

Rare breeding birds in the United Kingdom in 2008

The following updates to the published species accounts reflect additional data and corrections received after publication of the 2008 RBBP report in *British Birds* 103:482-538 (September 2010). This update includes all known amendments up to **15th December 2017**.

Garganey *Anas querquedula*

Revised totals: 66 sites: 21-103 pairs.

Additional site:

[Scotland, S](#)

Lothian One site: one pair possibly bred.

Upgraded details:

[Northern Ireland](#)

Co. Antrim One site: one pair bred; a pair in May and at least one juvenile reported in July.

Greater Scaup *Aythya marila*

Revised totals: Three sites: 0-3 pairs.

Additional site:

[Northern Ireland](#)

One site: two birds on 18th June and one on 4th July.

Common Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*

Revised totals: At least 183 egg-laying females, including one in England.

From the additional data provided by the Goldeneye Study Group for Highland, coupled with the data already published for North-east Scotland, an estimate of 182 egg-laying females was derived.

Additional data received for the following county:

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Highland Badenoch & Strathspey: in 83 monitored nests, 71 clutches were incubated and from these 441 eggs hatched in 57 nests. The mean brood size was 7.7 young.

Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix*

Revised totals: 11-479 pairs.

Additional data received for the following county:

[England, N](#)

Yorkshire Total should be 50 singing males.

[Scotland, S](#)

Lothian Total should be ten singing males.

Revised totals for rare birds breeding in 2008, using data received up to 15 December 2017.

Amended county totals (singing males) as follows:

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Argyll Total should be three singing males.

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

Revised totals: 18 sites: 30-44 pairs, at least 32 young fledged.

Additional site:

[England, N](#)

Yorkshire Four sites: (4) one pair bred.

Upgraded details:

[England, C](#)

Staffordshire One site: one pair bred; but failed owing to disturbance.

Eurasian Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*

No change to overall totals.

Amended county totals (booming males) as follows:

[England, E](#)

Cambridgeshire Seven sites: 11 booming males; four confirmed nests. **Lincolnshire** Six sites: 5-7 booming males.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Revised totals: at least 68 sites; 751-798 breeding pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SW](#)

Somerset Sites: 4; confirmed and probable breeding pairs: 49.

Merlin *Falco columbarius*

Revised totals: 401-477 pairs monitored.

Amended county totals as follows:

[Wales](#)

Caernarfonshire Territories: 2; Confirmed breeding pairs: 0; Territories fledging young: 0; Min. no. young fledged: 0.

Meirionnydd Territories: 12; Confirmed breeding pairs: 0; Territories fledging young: 0; Min. no. young fledged: 0.

[Scotland, Mid](#)

North-east Scotland RSG Territories: 42; Confirmed breeding pairs: 41; Territories fledging young: 34; Min. no. young fledged: 116.

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Argyll Territories: 3; Confirmed breeding pairs: 1; Territories fledging young: 1; Min. no. young fledged: 4.

These changes mean that the UK totals should now be as follows: Territories: 469;

Confirmed breeding pairs: 401; Territories fledging young: 246; Min. no. young fledged: 804.

[Revised totals for rare birds breeding in 2008, using data received up to 15 December 2017.](#)

Hobby Falco subbuteo

Revised totals: 286-1,163 pairs.

Additional data received for the following county:

[England, N](#)

Cheshire & Wirral Total pairs should be 42 with 21 confirmed breeding pairs.

Mediterranean Gull Larus melanocephalus

Revised totals: 43 sites: 547-599 pairs/territories.

Additional sites:

[England, SE](#)

Kent One additional site: (5) two pairs bred.

[England, N](#)

Northumberland One site: two pairs possibly bred.

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Caithness One site: one pair displaying in mid May.

[Northern Ireland](#)

Co. Down Two sites: two pairs bred.

Roseate Tern Sterna dougallii

Revised totals: Five sites: 77 pairs fledged at least 49 young.

Additional site:

[Scotland, S](#)

Lothian One site: one pair laid a clutch of three; fledging success unknown.

Wryneck Jynx torquilla

Revised totals: Two sites: two birds.

Additional site:

[Scotland, S](#)

Lothian One site: a singing bird in suitable breeding habitat was only recorded on 13th May.

Golden Oriole Oriolus oriolus

Revised totals: Five sites: 2-9 pairs.

Additional site:

[England, C](#)

West Midlands One site: a singing male heard and a female seen in suitable breeding habitat on 3rd June only.

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*

Revised totals: Four sites: five unpaired males and one other single birds.

Additional site:

England, SE

Sussex One site: a singing male in suitable breeding habitat was reported between 24th May and 19th June.

Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti*

Revised totals: 2,255 singing males or territories.

Amended county totals as follows:

England, E

Suffolk 176 (not 178) singing males or territories.

Dartford Warbler *Sylvia undata*

Revised totals: 2,110 territories.

Amended county totals as follows:

England, SE

Berkshire at least 37 territories.

Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris*

Revised totals: Eight sites: 2-10 pairs.

Additional site:

Scotland, N & W

Fair Isle One site: one singing male present from 1st to 23rd July.

Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta*

Amended dates as follows:

England, N

Lancashire & N Merseyside The singing male was present from 7th to 21st June (not May).

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*

Revised totals: Two sites: 0-2 pairs.

Additional site:

England, SE

Kent One site: one singing male present from mid April to at least 18th May with a female present on three dates between 26th April and 11th May.