

Rare breeding birds in the United Kingdom in 2014

The following updates to the published species accounts reflect additional data and corrections received after publication of the 2014 RBBP report in *British Birds* 109: 491-545 (September 2016). This update includes all known amendments up to **28th February 2020**.

Garganey *Anas querquedula*

Revised totals: 92 sites: 31–121 pairs.

Additional record:

[England, C](#)

Staffordshire One site: one possible breeding pair.

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*

Revised totals: 14 sites: 18–47 pairs.

Amended record:

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Highland (elsewhere) Six sites: ten pairs bred, four probable and eight possible breeding pairs.

Capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus*

Revised totals: 207 males at 64 leks. A total of 121 leks was monitored across five recording areas. 5-yr mean now 207 lekking males.

Amended county totals as follows:

[Scotland, Mid](#)

Moray & Nairn Eight active leks: 16 males.

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Highland 47 active leks: 179 males.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Revised totals: at least 122 sites; 1,067-1,075 breeding pairs; 5-yr mean now 878 bp.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SW](#)

Dorset Sites: 2; confirmed and probable breeding pairs: 7.

[England, SE](#)

Berkshire Sites: 2; confirmed and probable breeding pairs: 4.

Essex Sites: 8; confirmed and probable breeding pairs: 91.

Greater London Sites: 1; confirmed and probable breeding pairs: 1.

Oxfordshire Sites: 2; confirmed and probable breeding pairs: 5.

[England, E](#)

Suffolk Sites: 8; confirmed and probable breeding pairs: 65.

Revised totals for rare birds breeding in 2014, using data received up to 28 February 2020.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

Revised totals: 274–403 pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

[Scotland, S](#)

Ayrshire Confirmed breeding pairs: 27; Total pairs: 31.

Clyde Islands Confirmed breeding pairs: 1; Total pairs: 4.

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Caithness Confirmed breeding pairs: 6; Total pairs: 9.

Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus*

Note that the comment that the successful pair in Yorkshire actually nested in farmland was incorrect as the nest was in a reedbed, although one adjacent to farmland, rather than moorland as previously.

Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*

Revised totals: 430–626 pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SW](#)

Hampshire Confirmed breeding pairs: 41; Total pairs: 41.

[England, N](#)

Cumbria Confirmed breeding pairs: 0; Total pairs: 4.

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*

Revised totals: 200–333 pairs.

Additional records/amended county totals as follows:

[Scotland, Mid](#)

Moray & Nairn Confirmed breeding pairs: 1; Total pairs: 2.

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Caithness Confirmed breeding pairs: 1; Total pairs: 1.

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*

Revised totals: 1,170 territories, 5-yr mean now 1,313 bp.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, N](#)

Yorkshire Min. no. territories: 87.

[Channel Islands](#)

Jersey Min. no. territories: 6.

Corn Crane *Crex crex*

Total remains at 1,333 singing males, but local detail changes slightly.

Amended county totals as follows:

Scotland, N & W

Argyll Total: one less at 705 (no males recorded on Gigha).

Highland Total: one more at 55 (Mainland now 15).

Common Crane *Grus grus*

Revised totals: 21–24 breeding pairs, 5-yr mean now 20 bp.

Amended county totals as follows:

England, E

Norfolk Nine pairs bred and one possible breeding pair, with a further two non-breeding pairs in the county.

Stone-curlew *Burhinus oedicephalus*

Revised totals: 318–413 breeding pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

England, E

Suffolk Confirmed breeding pairs: 96; Total pairs: 123.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*

Revised totals: 580 breeding pairs, 5-yr mean now 610 bp.

Amended county totals as follows:

England, N

Yorkshire Confirmed & probable breeding pairs: 85.

'Dark-breasted' Barn Owl *Tyto alba guttata*

ADDITION TO THE REPORT.

As the RBBP list now includes (distinctive) rare races of otherwise common species, the following record should be added to the report.

England, N

Cheshire & Wirral One site: one mixed pair. A female of race *guttata* bred with a nominate race male and fledged two young (Binney & Coffey, 2017 [*British Birds* 110: 213 – 221]).

[Lesser Spotted Woodpecker *Dryobates minor*](#)

Revised totals: 34–302 breeding pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SW](#)

Hampshire Confirmed breeding pairs: only 1 (not 34); Total pairs: still 68.

[England, E](#)

Northamptonshire Confirmed breeding pairs: 0; Total pairs: 3.

[Merlin *Falco columbarius*](#)

Revised totals: 281–380 breeding pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, C](#)

Staffordshire Confirmed breeding pairs: 1; territories occupied: 2.

[England, N](#)

Lancashire & N Merseyside Confirmed breeding pairs: 8; territories occupied: 16.

[Hobby *Falco subbuteo*](#)

Revised totals: 240–719 breeding pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SW](#)

Hampshire Confirmed breeding pairs: 12; total pairs: 30.

[England, E](#)

Suffolk Confirmed breeding pairs: 17; total pairs: 23.

[Red-billed Chough *Pyrhacorax pyrrhacorax*](#)

Revised totals: 393–472 breeding pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Argyll Colonsay & Oronsay Total pairs: 10.

[Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*](#)

Revised totals: 1,152 singing males.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, N](#)

Yorkshire Total pairs: 1.

A recently fledged juvenile provided evidence of the second confirmed breeding record for the county following the first in 2012.

Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris*

Revised totals: 3–9 breeding pairs.

Amended county totals as follows:

[England, SE](#)

Essex Two sites: (1) one pair bred, fledging at least one young, and one possible breeding pair; (2) one probable and one possible breeding pair.

Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*

Revised totals: 0–2 breeding pairs.

Additional record:

[Scotland, N & W](#)

Shetland One site: one singing male from 3rd to 7th June.

Cirl Bunting *Emberiza cirrus*

Revised totals: 150 pairs.

Additional record:

[England, SW](#)

Somerset One singing male on 27th May.