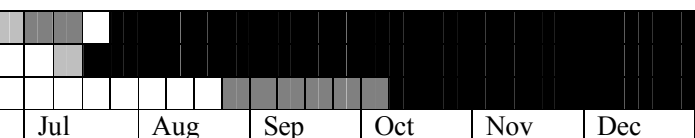
A very common breeding bird in the wetlands of the Urumiyeh basin in East and West Azarbaijan, and a fairly common breeding bird at suitable freshwater wetlands elsewhere in East and West Azarbaijan, Kordestan, Hamadan, Kermanshah and central Fars. A common and widespread winter visitor, occurring at wetlands throughout Iran and particularly common in the south Caspian region, Khuzestan and central Fars, along the northern Persian Gulf coast, and from the southern Persian Gulf coast east along the Mekran coast to the Pakistan border. Common on passage in spring from the last week of February to the third week of April, with the last few birds occurring in early May (latest record in the south Caspian region: one at Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 10 May 1973). The first autumn migrants arrived in the southeast Caspian on about 10 July, but the main passage began in the last week of July and continued until the third week of November. At Lashgarak, Tehran, there were only two records in spring (single birds on 19 April 1973 and 14 April 1974), but the species was regular in small numbers in autumn, between 24 July and 21 November. Small numbers of non-breeders were recorded during the summer months on the Persian Gulf coast, particularly in the Khouren Strait, where 90 were recorded on 5–8 June 1975. Single birds were recorded in early June in the Tehran area (one at Ghale-Now Marsh on 3 June 1977), Khorasan-e Razavi (one near Tayebad on 9 June 1973) and Seistan (one at the Hamoun-e Puzak on 4 June 1973). The only records of summering birds in the south Caspian region were of a single bird at Zibakenar, Gilan, on 3 July 1972, and an injured bird at Galugah, Gilan, on 4 July 1972.

### Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* (246)

A common passage migrant in spring and autumn at wetlands throughout Iran, most numerous in the south Caspian region, the Urumiyeh basin in East and West Azarbaijan and Khuzestan, and a fairly common winter visitor to the wetlands of Khuzestan and locally along the south coast to the Pakistan border. Small numbers of birds also remained throughout the winter in the south Caspian region, central Fars and Seistan. Spring migration began in late March, reached a peak in the third week of April, and continued until early May; the latest records were of 22 birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 10 May 1973, three birds in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 12 May 1970, two birds at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 13 May 1975, and a bird in Shadegan Marshes on 14 May 1972. High counts in spring included 96 in Kuh-e Khvajeh Marshes, Seistan, on 20 April 1972, and 508 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 17 April 1973. Autumn migration began in early July, reached a peak in late July and August, and continued until the third week of September, with a few birds lingering on until the end of October. The earliest records were of 10 birds at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 5 July 1972, four birds at the coastal lagoons north of Gomishan, Golestan, on 12 July 1972, and 50 birds at Lake Alagol, Golestan, on 13 July 1972. High counts included 650 in wetlands south of Lake Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan, on 12 August 1971, 560 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge and Lapoo-Zargmarz Ab-bandans, Mazandaran, on 26 July 1973, and 2,100 in the wetlands of the Urumiyeh basin, East and West Azarbaijan, on 30 and 31 August 1973. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Marsh Sandpiper was a regular passage migrant in small numbers in spring between 30 March and 4 May and in autumn between 24 July and 13 September, with the highest count being five on 10 April 1975. Small numbers of non-breeders remained throughout the summer in the Urumiyeh basin (47 were recorded on 22 June 1972, and 95 on 28–29 June 1974). Fifteen birds in wetlands near Zabol, Seistan, on 3 and 4 June 1973 were probably also summering non-breeders, while four birds at Pol-e Dokhtar Marsh, Lorestan, on 27 June 1975 and a bird at Lake Zaribar, Kordestan, on 3 July 1975 may have been summering non-breeders or very early autumn migrants.

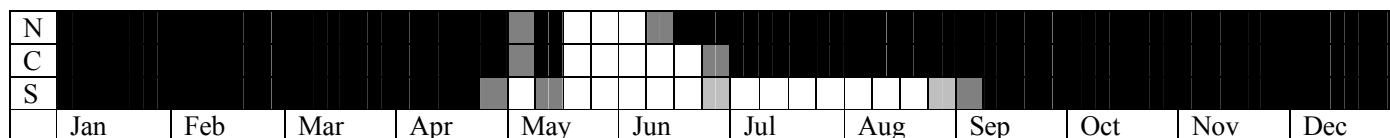


autumn at wetlands throughout Iran, and a fairly common, Khuzestan, central Fars and the south coast. The Dasht-e Moghan, Ardebil, and at Latian Dam, spring birds in Kordestan (six at Saqqez Dam on 1 March on 3 January 1972), and Esfahan (five at migration began in the first week of March and included 22 birds at Bandar-e Kiashtahr Lagoon, Fars on 10 May 1972, seven in Miankaleh Wildlife Qasr-e Qand, Baluchestan, on 13 May 1967, and May 1972. The autumn migration began in the November. The earliest arrivals in autumn were 19 one at Latian Dam, Tehran, on 11 July 1976, two, on 12 July 1972, and a flock of eight at Lake st count in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge in spring autumn were 100 on 6 October 1970, 220 on 28 elsewhere, notable counts included 30 at Govater 71, 160 in the lakes and marshes south of Lake uth of the Sefid Rud, Gilan, on 27 August 1974. enshank was a regular winter visitor in very small n spring (latest record: one on 4 May 1973) and . Four birds by a river southwest of Tabriz, East ke Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan, on 28 June 1974 ng non-breeders. A bird in Hara National Park, mmering non-breeder.

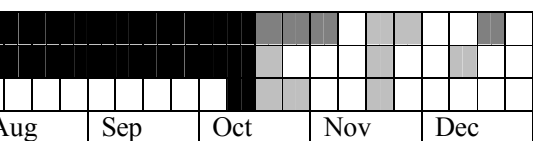


### Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus* (734)

A common passage migrant and winter visitor at wetlands almost throughout Iran, although very scarce in mid-winter in north-western Iran and in the southern coastal lowlands east of Bushehr. The spring migration began in the middle of March, reached a peak in the last week of March and first half of April, and continued until the first week of May. High counts of birds on spring passage included a flock of 26 flying north over Mirjaveh, Baluchestan, on 31 March 1972, a total of 38 at wetlands in the Seistan basin on 20 April 1972, 50 at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 5 April 1973, and 60 at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 27 March 1974. The latest records in spring were of a bird in Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 9 May 1967, one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 10 May 1973, one at a pond in Abadan, Khuzestan, on 11 May 1970, two birds at a lake near Khaf, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 13 and 14 May 1970, and one at Lashgarak on 14 May 1973. The autumn migration began as early as the middle of June, reached a peak in July and August, and continued until early November. The earliest records were of bird near Torbat-e Jam, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 10 June 1973, a bird near Maku, West Azarbaijan, on 12 June 1970, four birds on the north shore of Lake Urumiyeh, East Azarbaijan, on 17 June 1972, and a total of 31 in marshes at the south end of Lake Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan, on 18 June 1972; the earliest record in southern Iran was of a bird near Mehran, Ilam, on 28 June 1975. High counts of birds on autumn passage included 40 at Lake Tashk, Fars, on 30 August 1967, 390 in marshes at the south end of Lake Urumiyeh on 1–2 July 1971, 50 at Nur Gol, Ardebil, on 1 August 1971, 130 at Seyed Mohalli Ab-bandans, Mazandaran, on 8 July 1972, 90 at Lashgarak on 17 August 1974, 50 at the mouth of the Sefid Rud, Gilan, on 27 August 1974, and 60 at Ghale-Now Marshes on 25 July 1975. At Lashgarak, the Green Sandpiper was a fairly common winter visitor and a very common passage migrant in spring (from mid-March to late April) and in autumn (from the end of July to late September). The latest migrant in spring was a bird on 14 May 1973, and the earliest in autumn was a bird on 24 June 1975; the highest count was 90 on 17 August 1973.



autumn at wetlands throughout wetlands of Khuzestan, where the 1–5 January 1972. Three birds in and probably over-wintered in the , reached a peak in late April and ay. Apart from a bird in Dakegaz ring were two birds in the Kuh-e k, Tehran, on 30 March 1973, one 3, and one at Gomishan Lagoons, 285 in Kuh-e Khvajeh Marshes, y 1972, 70 in Shadegan Marshes, Refuge, Mazandaran, on 10 May lains, Hamadan, on 28 May 1971, i Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 31 May two birds at the north end of Lake n, Ilam, on 28 June 1974, three at river near Tabriz, East Azarbaijan, rd at Kisheh on the western slope al. The autumn migration usually d half of August and first half of h a few birds lingering on into rribar, Kordestan, on 3 July 1975, 1972, three in Miankaleh Wildlife a, on 11 July 1975. High counts in er 1971, 640 in the marshes south 00 at the mouth of the Sefid Rud, fuge, Mazandaran, on 31 August t Protected Area, Baluchestan, on oer 1973, and a bird at Nargestan oltanabad Marshes, Fars, on 12 17 December 1971, and two birds ere unusually late. At Lashgarak, spring (30 March to 24 May) and 14 August 1973.

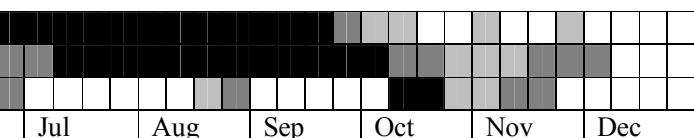


## Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus* (170)

A common passage migrant in spring and autumn in the south Caspian region, and a common winter visitor to the south coast from southern Khuzestan to south-eastern Baluchestan, most numerous in mangrove areas in the Khouran Straits, Hormozgan, where over 1,000 were counted on 26 January 1974. Spring migration in the south Caspian region began in the second week of April (earliest records: two birds at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 13 April 1967, and two birds at the mouth of the Sefid Rud, Gilan, on 14 April 1967), and continued until the third week of May (latest records: two birds at Bandar Anzali on 19 May 1976, and a flock of 65 near Bandar Anzali on 22 May 1967). Autumn migration began in early July (earliest records: single birds at Bandar Anzali on 4 and 6 July 1968, and eight at Now Farahabad, Mazandaran, on 8 July 1972), reached a peak in late July and early August (maximum count at Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran: 191 on 2 August 1975), and continued until late September (latest records: one at Miankaleh Peninsula on 19 September 1971, three in Gorgan Bay, Mazandaran, on 27 September 1973, and a very late individual at Bandar-e Shah, Golestan, on 15 October 1978). Many birds were late to leave their wintering areas in Hormozgan (e.g. there were still 30 in Hara National Park on 7 June 1975 and six near Bandar Abbas on 8 June 1975), but it seems that only a few individuals remained throughout the summer, as only single individuals were seen during surveys of Hara National Park in the first week of July 1976 and last week of June 1977. A bird on Khark Island, Bushehr, on 26 August 1973 was probably an autumn migrant. Terek Sandpipers were occasionally recorded on passage at wetlands in western and central Iran, with records coming from Gori Gol in East Azarbaijan, Shur Gol in West Azarbaijan, Lake Zaribar in Kordestan, the Rud-e Shur near Karadj in Alborz, the Rud-e Shur near Saveh in Markazi, Ghale-Now Marshes and Lashgarak in Tehran, and Lake Tashk in Fars. Seven of these records were in spring, between 14 April and 16 May, and 18 were in autumn, between 27 July and 25 September. The highest counts at Lashgarak were of five birds on 19 April 1973 and 10 on 16 May 1974. There were no records of Terek Sandpipers in the Seistan basin.

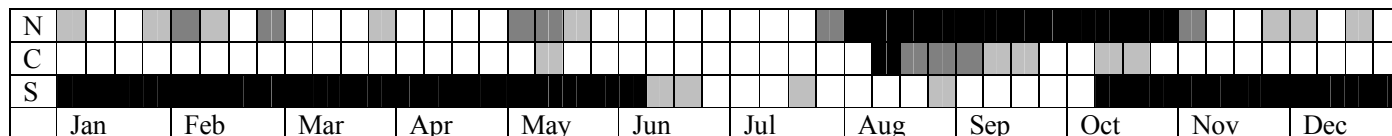
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and streams in the highlands of East and West Khorasan and the Zagros south to the region of Gilan. It is a very common and widespread passage migrant, and large numbers of birds wintered regularly in Khuzestan, Mazandaran, Gilan, and Baluchestan, and there were three records of birds at Terik Dam, Gilan, on 24 February 1973; one on 17 December 1974; and one on the Caspian coast in January 1975. Two birds remained throughout the winter at Lashgarak, Tehran. Spring passage began in the third week of April and continued until the middle of May, and the earliest records in northern Iran were of three birds at Lashgarak on 22 March 1973; the earliest records at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 4 April 1978, and two birds at Bandar Anzali in spring included 27 at Bandar Anzali on 10 April 1970, 31 at Lashgarak on 20 April 1973, and 30 at Lashgarak. Migrants included a bird at Lashgarak on 27 May 1973 and 19 May 1973. The autumn passage began in early August, and continued until the end of September, and then continued on and into early November. The earliest migrants were recorded at the mouth of the Sefid Rud, Gilan, on 3 July 1972, and one at Lashgarak on 8 July 1973. High counts in autumn included 77 on 7 August 1973, 50 at the mouth of the Sefid Rud on 14 August 1975, 14 at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 14 August 1975. Late autumn migrants included one at Bandar Anzali on 3 November 1972. A bird on the shore between Ramsar and Mazandaran in April 1974 may have been a very late migrant or an early migrant. The Sandpiper was a common passage migrant in autumn (8 July to 9



**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres* (200)

A common passage migrant in the south Caspian region and along the entire south coast, particularly in autumn, and a common winter visitor to the Persian Gulf coast east from the region of Bushehr to the coast of Persian Baluchestan. A few birds (maximum five) usually remained throughout the winter on Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran. The spring migration in the south Caspian region was poor, with only small flocks (maximum 15) appearing in the first three weeks of May (between 5<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>). The autumn migration was much more pronounced, beginning at the end of July (earliest records: three birds on Miankaleh Peninsula and one in Gorgan Bay on 26 July 1973) and continuing until the end of October (latest record of a migrant flock: 14 on Miankaleh Peninsula on 1 November 1973). High counts included 140 near Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 6 September 1972, 120 at Bandar Anzali on 4 September 1973, 190 on Miankaleh Peninsula on 27-28 September 1973, and 560 on the Caspian shore between the Neka River and the tip of Miankaleh Peninsula on 2-3 August 1975. On the south coast, the spring migration continued until the beginning of June, with late records including four birds on Khark Island, Bushehr, on 1 June 1974, ten in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 4 June 1974, and seven on Lavan Island, Hormozgan, on 3 June 1978. However, it seems likely that a few non-breeders remained throughout the summer on the Persian Gulf coast, as there were records of single birds on Morghu Island, Bushehr, on 15 June 1975, Lavan Island on 18 June 1977, and Sheedvar Island, Hormozgan, on 19 July 1977. The Ruddy Turnstone was probably a regular autumn passage migrant in the Urumiyeh basin in West Azarbaijan. Fifteen were recorded at wetlands in the west and south of the basin on 12 August 1971; there were nine at Dorgeh Sangi Lake on 16 August 1972, and 150 were seen at the south end of Lake Urumiyeh on 30 August 1973. Elsewhere inland, the species was recorded in very small numbers on autumn passage at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran (six records of one or two birds between 10 August and 20 September), at Lake Parishan, Fars (one bird on 14 October 1973), and at Lake Tashk, Fars (up to four birds on many dates from 11 August to 1 September 1967, and one bird on 17 October 1973). There were only two inland records during the spring migration: two birds at Hamoun-e Sabari, Seistan, on 4 June 1973, and one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 19 May 1975.



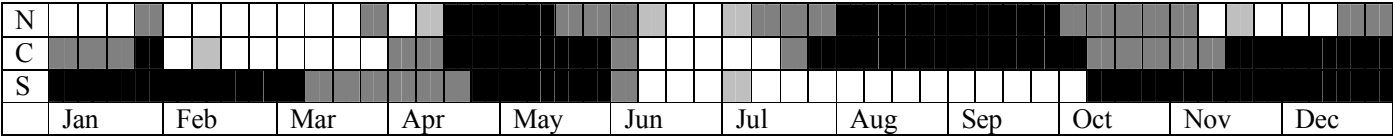


ent in spring and autumn along the common winter visitor and passage chestan. The largest numbers of Caspian region, the main spring rd after 11 May was of a bird at ankaleh Peninsula in Mazandaran 4,800 on 11 May 1973. Along the gh counts in Hormozgan included d on 26 and 27 April 1967, 550 at on 23 May 1974, and 500 at Sirik 0 at Bandar Abbas on 5 June 1975 ar-e Deyyer, Bushehr, on 14 June and a bird on Sheedvar Island, reeders. The autumn migration in ntinued until the end of October. 26 July 1973, three at Babolsar, 969; high counts along Miankaleh ugust 1972, 2,000 on 3 September and 1,535 on 11 September 1975. irds at Lake Maharlou, Fars, on 6 vember 1973; and four records at 15 May, one on 16 May, and one

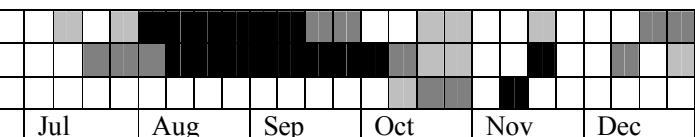
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## Little Stint *Calidris minuta* (452)

A common passage migrant in spring and a very common passage migrant in autumn at wetlands throughout Iran, particularly common in the Urumiyeh basin, East and West Azarbaijan, and the south Caspian region. Also a fairly common winter visitor to Khuzestan, the wetlands of central Fars, the Persian Gulf coast and the coast of Persian Baluchestan. A few birds occasionally remained throughout the winter in Mazandaran, and there was one record in mid-winter in Gilan: seven birds at Galugah Ab-bandan, on 24 January 1973. The spring passage began in southern Iran in March (earliest records: 31 in the Dakegaz and Mahmoodi Marshes, Seistan, on 9–10 March 1971, several hundred in the Kuh-e Khvajeh Marshes, Seistan, on 30 March 1972, and 60 at Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 3 April 1975), but the first migrants did not reach northern Iran until the middle of April (earliest records: one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 13 April 1975, one at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 14 April 1967, and three between Alamdeh and Babolsar, Mazandaran, on 15 April 1973). The migration reached a peak in late April and the first half of May, and continued until the end of May or early June. High counts included 400–500 on the shore at Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 25 April 1967, 760 in the wetlands of the Seistan basin on 20 April 1972, 125 in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 13 May 1972, and 163 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 9 May 1973. The latest migrants in spring were a bird at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 4 June 1971, 42 in Shadegan Marshes on 4 June 1974, four at Hamoun-e Sabari, Seistan, on 5 June 1973, and 12 at Lashgarak on 6 June 1974. A bird in the steppe 80 km west of Mashad, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 13 June 1973 was very unusual, and it seems that few if any birds remained in Iran throughout the summer. The first migrants in autumn appeared in early July (earliest records: 12 in Hara National Park, Hormozgan, on 5–6 July 1976, one at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 6 July 1968, one at Seyed Mohalli Ab-bandans, Mazandaran, on 8 July 1972, and four at Gomishan Lagoons, Golestan, on 12 July 1972), but the main passage began in the last week of July and reached a peak in the second half of August and first half of September. High counts included 500 at Lake Tashk, Fars, on 30 August 1967, 2,280 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 31 August 1972, many thousands in the wetlands of the Urumiyeh basin on 29–31 August 1973, 2,000 on the shore west of Bandar Anzali on 3–4 September 1973, 200 at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 8 September 1975, and 880 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 11–12 September 1975. The autumn migration continued into early October, with a few birds lingering on until early November; late records included 20 near Langarud, Gilan, on 25 October 1970, one at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 26 October 1970, two at Lashgarak on 1 November 1973, one at Lashgarak on 3 November 1974, and five at marshes in the Seistan basin on 11–12 November 1973. Three birds at Lake Kobi, West Azarbaijan, on 23 November 1972 were exceptionally late. At Lashgarak, the Little Stint was a fairly common passage migrant in spring (13 April to 6 June), and a common passage migrant in autumn (18 July to 3 November). The highest count in spring was 24 on 10 May 1974; the highest count in autumn was 60 on 28 August 1975.

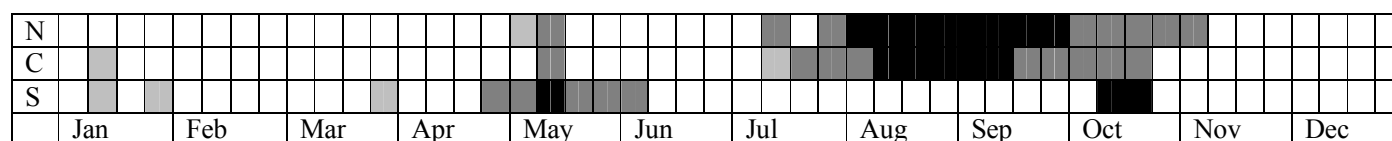


a fairly common passage migrant in autumn at encountered in the south Caspian region and Tehran non winter visitor to the wetlands of Khuzestan numbers in winter in the south Caspian region and between the beginning of April (earliest records: 15 one at Gomishan Lagoons, Golestan, on 5 April o at Dasht-e Arjan, Fars, on 9 May 1972, and six 0 May 1973). Autumn passage in the north began Wildlife Refuge on 14 July 1977, and five at ehan, on 23 July 1977), and in the south in early ars, on 11 August 1967). The autumn passage first half of September, and continued until late s of a bird at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 11 Maharlu, Fars, on 27 October 1974 were still on urumiyeh in West Azarbaijan on 22 November ran, the Temminck's Stint was a fairly common d 7 October, but was not recorded in spring. The only records in the southern Persian Gulf were between 24 April and 5 May 1967.



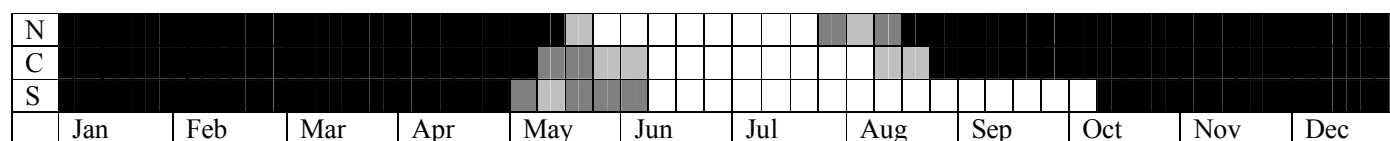
### Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* (188)

A rather scarce passage migrant in spring, but a very common passage migrant in autumn in the south Caspian region, the Urumiyeh basin in East and West Azarbaijan, the Tehran area, Khuzestan and central Fars. The only high counts of birds on spring passage were in southern Khuzestan, where there were over 400 on 13–15 May 1972 and 122 on 4 June 1974. Elsewhere along the south coast, the highest count was 50 near Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 25 April 1967. The latest record was of three birds in Hara National Park, Hormozgan, on 6 June 1975. There were two records of birds on spring passage in central Fars: six birds at Dasht-e Arjan on 9 May 1972, and two birds at Lake Parishan on 9 May 1976. The only spring records in northern Iran were of one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 6 May 1971, three at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 9 May 1971, 14 at Miankaleh on 10 May 1973, and one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 14 May 1973. The autumn migration was much more pronounced, especially in the south Caspian region, where the first birds appeared in the second week of July (earliest records: two at Miankaleh on 10 July 1972 and 60 at Gomishan Lagoons, Golestan, on 12 July 1972). There were two peak periods in the passage, the first in late July and early August, comprising mainly adult birds, and the second in mid-September, comprising mainly juveniles. Notable counts in the first peak included 910 at Miankaleh on 26 July 1973, 420 at Voshmigrir Dam, Golestan, on 1 August 1975, and 2,580 at Miankaleh on 2 August 1975. Notable counts in the second peak included 1,090 at Miankaleh on 13 September 1973, and 1,100 at Miankaleh on 12 September 1975. Numbers dwindled rapidly in late September, but a few birds lingered on through October and into early November (latest record: three at Miankaleh on 5 November 1973). Large numbers also occurred on passage in the Urumiyeh basin in August; at least 300 were recorded during an aerial survey of the basin on 29–30 August 1973. In the Tehran area, Curlew Sandpipers were regular in small numbers at Ghale-Now Marshes and Lashgarak between 23 July and 4 October (maxima at Ghale-Now, 100 on 25 July 1975 and 50 on 8 September 1975; maximum at Lashgarak, 19 on 26 August 1973). In central Fars, several hundred birds were recorded at Lake Bakhtegan and Lake Tashk on 15 and 16 October 1973. There was no coverage on the south coast in August and September, but small numbers were recorded at several localities in Hormozgan and southern Baluchestan in October. A few birds apparently overwintered in the Bandar Abbas area, Hormozgan, where there were 12 on 25 March 1973 and 20 on 29 January 1974. The only other mid-winter records were of a bird at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 12 January 1972, and a bird at the Monde Delta, Bushehr, on 11 January 1972.



**Dunlin *Calidris alpina* (456)**

A locally abundant winter visitor to all the main wetlands: abundant in the southern Persian Gulf, very common in the south Caspian region (particularly Gorgan Bay, Mazandaran and Golestan), the northern Persian Gulf and coast of Persian Baluchestan, and common in the Urumiyeh basin in East and West Azarbaijan and in the wetlands of Khuzestan, central Fars and the Seistan basin. The first migrants in autumn arrived in the south Caspian region at the end of July (earliest record: six at Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 26 July 1973), but numbers remained very low until the last week of August, and the main passage was from the second week of September to the middle of October. Few birds were recorded south of the Alborz before the beginning of September, and a bird at Lake Tashk, Fars, on 15 August 1967 was exceptionally early. Numbers in the south Caspian region were at their highest from the end of October to the end of March, with counts of up to 5,000 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, in January, but there was evidence of spring passage in April and May, e.g. 960 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 9–11 May 1973. The Dunlin was a regular spring and autumn passage migrant in small numbers at wetlands in the Tehran area and was occasionally recorded at other wetlands in the interior. A flock of 15 resting in the desert in Touran Wildlife Refuge, Semnan, during a hail storm on 28 April 1974 was of particular interest. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the species was recorded in small numbers on 16 occasions between 30 March and 4 June, and on six occasions between 5 September and 8 November; the highest count was seven on 3 April 1975. At Ghale-Now Marshes, there were only two records in spring (two on 19 April 1974 and one on 6 May 1977), but 11 records in autumn between 29 August and 4 October (maximum of six on 3 October 1975). The only records of Dunlin in the Tehran area in winter were of 13 at Ghale-Now Marshes on 29 December 1972, six at Ghale-Now Marshes on 3 January 1973, two at Lashgarak on 18 December 1975 and one at Lashgarak on 2 January 1976. It is doubtful if any birds remained in Iran throughout the summer, as there were no records between 4 June (one at Lashgarak in 1973, three at Hamoun-e Sabari, Seistan, also in 1973, and 10 at Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, in 1974) and 26 July.

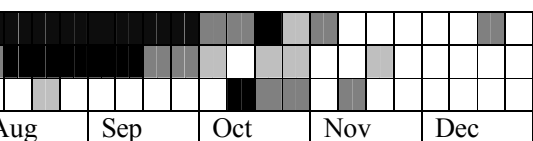


**Broad-billed Sandpiper** *Limicola falcinellus* (40)

A locally fairly common winter visitor to the Persian Gulf coast and probably also the coast of Persian Baluchestan, favouring mangrove areas and most numerous in the Khouuran Straits. A fairly common passage migrant in the southeast Caspian region, and a scarce passage migrant in the Tehran area and central Fars, occurring in spring in the first half of May (earliest record: one near Semnan on 3 May 1975; latest record: one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 12 May 1973), and in autumn from the last week of July to the middle of September (earliest record: two at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 25 July 1975; latest record: three at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 15 September 1973). The highest counts at Miankaleh were 83 on 10 May 1973, 175 on 26 July 1973, and 189 on 2 August 1975. Much the highest count in central Fars was of 50 at Lake Task on 15 May 1965. At Lashgarak, single Broad-billed Sandpipers were recorded on three occasions: 12 May 1973, 9-10 May 1974, and 8 August 1975. A flock of 21 at the west end of Qeshm Island, Hormozgan, on 26 May 1974 and a flock of 50 in the Hilleh Delta, Bushehr, on 3 June 1974 were presumably just about to depart for their breeding grounds, but a single bird in moult in Hara Protected Area, Hormozgan, on 6 June 1975 was probably a summering non-breeder.

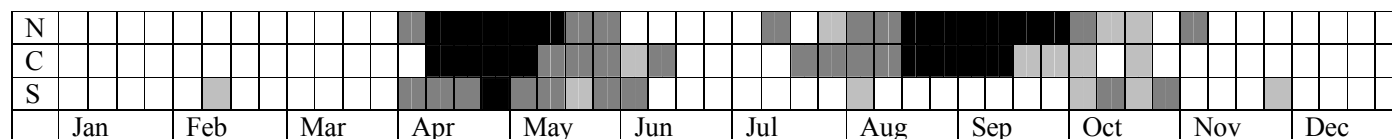
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d autumn in all the main wetland  
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had probably overwintered, but a  
Marshes, Tehran, on 12 February  
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s were still passing through in the  
iyeh, West Azarbaijan, on 2 June  
the Seistan basin on 9–10 March  
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in the second half of August and  
Kobi, West Azarbaijan, on 2 July  
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eh Wildlife Refuge on 31 August  
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Seistan, on 25 October 1975, and  
few birds seen later than this were  
common on spring migration (22  
ember); the highest count was 13



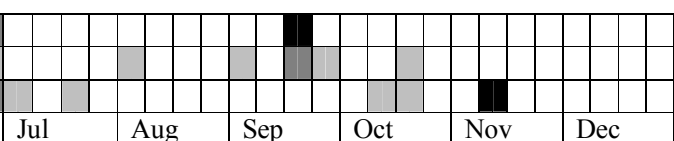
### Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus* (202)

A very common and locally abundant passage migrant in spring and autumn at wetlands throughout Iran, most numerous in the south Caspian region and central Fars, where large numbers were recorded on spring and autumn passage at Lake Tashk and Lake Bakhtegan. Large numbers wintered at sea in the Strait of Hormoz and Arabian Sea, but birds seldom came close inshore in winter. The spring migration began in the first or second week of April, reached a peak in late April and early May, and was usually over by the end of May or early June. The earliest records in northern and central Iran were of a bird at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 4 April 1967, and two birds at Gomishan Lagoons, Golestan, on 5 April 1978. The last of the spring were three birds near Arak, Tehran, on 9 June 1974, and 10 at Gumoon, Lake Tashk, Fars, on 12 June 1975. High counts included 500 at Lake Tashk on 14 April 1967, 200 at Lake Bakhtegan on 29 April 1968, 280 at Galugah Ab-bandan, Gilan, on 21 April 1970, and 550 at Miankaleh on 4 May 1971. The autumn migration began in the second week of July, reached a peak in late August and the first half of September, and was usually over by the end of September, although a few individuals lingered into October and exceptionally early November. The earliest records were of four birds at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 10 July 1972, and three at Gomishan Lagoons on 12 July 1972. The last of the autumn in northern Iran were one at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 1 November 1971, and one at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 4 November 1976. High counts included 510 at Lake Tashk on 31 August 1967, 250 at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 10 September 1968, and 324 at Miankaleh on 31 August 1974. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the species was a fairly common passage migrant in spring, between 11 April and 16 May (maximum count: 17 on 11 April 1974), but was scarce in autumn, with records of single birds on only six dates between 30 August and 13 September. At Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, there were four records in spring, which included 25 on 19 April 1974 and 14 on 3 June 1977, and many records in autumn between 23 July and 4 October (maximum count: 18 on 7–9 September 1973). Large numbers were seen at sea off Hormoz and Qeshm islands, Hormozgan, on 26–28 April 1967, including at least 500 in the space of 2 km off Qeshm on 26 April.





regions of the Dasht-e Kavir and desert basins of Chaharmahal and Semnan and the region of Quchan and Gilan Province and the region of Birjand in South Iran. Commonly recorded on spring passage and wintering in coastal lowlands from Khuzestan to eastern Iran. Passage in the Seistan basin (five on 9 March and three on 10 November 1974). All records on the breeding grounds were in Kavir National Park, the earliest in spring was on 15 March 1974, while the latest in autumn were six on 10 October 1974. In the south were nine near Hendijan, Khuzestan, on 10 October 1974. In Kuh-e Khvajeh, Seistan, on 12 November 1974 and one on 13 November 1973.



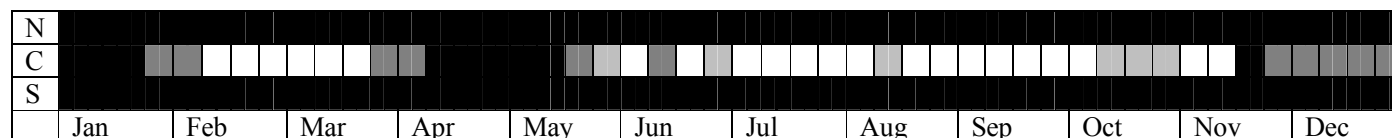
**Collared Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola* (181)

A summer visitor, breeding commonly in the southeast Caspian region and locally in smaller numbers in Gilan, the Urumiyeh basin in West Azarbaijan, Khuzestan, Bushehr (Hilleh Delta), central Fars and Seistan. The species may also have bred along the Aras River in East Azarbaijan (two pairs on 6 July 1974), and along the Hari Rud in Khorasan-e Razavi (a pair 35 km south of Sarakhs on 11 June 1973). Birds began to arrive back in their breeding areas in late March and early April (earliest records: four at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 25 March 1975, and eight at Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 3 April 1975), and most had departed by the end of August or early September (latest records: five at Lapoo-Zargmarz Lagoons, Mazandaran, on 18 September 1971, and two near Astara, Gilan, on 26–27 September 1975). Collared Pratincoles occurred widely on migration, but were nowhere common. The largest migrant flocks recorded were 150 birds at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 19 April 1974, and 60 at a pond near Tabas, South Khorasan, on 26 April 1975. On 28 April 1974, a flock of 12 landed in the desert near Dasjerd in Touran Wildlife Refuge, Semnan, during in violent hail storm. In the Tehran area there were five records of one or two birds at Latian Dam between 28 March and 10 June, and 13 records of up to nine birds at Ghale-Now Marshes between 23 July and 7 September. There were only two records in Baluchestan: five birds in cultivation near Zahedan on 10 May 1967, and one near Saravan on 14 May 1971. The only records of migrants in the Persian Gulf were of six birds on Kharku Island, Bushehr, on 26 August 1973, and one bird on Lavan Island, Hormozgan, on 22 June 1977.

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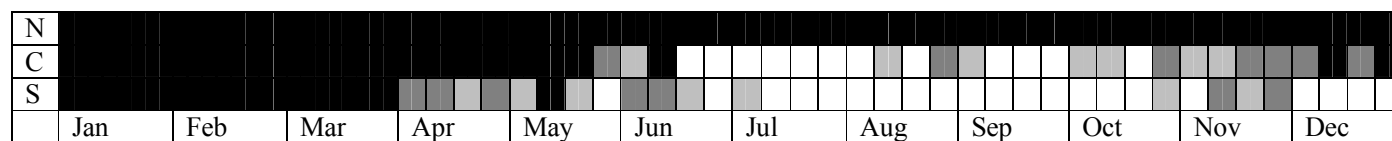
### Slender-billed Gull *Chroicocephalus genei* (474)

An abundant breeding bird at Lake Urumiyeh, East and West Azarbaijan, where strictly a summer visitor; also found breeding in substantial numbers at Shadegan Marshes in Khuzestan, at Gomishan Lagoons and Lake Alagol in Golestan, and at Hamoun-e Sabari in the Seistan basin. Almost entirely a summer visitor to Lake Urumiyeh; there were still 450 birds on the northwest shore of the lake on 21 November 1972, but the only record later in the winter was of 20 birds on the southwest shore of the lake on 30 December 1971. The Slender-billed Gull was an abundant winter visitor to the south Caspian region and the entire south coast from Khuzestan to the Pakistan border, and a common winter visitor to the wetlands of central Fars and the Seistan basin. In the south Caspian region, the first wintering birds appeared in early July (earliest records: five immature birds at the mouth of the Sefid Rud, Gilan, on 6 July 1972, 10 immature birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge Mazandaran, on 10 July 1972, and 50 birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 14 July 1977), but the main arrival was in August and September. Most birds departed in the second half of March and first half of April, but a few lingered on into early May (latest records: three at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 9 May 1971, 85 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 9 May 1973, and 28 immature birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 11 May 1973). Some birds had already arrived in their wintering areas in central Fars and along the south coast by mid-October, e.g. 300 at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 14 October 1973, and 30 at Jask, Hormozgan, on 12 October 1973. Most had departed again by the end of April and early May, but some lingered on into late May and June, and were presumably summering non-breeders, e.g. 42 at Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 20 May 1974, 50 on Hormoz Island, Hormozgan, on 23 May 1974, 90 immature birds in the Bandar Abbas area on 5–8 June 1975, and 60 at Lake Parishan on 13 June 1971. The Slender-billed Gull was fairly common on spring passage at Latian Dam, Tehran, where it was recorded on 32 dates between 26 March and 24 May (maximum count: 34 on 14 April 1974). It was recorded in small numbers on spring passage at several other wetlands in northern and western Iran, but there were no inland records in autumn. There was only one record from Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran: a single bird on 27 March 1974. The latest record in spring was of two birds at Latian Dam on 24 May 1972. Unusual records in spring included a flock of seven adults at Pole-Dokhtar Marsh, Lorestan, on 16 May 1972, and a single adult at Delbar oasis in Touran Wildlife Refuge, Semnan, on 25 April 1974. Two birds at Sanandaj Dam, Kordestan, on 2 January 1972 were also unusual.

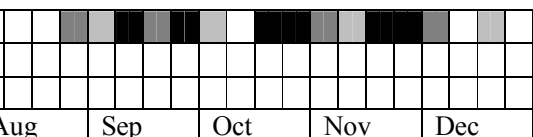


### Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* (754)

A rather scarce and local breeding bird in wetlands in the Urumiyeh basin in East and West Azarbaijan, where mainly a summer visitor. Small numbers of immature birds lingered on until late November, e.g. 15 at Lake Kobi, West Azarbaijan, on 23 November 1972, and 13 at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 24 November 1972, but the only records in mid-winter were of two birds at Dorgeh Sangi Lake, West Azarbaijan, on 30 December 1971, two at Nowruzlu Dam, West Azarbaijan, on 31 December 1971, and 15 at Shur Gol, West Azarbaijan, on 9 January 1975. An abundant winter visitor to the south Caspian region and the entire south coast, and a very common winter visitor to the wetlands of central Fars and the Seistan basin, also recorded in small numbers on passage and in winter at many other wetlands in the interior. Birds began to arrive in the south Caspian region in early July, e.g. 25 immatures at the mouth of the Sefid Rud, Gilan, on 6 July 1972, and 500 immatures in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 10 July 1972, but numbers usually remained low until late September. Numbers built up rapidly in October and remained high until the third week of April. High counts included 1,800 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 8 February 1970, 2,000 at Galugah, Gilan, on 21 April 1970, at least 5,000 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 2 March 1973, and 3,530 on the coast between Kalachay and Fereidoon Kenar, Mazandaran, on 16–17 January 1975. Most birds had left the south Caspian by the end of the first week of May, and the only records after 10 May were of three immature birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 11 May 1973, a bird on the shore at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 19 May 1976, and five at Zibakenar, Gilan, on 10 June 1972. At Latian Dam, Tehran, the Black-headed Gull was a fairly common passage migrant in spring, mainly between the middle of March and the end of April. It was recorded on 74 dates between 16 February (a bird in 1973) and 2 June (a bird in 1977); the maximum counts were 150 on 2 April 1973 and 240 on 4 April 1974. At Ghale-Now and Ashkerabad Marshes, Tehran, it was a regular winter visitor in small numbers (maximum count: 30 on 23 January 1976), and a fairly common passage migrant in March and April (maximum count: 143 on 27 March 1974). It was surprisingly scarce on autumn passage in the Tehran area, the only records being of one or two birds at Latian Dam on six dates between 26 August and 29 November, and three birds at Ghale-Now Marshes on 1 September 1975. Wintering birds began to arrive in the wetlands of central Fars and the Seistan basin in late October (earliest records: 10 at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 28 October 1974, and seven in the Takhte Shah Marshes, Seistan, on 25 October 1975), and large numbers were present by mid-November. Most had departed by the end of April or early May, although there were still 150 at Zarghan Marshes, Fars, on 8 May 1972. A bird at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 18 May 1976 was probably a late migrant, but three at Lake Parishan on 10 June 1977, two at Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 12 June 1971, 16 at Lake Parishan on 13 June 1971, and one or two birds at Lake Tashk, Fars, from 15 August to 1 September 1967 were probably summering non-breeders, while a bird at Hamoun-e Sabari, Seistan, on 4 June 1973 was injured. The earliest records in autumn in Khuzestan were of two birds at Sadi Shahvour /Marshes on 12 November 1973, and 14 on the Karun River near Ahwaz on 14 November 1973, but large numbers were not recorded on the south coast until early January. Most of the wintering birds had departed by the end of March, but a few lingered on until early May, e.g. 60 between Darkwhin and Ahwaz, Khuzestan, on 14 May 1972. A few immature birds probably remained throughout the summer in Khuzestan, Bushehr and Hormozgan, as there were seven records of up to nine birds in June and July.

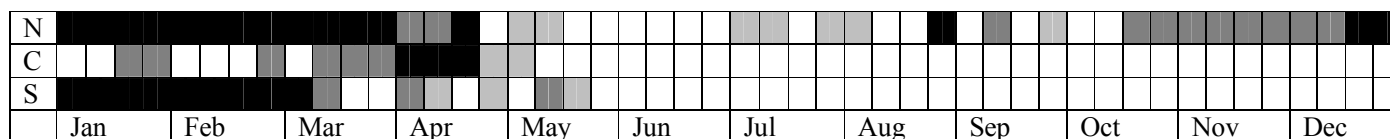


th the numbers fluctuating widely. The first birds arrived in the south of the Sefid Rud, Gilan, on 24 August at the Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 31 August, though a few lingered on into the first week at the Kesheem Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, (May 1973). Unusually high counts were recorded in November 1971, 1,760 in the Anzali Wetland, Gilan Peninsula and Gorgan Bay, where there were only eight records in winter. In 1973, 1,000 at Rumiyeh, West Azarbaijan, on 14 November 1974; one at Latian, Gilan, on 29 January 1973; 30 at Lake Urmia, West Azarbaijan, on 6 January 1973; two at Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, in 1973, when there were unusually high counts at Akh Gol in northern West Azarbaijan, and at Astara, Gilan, in the second week



**Pallas's (Great Black-headed) Gull *Ichthyaetus ichthyaeus* (254)**

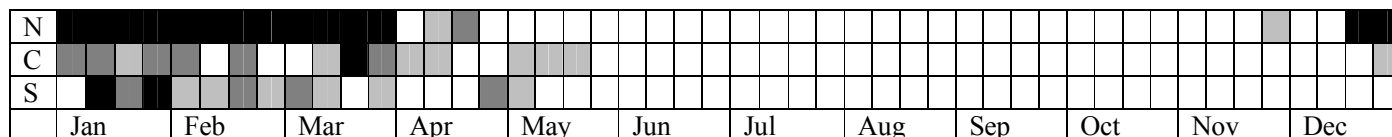
A common winter visitor to the south Caspian region and south coast from Khuzestan to the Pakistan border, also occurring in small numbers in the wetlands of the Seistan basin. The numbers wintering in the south Caspian region fluctuated widely depending on the severity of the winter. Birds began to appear in the south Caspian region as early as July, but numbers built up slowly with the main arrival occurring at the end of November and in December. The earliest records were of five at Astara, Gilan, on 6 July 1975, 15 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 10 July 1972, and six in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 26 July 1973. There were no records in southern Iran before the beginning of January. Most birds had left Iran by the end of the third week of April, although a few individuals lingered on into May. Late records included one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 9 May 1973, one on Bushehr Island, Bushehr, on 11 May 1972, and two in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 12 May 1970; the latest record was of a slightly injured bird at Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 20 May 1974. Much the highest counts in the south Caspian region were recorded during the extremely severe winter of 1971/1972, when there were at least 1,000 birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 27 January 1972, 2,000 on 29 February and 1,000 on 25 March 1972. High counts at Miankaleh in other winters included 600 on 28 January 1973, 1,020 on 23 February 1974, and 585 on 1 February 1976. The highest counts in Gilan were 156 at Menjil Dam on 2 February 1970 and 122 at Anzali Mordab on 14 January 1972, while the maximum count in the Seistan basin was 143 at Hamoun-e Sabari on 31 January 1975. Notable counts along the south coast included 300 at a coastal lagoon near Pasabandar, Baluchestan, on 3 and 4 March 1971, 343 along the coast between Jask, Hormozgan, and Chahbahar, Baluchestan, on 9 January 1973, and 250 at a lagoon south of the Monde River Delta, Bushehr, on 25 January 1974. In some years, a few birds (maximum six) were present in January and February at Lake Parishan and Lake Maharlu in central Fars, and there was a late migrant at Lake Parthian on 2 May 1976. The species was a fairly common passage migrant in spring at Latian Dam, Tehran, where there were records on 25 dates between 27 February and 24 April, with the highest count being 23 on 11 April 1974.



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**Mew (Common) Gull *Larus canus* (157)**

A common winter visitor to the south Caspian coast, with numbers fluctuating widely from year to year depending on the severity of the winter. Also a regular winter visitor in small numbers to Khuzestan and a scarce winter visitor further south along the Persian Gulf coast to the Straits of Hormoz. There was only one record from the Makran coast: an immature between Kudsar and Kutch in eastern Hormozgan on 1 March 1971. Occasionally recorded in winter in West Azarbaijan, the Tehran area, Esfahan and central Fars. The winter visitors did not normally begin to arrive in the south Caspian region until the middle of December; the earliest was one at Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 27 November 1975. The earliest record of a bird south of the Alborz was of five birds at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 29 December 1972. Most birds had departed by the end of March, although a few birds lingered on until the end of April. An individual with Caspian Gulls *L. cachinnans* near Arak, Markazi, on 17 May 1969 was exceptionally late. At Latian Dam, Tehran, one or two individuals were recorded on eight dates between 8 March and 13 April, and there was a late individual on 10 May 1974.







**Armenian Gull *Larus armenicus* (107)**

About 4,000–5,000 pairs of Armenian Gulls bred on islands in Lake Urumiyeh in East and West Azarbaijan. Large numbers of birds were still present in the Urumiyeh basin until at least the end of August, but most had left by the end of September, and only a few individuals remained throughout the winter, e.g. one at Nowruzlu Dam on 24 January 1971, four at Dorgeh Sangi Lake, Mahabad Dam and Nowruzlu Dam on 30–31 December 1971, and 10 at Mahabad Dam on 10 January 1975. No attempt was made in the 1970s to separate *armenicus* from *cachinnans* outside the breeding season. However, it is now thought that *armenicus* winters mainly in the east Mediterranean and perhaps northern Red Sea, with a few birds also reaching the Persian Gulf.















**Bridled Tern *Onychoprion anaethetus* (64)**

A locally abundant summer visitor to the Persian Gulf, found breeding on Kharku Island and in the Morghu, Ummal Karam and Nakhilu islands in Bushehr, and on Sheedvar Island and Larak in Hormozgan. All records in the Persian Gulf were between the middle of April (earliest record: one off Bandar-e Lengeh, Hormozgan, on 15 April 1978) and early October (latest record: 12 in the Strait of Hormoz on 5 October 1970). The species was also recorded in small numbers on passage on the coast of eastern Hormozgan and at Chahbahar, south-eastern Baluchestan, in the first three weeks of May and early October (latest record: one off Chahbahar on 16 October 1975).

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### Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* (237)

A fairly common summer visitor, breeding at wetlands in East and West Azarbaijan, the south Caspian region, Khuzestan, central Fars and Seistan, and possibly also on the northern Persian Gulf coast. The first birds arrived in spring in early April and the main spring passage occurred between mid-April and the third week of May. The two earliest records were both of two birds at Latian Dam, Tehran, on 5 April 1973 and again on 5 April 1974. Birds were present in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 8 April 1978; there was one at Galugah Ab-bandan, Gilan, on 11 April 1970, and 80 were recorded at Latian Dam on 11 April 1974. High counts of birds on spring passage included 100 at Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 25 April 1967, 100 on Qeshm Island, Hormozgan, on 27 April 1967, 100 in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 13 May 1972, and 300 at Chahbahar, Baluchestan, on 3 May 1978. In northern Iran, the main autumn migration occurred between late August and the third week of September, and most birds had left by the end of October, although a few birds lingered on into November. High counts included 150 at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 14 September 1971, 150 on the Caspian shore at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 15 September 1971, 300 on Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 17 September 1971, and 715 on Miankaleh Peninsula on 2 September 1972. In southern Iran, the migration continued well into October, with high counts of 880 at Jask, Hormozgan, on 14 October 1973, 500 at Ra's Bostaneh, Hormozgan, on 20 October 1973, and 500 at Bandar-e Assalu, Bushehr, on 21 October 1973. The latest records were of a bird at Bandar-e Khomeini, Khuzestan, on 15 November 1973, two at Bandar-e Kiashahr Lagoon, Gilan, on 17 November 1971, 13 on the Caspian shore between Fereidoon Kenar and the Neka River, Mazandaran, on 18 November, 1971, and 10 at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 20 November 1975. A few birds remained throughout the winter in Gorgan Bay and at lakes on the Turkoman Steppes, Golestan, e.g. four at Lake Ulmagol on 29 December 1970, seven at Bandar-e Shah on 1 January 1971, seven at Lake Alagol on 26 January 1975, and four at Ashuradeh, Miankaleh Peninsula, on 2 February 1976. Three birds on Qeshm Island, Hormozgan, on 1 February 1974 and two birds in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 9 March 1972 were probably also wintering birds. Common Terns were occasionally recorded on passage at other wetlands inland, with most records coming from Latian Dam, Tehran, where the species was recorded on 31 dates between 5 April and 11 June, with the highest count being 80 on 11 April 1974. There was only one record at Latian Dam in autumn: a single bird on 9 September 1973. The only other inland records were of 36 birds at the Rud-e Shur near Saveh, Markazi, on 25 April 1968, a bird at the Kalshur River south of Nishapur, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 19 September 1974, four birds at Lake Zaribar, Kordestan, on 3 July 1975, single birds at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 10 September 1973 and 19 April 1974, and two birds at Ghale-Now Marshes on 4 October 1973.

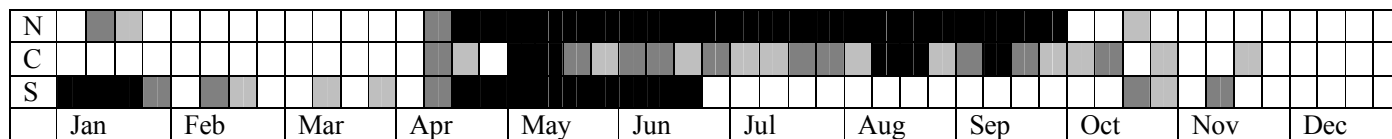
### White-cheeked Tern *Sterna repressa* (64)

A locally abundant summer visitor to the Persian Gulf, found breeding on Kharku Island, on islands in Bushehr Bay and in the Morghu, Ummal Karam and Nakhilu islands, Bushehr, and on Sheedvar Island and Larak, Hormozgan. All records in the Persian Gulf were between the last week of March (earliest record: one off Qeshm Island, Hormozgan, on 26 March 1973) and the third week of October (latest record: 500 near Bandar-e Assaluyeh, Bushehr, on 22 October 1973). The species was also recorded in small numbers on passage on the coast of Persian Baluchestan. A single bird at Chahbahar, south-eastern Baluchestan, on 10 January 1973 was the only record in winter.

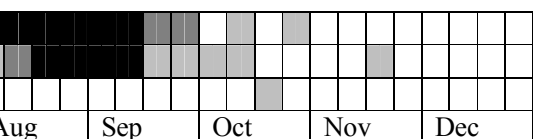
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**Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* (299)**

An abundant summer visitor to the wetlands of the south Caspian region, and a common summer visitor to wetlands in the Urumiyeh basin in East and West Azarbaijan, Khuzestan and Seistan. Also a fairly common winter visitor to the wetlands of Khuzestan, and an uncommon, and perhaps irregular, winter visitor to the wetlands of Seistan. There were three records of birds in northern Iran in mid-winter: 20–30 between Miandoab and Nagadeh and seven at Lake Kobi, West Azarbaijan, on 15 January 1970; four at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 8 January 1974; and one at Lake Urmagol, Golestan, on 20 January 1974. The Whiskered Tern was a widespread passage migrant, especially in northern Iran, but it was also recorded at several localities in the extreme southeast. The first spring migrants usually arrived in the second week of April, and birds were back on their breeding grounds in northern Iran by the end of April. The earliest records in spring were of one at Kolani in Bahu Kalat Protected Area, Baluchestan, on 9 April 1972; one at Galugah Ab-bandan, Gilan, on 11 April 1970, and one at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 11 April 1976. Fifty-five birds in Kuh-e Khvajeh Marshes, Seistan, on 30 March 1972 could have been over-wintering birds or very early spring migrants. The autumn migration began in early August and most birds had departed by the end of September, although a few lingered on until the end of October. The latest records in northern Iran were of two at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 4 October 1973, one at Ghale-Now Marshes on 11 October 1974, and 19 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 21 October 1974. Late migrants in the south included two at Jask Creek, Hormozgan, on 16 October 1973, four at a pond on the Dasht-e Ari, Baluchestan, on 18 October 1975, and 15 at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 28 October 1974. A party of 25 at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 17 November 1973 was exceptional. At Latian Dam, Tehran, Whiskered Terns were recorded on 17 dates between 9 May and 14 September, with the highest count being 12 on 18 July 1974.



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spring migrants usually appeared  
n, on 16 April 1973, and seven at  
in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge,  
pring migration reached a peak in  
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August 1972 and 2,300 on 29–31  
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een 10 August and 20 September.  
oun-e Sabari, Seistan, on 5 June  
Hormozgan, on 16 October 1973.  
ably overwintering.





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**Parasitic Jaeger (Arctic Skua) *Stercorarius parasiticus* (40)**

A regular passage migrant and winter visitor to the southern Persian Gulf and northern Arabian Sea off the Makran coast of Iran, with some non-breeders probably remaining in these areas throughout the summer. Surprisingly scarce in the south Caspian region, the only records being as follows: one adult on the shore west of Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 10 January 1971; one adult at the west end of Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 15 September 1971; a party of 15 flying south into Gorgan Bay at the east end of Miankaleh Peninsula, Golestan, on 1 December 1972 during a period of very bad weather; four off the east end of Miankaleh Peninsula on 13 September 1973; and one immature on the shore at Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 15 September 1973. Three skuas, thought to be this species, were seen over the Caspian Sea off Now Farahabad, Mazandaran, on 16 January 1974.



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### Stock Dove *Columba oenas* (129)

A fairly common breeding bird in the forests of the south Caspian region, northern East Azarbaijan and the extreme western Zagros in Kordestan, and present throughout the year in the breeding areas. Also a locally common winter visitor to northern Iran, occurring in large numbers in the southeast Caspian region from early October to mid-March, and extending south occasionally to Khuzestan, central Fars and Seistan. Much the largest numbers were recorded on the plains around Dasht-e Naz Wildlife Refuge in Mazandaran: almost 1,300 on 1 March 1969; several thousand on 27 and 28 October 1970; 1,000 on 30 October 1971; and 1,000 on 2 March 1976. The Stock Dove was recorded on passage at Lashgarak, Tehran, on four occasions in autumn (between 29 September and 23 October) and once in spring (10 April); much the highest count was of a flock of 30 on 17 October 1974. Many flocks were observed migrating west at Galugah, Gilan, between 24 March and 20 April 1967, and also between 14 and 27 April 1970, while 30 were observed flying east along Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 1 November 1973.

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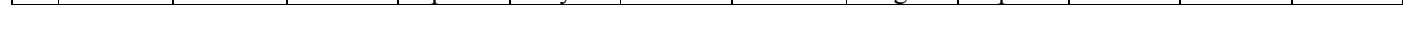
**Common Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus* (189)**

Resident in the south Caspian region and Khuzestan, and probably also resident in the southern Zagros and Kerman highlands, but a summer visitor to breeding areas in East and West Azarbaijan and the western provinces. A common winter visitor to the south Caspian lowlands, Khuzestan and central Fars, and occasionally south in winter to Hormozgan. The main arrival of migrants in the south Caspian region occurred in October and most birds had left again by the end of March, although some birds lingered on until the end of April. Several small flocks were observed flying west over Galugah, Gilan, on four dates between 18 and 29 April 1970. Much the largest numbers of wintering birds were recorded on the plains around Dasht-e Naz Wildlife Refuge in Mazandaran, where 10,000 were counted on 12 January 1968. Other high counts in this area included 530 on 1 March 1969 and 1,000 on 20 October 1971. Elsewhere in the south Caspian region, high counts included 300 at Lake Eymar, Golestan, on 28 December 1970, 300 near the west end of Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 16 November 1971, several hundred roosting east of Tangira in Golestan National Park, Golestan, on 3 February 1972, and 300 on the plains east of Beshahr, Mazandaran, on 20 December 1974. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Wood Pigeon was recorded on eight occasions in summer and autumn between 22 May and 17 October; the highest count being 21 on 3 October 1974. Large numbers of wintering birds extended as far south as Khuzestan, where there were counts of 400 and 450 along the Dez River on 23 January 1974 and 15 January 1975, respectively. The only records in Hormozgan were of a flock of 44 about 20 km east of Minab on 26 February 1971, and two birds near Bandar Abbas on 30 January 1974.

**European Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur* (612)

A common and locally abundant breeding bird almost throughout Iran, absent only from the highest mountain ranges, the interior desert basins, the southern Persian Gulf lowlands and southern Persian Baluchestan. Strictly a summer visitor and passage migrant, arriving in southern Iran in the first week of April (earliest records: one near Bampur, Baluchestan, on 3 April 1972, and several on Qeshm Island, Hormozgan, on 7 April 1968) and in northern Iran in the third week of April (earliest records: single birds at Galugah, Gilan, on 15, 16 and 19 April 1970, a bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 16 April 1975, two birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 19 April 1973, and a bird at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 19 April 1974). The main departure was in September, although a few birds lingering on into October and exceptionally November (latest records in northern Iran: one at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 18 October 1978, one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 26 October 1972, one at Amirkelayeh Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 1 November 1971, and one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 1 November 1973; latest records in southern Iran: one at Bandar-e Moqam, Hormozgan, on 20 October 1973, one near Kazerun, Fars, on 16 November 1973, and one near Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 18 November 1973). The Turtle Dove also occurred widely on migration, even at oases in the central deserts. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the first of the spring was one on 16 April 1975 and the main passage in spring was from late April to mid-May (maximum of 40 on 6 May 1974); the main passage in autumn was from early August to mid-September (maximum of 55 on 5 September 1974), and the latest were five on 29 September 1974.

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### Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* (228)

A common summer visitor to northern Iran, the Zagros, the Kerman highlands and the highlands of northern Baluchestan, and a widespread passage migrant. The first spring migrants normally arrived in northern Iran in the first or second week of April. The earliest records in the Tehran area were of one at Lashgarak on 4 April 1974 and a bird in north Tehran on 10 April 1967. The earliest records in the south Caspian region were of a bird at Galugah, Gilan, on 11 April 1970, and a bird at Pol-e Sefid, Mazandaran, on 13 April 1968. There was a pronounced autumn passage through the south Caspian region in September, particularly in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, where the latest record was of three birds on 29 September 1973. The latest records in the Tehran area were of a bird in Kavir National Park on 19 September 1975, and two exceptionally late migrants which lingered at Lashgarak until 17 October 1974, with one bird remaining until 18<sup>th</sup>. The Common Cuckoo was a fairly common passage migrant at Lashgarak both in spring (4 April to 7 May) and in autumn (3 September to 18 October); the highest count was seven on 6 May 1974. In southern Iran, the main arrival in spring appears to have been in early April, but there were several much earlier records, notably a bird at Barmishur, Fars, on 17 February 1978, a bird of the brown phase near Kangan, Bushehr, on 23 February 1971, and two birds between Bandar Assalu and Bandar-e Moqam, Hormozgan, on 8 March 1978. The latest record in southern Iran was of two birds at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 3 October 1978.

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## Eurasian Scops Owl *Otus scops* (66)

A common summer visitor to the forests of the south Caspian region, northern Khorasan-e Razavi and the Zagros southeast to central Fars, also occurring in orchards, parks and gardens in the Tehran area. All records were between 23 March (one at Lashgarak, Tehran, in 1974) and 20 September (one near Sarakhs, Khorasan-e Razavi, in 1974). A bird in a garden on Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 11 September 1975 was presumably on migration. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Scops Owl was a breeding summer visitor and probably also a passage migrant, recorded on 31 dates between 23 March and 28 August.

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**Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* (358)**

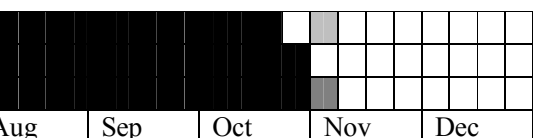
A common resident in the south Caspian region; a scarce and local summer visitor to wetlands in East and West Azarbaijan; and a scarce and local resident in Khuzestan and central Fars. A fairly common winter visitor to the south Caspian region, Tehran area, and suitable wetlands in central and southern Iran south to the Persian Gulf coast and southern Persian Baluchestan, and a widespread passage migrant. In the Tehran area, the spring migration lasted from the middle of March until the end of April, and the autumn migration lasted from the second week of August to the middle of October. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Common Kingfisher was a regular passage migrant in very small numbers in spring between 22 March and 26 April, and in autumn between 15 August and 20 October; a bird on 17 May 1976 was unusually late. A bird was resident at Lashgarak from 12 January to 6 February 1976. All records of wintering birds outside the breeding areas in southern Iran were between the second week of October (earliest record: seven birds in the Monde Valley in southern Fars on 8 October 1975) and the second week of April (latest date: two birds at Govater, Baluchestan, on 10 April 1972).

**Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis* (156)**

A common resident in the wetlands of Khuzestan, at Lake Parishan in Fars and in the Hilleh Delta in Bushehr, spreading out to many other wetlands in Khuzestan and Fars outside the breeding season. Shadegan Marshes in Khuzestan were a particularly important wintering area, with concentrations of over 500 on 7 January 1972 and over 400 on 17 January 1973 (compared with only 50–60 birds in June 1973 and June 1974). In Fars, Pied Kingfishers were recorded in small numbers outside the breeding season at Lake Maharlu, Lake Tashk, Dorudsan Dam and several localities along the Monde River. Some birds wandered much farther afield, notably a bird near Babolsar in Mazandaran on 5 May 1970, three at Lake Zaribar in Kordestan on 10 November 1968, one along the Zaindeh Rud near Esfahan on 5 January 1973, two along the Zaindeh Rud near Esfahan on 15 January 1974, and one on the Minab River near Minab in Hormozgan on 31 January 1974.



pread passage migrant. All records in Iran, the spring migration began mid of October. The earliest records were at least 60 near Dezful on 7 April. The earliest records in northern Iran were at Lashgarak on 18 April 1974, and one at Gonabad, South Khorasan, on 29 November 1971, and a few by 1973. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the spring migration began between 16 April and 22 May 1974, and an additional six dates between 29 September and 1974. The spring migration arrived in the third week of April (latest record: one on 20 October

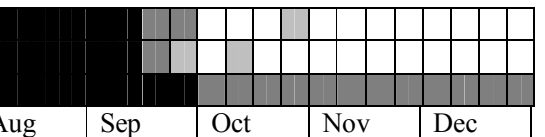


**European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* (700)**

A very common and widespread summer visitor, breeding throughout northern and western Iran and extending southeast through the Zagros and Kerman highlands to central Baluchestan. Also a common passage migrant throughout much of Iran, although there were no records from southern Baluchestan. The earliest record in spring was of 10 birds by the Karun River near Ahwaz, Khuzestan, on 20 March 1974, but the first migrants usually arrived in the south in the first week of April (e.g. a small flock flying north over Mirjaveh, Baluchestan, on 1 April 1972, four birds near Iranshahr, Baluchestan, on 2 April 1972, 18 near Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 4 April 1975, and 80 between Dezful and Shushtar, Khuzestan, on 7 April 1978). In northern Iran, the first migrants appeared in the middle of April (earliest records: four between Rey and Varamin, Tehran, on 13 April 1972, ten flying northeast over Tehran on 14 April 1967, seven flying west at Galugah, Gilan, on 14 April 1970, and several at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 14 April 1977. There was a pronounced westward movement of birds at Galugah, Gilan, in the second half of April 1970, when over 640 birds were recorded between 14<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Most of the summer visitors had departed by the end of September, but some birds lingered on until the second half of October, particularly in the south Caspian region, where there were counts of 100 at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 18 October 1973, 100 at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 20 October 1973, and 30 at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 25 October 1969. Two birds at Gori Gol in East Azarbaijan on 18 October 1973 were also noteworthy. The latest records in autumn were of two birds at Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 1 November 1973, and 11 at Shushtar, Khuzestan, on 10 November 1973. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the European Bee-eater was a common passage migrant and breeding summer visitor between 14 April and 12 October. The main spring passage was in late April and early May (maximum count: 150 on 20 April 1974); the autumn passage extended from the end of July to the end of September (maximum count: 200 on 3 August 1972).

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Although small numbers remained in southern Baluchestan. There was a record from Jambol Marsh on 6 January 1971 (3). A bird in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge may also have been birds that were present in early March (earliest records: near Zabol, Seistan, on 8 March 1974, Baluchestan, on 8 March 1974), and in Lashgarak on 8 March 1974, four by Lashgarak on 15 March 1973, and wintering migrants in the south Caspian Sea, Mazandaran, on 19 March 1974, a bird in the Bandar Anzali area, Gilan, by the middle of September, and records in the north were of a bird at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, near Khonj on 8 October 1975. Two probably late migrants. At Lashgarak, a breeding summer visitor between late March to late April (maximum from the end of July to late August

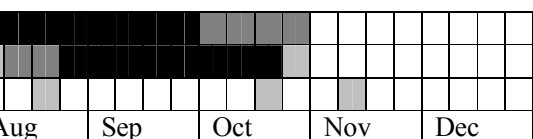


## Eurasian Wryneck *Jynx torquilla* (53)

A rather scarce passage migrant in spring and autumn, probably occurring throughout Iran, although most records were in the south Caspian region and Tehran area. At Lashgarak, Tehran, one or two individuals were recorded on seven dates between 26 March and 22 April, and single birds were recorded on six dates between 23 August and 11 September. Elsewhere in Iran, there were 31 records of passage migrants: all nine spring records were between 22 March (a bird at Shah Abbas Caravanserai, Kavir National Park, Semnan, in 1975) and 29 April (a bird at Galugah, Gilan, in 1970); all 22 autumn records were between 26 August (a bird in the Lar Valley above Polur, Tehran, in 1976) and 30 October (a bird at Dasht-e Naz Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, in 1971). A few birds may have overwintered in the south: two individuals seen near Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 2 February and 4 February 1974, respectively, were presumably wintering birds. A bird at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 23 December 1975 may have been a very late autumn migrant or a wintering bird.

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Alborz and the western Alborz east head passage migrant in spring and the southeast. The earliest record 1978, but the first spring migrants at Galugah, Gilan, on 20 April 1970, Gilan, on 21 April 1970, reached a peak in the first half of August, began in early August, reached a peak until the beginning of October. A few lingered on into late October. The Wildlife Refuge Peninsula, October 1973, and one at Bandar-e Lengeh in southern Iran were of a bird in Ahwaz, Khuzestan, on 14 April to mid-May (extreme from late August to late September counts at Lashgarak in spring and respectively).



**Isabelline Shrike *Lanius isabellinus* and Red-tailed Shrike *Lanius phoeniceus* (332)**

In the 1960s and 1970s, the Isabelline Shrike and Red-tailed (or Turkestan) Shrike were considered to be conspecific, and little attempt was made to separate the two forms in the field. *L. phoenicuroides* was known to be the form breeding in Iran. This was a common summer visitor to open woodland, cultivation and well-vegetated desert in eastern and southern Iran, extending west to the eastern Alborz north of Semnan and the Zagros foothills in eastern Khuzestan, and south to central Baluchestan. Birds had already arrived back on their breeding grounds in the northeast by the last week of April. Birds that were either *isabellinus* or *phoenicuroides* were fairly common passage migrants in spring and autumn throughout much of Iran, except the extreme northwest, and fairly common winter visitors to the Khuzestan lowlands, southern Fars, Seistan basin, Persian Gulf coast and southern Persian Baluchestan. In the south Caspian region and north-central Iran, the main spring passage was in late April and the first half of May; a bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 31 March 1974 was exceptionally early. The latest records in spring were of two birds at Valatrud in the Central Alborz, Mazandaran, on 16 May 1971, and a bird at Lashgarak on 19 May 1975. The autumn migration began in August (earliest records: single birds at Lashgarak on 8 August 1974 and 20–22 August 1974, and a bird at the mouth of the Sefid Rud, Gilan, on 27 August 1974), and continued until the end of October (latest records: one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 29 October 1970, and one at Lashgarak on 1 November 1973). A bird at Lake Eymar on the Turkoman Steppes, Golestan, on 28 December 1970 and a bird at Bandar-e Kiashahr, Gilan, on 23 March 1972 were probably overwintering. Migrants first appeared outside the breeding areas in southern Iran in late August and early September (earliest records: a bird on Khark Island, Bushehr, on 26 August 1973, and three birds in Ahwaz, Khuzestan, on 8–10 September 1977), but the main arrival was in October. Most birds had left the southern lowlands by the end of the first week on May, the only later records being of a bird in Abadan, Khuzestan, on 10 May 1970, two birds in Bushehr on 11 May 1972, and single birds near Borazjan and Bandar-e Rig, Bushehr, on 12 May 1972. At Lashgarak, Tehran, shrikes that were either *isabellinus* or *phoenicuroides* were uncommon passage migrants in spring (31 March to 19 May) and autumn (8 August to 1 November).

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### Lesser Grey Shrike *Lanius minor* (255)

A common summer visitor to the uplands of northern and western Iran, extending southeast through the Zagros at least as far as the region of Semirom, Esfahan, and probably also breeding in the Kerman highlands. Also a common and widespread passage migrant in spring, and a fairly common passage migrant in the north and west in autumn. The first migrants in spring arrived in the Zagros, Tehran area and south Caspian region in the third week of April (earliest records: one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 20 April 1974, one at Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 21 April 1967, and one at Galugah, Gilan, on 21 April 1970), and the main arrival was in the last week of April and first two weeks of May. The autumn migration began in the middle of August and most birds had departed by the middle of September, the latest records being of one at Ghale-Now, Tehran on 17 September 1978, one at Lashgarak on 19 September 1974, one in Kavir National Park, Tehran, on 19 September 1975, and one near Qazvin, Qazvin, on 22 September 1973. At Lashgarak, the Lesser Grey Shrike was recorded in small numbers on nine dates in spring between 20 April and 6 June, and on nine dates in autumn between 5 August and 19 September; the highest count was seven on 16 May 1974.

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**Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor* (–)**

The status of the Great Grey Shrike *L. excubitor* was uncertain, although at least some of the three or four birds that overwintered in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge in the southeast Caspian were believed to be this species (presumably of the subspecies *homeyeri*). These wintering birds arrived in late October (earliest record: three on 20 October 1974) and had departed by the end of March (latest record: three on 26 March 1975).

**Southern Grey Shrike *Lanius meridionalis* and Steppe Grey Shrike *Lanius pallidirostris* (383)**

A fairly common breeding bird in steppe and desert fringes in north-eastern Iran (*pallidirostris*) and in open woodland throughout the southern lowlands, southern Fars, the Kerman highlands and Baluchestan (*meridionalis*). *L. pallidirostris* was only a summer visitor to its breeding areas (April to September), while *meridionalis* was at least partly sedentary. Both *meridionalis* and *pallidirostris* were common winter visitors to Khuzestan, central Fars and the southern coastal lowlands, while *pallidirostris* was a fairly common passage migrant in northern and central Iran. All records in the south Caspian region were between the middle of August and early May (earliest records: three on Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 16 August 1973, and one at Ashuradeh, Golestan, on 17 August 1973; latest records: one on Miankaleh Peninsula on 5 May 1971, and one at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 8 May 1967). At Miankaleh Peninsula, there was a substantial passage in the second half of August and first half of September, with the highest count being 15 on 31 August 1972. All except one of the records in north-western and north-central Iran were between early August and the middle of April (earliest records: one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 5 August 1973, and one at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 6 August 1969; latest records: one in Kavir National Park, Semnan, on 7 April 1977, and one in Kavir National Park on 11 April 1975). The exception was a bird identified as *L. meridionalis aucheri* near Mianeh, East Azarbaijan, on 17 June 1970. The only records at Lashgarak, Tehran, were of single birds on 5 August 1973, 19 August 1973, 3 September 1974, 15 November 1975, 18 December 1975 and 19 August 1976.

**Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator* (101)**

A fairly common summer visitor to the Zagros oak forest and highlands of Kerman, and a rather scarce and local summer visitor to the western Alborz and woodlands of northern East Azarbaijan. A fairly common passage migrant in Khuzestan and along the Persian Gulf coast, also recorded on passage in East Azarbaijan, Gilan and the Tehran area. There were several records of wintering birds in the southern coastal lowlands: one at Borazjan, Bushehr, on 22 January 1973; one at Bandar-e Assalu, Bushehr, on 23 February 1971; and one at Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 6 February 1974. A bird at Yekdar, Hormozgan, on 1 March 1971 may also have been a wintering bird. The earliest spring migrants were three birds near Kangan and 10 birds near Bandar-e Assalu, Bushehr, on 7 March 1978, three birds at Bandar-e Moqam, Hormozgan, on 9 March 1978, and a bird near Ahwaz, Khuzestan, on 20 March 1974, while the earliest record in the Zagros was of a bird near Persepolis, Fars, on 5 April 1975. Most birds had departed by the end of August, and the only later records were of a bird at Astara, Gilan, on 2 September 1973, and a bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, from 5 to 12 September 1974. A bird by the Monde River west of Shiraz on 28 October 1974 may have been a wintering bird. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Woodchat Shrike was a scarce passage migrant in spring, with only six records of one or two birds between 11 April and 14 May, but regular on autumn passage, with records on 18 dates between 23 July and 12 September and a maximum count of four on 23 August 1973.

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### Eurasian Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus* (228)

A common summer visitor to the northwest, the south Caspian region, the south slope of the Alborz, North Khorasan and Khorasan-e Razavi, favouring poplar groves and orchards. Also a common and very widespread passage migrant. The first spring migrants arrived in central and northern Iran in the third week of April (earliest records: one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 18 April 1974, and one at Galugah, Gilan, on 21 April 1970), and the species was common and widespread in the last week of April. The spring migration reached a peak in mid-May, but migrants continued to pass through until the beginning of June (e.g. six on Khark Island, Bushehr, on 1 June 1974, and two on Lavan Island, Hormozgan, on 3 June 1978). Autumn migration began in the second half of August and continued throughout the first three weeks of September. The latest records in northern Iran were of a bird near Astara, Gilan, on 25 September 1975, and two birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 27 September 1973. There were only three records of birds on autumn migration in the southern lowlands: a bird in Ahwaz, Khuzestan, on 24 September 1976, one at Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 10 October 1975, and a very late individual at Bandar-e Moqam, Hormozgan, on 20 October 1973. At Lashgarak, the Golden Oriole was a fairly common summer visitor from late April (earliest date 18 April) to late September (latest date 20 September). There was some evidence of through passage in the second half of May, when as many as ten were recorded in a day.

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**Western Jackdaw *Coloeus monedula* (117)**

A common resident in the northwest, extending south to the region of Sanandaj in Kordestan and east along the south side of the Alborz to the region of Tehran, and also breeding in the extreme eastern Alborz in Golestan and locally in Khorasan-e Razavi. High counts in summer included 120 near Lotfatabad, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 13 June 1973, 120 north of Arasbaran Protected Area, East Azarbaijan, on 6 July 1974, 200 in the Maku area, West Azarbaijan, on 10 July 1974, and 190 in the hills northeast of Kalaleh, Golestan, on 1 August 1975. The species was a common winter visitor to East and West Azarbaijan, the south Caspian region and Khorasan-e Razavi, with high counts including 300 at Mahabad, West Azarbaijan, on 22 November 1972, 50 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 22 February 1974, and 420 at Mashad, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 2 February 1975. Wintering birds arrived in the Caspian lowlands in the second half of October (earliest records: a flock south of Astara, Gilan, on 20 October 1970, and one bird at Dasht-e Naz Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 20 October 1974), and departed in late February and early March (latest record: 40 birds flying east along Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 4 March 1976). The Jackdaw was only a scarce winter straggler in central and southern Iran, recorded once from the Kavir National Park in Semnan (one at Mulkabad spring on 29 October 1976), and twice in central Fars (two with a large flock of Rooks *C. frugilegus* in Shiraz on 28 November 1965, and six at Persepolis on 18 April 1967).

**Rook** *Corvus frugilegus* (558)

A common breeding bird in the uplands of north-western Iran south to the region of Kermanshah and Arak, Markazi, and east to the region of Tehran; also breeding locally in the southwest Caspian lowlands in Gilan and probably in the central Zagros in the region of Daran, Esfahan, and Shahr-e Kord, Chahar Maharl & Bakhtiary, where a total of 120 birds were seen at four localities on 8 and 9 August 1974. An abundant winter visitor to the north and west, from East and West Azarbaijan, the south Caspian lowlands and northern Khorasan-e Razavi south to Khuzestan and central Fars. The winter visitors began to arrive in the south Caspian region in the third week of October (earliest records: several flocks at Astara, Gilan, on 20 October 1970, 200 at Dasht-e Naz Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 20 October 1974, hundreds of birds at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 21 October 1970, and 150 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 21 October 1974), and very large numbers of birds had arrived by the end of the month. A roost in the marshes at the west end of Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge contained several thousand birds in December 1972, January 1973 and February 1974. Most of the wintering birds had departed by the end of March, but a few lingered on into April and early May. A total of 51 were counted flying west at Galugah, Gilan, between 14 and 29 April 1970. The latest records were of two birds at Galugah on 9 May 1967, a bird in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 10 May 1973, and two birds at Lapoo-Zargmarz Ab-bandans, Mazandaran, on 11 May 1973. In central and south-western Iran, the first flocks of winter visitors appeared in the middle of November (earliest records: 50 in Shadegan Marshes, Khuzestan, on 14 November 1973; 12 near Khorramabad, Lorestan, on 15 November 1968, and 500 in the Shiraz area, Fars, 18 November 1973); a bird in Esfahan on 31 October 1974 was unusually early. High counts in winter included 750 at a roost in Khorramabad on 15 January 1976, 800 by the Zaindeh Rud in Esfahan on 19 January 1975, 1,120 at Dasht-e Arjan, Fars, on 9 December 1967, and 2,000 at Soltanabad Marshes, Fars, on 9 January 1975. Most of the winter visitors had left by the end of March; the latest records were of 150 at Soltanabad Marshes on 4 April 1975, 100 near Pasagarde, Fars, on 5 April 1975, and five near Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 20 April 1967. There was only one record of Rooks in Bushehr Province: a party of eight between Borazjan and Konar Takhte on 27 January 1976.

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**Grey Hypocolius** *Hypocolius ampelinus* (32)

An abundant summer visitor to riverine forest in Khuzestan, and a locally common summer visitor to Ilam, Bushehr (Monde River valley), Hormozgan, Baluchestan and the Seistan basin. Six birds (including four males) were seen 10 km south of Mazduran, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 20 June 1978. A few birds occasionally remained throughout the winter in Khuzestan and southern Fars: two were seen in Dez Wildlife Refuge, Khuzestan on 15 January 1973, and a female was seen in Hormud Protected Area, Fars, on 12 January 1975. All other records were between 8 March (two birds near Bandar Assalu, Bushehr, in 1978) and 15 November (a bird by the Marun River near Agha Jari, Khuzestan, in 1973).

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Eurasian Penduline Tit *Remiz pendulinus* (74)

A fairly common summer visitor to poplar groves, orchards and gardens in the northwest and a fairly common resident in the southeast Caspian region and Turkoman Steppe. The form breeding in the northwest was *menzbieri*, one of the *pendulinus* group. *R. [pendulinus] macronyx* (Black-headed Penduline Tit) was found breeding at lakes on the Turkoman Steppe. The birds breeding in the Miankaleh/Gorgan Bay area in Mazandaran included typical *menzbieri*, typical *macronyx* and apparent hybrids. Birds probably arrived back in their breeding areas in north-western Iran in late April or early May, and most had left again by the end of August (latest record: two birds at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 1 September 1973). Outside the breeding season, penduline tits of the form *menzbieri* were recorded in riverine vegetation and wetlands almost throughout the country southeast to southern Baluchestan. The earliest record of migrants in south-eastern Iran was of 10 birds in a garden in Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 24 October 1975, and the latest record was of four birds in Bahu Kalat Protected Area, Baluchestan, on 11 April 1972.

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**Calandra Lark *Melanocorypha calandra* (257)**

A common breeding bird in agricultural land and natural grassland in the uplands of the north and west, southeast in the Zagros to central Fars, and also on the northern Persian Gulf coast in the region of Bushehr. A partial migrant; populations in East and West Azarbaijan and the western provinces were largely migratory, vacating the breeding areas in winter, although small numbers remained throughout the winter, e.g. 20 at Shur Gol, West Azarbaijan, on 30 December 1971. Populations breeding in eastern Mazandaran, Golestan, the central plateau and Fars were largely sedentary or undertook only local movements, but numbers were swelled in autumn with the arrival of winter visitors. At least 300 birds flew east along Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 27 November 1975. The Calandra Lark was a common winter visitor to the lowlands of Khuzestan (all records between 11 November and 20 February). The only records in Gilan were of one to three birds on four occasions between 16 October and 25 November. The only record at Lashgarak, Tehran, was of a single bird on 24 October 1974.









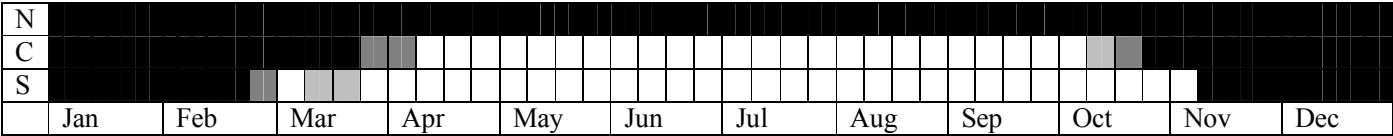
**Lesser Short-toed Lark *Calandrella rufescens* (353)**

A locally common breeding bird throughout much of Iran, and especially numerous in the southeast Caspian region and Turkoman Steppe. Breeding populations were at least partially sedentary, but large numbers occurred outside the breeding areas in winter, and the species was abundant on autumn passage in the northeast. Very large numbers of birds were recorded in Khorasan-e Razavi on 18, 19 and 20 November 1974 and again on 29 and 30 October 1975, suggesting a big immigration of winter visitors from farther north. The species was particularly common in winter in the lowlands of Khuzestan, where large numbers were recorded on many occasions between early November and late February. It was a locally common winter visitor in Gilan, especially around Bandar Anzali and near the mouth of the Sefid Rud, where counts of up to 100 were recorded on many occasions between 21 October and 23 March. Forty birds were seen moving west at Galugah, Gilan, on 20 April 1967, and there was a single bird at Galugah on 16 April 1970. Flocks totalling 73 were observed flying up the valley at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 24 October 1974, but the only other records at this site were of single birds on 21 and 26 November 1974 and 27 February 1975.



**Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis* (306)**

A locally common breeding summer visitor in natural grasslands at higher elevations in East and West Azarbaijan, the Alborz, North Khorasan and northern Khorasan-e Razavi, and a very common winter visitor to the south Caspian region, Tehran area, Khorasan-e Razavi, Khuzestan lowlands, central Fars, Seistan basin and northern Persian Gulf coast. The winter visitors began to arrive in northern Iran in the second or third weeks of October (earliest records: one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 14 October 1974; three near Bodjnurd, North Khorasan, on 15 October 1970; and 20 at Zibakenar, Gilan, on 17 October 1973), and most had departed by the end of March, although a few birds lingered on into April (latest records: three at Lashgarak on 2 April 1973, four at Lashgarak on 2 April 1974, and single birds at Galugah, Gilan, on 11 April 1970 and 19 April 1970. All records in southern Iran were between the second week of November (earliest record: 22 between Andimeshk and Shushtar, Khuzestan, on 10 November 1973) and the third week of March (latest record: one by the Karun River near Ahwaz, Khuzestan, on 19 March 1974). At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Eurasian Skylark was a fairly common passage migrant in spring (between 13 February and 2 April) and autumn (between 14 October and 26 November); the highest count was 39 on 10 November 1974.









**Horned Lark *Eremophila alpestris* (223)**

A common and widespread breeding bird in the mountain ranges of northern and western Iran south to the Kerman highlands. Mainly a summer visitor to the breeding areas, moving to lower elevations in winter and occurring commonly in the Urumiyeh basin in East and West Azarbaijan and other low-lying areas in the northwest. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the species was an occasional visitor in winter (between 10 November and 28 February), usually during periods of hard weather. The highest count was 100 on 22 February 1974, during a period of very heavy snowfall. A bird at Shah Abbas Caravanserai in Kavir National Park, Semnan, on 19 February 1976 and several birds in the same area on 28–29 October 1976 were unusually far from the mountains. In the extremely severe winter of 1971/72, there were three records of birds that were thought to belong to the northern tundra race *flava*: three birds at Lake Zaribar, Kordestan, on 2 January 1972; two birds and a group of six on the shore of Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 24 January 1972, and a party of nine on the shore of Miankaleh Peninsula on 28 February 1972.















**Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti* (257)**

A common breeding bird in the northwest, occurring east in the Caspian forest to its easternmost limit near Maraveh Tappeh, Golestan, and southeast through the Zagros to central Fars. Also found breeding locally in the Kerman highlands and Kuh-e Taftan massif in northern Baluchestan. Probably mainly sedentary in the south Caspian region, southern Fars, Kerman and Baluchestan, but a summer visitor to breeding areas in the northwest and the Alborz. In the Tehran area and central Alborz, birds arrived back in the breeding areas in the second half of March (earliest record: two at Lashgarak on 20 March 1975). Most had departed by the end of September, although a few lingered on into October and exceptionally November (latest records: one at Lashgarak on 8 November 1973 and one at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 16 November 1972). There was only one record in Khuzestan (a bird in Dez Wildlife Refuge on 5 January 1972), one record in the Seistan basin (a bird at Dakegaz on 26 October 1975), and one record in southern Baluchestan (a bird by the Sarbarz River near Baftan on 23 January 1975).















in southern and eastern Iran, from the wetlands of central Fars and locally in North Khorasan, visitor, although small numbers of (especially in Shadegan Marshes), (Iran) and in the mangroves in the Baluchestan. Away from these (in Zabol, Seistan, in 1972) and (1975).

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**Moustached Warbler *Acrocephalus melanopogon* (160)**

A locally common breeding bird in wetlands in the south Caspian region, East and West Azarbaijan, the western provinces, Khuzestan, Bushehr, central Fars and Seistan. Also found breeding in small numbers at Ghale-Now Marshes near Tehran. Apparently only a summer visitor to breeding areas in East and West Azarbaijan and Kordestan, as there were no records in mid-winter, but present all year round in the other breeding areas. Recorded on passage at several locations in the northwest in October and November, and a fairly common passage migrant in spring (15 March to 10 May) and autumn (3 October to 29 November) at Lashgarak, Tehran, where the highest count in spring was 10 on 5 April 1973, and the highest in autumn, seven on 3 November 1974. There were only three records in Baluchestan: five birds along the Sarbarz River in Bahu Kalat Protected Area on 4 March 1971, one bird in a garden in Zahedan on 19 April 1972, and one by the Sarbarz River in Bahu Kalat Protected Area on 23 January 1975.

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**Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum* (19)**

An uncommon passage migrant in eastern Iran in spring and a very scarce passage migrant in autumn, but status uncertain due to possible confusion with other very similar *Acrocephalus* species. All records in spring were between 8 March (one in Zahedan, Baluchestan, in 1974) and 31 May (two on Kharku Island, Bushehr, in 1974). There were only two records in autumn: a bird in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 1 September 1972, and a bird in the upper Lar Valley, Tehran, on 5 September 1975. There was only one record at Lashgarak, Tehran: a single bird on 9 May 1974.

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**Booted Warbler *Iduna caligata* and Sykes's Warbler *Iduna rama* (167)**

The form *rama* (Sykes's Warbler) was a very common summer visitor to eastern and southern Iran from the region of Mashad, Khorasan-e Razavi, south through South Khorasan and the oases of the central deserts to central Fars, the southern Persian Gulf coast and south-eastern Baluchestan. The earliest records in spring were of a bird in song near Kuh-e Taftan, Baluchestan, on 1 April 1972, and five birds in the region of Bampur, Baluchestan, on 3 April 1972; the earliest record in central Fars was of two birds (*rama*) collected at Persepolis on 17 April 1967, and the earliest record in northern Iran was of a bird at Ahmadabad bridge in Touran Wildlife Refuge, Semnan, on 23 April 1975. The latest records in autumn were of two birds at Yekdar near Jask, Hormozgan, on 14 October 1973, and one at Chahbahar, Baluchestan, on 17 October 1975. There were very few records after the middle of June, partly because the birds had stopped singing and were much less easily identified, and partly because of poor coverage in the breeding areas in late summer and early autumn. Occasionally recorded on passage in northern Iran west to the Tehran area. At least some of these birds were *caligata* (Booted Warbler), but few individuals were specifically identified as such. At Lashgarak, Tehran, Booted/Sykes's Warbler was an uncommon passage migrant in spring, with up to three birds recorded on eight occasions between 17 May and 4 June. There were only two records in the south Caspian region, both of single birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 5 May 1971 and 31 August 1972.

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### Common Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia* (23)

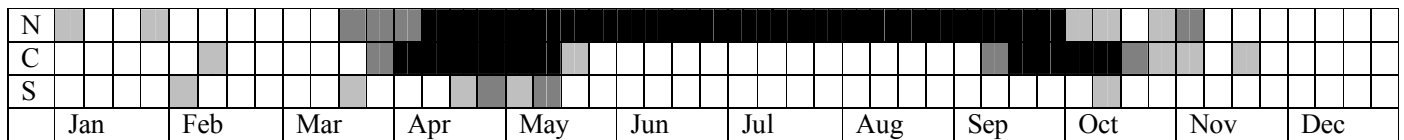
Probably an uncommon summer visitor to the Kalibar Mountains in East Azarbaijan, where a pair was seen on 1 July 1974 and a single bird on 26 May 1978. Probably a widespread passage migrant in spring and autumn, but extremely secretive and easily overlooked. Most records of birds on passage came from Gilan in the southwest Caspian and Lashgarak near Tehran. In Gilan, one or two birds were recorded at Galugah, near Bandar Anzali, on seven dates between 16 and 27 April 1970. At Lashgarak, one or two birds were recorded on nine dates between 17 April and 6 May, and single birds were recorded on three dates between 24 July and 19 August. A bird on Sheedvar Island, Hormozgan, on 3 June 1978 was an exceptionally late migrant.

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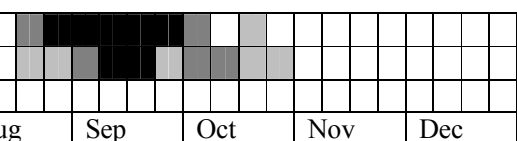
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## Eurasian Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla* (186)

A common summer visitor to the forests of the south Caspian region and Kalibar Mountains in East Azarbaijan, and a common and widespread passage migrant in spring and autumn. A few birds remained throughout the winter in the southeast Caspian, and there were records of wintering birds in the Tehran area (one at Lashgarak on 13 February 1975) and in Hormozgan (one at Bandar Abbas on 2 February 1974). All other records were between 20 March (six by the Karun River north of Ahwaz, Khuzestan, in 1974) and 21 November (one at Lashgarak, Tehran, in 1973). The main spring passage was between the end of March and the middle of May; the main autumn passage was between the second week of September and the middle of October. At Lashgarak, the Blackcap was a very common passage migrant in spring (30 March to 16 May), with the highest count being 100 on 14 April 1974, and a regular passage migrant in small numbers (maximum three) in autumn (9 September to 21 November).



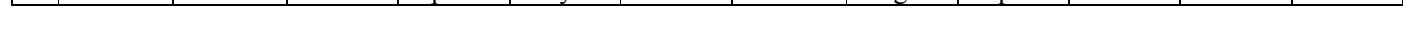
autumn except in the southeast. The poor coverage of this region records in spring were between 25 and 30 May (a bird at Doruneh, Khorasan-e Razavi, in 1978); all records in autumn were between 24 October (a bird at Doruneh, Khorasan-e Razavi, in 1975) and 24 October (a bird at Doruneh, Khorasan-e Razavi, in 1975). The Warbler was a fairly common species in the region (from August to 24 October), with the first record in 1974, respectively.



## Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria* (47)

Probably a scarce summer visitor to the forests of the Kalibar Mountains in East Azarbaijan. A bird was seen in suitable breeding habitat in the hills southwest of Ahar, East Azarbaijan, on 30 June 1974, and may have been nesting. A fairly common and widespread passage migrant in spring and autumn, except in the extreme southeast. All records in spring were between 9 April (one at Robat Karim, Tehran, in 1967) and 29 May (two near Dasht, Golestan, also in 1967); all records in autumn were between 10 August (one on Ashk Island, Lake Urumiyeh, East Azarbaijan, in 1972) and 12 October (one at Lashgarak, Tehran, in 1973, and two near Deh Bakhri, Kerman, in 1975). At Lashgarak, there were two records in spring (a bird on 9 May 1974 and two birds on 16 May 1974) and four records in autumn (two birds on 17 August 1973, two on 9 September 1973, one on 12 October 1973, and one on 27 August 1974).

[illegible]



## Desert Whitethroat *Sylvia minula* (155)

A common winter visitor from October to April in south-eastern Iran, especially in the coastal lowlands of the southern Persian Gulf and Persian Baluchestan, but also occurring north to the foothills of the southern Zagros in Fars and the Seistan basin. Widespread on passage in eastern Iran from the end of March to the end of April and between the middle of September and the end of October. There were five records of birds on autumn passage in the Tehran area and central Alborz: single birds at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 5 September 1974 and 7–17 October 1974, and three birds ringed in the upper Lar Valley, Tehran, between 1975 and 1978. The latest record in spring was of a bird at Deh Bakhri, Kerman, on 30 April 1975; the earliest record in autumn was of the bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 5 September 1974. There were no indications of breeding, and the only bird heard in song was a bird in a garden in Kerman City on 29 March 1972.

[illegible]



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### Eastern Orphean Warbler *Sylvia crassirostris* (65)

A fairly common summer visitor to open forest in the high Alborz, the highlands of North Khorasan and Khorasan-e Razavi, the Zagros, the Kerman highlands and the Kuh-e Taftan massif in Baluchestan. Also found in song in suitable breeding habitat near Anhangaran, South Khorasan, on 8 June 1973 and probably breeding. Present in the breeding areas in the Zagros and northern Iran from the second week of April (earliest record: three birds at Sissakht, Kohgeluye & Boyer Ahmad, on 10 April 1978) to late August (latest record: three in Parvar Protected Area, Semnan, on 22 August 1975). Occasionally recorded on spring and autumn migration in central and southern Iran, and found wintering in small numbers in Bushehr Province (near Borazjan), southern Hormozgan (around Bandar Abbas and near Jask) and southern Baluchestan (in the Chahbahar area). Away from the south coast, all records were between 10 April (at Sissakht, Kohgeluye & Boyer Ahmad, in 1978) and 9 October (at Lashgarak, Tehran, in 1975). There were only four records of single birds at Lashgarak, one in spring (6 May 1974) and three in autumn (9 August 1973, 6 September 1973 and 9 October 1975).

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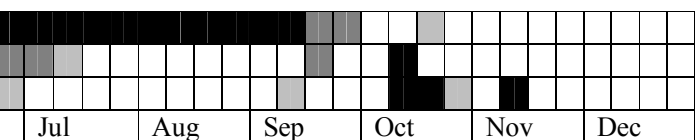
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### Common Whitethroat *Sylvia communis* (331)

A common summer visitor to open woodland and shrubby areas in the Kalibar Mountains in East Azarbaijan, on the north slope of the Alborz in Gilan, Mazandaran and Golestan, and in the highlands of North Khorasan and northern Khorasan-e Razavi, from the middle of April to the middle of September . A very common and widespread passage migrant in spring and autumn. All records were between 2 April (one at Lashgarak, Tehran, in 1973) and 17 October (one also at Lashgarak in 1974). The main spring passage was in the second half of April and first three weeks of May; the main autumn passage was in the second half of August and first three weeks of September. At Lashgarak, the Common Whitethroat was a common passage migrant in spring (2 April to 29 May) and autumn (23 July to 17 October); the highest counts were 16 on 12 May 1973 and 16 on 27 August 1974. A bird at the summit of Kuh-e Geno, Hormozgan, on 25 June 1977 was very unusual.

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ari Rud in Khorasan-e Razavi, from the western  
Shirin, Kermanshah, to Lake Parishan in central  
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latest record: two at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge  
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ate August to late October) throughout Iran. At  
birds on spring passage between 15 March and 20  
1974, but there were no records in autumn. Small  
Bushehr (two February records), in southern  
records) and in south-eastern Baluchestan (one



### Goldcrest *Regulus regulus* (21)

An uncommon winter visitor to northern Iran, occasionally occurring south to central Fars. Most records were from the southwest Caspian and south slope of the Alborz around Tehran, and all were between 28 October (a bird at Dasht-e Arjan, Fars, in 1974) and 22 March (two birds at Lashgarak, Tehran, in 1975). Goldcrests were recorded on 10 occasions at Lashgarak between 1 November and 22 March, the maximum count being six birds on 10 November 1974. The only records away from the Caspian and Tehran area were as follows: one at Vinak in the Kalibar Mountains, East Azarbaijan, on 2 December 1971; one in a garden in Tayebad, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 18 November 1973; five in gardens in Shahreza, Esfahan, on 10 December 1970; and the bird at Dasht-e Arjan, Fars, on 28 October 1974.

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at Galugah, Gilan, on 11–13 April 1970). At  
r visitor in small numbers (between 23 October  
on 3 January 1974. There were two records in  
n on 28 January and two birds at Lake Maharlu  
s of a bird in a garden in Ahwaz on 31 December

[illegible]

**Wallcreeper *Tichodroma muraria* (26)**

Probably a widely distributed but rather scarce breeding bird at high altitudes in the Alborz and Zagros mountains, but elusive during the breeding season and much under-recorded because of its preference for inaccessible cliffs and crags; also an altitudinal migrant, descending to lower elevations in the foothills during winter and occasionally reaching isolated hill ranges and man-made stone structures out on the plains. The species was an occasional winter visitor to the Lashgarak area, Tehran, from the high Alborz: one or two were recorded on 14 dates between 7 December and 15 March. Other records of wandering birds outside the breeding season included one near Soltanabad Marshes near Shiraz, Fars, on 12 December 1970, one in a gorge below Vinak, Arasbaran Protected Region, East Azarbaijan, on 2 December 1971, one at a bridge near Golmansara on the plains north of Lake Urumiyeh, East Azarbaijan, on 29 December 1971, one in the hills between Avaj and Abgarm, Qazvin, on 9 November 1973, and one at Shah Abbas Caravanserai, Kavir National Park, Semnan, on 20 November 1975.





**Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* (863)**

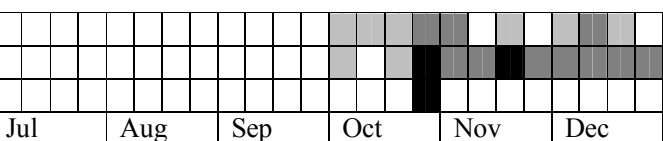
A very common and widespread breeding bird in northern and western Iran south to central Fars and the Kerman highlands; also breeding in small numbers in northern Khuzestan. An abundant winter visitor, particularly in the north and west, but occurring in very large numbers south to Khuzestan, central Fars, the northern Persian Gulf coast and the Seistan basin, and in small numbers to the southern Persian Gulf coast and southern Persian Baluchestan. At Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, where there were often many thousands in winter, the first large flocks arrived in the second half of October (earliest: 500 on 21 October 1974), and the last flocks departed in late March (latest: 120 on 25 March 1975). At Lashgarak, Tehran, counts of 150 or more were recorded on several dates in November, and several thousand birds were observed moving southeast down the valley in large flocks on 29 November 1973. Some migrants were already appearing in southern Iran in the second half of October, e.g. one in Bahu Kalat Protected Area, Baluchestan, on 21 October 1975, a flock of 30 west of Kazerun, Fars, on 24 October 1973, and three at Hormak, Baluchestan, on 24 October 1975, but the main arrival of the wintering birds was in November. Tens of thousands of birds were observed in the wetlands of Khuzestan during an aerial survey on 23 January 1974; over 20,000 were watched flying to roost at Lake Parishan, Fars, on 3 February 1973; and concentrations of several thousands were recorded in the Zaindeh Rud marshes east of Esfahan on 6 January 1974, and in the Hilleh Delta, Bushehr, on 25 January 1974. Most of the wintering birds had left southern Iran by the end of February or early March; late records included two birds in Chahbahar, Baluchestan, on 6 March 1971, 50 birds at Mahmoodi in the Seistan basin on 10 March 1971, a bird in Ahwaz, Khuzestan, on 16 March 1976, and ten on the plains south of Ahwaz on 23 March 1974.

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**Common Blackbird *Turdus merula* (282)**

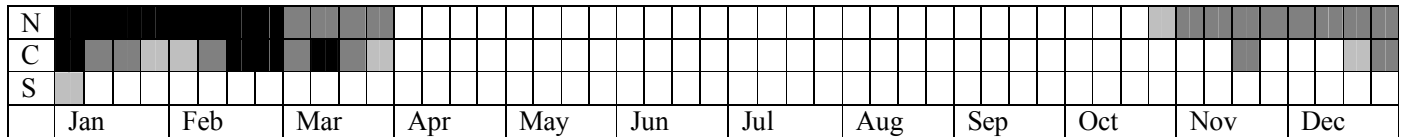
A common breeding bird in the forests of the south Caspian region, the Kalibar Mountains in East Azarbaijan, the mountains of North Khorasan and northern Khorasan-e Razavi, the Zagros south to central Fars, and the Kerman highlands; also found breeding in orchards and gardens on the south side of the Alborz in the Tehran area, in riverine woodland north of Ahwaz in Khuzestan, and in desert oases in the Tabas region in South Khorasan. A common winter visitor throughout the south Caspian region, and a fairly common winter visitor to the south slope of the Alborz, the Zagros south to central Fars, and Khuzestan. In the south Caspian region and Tehran area, the winter visitors began to arrive in the last week of October (earliest records: one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 24 October 1974, and 15 at Dasht-e Naz Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 27 October 1970), and most had departed by the end of the first week of March (latest records: single birds at Lashgarak on 8 March 1973 and 8 March 1974, two at Anzali Mordab, Gilan, on 22 March 1972, one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 24 March 1972, two at Galugah, Gilan, on 15 April 1970, and one at Galugah on 17 April 1970). All records of winter visitors in southern Iran were between 10 November (two birds in Andimeshk and one in Shushtar, Khuzestan, in 1973) and 25 February (a bird in a garden in Ahwaz, Khuzestan, in 1976). There was one record on the Persian Gulf coast: a male at Bandar-e Taheri, Bushehr, on 23 February 1971.

al and eastern Iran, occasionally reaching the Caspian Sea, but numbers varied greatly from year to year. The species was first recorded in the upper Lar Valley in the Central Alborz on 2 October 1975, but the main arrival occurred in the Caspian Sea, north of the Alborz, reported by the last week of March, and the only record in the Caspian Sea was in the Caspian Sea, Iran, on 2 April 1973. The species was a fairly common migrant in the Caspian Sea in most years (earliest record: one on 23 October 1974), but none was recorded in the winter of 1974/75. The species was recorded in the Caspian Sea in Zahedan and Chahbahar, Baluchestan, but none was recorded in the winter of 1974/75. The winter of 1975/76 was exceptional. The winter of 1975/76 observations from as far south as Fars, Yazd, and Chahbahar, Baluchestan, but no records in the winter of 1974/75: a bird in the Caspian Sea, Iran, on 2 April 1973 and two birds in Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 30

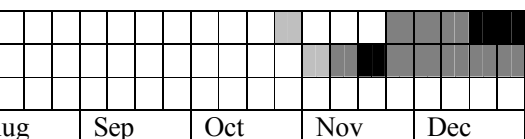


### Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris* (98)

A common winter visitor to the south Caspian region and a fairly common winter visitor to East and West Azarbaijan, the western provinces and the Tehran area. There was one record from Khuzestan: three birds at Dez Wildlife Refuge on 6 January 1972. The first winter visitors arrived in the south Caspian region at the end of October (earliest record: two birds at Dasht-e Naz, Mazandaran, on 28 October 1970), and all birds had departed by the end of March (latest record: four birds at Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 25 March 1975). At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Fieldfare was a common winter visitor from 20 November to 28 March; the highest count was 75 on 1 January 1975.

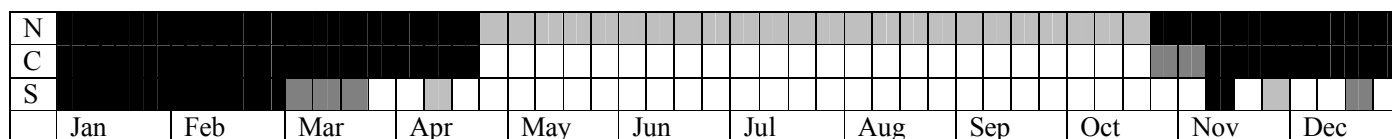


A common winter visitor to south Iran, Redwings occasionally reached central Iran between 7 November and 23 February. The first was seen in Yazd on 14 January 1976, and in Shiraz on 14 February 1974. The first winter visitors arrived in the north in the earliest records: one bird at Parvar (near Gilan, Tehran, on 6 November 1975) and another at Shiraz (where it now lingered on until the middle of February 1975). In Mashgarak, the Redwing was a fairly common winter visitor, but being 15 on 20 November 1975.

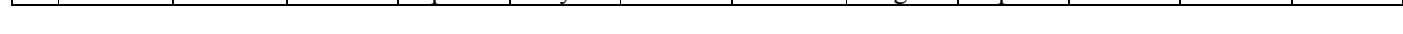


### Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos* (248)

An uncommon breeding bird in the south Caspian forest and forests of the Kalibar Mountains in East Azarbaijan. A very common winter visitor to the south Caspian region and a fairly common winter visitor from the Tehran area and the western Zagros south to Khuzestan, central Fars and the southern Persian Gulf coast, occasionally reaching Seistan and Baluchestan. The first winter visitors arrived in northern Iran at the end of October (earliest records: one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 24 October 1974, and five at Dasht-e Naz, Mazandaran, on 28 October 1970) and most had departed by the middle of April (latest records: one at Lashgarak on 20 April 1974, and one at Galugah, Gilan, on 21 April 1970). Birds arrived in their wintering areas in southern Iran in the second week of November (earliest records: two near Andimeshk, Khuzestan on 10 November 1973, and one in Ahwaz, Khuzestan, on 11 November 1976), and most had departed by the end of the third week in March (latest records: one in Ahwaz, Khuzestan, on 21 March 1976, and one at Dalaki on the Persian Gulf coast in Bushehr on 12 April 1978). There were only six records in Seistan and Baluchestan: four records of up to six birds in gardens in Zahedan between 30 January and 8 March, a single bird in a garden in Chahbahar on 5 March 1971, and a single bird at Dakegaz in the Seistan basin on 9 March 1971. At Lashgarak, the species was a common passage migrant in spring (16 February to 20 April) and in autumn (24 October to 29 November), with the main passage occurring from early March to early April, and in November. The highest count in spring was 12 from 23 to 25 March 1975; the highest count in autumn was 25 on 21 November 1974.

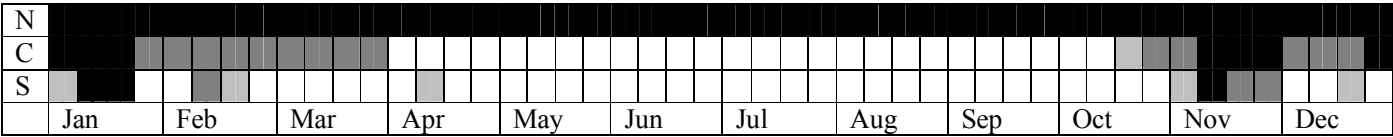


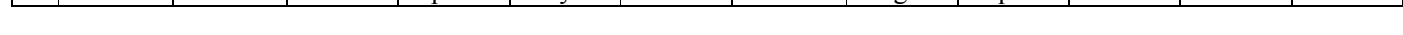




European Robin *Erithacus rubecula* (294)

A fairly common breeding bird in the forests of the south Caspian region and Kalibar Mountains in East Azarbaijan. Also a very common winter visitor to the south Caspian region and a fairly common winter visitor to the south slope of the Alborz, extending south through western Iran from Kermanshah to Khuzestan and central Fars. Probably only a passage migrant in most of the northwest, where the only records away from the Kalibar Mountains were of two birds by the Araxes River near Parsabad, Ardebil, on 27 November 1971, and three birds at Gori Gol, East Azarbaijan, on 18 October 1978. The most southerly record was of four birds in Bushehr on the Persian Gulf coast on 18 January 1975. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the European Robin was a regular winter visitor in small numbers from 17 October to 23 March. The earliest records of migrants south of the Alborz in autumn were of single birds at Lashgarak on 17 October 1974 and 28 October 1973; the latest records in spring were of a bird in Tehran on 28 March 1969 and a bird in Borazjan, Bushehr, on 11 April 1978.





### Thrush Nightingale *Luscinia luscinia* (51)

Probably a fairly common and widespread passage migrant in spring and autumn in northern and western Iran, but secretive and easily overlooked. All records in spring were between 14 April (two birds at Lashgarak, Tehran, in 1974) and 17 May (a bird southeast of Khorramabad, Lorestan, in 1972); all records in autumn were between 15 August (a bird at Lashgarak in 1974) and 6 October (two birds at Dasht-e Naz Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, in 1970). At Lashgarak, the Thrush Nightingale was a fairly common passage migrant in spring between 14 April and 14 May, the maximum count being 10 on 22 April 1974, but it was recorded only twice in autumn: single birds on 15 August 1974 and 28 August 1975.

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Zagros and the Kerman highlands, also a widespread passage migrant. All records were in 1972) and 11 October (one at Khaneh on their breeding grounds in the second year; it was 13 April (one at Lashgarak, Tehran, and on 15 April (three birds near Bandar Anzali in the middle of September; the latest date in the north was in 1974) and the latest date in the south was in the life Refuge, Mazandaran, in 1970). There were also records in the Lashgarak area in late April and May, with up to 10 birds (1975).

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### White-throated Robin *Irania gutturalis* (50)

A locally common summer visitor to lightly wooded areas in the Alborz, the Kopet Dagh, the Zagros Mountains and the Kerman highlands. All records were between 9 April (a pair in breeding habitat near Sissakht in the Zagros in Kohgeluye & Boyer Ahmad in 1978) and 26 August (a bird in the upper Lar Valley in the Alborz, Tehran, in 1976). The species was surprisingly scarce on passage outside the breeding areas; there were a few records of individuals at oases in the central deserts and on the southern Persian Gulf coast between mid-April and 18 May, but no records of birds on passage in autumn. The records in spring were as follows: a bird near Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 30 April and 1 May 1967; a bird at Dasht-e Barm near Lake Parishan, Fars, on 10 May 1972; a bird on the edge of the Dasht-e Kavir in Kerman on 18 May 1972; a bird at Madjurad in Touran Wildlife Refuge, Semnan, on 26 April 1974; three birds near Anaboun in Touran Wildlife Refuge, Semnan, on 28 April 1974, and a bird on Morghu Island, Bushehr, in mid-April 1978. The species was never recorded at Lashgarak, Tehran, although it was found breeding in the Alborz only a few kilometres away.

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from the high mountains, deep in the coastal dunes at Miankaleh (Anzali, Gilan). All records were from Bampur, Baluchestan, on 3 April 1974, two birds near Dezful, Khuzestan, and a bird near Lar, Fars, on 9 October 1974. In the last week of April or first week of May, a bird was shot at Jolob-e Karim, Tehran, on 25 April 1974, and a bird at Semnan, on 27 April 1974), while another was shot in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, in August, and the only records after 1974 were from the Wildlife Refuge on 1, 3 and 8 September 1976, and a bird in a garden in Shiraz, Fars, in the record at Lashgarak, Tehran: a

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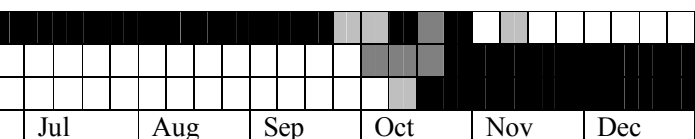
**Eversmann's Redstart** *Phoenicurus erythronotus* (48)

A fairly common and widespread winter visitor, recorded from most regions of Iran except the northwest and the western provinces. All but three of the records were between 26 October (a bird at Dakegaz near Hamoun-e Sabari, Seistan, in 1975) and 28 February (two birds at Lashgarak, Tehran, in 1974). The exceptions were a bird at Lashgarak on 26 September 1968, a bird in the upper Jajerud Valley, Tehran, on 10 October 1971, and a bird at Lashgarak on 15 March 1974. There were only three other records at Lashgarak: single birds on 6 and 13 February 1976, and two birds on 27 February 1976.

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the Alborz, the mountains of North Khorasan and East and West Azarbaijan, the Kerman highlands and Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari, and Baluchestan. Probably also bred in the high Zagros, but not surveyed. A common winter visitor to the western and southern Iran east to Seistan and south-eastern Iran. A passage migrant, although never recorded in the north of Iran. Their breeding grounds in the high Alborz from Mazandaran (near Gachsar and Dizin, Alborz, on 1 April 1972, and near Dizin on 3 April 1973) to the middle of September (one at Mazandaran on 18 September 1968, and one at Dizin on 20 September 1973). Their wintering grounds in southern Iran in the first half of the year (one in Fars, on 7 October 1975, 12 near Deh Bakhri, in the Kerman Protected Area, Baluchestan, on 13 October 1975). March (latest records: single birds near Khash and Minab, near Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 8 March 1974, one in Mazandaran, Mazandaran, on 11 March 1974). Usually late bird at Kuh-e Khvajeh, Seistan, on 30 September 1973. Redstart was a fairly common passage migrant in the north of Iran (from September to 18 December); the highest counts were recorded on 8 August 1974 and 17 July 1975 and

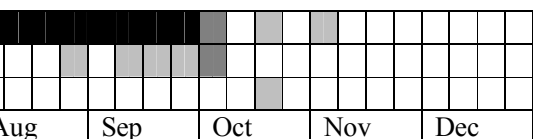


## Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* (333)

A common summer visitor to the Caspian forests, the Zagros oak forest, and pistachio and almond forest in the Kerman highlands, and a very common and widespread passage migrant in spring and autumn. A bird in a garden in Minab, Hormozgan, on 31 January 1974 was presumably overwintering; a bird in a garden in Ahwaz, Khuzestan, on 26 February 1977 was thought to be a very early spring migrant. Otherwise, all records were between 21 March (one in Tehran in 1975) and 14 November (two at Shadegan, Khuzestan, in 1973). The main spring passage was from late March to the middle of May; the main autumn passage was from the second week of September to the beginning of November. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Common Redstart was a common passage migrant in spring between 23 March and 16 May (maximum of 30 on 14 April 1974); and a fairly common migrant in autumn between 9 September and 10 November (maximum of nine on 8 November 1973).

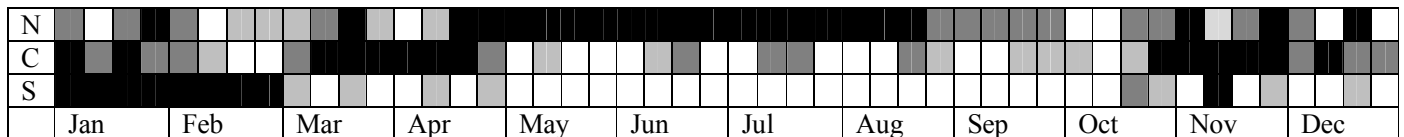
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in the Kalibar Mountains in East Africa is fairly common and widespread throughout the year, when most numerous in the second half of April (earliest record: two records in November (latest record: one at the end of September) was in the second half of September and early October. At the end of the year in spring between 5 April and 24 April, with only six records of one



## Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maurus* (282)

A common summer visitor to East and West Azarbaijan, the shrub zone in the high Alborz, the mountains of North Khorasan and Khorasan-e Razavi, and the Zagros Mountains south to central Fars; also found breeding locally in the Kerman highlands. A common winter visitor to the south Caspian lowlands, the western slope of the Zagros, Khuzestan, the northern Persian Gulf coast and central Fars. Also recorded in small numbers in winter in the Tehran area, Esfahan and southern Persian Gulf coast. Fairly common on passage in northern and western Iran. There was only one record in Baluchestan: at bird at Tiss near Chahbahar on 28 January 1975. Birds were present in their breeding areas from early April to the end of August, and in their wintering areas, from late September to the end of March or early April. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Stonechat was a fairly common passage migrant in spring between 7 March and 24 April, and in autumn between 17 August and late November; the highest count was 12 on 20 March 1975. No attempt was made to identify individuals to subspecies, but most, if not all, presumably belonged to one or other of the forms now assigned to Siberian Stonechat *S. maurus*.

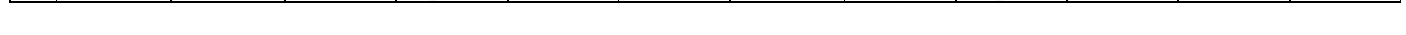


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### Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina* (756)

A very common and widespread summer visitor in the north and west, favouring arable land in rolling uplands, and extending south through the Zagros to central Fars. Also breeding locally in the highlands of eastern South Khorasan, the Kerman highlands and the Kuh-e Taftan massif in northern Baluchestan. A very common and widespread passage migrant in spring and autumn, and a fairly common wintering bird on the plains of Khuzestan. Also recorded in small numbers in winter on the southern Persian Gulf coast and in the Seistan basin, and recorded twice in January at Chahbahar in south-eastern Baluchestan. The spring migration usually began in the first week of March (earliest records: one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 27 February 1976, and one on Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 29 February 1972). Autumn migration began in the middle of July and continued until the end of October or early November, with a few birds lingering on in the south Caspian region until the third week of November (latest record: two on Miankaleh Peninsula on 20 November 1971). There was a pronounced passage through the southeast Caspian in August and early September, with high counts at Miankaleh Peninsula including 30 on 31 August 1972, 25 on 31 August 1974, and 32 on 2 August 1975. At Lashgarak, the Isabelline Wheatear was a scarce passage migrant in spring, with only five records between 27 February and 22 May, but fairly common in late summer and autumn (23 July to 3 November), with the main passage occurring between mid-August and the end of September; the maximum count was 12 on 14 August 1975.

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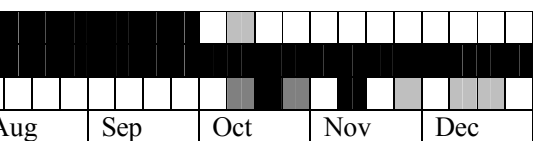


**Kurdish Wheatear *Oenanthe xanthopyrna* (4)**

The Kurdish Wheatear was a very local summer visitor at high altitudes in the extreme western Zagros in Kordestan. Few surveys were carried out in the breeding areas, and all records were in July 1974 and July 1975.



mountains of North Khorasan and  
also found breeding locally in  
on Kuh-e Taftan in northern  
s of the Zagros and central Fars,  
and southern Baluchestan. There  
uh-e Khvajeh on 16 January 1976.  
February 1976 may have been a  
rn Iran were two in Kavir National  
March 1973. Birds were present on  
g of April (earliest records: one  
the same area the next day, and  
(latest records: six at Varangarud,  
r 1972, and six on Kuh-e Asara,  
wintering grounds in southern Iran  
, on 6 October 1975, 42 between  
t Kahnuj, Kerman, on 10 October  
st records: two at Kuh-e Khvajeh,  
ril 1976). At Lashgarak, the Red-  
between 30 March and 24 April, and



### Pied Wheatear *Oenanthe pleschanka* (199)

A common summer visitor to the south slope of the Alborz from the region of Tehran eastwards through the uplands of North Khorasan to the region of Torbat-e Jam in Khorasan-e Razavi. The species hybridised extensively with the Black-eared Wheatear *O. hispanica* in the central Alborz. Fairly common and widespread on passage in spring and autumn throughout central, eastern and southern Iran. Most records were between 29 March (one near Hormak, Seistan, in 1972) and 30 October (six near Torbat Heydarieh, Khorasan-e Razavi, in 1975), and birds were present in the breeding areas from early April to late September. A male at Bandar-e Lengeh, Hormozgan, on 24 February 1971, a male at Govater, south-eastern Baluchestan, on 4 March 1971, and a male in Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 8 March 1974 were unusually early; two birds at Lake Bakhtegan, Fars, on 19 November 1973 and a bird near Shiraz on 12 December 1970 were unusually late. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Pied Wheatear was fairly common on spring passage between 3 and 20 April (earliest records one on 3 April 1975, and one on 5 April 1974; maximum five on 10 April 1975), but scarce in autumn (latest record one on 6 November 1975). The only records in the south Caspian lowlands were of a few birds in the Bandar Anzali area, Gilan, from 14 to 21 April 1967, three birds at Galugah, Gilan, on 27 April 1970, and a male at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, from 9 to 12 September 1972.

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on of Tehran and Chalus west to the uplands  
s to central Fars and locally in the Kerman  
mn in northern and western Iran. The first  
f April (earliest records: two at Lashgarak,  
ril 1973, two at Lashgarak on 2 April 1974,  
1975). Most birds had departed by the end of  
latest records: two near Shadegan Marshes,  
a, Fars, on 16 November 1973, and two by  
ovember 1971). The Black-eared Wheatear  
, occurring in very small numbers in spring  
er numbers in autumn (between 29 August  
assage was in the first three weeks of April  
nt 16 on 11 April 1974); the main autumn  
ddle of October (latest record: one on 1  
r 1973 and 11 on 14 October 1974). This  
r *O. pleschanka* in the central Alborz.

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Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti* (301)

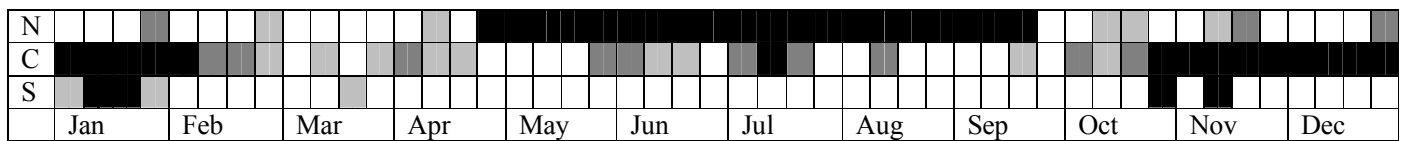
A common summer visitor to the central desert basin and deserts of eastern Fars, Kerman and Baluchestan, and a fairly common winter visitor to the plains of Khuzestan and the southern coastal lowlands east to southern Baluchestan; also recorded in small numbers in winter in the Seistan basin. A common passage migrant in spring and autumn almost throughout Iran except for the northwest. Fairly common on passage in the southeast Caspian region, especially in autumn, but only recorded once in Gilan: a bird at Galugah on 27 April 1970. The spring migration began in the second week of March and continued until late April (earliest records in central and northern Iran: three near Yazd on 12 March 1971, one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 15 March 1974, and four in Kavir National Park, Semnan, on 20 March 1975). The earliest migrants in the southeast Caspian were a bird at Jambol Marsh and a bird on Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 24 March 1972. Birds were present on the breeding grounds from about the middle of April. The autumn migration began at the end of August (earliest records in the south Caspian region: single birds on Miankaleh Peninsula on 31 August 1972 and 31 August 1974) and continued throughout September and October, with a few birds lingering on until the third week of November. Late records in northern Iran included one at Zargmarz Ab-bandan, Mazandaran, on 5 November 1973, at least 10 in Kavir National Park on 20 and 21 November 1975, and one on Miankaleh Peninsula on 27 November 1975. Birds were already arriving in their wintering areas in southern Iran by the second week of October (earliest records: two at Jask, Hormozgan, on 12 October 1973, and one in Bazman Protected Area, Baluchestan, on 12 October 1975) and most had left by the beginning of April (latest records: two at Dasht-e Ari, Baluchestan, on 10 April 1972, one at Hamoun-e Helmand, Seistan, on 19 April 1972, four at Kuh-e Khvajeh, Seistan, on 20 April 1972, and two on Khark Island, Bushehr, on 20 April 1987. There were only two records of birds on passage at Lashgarak, the bird on 15 March 1974 and a bird on 17 October 1974.

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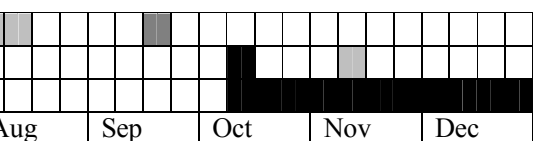
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### Finsch's Wheatear *Oenanthe finschii* (201)

A common summer visitor to upland areas in the north of Iran south in the Zagros to north-western Fars and in the east to the region of Rum (north of Birjand) in South Khorasan. A common winter visitor to the western foothills of the Zagros and central Fars; also recorded in winter in smaller numbers on the Turkoman Steppes in Golestan, at the western end of the Dasht-e Kavir, Semnan, in the Tehran area, in the Seistan basin, on the plains of Khuzestan and on the Persian Gulf coast in Bushehr and Hormozgan. Birds were present in their breeding areas in northern Iran from late March or early April (earliest record: one near Maku, West Azarbaijan, on 11 March 1974) to about the middle of September (latest record: two in the hills near Mazduran, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 21 September 1974), and in their wintering areas in southern Iran from early October (earliest record: three in the Monde Valley between Kavar and Fasa, Fars, on 7 October 1975) to late March or early April (latest record: one in Bamou National Park, Fars, on 2 April 1975). There were only four records at Lashgarak, Tehran, all between 27 February and 19 April.



the region of Shahrud in Semnan  
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rliest record: 11 on Kuh-e Taftan  
record: three in Touran Wildlife  
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one near Mazduran, Khorasan-e  
ommon passage migrant in spring  
itor to the southern lowlands from  
ern Fars to the region of Bandar-e  
Bushehr. Birds began to arrive in  
etween Ghir and Khonj, southern  
n, on 10 October 1975), and most  
f a wintering bird in Khuzestan: a



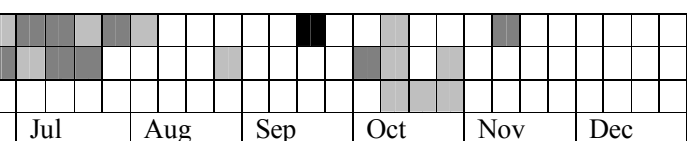
### Common Rock Thrush *Monticola saxatilis* (142)

A fairly common summer visitor, breeding at high altitudes in the mountains of East and West Azarbaijan, the Alborz, the mountains of North Khorasan and Khorasan-e Razavi, the Zagros and the Kerman highlands, and also on Kuh-e Bazman and Kuh-e Taftan in Baluchestan. A fairly common and widespread passage migrant in spring, but seldom encountered on passage in autumn. A few individuals may have wintered along the southern Persian Gulf coast and in southern Persian Baluchestan, as there were seven records in the second half of February and three records in the first week of March between Bandar-e Assaluyeh in eastern Bushehr and Govater near the Pakistan border. All records away from the south coast were between the first week of April (earliest records: one on Kuh-e Taftan, Baluchestan, on 1–2 April 1972, one near Bampur, Baluchestan, on 3 April 1972, and one at Saadatabad near Shiraz, Fars, on 3 April 1976) and second week of October (latest records: one at Firouzabad, Fars, on 7 October 1975, and one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 12 October 1973). The earliest record in northern Iran was of a migrant in Kavir National Park, Semnan, on 7 April 1977. The main spring passage was in the second half of April and first week of May, and most birds had left the high Alborz by the middle of September (latest record: two on Kuh-e Asara, Alborz, on 21 September 1973). The only records in the south Caspian lowlands were of single birds at Galugah, Gilan, on 22 and 27 April 1970, and at Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 9 May 1973. The only records at Lashgarak were of single birds on 20 April 1973, 12 October 1973, and 12 and 18 April 1974.

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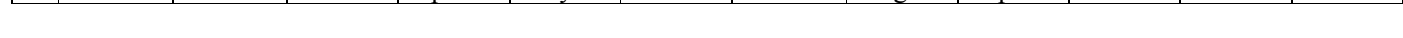
elevations in the mountains of East and West Khorasan and Khorasan-e Razavi, the Zagros and Chaharmahal and Kuh-e Taftan in Baluchestan. A rather small number of birds were recorded in the Zagros, central and southern Fars and the Persian Gulf. Some birds breeding in central and southern Fars were seasonally recorded on passage in spring and autumn in the Seistan basin: a female at Kuh-e Khvajeh was recorded there between the third week of March (earliest record was in the second week of March, 1973, at Shahr-e Shahrak, Tehran, on 22 March 1973) and the second week of April (at Bazargan and Maku, West Azarbaijan, on 14 April 1973). In the Persian Gulf, Tehran, were of three birds on 30 March 1973,



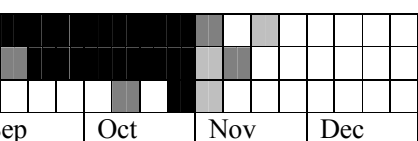
**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata* (474)

A common summer visitor to forests and woodlands throughout the north, and a fairly common summer visitor to the western Zagros, Kerman highlands and highlands of northern Baluchestan. It is likely that the species also bred in the southern Zagros in central Fars, but this was never confirmed. Also a very common and widespread passage migrant in spring and autumn, occurring throughout Iran. All records were between the first week of April and the last week of October. The earliest records were of a bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 4 April 1974, and several birds in a garden in Tehran on 10 April 1967; the latest records were of a bird in Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 24 October 1975, a bird at Lashgarak on 25 October 1975, and a bird near Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 29 October 1974. The main spring passage was in the second half of April and first three weeks of May; the autumn passage was very protracted, extending from early August to the third week of October. At Lashgarak, the Spotted Flycatcher was a common passage migrant in spring (mainly in the first three weeks of May) and autumn (mainly from mid-August to early October), and an occasional visitor in summer (extreme dates: 4 April and 25 October); the highest count in spring was 50 on 3 May 1973; the highest count in autumn was 20 on 26 September 1974.

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non passage migrant in  
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three birds at Galugah  
at Hendehkaleh, Gilan,  
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ehran, there were only  
however, the species was  
occurring from the end  
1974. There were only  
ear Ahwaz, Khuzestan,  
two birds near Bandar



**Spanish Sparrow *Passer hispaniolensis* (176)**

A widespread and locally common breeding bird, often occurring in the vicinity of wetlands; particularly common in the southeast Caspian region and on the Turkoman Steppes in Golestan, but also found breeding in North Khorasan, Khorasan-e Razavi, the Zagros from Kermanshah to central Fars, and the Seistan basin. The species may also have bred in the Kerman highlands, where large numbers were seen in late April and early May 1975 (three flocks totalling 150 birds at Deh Bakhri on 30 April, and a flock of 20 near Jiroft on 7 May). A male was observed in song in a poplar grove near Ahar, East Azarbaijan, on 30 June 1974. A partial migrant; present all year round in the southeast Caspian, Khuzestan, central Fars and Seistan, but also a long-distance migrant, occurring commonly in winter in the southwest Caspian, Khuzestan and Bushehr, and locally south to Hormozgan and south-eastern Baluchestan. Occasionally recorded on passage in spring (April) and autumn (October and November) at oases in the deserts of central and eastern Iran. Migrants appeared outside the breeding areas during the last week of October, and most had disappeared again by the middle of April. All records in Hormozgan and Baluchestan were between 24 October and 15 April. There were only three records at Lashgarak, Tehran: two birds on 8 November 1973, one on 7 March 1975, and two on 6 November 1975.

### Pale Rockfinch *Carpospiza brachydactyla* (148)

A common and widespread summer visitor, breeding in rocky hills with scattered bushes and also in *Zygophyllum* steppe in the desert. Commonly recorded on spring passage in central and south-eastern Iran, but seldom encountered on autumn passage. The first spring migrants usually arrived in Baluchestan in the first week of April (earliest record: 20 on Hormoz Island, Hormozgan, on 27 March 1973) and reached Fars in the second week of April (earliest record: 40 near Gachsaran on 9 April 1978). The earliest record of migrant flocks in Kavir National Park, Semnan, was on 11 April 1975, and the species was common in Touran Wildlife Refuge, Semnan, by the end of the third week of April. Apparently an early migrant in autumn, as very few were recorded after the middle of August. The latest record was of three birds at Shah Abbas Caravanserai in Kavir National Park, Semnan, on 18 September 1975. The only record at Lashgarak, Tehran, was of a single bird on 29 May 1975.

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**Rock Sparrow *Petronia petronia* (211)**

A common breeding bird throughout the main mountain ranges of Iran, although apparently absent from the isolated ranges in Baluchestan. Mainly a summer visitor to the breeding areas in northern Iran and the western Zagros, from early April to late September or October, moving to lower elevations in autumn and wintering in the western foothills of the Zagros, along the south slope of the Alborz, and widely in the northeast. The breeding populations in the southern Zagros and Kerman highlands were mainly sedentary, although some birds moved to lower elevations in central Fars. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Rock Sparrow was an occasional winter visitor (14 October to 9 April), the highest counts being 100 on 14 February 1974 and 30 on 28 February 1974, but it was also recorded in the late summer of 1973, when up to 40 appeared on four dates between 23 August and 9 September. Small flocks were observed in Kavir National Park, Semnan, on 20 November 1975, 19 February 1976 and 26-29 October 1976.

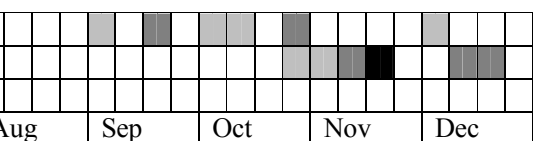
### Yellow-throated Sparrow *Gymnoris xanthocollis* (113)

A very common summer visitor to Khuzestan, Bushehr, Hormozgan, Kerman and Baluchestan, extending north in smaller numbers to the region of Qasr-e Shirin in Kermanshah and the region of Tabas in South Khorasan. The first spring migrants arrived in Baluchestan in the first week of April (earliest record: eight between Iranshahr and Bampur on 2 April 1972) and had reached Bushehr by the second week of April, and Khuzestan and Fars by the third week of April. Apparently an early migrant in autumn, as none was recorded after the middle of August (latest record: four birds at Sissakht, Kohgeluye & Boyer Ahmad, on 10 August 1974). A bird in a garden in Chahbahar, Baluchestan, on 27 January 1975 had probably overwintered there.

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in the Alborz, southern Zagros, also recorded once during the (a bird near Khalen in Arasbaran relatively short-distance migrant, and in central Fars, and occurring and occasionally on the northern nesting grounds in the high Alborz in 1973) and began to move down to low areas in late October and early November. Two at Mulkabad spring on 29 November 1975. One record in Kavir National Park: 11 November 1975. Lowlands of Khuzestan and Bushehr. There were only two records of birds on 13 November 1975.

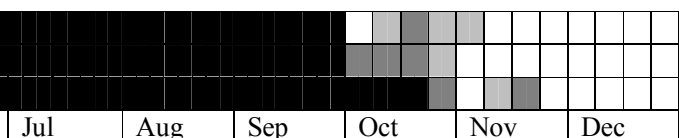


### Dunnock *Prunella modularis* (88)

A common breeding bird in the forests in the Kalibar Mountains in East Azarbaijan, but only a scarce and local breeding bird in the Caspian forest. A fairly common winter visitor to the south Caspian lowlands, occurring less commonly on the south slope of the Alborz and sparingly southeast through the Zagros to central Fars and occasionally Khuzestan. The main arrival in the south Caspian lowlands occurred in the second half of November (earliest record: three in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 20 November 1971) and most birds had departed by the end of March. A bird at Galugah, Gilan, on 26 April 1970 was exceptional. Several birds remained throughout the winter at Lashgarak, Tehran; the earliest bird in autumn was one on 28 October 1973, and the latest in spring, a bird on 28 February 1974. All other records south of the Alborz were between 9 November (a bird between Abgarm and Avaj, Qazvin, in 1973) and 4 February (a bird in Khosh Yeilagh Protected Area, Semnan, in 1972). The only record in Khuzestan was of a bird by the Karun River at Shushtar on 10 November 1973.

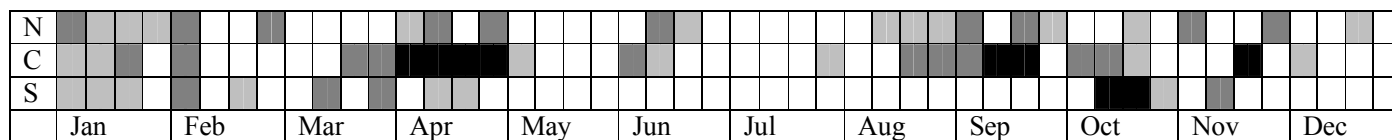
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A common breeding summer visitor to freshwater wetlands south to Khuzestan, Seistan, central Fars and the Persian Gulf coast. This form was also a common winter migrant. Large flocks arrived in the south in the first or second half of March (earliest records in the south: five in Bushehr, on 7 March 1971, and one at Kangan, Bushehr, on 7 April 1971; two at Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran on 20 March 1974; and one at Mazandaran, on 20 March 1974). A male *feldegg* was exceptionally early. Most birds had departed from southern Iran by the end of October, but the latest records were: two at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Sabari, Seistan, on 12 November 1973, and two at Shiraz, on 9 November 1970. There were three records of passage north on 6 January 1972 (at least one of which was at Shiraz), February 1974, and one at Bandar Abbas on 20 February 1974. Wagtail was a common passage migrant in spring (first record on 27 on 21 April 1973) and in autumn between 19 September and 1 October (last record 19 September 1974). The main passage occurred in the late September. Three other subspecies, *thunbergii*, *persicus* and *lutea* (Kirghiz Steppes Wagtail), occurred in small numbers (March to 31 May) and autumn (5 August to 15 September). Of the three (124 individuals identified as



### Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* (140)

An uncommon summer visitor to the uplands of North Khorasan, Khorasan-e Razavi and South Khorasan, favouring areas of irrigated agriculture. A winter visitor in small numbers to wetlands in the south Caspian region, Khuzestan and central Fars, also recorded in winter along the Zaindel Rud in Esfahan and at Bandar Abbas in Hormozgan. Recorded widely on passage in spring and autumn. The first migrants arrived in the south Caspian region in mid-August (earliest record: 15 at Lapoo-Zargmarz Ab-bandans, Mazandaran, on 14 August 1973), and the last birds departed in the second half of April (latest record: one at Galugah Ab-bandan, Gilan on 26 April 1970). The earliest records in the south of Iran were of a bird at the Rud-e Shirin east of Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, on 12 October 1973 and a bird near Bam, Kerman, on 12 October 1975; the latest record was of a bird near Zabol, Seistan, on 20 April 1972. At Lashgarak and Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, the Citrine Wagtail was a fairly common passage migrant in spring between 22 March and 4 May, and in autumn was between 19 August and 14 October. The highest counts in spring were 11 at Ghale-Now on 19 April 1974 and nine at Lashgarak on 13 April 1975; the highest counts in autumn were seven at Ghale-Now on 20 September 1973 and six at Ghale-Now on 13 September 1974. A bird at Ghale-Now on 25 July 1975 was unusually early.



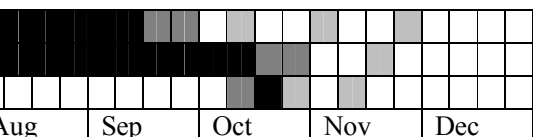
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**White Wagtail *Motacilla alba* (1,000+)**

A common and widespread breeding bird in northern and central Iran south to Fars, Kerman and South Khorasan, but not known to breed in the lowlands of Khuzestan, along the Persian Gulf coast or in Seistan or Baluchestan. Present throughout the year in much of its breeding range, but only a summer visitor to breeding areas in East and West Azarbaijan, where the latest records in autumn were of three birds in Tabriz, East Azarbaijan, on 14 November 1973, two at Mahabad Dam, West Azarbaijan, on 15 November 1974, and one at Mahabad Dam on 22 November 1972. Also a common winter visitor almost throughout Iran except in the northwest, and a widespread passage migrant. In the south Caspian region, spring passage reached a peak in late March and the first half of April, and autumn passage reached a peak in late September and October. Birds were present in their wintering areas in southern Iran from about the middle of October (earliest records: four at the Rud-e Shirin and Rud-e Minab, Hormozgan, on 10 October 1975, and two at the Rud-e Shirin on 12 October 1973) until the middle of April (latest records: one near Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 19 April 1972, and seven near Zabol, Seistan, on 20 April 1972). At Lashgarak, Tehran, the White Wagtail was a very common passage migrant in spring and autumn, a common winter visitor, and a resident breeding bird in small numbers. The main spring passage was in March, while the autumn passage extended from late July to late October; the highest count was 100 on 30 July 1973.

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	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

grassy steppes and arable land; a  
and autumn, and a rather scarce  
to south-eastern Baluchestan. The  
week of March (earliest record: one  
the Caspian region in the last week  
24 March 1972). Most birds had  
into November. The latest records  
over 1973, three east of Lake Tashk,  
Isula on 27 November 1973. At  
of nine occasions between 4 April  
The only records along the south  
er were of a bird on Qeshm Island,  
Hormozgan, on 1 May 1967.



### Long-billed Pipit *Anthus similis* (26)

A rather scarce and local breeding bird on arid rocky hillsides in the southern Zagros, Kerman highlands and Baluchestan. The few records suggest that the bird was mainly a summer visitor to the breeding areas, arriving back in early April (earliest records: two near Karvandar in northern Baluchestan on 2 April 1972, and two near Gachsaran in southern Fars on 9 April 1978). Small numbers remained throughout the winter in southern Hormozgan and Baluchestan where there were records between 22 October and 4 March. Birds presumably on passage were recorded near Bandar-e Assaluyeh, Bushehr, on 21 October 1973 and near Bandar-e Moqam, Hormozgan, on 9 March 1978.

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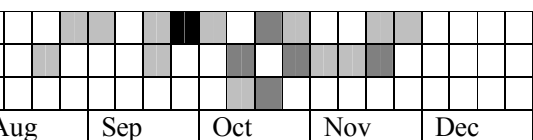


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Alborz Mountains and Massag migrant. A few Chozgan and southern snipe in the last week of April and four in a garden in April. Autumn migration of a few birds lingering in the Mahla Wildlife Refuge, November 1975, and one Pipit was a common migrant (on 5 April 1974), and a few snipe (maximum: six) were noted at Galugah, during a heavy autumn passage in August and first two weeks of September. Many migrating birds in Khuzestan, and in Minab on 31 January (1975).

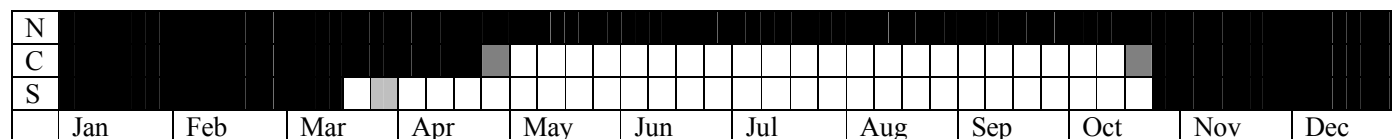
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from the beginning of April to the end of May. The latest were a bird from the third week in August to the end of September. The latest were a bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 5 September 1972; the latest were two birds at Lake Urmia, Lorestan, on 16 May 1972. The latest were a bird on 17 August 1973, and a bird on 17 August 1973; the latest were a bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 20 November 1975 and a bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 17 December 1972. At Lashgarak, the Red-winged Blackbird was present between 5 April and 4 May. The Red-winged Blackbird was a migrant in autumn between 17 September and 17 October. The Red-winged Blackbird was present in Mazandaran: a bird at Mazandaran Wildlife Refuge on 1 February 1974. The Red-winged Blackbird was present in Mazandaran: entering birds included one at Mazandaran Wildlife Refuge, on 8 January 1974; up to four birds at Mazandaran Wildlife Refuge on 26 January 1975, and a bird near Mazandaran Wildlife Refuge on 17 February 1971.



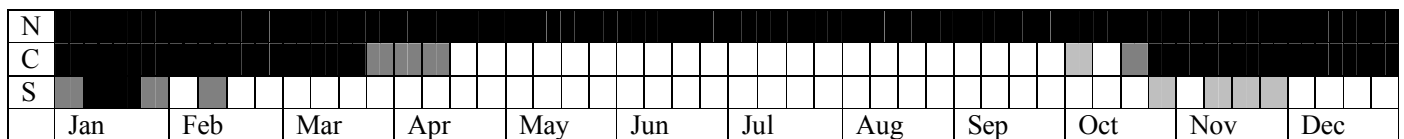
**Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta* (378)**

A locally fairly common summer visitor to high elevations in the Alborz, the Kalibar Mountains in East Azarbaijan and probably other mountain ranges in East and West Azarbaijan. A very common winter visitor to freshwater wetlands throughout Iran, especially common in the south Caspian lowlands, Khuzestan, Seistan and central Fars. There were several records in winter from southern Baluchestan, but only one from the coastal lowlands of the Persian Gulf (two birds near Borazjan, Bushehr, on 27 January 1976). The main arrival of winter visitors occurred in the last week of October (earliest records in northern Iran: ten at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 18 October 1974, two in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 21 October 1974, and one at Selke Wildlife Refuge, Gilan, on 22 October 1974; earliest records in southern Iran: three at Hormak, Baluchestan, on 24 October 1975, and one at Takhte Shah, Seistan, on 25 October 1975). Most birds had departed by the end of the third week of April (latest records: two at Lashgarak on 24 April 1973, and one at Madjurad in Touran Protected Area, Semnan, on 26 April 1974). The Water Pipit occurred widely on passage in northern and western Iran. At Lashgarak, it was a very common passage migrant in spring and autumn, and a common winter visitor. All records were between 18 October and 24 April. The main spring passage was between mid-March and mid-April, and the main autumn passage was in November: the highest count was 50 on 22 March 1973.



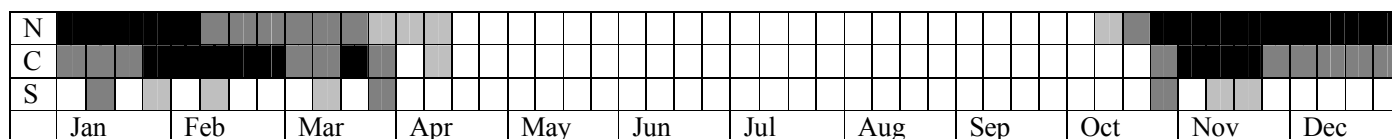
**Common Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs* (447)**

A very common breeding bird in the Caspian forest and forests of northern East Azarbaijan, also breeding in small numbers in the extreme western Zagros in West Azarbaijan and Kordestan, in juniper forest in the Kopet Dag in North Khorasan and Khorasan-e Razavi, and in parks and gardens in the Mashad region in Khorasan-e Razavi. Also a very common winter visitor to the south Caspian region, south slope of the Alborz and Zagros south to central Fars, and a regular winter visitor in smaller numbers to the plains of Khuzestan. Stragglers occasionally reached southern Fars (three in Lar on 11 January 1975), Seistan (two in Zabol on 17 January 1976) and Baluchestan (up to five in Zahedan on five dates between 24 October and 31 January). South of the Alborz, the first autumn migrants appeared in early October (earliest records: one at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 5 October 1972, one in Tehran on 19 October 1970, four at Lashgarak on 19 October 1972, and one in Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 24 October 1975); most had departed by the end of March, and only a few birds lingered on into April (latest records: several birds in Tehran on 11 April 1967, and one at Lashgarak on 12 April 1974). The highest count at Lashgarak was 120 on 13 November 1975. Very large numbers of birds arrived in the southwest Caspian lowlands during severe snow storms in the second half of January 1972. Many thousands were observed in Gilan during the period 14 to 22 January, and on 24 January, an estimated 40,000 birds per hour were seen passing east along the coast at Nowshahr, Mazandaran.



**Brambling** *Fringilla montifringilla* (136)

A common winter visitor to northern Iran, particularly the south Caspian region and south slope of the Alborz, and a scarce winter visitor south to Khuzestan, central Fars, Seistan and Zahedan in northern Baluchestan. The earliest arrivals in autumn were one at Bandar-e Shah, Golestan, on 15 October 1978, 70 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 22 October 1974, and four in Zahedan, Baluchestan, on 24 October 1975; the latest birds in spring were one at Ramsar, Mazandaran, on 4 April 1978, 10 near Tehran on 11 April 1967, and 10 at Bandar Anzali, Gilan, on 15 April 1967. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Brambling was a common winter visitor between 1 November and 28 March, with numbers fluctuating greatly from year to year. It was particularly common during the winters of 1972/73 (maximum of 200 on 23 February 1973) and 1975/76 (maximum of 120 on 12 January 1976), but uncommon during the winter of 1973/74 (maximum of only 12 on 29 November 1973). At least 500 were observed flying east along the Caspian shore near Nowshahr, Mazandaran, on 24 January 1972, during a period of extremely severe weather. A count of 20 birds at Dasht-e Arjan, Fars, on 28 January 1974 was unusual this far south. Small numbers of birds were observed in gardens in Zahedan, Baluchestan, in every winter from 1971/72 to 1975/76, the highest counts being 12 on 8 February 1974 and seven on 30 January 1975; extreme dates were 24 October and 31 March. However, the only records in Khuzestan were of a bird in Karkheh Wildlife Refuge on 19 November 1968 and a bird near Darkhwin, south of Ahwaz, on 14 November 1973. There were no records along the Persian Gulf coast or in southern Baluchestan.



**Red-fronted Serin *Serinus pusillus* (124)**

A fairly common breeding bird, occurring in all the principal mountain ranges and favouring juniper woodland. Largely sedentary, remaining in the breeding areas throughout the year, but also to some extent an altitudinal migrant, with some birds occurring at lower elevations in winter. The species was recorded on five occasions at Lashgarak, Tehran, between 12 January and 15 March, and on 10 occasions in the south Caspian lowlands between 17 January and 19 March. Four birds at Anaboun spring in Touran Protected Area, Semnan, on 14 November 1974 and a single bird at Shah Abbas Caravanserai in Kavir National Park, Semnan, on 20 November 1975 were unusually far from the nearest breeding areas. A party of six in juniper woodland on Kuh-e Geno near Bandar Abbas on 30 January 1974 suggested that the species was breeding somewhere in the higher mountains of southern Hormozgan.

## European Greenfinch *Chloris chloris* (131)

A common resident in the south Caspian region, breeding in the Caspian forest. A family party was seen at Sofian, East Azarbaijan, on 7 June 1967, and four birds were seen at 2,450m on Kuh-e Khahr in the Kerman highlands on 3 and 4 May 1975. A common winter visitor to the south Caspian lowlands, the south slope of the Alborz and the Zagros south occasionally to Khuzestan and central Fars. Most records outside the breeding areas were between the end of October and the middle of March. Several birds in a garden in Tehran on 7 and 12 April 1967 and a bird in Tehran on 31 March 1975 were unusually late. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the species was a common winter visitor between 28 October and 15 March, with a maximum count of 80 on 23 November 1973. There were four records in Khuzestan: a bird at Behbahan on 17 December 1968, three birds in Dez Wildlife Refuge on 15 January 1973, four birds near Shushtar on 11 November 1973, and eight birds in Dez Wildlife Refuge on 9 January 1974. The only records in Fars were of a bird at Dasht-e Barm near Lake Parishan on 16 February 1973, a bird at Persepolis on 21 November 1973, and 30 birds at Lake Parishan on 23 December 1975. There was one record in the southern Persian Gulf: two birds in a garden on Kuh-e Geno, Hormozgan, on 30 January 1974.

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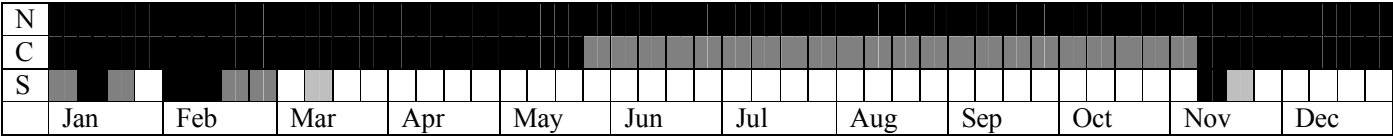
**European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis* (467)**

European Goldfinches of the nominate group of subspecies were common breeding birds in the south Caspian lowlands east to the region of Sari, in East and West Azarbaijan, on the south slope of the Alborz in the Tehran area, and in the Zagros oak forest south to the region of Shiraz in central Fars. This form was also a common winter visitor to the south Caspian region and western Iran south to Khuzestan and occasionally Bushehr. Goldfinches of the *caniceps* group ('Grey-headed Goldfinch') were fairly common breeding birds in the eastern Alborz (from the region of Shahpasand in Golestan eastwards), North Khorasan, Khorasan-e Razavi, central Fars east of Shiraz, and the Kerman highlands. This form was apparently only a partial migrant, with most birds remaining on or near the breeding grounds throughout the year. At Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, the black-faced form was a common winter visitor from the end of October to the end of March; the earliest record in autumn was of 200 birds flying east along the peninsula on 28 October 1970. An impressive movement of this form was noted at Galugah, Gilan, in April 1970, when over 6,350 birds were counted flying west along the coast between 11<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Goldfinch was a common winter visitor from early November to late March and a regular visitor in small numbers throughout the summer months. The earliest flocks in autumn were of 10 birds on 7 November 1974 and 15 on 8 November 1973, and the latest in spring were flocks of 30 on 28 March 1975 and seven on 2 April 1973; the highest counts were 120 on 18 February 1974 and 250 on 27 February 1975. The great majority of birds observed at Lashgarak belonged to the black-faced form, but small numbers of the grey-headed form were recorded in winter. All records of Goldfinches in Khuzestan were between 11 November (seven birds near Shushtar in 1973) and 11 March (small flocks on Lahi plains in 1969), and where known, involved the black-faced form. There were only two records of Goldfinches in the southern Persian Gulf: a party of six (subspecies unknown) near Bandar-e Moqam, Hormozgan, on 8 March 1978, and a party of five of the grey-headed form on Kuh-e Geno, Hormozgan, on 30 January 1974. Mixed flocks containing both forms were recorded in the eastern Alborz in Khosh Yeilagh Protected Area, Semnan, and in the Shiraz area in central Fars, and a hybrid was observed at Khosh Yeilagh. A Goldfinch of the black-faced form at Delbar in Touran Protected area, Semnan, on 14 and 15 November 1974 was unusually far east.

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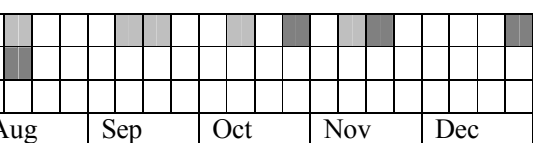
**Common Linnet *Carduelis cannabina* (330)**

A common breeding bird in shrubby areas in the highlands of East and West Azarbaijan, the Alborz, the Kopet Dagħ in North Khorasan and Khorasan-e Razavi, the Zagros and the Kerman highlands. A partial migrant, with most breeding populations moving to lower elevations in winter, including the south Caspian lowlands, the south slope of the Alborz, the foothills of the Zagros, the Khuzestan lowlands, the wetland basins in central Fars, and occasionally the Persian Gulf coast. Birds were present in their breeding areas in the high Alborz from early April to late September or early October. Winter visitors began to arrive in the south Caspian lowlands in late October (earliest record: 10 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 28 October 1970), and most had departed for their breeding grounds by late March (latest records: four birds at Bandar-e Kiashahr, Gilan, on 23 March 1972, 72 in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 25 March 1975, and one in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 26 March 1975). At Lashgarak, Tehran, the species was a common winter visitor between 24 October and the end of April, with a few birds lingering on until the end of May (latest record: two on 29 May 1975). The highest count was 100 on 22 February 1974. All records in Khuzestan were between 10 November (four birds near Shushtar in 1973) and 11 March (several flocks migrating north and west over Lahi plains in 1969). The only records on the Persian Gulf coast were of four birds near Bandar-e Rig, Bushehr, on 21 February 1971, about 150 birds near Bandar-e Moqam, Hormozgan, on 24 February 1971, and up to 12 birds in gardens in Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan, from 2 to 6 February 1974.



## 80)

ains of East and West Azarbaijan, ghlands. An altitudinal migrant, ns in October and November to low elevation in autumn was of a 0. Some birds began to arrive back rd: 10 birds at Dizin in the Central elevations well into the spring. At in winter, but a regular visitor in 17 April and 6 June. The highest 4; the latest record was of 17 birds a autumn: a party of nine on 15 ear Khoi, West Azarbaijan, on 26 baijan, on 30 December 1971, and of nine in Mooteh Protected Area, breeding area.



**Trumpeter Finch *Bucanetes githagineus* (126)**

A fairly common and widespread breeding bird of deserts and arid hills. Mainly sedentary, although there was some dispersal outside the breeding season, with a few birds appearing along the south coast (seven birds 60 km east of Bandar-e Lengeh, Hormozgan, on 25 February 1971, and one bird near Kangan, Bushehr, on 13 April 1978) and in the Seistan basin (10 records between 24 October and 20 March). A bird at Galugah, Gilan, on 16 April 1970 and another bird at Kapurchal, Gilan, on 21 April 1970 were very unusual.

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Desert Finch *Rhodospiza obsoleta* (104)

A locally common breeding bird in semi-arid habitats around the desert edge and in the Zagros foothills and Kerman highlands, often associated with cultivation. Probably only a summer visitor to western Iran, North Khorasan and Khorasan-e Razavi, where all records were between the 2 May (four birds near Neyzar south of Saveh, Qom, in 1973) and 21 September (one bird in the Hari Rud valley south of Sarakhs, Khorasan-e Razavi, in 1974), but largely sedentary elsewhere, with some dispersal south to the Persian Gulf coast in Bushehr, where most records were in January and February. There was only one record in Hormozgan: three birds in gardens in Bandar Abbas on 3 February 1974, and only one record in the Seistan basin: 25 birds at Kuh-e Khvajeh near Zabol on 10 March 1971. There were two records in the south Caspian region: a flock of 20 on the Turkoman Steppes near Lake Ajigol, Golestan, on 29 December 1970, and a bird on Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran, on 3 November 1973.

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**Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes* (50)

A fairly common resident in the forests of the south Caspian region, and probably a scarce resident in the Kalibar Mountains in East Azarbaijan, where a single bird was seen on 25 May 1978. Also a fairly common winter visitor to the south Caspian lowlands and south slope of the Alborz in the Tehran area from late October to late April. The earliest record in autumn in the lowlands of Mazandaran was of seven birds at Dasht-e Naz Wildlife Refuge on 28 October 1970; the latest record in spring was of a bird in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge on 3 March 1976. The only record of a bird south of the Alborz before late January was a bird at Delbar in Touran Wildlife Refuge, Semnan, on 15 November 1974. The latest bird in spring was one at Raze, also in Touran Wildlife Refuge, on 25 April 1974. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Hawfinch was a scarce passage migrant in spring, with up to seven occurring on 10 occasions between 22 February and 6 April. There was one record in the southern Zagros: a bird near Sissakht, Kohgeluyeh & Boyer-Ahmad, on 10 April 1978.

[illegible]

**Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra* (395)**

A very common breeding bird throughout northern and western Iran, extending southeast through the Zagros to the Kerman highlands; almost invariably associated with arable land. A partial migrant, vacating upland breeding areas in the north and west in winter, but remaining all year round in breeding areas at lower elevations and further south. Most birds had left their breeding areas in the northwest by the middle of November, and the only later records were of 40 birds at Qara Qeshlaq Marshes, West Azarbaijan, on 22 November 1972, seven on the Dasht-e Moghan, Ardebil, on 27 and 28 November 1971, and 30 between Urumiyeh and Nagadeh, West Azarbaijan, on 30 December 1971. The Corn Bunting was an abundant winter visitor to the plains of Khuzestan (where only small numbers bred), and was present in small numbers in winter along the northern Persian Gulf coast in Bushehr, but there were only two records in Hormozgan: a bird near Bandar-e Moqam on 24 February 1971, and several birds at Bandar-e Moqam on 9 March 1978. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Corn Bunting was a common visitor outside the breeding season (from 23 July to 18 April), occurring in largest numbers between the end of August and the end of March; the highest count was 200 on 18 December 1972. A roost of at least 300 birds in Ghale-Now Marshes, Tehran, on 16 November 1972 was impressive.

## Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella* (123)

A common winter visitor to the south Caspian region, and a fairly common winter visitor to the northwest, occurring in diminishing numbers south through the Zagros to central Fars. The earliest arrivals in autumn were two birds in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 22 October 1974, and two birds at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 24 October 1974. The main arrival began in the first week of November and most birds had departed by the end of the third week in March. The latest records in spring were of a bird at Lashgarak on 28 March 1975, and a bird in a garden in Tehran on 11 April 1967. The species was particularly common at Lashgarak, where counts of 100 were recorded on 16 February 1973, 21 November 1974 and 26 November 1974. Other high counts included 100 at Basti in the lower Jajerud Valley, Tehran, on 1 December 1970, 50 between Astara and Hashtpar, Gilan, on 16 January 1972, 100 at Ab-e Paravan near Lake Maharlu, Fars, on 13 January 1975, and 60 near Rudehen, Tehran, on 31 January 1976. A flock of 35 in cultivation near Lar in southern Fars on 11 January 1975 was unusually far south.

[illegible]

and south slope of the Alborz near  
ch, and an irregular winter visitor  
rak, Tehran, where numbers were  
and March (maximum of 30 on 8  
nter (e.g. six on 16 February 1973  
at Lashgarak were 12 birds on 28  
ch 1973. There were three records  
5 January 1972, one bird 40 km  
at Lapoo-Zargmarz Ab-bandans,  
ran included a bird at Basti in the  
a valley north of Khosh Yeilagh  
two records in the south, both in  
ck of Yellowhammers *E. citrinella*  
13 January. A small number of  
owhammer, and were presumably  
osely related forms.

[illegible]

**Rock Bunting *Emberiza cia* (181)**

A common breeding bird in the mountain ranges of the north, the Zagros and the Kerman highlands. Resident throughout much of its range, but also an altitudinal migrant, with many birds moving to lower elevations in winter, particularly during periods of hard weather. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the species was a fairly common winter visitor between 14 October and 23 March, with the largest numbers occurring during periods of heavy snowfall. Rock Buntings were recorded on six occasions in the south Caspian lowlands between 27 November and 19 March, including four records of up to three birds on Miankaleh Peninsula, Mazandaran. Other records of birds far from their breeding areas included individuals or small parties on five occasions at springs in Kavir National Park, Semnan, and on three occasions at springs in Touran Wildlife Refuge, Semnan, between 26 October and 25 April.

birds of North Khorasan, Khorasan-e Razavi highlands and the mountains of northern mountains in East Azarbaijan on 31 May 1978 on spring passage in the extreme southeast. (earliest record: three in the hills north of last week of October (latest record: one near arrive on their breeding grounds in northern the hills above Anaboun, Touran Protected after the middle of September (latest record: on 18 September 1974). The only records of birds on 5 September 1974 and four birds on

[illegible]

Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana* (86)

A fairly common summer visitor to relatively humid upland areas in East and West Azarbaijan, the Alborz, North Khorasan and Khorasan-e Razavi, and a fairly common passage migrant in the south Caspian region, the Tehran area, the northeast and the southwest. All records were between early April (earliest records: one on Qeshm Island, Hormozgan, on 7 April 1968, and 200 moving northwest along low hills west of Gachsaran, Kohgeluyeh & Boyer-Ahmad, on 9 April 1978) and the end of October (latest records: one by the Monde River west of Shiraz, Fars, on 28 October 1974, and one near Shah Taqi, Khorasan-e Razavi, on 30 October 1975). Spring passage through northern Iran reached a peak in the last week of April and first week of May (earliest records: a bird at Lashgarak, Tehran, on 18 April 1974, and two birds at Galugah, Gilan, on 21 April 1970); autumn passage reached a peak in the middle two weeks of September (latest records: a bird in Miankaleh Wildlife Refuge, Mazandaran, on 27 September 1973, and the bird at Shah Taqi on 30 October 1975). The only records at Lashgarak were of up to five birds on four dates between 18 and 26 April 1974, and up to three birds on four dates between 27 August and 19 September 1974.

[illegible]

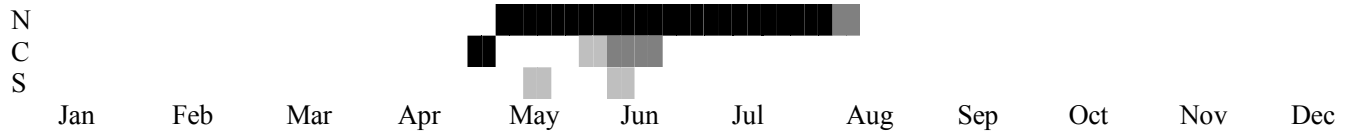


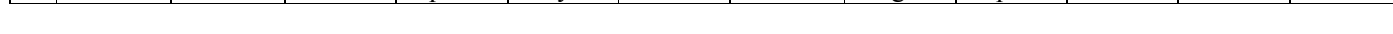
ing east in the Alborz to the region of Gilan, through the Kerman highlands; also found in extreme eastern Baluchestan. Abundant along the Persian Gulf coast and common on spring migrations. The earliest migrants appeared in the south Caspian Sea males on Hormoz Island, Hormozgan, on 1 April (earliest records: two at Nurabad, Chaharmahal, on 67), and in the south Caspian region in Gilan, on 16 April 1970). Large numbers were counted near Mikshahr and Bahu Kalat Protected Area on 1 April 1972, with counts of 500 on 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>. An estimated 5,000 birds, 95% females, were counted near Bushehr, on 11 April 1978. Most birds migrate in the middle of September was of a bird in Shiraz, on 1975. At Lashgarak, Tehran, the Black-winged Stilt, mainly in May (earliest record: one on 1975) and a fairly common passage migrant in the Persian Gulf, on 1972; maximum counts of 15 on 5

[illegible]

# **Red-headed Bunting *Emberiza bruniceps* (120)**

A common summer visitor to the northeast, occurring west to the region of Gorgan in the southeast Caspian lowlands and the region of Shahrud south of the Alborz, and south locally to the region of Birjand in South Khorasan. The species may also have bred in the Seistan basin, as a single male was found in song in irrigated cultivation near Zabol on 3 June 1973. The Red-headed Bunting was occasionally observed on spring passage at oases in the north-eastern deserts, and was once recorded on passage in northern Baluchestan: a male with a flock of Black-headed Buntings *E. melanocephala* in Zahedan on 10 May 1967. All records were between the last week of April (earliest record: five birds in Touran Wildlife Refuge, Semnan, on 24 April 1975) and the first week of August (latest record: one at Chahmanbid, North Khorasan, on 5 August 1969).





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## APPENDIX I

Species thought to be sedentary or largely sedentary in Iran in the late 1960s and 1970s  
with number of records

Species	No.	Remarks
Caucasian Grouse <i>Lyrurus mlokosiewiczii</i>	9	Local; some altitudinal movements in winter
Caspian Snowcock <i>Tetraogallus caspius</i>	43	Scarce; no movements known
Chukar Partridge <i>Alectoris chukar</i>	321	No movements known
See-see Partridge <i>Ammoperdix griseogularis</i>	290	No movements known
Black Francolin <i>Francolinus francolinus</i>	172	No movements known
Grey Francolin <i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>	22	Scarce; no movements known
Grey Partridge <i>Perdix perdix</i>	8	Scarce; no movements known
Common Pheasant <i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	94	Locally common; no movements known
Indian Pond Heron <i>Ardeola grayii</i>	33	Scarce; some dispersal in winter
Goliath Heron <i>Ardea goliath</i>	28	Scarce; some dispersal in winter
Western Reef Heron <i>Egretta gularis</i>	178	Local movements only
Socotra Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax nigrogularis</i>	9	Scarce; probably only local movements
Bearded Vulture <i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	76	Scarce; no movements known
Griffon Vulture <i>Gyps fulvus</i>	269	Wanders widely in search of food
Tawny Eagle <i>Aquila rapax</i>	5	Rare; movements, if any, unknown
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	288	Some dispersal of juveniles in winter
Bonelli's Eagle <i>Aquila fasciata</i>	23	Scarce; movements, if any, unknown
White-eyed Buzzard <i>Butastur teesa</i>	12	Scarce; movements, if any, unknown
Barbary Falcon <i>Falco pelegrinoides</i>	33	Scarce; movements, if any, unknown
Purple Swamphen <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	27	Locally common; some occasional wanderings
Great Stone-curlew <i>Esacus recurvirostris</i>	33	Scarce; no movements known
Crab-plover <i>Dromas ardeola</i>	52	Local movements within Persian Gulf
Red-wattled Lapwing <i>Vanellus indicus</i>	286	Local movements only
Greater Crested Tern <i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	128	Probably mostly local movements
Lesser Crested Tern <i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>	135	Probably mostly local movements
Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse <i>Pterocles exustus</i>	25	Locally common; no movements known
Spotted Sandgrouse <i>Pterocles senegallus</i>	65	No movements known
Black-bellied Sandgrouse <i>Pterocles orientalis</i>	331	No movements known
Crowned Sandgrouse <i>Pterocles coronatus</i>	39	No movements known
Lichtenstein's Sandgrouse <i>Pterocles lichtensteinii</i>	12	Scarce; no movements known
Rock Dove <i>Columba livia</i>	NA	No movements known
Laughing Dove <i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	420	No movements known
Alexandrine Parakeet <i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	7	Introduced; no movements known
Rose-ringed Parakeet <i>Psittacula krameri</i>	26	Introduced; no movements known
Western Barn Owl <i>Tyto alba</i>	3	Scarce; no movements known
Pallid Scops Owl <i>Otus brucei</i>	9	Scarce; movements, if any, unknown
Eurasian Eagle-Owl <i>Bubo bubo</i>	34	Local movements only
Tawny Owl <i>Strix aluco</i>	23	No movements known
Little Owl <i>Athene noctua</i>	323	No movements known
Spotted Owlet <i>Athene brama</i>	32	No movements known
Sykes's Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus mahrattensis</i>	3	Scarce and local; no movements known
Pallid Swift <i>Apus pallidus</i>	87	Local movements only
Indian Roller <i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	199	No movements known
White-throated Kingfisher <i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	117	No movements known
Green Bee-eater <i>Merops orientalis</i>	220	No movements known
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos minor</i>	10	Scarce; no movements known
Middle Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos medius</i>	18	Scarce; no movements known
Sind Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos assimilis</i>	43	Scarce; no movements known
Syrian Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>	353	No movements known
Great Spotted Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos major</i>	53	No movements known
Black Woodpecker <i>Dryocopus martius</i>	5	Rare; no movements known
European Green Woodpecker <i>Picus viridis</i>	60	No movements known
Eurasian Jay <i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	120	No movements known
Eurasian Magpie <i>Pica pica</i>	NA	No movements known
Pleske's Ground Jay <i>Podoces pleskei</i>	27	Scarce; no movements known
Red-billed Chough <i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	429	No movements known

Migrant Birds of Iran in the 1970s- *D.A. Scott*

Species	No.	Remarks
Alpine Chough <i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>	49	Scarce; local altitudinal movements in winter
House Crow <i>Corvus splendens</i>	6	Introduced; no movements known
Hooded Crow <i>Corvus cornix</i>	NA	No movements known
Brown-necked Raven <i>Corvus ruficollis</i>	420	No movements known
Common Raven <i>Corvus corax</i>	499	No movements known
Sombre Tit <i>Poecile lugubris</i>	49	No movements known
Caspian Tit <i>Poecile hyrcanus</i>	11	Scarce; no movements known
Coal Tit <i>Peripatus ater</i>	61	Some local dispersal in winter
Great Tit <i>Parus major</i>	445	No movements known
Cinereus Tit <i>Parus cinereus</i>	23	No movements known
Eurasian Blue Tit <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	123	Some local dispersal in winter
Black-headed Penduline Tit <i>Remiz macronyx</i>	-	No movements known
Greater Hoopoe-Lark <i>Alaemon alaudipes</i>	186	Perhaps some local movements
Desert Lark <i>Ammomanes deserti</i>	566	No movements known
Sand Lark <i>Calandrella raytal</i>	21	Scarce; no movements known
Crested Lark <i>Galerida cristata</i>	NA	No movements known
White-eared Bulbul <i>Pycnonotus leucotis</i>	425	No movements known
Scrub Warbler <i>Scotocerca inquieta</i>	148	No movements known
Long-tailed Tit <i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	84	No movements known
Zitting Cisticola <i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	8	Scarce and local; no movements known
Graceful Prinia <i>Prinia gracilis</i>	223	No movements known
Iraq Babbler <i>Turdoides altirostris</i>	6	Scarce and local; no movements known
Afghan Babbler <i>Turdoides huttoni</i>	281	No movements known
Eurasian Nuthatch <i>Sitta europaea</i>	64	No movements known
Western Rock Nuthatch <i>Sitta neumayer</i>	165	No movements known
Eastern Rock Nuthatch <i>Sitta tephronota</i>	307	No movements known
Eurasian Treecreeper <i>Certhia familiaris</i>	13	Scarce; no movements known
Common Myna <i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	22	Scarce; no movements known
Hume's Wheatear <i>Oenanthe albonigra</i>	287	No movements known
Hooded Wheatear <i>Oenanthe monacha</i>	50	Scarce; no movements known
White-throated Dipper <i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	94	Local altitudinal movements in winter
Purple Sunbird <i>Cinnyris asiatica</i>	157	No movements known
House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	NA	No movements known
Sind Sparrow <i>Passer pyrrhonotus</i>	4	Scarce and local; no movements known
Dead Sea Sparrow <i>Passer moabiticus</i>	17	Local; no movements known
Eurasian Tree Sparrow <i>Passer montanus</i>	546	No movements known
White-winged Snowfinch <i>Montifringilla nivalis</i>	46	Local altitudinal movements in winter
Indian Silverbill <i>Euodice malabarica</i>	7	Scarce; local movements only
Alpine Accentor <i>Prunella collaris</i>	19	Scarce; local altitudinal movements in winter
White-winged Grosbeak <i>Mycerobas carnipes</i>	6	Scarce; no movements known
Striolated Bunting <i>Emberiza striolata</i>	31	Scarce; no movements known

**Notes:** The total numbers of records of Rock Dove, Crested Lark, House Sparrow, Eurasian Magpie and Hooded Crow are not available. The numbers of records of the other species are only approximate as some 'records' relate to multiple observations of the same individuals at a particular locality over a period of time, and some records (birds seen by two observers) may have been registered twice.



## APPENDIX II

**Migratory status of the 100 species recorded in Iran as rarities up to the end of 1978**

with number of records prior to 1967 and during the period 1967–1978

Details of all records of these species are given in Roselaar &amp; Aliabadian (2009) and Scott (2008).

Species	Records	Migratory status in Iran
Taiga Bean Goose <i>Anser fabalis</i>	5 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Brant Goose <i>Branta bernicla</i>	1 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Red-breasted Goose <i>Branta ruficollis</i>	5 – 10	Long-distance migrant
Cotton Pygmy Goose <i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>	0 – 1	Short-distance migrant
Velvet Scoter <i>Melanitta fusca</i>	2 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Common Scoter <i>Melanitta nigra</i>	1 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Long-tailed Duck <i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	0 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Red-throated Loon <i>Gavia stellata</i>	1 – 3	Long-distance migrant
Scopoli's Shearwater <i>Calonectris diomedea</i>	0 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Wedge-tailed Shearwater <i>Puffinus pacificus</i>	0 – 2	Long-distance migrant
Wilson's Storm Petrel <i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>	3 – 7	Long-distance migrant
Lesser Flamingo <i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>	1 – 0	Irregular migrant; nomadic
Red-billed Tropicbird <i>Phaethon aethereus</i>	7 – 15	Wanders widely at sea
Woolly-necked Stork <i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	1 – 0	Short-distance migrant
Striated Heron <i>Butorides striata</i>	1 – 9	Rare and local resident
Masked Booby <i>Sula dactylatra</i>	1 – 1	Wanders widely at sea
African Darter <i>Anhinga rufa</i>	0 – 4	Short-distance migrant
White-rumped Vulture <i>Gyps benghalensis</i>	2 – 3	Possibly former resident
Eastern Marsh Harrier <i>Circus spilonotus</i>	2 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Red Kite <i>Milvus milvus</i>	22 – 10	Long-distance migrant
Pallas's Fish Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>	7 – 3	Long-distance migrant
Upland Buzzard <i>Buteo hemilasius</i>	1 – 0	Short-distance migrant
Red-necked Falcon <i>Falco chicquera</i>	1 – 0	Possibly former resident
Red-footed Falcon <i>Falco vespertinus</i>	5 – 7	Long-distance migrant
Sooty Falcon <i>Falco concolor</i>	1 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Lanner Falcon <i>Falco biarmicus</i>	0 – 12	Short-distance migrant
Laggar Falcon <i>Falco jugger</i>	0 – 1	Short-distance migrant
Demoiselle Crane <i>Grus virgo</i>	1 – 3	Long-distance migrant
Common Buttonquail <i>Turnix sylvaticus</i>	0 – 1	Possibly former resident
Spur-winged Lapwing <i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	2 – 0	Short-distance migrant
Sociable Lapwing <i>Vanellus gregarius</i>	5 – 6	Long-distance migrant
Pacific Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	1 – 3	Long-distance migrant
Greater Painted Snipe <i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>	0 – 1	Irregular migrant; nomadic
Solitary Snipe <i>Gallinago solitaria</i>	9 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Pin-tailed Snipe <i>Gallinago stenura</i>	5 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Slender-billed Curlew <i>Numenius tenuirostris</i>	8 – 2	Long-distance migrant
Eastern Curlew <i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	1 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Great Knot <i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>	1 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i>	6 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Red-necked Stint <i>Calidris ruficollis</i>	1 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Red Phalarope <i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	0 – 8	Long-distance migrant
Black-winged Pratincole <i>Glareola nordmanni</i>	4 – 3	Long-distance migrant
Small Pratincole <i>Glareola lactea</i>	0 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Indian Skimmer <i>Rynchops albicollis</i>	1 – 0	Short-distance migrant
Black-legged Kittiwake <i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	0 – 4	Long-distance migrant
Brown-headed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus</i>	1 – 2	Long-distance migrant
Mediterranean Gull <i>Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus</i>	1 – 5	Long-distance migrant
White-eyed Gull <i>Ichthyaeetus leucophthalmus</i>	0 – 1	Short-distance migrant
Great Black-backed Gull <i>Larus marinus</i>	1 – 2	Long-distance migrant
Sooty Tern <i>Onychoprion fuscatus</i>	0 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Great/Brown Skua <i>Stercorarius skua/antarcticus</i>	0 – 2	Long-distance migrant
Long-tailed Jaeger <i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	0 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Pallas's Sandgrouse <i>Syrrhaptes paradoxus</i>	2 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Yellow-eyed Pigeon <i>Columba eversmanni</i>	9 – 5	Long-distance migrant
Oriental Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	1 – 5	Long-distance migrant

## Migrant Birds of Iran in the 1970s- D.A. Scott

Species	Records	Migratory status in Iran
Red Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>	0 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Great Spotted Cuckoo <i>Clamator glandarius</i>	6 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Jacobin Cuckoo <i>Clamator jacobinus</i>	2 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Asian Koel <i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i>	0 – 2	Long-distance migrant
Himalayan Cuckoo <i>Cuculus saturates</i>	2 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Snowy Owl <i>Bubo scandiaca</i>	1 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Brown Fish Owl <i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>	6 – 0	Probably rare resident
White-winged Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos leucopterus</i>	2 – 0	Possibly former resident
Scaly-bellied Woodpecker <i>Picus squamatus</i>	* – 0	Possibly former resident
Indian Pitta <i>Pitta brachyuran</i>	1 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Long-tailed Shrike <i>Lanius schach</i>	6 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Black Drongo <i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	1 – 0	Short-distance migrant
Carrion Crow <i>Corvus corone</i>	8 – 3	Long-distance migrant
Large-billed Crow <i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	3 – 0	Possibly former resident
Bohemian Waxwing <i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>	1 – 2	Long-distance migrant
Turkestan tit <i>Parus (major) bokharensis</i>	2 – 4	Rare and local resident
White-crowned Penduline Tit <i>Remiz coronatus</i>	? – 1	Long-distance migrant
Bearded Reedling <i>Panurus biarmicus</i>	14 – 8	Long-distance migrant
Black Lark <i>Melanocorypha yeltoniensis</i>	1 – 13	Long-distance migrant
Hume's Short-toed Lark <i>Calandrella acutirostris</i>	1 – 2	Long-distance migrant
Eastern Bonelli's Warbler <i>Phylloscopus orientalis</i>	0 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Wood Warbler <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	0 – 7	Long-distance migrant
Yellow-browed Warbler <i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>	0 – 10	Long-distance migrant
Greenish Warbler <i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>	5 – 4	Long-distance migrant
River Warbler <i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>	1 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Ruppell's Warbler <i>Sylvia rueppelli</i>	1 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Oriental White-eye <i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	0 – 1	Possibly rare and local resident
Blue Whistling Thrush <i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>	1 – 0	Short-distance migrant
Red-throated Thrush <i>Turdus ruficollis</i>	0 – 2	Long-distance migrant
European Stonechat <i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	? – 0	Long-distance migrant
White-crowned Wheatear <i>Oenanthe leucopyga</i>	1 – 0	Short-distance migrant
European Pied Flycatcher <i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	* – 11	Long-distance migrant
Saxaul Sparrow <i>Passer ammodendri</i>	1 – 0	Possibly former resident
Desert Sparrow <i>Passer simplex</i>	3 – 0	Possibly former resident
Red Avadavat <i>Amandava amandava</i>	0 – 3	Introduced; status unknown
Black-throated Accentor <i>Prunella atrogularis</i>	6 – 3	Long-distance migrant
Richard's Pipit <i>Anthus richardi</i>	3 – 10	Long-distance migrant
European Serin <i>Serinus serinus</i>	1 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Red Crossbill <i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	0 – 2	Long-distance migrant
Eurasian Bullfinch <i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	* – 8	Short-distance migrant
White-capped Bunting <i>Emberiza stewarti</i>	2 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Cretschmar's Bunting <i>Emberiza caesia</i>	0 – 1	Long-distance migrant
Little Bunting <i>Emberiza pusilla</i>	2 – 0	Long-distance migrant
Rustic Bunting <i>Emberiza rustica</i>	4 – 4	Long-distance migrant
Yellow-breasted Bunting <i>Emberiza aureola</i>	1 – 1	Long-distance migrant

\* Records prior to 1967 are under review.

**APPENDIX III****Ornithologists, naturalists and bird-watchers active in Iran between 1967 and 1978****Part 1.** Personnel of the Department of Environment (formerly Game & Fish Department).

<b>Name</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Ali Adhami Mirhosseyni	June 1970 – August 1977	Ornithology Unit	
Francis B. Argyle	October 1974 – March 1978	Ornithology Unit	Bird ringer
Mohammad Ali Ashtiani	February 1973 – March 1978	Ornithology Unit	
A. Baheri	June – July 1971	Wildlife biologist	
M. Bahrami	January 1968 – July 1972	Ornithology Unit	
Colonel Baiziae	February 1969 – July 1973	Fars Provincial Office	
Behrouz Behrouzi-Rad	1977 – 1978	Ornithology Unit	
Mark Bosch	January – November 1970	Wildlife biologist	American Peace Corps
Steve Bullock	1970 – 1971	Wildlife biologist	American Peace Corps
Lindon Cornwallis	1967–68; Jan-Feb 70; Mar-Apr 72; Jan-Feb 73; Jan 76 – Nov 78	Shiraz University, Shiraz (to August 1968); Baluchestan (1972); Ornithology Unit (Jan 76 – Nov 78)	
Bijan Darehshoori	July 1973 – January 1977	Wildlife biologist	
Alireza Eftekhari	January 1972 – May 1975	Ornithology Unit	
David A. Ferguson	January 1967 – June 1970	Ornithologist, Division of Research & Development	American Peace Corps
Hamid Fotoohi	November 1973 – January 1975	Ornithology Unit	
Fred A. Harrington Jr.	1970 – 1977	Wildlife biologist, Head of Division of Research & Dev.	
Daryl L. Howell	March 1975 – November 1978	Wildlife biologist	
Paul Joslin	1975 – 1976	Wildlife biologist	
Esmail Kahrom	November 1973 – March 1976	Ornithology Unit	
Wayne Kinunen	1970 – 1971	Wildlife biologist	American Peace Corps
Jamshid Mansoori	November 1973 – 1978	Ornithology Unit	
Brian O'Regan	October 1973 – October 1977	Wildlife biologist	
Ray Robinson	1970s	Wildlife artist	
Derek A. Scott	Oct 1970 – Mar 1976; July 1977	Ornithology Unit	
H. Tajbashi	1972	Taxidermist	
Mohammad Reza Vaziri	January 1973 – November 1975	Ornithology Unit	
Anton de Vos	1973 – 1977	Wildlife biologist	FAO consultant
H. Ziaie	October 1972 – April 1973	Wildlife biologist, Khuzestan Provincial Office	

# Migrant Birds of Iran in the 1970s- *D.A. Scott*

**Part 2.** Visiting ornithologists and bird-watchers collaborating with the Department of Environment (mostly in the Mid-winter Waterfowl Counts).

Name	Dates	Activities	Remarks
George Archibald	December 1975; January 1978	Central Fars & south Caspian region	Crane specialist
G. Anthony Atkinson-Willes	December 1973 – March 1974	South Caspian region, Fars and Hormozgan	Mid-winter counts
Mike de L. Brooke	January 1975	Azerbaijan, western provinces, Khuzestan and Fars	Mid-winter counts
S. Kent Carnie	September – December 1972; September 1973 – March 1974	South Caspian region, Khuzestan, Fars & Azerbaijan	Falcon expert
Erik Carp	February 1971, December 1971 – January 1972; January 1974	Khuzestan & Fars	Mid-winter counts
Stanley Cramp	April 1972	DOE survey in Baluchestan	
Charles L. Coles	Aug 1973; March & October 1974	South Caspian region	Pheasant expert
John W.F. Davis	December 1971 – February 1972	Azerbaijan, Caspian, western provinces & Khuzestan	Mid-winter counts
Loren Grueber	November 1975	Dasht-e Kavir & Turkoman Steppes	Sandgrouse specialist
Phil A.D. Hollom	April 1972; May 1977	DOE surveys in Baluchestan & northern Khorasan	.
Paul Isenmann	December 1969 – February 1970	Caspian, Azerbaijan & western provinces	With Kowalski
Cameron Kepler	January – February 1973	Khuzestan, Fars & Seistan	Mid-winter counts
Fred J. Koning	January 1969 & March 1970	Azerbaijan & south-west Caspian	With J. Viellard
Hubert Kowalski	December 1968 – January 1969; December 1969 – February 1970	Caspian, Azerbaijan, western provinces & Isfahan	Mid-winter counts; with Isenmann, Tamisier <i>et al.</i>
Geoffrey V.T. Matthews	January – February 1973	South-east Caspian & Fars	Waterfowl expert
Stanislav Mottl	April – May 1973	South Caspian region	Pheasant expert
Richard F. Porter	April 1972; May 1977	DOE surveys in Baluchestan & northern Khorasan	
Alain Tamisier	January – February 1970	North-western Iran	With Kowlaski
Jacques Viellard	December 1968 – January 1969	Azerbaijan & south-west Caspian	With Kowlaski & Koning
D. Ian M. Wallace	April 1972	DOE survey in Baluchestan	

**Part 3. Visiting expeditions.**

Name	Dates	Activities	Remarks
Peter W. Burness	April 1970	Private expedition to South Caspian region in Gilan	With Newell & R.E. Scott
Peter Conder	April 1969	Private expedition to Khuzestan & south-western Fars	With S. Cramp
Stanley Cramp	April 1969	Private expedition to Khuzestan & south-western Fars	With P. Conder
J.-F. Dejonghe	July 1975	Azerbaijan, Gilan, Tehran & Kermanshah	Dejonghe (1980)
Michel Desfayes	April-June 1975	Smithsonian expedition to Kerman & Baluchestan	Desfayes & Praz (1978)
Christian Erard	April – June 1967	French expedition to central, eastern and SE Iran	Erard & Etchecopar (1970)
Robert-Daniel Etchecopar	April – June 1967	French expedition to central, eastern and SE Iran	Erard & Etchecopar (1970)
Dave J. Garbutt	August – September 1972	British Zoological Expedition to south-east Caspian	With M.B. Webster <i>et al.</i>
Roger Gyllin	April – June 1969	Swedish expedition; mainly north-western Iran	Gyllin (1970, 1974)
Xavier Misonne	April – June 1972	Belgian expedition to Dasht-e Lut & Jaz Murian	Misonne (1976)
Jiri Mlikovsky	April – July 1977	Czechoslovakian/Iranian expedition, widely in Iran	Mlikovsky (2007)
Richard (Dick) G. Newell	April 1970	Private expedition to South Caspian region in Gilan	With Burness & R.E. Scott
J.C. Praz	April – June 1975	Smithsonian expedition to Kerman & Baluchestan	Desfayes & Praz (1978)
Robert (Bob) E. Scott	April 1970	Private expedition to South Caspian region in Gilan	With Burness & Newell
Mike B. Webster	August – September 1972	British Zoological Expedition to south-east Caspian	With D.J. Garbutt <i>et al.</i>

**Part 4. Expatriate bird-watchers temporarily resident in Iran.**

Name	Dates	Activities	Remarks
S.M. Downhill	January 1967 – September 1969	Tehran area, Caspian, Fars, Khuzestan & Persian Gulf	
Jurgen Haffer	1974 – 1976	Tehran area, Alborz & northern Khorasan	Haffer (1977)
Stan Howe	1975 – 1978	Ahwaz area, Khuzestan	Bird ringer
Mike D. Hutchinson	Late 1975 – November 1976	Northern Iran, mainly in Tehran area	
Gil N. Langfield	April 1976 – June 1977	Tehran area, south-east Caspian, Fars & Hormozgan	
Charles Lister	Late 1960s – early 1970s	Tehran area and Persian Gulf	
George T. Nelson	1968 – 1972; September 1973	Northern Iran, mainly in Tehran area	
P. Nick Paul	June 1972 – October 1974	Tehran area and south Caspian region	
Mike Payne	September 1973 – August 1974	Tehran area, south Caspian region and Khuzestan	
Ken G. Rogers	1975 – 1978	Tehran area, Alborz and south Caspian region	Rogers (2001)
Mike Smart	November 1971 – October 1973	Tehran area, south Caspian region and Khuzestan	

# Migrant Birds of Iran in the 1970s- *D.A. Scott*

## Part 5. Visiting bird-watchers on private travel.

Name	Dates	Activities	Remarks
R. Brown	April & June 1969	Travelling across northern Iran	With A. Greensmith
P.W.G. Chilman	July 1967 – October 1970; October 1972 – March 1976	Voyages through Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormoz	
W. (Bill) H. Dady	May 1970	Northern Iran, Fars, Khuzestan and Kharg Island	
Peter Etheridge	March – June 1976	North-western Iran, Fars and Persian Gulf coast	With A. Parker
Anthony J. Gaston	May – June 1970	Northern Iran (mainly Azerbaijan and NE Khorasan)	
Harvey Gilston	February 1974	Tehran area and Alborz	
Alan Greensmith	April & June 1969	Travelling across northern Iran	With R. Brown
Gunter Groh	April – May 1973	Azerbaijan, Tehran, Esfahan & Fars	
Chris D.R. Heard	March – July 1978	Travelling throughout Iran	Partly with P.A. Walton
K. Kimble	June 1974	Tehran area & Alborz	
Ben King	February 1976	Tehran, south-east Caspian, Fars & Hormozgan	
H. Lesceve	February 1970	Tehran area	
Steve C. Madge	Jul – Aug 1969; Jun 1970; Oct – Nov 1970; Nov 1973.	Three trips across northern Iran; one trip from Zahedan to Azerbaijan.	
Christopher Majka	November – December 1975	Central Fars (mainly Lake Parishan)	
A. Parker	March – June 1976	North-western Iran, Fars and Persian Gulf coast	With P. Etheridge
P.M. Reynolds	Nov 1977 & May 1978	Coastal areas of Hormozgan	Reynolds (1978)
K. Salwegter	October 1967; May 1968	Voyages through Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormoz	
Roy A. Smith	Feb – Nov 1970; November 1972	Voyages through Persian Gulf; south Caspian region (1972)	
H.J. Speyer	March – April 1967	South Caspian region	Nielsen (1969)
Jeremy Swift	May – June 1975	Bakhtiari Mountains & Lorestan	
D. Summers-Smith	May 1976	Northern Iran	
Mike Thain	August – September 1967	Lake Tashk, Fars	
Arnoud B. van den Berg	January & May 1976, May & October 1978	Travelling across northern Iran	
A.F.G. Walker	September 1968	Tehran area, Alborz & Gilan	
Peter A. Walton	April – June 1978	Travelling throughout Iran	Partly with C.D.R. Heard
W. Weitkowitz	August 1976 – June 1977	Voyages through Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormoz	Notes per Effie Warr

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