

Fifth report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee

Adrian Skerrett, Michael Betts, John Bowler, Ian Bullock, David Fisher, Rob Lucking and John Phillips

Cinquième rapport du Comité d'Homologation Seychellois. Le Comité d'Homologation Seychellois, créée en 1992, a publié des rapports quinquennaux dans *Bull. ABC* depuis 1996. Le cinquième rapport, présenté ici, comprend les données acceptées d'espèces occasionnelles (espèces enregistrées moins d'une fois par an) pour la période du 1er janvier 2011 au 31 décembre 2015. Le statut de certaines espèces a changé : trois espèces précédemment considérées comme occasionnelles ont été reclassées comme annuelles, tandis qu'une espèce précédemment considérée comme annuelle a été reclassée comme occasionnelle. Une espèce a été rayée de la liste des Seychelles. Onze des 15 nouvelles espèces enregistrées sont documentées par des photos. Le nombre des espèces enregistrées aux Seychelles est ainsi passé à 269.

Summary. Seychelles Bird Records Committee, formed in 1992, has published reports in *Bull. ABC* at intervals of five years since 1996. This fifth report summarises accepted records of vagrants (species recorded less than annually) during the period 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2015. The status of some species has changed, including three from vagrant to annual in occurrence and one from annual to vagrant. One species has been removed from the Seychelles List. Eleven of 15 new species during the period are illustrated with photographs. The number of species recorded in Seychelles has increased to 269.

Seychelles Bird Records Committee (SBRC) was formed in 1992 and has published reports at five-year intervals in *Bull. ABC* since 1996 (Skerrett 1996, Skerrett *et al.* 2001, 2006, 2011). A summary of unverified sightings received by SBRC has been published every six months in the Recent Reports section of the *Bull. ABC* in almost every issue since the journal's initiation. Accepted records are reported at the website www.seychellesbirdrecordscommittee.com.

This fifth report summarises records of vagrants (species recorded less than annually) accepted during the period 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2015. During this period, SBRC members examined evidence for 476 records. In addition, 595 sets of coordinates for 30 geolocator records were also received and accepted. Of the sight records, 421 (88.4%) were accepted to species level and another 17 (3.6%) accepted to a qualified category (e.g. *Cuculus* sp. or Pintail *Gallinago stenura* / Swinhoe's Snipe *G. megala*). Three records remained pending at the end of 2015 for further consideration and 35 records (7.4%) were rejected as 'not proven'. A comparatively high number of records accepted to species level were submitted to SBRC either unidentified or misidentified: 42 (10% of accepted records). This perhaps reflects the fact that many records are received from individuals unfamiliar with the avifauna of regions outside of Seychelles. It is a positive aspect of the digital era that local

observers are able to obtain good photographs aiding identification of records that might otherwise be 'lost'. On the other hand, although record forms are submitted to SBRC for almost all reports, it is now rare for observers to include any meaningful description, relying instead on photographic evidence alone to authenticate the record. This is unfortunate as descriptions can add pertinent details. A full checklist including the number of accepted records for each species and each island can be downloaded from the SBRC website.

More than half of records received by SBRC during the period were submitted by the local staff and volunteers of two organisations: Seychelles Islands Foundation (143 records from Aldabra and Assumption) and Island Conservation Society (147 records, mainly from Alphonse, Aride, Desroches, Farquhar, St. François and Silhouette). The next most important sources were members of SBRC (51 records) and Denis Island (32 records). Undoubtedly many vagrants on other islands, where observers are less meticulous in their reporting to SBRC, are missed.

Additions to the Seychelles List

Fifteen species were added to the Seychelles List during the period under review. This total includes the first records accepted based on geolocator data, all relating to a study of 'Round Island Petrel' *Pterodroma arminjoniana* at Round Island,

Mauritius. ‘Round Island Petrel’ is a hybrid swarm involving three species of *Pterodroma* (c.80% thought to be morphologically close to Trindade Petrel *P. arminjoniana*, c.10% Herald Petrel *P. heraldica* and 10% Kermadec Petrel *P. neglecta*) breeding on Round Island (Safford & Hawkins 2013). Not previously recorded in Seychelles, geolocator data revealed that it is probably a regular visitor to waters around the Seychelles Bank (unpubl. tracking data).

Other species added to the Seychelles List are: Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus*, Knob-billed (Comb) Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos*, Common Teal *Anas crecca*, Red-billed Duck *A. erythrorhyncha*, Lesser Moorhen *Gallinula angulata*, Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*, Spur-winged Lapwing *Vanellus spinosus*, Red Knot *Calidris canutus*, Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus*, Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis*, Madagascar Kingfisher *Alcedo vintsioides*, Richard’s Pipit *Anthus richardi*, Rufous Vanga *Schetba rufa* and Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*.

Records of 11 of these 15 species new to the Seychelles List are supported by photographs. The exceptions are ‘Round Island Petrel’, Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus*, Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus* and Rufous Vanga *Schetba rufa*. However, the first was supported by geolocator evidence and all of the others by good descriptions plus a convincing field sketch in the case of the last mentioned. Photographs of the other 11 new species are included here.

Deletion from the Seychelles List

New information came to light concerning the only record of Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferrugina*, suggesting possible confusion with Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiacus*. Due to inconsistencies in the evidence, the record has been rejected and the species removed from the Seychelles List.

With fifteen additions and one deletion, the number of species recorded in Seychelles at 31 December 2015 increased to 269. This figure has risen by 80 (42.3%) in the 20 years since the first report as follows:

Report	No. of spp.
First report, 1996	189
Second report, 2001	222
Third report, 2006	237
Fourth report, 2011	255
Fifth report, 2016	269

Changes in status

At the 20th annual meeting of SBRC, held on 30 December 2011, it was agreed to define an annual species in Seychelles as one recorded in at least eight of the previous ten years with a mean of at least two records per annum. However, exceptions are made and retained for consideration by SBRC where two or more vagrant species are frequently confused. Current exceptions are Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*, Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* and Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* (this last species also retained for interest in which races occur in Seychelles).

As a result of the new definition, the status of three species has changed from vagrant to annual. These are Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*, European Roller *Coracias garrulus* and Eurasian Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*. However, in the case of Purple Heron, the definition as annual applies only to islands east of latitude 52°E (Amirantes and inner islands) and it is retained as a vagrant west of 52°E (Farquhar and Aldabra groups). The status of Little Stint has changed from annual to vagrant following a huge decline in the number of reports of this once regular species.

With respect to potential future changes in status, it is worth noting that at present all petrel species are classified as vagrants. However, new records accepted during the period under review suggest some are regular in Seychelles waters. These come from the ‘Round Island Petrel’ study referenced above, observers aboard the cruise ship *Costa Romantica* on 9 February 2011, entering Seychelles waters (unusually) from south-east of Mahé (A. Ross *et al.*), records from a seismic survey vessel in June–July 2014 (E. Juxon) and the first chumming operation over the Seychelles Bank, on 25–26 November 2014 (H. Shirihai & A. P. Skerrett).

The number of extinct species increased during the period from seven to ten, due to the successful eradication of two introduced species, Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus* and House Crow *Corvus splendens*, and the natural disappearance of a third introduced species, Yellow-fronted Canary *Serinus mozambicus*. For the same reasons, the number of breeding species reduced from 65 to 62.

In summary, as at 31 December 2015, the Seychelles List maintained by SBRC comprises 269 species recorded in Seychelles, including 62

breeders, 28 annual migrants, ten extinct species and 169 vagrants.

Review of previously accepted records

SBRC maintains an archive of information to authenticate all vagrant records. Members can request to review any record or group of records. Following discussion at annual meetings, examination of specimens at the Natural History Museum (Tring) and e-mail exchanges, it was decided to review, in the light of improved identification criteria, all *Ardeola* records and those of Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonorae*, Sooty Falcon *F. concolor* and Eurasian Hobby *F. subbuteo*. This has led to some changes in earlier decisions, described in the summary of records in this paper.

Out-of-range records

In addition to vagrant records of non-breeding species, SBRC considers records of Seychelles breeding species observed on islands outside their normal breeding range. These are not listed here, but accepted out-of-range records of special interest are:

1. The first record of Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis* in the coralline outer islands (west of Mahé), a male at Desroches on 31 October–1 November 2014 (A. Fernández *et al.*).
2. The first record of Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* in the coralline outer islands, an adult at African Banks on 28 November 2013 (J. A. Mortimer).
3. The first records on any other island of three species resident at Aldabra, all observed on Assumption: Madagascar Kestrel *Falco newtoni*, 5 February 2014 (G. Angell, P. Haverson), Comoro Blue Pigeon *Alectroenas szanzini*, 18–22 March 2012 (C. J. Feare) and Madagascar Coucal *Centropus toulou*, 29 January–12 November 2013 (J. Moumou *et al.*).
4. The first confirmed records of Seychelles Kestrel *Falco araeus* on La Digue: one, 3 March 2015 (T. Hibbert, L. Booth) and one, 10 April 2015 (D. Rosengren); possibly the same individual. Earlier reports include 'Frequently seen on nearly all islands' (Vesey Fitzgerald 1940). This was subsequently assumed to include La Digue and that the species was

extirpated; it was also assumed second-hand reports from unknown observers were valid (Watson 1981). However, these reports do not rule out the possibility of confusion with migrant falcons.

Summary of accepted vagrant records

The following vagrant records were accepted in the five years to 31 December 2015. Species whose status changed from vagrant to annual during the period are not included. Numbers in parentheses represent, first, the total number of accepted records to date, and, second, the number of records accepted during the five-year period. The abbreviation 1cy/2cy etc., is used to indicate birds aged as first/second-calendar year etc. for birds breeding in the Northern Hemisphere (the vast majority of vagrants). This system works less well in the Southern Hemisphere as the breeding season may span two calendar years and for these species immature/juvenile is used.

'Round Island Petrel' *Pterodroma arminjoniana* (31, 31)

Thirty geolocator records in Seychelles EEZ in 2010–11 with 595 sets of coordinates concentrated at the edges of banks from Farquhar to the Amirantes and especially the eastern edge of the Seychelles Bank; earliest date 12 April and latest 21 October. One sight record, south of Coëtivy, 9 February 2011 (A. Ross *et al.*).

Flesh-footed Shearwater *Ardenna carneipes* (7, 3)
One off Mahé, 21 October 2013 (P. N. Collin). More than 100 east of Mahé at 04°49'S 57°31'E, 4–26 July 2014 (E. Juxon, I. Sikora). One near Denis at 03°29'S 55°47'E, 25 November 2014 (H. Shirihai, A. P. Skerrett).

Bulwer's Petrel *Bulweria bulwerii* (2, 1)
Two south-east of Mahé at 05°14'S 57°41'E, 23 June 2014 (E. Juxon).

Jouanin's Petrel *Bulweria fallax* (13, 2)
At least 30 from near Agalega, south of Seychelles EEZ at 09°45'S 56°28'E to near Coëtivy at 07°50'S 56°05'30"E, 9 February 2011 (A. Ross *et al.*). One south-east of Mahé at 05°17'S 56°53'E, 3 July 2014 (E. Juxon).

Wilson's Storm-petrel *Oceanites oceanicus* (12, 6)
One north of Bird at 00°82'S 53°83'E, 23 October 1962 (N. G. C. Cheshire). Ten north of Denis, 25 November 2014: one c.5 nautical miles north of the island; three at 03°37'S 55°36'E; three at 03°29'S 55°47'E; and three at 03°35'S 55°43'E (Shirihai & Skerrett 2016). About 15 east of Denis at 03°47'S 56°11'E, 26 November 2014 (Shirihai & Skerrett 2016).

White-faced Storm-petrel *Pelagodroma marina* (5, 2)
One south-east of Mahé at 05°26'S 56°38'E, 26 July 2014 (E. Juxon). One south-east of Mahé at 05°29'S 57°16'E, 27 July 2014 (E. Juxon).

Black-bellied Storm-petrel *Fregatta tropica* (3, 2)
One east of Mahé at 04°27'S 56°46'E, 28 July 2014 (E. Juxon). One near Denis at 03°47'S 56°11'E, 26 November 2014 (Shirihai & Skerrett 2016).

Matsudaira's Storm-petrel *Hydrobates matsudairae* (6, 5)
Eleven north of Denis, 25 November 2014: one c.15 nautical miles north of the island; five at 03°37'S 55°36'E; four at 03°29'S 55°47'E; and one at 03°35'S 55°43'E; three east of Denis at 03°47'S 56°11'E, 26 November 2014 (Shirihai & Skerrett 2016).

Red-billed Tropicbird *Phaethon aethereus* (11, 4)
Adult, race *indicus*, Bird, 7–8 April 2008 (J. Babbington). Two Frigate, 16 October 2012 (M. Lautenbach *et al.*). Adult, Alphonse, 10 October 2013 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). Three, Cosmoledo, 8–9 February 2014 (M. Cosson).

Reed Cormorant *Phalacrocorax africanus* (6, 3)
One, Aldabra, 12 February 2012 (D. Birch). One, Aldabra, 23 April–6 May 2012 (C. Onezia *et al.*). One, Assumption, 3 April 2015 (P. Banville).

Eurasian Bittern *Botaurus stellaris* (8, 2)
One, Frigate, 13 October 2012 (M. Lautenbach, L. Clarke). One, Denis, 3 December 2015 (M. van Dinther).

Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* (1, 1)
1cy, Bird, 23 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*).

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* (13, 5)
Six pre-2011 accepted records were reviewed; one decision was changed to *Ardeola* sp. New records were: adult, Bird, 17–20 November 2010 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). 1cy or non-breeding adult, Bird, 12–19 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). Non-breeding adult, Alphonse, 18 November 2013 and presumed same individual, St. François, 20 November 2013 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). One, probably 2cy, Desroches, 6–26 February 2014 (P. Nogués *et al.*). Adult, Mahé, 2 November 2015 (C. Onezia, J. Souyave). One, Mahé, 2 November 2015 (C. Onezia, J. Souyave).

Indian Pond Heron *Ardeola grayii* (3, 0)
Eight pre-2011 records were reviewed; two were confirmed, three accepted as Squacco Herons and three as *Ardeola* sp.

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* or **Indian Pond Heron** *A. grayii*
Two, Assumption, 16 February 2012 (C. J. Feare).

Madagascar Pond Heron *Ardeola idae* (5, 2)
Four pre-2011 out-of-range records (east of Aldabra) were reviewed; three were confirmed and one accepted as Indian Pond Heron. New records were: immature, Assumption, 4–17 March 2012 (C. J. Feare). Two immatures, Farquhar 2–6 February 2015 (R. Jeanne, A. Duhec).

Ardeola sp.
Two of five pre-2011 records were reviewed; one was accepted as Squacco Heron. New record: one, Mahé, 7 November 2015 (A. P. Skerrett).

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* (37, 11)
One, Bird, 9 December 2010 (K. Jolliffe, J. Henwood). Three, Bird, 22 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). Non-breeding adult, Alphonse, 24–26 November 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). One, Mahé, 6–8 December 2012 (A. P. Skerrett). One, Île Persévérance, 1–12 May 2013 (A. P. Skerrett, G. McKinlay). One, Mahé, 9 December 2012 (C. Larose). One, Mahé, 7 June 2013 (C. J. Feare). Two, Curieuse, 23 January–May 2013 (P. J. Woods). One, St. François, 12 December 2013 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). One, St. François, 18 February 2015 (S. Balderson, C. Narty). One, Denis, 25–27 October 2015 (J. van de Cromennacker).

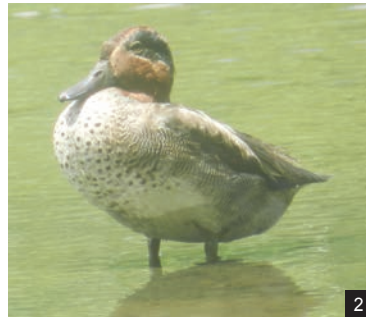
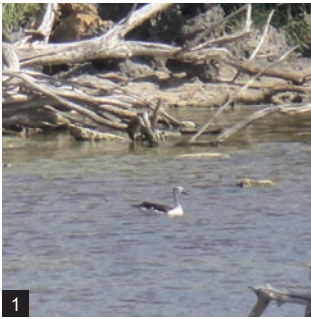


Figure 1. Female or immature Knob-billed Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos*, Grand Terre, Aldabra, 16 March 2011 (P. Haupt)

Canard à bosse *Sarkidiornis melanotos*, femelle ou immature, Grand Terre, Aldabra, 16 mars 2011 (P. Haupt)

Figure 2. First-winter Common Teal *Anas crecca*, La Passe marsh, Silhouette, 11 January 2016 (E. Nancy)

Sarcelle d'hiver *Anas crecca*, 1^{er} hiver, marais de La Passe, Silhouette, 11 janvier 2016 (E. Nancy)

Figure 3. Red-billed Duck / Canard à bec rouge *Anas erythrorhyncha*, Grande Terre, Aldabra, 10 January 2012 (J. Souyave)

Great Egret *Ardea alba* (19, 3)

Adult breeding, Aldabra, 14 November 2011 (C. Onezia). Adult, Aldabra, 27 January 2012 (M. Šúr). One, Aldabra, 21 April 2012–3 October 2012 (C. Onezia).

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* (1, 1 western Seychelles)

Juvenile, Assumption, 2 November 2012 (C. J. Feare).

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* (13, 3)

One, Mahé, 5 January 2011 (S. Ansell *et al.*). Immature, Aride, 1–2 October 2012 (L. Calabrese, J. Simeon). Adult, Aride, 1 October 2015 (U. Samedi *et al.*).

Knob-billed Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos* (1, 1)

Female or immature at Cinq Cases, Grand Terre, Aldabra from 16 March 2011, joined by a second, 11 April 2011 (Fig. 1; P. Haupt *et al.*).

Northern Shoveler *Spatula (Anas) clypeata* (13, 4)

Female, Denis, 23 November 2011 (M. Unrath, J. Chang Tave). 1cy male, Desroches, 20 October 2015 (P. Nogués). Female, Aride, 31 October 2015 (U. Samedi). 1cy, Mahé, 2 November 2015 (C. Onezia, J. Souyave).

Common Teal *Anas crecca* (1, 1)

1cy male at La Passe, Silhouette, 7–9 December 2015 (Fig. 2; E. Nancy, B. Moncherry).

Red-billed Duck *Anas erythrorhyncha* (2, 2)

Adult at Grande Terre, Aldabra, 10 January 2012 (Fig. 3; J. Souyave, D. Rose). One at Grande Terre, Aldabra, 30 November 2012 (C. Onezia, S. Etienne).

Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca* (5, 1)

1cy male and 1cy female, Desroches, 13 November 2014 (P. Nogués *et al.*).

European Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus* (7, 3)

Adult, Denis, 22–29 November 2010 (R. M. Mason). One, North Island, 19 November 2011 (E. Mokhobo *et al.*). One, Praslin, 27 January and 8 February 2012 (A. Reuleaux *et al.*).

Black Kite *Milvus migrans* (4, 1)

Adult, Aldabra, 12–15 February 2012 (A. Gouffe *et al.*).

Yellow-billed Kite *Milvus aegyptius* (8, 2)

One, Alphonse, 18–23 January 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). One, Assumption, 4–6 August 2013 (L. Koehler, P. Banville).

Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni* (9, 3)

Adult male, Frégate, 19–22 March 2012 (G. Canning *et al.*). 2cy male, Desroches, 22–28 March 2014 (P. Nogués). Adult female, Alphonse, 15–16 March 2015 (S. Balderson, C. Narty).

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* (3, 2)

Female or 2cy, Alphonse, 17–18 February 2015 (S. Balderson, M. Betts). One, Denis, 30 November–1 December 2015 (J. van Crommenacker, M. van Dinther).

Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonora* (39, 8)

Eleven pre-2011 records were reviewed; three were confirmed, four were rejected, two were accepted as 'Eleonora's or Sooty Falcon' and two remain pending. New records: one pale morph, Assumption, 14–21 November 2012 (T. Mahoune). 15–20, Aldabra, 12 April 2013 (C. Onezia, J. Souyave). 2cy, 4 November 2013 (C. Onezia). Adult dark morph, Assumption, 13 November 2013 (P. Banville). 1cy, Denis, 11–12 December 2013 (R. M. Mason). Two 1cy, Alphonse, 25–30 December 2013 (A. Duhec *et al.*). At least three, Aldabra, 29 October–6 November 2014 (C. Onezia). Two, including one 2cy pale morph, Aldabra, 7–9 December 2014 (C. Onezia).

Sooty Falcon *Falco concolor* (8, 2)

1cy, Assumption, 5 December 2013 (P. Banville, G. Angell). 1cy, Farquhar, 12 December 2014 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne).

Eurasian Hobby *Falco subbuteo* (28, 5)

Nine of 25 pre-2011 records were reviewed; three were confirmed, three rejected, two accepted as Eleonora's Falcon and one accepted as Sooty Falcon. An old published record (and the first chronologically) was accepted: one collected on Bird, November 1936, while consuming a Fairy Tern *Gygis alba* (Vesey-Fitzgerald 1940), but apparently the specimen was not preserved. New records: 1cy, La Digue, 30 December 2010 (P. Biseth). 1cy, Alphonse, 19 November 2011 (R. Jeanne, A. Duhec). 1cy, Bird, 24 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). Adult, Astove, 19 February 2015 (M. Betts). 1cy, Silhouette, 8 November 2015 (E. Elizabeth *et al.*).

Corncrake *Crex crex* (4, 1)

1cy, North Island, 23 October 2014 (C. J. Havemann *et al.*).

Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana* (2, 1)

Adult, Etoile, 26 November 2013 (G. Rocamora *et al.*).



Figure 4. Lesser Moorhen / *Gallinula africana* *Gallinula angulata*, Desroches, 10 March 2012 (T. Jupiter)

Lesser Moorhen *Gallinula angulata* (2, 2)

Juvenile at Basin Flamant, Grand Terre, Aldabra, 29 July 1999 (T. Jupiter, B. Betsy). Juvenile at the IDC village, Desroches, 10 March 2012 (Fig. 4; T. Jupiter).

Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* (8, 2)

2cy, Silhouette, 16–28 June 2004 (R. Gerlach *et al.*). 1cy, Cosmoledo, 18 November 2015 (M. Betts).

Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* (2, 2)

One, Bird, 22–23 November 2012 (Fig. 5; N. J. Phillips *et al.*). One, Grand Soeur, 29 December 2012 (G. Saout). Possibly the same individual involved.

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* (5, 1)

Adult or 2cy, Île Persévérance, 1–8 November 2015 (A. P. Skerrett *et al.*).

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* (11, 1)

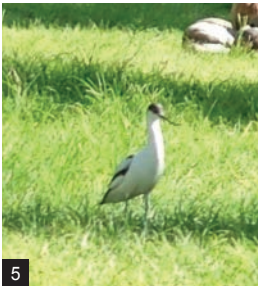
One, Alphonse, 1 February–17 March 2015 (S. Balderson, M. Betts).

Spur-winged Lapwing *Vanellus spinosus* (2, 2)

One post-juvenile at various localities, Bird, at least 17–26 November 2010 (R. J. Allen *et al.*). One at La Promenade, Mahé, 28 December 2010–6 April 2011 at least (Fig. 6; R. Martin *et al.*). The two records almost certainly refer to the same individual as both records involved a bird that was ringed.

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* (17, 4)

Adult and 1cy, Denis, 23 November 2011 (M. Unrath, J. Chang Tave). Two adults, Aldabra, 21



5



6



7

Figure 5. Pied Avocet / Avocette élégante *Recurvirostra avosetta*, Bird Island, 23 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips)

Figure 6. Spur-winged Lapwing / Vanneau éperonné *Vanellus spinosus*, La Promenade, Mahé, 7 January 2011 (A. P. Skerrett)

Figure 7. Adult Red Knot *Calidris canutus*, Pointe Dot, Alphonse, 29 October 2012 (A. Duhec)

Bécasseau maubèche *Calidris canutus*, adulte, Pointe Dot, Alphonse, 29 octobre 2012 (A. Duhec)

October 2013 (C. Onezia *et al.*). Icy, Denis, 19 October 2015 (J. van de Crommenacker, M. van Dinther). Adult, Praslin, 21–22 October 2015 (P. Boswell).

Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni* (14, 4)

Adult, Mahé, 17 May 2010 (A. Starke). One, Aldabra, 11 January 2012 (C. Onezia *et al.*). Adult, Bird, 7 April 2008 (J. Babbington). Adult breeding, Desroches, 8–11 April 2014 (E. Nancy, P. Nogués).

Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum* (21, 6)
 Adult breeding, Alphonse, 12 April 2012 (J. Lagoa *et al.*). One, Bird, 28–29 October 2012 (J. Ferdinand *et al.*). Adult, Bijoutier, 2 November 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). One, Alphonse, 5–6 November 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). Adult, Desroches, 22 October 2015 (P. Nogués, G. Rocamora). Adult, Île Persévérance, 15–22 November 2015 (C. Onezia *et al.*).

Pratincole sp. *Glareola* sp.

One, Desroches, 3–9 November 2012 (T. Jupiter *et al.*).

Red Knot *Calidris canutus* (1, 1)

One adult at Pointe Dot, Alphonse, 29 October 2012 (Fig. 7; A. Duhec).

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* (9, 4)

Icy, Alphonse, 14 October 2011 (R. Jeanne). Adult male, Alphonse, 18–20 January 2012 (A. Duhec,

R. Jeanne). Adult non-breeding, Desroches, 9 November 2012 (T. Jupiter, K. Machin). One, Cousine 2–30 November 2013 (I. Olivier *et al.*).

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata* (5, 1)
 Icy, Alphonse, 20 November 2011 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne).

Ruff *Calidris (Philomachus) pugnax* (34, 3)

Adult male, Île Persévérance, 7 October 2012 (A. P. Skerrett, R. Fanchette). Adult female, Bird, 13–24 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). One, Alphonse, 4 December 2013 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne).

Broad-billed Sandpiper *Calidris (Limicola) falcinellus* (6, 2)

Adult, Mahé, 10–12 February 2011 (M. Barnett *et al.*). Adult non-breeding, Île Persévérance, 15 November 2012 (G. McKinlay).

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago* (23, 7)

One, Bird, 24 November 2010 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). One, Frégate, 15 November 2010–6 February 2011 (G. Canning). One, Île Persévérance, 9–18 November 2012 (G. McKinlay). Two, Bird, 18–24 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). One, Île Persévérance, 30–31 October 2015 (C. Onezia *et al.*). Two, Île Persévérance, 7 November 2015 (A. P. Skerrett). Two, Île Persévérance, 3 December 2015 (M. Betts).

Great Snipe *Gallinago media* (4, 1)
One, Alphonse, 12–13 October 2011 (R. Jeanne, A. Duhec).

Pintail Snipe *Gallinago stenura* or
Swinhoe's Snipe *G. megala*
One, Desroches, 9 October 2011 (T. Jupiter, A. Nahaboo). One, Alphonse, 8 January 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). One, Frégate, 20 October 2012 (M. Lautenbach, D. Marx).

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* (8, 1)
One, Denis, 2–8 December 2012 (R. M. Mason).

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* (12, 2)
One, Île Persévérance, 18 November 2012 (S. Ansell). Adult and 1–2 1cy, Alphonse, 28 October 2015 (A. Fernández).

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus* (3, 1)
One, Aldabra, 5 April 2015 (C. Onezia).

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus* (5, 1)
1cy, Bird, 8 July 2013 (C. J. Feare, C. Larose).

Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus* (1, 1)
Two pale-morph adults and one unaged, halfway between Coëtivy and Agalega at c.08°17'S 56°11'E, 9 February 2011 (A. Ross *et al.*).

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus* (12, 3)
3cy/4cy race *heuglini*, Sainte Anne National Park, 28 April–late July 2014 (A. Dufrenne *et al.*). 3cy race *heuglini*, Desroches, 1–16 December 2014 (P. Nogués *et al.*). One race *fuscus*, Alphonse, 16–19 December 2014 (S. Balderson).

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* (13, 1)
One, Mahé, 5 December 2009–31 January 2010 (G. Rocamora).

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis* (6, 1)
One, Assumption, 23–24 October 2011 (C. J. Feare).

Greater Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii velox* (3, 2 vagrant race records)
One, Alphonse, 28 September 2011 (R. Jeanne, A. Duhec). Adult, St. François, 15 February 2012 (R. Jeanne, A. Duhec).

White-cheeked Tern *Sterna repressa* (3, 1)
1cy, Aride, 2–3 January 2012 (A. Barra *et al.*).

Little Tern *Sternula albifrons* (3, 2)
One, Aldabra, 21 April 2012 (C. Onezia *et al.*). Two adults, Mahé, 6–7 March 2015 (T. Hibbert, L. Booth).

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus* (8, 3)
One, Mahé, 1–4 November 2010 (M. Hunter, P. Constance). One, Aldabra, 5 December 2010 (M. Šúr, P. Haupt). One, Île Persévérance, 4 May 2013 (A. Brown *et al.*).

European Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur* (10, 2)
2cy, Alphonse, 22 January 2013 (R. Jeanne, A. Duhec). 1cy, Aride, 2–4 November 2014 (J. Michel, M. Curran).

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis* (3, 3)
Adult female, Aldabra, 11–15 December 2011 (Fig. 8; M. Šúr). Sub-adult female, Assumption, 16–17 January 2012 (C. J. Feare *et al.*). Immature male, Aride, 8–10 October 2012 (L. Calabrese *et al.*).

Jacobin Cuckoo *Clamator jacobinus* (12, 2)
1cy, Aride, 25 December 2011 (T. Catry *et al.*). 2cy, Poivre, 18 January 2012 (L. Mair, L. Chong Seng).

Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius* (2, 1)
1cy, Aldabra, 30 December 2011–1 January 2012 (M. Šúr).



Figure 8. Adult female Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis*, Picard, Aldabra, 11 December 2011 (M. Šúr)

Tourterelle masquée *Oena capensis*, femelle adulte, Picard, Aldabra, 11 décembre 2011 (M. Šúr)

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* (50, 12)

One, Alphonse, 11 November 2010 (J. Michel *et al.*). 1cy, Aride, 1 December 2010 (C. Bresson *et al.*). 1cy, Cousine, 17 December 2010 (K. Jolliffe, S.-M. Jolliffe). 1cy, Cousine, 10–14 January 2010 (K. Jolliffe *et al.*). Adult female, Mahé, 18 November 2011 (U. Samedi). One, Aride, 26 December 2011 (T. Catry, I. Catry). 2cy, Aride, 4 January 2012 (T. Catry, I. Catry). Adult, Alphonse, 12 December 2013 (R. Jeanne). 1cy, Cousin, 16 December 2013 (A. Underwood, J. Souyana). One, Desroches, 14 February 2014 (P. Nogués, E. Nancy). 1cy, Aldabra, 19 November 2014 (G. Rose, C. Onezia). 1cy, Silhouette, 13–18 November 2014 (A. Street). One, Cousin, 5 January 2015 (T. Hibbert).

Lesser Cuckoo *Cuculus poliocephalus* (21, 6)

1cy, Bird, 16–20 November 2010 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). One, Aldabra, 24 December 2011 (M. Šúr). 2cy, North Island, 15 January 2011 (G. Wepener *et al.*). One, found dead, Mahé, 20 January 2011 (A. P. Skerrett). 2cy, Cousine, 2 May 2011 (K. Jolliffe *et al.*). Adult, Assumption, 29 October 2013 (J. Moumou *et al.*).

Cuckoo sp. *Cuculus* sp.

One, Cerf, 26 January 2011 (E. Palmer). One, Desroches, 1 November 2012 (T. Jupiter, A. Commettant). One, Alphonse, 12 December 2012 (R. Jeanne). One, Assumption, 24 June–4 July 2013 (J. Moumou).

Eurasian Scops Owl *Otus scops* (8, 2)

One, Frégate, 10 January–2 February 2011 (G. Canning, J. Gane). One, Desroches, 24 November 2015 (P. Holden *et al.*).

Eurasian Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus* (5, 1)

Female or 1cy, Bird, 19 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips).

White-throated Needletail *Hirundapus caudacutus* (6, 1)

One, Aride, 21 November 2011 (I. Bullock, L. Calabrese).

African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus* (3, 2)

One over the settlement, Assumption, 2–5 March 2012 (C. J. Feare, P. Benoit, T. Mahoune, J.

Hoareau). One race *gracilis*, Aldabra, 2 June 2014 (C. Onezia, G. Rose).

Common Swift *Apus apus* (35, 14)

One, Bird, 7 November 2010 (M. Hunter, T. R. Bresson). One, St. François, 11 January 2011 (A. Nahaboo *et al.*). One race *pekinensis*, Aldabra 6–7 October 2011 (C. Onezia, J. Souyave). One, Denis, 8 October 2011 (C. J. Feare, T. Leibrick). One, Desroches, 29 September 2011 (T. Jupiter, A. Commettant). Three, Assumption 17 December 2011 (C. J. Feare *et al.*). One, Alphonse, 22–23 January 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). One, Assumption, 31 January 2012 (C. J. Feare *et al.*). Two, 4 February 2012 (C. J. Feare). Two, Assumption, 6–10 February 2012 (C. J. Feare). 1cy, Bird, 17 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). One, Aldabra, 27 December 2012 (C. Onezia, J. Souyave). Two Aldabra, 30 January 2013 (G. McKinlay, T. Mahoune). Two, Aldabra, 6–17 October 2014 (C. Onezia *et al.*).

Pacific Swift *Apus pacificus* (15, 2)

One, Denis, 5 June 2014 (J. West *et al.*). One near the Indian village, Desroches, 13–15 November 2015 (A. P. Skerrett *et al.*).

Little Swift *Apus affinis* (6, 1)

One, Frégate, 11 or 18 November 2010 (G. Canning).

Alpine Swift *Tachymartus melba* (2, 1)

One, Mahé, 29 December 2013–12 January 2014 (P. Desnousse).

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus* (25, 11 records east of Aldabra group)

One, Bird, 21 November 2010 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). One, Bird, 26–27 November 2010 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). One, Desroches, 13–19 October 2011 (A. Commettant *et al.*). Adult race *glaucurus*, Alphonse, 19 November 2011 (R. Jeanne, A. Duhec). One, Alphonse, 12–13 March 2013 (J.-C. Vidot *et al.*). One, Alphonse, 13 December 2013 (A. Latif, R. Jeanne). Adult, Alphonse, 6 October 2014 (S. Balderson *et al.*). Adult, Desroches, 7–21 November 2014 (A. Fernández *et al.*). Three, Farquhar, 7 December 2014 (R. Jeanne, A. Duhec). One, St. François,



Figure 9. Madagascar Kingfisher / Martin-pêcheur vintsi *Alcedo vintsioides*, Research Station, Picard, Aldabra, 20 March 2013 (C. Ferguson)

18 February 2015 (S. Balderson, C. Narty). Adult, Alphonse, 27–29 October 2015 (A. Fernández).

Grey-headed Kingfisher *Halcyon leucocephala* (2, 1)

Adult, Desroches, 29 December 2010 (M. Collins, J. Brotherton).

Madagascar Kingfisher *Alcedo vintsioides* (1, 1)

One at the Research Station, Picard, Aldabra, 20 March 2013 (Fig. 9; C. Ferguson, A. de Groene, C. Quanz).

Blue-cheeked Bee-eater *Merops persicus* (21 + 4 invasions, 4+1 invasion)

Summary of 2010–2011 invasion: up to 30, Bird, 1–20 December 2010 (S. Murgatroyd *et al.*); up to ten, Silhouette, 2–6 December, 2010 (R. Gerlach); ten, Cousine, 22 December 2010 (K. Jolliffe); one, D’Arros, 3–10 January 2011, and two, 23–27 March 2011 (J. A. Mortimer). Other records: four, Aldabra, 16 December 2011, three until 21 December 2011 (M. Šúr). Two, Frégate, 17–23 December 2012 (G. Canning). 1cy, Bird, 13–16 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). 1cy, Cousin 16–17 November 2014 (A. Burt, A. Underwood).

Madagascar Bee-eater *Merops superciliosus* (2, 1)

Up to four, Aldabra, 9 August–15 September 2013 (C. Onezia *et al.*).

Hoopoe *Upupa epops* (4, 1)

One race *senegalensis*, Aldabra, 1–2 August 2013 (C. Onezia *et al.*).

Greater Short-toed Lark *Calandrella*

brachydactyla (7, 3)

One, Denis, 24 September 2009 (C. Onezia). One, Bird, 26 October 2012 (J. Ferdinand, H Galow). One, Aldabra, 4 November 2013 (M. van Dinther *et al.*).

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* (37, 15)

One, Assumption, 4–12 January 2012 (C. J. Feare *et al.*). One, Assumption, 31 January–4 February 2012 (C. J. Feare *et al.*). One, Assumption, 2 March 2012 (C. J. Feare). One, Alphonse, 9 March 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). One, Île Persévérance, 7–8 October 2012 (A. P. Skerrett, R. Fanchette). One, Bird, 28 October 2012 (J. Ferdinand, H Galow). One, Bird, 12–14 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). One, Île Persévérance, 18 November 2012 (G. McKinlay). Three, Desroches, 29 October 2012 (T. Jupiter, M. Curran). One, Desroches, 11 March 2013 (T. Jupiter, S. Adeline). One, Alphonse, 10 February 2014 (S. Balderson). One, Desroches, 4–6 June 2014 (P. Nogués). One, Alphonse, 28–29 May 2015 (C. Narty). One, Alphonse, 14 June 2015 (C. Narty). Two, Denis, 24–27 October 2015 (M. van Dinther, J. van de Crommenacker).

Mascarene Martin *Phedina borbonica* (16, 9)

Immature, Assumption, 3–4 April 2012 (C. J. Feare *et al.*). Two, Aldabra, 11 March 2012 (J. van de Crommenacker *et al.*). At least three, Aldabra, 6 May 2012 (C. Onezia *et al.*). One, St. François, 14 November 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). One, Aldabra, 8 April 2013 (C. Onezia). One, Aldabra, 21–28 August 2013 (J. Brice *et al.*). 2–3, Aldabra, 22 April–6 May 2014 (J. Agricole *et al.*). One, Farquhar, 5 October and 10–14 October 2014 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). One, Farquhar, 4 February 2015 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne).

Common House Martin *Delichon urbicum*

(21, 12)

Five, Aldabra, 28 November 2010 (M. Šúr). 2–3 1cy, Bird, 19 December 2010 (A. P. Skerrett, R. Bresson). One, Assumption, 4 February 2012 (C. J. Feare, P. Benoit). 2cy, Aldabra, 6–7 February 2012 (D. Birch *et al.*). Up to four, Assumption, 8–11 February 2012 (C. J. Feare, P. Benoit). 2cy, Assumption, 26 February 2012 (C. J. Feare). Up to six, Assumption, 2–10 March 2012 (C. J.

Feare). One, Bird, 22 April 2013 (P. Woods, N. Dunn). One, probably adult, Desroches, 2 May 2015 (P. Nogués). 2–5 including at least two 1cy, Aldabra, 23–26 October 2014 (C. Onezia, J. Souyave). One, Alphonse, 15–17 April 2015 (L. Martin, S. Balderson). Adult, Cosmoledo, 14 November 2015 (M. Betts).

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* (49, 18)

1cy male, Bird, 20 December 2010 (A. P. Skerrett, T. R. Bresson). 1cy male, Bird, 27 November 2010 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). Male, probably race *beema*, Frégate, 7 February 2011 (G. Canning). Male, probably race *beema*, Alphonse, 10–14 January 2011 (D. Louis *et al.*). Male, Aldabra, 6 April 2011 (P. Haupt, J. van de Crommenacker). Two males race *lutea*, Assumption, 12–15 January 2012, one until 19 January 2012 (C. J. Feare, J. F. Linnebjerg). One, Assumption, 16 January 2012 (C. J. Feare, J. F. Linnebjerg). One, Assumption, 19 January 2012 (C. J. Feare). Male race *feldegg*, Assumption, 29 February–3 March 2012 (C. J. Feare, J. F. Linnebjerg). Male probably race *beema*, Frégate, 21 March 2012 (G. Canning). Male race *lutea*, Aldabra, 29 March–5 April 2012 (S. Denis *et al.*). 1cy, Bird, 14–24 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). Male, probably race *beema*, Aldabra, 25 October 2013 (J. Souyave *et al.*). One, Alphonse, 22 March 2014 (S. Balderson). One, North Island, 29 October 2014 (T. Havemann, C. J. Havemann). Male *beema* / *flava*, Aldabra, 14 March 2015 (F. Gamble). 1cy, Alphonse, 12–16 October 2015 (A. Fernández). 1cy, Aldabra, 5 November 2015 (J. Hoareau, A. Burt).

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba* (40, 10)

1cy, Denis, 19 November 2009 (C. Onezia). Male, Aldabra, 16 November 2011 (C. Onezia). Female or 1cy, Alphonse, 15–20 November 2011 (A. Duhec, E. Duhec). One, Alphonse, 21–23 December 2011 (R. Jeanne, A. Duhec). One, Bird, 12–15 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). Male, North Island, Farquhar, 16–22 November 2012 (J. Niemandt, G. Brooke-Sumner). Adult, Alphonse, 19 December 2014 (S. Balderson, C. Narty). Up to three (male and two female/1cy), Île Persévérance, 13–28 November 2015 (S. Agricole *et al.*). 1cy, Aride, 25 November–3 December 2015 (G. Jessie, J. Michel, M. Curran U. Samedi). Adult, Denis, 1 December 2015 (M. van Dinther).



Figure 10. Adult Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi*, Assumption, 5 February 2012 (C. J. Feare)

Pipit de Richard *Anthus richardi*, adulte, Assumption, 5 février 2012 (C. J. Feare)

Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi* (1, 1)

One adult at the airstrip, Assumption, 15 January–21 February 2012 (Fig. 10), with two, 17–18 January 2012 (C. J. Feare, J. Linnebjerg).

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* (29, 12)

1cy, Aldabra, 12 December 2010 (M. Šúr). At least four 1cy, Bird, 16–24 November 2010 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). 1cy, Alphonse, 10–14 January 2011 (A. Duhec *et al.*). Three, Alphonse, 12 November 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). Two 1cy, Bird, 14–24 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). Adult, Alphonse, 2–11 December 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). Six, Desroches, 17–25 November 2012 (T. Jupiter *et al.*). Two adults, Alphonse, 23 November 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). One, Aldabra, 3–4 January 2013 (P. Haupt *et al.*). 1cy, Rémire, 27 November 2013 (G. Rocamora *et al.*). Adult, Denis, 19–26 May 2014 (C. J. Feare, C. Larose). Two, Alphonse, 26 November 2014 (S. Balderson).

Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* (18, 7)

1cy female, Denis, 7 November 2009 (C. Onezia). Female, Aride, 11–20 November 2010 (C. Bresson *et al.*). 1cy male, Bird, 16–23 November 2010 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips, T. R. Bresson). 1cy male, Bird, 22–23 November 2010 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). One, possibly two 1cy males, Bird, 15 November and 17–21 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). Adult male race *samamiscus*, Aride, 12 December 2013 (J. Cotin). Male, possibly race *samamiscus*, Denis, 24 October 2015 (M. van Dinther, J. van de Crommenacker).

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra* (5, 3)

One, Bird, 17–19 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). Female, Desroches, 17 November 2012 (T. Jupiter). One, Denis, 28 November 2014 (H. Shirihai).

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* (69, 21)

Adult, Alphonse, 1 February 2011 (J. Michel). Male, Aldabra, 21 December 2011 (M. Šúr). Male, Aldabra, 11 January 2012 (C. Onezia *et al.*). 1cy, Alphonse, 11 January 2012 (R. Jeanne). Male and female, Assumption, 15–18 January 2012, plus second female, 18 January 2012 (C. J. Feare, J. Linnebjerg). Male, Assumption, 16–18 January 2012 (C. J. Feare, J. Linnebjerg). Adult male, Alphonse, 20–27 January 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). Minimum four males and one female, Assumption, 26 January–16 February 2012 (C. J. Feare, J. Linnebjerg). 2cy male, Aldabra, 1 March 2012 (S. Denis *et al.*). One, Assumption, 4–5 March 2012 (C. J. Feare). 2cy/first-summer male, Aldabra, 4 March 2012 (C. Onezia). 1cy male, Alphonse, 12 October 2012 (A. Duhec). 1cy male, Desroches, 1 November 2012, 2 November 2012 and 14 November 2012 (T. Jupiter). Female, Alphonse, 27 December 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). Male breeding, Bijoutier, 21 January 2013 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). Adult male, Aldabra, 4 February 2013 (C. Onezia *et al.*). 2cy, Aldabra, 13–17 February 2013 (G. McKinlay, L. Reiter). One, Desroches, 8 February 2013 (K. Machin). One, Desroches, 20 January 2014 (J. Michel). Female, Alphonse, 16 February 2014 (S. Balderson). Male breeding, Aldabra, 6 January 2015 (G. Rose, C. Onezia). Female, Desroches, 10–13 February 2015 (P. Nogués, A. Fernández).

Pied Wheatear *Oenanthe pleschanka* (5, 3)

Male, Aldabra, 17 February 2011 (M. Šúr, N. Victor). 1cy male, Bird, 14 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). 1cy male, Denis, 7–9 December 2012 (R. M. Mason).

Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti* (3, 1)

Female, Denis, 23–24 November 2009 (C. Onezia).

Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina* (8, 1)

One, Assumption, 26 January 2012 (C. J. Feare).

Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina* (5, 2)

Adult, Bijoutier, 2 November 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne). 1cy, Bird, 16 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*).

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* (6, 2)

Up to four, Bird, 21–26 November 2010 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). Adult, Assumption, 3 March 2012 (C. J. Feare, J. Hoareau).

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* (6, 2)

One, Assumption, 11 May 2012 (T. Mahoune *et al.*). One, Aldabra, 10 December 2013 (W. Falcon *et al.*).

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin* (2, 1)

One, Assumption, 7 December 2013 (P. Banville).

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla* (6, 4)

1cy male, Aride, 14 November 2010 (C. Bresson *et al.*). Male, Assumption, 31 March 2012 (C. J. Feare *et al.*). One probably female, Bird, 13–16 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). One, Assumption, 21 November 2013 (G. Angell).

Lesser Grey Shrike *Lanius minor* (3, 1)

2cy male, Aldabra, 6 April 2012 (R. Baxter, D. Hansen).

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio* (9, 3)

Adult male, Assumption, 11 December 2011 (C. J. Feare). Adult female or 1cy, Bird, 24 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips *et al.*). One, Aldabra, 31 March 2014 (H. Richards *et al.*).

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata* (47, 17)

One, Aldabra, 5 November 2011 (C. Onezia). One, Aldabra, 10–11 November 2011 (C. Onezia *et al.*). One, Aldabra, 24–26 November 2011 (C. Onezia). One, Assumption, 12 December 2011 (C. J. Feare *et al.*). One, Aldabra, 3–14 January 2012 (C. Onezia, J. Souyave). 2cy, Aldabra, 31 January 2012 (M. Šúr). One, Assumption, 3 March 2012 (C. J. Feare). One, Assumption, 7 March 2012 (C. J. Feare). One, Assumption, 13 March 2012 (C. J. Feare). One, Assumption, 15 March 2012 (C. J. Feare). One, Mahé, 30 October 2012 (C. J. Feare). 1cy, Alphonse, 14 November 2012 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne).



Figure 11. Common Starling / Étourneau sansonnet *Sturnus vulgaris*, Denis Island, 6 March 2015 (P.-A. Åhlen)

One, Bird, 29 October 2012 (J. Ferdinand, H. Galow). One, Bird, 18 November 2012 (N. J. Phillips). One, Aldabra, 30 March 2014 (J. van de Crommenacker). One, Aldabra, 13 November 2014 (C. Onezia *et al.*). One, Farquhar, 6 March 2015 (A. Duhec, R. Jeanne).

Pied / Collared / Semi-collared Flycatcher

Ficedula hypoleuca / *albicollis* / *semitorquata*

One, Aride, 21 November 2011 (I. Bullock, G. Lewis).

Rufous Vanga *Schetba rufa* (1, 1)

One adult male at Takamaka, Grand Terre, Aldabra, 19 January 2015 (F. Gamble, M. Dubel).

Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* (1, 1)

One, Denis, 5–10 March 2015 (Fig. 11; P.-A. Åhlen).

Wattled Starling *Creatophora cinerea* (5, 2)

Female, Aldabra, 5 October 2011 (C. Onezia, J. van de Crommenacker). Immature, Aldabra, 24 May 2015 (S. Decommarmond).

Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana* (6, 3)

1cy, Bird, 22 November 2010 (N. J. Phillips, V. E. Phillips). 1cy, Aldabra, 26 October 2011 (C. Onezia, J. Souyave). One, Alphonse, 11 February 2013 (W. Haselau, R. Jeanne).

Acknowledgements

We thank all of the observers who submitted records to SBRC during the period, in particular the staff and volunteers of Denis, Island Conservation Society and Seychelles Islands Foundation. We also thank our consultants who contributed to assessments during the period covered by this paper, namely Dick Forsman (raptors), John Marchant (waders), Klaus Malling Olsen (gulls), Tony Palliser (seabirds) and Robert Prÿs-Jones (museums).

References

- Safford, R. J. & Hawkins, A. F. A. (eds.) 2013. *The Birds of Africa*. Vol. 8. London, UK: Christopher Helm.
- Shirihai, H. & Skerrett, A. 2016. Observations of Matsudaira's, Wilson's and Black-bellied Storm-petrels in Seychelles. *Br. Birds* 109: 220–230.
- Skerrett, A. 1996. The first report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee. *Bull. ABC* 3: 45–50.
- Skerrett, A. & Seychelles Bird Records Committee. 2001. The second report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee. *Bull. ABC* 8: 23–29.
- Skerrett, A., Betts, M., Bullock, I., Fisher, D., Gerlach, R., Lucking, R., Phillips, J. & Scott, B. 2006. Third report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee. *Bull. ABC* 13: 170–177.
- Skerrett, A., Betts, M., Bowler, J., Bullock, I., Fisher, D., Lucking, R. & Phillips, J. 2011. Fourth report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee. *Bull. ABC* 18: 182–192.
- Vesey-Fitzgerald, D. 1940. The birds of the Seychelles 1: The endemic birds. *Ibis* 82: 480–489.
- Watson, J. 1981. Population, ecology, food and conservation of the Seychelles Kestrel. Ph.D. thesis. Aberdeen: Aberdeen University.
- Seychelles Bird Records Committee, PO Box 336, Victoria, Mahé, Seychelles, or Hazeley Brook Keele Road, Keele, Staffs, ST5 5AL, UK. E-mail: sbrsecretary@googlemail.com*

Received 1 March 2016; revision accepted 29 April 2016.