

CRETE BIRD REPORT 1995
CRETE BIRD REPORT 1995
CRETE BIRD REPORT 1995
CRETE BIRD REPORT 1995
CRETE BIRD REPORT 1995
CRETE BIRD REPORT 1995

Compiled by:
Denis Townsend

Edited by:
Stephanie Coghlan

Crete Bird Report 1995

WEATHER

The winter was not very severe. February to April was an unsettled period and then the weather followed the normal seasonal pattern. The summer was hot and dry and the Autumn rains arrived in the last week in October.

RECORDS

1995 has been the usual interesting year. Winter records have included another Great-crested Grebe, the Mute Swans wintered and then returned to breed, and a Kentish Plover passed through in February.

There was an interesting passage of herons and harriers in mid April. Six late Turnstones were recorded, again in May. A mystery bird at Agia in October on two days was probably a Red-necked phalarope. A Rufous bushchat was seen in April at Falasarna and a male Rock Thrush was recorded at Analypsis. After many reports of Pied Wheatear in the past but with no further details there is a good report of a male from Akrotiri.

Finally there were reports of migrating eagles with a possible Lesser Spotted Eagle near Plakias in April and in October an observer based in Paleokastro observed a regular passage of raptors going south, providing further evidence that the east coast may be important for watching raptor migration is revealed by reports in April and October from Itanos and Paleokastro.

RB - Resident Breeder PM - Passage Migrant
 MB - Migrant Breeder WV - Winter Visitor
 OB - Occasional Breeder AV - Accidental Visitor

SYSTEMATIC LIST of BIRDS RECORDED IN 1995

Please note that these records are printed subject to verification. English and Scientific names and sequence of birds follow the 'British Birds' list of English names of Western Palearctic birds (1993).

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis* PM RB WV

Recorded at 4 sites with highest concentration at Agia reservoir. Up to 41 11.2.-13.2. and 21 at Lake Kournas 11.2. Fewer in March but an increase in April with a maximum of 20 Agia reservoir 4.4. Small numbers 1-4 May -September possibly breeding. Influx from 3rd week October reaching a winter peak of 51 Agia reservoir 18.12.

GREAT-CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus* WV

1 at Lake Kournas 11.2. (CJH)

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis* PM WV

Winter peaks of 35 Ierapetra Reservoir 1.2. 200 Lake Kournas 12.2. & 122 there 19.12. 9 Agia reservoir 13.3. 18 Lake Kournas 7.4. 1 Georgioupolis Lake 3.9.

CORY'S SHEARWATER *Calonectris diomedea* PM MB

Offshore records of 90 Falasarna 2.4. Up to 500 Platanias 7.6. Small numbers during July to September, but larger flocks of 20-65 during the third week in October off Rethymnon. Single off Tavronitis 25.10.

Crete Bird Report 1995

MEDITERRANEAN SHEARWATER *Puffinus yelkouan*

PM MB

Four groups of 10 west of Frangocastello 24.4. Small flocks flew east off Adele 2.5. in strong winds.

GREAT CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo*

PM WV

Small numbers January to early April with a maximum of 10 at Karteros 10.1. 7 Falasarna 2.4. and 1 there 4.9. Recorded as common in December.

SHAG *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

RB

1 Hania harbour 3.4. 1 Tavronitis river mouth 20.4. 1 Paleocastro 15.4. 1 Kato Stalos 11.9.

WHITE PELICAN *Pelicanus onocrotalus*

??

A Single in Sougia 15.2. a male in breeding plumage, also singles in Paleochora early May and Falasarna 10.9.

GREAT BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris*

PM

Singles Agia Reservoir 11.4. & 14.4. Plakias 20.4.

LITTLE BITTERN *Ixobrychus minutus*

PM

Recorded mainly singles Agia Reservoir 11.4. Geropotamos Bridge 15.4. Platanas river 29.4. Thrapsano Pool 30.4. and Agia Reservoir 7.6.

HERONS sp.

A movement was seen from Frangocastello to Plakias on 24.4. At Mid-day and in the early evening there was an easterly passage involving Grey Herons, Little Egrets, Glossy Ibis, Purple Herons, Squacco and Night Herons in flocks of 10-50.

NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax*

PM

Recorded from 9.4. at Tersanas Pond then records from Elounda 14.4. Paleokastro 8.4. & 9.4. Agia Reservoir 9.4. to 19.4. Thrapsano Pool where there were 5 on 30.4. 1 Souda 24.5. 3 Agia 25.5. and up to 6 3.6. to 10.6.
Autumn: 10 Paleochora 8.9. 4 Kato Stalos beach 12.9. 3 juveniles Agia Reservoir 22.10.

SQUACCO HERON *Ardeola ralloides*

PM

First record 1 Agia Reservoir 7.4. Then 1-2 Rethymnon 12.4. Elounda 8.4. Souda Bay 11.4. Paleocastro 12.4. Agia Reservoir 10 there 21.4. and a single at Thrapsano Pool 30.4.
In May 1 Malia 5.5. and 9.5. then common. Singles in June Aposelemis river 2.6. and Agia Reservoir 30.6.
Autumn: 1 Gerani 2.9. 1 Agia Reservoir 11.10. & 2 there 22.10.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta*

PM

Winter: Singles Sitia 31.1. and 16.2. Plakias 25.2.
Spring: Giaforos river 7.3. 1 Aposelemis river 29.-31.3.
Common in April but fewer than some years. Max: 6 Paleocastro 11.4. and 4 Petres Gorge 18.4. Up to 10 Tersanas Pond 19.4. 14 flew into Plakias Bay 24.4. Then widespread in May and 2 at Agia reservoir 3.6.
Autumn: Common in September with 'large flock' Agia Theodori Island 3-11.9.

Crete Bird Report 1995

41 Aposelemis river 12.9. and 75 Stalida 18.9. 4 Rethymnon harbour 16.10.
5 Agia Reservoir 22.10. 11 there 25.10.
November: 1 Aposelemis river 7.11. 12 Gournes 30.11.
December: 3 Souda 17 and 19.12.

GREAT WHITE EGRET *Egretta alba*

PM

Singles Hania harbour 15.4. and Souda Bay on 17.12. and 19.12.

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea*

PM

Winter: 1 Elounda 28.2. 3 Souda and singles at Agia reservoir, Lake Kournas and Power Station 17.12.
Spring: Small numbers mainly singles late March but widespread by end of April. 1-2 Souda, Agia Reservoir, Thrapsano Pool 12.5.to 25.5.
Up to 3 Agia Reservoir 7.- 10.6.
Autumn: 1 Thrapsano Pool 17.8. 200 over Kato Stalos 1.-15.9, otherwise singles Karteros, Aposelemis river, Thrapsano Pool. 10 Agia Reservoir 25.10. Singles Rethymnon, Agia reservoir, Heraklion to end of November. 3 Souda Bay 17.12. and then singles Agia reservoir, Lake Kournas, and the Power Station in December.

PURPLE HERON *Ardea purpurea*

PM

First 1 Tersanas Pond 11.4. Flock of 30 arrived from south, Moni Prevelli 19.4. Then mainly singles Tavronitis river, Georgioupolis Lake, Thrapsano Pool, Ierapetra, but 10 Arvi 22.4.
In May singles still at Agia reservoir 12.5. and 19.5. and Aposelemis river 17.5.
Autumn: 1 Karteros 25.8. 2 Aposelemis river 25.8. 1 there 30.8. and 6 on 7.9. Then 20 over Kato Stalos beach 12.9. 1 Elounda 30.9.
In October up to 5 Agia reservoir 4.10. Singles at Georgioupolis Lake, Platanes river, Agia reservoir 22.10. to 25.10.

BLACK STORK *Ciconia nigra*

PM

1 to south of Paleokastro valley 13.10.(J.C.).

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus*

PM

Singles at Agia reservoir 10.4. Tersanas Pond 9.-17.4. 15 east at Frangocastello 24.4.
Autumn: 2 Aposelemis river 23.8. 15 there 2.9. 14 Georgioupolis Lake 6.9. 10 Kato Stalos 7.9. 1 Thrapsano Pool 21.9. 1 Agia reservoir 4.10.

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor*

AV

Present at Agia reservoir during April-December, usually 1-2 birds but on 21.4. there were 2 males and a female.

WIGEON *Anas penelope*

WV

Only recorded at Agia. Up to 23 at Agia reservoir on 13.2. 25 there 13.3. In April small numbers to 20.4, with a maximum of 7 on 5.4.

GADWALL *A.strepera*

WV

Recorded at Agia reservoir 5 there 11.2. 1 on 13.2. 2 on 13.3.
October: 8 there 11.10. up to 3 25.10.
December: 5 there 17.2. and 2 there 18.2.

Crete Bird Report 1995

TEAL *Anas crecca*

WV

Ierapetra reservoir max. 240 1.2.
Agia reservoir 35 present 11.2. 20 there 13.2. and 4 still present on 13.3.
October: Up to 9 by 25.10. present from 16.12. with a maximum of 30 18.12.

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos*

WV

Ierapetra reservoir max. 200 1.2. 10 Agia Reservoir 11.2. then 1-2 until 14.4.
October: 7 Agia reservoir 22.10. 20 off Tavronitis 25.10.
December: Agia reservoir max. 47 on 17th.

NORTHERN PINTAIL *Anas acuta*

WV

34 Ierapetra reservoir 1.2.
8 Agia reservoir 11.10. with a maximum of 20 on 20.10.

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula*

PM

Singles on Aposelemis river 18.1. and 25.3. Present Agia reservoir 9.4.-21.4. with maximum of 8 on 17.4.
Small numbers 1-4 Georgioupolis Lake, Thrapsano Pool and Aposelemis river 26.4.
Autumn: 4 Thrapsano Pool 17.8. 3 Aposelemis River 23.8. Only large number 50 Kato Stalos beach 14.9. then 1-4 recorded Agia reservoir and Aposelemis river to 25.10.
In November singles at Power Station 15.11. and 2 Aposelemis river 28.11.

NORTHERN SHOVELER *Anas clypeata*

WV

Spring: 1 Agia reservoir 13.2.
Autumn: 2 Agia reservoir 4.-11.9.
Winter: 4 Agia reservoir 16.12. and 3 there the next day. 3 Souda 17.12.

COMMON POCHARD *Aythya ferina*

WV

Up to 6 Agia Reservoir 13.2. 60 Ierapetra reservoir 1.2. A single Aposelemis river 29.3.
A pair Agia reservoir 22.10. 3 there 25.10.
Winter: 25 Agia reservoir 16.12. and 2 Lake Kournas 19.12.

FERRUGINOUS DUCK *Aythya nyroca*

WV

Up to 7 males Agia reservoir 13.2. A single Aposelemis river 25.-31.3.
Singles Agia reservoir and Aposelemis river up to second week of April.
October: 2 Agia reservoir 11.10. 4 there 22.& 25.10.
Winter: 13 Agia reservoir 16.12. and 10 there 18.12.

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*

WV

Winter: 6 Ierapetra reservoir 1.2. 1 Lake Kournas 11.2. 2 Agia reservoir 11.2. and 8 there 17.12.

HONEY BUZZARD *Pernis apivorus*

PM

In April singles over Pigi 11.4. and Paleocastro 18.4.
September record near Voutas 11.9. and in October a single over Itanos 14.10. There was an injured captive bird in Rethymnon Park during October.

Crete Bird Report 1995

- BLACK KITE** *Milvus migrans* PM
Singles Kolimbari 29.3. Agia reservoir 20.4. Aposelemis river 7.9.
Tavronitis river 8.9. Itanos flying south 14. & 15.10. Falasarna 13.10.
and Paleokastro Valley 16.10.
- LAMMERGEIER** *Gypaetus barbatus* RB
Records from Kera/Avdou Gorge, Kourtaliotiko Gorge, Vassiliko, Omalos,
Kaminaki Pass, Lakki, Samaria Gorge, Selinari Gorge.
- GRIFFON VULTURE** *Gyps fulvus* RB
Common in mountains and gorges. No exceptionally high counts.
- SHORT-TOED EAGLE** *Circaetus gallicus* PM
Singles, flying south of Itanos 12.10. and Paleokastro valley 13.10.
- MARSH HARRIER** *Circus aeruginosus* MB? PM
Spring passage from 24.3. to early May mainly singles but 3 Tavronitis
13.4. and 5 at Paleocastro near Sitia 13.4.
2 Agia reservoir 3.6. Only singles in Autumn. Agia reservoir 4.10.,
Georgioupolis Lake 9.10. and one Karteros 30.11.
- MONTAGU'S HARRIER** *Circus pygargus* PM
Exceptional numbers. A male Tersanas Pond 10.4. 9 there including 5 males
18.4. and 2 on 20.4. One male over cultivated fields east of
Frangocastello 13.4. Two males Omalos 20.4.(R.D.W.).
- HEN HARRIER** *Circus cyaneus* PM
One male over fields near Frangocastello 13.4.
- HARRIER** sp. *Circus* sp. PM
One over Paleokastro 19.4.
- NORTHERN GOSHAWK** *Accipiter gentilis* PM WV?
A single Paleokastro 14.10. (J.C.)
- EURASIAN SPARROWHAWK** *Accipiter nisus* PM WV
Singles at Toplou 31.1. Gouves 17.2. Then at Spinari first week in April,
also Agia Triada 4.4. and Paleokastro 10.4., Kalo Horio 11.4. and
Paleokastro 19.4.
- COMMON BUZZARD** *Buteo buteo* RB PM
Common and widespread. Usually recorded daily.
- LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD** *Buteo rufinus* PM
A single Vai 31.1. (J&C.H.). and one in early April. (FS)
- GOLDEN EAGLE** *Aquila chrysaetos* RB
Widely reported from 10 sites. 1 adult and a juvenile Kotsiphos Gorge
24.4.
- EAGLE** sp. *Aquila* sp. PM
Records of eagles in April and October may have been Lesser Spotted and
Steppe Eagles on passage.

Crete Bird Report 1995

BOOTED EAGLE *Hieraaetus pennatus*

WV PM

Winter and Spring. 1 dark phase Agia Irini/Omalos crossroads 15.2. 1 Aposelemis river 8.3. 1 Karteros 27.3. 1-2 recorded Agia reservoir 4.4. 2 there 12.4.

Singles Moni Prevelli 9.4. Agia Triada 10.4. Tavronitis river 17.4. & 19.4.

Autumn: Singles Vachari 28.8. Light phase between Armeni and Kaxare. 2 Agia reservoir 22.10. 1 Souda 17.12 and Agia reservoir 18.12.

BONELLI'S EAGLE *Hieraaetus fasciatus*

RB

Singles recorded Kourtaliotiko Gorge 25.2. and Lake Kournas 8.4. 1-2 at Paleokastro-Zakro (RD) 11-14.10.

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus*

PM

One record off Paleocastro 19.4.

LESSER KESTREL *Falco naumanni*

RB? PM MB

6 present in Kourtaliotiko Gorge 13.4. with 4 males and 2 females. In September there were 2 records of singles Kolimbari 4.9. and Bali 5.9.

KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus*

RB

Common and widespread.

RED-FOOTED FALCON *Falco vespertinus*

PM

Only May records: Up to 8 Aposelemis river 7.5.- 8.5. A single Malia 10.5. 6 Koundoura beach near Paleochora and a single at Paleochora in early May. Fewer records than usual.

HOBBY *Falco subbuteo*

PM

Singles Toplou 31.1. and one hunting over Agia reservoir 8.6.

ELEONORA'S FALCON *Falco eleonora*

MB PM

First records were 5 at Embaros 23.4. and 1 Frangocastelli 24.4. and Thrapsano Pool 30.4. They were then common until October with the last record of 2 at Galatas 25.10.

LANNER *Falco biarmicus*

RB PM?

Singles at Petres Gorge 15.4. and 7.9. and Milatos Gorge 20.7. In October singles recorded Paleokastro 14. & 16.10.

PEREGRINE *Falco peregrinus*

RB PM WV

Reported widely from 13 sites February to November. A pair feeding young in Petres Gorge 18.4. (R.P.)

CHUKAR PARTRIDGE *Alectoris chukar*

RB

Recorded from Itanos, Omalos, Kotsiphos Gorge, Nida Plateau, Malia Oaks and Prevelli Monastery.

COMMON QUAIL *Coturnix coturnix*

MB PM

Only April records: 1 Tavronitis early April and Tersanas Pond 15.4. One calling Spili 20.4. A single Rethymnon beach.

Crete Bird Report 1995

WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus*

WV PM

Present at 3 sites during the winter. Agia reservoir 11.2. Georgioupolis Lake 14.2. Malia 28.2.

Spring records from Aposelemis river 5.3. 2 Paleokastro 8.4. & 12.4. and Malia 26.4.

Autumn: Singles Georgioupolis Lake 17.10. and 20.10. and Malia 28.12.

SPOTTED CRAKE *Porzana porzana*

PM

Singles at Agia reservoir 11.4. Frangocastello 13.4. and Tersanas Pond 14.4. and 23.4.

LITTLE CRAKE *Porzana parva*

PM

1 at Malia 24.3. Present at Agia reservoir 3.4. to 22.4. with a maximum of 11 on 14.4. 1 Thrapsano Pool 12.4. 1 Tavronitis river 13.4.

Singles in Autumn at Power Station 18.10. and 15.11.

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus*

RB PM

Winter: A single Aposelemis river in January.

Many recorded from second week in February and large flocks Agia reservoir and Georgioupolis Lake by mid March through until second week April.

Many still at Agia Reservoir 12.5. There were small numbers until mid October. 66 Georgioupolis Lake 17.10. and 100 20.10. 50 Agia reservoir 25.10. Common in December with maximum of 100 Georgioupolis Lake 19.12.

COOT *Fulica atra*

RB? WV PM

Large numbers recorded January to March with maximum 200 Agia reservoir 13.2. Smaller numbers April max 40 Agia reservoir 23.4. A single Georgioupolis Lake 13.5. 2-3 early September and October rising to 80 Agia Reservoir 22.10. and 25.10.

In December common with maximum of 426 at Lake Kournas 19.12.

BLACK-WINGED STILT *Himantopus himantopus*

PM

First 2 Aposelemis river 25.3. Recorded at 7 sites in April, small numbers maximum 6 Thrapsano Pool 30.4.

In September 7 flying over Kato Stalos beach 12.9.

STONE CURLEW *Burhinus oedicnemus*

MB PM WV

Singles at Malia 22.3. and 2 there 24.3. In April single at Aposelemis river 11.4. and a late record in May of one at Karteros 14.5.

COLLARED PRATINCOLE *Glareola pratincola*

PM

3 Aposelemis river 19.4. 1 Malia 5.5. and 2 Hersonissos 28.8.

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*

MB PM

Common from 7.3. at many sites. Fewer in May and a pair Agia Reservoir 10.6.

Small numbers from early September. The last record was 1 Thrapsano Pool 2.11.

GREAT RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula*

PM WV

Only Autumn records: Singles Gerani Beach 6.9. Georgioupolis 6.9. and 2 Agia Reservoir 10.9.

Spring record: 2 Paleokastro 11.4. and single there 17.4.

Crete Bird Report 1995

- KENTISH PLOVER** *Charadrius alexandrinus* PM WV?
A single at Keritis river 16.2. (SC)
- GOLDEN PLOVER** *Pluvialis apricaria* PM WV
1 Aposelemis river 16.3.
- NORTHERN LAPWING** *Vanellus vanellus* WV
Up to 18 Agia Reservoir 16.-18.12.
- SANDERLING** *Calidris alba* PM
A single Agia Reservoir 16.10.
- LITTLE STINT** *Calidris minuta* PM
Small numbers 1-6 at 12 sites from 16.3. to 20.5. Maximum 10 at Georgioupolis Lake 29.4. 8 Thrapsano Pool 30.4.
Autumn: Small numbers 17.8. to 2.10. Last record Thrapsano Pool 2.11.
- TEMMINCK'S STINT** *Calidris temminckii* PM
Singles at Tersanas Pond 15.-17.4. Agia 20.4. 1 on 1st September.
- CURLEW SANDPIPER** *Calidris ferruginea* PM
A single Paleochora in May. 6 Agia Reservoir 6.9.
- DUNLIN** *C. alpina* PM
January: 3 Aposelemis river 9.1. February: 1 Malia 7.2. March: 1 Aposelemis river 25.3. April: 1 Georgioupolis 22.4.
Autumn: 1 Skoutelonas river 4.9. 1 Rethymnon beach.
- RUFF** *Philomachus pugnax* PM
Spring records: Small numbers recorded at 8 sites 5.3. to 20.5. Max. 5 Thrapsano Pool 20.5. A single Agia reservoir 3.6.
Autumn records: 6 Agia reservoir 10.9. 2 Thrapsano Pool 21.9.
- COMMON SNIPE** *Gallinago gallinago* PM WV
Winter: 1 Malia 17.2. 1-2 Aposelemis river, Power station marsh, Agia reservoir November-December.
Spring: 1-3 at 5 sites 25.3. to 11.4. A single Geropotamos Bridge 13.5.
Autumn: Small numbers at Agia reservoir, Aposelemis river and Geropotamos 8.9. to 21.10. with a maximum of 10 Agia reservoir 13.10.
- BLACK-TAILED GODWIT** *Limosa limosa* PM
A single record at Aposelemis river 11.4. (J&CH).
- SPOTTED REDSHANK** *Tringa erythropus* PM
April: 2 Tavronitis river 5.4. Singles Agia reservoir 11.4., Aposelemis river 11.4. Tersanas Pond 13.4. and Georgioupolis 14.4.
- REDSHANK** *Tringa totanus* PM WV
Spring: 2 Karteros 17.3. Up to 5 Aposelemis river 25.3. A single 11.4.
Autumn: 1 Agia reservoir 22.10. 2 Aposelemis river 31.10.

Crete Bird Report 1995

MARSH SANDPIPER *Tringa stagnatilis* PM

March record of a single Aposelemis river on 5 dates 19.3. to 29.3. In April 6 Thrapsano pool 2.4. Then mainly singles Agia reservoir 5.4., Aposelemis river 11.4. and 19.4.
Autumn: 1 Thrapsano Pool 31.8. and 3 at Agia reservoir 16.10.

COMMON GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia* PM

Recorded at 6 sites 5.4. to 25.4. mainly singles with maximum 3 Tersanas Pond 9.4.
Autumn: Up to 4 Georgioupolis Lake 3.9. and 6 Agia reservoir 8.9. 1 Agia reservoir 25.10. A winter records of a single of a single bird Aposelemis river 29.10.

GREEN SANDPIPER *Tringa ochropus* PM WV?

First a single Tersanas Pond 14.3. then small numbers until early May at 7 sites with a maximum of 4 on Aposelemis river 16.3.
Autumn: Up to 6 Aposelemis river 16.8. to 24.8. 12 Thrapsano Pool 17.8. rising to 16 there 31.8. Fewer in September and last date one at Georgioupolis Lake 20.10.

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola* PM

First record was 1 at Aposelemis river 10.3. Common in April with a maximum of 22 Tavronitis river 5.4. Smaller numbers to 20.5. with 8 at Thrapsano Pool 1.5. In June there were 7 present there on 21.6. Probably early returning migrants.
Autumn records of small numbers of 1-4 at 6 sites 9.7. to 13.10. A winter record of 2 at Souda Bay 17.12.

COMMON SANDPIPER *Actitis hypoleucos* PM WV?

Up to 2 Aposelemis river 10.3. Small numbers early April with a maximum of 12 at Agia reservoir 14.4. then common with a few until 20.5.
Autumn: 1-4 at 5 sites September and singles in October until 23.10.
November: 1 Hersonissos 28.11.

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres* PM

6 Paleochora 2. - 9.5. (R.&G).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus lobatus* AV

A single bird Agia reservoir 13.10. and 15.10. (T. & E.M)

MEDITERRANEAN GULL *Larus melanocephalus* PM

Up to 20 at roost Hania and Keritis river 12.2. A single at Hania harbour 3.4. and 2 Rethymnon harbour 7.4.

LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus* PM

A single at Agia reservoir 16.-17.4.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus* PM WV

Many Gioforas river 8.1. Common Hania harbour and Keritis river 12.2. & 13.2. Common in March: Gioforas river 7.3. 1 Agia reservoir 17.4.
December: a 'flock' Heraklion 12.12. Up to 12 Souda Bay 19.12.

Crete Bird Report 1995

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus* PM WV
Singles Plakias Bay 24.4, Kato Stalos beach 12.9. and Heraklion 25.11.

HERRING/YELLOW-LEGGED GULL *Larus cachinnans michahellis* RB
Common throughout the year.

GULL-BILLED TERN *Gelochelidon nilotica* PM
A single Thrapsano Pool 21.9. and Rethymnon 4.10.

SANDWICH TERN *Sterna sandvicensis* PM WV
More records than usual with 7 Hania harbour 12.2. 3 Aposelemis river
9.2. 1 Heraklion 23.2. 1 Karteros 7.3. 4 Gioforos river 7.3. 1 Aposelemis
river 30.12.

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo* PM
A single Aposelemis river 7.9. (JR).

LITTLE TERN *Sterna albifrons* PM
A single Gerani beach 6.9. (JR).

Chlidonas spp.
Up to 12 Agia reservoir 4.10. All in non-breeding plumage (TM).

WHISKERED TERN *Chlidonias hybridus* PM
Singles Kastelli plateau 2.5. (J&CH). Thrapsano Pool 20.5. Georgioupolis
Lkae 28.5. Agia reservoir 7.-8.6.
Autumn: 13 Agia 6.9. 2 there first Winter 22.10.

BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger* PM
A single Agia reservoir 6.9. and 4 there 11.10.

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus* PM
A party of 6 Kato Stalos beach 12.9. is the only record.

ROCK DOVE *Columba livia* RB
Small numbers recorded from Kourtaliotiko Gorge, Kotsiphos Gorge, Petres
Gorge, Itanos and Samaria Gorge and Paleokastro area.

WOOD PIGEON *Columba palumbus* RB
Singles February, small numbers March and April. Widespread in May. 1-3
June of September. Scarce October and November.

COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto* RB
Now well established with large numbers in such centres as Heraklion and
Rethymnon with roost of over 100 recorded.

TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur* MB PM
First record at Agios Ioannis 26.4. Then reported at many sites in April
and May, mainly singles but 8 Tersanas Pond 17.4. and 20.4.
1-2 July Kalo Horio, Kera, Thrapsano Pool and Mt Youchtas.
Autumn: 2 Kalo Horio 9.8. 1 Agia reservoir 6.9. Aposelemis river 15.9. 2
Adele 19.10.

Crete Bird Report 1995

COMMON CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus*

PM

Recorded April and May with 2 Rethymnon Pines 12.4. Agia reservoir 14.4. and 17.4. 1 Arvi 22.4. 1 Kalathas 16.4. 2 Omalos 25.5.

BARN OWL *Tyto alba*

RB WV?

Recorded January to December, mainly singles Sitia, Hania, Kalo Horio, Hersonissos, Kato Stalos and Paleokastro.

EURASIAN SCOPS OWL *Otus scops*

RB MB

Recorded at 12 sites February to September. Mainly singles but frequent Kalo Horio June/July.

EUROPEAN NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus*

MB PM

1 dead by roadside Kourtaliotoko Gorge 28.7.

SWIFT *Apus apus*

MB PM

First 4 Daratso 14.3. 'Many' Heraklion 30.3. 350 Tavronitis river 1.4. Then smaller numbers until May when reported at common until July. Few recorded until last Thrapsano Pool 21.9.

PALLID SWIFT *Apus pallidus*

MB PM

Only record of one over sea cliffs Preveli 3.9.

ALPINE SWIFT *Apus melba*

MB PM

Common at many sites from 5.4. Numerous in May. Smaller numbers June and July. An increase in September with large flocks 26.10.

KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis*

RB? PM WV

Singles Aposelemis river 17.2., 16.3. Malia 21.3. Paleokastro 9.4. and Agia reservoir 16.4.

Autumn: Small numbers from 16.8. at Aposelemis river, Hersonissos, Karteros. Widespread from early September with up to 8 at Agia reservoir. 4 Georgioupolis lake. Regular along the north coast in December.

EUROPEAN BEE-EATER *Merops apiaster*

PM MB?

A single Elafonissi 4.4. 2 Kolimbari 5.4. 1 Aposelemis river 19.4. 8 Malia 5.5. and 10.5. A single Kalo Horio 6.5. 6 Kolimbari 10.6.

Autumn: 1-2 to 21.9. Avdou, Psychro, Kera, and Kera/Avdou.

A single at Itanos 15.10.

EUROPEAN ROLLER *Coracias garrulus*

PM

1 Aposelemis river 23.8.

HOOPOE *Upupa epops*

PM

Small numbers at eleven sites from 24.3. Recorded daily 1-2 9.4. -13.4. near Paleokastro. A single at Paleochora in early May.

Autumn: Singles recorded at Kato Stalos 1.9. Kissamou 4.9. Keritis river 6.9. Georgioupolis Lake 17.10.

WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla*

PM

1 Mesa Lassithaki 9.3. and 12.4. and 3.5. 1 Paleokastro 9.4. 12.4. and 13.4. 1 Kera/Avdou Gorge 24.4. 1-2 Akrotiri monastery 12.4. and 14.4.

Singles Kaminaki Pass 3.5. and Kera/Avdou Gorge 5.6.

Autumn: 2 Kera/Avdou Gorge 11.9. 18.9. and 25.9.

Crete Bird Report 1995

CALANDRA LARK *Melanocorypha calandra*

PM

One seen on a dirt road between flower fields to the rear of the castle at Frangocastello 13.4.

BIMACULATED LARK *Melanocorypha bimaculata*

AV

One east of Ierapetra 14.4. and 2 west of Koutsonari near the coast, together with *Anthus cervinus* Red-throated pipit and *Motacilla flava* Yellow wagtail 15.4. (D.Robel.) A first record for Crete and second for Greece. Accepted by the recorder for Greece.

SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella brachydactyla*

MB PM WV

1-2 at Aposelemis river 14.1. and 18.1. Singing and forming pairs in February. There were small flocks during March & April eg. 3 Paleokastro 10.4. and 13.4.

Autumn: 1-3 August to mid-October at Aposelemis river, Falasarna, Karteros and Rethymnon. In November and December there were small flocks at Aposelemis river and Malia.

LESSER SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella rufescens*

AV

One bird together with three *Calandrella brachydactyla* Short-toed Lark on 15.4. on the plateau west of Koutsonari. (D.Robel et al) Accepted as a first record for Crete and Greece.

CRESTED LARK *Galerida cristata*

RB

Common and widespread.

WOODLARK *Lullula arborea*

RB PM

Several records in January. Fewer records during March but recorded as common in April to June. Widespread in May & October. A single at Kalo Horio 12.-13.11.

SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis*

WV PM

Flocks during January to mid March. at Aposelemis river, Malia and Toplou. A several late birds at Malia 11.4. Pigi-Messi 12.4, Moni Prevelli 13.4. and Akrotiri peninsula 22.4. September: 3 Falasarna 4.9. then common in flocks from the end of October.

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia*

PM

First 20 at Tavronitis river 1.4. Common throughout April with small numbers into early May. 1 Agia reservoir 8.6.

A few in Autumn recorded 4 at Georgioupolis 3.9. and singles at Thrapsano Pool 21.9. and Elounda 2.10.

CRAG MARTIN *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*

RB PM?

During January this species comes down to sea level. A single at Aposelemis river 22.1. with 5 there 23.1.

Common throughout the remainder of the year with colonies recorded from Agia reservoir, Ayia Sophia Cave, Topolia Gorge, Kotsiphos and Kourtaliotiko Gorges, Selinari, Nithavris, Vidiani, Samaria. Common in November and December.

Crete Bird Report 1995

BARN SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica*

MB PM

Common from 10.3. 350 Tavronitis river 1.4. 200 Agia reservoir 10.4. Large flocks through Prevelli valley early evening 26.4. Very common until late October with up to 28 Agia reservoir.

RED-RUMPED SWALLOW *Hirundo daurica*

MB PM

First 16 Tavronitis river 1.4. 25 by 10.4. Smaller numbers during the rest of April at 12 sites.

June: 40 Lakki 7.6. 10 Arkadi 8.6. Singles in July at Aposelemis river and Embaros Gorge.

Autumn; 1-3 recorded Aposelemis river 16.8. Spili 17.8. Kalo Horio 18.8. Vrachasi 23.8.

In September Georgioupolis Lake 5.9. Psychro 16.9. 3 Fournes 20.9. and 3 Kera/Avdou Gorge 25.9.

HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbica*

MB PM

First 120 Agia reservoir 13.3. and 'Good numbers' over Tavronitis river 1.4. There were flocks of up to 200 at Agia reservoir by the second week in April. Another flock moving through Tavronitis river 19.4.

Small numbers at 7 sites and common in May with many at Tzermiado 15.6.

Recorded as numerous at Georgioupolis Lake and Agia reservoir 4.-9.9.

Last records 1 at Plaka 2.10.

TAWNY PIPIT *Anthus campestris*

MB? PM

A single at Fortezza 8.4. Small numbers from 11.4.-20.4. at Tersanas Pond, Stavros, Akrotiri Monastery, Aposelemis river and Paleokastro. There were 7 at Elaphonisi 20.4.

In September there were singles at Falasarna 4.9. and Paleochora 8.9.

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis*

PM

A 'flock' Aposelemis river 16.3. Small numbers Georgioupolis Lake 28.3. to 12.4. Recorded up to 18.4. at Elaphonissi, Rodopos, Spili, Agia Triada, Tersanas Pond, Malia with a small flock Aposelemis river 18.4. A single Prasses 1.5.

Autumn: 1 Omalos 10.9. 7 Adele campus 13.10. 1 Rethymnon 18.10. and Platania river 22.10.

MEADOW PIPIT *Anthus pratensis*

WV OB PM

Common: January to March and from the third week in October to December. Late birds in April with singles at Tavronitis river 5.4. Omalos 7.4. Aposelemis river and Malia 11.4.

RED-THROATED PIPIT *Anthus cervinus*

WV PM

January/February: 1-3 Aposelemis river and a single Karteros 10.1. Up to 3 Aposelemis river to 17.2. where common in March and with many Malia 31.3.

1-4 to 26.4. Tavronitis river, Agia Triada and Aposelemis river.

Autumn: 1 Paleochora 8.9. 1 Platania 26.10.

Winter: 1 Aposelemis river 20.12. and 30.12.

Crete Bird Report 1995

YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava*

OB PM

Winter: 1 Keritis river 16.2.

Spring: Singles Aposelemis river 10.3., large flocks 16.3. and 19.3. 4 Karteros 17.3. Many large flocks 100-200 during April at Tavronitis river, Tersanas Pond, Agia reservoir mainly feldeggi but including some cinerocapilla and 1-2 thunbergi. 1 Aposelemis 17.5.

Autumn: 3 Aposelemis river 22.8. 5 Thrapsano Pool 31.8. Numerous Agia and Georgioupolis Lake 3.-11.9. Small flock Heraklion 24.9. Late record 3 Thrapsano Pool 30.9.

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea*

WV OB PM

1-2 February Georgioupolis, Argyropolis waterfall, Agia reservoir, Agia Galini. 2 present in stream below bridge in Kotsiphos Gorge 13.4.

1 Paleochora in May

1 Kalo Horio 30.9. Small numbers from second week in October at Rethymnon, Georgioupolis Lake, Platanias, Agia reservoir then widespread. Singles in November and December from 8 sites.

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba*

WV RB PM

Common from January to March. 1-3 at coastal sites 1.4. to 11.5. 2 Karteros 20.6. In July singles at Paleocastro, and Toplou 6.7.

Numerous Agia reservoir 4.-11.9. and Georgioupolis Lake 3.-6.9.

Widespread and common mid - October to December.

WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes*

WV RB

February to May. Common and widespread in mountains. Fewer in October with singles Kourtaliotiko Gorge, Rethymnon, Lakki, Arkadi, and Mili.

ALPINE ACCENTOR *Prunella collaris*

RB

Only record a single at Omalos 21.4. (R.P.)

RUFIOUS BUSH ROBIN *Cercotrichas galactotes*

PM

One at Falasarna 17.4. (F.S.)

ROBIN *Erithacus rubecula*

WV PM

Common and widespread January to 25.3. Late records: 2 Akrotiri Monastery 12.4. and one Paleokastro 12.4.

Widespread from 13.10. and then common in November and December.

RUFIOUS NIGHTINGALE *Luscinia megarhynchos*

MB PM

First Rodopi 9.4. 1 Rethymnon 8.4. & 9.4. 1-2 recorded 12.4.-16.4. then widespread. Small numbers in May. Krystellana 9.5. Agia Reservoir 12.5.-25.5. Agia Fotini 28.5. Zaros 29.5. A male in song Agia reservoir 3.6.

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochrurus*

WV PM

Common in Hania and around the coast in February. Singles Makryialos, Kalo Horio(Ir), Asomatos, Angoseliana to 27.2.

Singles in March and 1 Falasarna 2.4.

Winter: Singles from 18.10. then common in November and widespread by December.

COMMON REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

PM

First record with 2 at Akrotiri Monastery 12.4. 1 Kotsiphos Gorge 22.4.

Autumn: Singles at Kera/Avdou gorge 6.9. and near Lakki 22.10.

Crete Bird Report 1995

WHINCHAT *Saxicola rubetra* OB PM
Spring: 1-3 at 17 sites from 31.3. to 21st of April. Max: 6 Tavronitis river 19.4. and 6 Paleokastro 8.4.
September: 3 Georgioupolis 5.9.

COMMON STONECHAT *Saxicola torquata* WV RB PM
Common and widespread. A bird of the Siberian race (S.t.moura) Omalos 25.5. (J&CH).

ISABELLINE WHEATEAR *Oenanthe isabellina* OB PM
One Frangocastello 13.4. and a single Omalos 2.9.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe* MB PM
Common from 9.3. Max: 50 Akrotiri Monastery 12.4. very many Kaminaki Pass 9.5. Numerous July to September. Last one at Rethymnon Fortezza 18.10.

PIED WHEATEAR *Oenanthe pleschanka* AV
A male Mouzoviras, Akrotiri 10.4. (R.D.W.) A report submitted to recorder for Greece.

BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR *Oenanthe hispanica* MB PM
Recorded early April then present at 17 sites maximum 25 Akrotiri monastery 12.-14.4. June: 10 Moni Gonia 2.6.
Autumn: Singles Kombari tip and Lassithi Plateau 7.9.

ROCK THRUSH *Monticola saxatilis* PM
One male Analysis 16.4.

BLUE ROCK THRUSH *Monticola solitarius* WV RB PM
Recorded as widespread in February. Then widespread and recorded at 25 sites during the year.

RING OUZEL *Turdus torquatus* PM
A male Paleochora 9.5. (R. & T.S.)

BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula* WV RB PM
Common and widespread.

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos* WV PM
January to end of March. small numbers maximum 4 at Kalo Horio(Ir) 20.2. Up to In the Autumn 6 Platanias river 22.-26.10. and 1 Kalo Horio(Ir) 20.11. & 23.11.

MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus* WV
6 Aposelemis river 25.1. Singles Karouzana 16.2. Agios Ioannis 27.2. Kalo Horio 3.3.

CETTI'S WARBLER *Cettia cetti* RB
Common and widespread.

ZITTING CISTICOLA *Cisticola juncidis* RB
1 Georgioupolis 7.4. 2 Hotel Maleme 21.-23.4. 1 Agios Ioannis 26.4. Four holding territory 1-2 Km east of Georgioupolis 29.4.

Crete Bird Report 1995

Singles at Souda 24.5. Skoutoulenia 26.5. Drapanias 26.5.
September: 1 Gerani 6.9.

MOUSTACHED WARBLER *Acrocephalus melanopogon* WV PM

Only single spring records at Frangocastello 13.4. and 22.4. at Agia in reedbeds. Autumn: 1 Gerani 6.9. 2 Aposelemis river 21.10.

SEDGE WARBLER *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* PM

A single Agia reservoir 11.2. Up to 6 by 7.4. 2 Paleokastro 8.4. 11.4 & 14.4. Singles at Tavronitis river 20.4. Georgioupolis 29.4. Thrapsano Pool 12.4., 24.4. and 30.4. Malia 26.4.

REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* PM

April: Mainly singles Tavronitis 5.4. and 20.4. Georgioupolis Lake 8.4. Agia reservoir 13.4. 2 Tersanas Pond 16.4. 1-2 Paleokastro from 17.4.-19.4. 1 Geropotamos Bridge 28.4.

May: Singles at Malia 2.5. Souda 12.5. Geropotamos Bridge 13.5.

Only singles recorded at 6 wetland sites 6.4. to 17.5.

October: 1 Agia reservoir 2.10.

GREAT REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* MB PM

Mainly singles Agia reservoir, Aposelemis river, 3.4. 5.4. and 19.4. 2 Agia reservoir 14.4.-19.4. Maleme Hotel 21.4. Georgioupolis lake 29.4. Geropotamos 21.4. Perama 28.4. Thrapsano Pool 30.4. A single Platanes river 1.5.

OLIVACEOUS WARBLER *Hippolais pallida* MB PM

First record 14.4. in olive trees near Lake Kournas. 2 Knossos 14.5. 1 Spilia 14.5. 9 Aposelemis river 17.5. Singles Milatos Gorge 18.5. Maleme 26.5.

June: 4 Aposelemis river 2.6. & 18.6. 2 Kalo Horio 4.6. 2 Kalamarki 5.6. 1 Malia 15.6. No Autumn records this year.

ICTERINE WARBLER *Hippolais icterina* PM

Recorded April, September and October with singles at Akrotiri monastery 19.4. Kato Stalos 11.9. Up to 3 Rethymnon 14.10.

SPECTACLED WARBLER *Sylvia conspicillata* AV

A single at Kato Stalos 11.9. (JR).

SUBALPINE WARBLER *Sylvia cantillans* MB PM

First Tavronitis river 1.4. 1-2 Falasarna 2.4. Elafonissi 4.4. Paleokastro 9.4. Stavros 15.4. Elafonissi Island 17.4. a pair there 20.4. 1 Plakias 23.4.

September: 1 Kato Stalos 1.9.

SARDINIAN WARBLER *Sylvia melanocephala* WV? RB PM

Common and widespread.

RÜPPELL'S WARBLER *Sylvia rüppelli* MB PM

One in scrub just inshore from the beach at Falasarna 17.4. One Frangocastello 24.4. A male in song at Moni Prevelli 25.4. A female at Moni Prevelli 31.9.

Crete Bird Report 1995

LESSER WHITETHROAT *S. curruca*

PM

Only records singles at Akrotiri Monastery 12.4. and one in scrub near the beach at Falasarna 17.4.

WHITETHROAT *Sylvia communis*

MB PM

April: 2 Tersanas Pond 14.-15.4. 1 Akrotiri Monastery 15. and 16.4. 2 Stavros 15.4. One in scrub at Falasarna 17.4.
Autumn: 2 Paleochora Fort 8.9. 1 Lakki 22.10.

GARDEN WARBLER *Sylvia borin*

PM

Singles Paleokastro 13.4. Tersanas Pond 14.4. Hersonissos 9.5.

BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla*

WV PM

Spring: 2 Akrotiri Monastery 12.4. 1 there 15.4. Singles Agia reservoir 5.4. Vrisses 8.4. Kera/Avdou 24.4. and 8.5. and a male and female in fig trees below the hotel carpark at Falasarna 17.4.
Autumn: 1 Kera/Avdou Gorge 3.9. 1 Agios Ioannis 25.9.

BONELLI'S WARBLER *Phylloscopus bonelli*

PM

A single Kato Stalos 2.9.

WOOD WARBLER *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

WV PM

Up to 5 Agia reservoir 16.4. several daily 19.4.-25.4. A single Samaria Gorge 10.9.

CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus collybita*

WV PM?

Common in January until mid-March then singles in April.
Autumn: 1-2 Kera/Avdou Gorge 11.9. Knossos 27.9. Aposelemis river 16. and 21.10. Power Station 18.10. Nikithiano 23.10. Karteros, Kokkini Hani 30.1.
Winter: Common in December.

WILLOW WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochilus*

PM

April: A possible 'fall' at Falasarna 15.4 and 1 near Adhele 16.4. 2 Agia reservoir 21.4.
Autumn: recorded Kato Stalos 11.9. 3 Kera/Avdou Gorge 25.9. 1 Kritsa 1-10.

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus*

RB WV

'Many' in a wood above Hania 16.4. and 'calling' at Rethymnon Pines 29.4.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata*

MB PM

Scarcer than in most years. First at Aptaera 4.4. Singles Aposelemis river 17.4. and 19.4. Rethymnon Pines 29.4. Knossos 30.4.
Only singles from 3 sites in May. 1 Kalo Horio(Ir) 4.6. and 4 Arkadi 8.6.
Autumn: Up to 2 Aposelemis river 23.8. to 30.8. Small numbers to second week of September then widespread. Singles October, Malia, Rethymnon, Adele, Aposelemis river and Georgioupolis Lake until 19.10.

COLLARED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula albicollis*

PM

April: 2 Souda Bay 4.4. Singles Kotsiphos Gorge 9.4. Akrotiri Monastery 12.4., 16.4, and 23.4. One male Agios Ioannis 24.4.
September: 1 Paleochora Fort 8.9.

Crete Bird Report 1995

PIED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula hypoleuca*

PM

First record 1 Omalos 7.4. Small numbers 1-4, to 27.4. Akrotiri Monastery, Kalathas, Agia reservoir, Tavronitis river, Afrata Gorge, Elaphonissi, Moni Prevelli, Armeni, Paleokastro and Agios Ioannis. May: 1 Knossos 6.5. Autumn: 1 Agia reservoir 4.9. and 2 Kato Stalos 11.9.

BLUE TIT *Parus caeruleus*

RB

Common and widespread.

GREAT TIT *Parus major*

RB

Common and widespread.

PENDULINE TIT *Remiz pendulinus*

WV RB

Singles Aposelemis River 9.1. and 25.1. 1-3 Geropotamos Bridge 11.2. Agia Reservoir 13.2. Malia 17.2. and 31.3. Aposelemis river 22.2. December: 2 Malia 28.12.

GOLDEN ORIOLE *Oriolus oriolus*

RB PM

In April: 1 Arvi 22.4. 3 Moni Prevelli 23.4. and one male in the Megalopotamos valley 25.4. 2 at Paleochora in May. September: 3 Lakki 10.9.

RED-BACKED SHRIKE *Lanius collurio*

PM

Spring records: 1 Agia Triada 4.4. and 1 Souda Bay cemetery 11.4. and 23.4. Autumn: Singles Aposelemis river 2.9. Kato Stalos 11.9. Up to 4 Kera/Avdou Gorge 11.9. Last records of singles in October at Zourida 14.10. Rethymnon beach 16.10. Platanias river 22.10.

LESSER GREY SHRIKE *Lanius minor*

PM

Singles Aposelemis river 22.8. Georgioupolis 6.9. Paleochora Fort 8.9.

WOODCHAT SHRIKE *Lanius senator*

MB PM

First 1 Agia Reservoir 5.4. Main arrivals in the first week of April and recorded usually 1-3 at 17 sites up to 26.4. Singles in May at Malia, Agia Triada, Kalo Horio(Ir) and in June at Hersonissos, Kera/Avdou Gorge and Aposelemis river. Autumn: 2 Alones 3.9. Agia Reservoir 4 & 10.9. and Kato Stalos 11.9.

MASKED SHRIKE *Lanius nubicus*

AV

A single on Lassithi 7.9. (JR) Record subject to verification.

EURASIAN JAY *Garrulus glandarius*

RB

Small numbers from March to May at Mesa Lassithaki and Omalos. In July 2 in Kera/Avdou Gorge 10.7. 1-2 in September and October, Agia Marina, Kera/Avdou and Omalos.

YELLOW-BILLED CHOUGH *Pyrrhocorax graculus*

RB

Up to 8 on Omalos plateau in April.

RED-BILLED CHOUGH *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

RB

Common in the largest gorges throughout the year with a maximum of 45 on Omalos Plateau 22.10.

Crete Bird Report 1995

EURASIAN JACKDAW *Corvus monedula* RB
Common all year in upland areas and often recorded in large flocks.

CARRION CROW *Corvus corone cornix* RB
The race C.c.cornix the Hooded Crow is common throughout the island.

COMMON RAVEN *Corvus corax* RB
Common and widespread.

COMMON STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris* WV PM
Common in Winter from November to early March. Last record a single at Maleme 19.4.

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus* RB
The Italian Sparrow P.d. italiae is very common and usually more numerous than P. domesticus. Exceptional roost of 5000 at Rethymno Hotel gardens in October.

SPANISH SPARROW *Passer hispaniolensis* PM
A single at Falasarna 31.3. Up to 30 WHERE??? 8.4. 3 Paleokastro 8.4. 2 there 9.4. 6 Paleokastro 13.4. 22 there 14.4. c.50 there 18.4. 1 Plakias 20.4. In the Autumn 1 Paleochora Fort 8.9.

TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus* WV? PM
Three seen in pine trees near Arkadi monastery 12.4. Singles at Souda Bay Cemetery 23.4. Kalamavka 4.6. Adele 14.10. and Platanias river 22.10.

ROCK SPARROW *Petronia petronia* AV
Singles at Prevelli Bridge(J&CH) 9.4. and Tavronitis river (RP) 20.4.

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs* WV RB PM
Common and widespread.

EUROPEAN SERIN *Serinus serinus* WV RB PM
Present throughout the year often in large flocks in winter. Far more records than in previous years.

GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris* WV RB PM
Common and widespread.

GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis* WV RB PM
Very common and widespread. A flock of 200 on Omalos 25.10.

SISKIN *Carduelis spinus* WV PM
A single at Kalo Horio(Ir) 16.2.

LINNET *Carduelis cannabina* MV RB PM
Common and widespread throughout most of the year.

CIRL BUNTING *Emberiza cirrus* RB
Singles in February Agia Irini, Kalo Horio(Ir), Agios Vasilos, Armeni, Asomatos and then widepread by April & May.

Crete Bird Report 1995

ROCK BUNTING *Emberiza cia*

AV

A juvenile at Lakki in 22.10. (HK & OK).

ORTOLAN BUNTING *Emberiza hortulana*

MB PM

2 males at Akrotiri monastery 12.4. 4 present above Megalopotamos valley
13.4. 1 Evelpidon monument 25.4. 1 Moni Prevelli 23.4. and 2 there 9.4.

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus*

WV

Winter: 1 Aposelemis River 23.1.- 4.2. 1 Almyros 30.1. 2 Keritis river
16.2. 1 late record at Georgioupolis reedbed 14.4.

CORN BUNTING *Miliaria calandra*

WV? RB PM

Common from January to April with records of winter flocks of up to 20
from Tersanas Pond, Aposelemis river, Kato Gouves, Falasarna, Maleme,
Kato Sikia, and Agia Ioannis.

Singing males widespread in May. One June record of one at Arkadi 8.6.
Small numbers in October returning to flocks by the third week in
November.

INSECTS

STAG - BEETLE LARVA *Lucanus cannis*

EGYPTIAN GRASSHOPPER *Anaeridium aegyptium*

CARPENTER BEE *Xylocopa violacea*

SIX SPOT LADYBIRD *Epilachna chrysomelina* - yellow form.

MOLLUSCS

CRETAN ROCK SNAIL *Albinaria inflata*

BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS

SWALLOWTAIL *Papilio machaon*

SCARCE SWALLOWTAIL *Iphidides podalirius*

EASTERN FESTOON *Zerynthia cerisyi f. cretica*

LARGE WHITE *Pieridae brassicae*

SMALL WHITE *Artogeia rapea*

BATH WHITE *Pontia daplidice*

GRUNER'S ORANGE TIP *Anthocflaris gruneri*

CLOUDED YELLOW *Colias crocea*

??? BRIMSTONE *Gonepteryx rhamni*

CLEOPATRA *Gonepteryx cleopatra*

EASTERN WOOD WHITE *Leptidea duponcheli*

SOUTHERN COMMA *Polygonia egea*

PAINTED LADY *Vanessa cardui*

RED ADMIRAL *Vanessa atalanta*

MEADOW BROWN *Maniola jurtina*

SOUTHERN SPECKLED WOOD *Pararge aegeria aegeria*

WALL BROWN *Lasiomonata megera*

SMALL COPPER *Lycaena phlaeus*

HOLLY BLUE *Celastrina argiolus*

BROWN ARGUS *Aricia agestis*

COMMON BLUE *Polyommatus icarus*

Crete Bird Report 1995

AMPHIBIANS and REPTILES

COMMON TREE FROG *Hyla arborea*
MARSH FROG *Rana ridibunda*
STRIPE - NECKED TERRAPIN *Mauremys caspica*
BALKAN GREEN LIZARD *Lacerta viridis*

MAMMALS

EASTERN HEDGEHOG *Erinaceus concolor*
PIPISTRELLE sp. *Pipistrellus* sp.
SHIP RAT *Rattus rattus*
ROCK MOUSE *Apodemus mystacinus*
WEASEL *Mustela nivalis*
BEECH MARTEN *Martes foina bunites*
BADGER *Meles meles* One dead on the road in the hills behind Gerani.

Crete Bird Report 1995

Reports with dates received from:

1.1.95 - 31.12.95 John & Chris Henshall, Residents
12.2.95 - 18.2.95 Stephanie Coghlan
28.3.95 - 12.4.95 Richard and Pat Gunn
7.4.95 - 13.4.95 Gill Arbuthnot & Tom Dougall
8.4.95 - 14.4.95 Roger Barber
8.4.95 - 20.4.95 Nigel Pierce
9.4.95 - 21.4.95 Rob. D. Wilson
Mid April Detlef Robel
11.4.95 - 23.4.95 Frank Smith
14.4.95 - 23.4.95 Rachel Patel
18.4.95 - 2.5.95 Stephanie Coghlan, & Snail's Pace Tour.
18.4.95 - 25.4.95 Honeyguide Wildlife Holidays
2.5.95 - 16.5.95 Roger & Tricia Stirling
5.5.95 - 10.5.95 Robert Page
30.5.95 - 10.6.95 P E Castle
31.8.95 - 15.9.95 John Russell
Early Sept - mid Sept K E Ward
4.10.95 - 17.10.95 Ted Maythorne
11.10.95 - 17.10.95 John Crookshank
14.10.95 - 19.10.95 Gill Arbuthnot and Tom Dougall
20.10.95 - 27.10.95 Heikki & Olli Kothu

Also notes from Howerd Broughton.

Many thanks to everyone who sent in records and comments. Special thanks to Denis Townsend for all his hard work in compiling this report, and apologies to anyone whose records we may have omitted or mangled. Stephanie Coghlan, December 1996.

This report is a re-formatted version of the original report. The text is unchanged apart from minor amendments. JJ Coghlan, February 2012.