# Systematic List 1993-1995

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The sequence and the scientific nomenclature follow those adopted by the new Concise Edition of Birds of the Western Palearctic (BWP). Some new taxonomic 'splits' have been made by the Editors of BWP. The two subspecies of the Mediterranean Shearwater *Puffinus yelkouan* have become two full species: the Levantine Shearwater, which breeds in the Maltese Islands, and the Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus*, which breeds in the Balearics. The latter has never been recorded in Malta. The English names used are those adopted by British Birds in 1993 (Brit. Birds 86: 1-2) and now in use throughout Europe. In this list, to mention a few examples, Pied Wagtail replaces White Wagtail, Nightingale becomes Rufous Nightingale, Dunnock is now Hedge Accentor, Rufous Bush Chat is listed as Rufous-tailed Scrub-robin and Zitting Cisticola is the new name of Fan-tailed Warbler. The Maltese names are those found in A New Guide to the Birds of Malta (Sultana & Gauci 1982), except for the Harriers: Bagħdan, as is known and referred to by everyone, instead of Bugħadam. For the new species which appear for the first time in the systematic list an appropriate Maltese name was given by the Research Group of BirdLife Malta. There are some place names which are found on both islands of Malta and Gozo. Unless otherwise indicated, Dwejra refers to Dwejra in Malta, Nadur refers to Nadur in Gozo and Lunzjata refers to the well-known site in Gozo. Unless otherwise stated, the numbers given are for one locality.

## Little Grebe Tachybaptus ruficollis Blongun Żgħir

1993: One at Is-Simar on 9 Dec and 17 Dec.

1994: One at Ghadira on 27 Oct and from 29 Oct to 4 Nov.

1995: Singles at Ghadira from 5 Oct to 6 Dec and at Is-Simar on 24 Dec.

## Great Crested Grebe Podiceps cristatus Blongun Prim

1993: 4 at Qawra on 4 Dec and 20 at Ghallis and 25 at Qawra on 11 Dec.

1994: 1 on 30 Oct; then 9 on 16 Nov and 27 on 17 Nov at Qawra, 3 on 19 Nov at St. Elmo Pt., singles from 15-17 Nov at Ghadira and from 18-21 Nov and on 26 Nov at Is-Simar. Singles at Qawra on 3 Dec, at Ghadira from 5-8 Dec, and at St. Elmo Pt. on 18 Dec.

1995: 1 at Ghadira Bay on 4 Nov; on 6 dates at Qawra from 8-15 Nov (mostly 1-9 but 40 on 8 Nov) and 7 off St. Elmo Pt. on 10 Nov. Singles at Ghadira on most dates from 12 Nov to 6 Dec and at Is-Simar on 13 dates from 8-31 Dec. Singles at Ghadira Bay on 3 Dec, 6 Dec and 23 Dec.

# Black-necked Grebe Podiceps nigricollis Blongun Sekond

1993: 8 at Għadira from 1 Jan to 3 Mar decreasing gradually - last single on 14 Mar. 1 at Is-Simar from 7 Nov to 19 Dec. 1 at Għadira on 19 Nov increasing to 5 by 24 Nov till end of year. 6 other sightings of up to 4 from 27 Nov to 5 Dec, mostly at Salina.

1994: 5 present at Għadira till mid-Jan, gradually leaving by 31 Jan. 2 at Qammieħ on 30 Mar. Single bird at Għadira from 28 Aug to 24 Oct, then increasing up to a maximum of 20 on 2 Dec, and decreasing again to 4 by end of year. At Is-Simar, 1 from 4-8 Sep, then up to 6 from 18 Nov till end of year. Outside reserves, 3 sightings of 1-2 from 28 Oct to 21 Nov, but 6 at Ras il-Griebeġ on 21 Nov.

1995: Up to 7 at Ghadira in Jan-Mar, decreasing to 1 by 2 Apr. 1-4 at Is-Simar from 14 Jan to 11 Mar. Single at Ghadira on 1-5 Aug, then daily from 27 Sep with up to 18 by end of year. 2 at Salina on 28 Oct. Up to 5 on most dates from 18 Nov at Is-Simar and from 2 Dec at Salina. 10 sightings of 1-2 outside reserves, mainly along NE coast and harbour areas, including 1 at Sliema on 30 Aug.

#### Cory's Shearwater Calonectris diomedea Ciefa

1993: First seen on 8 Mar. Highest counts were in Jul with 1000+ on 17 Jul off Ta' Cenc and on 22 Jul off Tas-Safra. Last record of a single bird at Qawra on 14 Nov.

1994: First sighting from Lapsi on 24 Feb. Regularly present till last sighting off Qawra on 12 Nov. Best counts: 274 off Qbajjar on 17 Mar, 400 off L-Ahrax on 27 Mar and 3000 off west coast of Gozo on 24 Jun.

1995: Present at the colonies from 24 Feb; seen offshore on most days till 6 Nov. Highest counts between mid-July and mid-Aug off NW coast of Gozo, max 4000 off San Dimitri Pt. on 6 Aug.

## Manx Shearwater Puffinus puffinus Garnija tan-Nord

1995: One picked up at Birżebbuga (Freeport) on 6 Sep. First record for Malta. (see II-Merill, this issue p18).

## Levantine Shearwater Puffinus yelkouan Garnija

1993: Small numbers recorded at breeding colonies but ca.30 offshore at Qammieħ on 3 Mar. Then first sightings on 12 Dec with 11 off Tas-Safra and 1 at Għallis. 2 at a breeding colony on 20 Dec.

1994: Regularly seen at colonies and out at sea from Jan till 1 Jun. 30 at L-Ahrax on 1 Mar and at Hal Far on 3 Mar. 1 adult picked up from sea on 13 Sep and released at Wied iż-Żurrieq on same day. Then 13 on 12 Nov and 1 on 3 Dec, both off Qawra. 1995: Present at colonies, and seen regularly offshore, from 25 Jan to 20 May. Usual breeding numbers. Breeding reconfirmed also on Kemmunett. 1-2 seen off Qawra on 6 Nov and 15 Nov.

## European Storm-petrel Hydrobates pelagicus Kangu ta' Filfla

1993: Recorded only at breeding colony on Filfla. 80 counted on 21 Aug.

1994: A colony was rediscovered at Ta Cenc Cliffs, where 8 sitting birds were located on 28 June [see *II-Merill*, 28: 23-24]. 2 pulli were located during the only brief visit during the day to Filfla on 25 Aug.

1995: 20+ were noted during a night visit to Filfla on 2 Sep.

#### Northern Gannet Morus bassanus Sula

1993: 1 at Qawra on 2 Apr and singles at Qawra and Għallis on 13 Dec.

1994: 3 single sightings, all from Qawra, on 13 Nov and 26 Nov, and on 15 Dec.

1995: Singles off St. Elmo Pt. on 4 Nov and 12 Nov, then off Qawra on 15 Nov and 18 Nov, and on 7 Dec.

#### Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* Margun

1993: 1 at Grand Harbour on 8 Jan then 6 sightings of 1-3 birds till Apr. 1 at Qawra on 16 Oct and 33 sightings of 1-9 birds till end of year, including 12 at Tas-Safra on 23 Nov.

1994: 5 sightings from 20 Feb to 17 Apr, all singles but 4 at Kemmuna on last date. One at Għadira on 25 Aug then 38 sightings of 1-4 from 4 Oct till end of year (most during second halves of Nov and Dec) but flocks of 6 on 6 Nov and 20 Nov, both at Qawra, 8 over Dwejra on 22 Nov and 8 off St. Elmo Pt. on 3 Dec.

1995: 9 sightings of 1-2 from 9 Jan to 16 Apr. 2 at Qawra on 14 Oct, then on most days from 4 Nov to 21 Dec (daily on 4-21 Nov and 2-7 Dec). Mostly singles or in small flocks of up to 14, but 21 over St.Paul's Bay on 5 Nov (1 flock), and 34 at Qawra on 25 Nov (3 flocks).

#### Great Bittern Botaurus stellaris Kappun

1993: 1 at Ghallis on 12 Mar.

1995: 2 on 10 Apr and 1 on 12 Apr at Għadira, then singles on 5 dates from 26 Apr to 3 May, and on 3 dates from 30 Oct to 8 Nov, all at Is-Simar.

#### Little Bittern Ixobrychus minutus Russett tas-Sigar

1993: 1 at Kemmuna on 9 Apr, then singles on 13 sightings from 14 Apr to 30 May. In autumn 1 at Ghadira on 24 Oct.

1994: Singles at Ghadira on 26 Mar and 15-16 Apr, and at Rabat on 2 May.

1995: Singles at San Anton Gardens on 7 May and at is-Simar on 20 May and 24 May. In autumn, at Salina on 15 Aug, then at Filfla on 1 Sep, at Rabat on 17 Sep, and at Ghadira on 28-29 Sep, all singles except for 2 at Rabat.

## Night Heron Nycticorax nycticorax Kwakka

1993: Up to 31 on 17 dates from 20 Mar to 9 May, singles on four dates in Jun-Jul and in autumn up to 26 on 20 dates from 13 Aug to 23 Oct.

1994: 26 sightings of up to 35 on 19 dates from 17 Mar till 30 May, but 200 at Wied iż-Żurrieq on 5 Apr. 1 at Rabat on 1 Aug and 5 at Ta' Xbiex on 10 Aug; then 23 sightings on 19 dates from 19 Aug to 28 Oct, mostly in small flocks; highest 33 at Għadira on 29 Aug and 25 over Blata I-Bajda on 12 Sep.

1995: 1 at Hal Far on 16 Mar, then on 22 dates from 28 Mar to 28 May (daily from 31 Mar to 10 Apr), mostly singles or small flocks of up to 16, but 32 at Qammieħ on 7 Apr, 50 over Sliema on 8 Apr, and 26 at Għadira on 7 May. Singles on 11 Jul and 22 Aug and 25 Aug; then 24 sightings of 1-8 on 15 dates from 31 Aug to 12 Oct, but 50 over Sliema on 1 Sep, 38 at Ġnejna on 8 Sep and 145 over Pietà on 23 Sep.

## Squacco Heron Ardeola ralloides Agrett Isfar

1993: 1-2 birds on 6 dates from 2 Apr to 13 May. In autumn, singles on two dates but 11 on 11 Sep and 8 on 15 Sep.

1994: 4 at Wied iż-Żurrieq on 5 Apr. Then singles on 9-10 Apr and 11-18 Apr, 4-5 May, 14 May and 30-31 May, and 2 Jun, all at Għadira or Is-Simar. 1 over Sliema on 29 Sep.

1995: 1 at Qammieħ on 9 Apr and 5 at Kemmuna on 30 Apr, 1 at Għadira from 30 Apr to 2 May, and 13 at Kemmuna on 10 May and singles at Għadira on 16 May and 22 May. One sighting in autumn: 1 at Filfla on 1 Sep.

# Little Egret Egretta garzetta Agrett Abjad

1993: 1-3 almost daily from 20 Mar till end of Apr, but 20 at Qammieħ on 9 Apr and 42 at Għadira on 11 Apr. 1-2 birds on 6 dates in Aug with 6 at Mgiebaħ on 12 Aug. Very frequent in Sep with 33 and 31 at Għallis on 2 Sep and 8 Sep. Singles on 5 dates from 3 Oct to 4 Dec.

1994: 2 at Sliema on 14 Mar, then almost daily from 28 Mar to 2 Jun; and 2 on 18 Jun at Ghadira. All sightings of 1-24 birds except for 150 at Wied iż-Żurrieq on 5 Apr and 34 at Ghadira on 11 Apr. 21 sightings on 18 dates between 7 Aug and 5 Nov, mostly 1-6, but 15-22 on 5 occasions. 1 over Is-Simar on 24 Dec.

1995: 39 sightings from 24 Mar to 21 May (27 of which in Apr), mostly in singles or small flocks of up to 9, but 15 on 24 Apr and 18 on 30 Apr, both at Kemmuna. 1-2 daily at Ghadira from 23 May to 10 Jun. 1 on 29 Jul and 3 on 3 Aug; then 40 sightings from 13 Aug to 22 Oct, mosty 1-19 but 30 at Kemmuna on 6 Sep and 29 at St. Paul's Bay on 18 Sep. Singles at Ghadira on 5 Nov and 9 Nov.

## Great White Egret Egretta alba Russett Abjad

1993: Singles at Ghadira on 15 Sep and 20 Sep and 11 Oct and 17 Oct.

1994: 1 at Is-Simar on 17 Sep.

1995: Singles at Ghadira on 15 Oct and 18 Oct.

#### Grey Heron Ardea cinerea Russett Griż

1993: 8 at Għadira on 26 Feb, then 36 sightings on 25 days from 5 Mar to 13 May, highest 50+ at Sliema and 20+ at Marsamxett on 27 Mar. Late singles on 26 May and 31 May and 15 Jun. Then singles at Buskett on 25 Jul and at Għallis on 29 Jul, up to 14 on 8 dates from 10-28 Aug, almost daily in Sep (40 sightings - highest 100 at Għallis and 80 at Dwejra on 20 Sep), and Oct (21 sightings - highest 31 at Qawra on 4 Oct), and up to 5 on 5 dates in Nov. 7 birds (5 at Għadira) on 1 Dec were last record.

1994: Singles on 18 Feb and 26 Feb at Ghadira. 56 sightings on 31 dates from 6 Mar to 12 May, highest 100+ over Grand Harbour area on 17 Mar, 41 over Dwejra on 30 Mar, and exceptional numbers (3500+) over Wied iż-Żurrieq following a storm on 5 Apr; otherwise up to 38. Singles at Ghadira on 18 Jun and at Is-Simar on 12 Jul. In autumn, 1 at Is-Simar on 5 Aug; then regular from 17 Aug to 20 Nov totalling 52 sightings, mostly up to 14, with 5 sightings of 18-34, highest 84 at Dwejra on 21 Sep.

1995: 3 sightings of singles between 7 Jan and 4 Feb; then on 27 dates from 25 Feb to 6 May, mostly up to 14 but 22-63 on 7 dates. Singles at Għadira on 20 May and on 9-10 Jun. 3 sightings on 28-29 Jul and 8 sightings of 1-4 from 6-16 Aug. Almost daily from 22 Aug to 1 Sep (highest 55 at Ćirkewwa on 24 Aug) and from 6 Sep to 11 Oct, mostly up to 33 but 42 at Ġnejna on 8 Sep, 50 over Pietà on 19 Sep, and 50-200 on 23-24 Sep (5 sites). Then 45 at Dwejra on 6 Oct, 9 sightings of 1-5 from 18 Oct to 16 Nov, and 1 at Għadira on 9 Dec.

#### Purple Heron Ardea purpurea Russett Ahmar

1993: First record on 30 Mar, singles on 11 dates from 5 Apr to 14 May, but 9 at Għadira on 11 Apr and 4 at Manoel Island on 12 May. In autumn recorded more regularly, with an early bird on 13 Aug at Għadira and on 18 days from 30 Aug to 30 Oct. Highest counts of 13 on 16 Sep at Għaliis and 12 at Għadira on 30 Aug, otherwise 1-7.

1994: 20 sightings on 15 dates between 30 Mar and 8 May, mostly 1-4, but 1500 at Wied iż-Żurrieq on 5 Apr. In autumn, 8 sightings of 1-2 (except for 20 at Għadira on 22 Sep) from 3 Sep to 20 Oct mostly at Għadira.

1995: 12 sightings from 29 Mar to 17 Apr, mostly 1-6 but 10 on 7 Apr (2 sites) and 23 over Kemmuna on 16 Apr. 4 sightings of 1-4 from 25 Apr to 6 May mostly at Kemmuna. In autumn 8 over Dwejra on 25 Aug, then 3 sightings of 1-3 up to 1 Sep, and 7 sightings from 5 sites from 19 to 24 Sep, including 23 on 23 Sep and 20 on 24 Sep both at Wied Speranza.

#### 'Heron' sp.

1993: ca.15 at Ghajnsielem on 12 Mar and 60 at Żongor Pt. on 27 Mar. In autumn 31+ at Ghallis on 27 Aug and on another 7 dates till 30 Sep with ca.100 at Buskett on 20 Sep.

1995: 2 sightings of 10 in spring (9 Apr and 11 May) and 6 sightings from 13 Aug to 24 Sep, most 1-5 but 50 on 8 Sep (2 sites) and 20 on 9 Sep.

# Black Stork Ciconia nigra Čikonja Sewda

1993: Singles on 17 May at Marsaxlokk and on 6 dates in autumn from 31 Aug to 20 Oct.

1994: Singles at Ghadira on 7 May, at Buskett on 24 Sep, at Ghadira on 8 Oct and at is-Simar on 21 Oct.

### White Stork Ciconia ciconia Cikonja Bajda

1993: 1 on 2 Sep at Buskett.

1994: 9 over Buskett on 28 Aug and 6 over Dwejra and Buskett on 10 Sep.

1995: Singles over Dwejra on 16 Sep and Ghajn Tuffieha on 29 Oct.

## 'Stork' sp.

1993: Singles at Ta' Qali on 10 Mar and at Dwejra Lines on 27 Sep.

1994: 1 at Wied Dalam on 19 Sep.

### Glossy Ibis Plegadis falcinellus Velleran

1993: 4 on 10 Apr at Sarraflu, at 3 sites on 13 Apr (highest 5 at Ghadira) then 1 at Is-Simar on 21 Apr . In autumn 4 at Ghadira and 1 at Ghallis on 15 Sep.

1994: Singles over Ghadira on 17 Mar and at Marsascala on 15 Apr and 1 at Kemmuna and 10 over Ghadira on 30 Apr. Last sighting on 6 Aug over Ghadira Bay.

1995: 31 at Qammieħ on 7 Apr, 2 at Għadira on 7-8 Apr and 3 at Għajn Tuffieħa on 23 Apr. Singles on 2 Sep at St. Elmo Pt. and on 21 Sep at Dwejra and 12 on 5 Nov, again at St. Elmo Pt.

## Eurasian Spoonbill Platalea leucorodia Paletta

1993: 4 at Gnejna on 28 Sep and 1 at Ghallis on 29 Sep.

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1994: 1 at Victoria on 18 Mar.

1995: 2 at Għadira and 1 at Salina on 29 Mar (1 at Għadira remaining till 31 Mar) and 3 at Salina on 2-3 Apr. Then 1 at Għadira from 22 Jul-7 Aug.

## Greater Flamingo Phoenicopterus ruber Fjamingu

1993: 2 on 19 Nov and 20+ on 27 Nov at Qawra.

1994: One present from 16-21 Mar, 2 on 24 Aug, and singles on 21 and 22 Oct all at Għadira. Reports of 40 around Għadira area in mid-Nov and of 50 at Sliema on 1 Dec.

# Mute Swan Cygnus olor Cinju Mutu

1993: ca.25 at Ghadira on 10 Jan and 1 at Ghadira and 9 at Ghallis on 11 Jan. Then single at Ghadira on 5 Dec, 4 at Is-Simar and at San Tumas on 8 Dec and singles at Salina on 23 Dec, at San Tumas on 25 Dec, at Paceville on 26 Dec and at St George's Bay on 27 Dec.

1995: 13 reported from the south of Malta on 12 Dec.

#### Greylag Goose Anser anser Wiżża Griża

1993: 2 at Qawra on 5 Dec and 3 at San Gwann on 28 Dec.

## 'Grey' geese Anser sp.

1994: 8 off St. Elmo on 3 Dec.

## Ruddy Shelduck Tadorna ferruginea Kuluvert Ahmar

1995: 1 at Ghadira on 29-30 Nov.



#### Common Shelduck Tadorna tadorna Kuluvert tas-Salib

1993: 3 at Xagħra and 4 at Għadira on 1 Jan and 1 at Għadira on 3 Jan. Then 7 at Għallis on 3 Nov and 8 sightings from 16-19 Nov (highest 55+ at Tas-Safra on 16 Nov). 1 at Għadira from 23 Nov, then 2 from 18 Dec, till end of year and 4 sightings of up to 7 in other localities in the first half of Dec.

1994: 1 at Ghadira from 1-13 Jan, then 3 at Ghadira on 29 Jan. In autumn, 1-2 at Ghadira from 27 Oct-11 Dec. 8 sightings from Qawra from 5 Nov to 3 Dec of 2-21 but 53 on 18 Nov. 25 over Ghadira Bay on 16 Nov and 1 at Ghadira on 29 Dec. 1995: 21 at Qammieh on 15 Mar. Then 5 on 13 Nov, 8 on 19 Nov and 1 on 21 Nov off NE coast.

## Eurasian Wigeon Anas penelope Silfjun Ewropew

1993: 1 at Ghadira on 29 Jan. Then 3 at Qawra and 1 at Is-Simar on 31 Oct, the latter staying there till 3 Nov. 5 at Ghallis on 14 Nov and up to 4 at Ghadira from 16 Nov till end of year. 5 other sightings during latter period at other localities, max.20 at Ghallis on 4 Dec.

1994: 2 at Ghadira from 1-30 Jan. Singles on 13 Oct and 27 Oct at Ghadira and 7 on 14 Oct and 4 on 19 Oct at Qawra. Daily at Ghadira from 8 Nov till end of year, highest 12 on 21 Dec. 4 sightings at Qawra: 90 on 16 Nov, 20 on 17 Nov and 12 on 30 Nov and 5 on 3 Dec. Single bird at Is-Simar on 3-5 Dec.

1995: Up to 8 wintering in Jan-Mar till 20 Mar and 1 (flightless) daily from 21 Mar to 11 Jul, all at Ghadira; and 14 at Qammieh on 9 Apr. 2 in Gozo Channel on 3 Aug; then 1-4 daily at Ghadira from 19 Oct till end of year. Up to 25 on 7 dates from 7 Nov to 9 Dec off NE coast (3 sites), but 75 off Qawra on 9 Nov.

#### Gadwall Anas strepera Kuluvert Griż

1994: 1 at Ghadira on 17 Nov.

1995: 1 at Ghadira on 12 Jan and 2 off Qawra on 28 Nov.

### Common Teal Anas crecca Sarsella

1993: Singles at Ghadira on 6 Jan and 10 Jan and 2 at Qammieh on 27 Mar. Then on 10 dates from 23 Oct to 4 Dec, highest 8 at Ghadira on 27-28 Oct .

1994: 1-2 daily at Ghadira from 31 Aug to 7 Sep, but 6 on 3-4 Sep, and 1 again there on 20 Sep. 4 at Is-Simar on 21 Sep; then up to 8 on most days from 1 Oct till mid-Dec, all, but one, at Is-Simar or Ghadira.

1995: 1-2 daily at Ghadira on 1-13 Jan, then singles at Is-Simar on 28 Jan and at Ghadira from 12-20 Feb. Singles on 1 Sep and 21-22 Sep, then 1-8 almost daily from 29 Sep till end of year, all at Ghadira. Up to 8 almost daily from 25 Oct onwards at Is-Simar. Outside reserves, recorded only from Qawra, with 40 on 8 Nov.

## Mallard Anas platyrhynchos Kuluvert

1993: 1-3 at Ghadira from 1-9 Jan. Singles at Ghadira on 30 Apr and 4 May. 2 at Is-Simar on 25 July and 1 at Ghadira on 12 Aug. 1 at Ghadira from 4 Sep to 21 Oct, 1 at Is-Simar on 30 Oct and 4 at Ghadira on 20 Nov.

1994: 10 at Qammieh on 18 Mar. Then 8 at Qawra on 10 Nov, 1 at Is-Simar on 12 Nov and 8 at Ghadira on 17 Nov. Then 2 at Qawra on 3 Dec, 3 at Is-Simar on 4 Dec and 2 on 6-7 Dec and 1 on 28-29 Dec at Ghadira.

1995: 1-3 at Is-Simar on most days from 4-27 Aug, then 1 on 20 Sep and 2 on 29-30 Dec at Ghadira. 5 off Qawra on 25 Nov.

#### Pintail Anas acuta Silfjun

1993: 2 on 11 Jan at Għallis, then 1 on 7 Sep and 8 on 29 Sep. 1-2 recorded almost daily from 30 Oct to 17 Dec, but 70+ at Għadira on 30 Oct and 145+ at Grand Harbour and 15 at Qawra on 31 Oct; and 42 on 2 Nov, 30 on 5 Nov and 19 on 13 Nov, all at Qawra.

1994: 9 sightings from NW coast from 25 Feb to 19 Mar; highest 570 on 26 Feb and 250 on 27 Feb. 1 at Is-Simar on 6 Aug. 8 sightings off east coast from 19 Oct to 19 Nov, highest 80 on 21 Oct. 1-4 at Ghadira from 23-31 Oct, then 1-6 daily from 6 Nov till 21 Dec. 7 over Dweira on 10 Nov, and 2 at Is-Simar on 3 Dec.

1995: 1 at Is-Simar on 4 dates in Jan and 1-2 on 4 dates from 4 to 18 Feb, but 17 at Qammieħ on 18 Feb. 8 sightings of up to 40 from 13-25 Mar, mostly in Gozo Channel area, but 300 on 20 Mar off Qammieħ. 1 at Għadira on 17-18 Apr. In autumn, 10 on 15 Sep over Dwejra and 5 on 23 Sep at Għadira. Then 1 from 28 Sep to 7 Oct, and on 20-21 Oct at Għadira and 1-2 on 10 dates in Nov, and 1 daily throughout Dec also at Għadira except for 1 at Is-Simar on 4 Nov.

#### Garganey Anas querquedula Sarsella Hamra

1993: Recorded on 8 days in spring from 20 Mar to 9 Apr, highest counts at Qammieħ with 275 on 1 Apr and 400 on 2 Apr. Then 3-11 on six dates in Sep mostly at Għallis and 1 at Ramla Valley on 31 Oct.

1994: Daily at Qammieħ from 30 Mar to 1 Apr, highest 140 on 30 Mar. At Għadira, 1-5 on 9 dates from 16 Aug to 1 Sep. 1-2 at Is-Simar on 5 dates from 17-28 Aug. 30 on 11 Sep and 7 on 24 Sep off Qawra. Single at Għadira on 6 Nov.

1995: Singles daily at Ghadira on 4-19 Mar, but 7 on 15 Mar, then 1 at Ghadira on 29 Mar. 6 sightings of up to 153 (but 3000+ on 25 Mar) off Qammieh from 11-26 Mar. 1 at Salina on 29 Mar and 3 at Is-Simar on 10 Apr. Then 1-12 almost daily at Is-Simar from 14 Aug to 11 Sep, 1-10 on 7 dates at Ghadira from 12-25 Sep, 5 at Qawra on 23 Sep and 1 almost daily at Is-Simar from 28 Sep to 5 Oct and from 15-30 Oct. Latest, 1 at Ghadira on 26 Oct.

## Northern Shoveler Anas clypeata Palettuna

1993: Singles at Ghadira on 23 Apr and at Is-Simar from 21-28 Aug.

1994: 5 at Qammieh on 19 Mar, 3 at Ghadira on 22 Oct and 8 at Qawra on 17 Nov.

1995: One spring record: 1 off Qammieħ on 23 Mar. Singles on 18 Oct and 3 Nov, then 1-2 on 6 dates from 26 Oct to 8 Nov and daily from 8-19 Nov and from 30 Nov to 19 Dec, all records from Is-Simar and Għadira. 11 off Qawra on 10 Dec.

#### Common Pochard Aythya ferina Brajmla

1993: 2 at Qammieħ on 27 Mar, 40 at Għallis on 28 Nov and 1 at Lazzarett Creek on 21 Dec.

1994: 1 on 31 Oct, then 1-3 from 18 Nov till end of year, all at Ghadira.

1995: Up to 3 daily from 1-18 Jan and 1 from 23 Jan to 11 Feb and on 24 Apr, all at Ghadira. Up to 3 daily at Is-Simar on 16-26 Oct and 5-8 Nov. 1 at Ghadira and 10 off Qawra both on 7 Nov, and 25 off Qawra on 24 Nov.

## Ferruginous Duck Aythya nyroca Brajmla ta' I-Ghajn

1993: Singles at Qbajjar and Ghadira on 16 Apr, at Is-Simar on 17 Apr, and at Ghadira on 4 May.

1994: Singles at Ghadira from 9-15 May and at Is-Simar from 18-27 Jun. In autumn singles at Ghadira on 21-22nd and at Qawra on 25 Sep, and 2 at Ghadira on 22 Oct.

1995: Singles at Ghadira from 21 Feb to 10 Mar and from 25 Mar to 8 Apr, and at Is-Simar on most days from 14-29 Jun, 15-17 Aug, 10 Sep to 1 Oct and 13 Nov to 24 Dec, all at Is-Simar. 3 off Qawra on 24 Nov.

## Tufted Duck Aythya fuligula Brajmla tat-Toppu

1994: 1 at Għadira from 29-30 Nov.

## Red-breasted Merganser Mergus serrator Serra

1993: Singles at Qawra on 31 Oct and at Ghadira from 17-18 Nov, 3 at Qawra and 2 at Ghallis on 20 Nov and 1 at Ghallis on 27 Nov.

1994: Singles from 5-6 Nov, 6 on 14 Nov and 3 on 19 Nov off east coast.

1995: 6 off Qawra on 9 Nov and singles at Ghadira from 21-23 Nov and at Qawra on 24 Nov and 2 Dec.

## 'Duck sp.' Anas sp.

1993: 8 records from 26 Feb to 9 Apr, highest 120+ off Qammieħ on 9 Apr. 4 sightings from 10-27 Sep, highest 10 at Għallis on last date, then frequent sightings (mostly single or low double figures) from 23 Oct to 11 Dec, highest 200+ off Qawra on 30 Oct, 38 at Għallis on 14 Nov and 35 at Qawra on 5 Dec.

1994: 11 sightings from 19 Feb to 5 Apr, varying from low double to low treble figures, with highest of 600 at Qammieħ on 22 Mar. Single on 21 Sep, then on most dates off east coast of Malta, with 370 at Qawra highest on 16 Nov.

1995: 15 on 19 Feb, then 15 sightings from 11 Mar to 9 Apr, mostly in Gozo Channel area, in low double to treble figures of up to 250 but 1000+ on 25 Mar. 1 on 3 Aug and 1-2 on 2 dates in Sep; then 15 sightings fom 11 Oct to 10 Dec, in single to high double figures, but 120 off Qawra on 9 Nov.

#### European Honey-buzzard Pernis apivorus Kuċċarda

1993: Frequent in low single figures from 22 Apr to 18 May, but 25 at Kemmuna on 7 May. Then singles at Ghadira on 30 May and at Dwejra Lines on 27 Jun and 29 Jun. In Autumn recorded almost daily from 1 Sep to 12 Oct with the peak migration from 17-18 Sep, the highest count of 422 at Buskett on 18, otherwise frequent in single or double figures.

1994: In spring 25 sightings from 16 Apr to 25 May, mostly 1-5, but 19 over Dwejra on 26 Apr and 9 over Kemmuna on 5 May. Almost daily from 28 Aug to 9 Oct, with latest record of 2 over Wied Dalam on 16 Oct, mostly single to low double figures, highest 62 at Buskett on 17 Sep, 65 at Dwejra on 25 Sep, 82+ at Rabat/Dwejra on 26 Sep, and 62 over Buskett on 2 Oct. 1995: 1 on 9 Apr, then 15 sightings of 1-7 on 10 dates from 22 Apr to 25 May. Singles on 20 Jul and 22 Aug, then on most dates from 2 Sep to 15 Oct. Mostly in single to low double figures of up to 27 (highest numbers in second half of Sep), but 40 over Buskett and 81 over Pietà on 22 Sep.

## Black Kite Milvus migrans Astun Iswed

1993: 1 at Qammieħ on 13 Mar then on 7 dates in Sep with 4 at Nadur on 7 Sep and 18 Sep. Last record of 1 at Nadur/Dwejra on 6 Oct.

1994: 1 over Ghadira on 8 Mar, then 7 sightings from 25 Mar to 3 May, all singles except 4 over Kemmuna on 30 Mar. In autumn, 12 sightings of 1-3 from 28 Aug to 3 Oct, all from Buskett-Rabat-Dweira area.

1995: 11 sightings from 25 Mar to 12 May (7 in Apr), mostly singles, but 3 at Kemmuna and 5 over Mselliet on 2 Apr. In autumn, singles on 8 dates in Sep but 2 on 2 Sep and 3 on 21 Sep at Buskett.

#### Red Kite Milvus milvus Astun Ahmar

1994: 1 over Buskett on 10 Sep.

# Egyptian Vulture Neophron percnopterus Avultun Abjad

**1993**: 1 at Buskett on 30 Sep. **1994**: 1 over Rabat on 2 Oct.

1995: 1 immature over Msida on 20 Sep.

# Short-toed Eagle Circaetus gallicus Ajkla Bajda

1993: Unusual influx on 10 Nov with a flock of ca.50 reported in the north of Malta and 29 (could be part of same flock) at Bingemma.

1994: 1 over Rabat on 7 Oct; then 25 (reported shot) from Ghajn Tuffieha area on 29 Nov.

1995: 1 over San Gwann on 24 Oct.

## Marsh Harrier Circus aeruginosus Baghdan Ahmar

1993: Low single figures almost daily from 3 Mar to 13 May, but 15 at Nuffara on 21 Mar, 20 at Marsalforn on 25 Mar and 60 at Nuffara on 29 Mar, and 20 at Nuffara on 22 Apr. 1 at L-Aħrax on 27 May. Then up to 3 (but 7 at Għallis on 16 Aug) on 5 dates in August from 11 Aug; daily in Sep with up to mid-double figures (highest 88 at Buskett on 21 Sep); and almost daily in single figures till 12 Oct. Last birds: singles at Dwejra on 15 Oct and at Is-Simar on 28 Oct and at Tal-Handaq on 8 Nov. 1994: On most days from 1 Mar to 11 May, mostly in single figures but 21 on 28 Mar and 20 on 25 Apr over Dwejra. Singles on 23 and 25 May. In autumn from 28 Aug to 21 Oct (mostly from 21 Sep to 7 Oct), up to mid-double figures, but 62 on 24 Sep and 70 on 25 Sep and 59 on 1 Oct, all over Dwejra. Single at Għajn Tuffieha on 11 Nov.

1995: On most days in spring from 5 Mar to 31 May (daily from 27 Mar to 5 Apr, 15-28 Apr and 6-13 May), in single to low double figures of up to 20 but 35 at Kemmuna on 31 Mar. 1 at Ta' Qali on 28 Jul, then on most dates from 2 Sep to 11 Oct, mostly in single to double figures of up to 53, but 110 at Buskett on 22 Sep, 85 at Buskett on 25 Sep, and 120 at Buskett and 88 at Dwejra on 26 Sep. 3 sightings of singles from 4-10 Nov.

#### Hen Harrier Circus cyaneus Baghdan Abjad Prim

1993: Singles at Kemmuna on 13 Apr, at Is-Simar on 27 Apr and in Grand Harbour on 24 Sep.

1994: 1 over Dwejra on 25 Mar.

# Pallid Harrier Circus macrourus Baghdan Abjad

1993: Singles at Luqa Airport on 15 Mar, at Nadur (Malta) on 17 Sep and 1 Oct, at Buskett on 2 Oct and at Qawra on 5 Nov.

1994: Singles over Tac-Cawla on 17 Mar, at Kemmuna on 26 Apr, at Buskett on 27 Sep and at Kemmuna on 30 Oct.

1995: Singles at Mellieha on 10 Apr, at Buskett on 17 Apr, and Wied Speranza on 23 Sep.

# Montagu's Harrier Circus pygargus Baghdan Griż

1993: Singles on 9 dates from 1 Apr to 8 May (but 2 at Kemmuna on 20 Apr and 3 at Is-Simar on 22 Apr) and on 7 dates from 18 Aug to 30 Sep (but 2 at Ramla Valley on 5 Sep).

1994: 1 in the south of Malta on 5 Mar, 1 at Wied Qleigha and 4 over Kemmuna on 22 Apr, 4 over Dwejra on 25 Apr and 1 over Kemmuna on 2 May. Then 2 on 13 Sep, 1 on 14 Sep and 2 on 25 Sep, all at Dwejra.

1995: 9 sightings in spring from 3-25 Apr, all in singles but 2 at Kemmuna on 25 Apr. In autumn, 2 at Buskett on 2 Sep, then 4 singles from 7-22 Sep, all at Dwejra.

#### 'Harrier' Sp. Circus sp.

1993: Up to 4 on 5 dates from 29 Mar to 29 Apr. 1 at Dwejra on 1 Aug. Then 7 sightings of 1-2 on dates from 30 Aug to 12 Sep.

1994: 24 sightings in spring, 6 of which on 5 Apr including 800+ over Wied iż-Żurrieq; otherwise 1-5. In autumn, 15 sightings of 1-2 on 11 dates from 2 Sep to 1 Oct. Most sightings (excluding the one 5 Apr) refer to 'ringtail' harriers.

1995: 17 sightings in spring from 6-30 Apr, mostly 1-3 but 7 at Mellieha on 14 Apr. 10 sightings from 1-25 Sep, all singles except for 8 over Is-Simar on 22 Sep. 1 at Dwejra on 25 Oct. Most sightings refer to 'ringtail' harriers.

# Eurasian Sparrowhawk Accipiter nisus Sparvier

1993: 1 at Rabat on 19 Sep and 2 on 25 Sep and 27 Sept, and 1 on 7 Oct at Buskett.

1994: 1 at Qawra on 5 Oct.

## Common Buzzard Buteo buteo Kuccarda Prima

1993: Singles on 7 dates from 17 Sep to 6 Oct, but 3 at Buskett on 18 Sep.

1994: Singles on 7 dates from 21 Sep to 11 Nov (most records from Buskett and Dwejra, but 1 on 11 Nov over Cottonera). 1995: 1 at Mdina on 25 Sep and 2 over Ghadira on 28 Sep, and 1 over Pietà on 27 Oct.

## 'Broadwings'

1993: 10+ at Sarraflu on 25 Mar, then singles on 4 dates till 25 Apr. Then almost daily from 1 Sep to 17 Oct in single figures, but 13 on 17 Sep, 21 on 18 Sep and 14 on 21 Sep, all at Buskett and 11 on 27 Sep at Dwejra.

1994: Singles at Marsa from 8-9 Mar and at Rabat on 1 May, then 2 at Kemmuna on 2 May. In autumn, 2 over Dwejra on 29 Aug, then 22 sightings from 11 Sep to 30 Oct, mostly up to 15 but 43 over Buskett on 24 Sep and 29 over Mdina on 25 Sep. 1995: 3 sightings of 1-7 from 2-30 Apr. In autumn, 13 sightings from 8 Sep to 3 Oct, mostly 1-10 but 25 (1 flock) over Wied Speranza on 23 Sep.

## Lesser Spotted Eagle Aquila pomarina Ajkla tat-Tikki

1993: 1 at Buskett on 30 Sep. 1994: 1 at Xlendi on 7 Oct. 1995: 1 at Buskett on 30 Sep.

## Booted Eagle Hieraaetus pennatus Ajkla tal-Kalzetti

1993: 1 over Grand Harbour on 25 Sep.

## Osprey Pandion haliaetus Arpa

1993: Singles at Armier on 21 Mar and at Żonqor Pt. and at Is-Simar on 27 Mar. In Autumn 33 sightings of 1-2 (highest total of 6 from 4 localities on 12 Sep) on 15 days from 30 Aug to 1 Oct, but 4 at Dwejra on 13 Sep.

1994: Singles on 18 Mar and 4 Apr, and 2 on 16 Apr, all at Għadira. Then singles on 23 Apr (2 sites), on 27 Apr at Għadira and over Kemmuna on 2 May. In autumn, 1 on 25 Aug over Buskett, then 13 sightings of 1-2 on 9 dates between 3 Sep and 7 Oct. mostly at Buskett and Dweira.

1995: Singles over Għadira on 31 Mar and at Kemmuna on 25 Apr. In autumn, 1 on 2 Sep (2 sites), then 5 sightings of singles from 23-26 Sep, but 2 at Dwejra on 23 Sep. Latest, 1 at Qawra on 10 Oct.

## Lesser Kestrel Falco naumanni Spanjulett Sekond

1993: Singles at Kemmuna on 19 Mar and 8 May. Then 17 sightings of 1-2 on 15 dates from 7 Sep to 12 Oct.

1994: Singles at Kemmuna on 30 Mar, at Xagħra on 9 Apr and again at Kemmuna on 22 Apr. 13 sightings of 1-2 on 9 dates in Sep, mostly from Buskett and Dwejra, but 5 at Dwejra on 29th. Then 5 at Rabat on 7 Oct.

1995: 7 at Ta Qali on 30 Mar, 1 at Kemmuna on 31 Mar and 1 on 3 Apr and 3 on 5 Apr at Dwejra. Then 14 sightings on 11 dates from 8 Sep to 15 Oct, mostly 1-5 but 17 at Dwejra on 22 Sep.

## Common Kestrel Falco tinnunculus Spanjulett

1993: Singles at Kemmuna on 13 Jan and 17 Jan, and at other sites on 5 dates in Feb. Then almost daily with 1-4 from 7 Mar to 17 May but 6 at Kemmuna on 12 Apr. Singles at Dwejra on 5 Jun and 8 Jun and 2 at Kemmuna on 17 July. Again almost daily from 20 Aug to 21 Oct with up to 10, but up to 19 on 4 dates. Then singles on 12 dates from 31 Oct to end Dec, but 2 on 20 Nov and 3 on 23 Dec at Dwejra.

1994: 15 sightings of 1-2 from 2 Jan to 25 Feb. Then almost daily from 1 Mar to 23 May, mostly 1-4 but 6 at Lunzjata on 4 Apr, 8 at Wied il-Kappuccini on 7 Apr, and 5 at Kemmuna on 16 May and 18 May. Most of the later spring records come from Kemmuna where 1-3 birds were present almost daily. 6 sightings of singles from 4 Jun to 15 Aug. In Sep, 1-4 on most dates from 7 Sep onwards, but 7 on 21 Sep, 9 on 24 Sep and 8 on 30 Sep, all at Dwejra, and 8 at Buskett on 24 Sep. In Oct on 19 dates, mostly 1-7 but 70 over Rabat and 22 at Xlendi, both on 7 Oct. Then singles on 6 dates from 1-13 Nov and on 3 dates from 26-31 Dec.

1995: 9 sightings of 1-2 from 8 Jan to 1 Mar. Then up to 5 on most dates from 11 Mar to 31 May (daily on 11-25 Apr), but 6 at Qammieħ on 30 Mar and 7 at Kemmuna on 13 Apr. Singles at Tal-Ġordan on 27 Jun and at Wied Qlejgħa on 13 Aug. In autumn up to 6 almost daily from 6 Sep to 15 Oct, but 11 on 26 Sep (2 sites) and 14 at Dwejra on 6 Oct. Then 10 sightings of 1-2 from 18 Oct to 29 Dec.

#### Red-footed Falcon Falco vespertinus Żumbrell

1993: 4 at Gharb on 9 Apr, then 1-2 on 15 dates till 25 May. In autumn, 1 at Dwejra on 24 Sep.

1994: 1 at Kemmuna on 22 Apr, then daily from 27 Apr to 5 May, mostly 1-4, but flock of 40 at San Gwann and 7 at Kemmuna, both on 4 May. 1-3 again daily from 9-13 May, mostly from Kemmuna; then 1 at Dwejra on 23 May. Only one autumn record: 1 at Mosta on 20 Oct.

1995: 16 sightings on 12 dates from 17 Apr to 18 May (daily from 28 Apr to 3 May), mostly 1-3 but 250 at Dwejra on 30 Apr. One sighting in autumn: 1 at Dwejra on 26 Sep.

## Merlin Falco columbarius Seger ta' Denbu

1993: One at Targa Gap on 7 Apr.

#### Hobby Falco subbuteo Seger tal-Hanniega

1993: 2 at Dwejra on 29 Mar, then 1-2 on 10 dates from 12 Apr to 13 May. In Autumn 1-6 on 21 dates from 2 Sep to 16 Oct, but 14 on 18 Sep and 9 on 20 Sep at Buskett.

1994: 20 sightings of 1-4 on 15 dates from 4 Apr to 13 May. In autumn, 1-7 on 27 dates from 31 Aug to 13 Oct (peaks on 24 Sep and 30 Sep). Most autumn records are from Dwejra, Rabat/Mdina and Buskett.

1995: 17 sightings of 1-3 on 13 dates from 23 Mar to 18 May, but 20 on 30 Apr at Kemmuna. 1 at I/o Wied Qlejgha on 6 Jul. In autumn on most days from 2 Sep to 15 Oct, mostly 1-5 but 11 on 24th at Buskett.

## Eleonora's Falcon Falco eleonorae Bies tar-Regina

1993: Singles at Salina on 12 Apr, at Cumnija on 18 Apr and at Kemmuna on 28 Apr, at Rabat on 8 May (dark phase) and at Ghadira on 10 May, at Dwejra on 7 Jun, at Iċ-Cumnija on 26 Jul, at Rabat on 5 Aug, at Mgiebaħ on 12 Aug and at Buskett (dark phase) on 16 Aug. Then 1-3 on 7 dates from 2-22 Sep and singles at Dwejra on 12 Oct and at Qawra on 5 Nov. 1994: Singles at Kemmuna on 24 Apr, on 4 sightings at Dwejra from 12 May to 2 Jun, over Filfla on 24 May and at Hagar Qim on 30 Aug. Then 11 sighting of up to 3 from 4-29 Sep, all from Buskett, Rabat and Dwejra and 1 over Dwejra on 5 Nov. 1995: 2 at Kemmuna on 1 May, then 7 sightings of singles at Buskett and Dwejra from 19 Aug to 16 Sep. 2 at Dwejra on 3 Oct and 1 at Wied Dalam on 12 Dec.

#### Saker Falcon Falco cherrug Bies Rasu Bajda

1993: 1 at Buskett on 21 Sep.

## Saker/Lanner Falcon Falco cherrug/biarmicus Bies Rasu Bajda/Bies Rasu Qastnija

1995: 1 at Buskett on 1 Oct.

## Peregrine Falcon Falco peregrinus Bies

1993: Singles at Kemmuna on 18 Apr, 19 Apr and on 14 May, at Girgenti on 14 Jun, at Ghadira on 22 Jul and at Buskett on 6 Oct.

1994: 1 at Ta' Cenc on 16 Mar and 2 at Wardija Pt. (Gozo) on 18 Mar. Then singles over Kemmuna on 4 dates from 1-11 May, and over Rabat/Mdina on 24 Sep and 29 Sep.

1995: Singles at Qammieh on 21 Mar, at Ta' Cenc on 22 Jul and on 18 Aug, and at Buskett on 8 Sep and 17 Sep.

## 'Falcon' Sp. Falco sp.

1993: Singles at Ić-Ćumnija on 20 Apr, at Is-Simar on 22 Apr and at Kemmuna on 25 Apr, and at Għadira on 15 Aug and at Nadur on 25 Aug. Then 1-5 on 20 dates from 1 Sept to 20 Oct.

1994: 14 sightings of 1-2 on 13 dates from 9 Mar to 5 Jun. 1-3 on 13 dates from 7 Sep to 7 Oct. Single at Qawra on 6 Nov. 1995: Singles at Kemmuna on 4 dates from 22 Apr to 5 May. 13 sightings of 1-3 from 8 Sep to 12 Dec, mostly towards end of Sep.

#### Common Quail Coturnix coturnix Summiena

1993: Singles at Ghajn Tuffieha on 1 Mar, at Nuffara on 21 Mar and 3 at Sarraflu on 25 Mar. Then singles on 7 dates from 3-24 Apr, but 14 at Nadur on 22 Apr. Singles at Kemmuna from 9-13 May, at Lunzjata on 15 Aug and at Ghadira on 25 Aug. Then on 6 dates from 7-28 Sep with 1-2 at Ghallis but an influx of 26 at Ghallis and 4 at San Dimitri on 24 Sep. Singles at Ghadira on 3 Oct and 8 Dec.

1994: 1 at Ta' Cenc on 24 Feb, then 14 sightings from 1 Mar to 7 May, mostly singles but 5 at Rabat on 8 Apr and 2 at Wied Speranza on 24 Apr. In autumn singles at the east coast: on 23 Sep (at 3 sites) and on 27 Sep, on 3 dates from 21-29 Oct and at Torri I-Aħmar on 20 Nov.

1995: 1 at Mistra on 17 Mar, then 15 sightings from 3 Apr to 8 May, mostly 1-3 but a passage in low double figures reported on 21-22 Apr and 27-28 Apr. Autumn passage: 5 sightings of 1-2 from 19 Sep to 28 Oct, then singles on 3 dates from 11-26 Dec.

## Water Rail Rallus aquaticus Gallozz tax-Xitwa

1993: Almost daily at Ghadira in Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec with up to 8 (mostly up to 5), 1-2 on 3 dates from 8-19 Apr and singles on 14 Aug and 20 Aug and on 4 dates from 1-17 Sep. Records outside Ghadira were singles at Wied il-Kappuccini and at Kemmuna on 9 Apr and at Salina on 14 Nov.

1994: At Għadira, up to 5 in Jan-Feb, then 1-3 till 25 Mar. Singles on 21 Jun and 8 Jul; then on most days from 11 Aug onwards with up to 4 in Sep. Almost daily in Oct-Dec, with 10-15 from 19 Oct onwards, but 20 on 20 Oct. Outside Għadira recorded only in singles at Salina (13 Feb), Is-Simar (12 Nov, 13 Dec and 15 Dec), and Lunzjata (3 Dec).

1995: Present at Ghadira in Jan-Mar till 16 Mar, mostly 5-10 but 15 on 6-7 Jan. Outside Ghadira, 1 at Is-Simar on 21 Jan. 2-3 again at Ghadira on 7 dates from 12 Jul to 22 Sep, then present there from 9 Oct to end of year; up to 20 on most dates, but 30 on 14 Dec. At Is-Simar, 1-5 present from 26 Oct to end of year.

# Spotted Crake Porzana porzana Gallozz tat-Tikki

1993: Singles at Ghadira on 22 Jan and 10 Sep.

1994; Singles at Ghainsielem on 9 Apr and at Ghadira on 12 Sep and on 8 Oct, 10 Oct and 25 Oct.

1995: 1 at Salina on 3 Apr and 1-2 at Ghadira from 9-11 Apr. Then singles at Salina on 24 Aug and 28 Sep, at Is-Simar on 21 Sep, and at Ghadira on 8 dates from 1-14 Oct and on 11 Nov.

## Little Crake Porzana parva Gallozz Żgħir

1993: 1 at Ghadira on 3 Apr.

1994: Singles at Ghadira on 28 Mar, 5 Apr, and on 4 dates from 5-18 Nov.

1995: Singles on 5 dates at Ghadira from 9-18 Apr (but 3 on 18 Apr), and on 18 Oct, and at Is-Simar. 1-2 on most dates from 14 Aug to 5 Sep, 4 on 30 Sep, 1-2 on 20 dates in Oct and 1 on 5 Nov.

## 'Crake' sp. Porzana sp.

1994: Singles at Ghadira on 6 Feb and 3 Dec, and at Buskett on 8 Aug.

## Moorhen Gallinula chloropus Gallozz Iswed

1993: Recorded almost daily throughout most of the year except in June, mostly from Għadira (highest 6 on 29 Jan, 20 Oct and 3 Nov), Is-Simar (highest 6 on 1 Apr, 7 on 3 Nov, 6 on 24 Nov, and 6 on 16 Dec) and Għajnsielem (highest 7 on 11 Jul and 15 on 4 Sep). Records from other sites were 3 at Kirkop on 24 Jan, 1 at Marsalforn on 17 Apr, 2 at Kirkop on 16 May, and 1 at Rabat on 18 Aug and 21 Aug.

1994: Daily at Ghadira from beginning of year till 23 May: up to 10 in Jan-Feb, up to 8 in Mar and up to 5 in Apr-May. At Is-Simar recorded regularly from Feb till 26 May, mostly 1-4 but up to 8 on most dates in Apr. 15 at Ghajnsielem on 17 Jan, and up to 9 in Apr including at least 2 chicks. 4 other sightings outside reserves in Mar-Apr. 13 sightings of 1-2 from 2 Jul to 31 Aug. Single figures in Sep at Ghadira increasing to 10-25 from mid-Oct to mid-Nov, then 30 on most dates (40 on 1 Dec) till end of year. At Is-Simar single figures in Sep, then 10-25 regularly till end of year. 10 on 27 Dec at Ghajnsielem.

1995: Daily at Ghadira in Jan-May till 8 May, mostly 5-20 but 30 on most dates in early Jan. 1-2 almost daily there from 21 May to 15 Jun, then 1 on 13 Jul. 1-2 on 9 dates from 9 Aug to 16 Sep, then daily from 28 Sep to end of year, mostly 5-30 but 40 on 5 dates in Nov-Dec. At Is-Simar, present throughout year, and also breeding commonly: up to 25 in spring with somewhat lower numbers in Jul-Sep, then 15-40 in Oct-Dec. Breeding also at Ghajnsielem with 4 sightings of up to 7 from Jan-Jun. Outside reserves, 7 sightings of singles at 3 sites.

# Allen's Gallinule Porphyrula alleni Gallozz ta' I-Afrika

1994: 1 adult at Lunzjata on 9 Jan. (First documented record)

## Common Coot Fulica atra Tigiega tal-Bahar

1993: 3-4 daily at Għadira from Jan up to 9 Mar. A single bird recorded at Is-Simar on 7 dates from 7 Sep till end of Oct, then 2-3 there on most days till 17 Dec. At Għadira 1-2 from 17 Nov and up to 3 in Dec.

1994: 1-2 daily at Għadira from Jan till 20 Mar. 1 at Ramla Valley on 23 Jul. Daily in single figures at Għadira from 25 Sep to 22 Nov, then gradually increasing to a maximum of 18 during Dec. At Is-Simar, 1 recorded regularly from 7 Oct, increasing mostly after mid-Nov to low double figures and reaching a maximum of 20 by end of Dec.

1995: Up to 17 daily at Għadira in Jan-Mar till 30 Mar and again daily there from 8 Oct onwards, reaching 31 by end of year. At Is-Simar, up to 18 during Jan-Mar till 22 Mar, then up to 10 daily from 10 Oct till end of year.

#### Common Crane Grus grus Grawwa

1993: 13 at Lunzjata on 10 Jan. Then 1 at Kemmuna on 24 Oct, 21 at Hal Safi on 30 Oct and 5 at Migra Ferha on 31 Qct, 1 at Ghadira on 2 Nov, 2 at Ghajnsielem on 5 Nov, 1 at Kemmuna on 14 Nov and 3 at Ta' Qali on 19 Nov, and 6 at Lunzjata on 5 Dec and 2 at Ghadira on 6 Dec.

1994: 5 at Ghadira and 4 at Dwejra on 23 Oct (possibly same birds), 2 at St. Elmo Pt. on 29 Oct and 1 at Qawra on 30 Oct and 1 over Rabat on 9 Nov.

1995: 13 over Mosta on 8 Nov, 2 at Ghadira on 10 Nov, 6 at Ghadira and at St. Elmo Pt. on 20 Nov. 24 at Dwejra on 9 Dec.

# Little Bustard Tetrax tetrax Pitarra

1994: 1 reportedly taken at Delimara on 14 Nov.

#### Oystercatcher Haematopus ostralegus Gallina tal-Bahar

1993: 3 on the 13 Jul and 1 on 22 Jul at Tas-Safra and 1 on 4 Aug at Qawra. Then on 5 dates at Ghallis 21 on 17 Aug and 15 on 29 Aug, singles on 1Sep and 15 Sep, and 8 on 20 Sep.

1994: Singles at Mgiebaħ on 14 Jul and at Ricasoli on 10 Aug.

1995: 1 off L-Ahrax on 27 May, 8 reported on one date in Jul (no exact date and locality given) and 4 off Ghallis on 19 Jul. Then 9 at Ghadira Bay on 4 Aug, 2 at Salina on 10 Aug, 3 off Ghallis and 25 off Qbajjar on 14 Aug, and singles off Ghallis on 20 Aug and at St. Elmo Pt. on 29 Aug.

## Black-winged Stilt Himantopus himantopus Fras-servjent

1993: Singles on 14-15 Mar and 28-30 Mar at Għadira and on 28 Mar at Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq and at Is-Simar; 2 at Mġarr (Gozo) also on 28 Mar and 9 at Is-Simar on 31Mar. 3 at Għadira and 2 at Is-Simar on 1 Apr, 12 at Għadira and Qammieħ on 10 Apr and 1 on Kemmuna on 25 Apr. Then 1-3 on 26 dates at Għadira from 28 May to 29 July, 1 at Tas-Safra on 18 Jul, up to 5 on 7 dates again at Għadira from 14 Aug to 9 Sep, 1 at Is-Simar on 18 Aug and 14 at Għallis on 3 Sep.

1994: 1 at St. Elmo on 17 Mar and 1-2 at Ghadira from 29 Mar to 3 Apr. Then 27 on 5 Apr and 13 on 15 Apr also at Ghadira with 1 remaining till 1 May. Then again 1 at Salina on 7 Apr, 2 at Fomm ir-Rih on 17 Apr and 1 at Is-Simar on 28 Apr and 7 at Is-Simar on 19 May. 2 again at Ghadira on 3 Jun, then up to 5 on 4 dates (5 sightings) in July mostly at Ghadira and Is-Simar, 7 at Ghadira on 16 Aug, and 4 at Pietà on 5th and 1 again at Ghadira on 19 Sep.

1995: 1 at Kemmuna on 26 Mar, then almost daily from 3-27 Apr, mostly 1-4 at Ghadira and Kemmuna but 5 at Is-Simar on 27 Apr. 1 at Is-Simar on 3 dates from 19-22 May, then 7 at Ghadira on 20 Jun. 1 at Ghadira on 4 Aug, 5 at San Tumas Bay on 7 Aug, then singles mostly at Ghadira and on most days from 13 Aug to 2 Sep. 20 off Qawra on 16 Aug.

#### Avocet Recurvirostra avosetta Xifa

1993: 1 at Ghadira on 4 May and ca.20 at Ghallis on 6 Sep.

1994: 14 over Ghadira Bay on 7 Aug, then 3 at Ghadira on 5 Sep. Singles on 13 Oct and 16 Nov, and 4 on 26 Nov all at Qawra. 1995: Singles at Ghadira from 28 Apr to 4 May and on 13 May. In autumn, 12 off St. Elmo on 10 Nov and 1 at Ghadira on 21 Nov.

#### Stone-curlew Burhinus oedicnemus Tellerita

1993: 1 at Lunzjata and 2 at Wied il-Kappuċċini on 9 Apr.

1994: Singles at Marsa on 22 Mar, at Pembroke on 31 Oct and at Qawra on 6 Nov.

1995: Singles at Kemmuna on 14 Apr, 17 Apr and 23 Apr, at Ta' Čenć on 15 Aug, and at Wied Qleigha on 5 Nov.

#### Collared Pratincole Giareola pratincola Perniciotta

1993: 2 on 22 Sep and 1 on 23 Sep at Ghallis and 1 on 3 Oct at Armier.

#### Little Ringed Plover Charadrius dubius Monakella

1993: Almost daily in single or low double figures from 26 Feb to 18 May (highest 30 at Ghadira on 13 Mar). Then in single figures almost daily from 1 Jul to 4 Oct (highest 11 at Ghadira on 20 Sep) and singles on 4 dates from 12 Oct to 2 Nov. Most records from Ghadira, followed by Is-Simar and Salina.

1994: Almost daily in single or low double figures from 26 Feb to 13 May (mostly up to 16 but highest 40 at Salina on 3 Apr). 1-2 on 4 dates at Għadira from 27 May to 1 Jun, then in single or low double figures almost daily from 21 Jun to 17 Oct mostly at Għadira, Is-Simar and Salina. Flock of 15 at Ċirkewwa on 9 Oct. Last sighting was 1 at Għadira on 26 Oct.

1995: Singles at Ghadira on 17 Jan and 27 Jan, then almost daily in single or very low double figures of up to 12, from 3 Mar to 21 May. Breeding pair present throughout Apr-Jul at Ghadira with 1 young fully fledged by mid-Aug. 2 at Salina on 12 Jun, then up to 10 on most days from 9 Jul to 28 Sep. 2 at Ghadira on 6 Oct. Most records from Ghadira and Salina.

## Great Ringed Plover Charadrius hiaticula Monakella Prima

1993: 1-3 almost daily at Ghadira from 30 April to 31 May. 1-2 again at Ghadira from 3-8 Jul and at Is-Simar on 16 Jul and 26 Jul. Then 1-2 on 4 dates from 18-25 Aug and up to 4 on most days from 4 Sep to 7 Oct mostly at Ghadira with 4 dates in Sep at Ghallis. Singles at Ghadira on 23 Oct and on 2 Nov and 9 Nov and 3 at Salina on 14 Nov.

1994: Up to 3 on 8-9 Apr, then up to 5 almost daily from 18 Apr to 18 Jun. 1-2 present on most days from 23 Jul to 10 Sep, but 4 on 31 Jul, all at Għadira. Outside Għadira recorded only at Salina: 1-2 on 4 dates from 1 Apr to 14 May, then 2 on 29 Jul. Latest, 2 at Għadira on 5 Oct.

1995: 1 at Ghadira on 16 Mar, then 1-4 there on most days from 23 Apr to 25 May. 1-3 on most days from 6 Aug to 24 Sep, then 1-2 on 4 Oct and 6 Oct. 10 sightings at Salina from 20 Aug to 7 Sep, mostly 1-8 but 12 on 30 Aug and 25 on 3 Sep. 3 other sightings: 2 at Dwejra on 6 Sep and 2 at Luqa on 24 Sep, and 1 at Qawra on 7 Oct.

## Kentish Plover Charadrius alexandrinus Monakella Sagajha Suwed

1993: Singles at Ghadira from 17-22 Apr and again at Ghadira and Qawra on 25 Oct.

1994: Singles on 31 Mar, on 1 Apr, on 31 May, on 22-23 Jul and on 2-3 Oct, 2 on 16 Oct and 1 on 17 Dec. Only the Apr record at Salina, the rest at Ghadira.

1995: 2 at Salina on 8 Mar, then singles at Ghadira on 7 Apr, 5 May and 20 Jul and at Salina on 30 Aug. Then on 6 dates, again at Ghadira, from 1-11 Sep, mostly singles but 5 on 1 Sep.

## Greater Sand Plover Charadrius leschenaultii Birwina tad-Deżert

1993: Adult male at Ghadira on 22 Jul.

## Dotterel Charadrius morinellus Birwina

1993: 4 on 4 Sep, 2 on 7 Sep and 1 on 29 Sep, all at Ghallis, and 1 at Nadur on 1 Oct, 2 on Kemmuna on 17 Oct and 2 at Ramla Valley on 31 Oct.

1994: 1 at lc-Cumnija on 27 Mar; then up to 5 on 4 dates from 4 Sep to 1 Oct, mainly at Buskett and Dwejra.

1995: Singles at Marsa on 4 Sep, at Dwejra on 12 Sep and at Ghadira on 14 Sep.

# European Golden Plover Pluvialis apricaria Pluviera

1993: 1 over Grand Harbour on 31 Oct, then 4 at Għallis on 14 Nov and 1 at Qajjenza on 15-16 Nov, and 1-2 at Għadira on 6 dates from 21 Nov to 6 Dec.

1994: Up to 4 on 16-18 Oct and on 6-7 Nov and 1 on 18 Dec.

1995: 11 on 8 Nov, 2 on 10 Nov and 1 on 11 Nov, all at Qawra.

#### Grey Plover Pluvialis squatarola Pluviera Pastarda

1993: 2 at Ta' Qali on 17 Jul and 1 at Ghadira from 25-26 Aug.

1994: Singles at Ghadira from 22-23 May and on 21 Aug, and at Ghallis on 26 Aug.

### Spur-Winged Lapwing Hoplopterus spinosus Venewwa ta' I-Ixpruni

1994: 1 at Qammieħ on 5 Jan.

# Northern Lapwing Vanellus vanellus Venewwa

1993: 5 at Valletta on 5 Jan, 1 at Għallis on 9 Jan and 30 at Luqa Airport on 30 Jan. Then 2 at Dwejra on 30 Oct, and 1-3 on 12 dates from 10 Oct till the end of the year, but 7 at Marsa on 30 Nov.

1994: 1 on 28 Jan at Haż-Żebbug, 3 from 23-24 Oct and 4 on 16 Nov at Għadira. Then 1 at Qawra on 22 Nov and 2 at San Gwann on 16 Dec.

1995: 2 at Hal-Lija on 21 Jan and 1 at Ghadira from 17-19 Mar. 1 at Is-Simar on 22 Oct; then at 4 sites on 8 Oct with highest of 100 at Qawra. 10 sightings from 9-26 Nov, mostly 1-6 but 10 on 24 Nov and 16 on 25 Nov, both at Qawra.



## Turnstone Arenaria interpres Monakella Imperjali

1993: Singles at Għadira on 20 May and on 25 Aug, then at Għallis on 3 Sep, at Għadira on 20 Sep, at Qawra on 21 Sep and at Għallis on 27 Sep.

1994: 3 at Salina on 10 May and 14 May.

1995: 1-2 at Ghadira from 23-25 Apr, then 1-3 at Salina from 11-17 May and 2 at Ćirkewwa on 20 May. In autumn, 1 at Ghadira on 3 Aug.

## Little Stint Calidris minuta Tertuxa

1993: 2 on 4 Mar and singles from 15-16 May and 18 Mar. Then in single or low double figures from 25 Mar to 27 May with up to 20 (but 30+ on 13 May), mostly at Ghadira. Also singles in same period on 7 dates at other locations, but 30 at Santa Luċija and 15 at Salina on 15 Apr. 3 at Salina on 16 Jul, then single or low double figures daily at Ghadira from 18 Jul till end of year, max 42+ on 28 Sep. Up to 10 almost daily at other localities, mostly at Is-Simar, from 22 Jul to 20 Sep.

1994: Up to 3 daily at Għadira from 1 Jan to 22 Feb; then almost daily from 22 Mar to 17 Jun, mostly up to 20 but 35 on 15 Apr and 25 from 8-10 May. 5 sightings from Gozo from 3-10 Apr. At Salina, 1-5 on 5 dates from 1-12 Apr; then 40-50 from 6-14 May, but 90 on 10 May. Single or low double figures daily at Għadira from 17 Jul to 20 Oct, max 20 on 19 Aug and from 4-5 Sep. Up to 15 on 11 dates at Salina from 25 Jul to 23 Sep, but 30 on 4 Aug. 1-5 at various localities on 11 dates from 14 Aug to 7 Oct; then singles on 29 Oct and 21 Nov.

1995: 2 at Ghadira on 4 Mar, then single or low double figures of up to 35 on most days there from 26 Mar to 29 May, but 50 from 30 Apr to 2 May and from 21-22 May. 1-4 on 6 dates there from 3-12 Jun. 20 at Bahar ic-Caghaq on 18 Jul. Up to 30 at Salina, on most days from 7 Apr to 22 May, but 40-50 from 21-22 May. Up to 15 on most dates at Ghadira from 17 Jul to 28 Sep, but 20 on 14 Sep. Up to 10 at Is-Simar from 29 Jul to 24 Sep, and up to 25 at Salina on most dates from 22 Jul to 7 Sep, but 40 on 5 dates and 60 on 1 Sep. Latest, 1 at Ghadira on 10 Oct.

#### Temminck's Stint Calidris temminckii Tertuxa Griża

1993: Singles at Għadira on 23 Apr, 6 May, 13 May, 29 May and 14 Jul. 1 on 23 Jul and 2 on 26 Jul at Is-Simar and 4 on 30 Jul, again at Għadira. Singles at Is-Simar on 18 Aug and at Għadira on the 2 Sep, 3 Sep and 8 Sep.

1994: Singles at Ghadira on 2 May and 9 May; on 23 Jul, and on 11 dates from 13 Aug to 23 Sep (daily from 27 Aug to 1 Sep). Singles at Is-Simar on 23 Aug and 25 Aug and 2 at Salina on 12 Aug.

1995: 1-2 at Għadira on 11 dates from 16 Apr to 24 May, and at Salina on 18 Apr and 11 May. In autumn, 1-2 at Għadira on 6 dates from 20 Jul to 24 Sep, at Salina on 6 dates from 20 Jul to 24 Aug, and 1 at Is-Simar on 6 dates from 19 Aug to 3 Sep.

## Sanderling Calidris alba Pispisella Bajda

1994: 1 at Salina on 12 Apr; then 3 decreasing to 1 at Ghadira from 10-15 May.

1995: 1 at Ghadira from 29-30 Apr.

## Curlew Sandpiper Calidris ferruginea Beggazzina Hamra

1993: Low single figures almost daily at Għadira from 10 Apr to 31 May, but 15+ on 13 May. 1 at Is-Simar on 4 May. Then up to 4 on 10 dates from 14-31 Jul, mostly at Għadira with 2 sightings at Salina. 2 at Għadira and 3 at Salina on 16 Aug, then single figures almost daily from 27 Aug to 14 Sep, mostly at Għadira, highest 8 on 31 Aug.

1994: 1 at Ghadira on 5 Apr, then up to 13 almost daily from 1 May to 7 Jun, with highest numbers from 4-11 May. On 5 dates from 6-14 May at Salina, mostly 3-20 but 45 on 10 May. 1 at Is-Simar on 14 May. 1-4 at Ghadira on most days from 16 Jul to 3 Oct. 1-2 at Salina on 4 dates from 29 Jul to 10 Aug.

1995: 1 at Salina on 16 Apr, then almost daily at Għadira from 25 Apr to 2 Jun (highest 13 from 21-22 May) and on 7 dates from 12 May to 12 Jun at Salina with 30-35 on 4 dates. Then again almost daily at Għadira with up to 6 from 16 Jul to 23 Sep, and 9 sightings of up to 7 at Salina from 11 Aug to 3 Sep. 1 at Qawra on 10 Aug.

#### Dunlin Calidris alpina Beggazzina tat-Tiżż

1993: Singles at Is-Simar on 7 Feb and at Għadira on 24 Apr. Then 2 at Għadira on 16 July and 1-4 almost daily there from the 22 Jul to 29 Aug. 1-4 recorded also on 5 dates in Aug at Salina, Is-Simar and Għallis. Then up to 9 from 11 Sep to 19 Oct, daily at Għadira and on 5 dates at Għallis and Is-Simar. 4 on 14 Nov and 1 on 28 Nov at Salina and 1 at Għadira almost daily from 4-23 Dec.

1994: Up to 5 on most days at Ghadira from 22 Jul to 28 Oct and 10 sightings of up to 5 at other localities from 26 Jul to 8 Sep. 2 on 22 Oct at Qawra, and 1 at St. Elmo Pt. on 5 Nov, 1 at Ghadira on 14 Nov and 2 sightings of 3 and 1 on 18 Nov. 1995: 1 on 16 Apr and 4 on 30 Apr at Salina. Then up to 10 at Ghadira on most dates from 17 Jul to 1 Oct (highest on 20 Sep), and 1-8 at Salina on 13 dates from 1 Aug to 7 Sep. Singles at Is-Simar on 7 and 21 Aug, 2 on 27 Aug and 1 on 10 Oct at Qawra, then 1 at Ghadira on 11 dates from 26 Oct to 24 Nov.

## Broad-billed Sandpiper Limicola falcinellus Beggazzina ta' Mungarha

1994: 1 at Ghadira on 4-9 Aug.

# Ruff Philomachus pugnax Girwiel

1993: Single or low double figures on 5 dates from 20 Feb to 4 Mar and almost daily from 14 Mar to 28 Apr (highest 16 on 3 Apr). 1-2 from 11-18 May and singles on 4 dates from 30 May to 4 Jun. All records from Ghadira with 6 sightings at Is-Simar. Then 1-2 on 9 dates at Ghadira, on 6 dates at Is-Simar and on 1 date at Ghallis from 23 Jul to 3 Oct. 4 at Dwejra on 2 Oct. 1994: Up to 3 daily from 19 Feb to 25 Mar, up to 15 from 26 Mar to 30 May (but 20 on 5 Apr), and 1-2 on most dates till 20 Jun, all at Ghadira. 14 sightings of up to 6 at other localities on 11 dates from 18 Mar to 26 May, but 10 at Luqa Airport on 8 Apr. Singles at Ghadira from 7-11 Jul and 19 Aug, and at Is-Simar on 25 Aug. 2 on 22 Sep and 5 on 24 Sep at Ghadira.

1995: 1 on 4 Mar, then 2-6 on most dates from 29 Mar to 13 Apr at Għadira. Up to 10 on 12 dates from 23 Mar to 21 Apr, then 1-2 from 20-22 May and 27 May at Salina. 2 on 20 May, singles on 10 Jun and 23 Jun, then 1-2 on 11 dates from 5 Jul to 6 Sep at Is-Simar. 1-4 on 11 dates from 17 Aug to 7 Sep at Salina; and singles on 4 dates from 30 Jul to 8 Sep, then 1-4 daily on 14-25 Sep and singles on 26 Oct and 8 Nov at Għadira.

## Jack Snipe Lymnocryptes minimus Cinkonja

1994: 1 at Salina on 13 Feb, 2 at Is-Simar on 8 Oct, 1 at Rabat on 16 Nov, and 1 at Is-Simar on 16 Dec.

1995: Singles at Dwejra on 21 Jan, 5 Feb and 9 Feb, and at Is-Simar on 7 Mar. 1-2 at Għadira on 13 dates from 3 Nov to 5 Dec and singles at Is-Simar on 18 Nov and 26 Nov.

## Common Snipe Gallinago gallinago Bekkacc

1993: 1-3 on 13 dates from 7 Feb to 29 Mar (records from Is-Simar and Għadira) and singles on 12-13 Apr at Salina. Then singles at Għadira on 27 Aug and at Ramla Valley on 28 Aug, at Is-Simar on 8 Sep and at Għadira on 10 dates from 18 Sep to 1 Nov. 3 on Kemmuna on 14 Nov.

1994: 18 sightings of 1-3 on 10 dates from 2 Feb to 18 Apr at various localities; then singles on 8 dates from 1 May to 28 Jun mainly at Ghadira. Singles on 11 dates from 23 Aug to 30 Sep, and on 15 dates from 11 Oct to 21 Dec, but 2 at Dwejra on 15 Oct and a flock of 9 at Qawra on 19 Oct.

1995: 2 on 28 Jan, then singles on 1 Mar and 1 Apr at Is-Simar. 1 on 26 Mar, then 1-3 on 14 dates from 1-25 Apr at Għadira. Singles at Is-Simar on 30 Jul, 4 Aug and 21 Aug, then 1-8 on most days from 8 Sep till end of year. Singles on 4 dates from 21 Sep to 13 Oct and almost daily from 25 Oct to 13 Dec at Għadira. 9 sightings of 1-3 from 6 other localities from 4-30 Apr and from 20 Sep to 10 Nov.

## Great Snipe Gallinago media Bekkaćć ta' Mejju

1994: Singles at Wied Speranza on 20 Mar and at Munxar on 4 Dec.

1995: 1 at Ghadira on 7 May.

## Woodcock Scolopax rusticola Gallina

1993: Singles at Ta' Pinu on 31 Oct and at Rabat on 17 Oct, at Ghajn Żejtuna on 19 Nov, at Rabat on 21 Nov and at Fgura on 23 Nov.

1994: Singles at Rabat on 29 Nov and at Ghain Żejtuna on 2 Dec.

1995: Singles at Għajn Żejtuna on 16 Jan and at Ghadira on 27 Jan and at Rabat on 14 Oct and 8 Nov. 1-2 at Għadira on 6 dates from 15-28 Nov and 1 on 17 Dec. 1 on Kemmuna on 18 Dec.

#### Black-tailed Godwit Limosa limosa Girwiel Prim

1993: Singles at Ghadira on 25 Feb and 27 Feb, and on 5 Apr and over Grand Harbour on 21 Sep.

1994: 1 at Ghadira on 6-7 Apr.

## Whimbrel Numenius phaeopus Gurlin Żgħir

1993: Singles at Qammieh on 4 Apr and at Ghallis on 17 Aug.

1994: 1 at Ghadira from 5-6 Apr and 3 at Qammieh on 6 Apr and 1 at Ghadira on 2 Jul.

1995: Singles at Qammieħ on 24 Mar, at Għadira on 5 Apr and off St. Elmo Pt. on 3 Sep.

#### Eurasian Curlew Numenius arguata Gurlin

1993: 75 on 1 Apr, 1 on 4 Apr, ca.50 on 8 Apr and 1 on 10 Apr, all at Qammieħ, 8 in Gozo Channel on 8 May, 2 at Tas-Safra on 7 Jul and 1 at Għadira on 25 Aug.

1994: Flock of 60 over lc-Cumnija on 20 Mar, 1 at Wied iż-Żurrieg on 5 Apr and 4 at Qawra on Oct.

1995: 10 sightings at 4 sites from 24 Mar to 8 Apr, with 147 on 25 Mar (2 sites), 33 on 26 Mar, 63 on 29 Mar and 55 on 31 Mar, most from Qammieħ. 1 off St.Elmo Pt. on 21 Sep.

#### Spotted Redshank Tringa erythropus Cuvett

1993: Singles on 13 Mar, on 6 dates from 18 Jun to 7 Jul, on 2 Sep and 9 Sep and on 21 Oct. All records, but one, at Għadira. 1994: Singles on 4 dates from 5-28 Apr and from 23-25 Jun; then 1 on 4 Aug, and 1-2 on 8 Sep and from 18-19 Sep. All at Għadira except Aug sighting.

1995: 1-2 on 11 dates from 24 Mar to 22 Apr; singles on 16 May and from 23-24 Jun and 26 Jun, and 1-2 on 16 Aug and on 3 dates from 20 Sep to 3 Oct. All sightings at Ghadira except for 2 singles at Salina.

## Common Redshank Tringa totanus Pluverott

1993: 1-3 on 6 days from 1-15 Apr (but 6 at Għadira on 5 Apr); 1-2 from 15-20 Jun and 28 Jun to 12 Jul; 1-6 on 8 dates from 18 Jul to 28 Sep; and 1-2 daily from 26 Nov to 28 Dec. Most records from Għadira.

1994: Singles on 1 Apr and 8 Apr, on 11 May and on 4 dates from 16-30 Jun. Then 1-4 almost daily from 3 Jul to 1 Oct. 1-3 daily from 25 Oct to 2 Nov; then 1 on 12 Nov and 2 on 17 Nov. Most sightings from Għadira.

1995: 1 at Ghadira on 14 Apr, then up to 3 there on most dates from 18 Jun to 25 Jul (absent from 11-21 Jul) and from 12-31 Aug. Singles at Salina on 26 Jun and 27 Aug, at Is-Simar on 3 dates from 8-12 Jul and at Ta' Čenć on 22 Jul. Singles at Ghadira on 5 Oct and on 4 dates from 9-18 Nov.

## Marsh Sandpiper Tringa stagnatilis Čewćewwa Żgħira

1993: 3 on 3 Apr and singles on 11 Apr, and from 30 June to 3 Jul at Ghadira. 1 at Is-Simar from 17-23 Aug and 8 at Ghallis on 29 Aug.

1994: 3 at Salina on 1 Apr and singles at Ghadira from 3-7 Apr and from 30 Aug to 3 Sep.

1995: Singles at Salina on 12 Apr and at Ghadira on 20 Jul.

## Greenshank Tringa nebularia Čewćewwa

1993: 2 at Għadira and 3 at Salina on 27 Mar; then 1-2 from 10-19 Apr, on 21 Apr and on 7 May and from 12-13 May, and on 26 dates from 4 Jun to 3 Oct (daily from 6-16 Jul). Most sightings at Għadira.

1994: 1 at Qammieħ on 5 Mar; then 1-3 on most dates from 24 Mar to 3 May. 3 on 14 May, then 1 on 1 Jul and 1-2 on most dates from 8-25 Jul. 1-2 on 8 dates from 20 Aug to 21 Sep. Last sighting on 9 Nov. Most sightings at Għadira.

1995: Singles daily from 24 Mar to 23 Apr, from 29 Apr to 2 May, from 19-25 May and from 30 May to 3 Jun (but up to 6 from 7-18 Apr), all at Għadira. 4 other single sightings in Apr, mostly at Salina. Then daily at Għadira from 10-17 Jul and from 21-27 Jul, and on 13 dates from 13 Aug to 24 Sep, singles but up to 4 on 15 Jul. 1-2 on 7 dates at Salina from 19 Jul to 1 Sep.

## Green Sandpiper Tringa ochropus Swejda

1993: 1-2 on 25 dates from 9 Feb to 16 Apr, but 3 at Ghadira on 3 Apr and 5 at Salina from 13-14 Apr. 1 at Is-Simar on 5 May. Then 1-2 almost daily from 16 Jun to 12 Sep but 5 at Is-Simar on 23 Aug and 4 at Ghadira on 30 Aug. Singles at Ghadira on 25 Sep and 7 Oct and 30 Oct.

1994: 1-2 on most dates from 5 Mar to 20 Apr (1-5 at 10 different sites from 1-7 Apr). 1 on 3 May and 2 on 10 May, then singles on 7 dates from 7 Jun to 3 Jul. 1-3 on most days from 11 Jul to 27 Sep, but 4 on 16 Aug at Is-Simar and 9 on 28 Aug at Ghadira. Singles on 5 dates from 5-26 Oct and on 19 Nov. Most sightings from Ghadira

1995: 1 on 10 Mar then 1-2 on most dates from 17 Mar to 17 Apr, at Għadira. 14 other sightings of 1-5 from 14 Mar to 1 May, mostly at Salina, but ca.25 on 30 Apr and 7 on 1 May, both at Rabat. Singles on 8 dates at Għadira from 11 Jun to 3 Jul, but 5 on 26 Jun, then 1-3 there on most dates from 10 Jul to 11 Sep. 1 on 10 Jun and 2 on 26 Jun, then 1-9 on most days from 1 Jul to 2 Sep, mostly at Is-Simar and Salina. Latest, 1 at Dwejra on 16 Sep.

#### Wood Sandpiper Tringa glareola Pespus tal-Bahar

1993: Single or very low double figures (highest 15) almost daily from 15 Mar to 15 May mainly at Is-Simar, Salina and Għadira. Then daily from 5 Jul to 29 Sep with 5 at Is-Simar on 8 Jul and 40+ on Kemmuna on 30 Jul. Last record on 21 Oct at Għadira. 1994: Single to low double figures at various localities on most days from 13 Mar to 26 May, highest 45 at Marsa on 5 Apr. 1 at Għadira on 7 Jun, then 1-11 on most days, mainly at Għadira, from 8 Jul to 28 Sep, but 22 there on 20 Jul.

1995: 1-4 at Ghadira from 2 Apr to 16 May, but 11 on 16 Apr and 15 on 30 Apr. 1-5 at Is-Simar on 10 dates from 19 Apr to 24 May. Up to 20 at Salina on most dates from 3 Apr to 22 May, but 30-50 from 12-16 Apr. 6 other spring sightings, all in singles and 40 on Kemmuna on 13 Apr. 1-9 at Ghadira on 18 Jun and from 30 Jun to 2 Jul, and almost daily from 16 Jul to 24 Spp, but 15-25 from 13-14 Aug. 1-6 at Is-Simar on 10 dates from 8 Jul to 26 Aug. 1-15 on several dates at Salina from 7 Jul to 7 Sep, and 5 sightings of singles in other localities. Latest, 1 at Ghadira on 17 Oct.

# Common Sandpiper Actitis hypoleucos Beggazzina tar-Rokka

1993: 1-3 daily from Jan-Mar. Up to low double figures till 15 May, highest 37 on 14 Apr (30 at Salina). Then in single or low double figures from 3 Jul to 8 Sep (highest 25 on 17 Aug), 1-5 till 8 Nov with singles daily till end of year. Most records from Ghadira and several from Is-Simar but also recorded from 15 other sites.

1994: Daily from 1 Jan to 30 May, mostly at Ghadira (1-2) from Jan-Mar, then at various localities. Mainly 1-6 during migration, but 10 at Ghadira on 5 Apr and 10-15 at Salina from 11-12 Apr. Singles on 7 Jun and 30 Jun, then 1-10 at various localities from 5 Jul to end of Sep. 1-4 at several sites from 3-18 Oct, then 1-2 daily till end of year, mostly at Ghadira.

1995: Daily at Ghadira throughout year except for Jun: 1-3 from Jan-Mar and from Jul-Dec, but 3-15 from 11 Apr to 6 May. In Jun present only on 1 Jun and 9 Jun. At Is-Simar, 1 on a few dates from Jan-Mar, 1-2 on 9 dates from 1 Apr to 3 May, then 1-2 from 29 Jun till end of year, but up to 6 in Aug-Sep. At Salina, 2 on 31 Jan, 4 on 2 Feb, then 1-20 from 23 Mar to 6 May (highest on 16 Apr). Singles there on 12 Jun and 30 Jun, then up to 25 from 17 Jul to 14 Sep, but 40 on 24 Aug; and up to 4 in Dec. Several sightings of 1-15 at various coastal areas throughout the year.

## Pomarine Skua Stercorarius pomarinus Ciefa ta' Denbha

1993: 1 at Għallis on 18 Dec.

1994: 1 at Qawra on 4 Oct.

1995: Singles off Qammieħ on 12 Mar and 3 Apr.

# Mediterranean Gull Larus melanocephalus Gawwija Rasha Sewda

1993: 1-10 on four dates in Jan and 15+ on 25 Feb in Grand Harbour. 1-2 on 3 dates from 5-10 Mar and 1-3 at Għallis from 12-14 Sep. Then 1-7 on 14 dates from 31 Oct till end of year, but 10 at St. Elmo on 27 Dec.

1994: 4 at Żonqor Pt. and 1 at Qawra on 2 Jan, then up to 5 on 11 dates from 29 Jan to 17 Mar, but 30 on 29 Jan in Grand Harbour. Up to 23 on 21 dates from 29 Oct till end of year, but 130 off Qawra on 18 Nov.

1995: Up to 100 on several dates from Jan to 23 Mar in Grand Harbour area. 8 sightings of 1-5 at other coastal sites from Jan to 17 Mar. 1 at Qawra on 26 Aug, then in single to low double figures of up to 26 on most dates from 2 Nov to 17 Dec. Most winter records from Qawra and St. Elmo Pt.

## Little Gull Larus minutus Gawwija Żgħira

1993: 1 at Valletta on 15 Jan.

1994: Singles (immatures) at Ghadira on 23 Jan (heavily oiled) and at St.Elmo Pt. on 21 Nov and 18 Dec.

1995: Singles on 9 dates from 3 Jan to 16 Feb, but 5 at Pietà on 16 Jan. 15 at Xemxija Bay on 6 Nov.

#### Black-headed Gull Larus ridibundus Gawwija Rasha Kannella

1993: Almost daily in single or low double figures from 3 Jan to 15 Mar, but in treble figures on 6 dates in Grand Harbour, highest 700 on 25 Feb. Singles at Ghadira on 1 May, then up to 4 on 7 dates from 30 Jun to 25 Jul, and on 3 dates from 26 Sep to 3 Oct. Almost daily in varying numbers from single to low treble figures from 30 Oct till end of year, highest ca.300 at St Elmo on 2 Dec.

1994: Up to moderately high treble figures in Jan (max 600 on 29 Jan), mostly in Grand Harbour area. Numbers decreasing in Feb to double, then single figures by end of Mar. Singles at Ghadira on 21 May and 30 Jun, then 5 on 23 Sep at St.Elmo Pt. Increasing gradually from 18 Oct till end of year, reaching highest figures of 400 by early Dec.

1995: In double to high treble figures at Grand Harbour area from Jan to 23 Mar, with highest of 800 on 14 Jan and 16 Jan. 18 sightings of 1-15 at other coastal areas (excluding Ghadira), but 100 at Xghajra on 4 Jan and 95 at Qammieh on 25 Feb. At Ghadira, singles on a few dates in Jan-Feb, then 1-3 daily from 25 Mar to 6 Apr. 1-2 on 4 dates from 17 Jul to 1 Sep, then from 28 Sep till end of year with up to 250 at St. Elmo Pt. on 1 Dec and up to 30 at other coastal sites, mostly at Qawra and Ghadira.

# Slender-billed Gull Larus genei Gawwija Geddumha Rqiq

1993: Singles at Ġnejna on 31 Aug and at Għadira on 3 Sep. Then at Għallis 1 on 4 Sep, 8 on 8 Sep and 2 on 15 Sep. 1994: 4-5 from 5-6 Apr and 3 on 18 Apr; then singles on 26 Jul and 31 Jul, and on 19 Aug, all at Għadira. 8 at Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq on 4 Sep, then 1-2 on 10 dates from 10 Sep to 8 Dec mostly off Qawra, but 9 there on 16 Nov.

1995: Singles at Għadira on 23 Feb and on 30 Mar to 1 Apr, and 3 at Qammieħ on 19 Mar. 1 off St.Elmo Pt. on 30 Aug and 2 at Salina on 1 Sep. Singles at Għadira on 6 dates from 25 Aug to 1 Oct, then 5 sightings of singles from 11-31 Oct, but 45 at Is-Simar on 20 Oct and 20 at Għadira on 21 Oct. Latest, 2 at Għadira on 23 Nov.

## Audouin's Gull Larus audouinii Gawwija Geddumha Ahmar

1993: 2 at Ghallis on 26 Sep.

## Common Gull Larus canus Gawwija Sekonda

1993: Singles in Grand Harbour on 8 Jan and 25 Feb.

1995: 1 at Qawra on 16 Dec.

# Lesser Black-backed Gull Larus fuscus Gawwija Daharha Iswed

1993: 2 at Qammieħ on 5 Mar, then 1-3 on 4 dates till 7 Apr. 1-5 on 10 dates mostly at Għallis from 29 Aug to 5 October and 1-3 in Grand Harbour from 30-31Oct. Then 18 at Qawra on 19 Nov and 26 at Għallis on 21 Nov, and singles again at Għallis on 27 Nov and at Ċirkewwa on 8 Dec.

1994: 1 off Zonqor Pt. on 2 Jan, then singles on 5 dates from 8 Mar to 24 Apr. 1 at Ghadira on 12 Aug; then 9 sightings of 1-2 mostly off Qawra from 28 Sep to 15 Dec, but 5 on 4 Oct and 10 on 19 Oct.

1995: 1-2 in Grand Harbour area on 6 dates from 5 Jan to 14 Mar, then 1-2 on 5 dates from 15-27 Mar, mostly in Gozo Channel area. Singles on 25 Jun and 14 Aug, and 2 on 24 Sep; then 8 sightings of 1-3 from 7 Oct to 10 Dec, all off NE coast of Malta.

# Herring Gull Larus argentatus Gawwija Prima Saqajha Roża

1993: 1 at St Elmo Pt. on 31 Dec.

# Yellow-legged Gull Larus cachinnans Gawwija Prima

1993: Commonly seen in single and low double figures with highest count at breeding colony on Filfla of ca.100 on 20 Mar. 1994: Present all year round and breeding at usual colonies. Wintering numbers reaching 100 in Grand Harbour area in Jan. 145 at Filfla colony towards end of Feb. Sightings decreasing in summer but up to 50 in Aug and Sep off St. Elmo Pt. Sightings picking up again from Oct-Dec, with up to 50 at several coastal sites.

1995: Present throughout year and breeding in usual numbers at established colonies. Up to 50 on several dates from Jan-Mar and from Oct-Dec with single to low double figures for summer months, except for 32 at St.Elmo Pt. on 31 Aug. Up to 50 from Jan-Mar but 100 on Filfla on 29 Jan. In winter, 50-182 at St.Elmo Pt. from 1-10 Nov and 100 at Qawra on 11 Nov.

# Gull-billed Tern Sterna nilotica Cirlewwa Geddumha Ofixon

1993: Singles at Zonqor Pt. on 27 Mar and at Qammieħ on 28 Mar, and at Għadira on 15 May and from 10-13 Jul. 2 on 3 Aug and 1 on 4 Aug at Is-Simar, and 1 in Grand Harbour on 4 Sep and 2 at Qawra on 8 Sep.

1994: 13 at Għadira on 5 Apr and 1 at Għallis on 7 Apr. 6 sightings of 1-3 from 4-25 Sep; then 4 sightings of 1-2 from 23 Oct to 22 Nov. Most sightings from off Qawra.

1995: Single's at Ghadira on 9 Apr and at Is-Simar on 24 Aug.

# Caspian Tern Sterna caspia Cirlewwa Prima

1993: 1 at Zongor Point on 27 Mar and 1-4 on 11 dates from 19 Aug to 30 Sep mostly from Ghallis.

1994: 9 at Qammieħ on 1 Apr, then up to 5 at Għadira from 4-6 Apr and 2 at Gozo Channel on 5 Apr. 1 over Għadira Bay on 30 Jul, 4 off Qawra on 19 Oct and 2 at Għadira on 7 Nov.

1995: 11 sightings of 1-3 from 14 Sep to 16 Oct, but 5 on 14 Sep at Ghadira and 6 at Is-Simar on 12 Oct.

## Sandwich Tern Sterna sandvicensis Cirlewwa tax-Xitwa

1993: 1 on 11 Jan at Ghallis and 1 on 20 May and 2 on 3 Aug at Ghadira. 4 at Ghallis on 26 Sep and singles at Qawra on 5 Oct, at Valletta on 13 Nov and at Qawra on 30 Nov and at Ghallis on 5 Dec.

1994: 1 at Pietà on 6 Jan and at Pembroke on 29 Jan. 1-4 on 4 dates in Apr. 18 sightings of 1-6 from 20 Oct to 3 Dec, but a flock of 11 off St. Elmo Pt. on 13 Nov.

1995: 13 sightings of 1-3 from 19 Jan to 9 Apr, mostly off St. Elmo Pt. 1 at Qbajjar on 14 Aug and up to 4 at Ghadira on 14 Sep and 27 Sep. Then 11 sightings of 1-3 from 11 Oct to 2 Dec, but 5 on 11 Oct, 7 on 4 Nov and 5 on 9 Nov, all at Qawra.

## Little Tern Sterna albifrons Cirlewwa Żghira

1993: 1 at Xwejni on 8 Jul. 1994: 1 at Għadira on 27 Aug.

## Whiskered Tern Chlidonias hybridus Cirlewwa bil-Mustacci

1993: Singles at Ghadira on 7 May and 3 Jun.

1994: 1 at Ghadira on 10 May and 2 at Is-Simar from 24-25 May.

1995: 2 at Is-Simar on 20 Jun, 1 at Ghallis on 29 Aug and 1 on Manoel Island on 11 Sep.

# Black Tern Chlidonias niger Cirlewwa Sewda

1993: Singles at Għadira on 8 May and at Is-Simar from 22-29 Jul. 2-6 on four dates from 1-6 Sep and 1-3 on seven dates from 25 Sep to 3 Oct, mainly at Għallis.

1994: 1 at Is-Simar on 22 May and 8 at Ghallis on 19 Aug.

1995: Almost daily from 11 Aug to 7 Sep: 30-50 at Marsascala and Għallis from 11-16 Aug, then 1-6 from 17 Aug onwards, mostly at Salina.

#### White-winged Black Tern Chlidonias leucopterus Cirlewwa tal-Gewnah Abjad

1993: Singles at Ghadira from 15-16 May and at Is-Simar on 17 May. 2 at Ghallis on 16 Sep and 1 at Ghallis on 27 Nov.

1994: 1 at Ghadira on 4 May and 3 at Salina on 6 May.

1995: 2 at Birżebbuga and Delimara from 19-20 Aug and 1 at St. Elmo Pt. on 3 Sep.

#### 'Marsh Terns' Chlidonias sp.

1993: 1 at Ghallis on 29 Jul, then frequently from 29 Aug to 29 Sep in small flocks mainly at Ghallis, max 34 on 5 Sep.

1994: 2 at Ghadira on 6 May, then 15 off Ghallis on 19 Aug and 1-2 on 3 dates off Qawra from 20-26 Aug.

1995: 20 off Ghallis on 14 Aug, and singles at Qawra on 20 Aug and at St. Elmo Pt. on 30 Aug.

#### Rock Dove Columba livia Tudun tal-Gebel

1995: 1 at Qammieħ on 21 Mar.

## Collared Dove Streptopelia decaocto Gamiema tal-Kullar

1994: 1 at Buskett on 12 Jun.

## Turtle Dove Streptopelia turtur Gamiema

1993: Singles at Dwejra and Ghadira on 3 Apr and 8 Apr. Then almost daily from 12 Apr to 25 Jun in single and low double figures, highest 26 on 25 Apr. Singles on dates in Jul, but 3 at Buskett on 12 Jul. Then almost daily in single figures from 15 Aug to 25 Sep, but 50+ at Mtahleb on 14 Sep and 250+ at Rabat on 15 Sep. Singles at Ghadira on 1 Oct and 6 Oct.

1994: Almost daily from 3 Apr to 13 Jun, with most sightings in low single figures except for 2 sightings of 50 in mid-Apr, and 2 sightings of 20 at end of Apr/beginning of May. Regular sightings of 1-3 from mid-Jun till end of Aug, but 5 at Buskett on 3 Jul. On most days from 4-25 Sep, with numbers exceeding 10 on only 4 occasions: 22 on 12 Sep, 18 on 22 Sep and 27 on 24 Sep, all at Buskett; then 15 at Lunzjata on 25 Sep. Then 5 sightings of 1-3 till 24 Oct.

1995: Singles on 4 Apr and 6 Apr, then almost daily from 10 Apr to 31 May. Generally in single to low double figures of up to 25, but a large influx on 24-25 Apr with 80 at Mosta on 24 Apr and several hundreds reported from different sites with highest of 1000+ at Mellieha on 25 Apr. 1-3 on several dates from 2 Jun to 4 Aug mostly at Ghadira, Is-Simar and Buskett. Then, on most dates from 14 Aug to 29 Sep, in low single to double figures: a small influx reported on 1 Sep, then 33 on 17 Sep and 16-40 on most days from 17-23 Sep, mostly at Buskett and Pietà. Latest, 1 at Ghadira on 15 Oct.

## Great Spotted Cuckoo Clamator glandarius Sultan il-Gamiem tat-Toppu

1994: Singles at Wied Dalam on 17 Mar and on Kemmuna on 27 Mar.

1995: 1 at Fgura on 27 Feb and 1 shot on 8 Jun (locality unknown).

### Common Cuckoo Cuculus canorus Daqquqa Kahla

1993: 1-2 on 18 dates from 29 Mar to 25 May, mostly from 9 Apr-15 May. Then one fledgling at Rabat on 17 Jul (first breeding record - see *II-Merill*, 28: 22).

1994: 1-2 on most days from 24 Mar to 9 May, but 3 at Kemmuna on 27 Apr. Singles at Ghadira on 30 May, and at Rabat on 14 May and 12 Jun. Singles at Buskett on 4 Sep and at Hal Far on 11 Sep and at Lunzjata on 16 Oct.

1995: 1 at Lunzjata on 19 Mar, then 12 sightings of 1-3 from 7 Apr to 31 May (most in first half of Apr and at Kemmuna). Singles at Pietà on 19 Sep and 26 Sep.

## Barn Owl Tyto alba Barbagann

1993: 1 at Attard on 11 Dec.

## Eurasian Scops Owl Otus scops Kokka

1993: 6 sightings of singles on five dates from 13-21 Apr, mostly at Kemmuna. Then singles on 5 dates from 27 Oct to 12 Nov and at Bingemma on 26 Nov and at Ghadira on 20 Dec.

1994: Recorded only in spring. Singles at Buskett and Dwejra (Gozo) on 17 Mar, at Għadira singles on 5 Apr and at Rabat 9 Apr, and on Kemmuna 1-3 daily from 16-22 Apr and singles on 4 dates from 27 Apr to 8 May.

1995: 1 at Dwejra on 11 Mar, then 9 sightings from 11 Apr to 13 May, mostly singles but 2-3 on Kemmuna from 20-21 Apr. Singles at Dwejra and Wied Speranza on 7 Oct.

## Long-eared Owl Asio otus Qattus

1993: 1 at Ghallis on 27 Nov.

## Short-eared Owl Asio flammeus Kokka tax-Xaghri

1993: 1 on Kemmuna on 5 Jan and singles at Ta' Harrax and Dwejra on 3 Apr. Then 1 at Buskett on 22 Oct, 2 on Kemmuna on 14 Nov and 1 at Qawra on 4 Dec.

1994: Singles at Qammieħ on 2 Mar, at Wied Dalam on 30 Oct, at Qawra on 5 Nov and at Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq on 29 Nov.

1995: Singles at Għallis on 5 Mar and on Kemmuna on 19 Mar, at Għadira on 15 Apr and at Dweira on 13 Dec.

## European Nightjar Caprimulgus europaeus Buqrajq

1993: 1 at Ghajn Żejtuna on 9 Apr then 1-2 on 11 dates from 22 Apr to 14 May. Singles at Buskett on 10 Oct and at Rabat on 7 Nov.

1994: 7 sightings of singles on Kemmuna and Manoel Island from 19 Apr to 13 May. Singles at Dwejra on 21 Aug and 6 Sep, then 9 sightings at Dwejra and Buskett from 16-30 Sep and at Wied Dalam on 13 Oct. All singles, but 2 at Dwejra on 28 Sep. 1995: 10 sightings from 11 Apr to 12 May, mostly on Kemmuna, all singles, but 2 on 27 Apr. 1 at Dwejra on 29 Jun, then 11 sightings of singles from 24 Sep to 19 Oct, mostly at Dwejra and Buskett.

## Common Swift Apus apus Rundun

1993: Almost daily from 5 Mar to 16 Oct, last record on 25 Oct. Mostly in double figures but low treble figures recorded several times in Apr-Sep, max.700 at Buskett on 22 May.

1994: On most days from 18 Mar to 1 Oct. Most sightings of low to high double figures, but treble figures on 25 dates max.800 on 4 sightings from 7-9 May and on 8 sightings from 22-29 May. 3 sightings of 100-150 from 18 Jun to 3 Jul; then up to 300 on 8 dates from 17 Aug to 6 Sep. Highest numbers from Dwejra. Latest sighting, 1 on 20 Nov.

1995: On most days from 10 Mar to 26 Sep. Mostly in single to high double figures but 14 sightings of 100-500 from mid-Apr to end of Jun and 2 sightings of 100-200 in Aug. Highest sighting of 1000+ at Dwejra on 23 May. Relatively lower numbers from Jul-Sep. Two late sightings: singles at Is-Simar on 13 Nov and at Ghadira on 29 Dec.

#### Pallid Swift Apus pallidus Rundun Kannelli

1993: 1 at Dingli Cliffs on 20 Aug. 1994: 1 on Kemmuna on 20 Apr.

# Alpine Swift Apus melba Rundun Żaggu Bajda

1993: 1-4 on 12 dates from 22 Mar to 8 May, then 3 on 25 May and 1 on 12 Jun at Bingemma. 1-2 on two dates in Jul and again 1-2 on 7 dates from 10 Sep to 5 Oct.

1994: 2 on 19 Mar, then 15 sightings from 26 Mar to 9 May, mostly 1-2, but 3 on Kemmuna on 30 Mar and 4 at Qammieħ on 31 Mar, then 6 again on Kemmuna on 23 Apr. Singles at Dwejra on 22 May and 25 May and at Wied il-Għajn on 18 Jun. In Sep, 9 sightings from 6 Sep onwards, mostly 1-2, but 5 at Buskett on 24 Sep and 4 at Dwejra on 27 Sep. 2 on 2 Oct and 1 on 28 Oct, then 1 on 5 Nov.

1995: 14 sightings in spring from 21 Mar to 30 Apr, mostly 1-2, but 5 at Ta' Čenc on 23 Mar. Singles at Haż-Żebbuġ on 6 Jun and at Is-Simar on 23 Jun, then at Dwejra on 25 Jul. 1-2 on 5 dates from 16-30 Sep, but 20 at Dwejra on last date. Most autumn records from Dwejra.

#### Common Kingfisher Alcedo atthis Ghasfur ta' San Martin

1993: 1-2 at Għadira from 1 Jan to 15 Mar and on 2 Apr. Then 1-3 from 4 Aug till end of year (mostly at Għadira and Is-Simar). 1994: 1-2 daily at Għadira in Jan-Feb, with only 4 sightings outside Għadira. In Mar, 7 single sightings mostly from Għadira, but 1 at Kemmuna on 27 Jul. Singles at Għadira on 20 Jul and at Is-Simar on 30 Jul. Then on most days from 1 Aug onwards (daily at Għadira from 12 Aug till end of year). Outside Għadira, 12 sightings in Aug, mostly at Is-Simar, 13 sightings in Oct from various sites, and 7 sightings in Nov-Dec all from Is-Simar. All sightings of 1-2, but 3 at Is-Simar on 17 Aug and 3-4 on several dates at Għadira from 27 Aug to 10 Dec (mostly in Oct and Nov).

1995: Low single figures mostly at Ghadira and Is-Simar from Jan to 3 Apr and from 12 Jul till end of year, highest 8 in Aug at both sites. Several other sightings of 1-2 at other localities mostly in Aug and Sep.

# European Bee-eater Merops apiaster Qerd in-Nahal

1993: 1 at Kemmuna on 21 Apr then on 10 dates in May with 1-15, but 28 at Dwejra on 29 May. 1-16 on 7 dates in Sep, highest count of 20+ at Dwejra on 29 Sep.

1994: Up to 10 on 5 dates from 16-30 Apr, but 28 at Il-Qortin on 24 Apr. Then 1-10 daily up to 10 May (but 30 at Kemmuna on 1 May and 20 at Cospicua on 5 May) and 6 sightings of up to 8 from 21 May to 14 Jun. In autumn, 1 at San Gwann on 25 Aug, then 10 sightings of singles from 1 Sep to 1 Oct, all from Buskett-Rabat area, but 11 on 10 Sep, and 14 on 21 Sep and 27 Sep.

1995: 17 sightings of up to 16 on 12 dates from 20 Apr to 27 May, but 70 over Birkirkara on 25 Apr. Then 11 sightings on 8 dates from 8-22 Sep, mostly in single to double figures of up to 50, but 75 on 8 Sep at Buskett, 100 over Xaghra on 9 Sep and 78 again over Buskett on 17 Sep.

## European Roller Coracias garrulus Farruģ

1993: 1 at Dingli on 8 May, 2 at Ghadira on 13 May and 1 at Ramla Valley on 15 May. 1 at Ghadira on 24 Sep.

1994: Singles at Ghajn Tuffieha on 17 Apr and at Dwejra on 23 Apr, at Kemmuna on 6 May, and at Ramla Valley on 23 Jun.

1995: Singles at Kemmuna on 21 Apr and 6 May, and at Mellieha on 25 Apr.

## Hoopoe Upupa epops Dagguga tat-Toppu

1993: 1-4 almost daily from 5 Mar-22 Apr, then singles at Kemmuna on 1 May and Bingemma on 18 May. 1-2 almost daily from 30 Jul to 13 Sep (but absent from 8-17 Aug). 3 at Ghallis on 21 Sep.

1994: 1 at Ghadira from 25-27 Feb; then almost daily from 4 Mar to 8 May, mostly 1-4 but 7 at Dwejra on 18 Mar, 10 at Qammieh on 1st and 5 at Ghadira on 6 Apr. Late spring bird on 22 May. Then singles at Dwejra on 9 Aug, and on 4 dates from 21-30 Aug. 2 at Buskett on 6 Sep and 12 sightings of singles from 7-28 Sep.

1995: On most dates from 1 Mar to 25 Apr, mostly 1-5 but 7 at Dwejra on 7 Mar. Singles at Kemmuna on 8 Mar and at Dwejra on 3 dates from 24 May to 28 Jun. Then 23 sightings of 1-2 on 17 dates from 4 Aug to 30 Sep, most towards end of Aug.

## Wryneck Jynx torquilla Bulebbiet

1993: 1-2 on 4 dates in Jan but regular from 29 Mar-24 Apr, max. 4 at Marsalforn on 19 Apr. 1 at Dwejra on 1 May. 1-2 on 14 dates from 25 Aug to 29 Sep and daily with 1-2 from 1 Oct to 15 Nov. Singles on 13 dates from 21 Nov to 20 Dec, mainly at Ghadira.

1994: 1-2 on 9 dates from 1 Jan to mid-Mar, then 1-2 on most dates from 20 Mar to 24 Apr, but 4 at Wied I-Isqof on 27 Mar. Singles on 9 dates throughout Sep, then almost daily from Oct till end of year, mostly at Ghadira where up to 5 present.

1995: 16 sightings from 16 Jan to 8 Mar, mostly at Ghadira. Then 15 sightings of singles from 21 Mar to 6 May, mostly on Kemmuna. Singles regularly from 3 Sep to end of year, but 8 sightings of 2-5 from 30 Sep to 1 Nov (highest on 27 Oct), mostly at Ghadira, and 2 sightings of 2 from 17-18 Nov.

## Calandra Lark Melanocorypha calandra Kalandra

1995: 1 at Birkirkara on 22 Oct.

## Short-toed Lark Calandrella brachydactyla Bilbla

1993: First on 28 Feb and 1-2 on 5 dates from 6-25 Mar. Then up to medium double figures daily from 30 Mar increasing to very low treble figures in late Aug and early Sep, max 110+ at Sarraflu on 3 Sep. Last records, singles on 30 Oct and 11 Nov. Breeding in several suitable localities.

1994: 3 early birds on 26 Feb and 1 on 4 Mar. Then single to low double figures at various breeding sites from 24 Mar to 17 Sep, with irregular sightings till 27 Sep. Spring migration not very evident except for passage of ca.200 over Kemmuna on 23 Apr. Up to 50 on Kemmuna on 11 May, and at Ta' Cenc on 25 Aug. Autumn passage slight with up to 30 on 2 dates in mid-Sep.

1995: Present at usual breeding areas from 26 Mar to 28 Sep. Mostly in single to low double figures of up to 30 at any one site. Highest counts, 25-30 on Kemmuna in May and 50 at Gozo on 25 May; then 50 at Ramla Valley on 2 Jul and 40 at Dwejra on 10 Sep.

# Wood Lark Lullula arborea Cuglajta

1993: Singles on 30 Oct at Qawra and on 8 Nov at Ghadira.

1994: 1 at Qawra on 1 Nov.

## Sky Lark Alauda arvensis Alwetta

1993: Single to very low double figures in Jan to 26 Mar and from 24 Sep to end of year, increasing to low medium double figures in mid-Oct, with highest passages noted in Gozo on 30 Oct (500+), at Ramla Valley on 31 Oct (100+) and at Għadira on 2 Nov (80+).

1994: Wintering in single figures from Jan-Feb (highest of 10 on 4 Jan). Almost daily in Mar till 20 Mar, mostly 1-4 but 5 sightings of 7-30 from 12-19 Mar. Then 1 on 27 Mar and 6 on 5 Apr. Autumn passage on most days from 1 Oct till 16 Nov, mostly up to 20 but max 200 at Ghadira on 27 Oct, and 25-60 on 6 other dates from 13-30 Oct. 1-5 almost daily from 19 Nov till 4 Dec and irregular till end of year.

1995: 1 on 16 Jan, then on most days from 26 Jan to 3 Apr, and 2 on 13 Apr. Mostly 1-10 but 15 in Gozo on 26 Jan. 1 at Dwejra on 28 Sep, then on most days from 2 Oct till end of year, mostly from mid-Oct to mid-Nov. Most sightings of 1-20 but 23-70 on 5 dates from 24 Oct to 18 Nov, with highest at San Gwann on 1 Nov, and 40 at Birgu on 4 Dec.

## Sand Martin Riparia riparia Hawwiefa tax-Xtut

1993: 1-2 on 4 dates from 3-15 Mar and 30 (at Ramla Valley) on 19 Mar. Then almost daily from 30 Mar to end of May, mostly from mid-Apr to mid-May, max 500+ on Kemmuna on 22 Apr. Up to 3 on 7 dates in June till 19 Jun and singles on 7 Jul and 30 Jul. Autumn passage in single to very low double figures from 20 Aug to 5 Dec mostly mid-Sep to early Oct, max 20+ on 2 Oct and 3 Oct at Ghadira and on 8 Oct at Lunzjata.

1994: Up to 5 at Ghadira from 17-18 Mar and 1 at Victoria on 18 Mar. Then, on most days from 27 Mar till 23 May. Mostly in double figures, but 6 sightings of over 100, half of which from 4-6 Apr including highest of 500+ at Salina on 6 Apr. 3 on Kemmuna on 29 May and 1 at Ghadira on 6 Jun. In autumn, almost daily from 6 Sep till 8 Oct in single to low double figures (highest 30 at Ghadira on 29 Sep). Latest, 10 at 2 sites on 16 Oct.

1995: 1-5 on 4 dates from 3-15 Mar, then almost daily from 22 Mar to 30 May, with 1-4 irregularly till 7 Jun. Mostly in singles figures of up to 50 but treble figures on 9 dates (12 sightings) from 14 Apr to 6 May, highest 400 at Salina on 16 Apr. Singles on 6 dates from 24 Jun to 28 Jul, mostly at Salina, then on most days from 25 Aug to 10 Oct. In single to low double figures of up to 20 on most dates but 50 at Buskett on 17 Sep and 40 at Lunzjata on 28 Sep and 30 Sep. 2 at Is-Simar on 17 Oct and singles at Buskett and at Mistra on 12 Nov.

## Crag Martin Ptyonoprogne rupestris Hawwiefa tal-Blat

1993: 1 at Lunzjata on 1 Jan.

1994: 1 at Dwejra (Gozo) on 6 Mar.

1995: Singles at Lunzjata on 28 Sep, at is-Simar on 12 Nov and at Ghadira from 14-16 Nov.

#### Barn Swallow Hirundo rustica Huttafa

1993: Passage from 3 Mar to end May, mostly in Apr and early May. Max 4000 on 15 Apr but treble figures on many days. 1-5 on most days from Jun- Aug. Return passage from Sep-Oct with double and low treble figures from mid-Sep to mid-Oct, max 477 on 13 Sep. Single figures till 5 Dec and finally 2 on 28 Dec.

1994: 1 at Lunzjata on 7 Jan and 15 Jan, then at Għadira where 2 on 15 Jan and then 1 daily there from 17 Jan till 11 Mar. 8 sightings of 1-2 from 18 Feb to 12 Mar, then daily from 17 Mar till 11 Jun. Highest numbers from 4-29 Apr, with several sightings of treble figures, max 500 on 6 Apr and 400 on 23 Apr and 27 Apr. 1 at Wied Qirda on 23 Jun; then 1-2 on 3 dates in first half of July. In autumn, single figures from 21 Aug increasing to regular treble figures from 11 Sep to 27 Oct, max 350 on 3 Oct. 8 sightings of 1-2 in Nov, then 1 on 3 Dec.

1995: Singles at Għadira on 11 Feb and 19 Feb, then almost daily from 25 Feb to 31 May. Mostly in single to high double figures but regularly in treble figures from 23 Mar to 3 May when 200-400 on 15 dates mostly at Salina and Is-Simar. A mixed 'hirundine' flock of 4000+ at Is-Simar on 4 May. 19 sightings of up to 4 from 3 Jun to 18 Aug but 18 at Dwejra on last day. 1 pair bred successfully at Bidnija. Double to treble figures of up to 600 on most days from 26 Aug to 29 Oct, but 2000 at Għadira on 23 Sep and 1000 at Wied Qlejgħa on 26 Sep. 13 sightings (mostly up to 3) on 11 dates from 2-26 Nov, but 15 at Buskett on 12 Nov.

## Red-rumped Swallow Hirundo daurica Regina tal-Huttaf

1993: 1 at Ghadira on 18 Mar, up to 4 in various localities on 6 dates from 4-14 Apr, 1 on Kemmuna on 29 Apr and 2 at Bingemma on 20 May.

1994: 1 at Dwejra on 23 Mar, then 7 sightings of 1-2 at various sites from 5-25 Apr.

1995: 26 sightings of up to 5 on 21 dates from 12 Mar to 26 Apr, but 7 at Salina on 23 Mar. Then, singles on Kemmuna on 6 May and at Ghadira on 21 May. In autumn, singles on 3 dates from 28 Sep to 1 Oct from Ramla Valley and Lunzjata.

## House Martin Delichon urbica Hawwiefa

1993: 2 on Kemmuna on 17 Jan and up to 5 on 4 dates in Feb from 10 Feb. Then daily in single or medium double figures from 3 Mar to 31 May, with some treble figures mainly from mid-Apr to 3rd week of May max 500 on 2 May. Up to 6 on 6 dates from 2 Jun to 15 Jul. Then 4 on 27 Aug and almost daily in single to low treble figures from 3 Sep to 26 Oct, max.300 at Lunzjata on 3 Oct and 10 Oct, and 14 sightings of up to 12 on 8 dates in Nov till 28 Nov. Last 5 at Ghadira on 5 Dec.

1994: 1-2 at 2 sites in Gozo on 25 Feb, then single to low double figures of up to 50 on most days from 6 Mar to 10 Jun, but 100 on 5 Apr and treble figures on 16 other dates from 22 Apr to 10 May. 1 at Mdina on 22 Jun; 5 at Dwejra on 28 Aug, then up to 50 on most days from 6 Sep till 3 Nov.

1995: 1 at Ghadira on 28 Jan, then 1-10 on 12 dates in Feb and single to double figures of up to 80 on most days from 3 Mar to 30 May, but 7 sightings of 100-300 from 16-29 Mar and 6 sightings of 100-200 from 15 Apr to 19 May. 1-8 on 4 dates from 4-11 Jun. 2 on 13 Aug and 4 on 29 Aug, then on most days from 10 Sep to 15 Oct, mostly up to 100, but 200 on 4 Oct. 2 at Is-Simar on 23 Nov and 2 at Ghadira on 6 Dec.

## Tawny Pipit Anthus campestris Bilblun

1993: 11 sightings of 1-4 on 9 dates from 5-26 Apr and singles on 1 May, 12 May and 7 Jun. Two pairs bred successfully in June-July (first breeding record for Malta). Singles on 5 Aug, 21 Aug and 22 Aug (at 2 sites on last date) and 1-4 on most days from 1 Sep to 13 Oct.

1994: 1 on 12 Mar, then 1-3 on most days from 27 Mar to 5 Apr and from 16 Apr to 9 May, but max 5 on Kemmuna on 23 Apr. In autumn, 28 sightings of up to 6 from 6-30 Sep.

1995: 1 on 11 Mar, then up to 5 on most days from 28 Mar to 3 May, but 6 on Kemmuna on 1 May. In autumn, 1-3 on most days from 3-29 Sep and on 3 dates (4 sightings) from 4-13 Oct, but 15 on 23 Sep and 5 on 24 Sep both at Dwejra and 10 at Migra Ferha on 29 Sep.

## Tree Pipit Anthus trivialis Diżż

1993: Almost daily from 13 Mar and daily from 28 Mar to 15 May, mostly in single and low double figures. Then singles on 31 May, 21 Jun and 21 Aug and in single figures almost daily from 1 Sep to 5 Nov. Singles at Ghadira on 7 Dec and 15 Dec. 1994: 1-2 from 1-3 Mar and 1 on 13 Mar. Then daily in single to low double figures of up to 40 (but 80 at Ghadira on 11 Apr) from 17 Mar to 10 May, and 1 on 13 May. Singles on 20-21 Aug, then almost daily in single figures from 28 Aug to 21 Oct, but 12 at Buskett on 20 Sep, 20 at Dwejra on 6 Oct and 30 at Lunzjata on 16 Oct. Singles on 1 Nov and 4 Nov.

1995: Singles on 1 Mar and 10 Mar, then on most dates from 19 Mar to 14 May (daily from 31 Mar to 8 May), with a late bird on 20 May; mostly in single to medium double figures of up to 50, but 100 at Ghadira and Qammieh on 8 Apr and 400 at Iċ-Cumnija on 30 Apr. 1 at Birżebbuga on 31 Jul, then on most dates from 2 Sep to 27 Oct, mostly 1-18, but 110 on 23 Sep and 45 on 24 Sep, then 40-50 from 13-15 Oct, all at Dwejra.

# Meadow Pipit Anthus pratensis Pespus

1993: Low double figures daily up to 10 Apr, max 40 at Ghadira on 31 Mar. 1 at Cirkewwa on 19 May. Then daily in single or low double figures in several localities from 18 Oct to end of year, but up to treble figures in early Nov, highest 150 at Dwejra on 2 Nov and 7 Nov.

1994: In low double figures from Jan-Feb, max 50 at Ta' Čenċ on 24 Feb. In Mar, return passage marked by increase in sightings, with numbers generally low but sightings of 50 on 5 occasions and 100 at Dwejra on 17 Mar. 9 sightings of 1-2 on 5 dates in Apr till 24 Apr. Single at Għadira on 28 May. 1 on 16 Oct and 4 sightings on 19 Oct, then daily from 22 Oct till end of year. Highest numbers in Nov, when 60-120 on 8 occasions mostly at Dwejra; otherwise in low double figures of up to 50. 1995: In single or low double figures of up to 50 in Jan till 10 Apr. Then in single or double figures from 12 Oct to end of year, max 80-100 on 6 dates from 19 Oct to 10 Nov.

## Red-throated Pipit Anthus cervinus Diżż Ahmar

1993; Singles on 15 Mar and 31 Mar, then almost daily in single figures from 3 Apr to 3 May, max.9 at Gerxija (Gozo) on 11 May. In autumn 1-2 on 5 dates from 28 Sep to 30 Oct.

1994: Up to 11 at Marsa almost daily from 23 Feb to 3 Mar and 1 at Ghadira on 26 Feb. Singles at Marsa and Munxar on 24 Mar and 31 Mar respectively; then on most dates from 5 Apr to end of month, mostly 1-3, but 6 at Marsa on 5 Apr. In autumn, 7 sightings of 1-2 from 11 Oct to 4 Nov, mostly at Ghadira. Then, singles at Ghadira on 12 Nov, at Marsa on 22 Nov and again at Ghadira on 31 Dec.

1995: Singles on 1 Jan, 30 Jan, 18 Mar, 28 Mar and daily from 30 Mar to 3 Apr. Then up to 2 on 18 dates from 8 Apr to 4 May and singles on 13 Oct, 27 Oct, and 14 Dec. Mostly from Ghadira.

## Water Pipit Anthus spinoletta Diżż ta' I-Ilma

1993: Singles at Ghadira on 19 Oct, 21 Oct and 23 Oct, at Qawra on 2 Nov, at Ghallis on 27 Nov, and at Bahar ić-Ćaghaq on 8 Dec. 2 at Ghallis on 11 Dec.

1994: 1 at Mtaħleb on 20 Nov.

1995: 1-2 on 12 dates from 30 Oct to 25 Nov and on 18 Dec, all at Ghadira.

#### Yellow Wagtail Motacilla flava Isfar

1993: First on 25 Feb then regularly in single or double figures from 1 Mar to 26 May, reaching treble figures in Apr, max 500 at Is-Simar on 15 Apr. Singles on 9 scattered dates in Jun and Jul. Then almost daily in single or low double figures from 1 Aug to 1 Nov in several localities, but up to 800 roosting at Lunzjata from end late Sep to mid Oct. Late bird on 27 Nov.

1994: 5 single sightings on 1-8 Mar, then almost daily from 18 Mar to end May, mostly in single or double figures of up to 80 but in treble figures on 5 dates in Apr with max 600+ at Marsa on 5 Apr. From mid-May onwards 1-5 mostly at Għadira or Is-Simar, where singles still present till 17 Jun. Singles on 12 scattered dates from 7 Jul to 11 Aug. Then daily from 13 Aug to 13 Oct, mostly in low double figures, highest 87, but 150-300 on 4 dates from 9 Sep to 5 Oct, all at Lunzjata. Up to 10 on 9 dates from 16 Oct to 5 Nov, then 1 at Għadira on 27 Nov.

1995: On most days in spring from 5 Mar to 23 May, with a few till 8 Jun, mostly in single or double figures of up to 60 but 7 sightings of 70-100 from 22 Mar to 30 Apr. Return passage continuous from 1 Aug till 30 Oct. Up to 80 in Aug at Salina, Għadira and Is-Simar, then in single or double figures throughout Sep with 9 sightings in low treble figures, max 200 at Lunzjata on 28 Sep. Lower figures in Oct, highest 45 on 1 Oct.

#### Grey Wagtail Motacilla cinerea Zakak tad-Dell

1993: 1-3 almost daily from Jan to 13 Mar, then 1 on 19 Apr. In autumn from 19 Sep with up to 10 birds on most days till end Dec.

1994: Wintering in usual low numbers, with 13 sightings of 1-3 from Jan to 6 Mar at various sites. In autumn, singles on 19 Sep and 22 Sep (2 sites), then almost daily from 26 Sep onwards, mostly from Oct-Nov. Up to 5 on 2 occasions, but 8 at St. Elmo Pt. on 5 Nov, and 7 at Lunzjata on 7 Dec.

1995: 1-3 frequently sighted in Jan-Feb, then singles on 4 dates from 8-24 Mar at Ghadira and Salina. In autumn 1 on 22 Sep, then on most days from 28 Sep to end of year, mostly 1-3 but 4-5 on 6 dates from 3 Oct to 5 Nov.

## Pied Wagtail Motacilla alba Zakak Abjad

1993: Regular in single and low double figures from Jan to mid-Apr. 3204 counted at the roost in Valletta on 30 Jan. Single birds on several dates throughout summer at Is-Simar and at Ghadira. Then daily from 8 Oct mostly in low double figures of up to 40, with max 90 in Grand Harbour on 30 Oct and 50 at Ghadira on 2 Nov. 3500 counted at Valletta roost on 21 Nov. 1994: Wintering in various localities in single or low double figures of up to 80 in Jan-Mar. 2410 roosting at Valletta on 29 Jan. 150 seen going to roost over Marsamxett on 15 Feb and 200 at Valletta again on 11 Mar. Return passage evident in second half of Mar. Singles on 4 dates during first half of Apr, and at Manoel Island on 1 May and at Belliegha (Gozo) on 19 May. In Oct, 1 on 1 Oct, then daily from 7 Oct, mostly from mid-Oct to end Nov. Highest numbers at Valletta roost, where up to 1000 from beginning of Nov, increasing to 3000 by mid-Nov, down to low treble figures till end of year. At other sites, in single to low double figures of up to 50.

1995: Up to 30 at any one site throughout Jan-Mar, with 100-500 seen roosting at Valletta on 4 dates in Jan-Feb. Singles on 5 dates from 1-14 Apr and on 27 May at Is-Simar. In autumn singles on 25 Sep and 6 Oct, then daily from 9 Oct till end of year, mostly in single or low double figures of up to 40, highest count of 1000 roosting at Valletta on 23 Nov.

## Wren Troglodytes troglodytes Bumistur

1993: Singles at Ghajn Żejtuna on 10 Jan and 24 Jan, and at Buskett on 14 Jan.

1994: 1 at Ghadira on 22 Feb.

1995: 1 at Ghadira on 14 Jan.

## Hedge Accentor Prunella modularis Ziemel

1993: Up to 5 recorded daily in Jan to 21 Mar but 10 at Buskett on 13 Mar. Then in single or low double figures from 18 Oct till end of year, max 35+ at Ghadira on 30 Oct.

1994: Up to 10 daily at various sites from Jan to 20 Mar, and single on 27 Mar. In autumn 2 on 17 Oct and then up to 10 daily from 19 Oct to end of year, but 20 at Ghadira on 4 Nov.

1995: Wintering in single figures of up to 5 till 11 Mar, but 10 at Għadira on 7 Jan and at Buskett on 21 Jan and 4 Feb. In autumn 3 at Għadira on 2 Oct then on most days from 18 Oct till end of year, with up to 30 on several dates from Oct-Nov, mostly at Għadira. Lower numbers in Dec.

### Rufous-tailed Scrub-robin Cercotrichas galactotes Rozinjol tax-Xaghri

1993: 1 (western race) at Marsascala on 24 Apr.

## Robin Eritachus rubecula Pitirross

1993: Present at various localities in single or low double figures from Jan to 20 Apr, max 60 at Bingemma on 6 Feb and 50 at Buskett on 14 Jan and 13 Mar, at Is-Simar on 15 Jan and again at Bingemma on 13 Feb. Up to 4 (mostly 1-2) seen almost daily throughout summer from 5 May to end of Sep, mainly at Bingemma and Buskett. Then daily from Oct to Dec mostly in medium double figures from mid-Oct, with a peak from 29 Oct to mid-Nov, max 100-120 on 5 dates mostly at Għadira and Bingemma.

1994: Daily in single to low double figures (max.50) from Jan to 21 Mar. Single figures on most dates from end Mar to end Apr. 16 sightings from May-Jun, with highest of 4 at Buskett on 12 Jun, then on most dates throughout summer up to first week of Oct, mostly in single figures, max 7 on 13 Sep. Then daily in double figures with highest numbers from 17 Oct to 4 Nov, with 7 sightings of 80-150 mostly at Ghadira and Buskett. Up to 50 regularly till end of year.

1995: Wintering in single or double figures of up to 65 mostly at wooded areas; then up to 6 on most dates from 3 Apr to 29 Sep, but 10 at Buskett on 2 Jun. Numbers increasing rapidly after first week of Oct, with counts of 100-150+ mostly at Ghadira, Buskett and Ghajn Zeituna on 16 dates from 14 Oct to 16 Nov, but 150-250+ from 25-27 Oct. Double figures till end of year.

## Rufous Nightingale Luscinia megarhynchos Rożinjol

1993: First on 15 Mar at Ghadira then up to 15 regularly from 19 Mar to mid-May, with a late bird at Bingemma on 23 May. Autumn passage in low single figures of up to 5 almost daily from 22 Aug to 24 Oct from various localities, with late singles on 5 Nov, 22 Nov and 23 Nov at Ghadira.

1994: Up to 10 almost daily at various sites from 21 Mar to 28 Apr, then on most days on Kemmuna till 14 May, but 30 at Manoel Island on 8 Apr. Then 1 on 8 Aug, 2 on 25 Aug and 3 on 28 Aug; then 1-3 on most dates from 8 Sep to 9 Oct.

1995: Singles on 18 Mar and 24 Mar, then almost daily from 29 Mar to 9 May, mostly 1-10 but 18-20 on Kemmuna from 12-13 Apr. 1-2 on most days at Buskett from 28 May to 2 Jul (where a pair attempted to breed twice) and 1 at Is-Simar on 15 Jul. In autumn 1-5 on most days from 1 Sep to 10 Oct.

# Bluethroat Luscinia svecica Kudirross Blu

1993: Singles on 3 Mar and 7 Mar at Ghadira and on 20 Mar and 27 Mar at Lunzjata, on 21 Sep and 3 Oct at Rabat, and on 13 Oct and 23 Dec at Ghadira.

1994: 1 at Lunzjata on 27 Sep, then 3 sightings of singles in both Oct and Nov, mostly at Għadira. 1 at Is-Simar on 4 Dec.

1995: Singles on 1 Mar, 6 Mar, 22 Mar, 3 Apr, 16 Oct, 31 Oct, 5 Dec and 14 Dec. All sightings at Is-Simar and Ghadira.

## Black Redstart Phoenicurus ochruros Kudirross Iswed

1993: Up to 5 recorded at many sites from Jan to 21 Mar, with a late bird at Marsalforn on 15 Apr. 2 at Munxar on 16 Oct, then regularly in single figures from 26 Oct till end of year, max 7+ on 2 Dec at St Elmo.

1994: Wintering in low single figures from Jan to 20 Mar, then 1 on 26 Mar, max 12 at Ta' Cenc on 24 Feb and at Qammieħ on 12 Mar, otherwise up to 10. In autumn first on 18 Oct and almost daily thereafter in various localities with up to 10, but max 15 at Sliema on 4 Nov.

1995: Wintering in single to low double figures with up to 30 in Gozo, from Jan-Feb. Inflated numbers evident due to migration in Mar till 29 Mar. 1 at Buskett on 30 May. Singles from 14-15 May, then up to 5 daily from 21 Oct till end of year, but 10 at Lippija on 21 Dec.

## Common Redstart Phoenicurus phoenicurus Kudirross

1993: 4 sightings of 1-2 from 13 to 20 Mar, then up to 6 almost daily from 2-24 Apr. In autumn first at Buskett on 22 Aug, then 3 scattered records of 1-2 in Sep, and up to 5 almost daily from 2 Oct to 7 Nov.

1994: On most days from 24 Mar to 14 May, mostly 1-5 but 6 on 23 Apr and 10 on 24 Apr, both on Kemmuna. 1 at Ghadira on 21 May. Singles on 1 Sep, 10 Sep and 17 Sep; then 18 sightings of 1-3 from 23 Sep to 19 Oct. Late bird at Ghadira on 17 Nov.

1995: Singles on 17 Mar and 24 Mar, then on most dates from 1 Apr to 12 May, mostly 1-7 but 10 on Kemmuna on 27 Apr and 8 May. 2 at Is-Simar on 25 Jun. 1 on 27 Aug, then 1-3 on 24 dates from 1 Sep to 16 Oct, with a late bird on 21 Oct.

## Whinchat Saxicola rubetra Bucaqq tas-Silla

1993: Singles on 27 Mar and 9 Apr, then daily from 13 in single or low double figures from 13 Apr to 15 May, but max.100+ and 50+ on Kemmuna on 11 May and 12 May respectively. In autumn singles on 8 scattered days from 24 Aug to 20 Oct. 1994: 10 sightings of 1-5 on 7 dates from 1-11 Apr, then up to 10 daily from 13 Apr to 15 May, but max 25 at Dwejra and 50 on Kemmuna on 24 Apr, and 30 on 25 Apr and 15 on 12 May, both also on Kemmuna. In autumn singles at Ghadira on 1 Sep, at Is-Simar on 5 Sep and at Buskett on 24 Sep.

1995: 1 on 28 Mar, then up to 10 on most dates from 8 Apr to 12 May, with peak numbers from 24 Apr to 8 May with 15-25 on 7 dates, but max 80 on Kemmuna on 8 May. In autumn singles at Dwejra on 6 Sep, at Ghadira on 21 Sep, and at Rabat on 8 Oct.

## Common Stonechat Saxicola torquata Bucaqq tax-Xitwa

1993: Up to 10 daily at various sites from Jan to 21 Mar. In autumn in single or low double figures from 7 Oct till end of year, max 35+ at Ghadira on 5 Nov.

1994: Up to 15 at various sites from Jan to 20 Mar; late bird on 1 Apr at Kennedy Grove. Then 1 at Ghadira on 10 Sep and up to 15 daily from 8 Oct onwards, but 20-60 on several days in second half of Oct.

1995: Wintering in single figures of up to 10 from Jan to 19 Mar, with a few sighted till 28 Mar. Max 25 in Gozo on 26 Jan. Then up to 15 daily from 1 Oct till end of year, but up to 40 at Ghadira on several dates in Oct.

#### Isabelline Wheatear Oenanthe isabellina Kuda Iżabellina

1994: Singles at Ta' Cenc on 24 Feb and at Dwejra from 21-22 Mar.

#### Northern Wheatear Oenanthe oenanthe Kuda

1993: First on 8 Mar then up to 10 in various localities on most days from 14 Mar to 10 May, but 15 at Qammieñ on 1 Apr and 8 Apr. Late birds at Sarraflu on 17 May and at Ta' Żuta on 17 Jun. Then singles on 5 Aug and 8 Aug and up to 10 in various localities almost daily from 18 Aug to 20 Oct.

1994: Singles at Haż-Żebbug on 14 Jan and 21 Jan. Then 7 sightings of 1-2 from 4-17 Mar and up to 15 almost daily from 19 Mar to 13 May, with highest numbers from end Mar to mid-Apr, max 25 at Ta' Cenc on 1-2 Apr, 40 at Kemmuna on 1 Apr, at Marsa on 5 Apr, and at Luqa on 11 Apr. Singles at Dwejra on 25 May and at Ghajn Rihana on 7 Jun. In autumn, up to 6 on most days from 21 Aug to 7 Oct, and 1-3 on 4 scattered dates from 11-30 Oct.

1995: In single or low double figures (max 25) almost daily from 4 Mar to 12 May. Singles on 15 Aug and 19 Aug, then up to 8 on most dates from 23 Aug to 14 Oct, but 20 I/o Għadira on 21 Sep.

## Black-eared Wheatear Oenanthe hispanica Kuda Dumnikana

1993: One on 19 Mar and 2 on 21 Mar. Then up to 4 on 13 dates from 1 Apr to 1 May. In autumn singles on 5 dates from 2-14 Sep.

1994: 1-2 from 19-20 Mar, from 1-2 Apr, and from 5 Apr to 14 May. In autumn, singles at Dwejra from 12-13 Sep, at Ta' Qali on 21 Sep and at Qawra on 24 Sep.

1995: 1 at Qammieħ on 1 Mar, then 12 sightings of 1-3 on 8 dates from 9-19 Apr, mostly on Kemmuna and Qammieħ, but 5 on Kemmuna on 17 Apr. In autumn 1 at Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq on 8 Sep and 2 at Dwejra on 3 Oct.

#### Rock Thrush Monticola saxatilis Ganbublu

1993: Singles on Kemmuna on 31 Mar, at Bingemma on 8 Apr and at Dwejra on 9 Apr, again at Dwejra on 1 May and at Bingemma on 4 May, and at Ghallis on 11 Sep.

1994: 1 at Nadur on 16 Mar, then 4 sightings in Apr: 2 at Qammieħ and 1 at Ramla Valley on 11 Apr, and singles on Kemmuna on 24t Apr and 30 Apr. Late bird at Dwejra on 4 Jun.

1995: 1 on 7 Apr at Qammieh, 3 on 9 Apr and singles on 10 Apr and 12 Apr at Mellieha, 2 on 18 Apr on Kemmuna and 1 on 24 Apr at Mosta.

## Blue Rock Thrush Monticola solitarius Merill

1993: Breeding resident population recorded in all months mostly up to 5 birds in any one locality, but 10+ at Qammieħ in Mar and Apr and 8 on Kemmuna in Apr.

1994: Breeding at usual localities. 10-15 regularly seen at several sites in spring, but numbers decreasing from May till end of year, with highest of 10 at Gharb on 27 Aug, otherwise never more than 6 at any one site.

1995: Breeding resident at suitable areas. Up to 5 at a few sites, mostly at Qammieħ, Kemmuna and Gozo, max 8 at Qammieħ on some dates in spring and 10 in Gozo (4 sites) on 23 Mar.

## Blackbird Turdus merula Malvizz Iswed

1993: 1-2 on 13 dates in Jan, on 4 scattered dates in Feb, and on 3 dates from 13-19 Mar, most records from Buskett. Then singles on 9 dates in various localities from 30 Oct to 20 Nov, but 2 at Gnejna on 14 Nov. One on Kemmuna on 13 Dec.

1994: 5 sightings of singles from Jan to 24 Feb. 1 at Hamrun on 18 Jul. Singles on 2 Nov and almost daily from 17-30 Nov, mostly at Ghadira. 8 sightings of singles in Dec. but 2 at Ghadira on 26 Dec and at Wied Speranza on 30 Dec.

1995: Singles at 4 sites on 13 dates from 2 Jan to 11 Feb, but 3 at Buskett on 4 Feb and 2 at Bingemma on 9 Feb. 1 at Wied Speranza on 7 Oct, then 8 sightings of 1-2 on 6 dates from 10-17 Nov, and 5 sightings of 1-2 on 4 dates in Dec, mostly at Buskett.

#### Fieldfare Turdus pilaris Malvizzun tal-Qtajja'

1993: In single or low double figures almost daily from 3-13 Feb, max 30 on 6 Feb and 15 on 13 Feb at Bingemma. 1 on 25 Mar also at Bingemma. Then 20 at Birkirkara on 16 Dec, 2 at Salina on 19 Dec and 1 at Mizieb on 28 Dec.

1994: 5 at Dwejra on 21st and 4 at Rabat on 24 Nov. Then 10 at Lippija on 1 Dec.

1995: 1 at Dwejra on 20-21 Feb.

## Song Thrush Turdus philomelos Malvizz

1993: Single or low double figures almost daily from Jan to 25 Mar (max 20 at Buskett on 9 Jan) and 1-2 on 7 dates from 31

#### II-Merill 29

Mar to 14 Apr. Singles at Buskett on 19 Jun and 26 Jun, and at Wied Żembaq almost daily from 31 Jul to 11 Aug. Then 1 at Rabat on 29 Sep and daily in single or medium double figures from 8 Oct till end of year, with a peak from 28 Oct to 1 Nov, max 500+ at II-Qaws on 28 Oct, 2000+ in Gozo and 500+ again at II-Qaws on 30 Oct, 200+ at Għadira on 31 Oct, and 70+ again at Għadira on 1 Nov.

1994: Up to 10 wintering at various sites from Jan-Mar but 15 at Buskett on 11 Mar when sightings increased due to return passage. Singles from 5-6 Apr at 2 sites, and from 16-17 Apr and from 25-29 Apr both on Kemmuna. 1 at Buskett seen on 5 dates from Jun-Aug. 1 at Ghadira on 20 Sep, then daily from 9 Oct. Mostly in single to low double figures of up to 25 till mid-Nov but 35 at Dwejra on 19 Oct and 100 on Kemmuna on 30 Oct. In low single figures of up to 8 from mid-Nov to end of year, but 20 on Kemmuna on 9 Dec.

1995: Wintering in single figures of up to 10 at several sites from Jan-Feb, max 20 on Kemmuna on 20 Jan and at Buskett on several dates. Present throughout Mar, with an evident increase in numbers due to return passage, max 25 at Buskett. 6 sightings of singles from 3-13 Apr and 1 on Kemmuna on 4 May. 1 at Buskett on 16 Jul, then present almost daily from 7 Oct with up to 10 at most sites from mid-Oct to mid-Nov, max.50 at Il-Qaws on 14 Oct, and 20-30 on 3 dates from 25 Oct to 11 Nov. 20 on Kemmuna on 17 Nov, otherwise 1-5 from mid-Nov to end Dec.

#### Redwing Turdus iliacus Malvizz Ahmar

1993: Up to 3 on 9 scattered dates from 9 Jan to 18 Feb, mostly at Buskett.

1994: 1-3 at Buskett on 3 dates from 17 Feb to 4 Mar. Then 1 at Rabat on 12 Nov and at Lunzjata on 20 Nov, 1 at Għadira on 5 Dec, 2 at Lunzjata on 7 Dec and 1 on Kemmuna on 9 Dec.

1995: 1-5 on 6 dates from 2-20 Feb, then 3 on 14 Mar and 10 on 16 Mar, all at Buskett. Then singles at San Gwann on 6 Dec and at Marsa on 28 Dec.

#### Mistle Thrush Turdus viscivorus Malvizzun Prim

1993: Singles at Buskett on 7 Feb, at Manikata on 13 Feb and at Qammieħ on 26 Feb.

#### Cetti's Warbler Cettia cetti Baghal ta' I-Ghollig

1993: Breeding resident with up to 5 at various suitable locations, but up to 10 at Buskett.

1994: Breeding resident in low single figures in suitable areas, but up to 10 at Għadira on several days in Jun and up to 8 at Wied il-Luq in first half of year.

1995: Breeding resident with up to 4 at suitably covered areas, but up to 10 at Wied il-Luq from Jan-Jun, and 5 at Ghadira during summer.

#### Zitting Cisticola Cisticola juncidis Baghal ta' I-Imrewha

1993: Widespread and breeding. In single or low double figures at various sites, max.35 at Wied L-Arkata and 30 at Ghajn Rihana on 15 Jul, 30 at Ramla Valley on 18 Jul and 40 at Marsalforn Valley on 23 Jul.

1994: Resident and breeding commonly on the two main islands, with 10-20 at several sites in spring and early summer, increasing to 25 in late summer/early autumn, max 50 at Wied Qlejgħa on 3 Jun. Lower numbers in Jan and Nov-Dec. 1-2 seen on Kemmuna on 5 dates between end Mar and mid-May, but breeding not recorded.

**1995**: Resident and breeding commonly at suitable areas in Malta and Gozo. Up to 5 from Jan-Feb and in Dec; otherwise 10-20 at any one site, numbers increasing to 40 in summer mostly at suitable roosting areas like Is-Simar and Salina in Malta, and at Ramla Valley, where up to 50 present on 2 Jul.

#### Savi's Warbler Locustella luscinioides Baghal Ahmar

1993: Singles at Ghadira on 26 Mar, 29 Mar, from 1-4 Nov and on 7 Nov.

1994: 1 at Wied Qlejgha on 21 Aug.

## Moustached Warbler Acrocephalus melanopogon Baghal Qastni

1993: 1-2 at Ghadira from 2-10 Nov and 1 at Salina on 18 Dec.

1994: Singles at Rabat on 26 Nov and at Is-Simar on 15 Dec.

1995: Singles at Ghadira from 30 Oct to 1 Nov and at Is-Simar on 6 dates from 6 Nov to 27 Dec.

## Sedge Warbler Acrocephalus schoenobaenus Bagħal tas-Simar

1993: Singles on 13 Mar, 20 Mar and 31 Mar; then in single or low double figures almost daily from 4 Apr to 15 May (max 15+ on 7 May and 25+ on 8 May at Ghadira), and 2 at Ghadira on 19 May and 25 May. Singles at Lunzjata on 15 Aug and 27 Aug. 1994: 1 on 5 Mar; then up to 5 almost daily from 15 Mar to 30 May, but 8 at Rabat on 24 Apr. In autumn, singles at Lunzjata on 5 Sep and at Ghadira from 27-28 Sep; and 3 records from 14-20 Oct, max 5 at Lunzjata on 16 Oct.

1995: 1 at Ghadira on 4 Mar; then 1-3 on most days from 31 Mar to 12 May, but 6 at Ghadira on 27 Apr and 10 on Kemuna on 9 May. In autumn, 1-3 on most days from 3 Sep to 30 Oct, mostly in Oct, but 5 at Is-Simar on 15 Oct.

## Paddyfield Warbler Acrocephalus agricola Baghal tas-Saqwi

1994: 1 at Lunzjata on 27 Sep (second record for Malta).

#### Marsh Warbler Acrocephalus palustris Baghal ta' I-Ghadajjar

1993: 1 at Lunzjata on 2 Sep.

1994: 2 at Wied il-Kappuċċini on 27 Mar, and 1 at Lunzjata on 27 Sep.

## Reed Warbler Acrocephalus scirpaceus Baghal tal-Qasab

1993: Singles on 16 Apr and 27 Apr, and up to 2 on 9 dates from 2-15 May. 1 on 24 Jul and then in single figures almost daily from 12 Aug to 23 September, max 10 at Wied Qleigha and at Lunzjata on 14 Aug and 12 September respectively.

1994: Singles on 7 scattered dates from 2 Apr to 31 May, with a late bird at Għadira on 6 Jun. In autumn first on 7 Aug, then up to 5 on most days from 15 Aug to 16 Oct, mostly in Sep, but 12 at Lunzjata on 5 Sep. Late birds at Għadira on 24 Oct and 3 Nov.

1995: Singles on 6 dates from 2 Apr to 16 May, and another at Wied il-Luq on 5 Jun. Present at Salina from 27 May and at Is-Simar from 10 Jun, with at least 1 pair breeding successfully at each site. 1-2 present at 3 other sites from mid-Jun to mid-Aug. 1-5 on most days in autumn from 1 Sep to 8 Oct and a late bird at is-Simar on 29 Oct.

## Great Reed Warbler Acrocephalus arundinaceus Baghal Prim

1993: In low single figures almost daily from 3 Apr to 15 May, max 5 (3 at Ramla Valley and 2 at Ghadira) on last date. Then singles on 9 scattered dates from 11 Aug to 6 Sep, and on 30 Sep, 23 Oct and 22 Nov.

1994: 32 sightings of 1-2 from 7 Apr and 26 May, most in end Apr, but 3 on Kemmuna on 29 Apr and 4 at Ghadira on 12 May. 11 singles in autumn from 21 Aug to 28 Oct.

1995: 2 at Lunzjata on 1 Apr, then 1-2 almost daily from 9-27 Apr and from 2-9 May, with singles at Salina on 21 May and at Ghadira on 25 May, but 3 at Ghadira from 12-13 Apr and on 19 Apr. In autumn 1 at Is-Simar on 3 Sep, then 1-2 on most dates from 16 Sep to 2 Nov, but 5 at Lunzjata on 14 Oct.

## Olivaceous Warbler Hippolais pallida Bekkafik Griż

1993: Single males at Rabat on 22 May and at Buskett on 5 June.

1994: Singles on Kemmuna on 9 May and at Ghadira on 1 Jun.

# Icterine Warbler Hippolais icterina Bekkafik Isfar

1993: In single figures daily from 27 Apr to 19 May, but a peak from 12-15 May with max 100+ on Kemmuna on 14 May. Singles on 7 scattered dates from 7 Aug to 26 Sep.

1994: Up to 10 almost daily from 24 Apr to 21 May, but 20-30 on 3 dates on Kemmuna from 9-13 May. Singles at Wied il-Luq on 21 Aug and 28 Aug, and at 2 other sites on 21-22 Sep.

1995: 2-3 on Kemmuna on 25 Apr and 27 Apr, then up to 10 daily from 29 Apr to 21 May, but 20-60 on Kemmuna from 8-12 May. 1 at Wied il-Luq on 14 Jun. Singles at Dwejra and Ghadira on 24 Aug and 26 Aug respectively, then 9 sightings of singles from 28 Sep to 12 Oct.

#### Marmora's Warbler Sylvia sarda Bufula Griża

1994: Singles at Qammieħ on 4 dates from 5-29 Jan, at Delimara on 28 Feb, and again at Qammieħ on 2 Mar.

1995: 1 at Mistra on 5 Feb.

## Dartford Warbler Sylvia undata Bufula tax-Xaghri

1993: Single male at Qortin tan-Nadur on 21 Feb.

1994: Singles at Qammieħ on 5 Jan, at Salina on 6 Jan, and again at Qammieħ on 7 Jan.

1995: 1 at Ghadira on 16 Mar and 20 Mar.

#### Spectacled Warbler Sylvia conspicillata Bufula Hamra

1993: Present and breeding in small numbers in several places throughout the year, max 8 at Sarraflu on 17 May.

1994: Resident and breeding. In low single figures at various sites with up to 3 pairs at any one site, but 8 at Wied Baqqija in Mar and 10 at Ta' Cenc in Apr.

1995: Localized breeding resident, with a wider distribution in Gozo. Max 6 at Iċ-Ċumnija in Apr, and 20 on 10 Feb along coast from Marsalforn to Dwejra. 1 on several dates from Mar to Jun on Kemmuna, and 2 on Kemmunett on 20 May. Lower numbers from late summer onwards.

## Subalpine Warbler Sylvia cantillans Bufula Passajra

1993: In single or low double figures (max 25 on Kemmuna 12 Apr) daily from 21 Mar to 27 April, with an influx of 100+ on Kemmuna on 9 Apr, and almost daily in single figures from 1-16 May with a late bird at Bingemma on 22 May. Autumn passage, first on 8 Jul, then almost daily in single or low double figures from from 18 Jul to 1 Oct, max 30+ at Buskett on 15 Aug and 22 Aug.

1994: Up to 8 on most days in spring from 7 Mar to 14 May (daily from 20 Mar to 3 Apr and from 16-26 Apr), but 10 at Għadira on 21 Apr, and 15 on Kemmuna on 24 Apr. Autumn passage in single or low double figures almost daily from 12 Jul to 11 Oct, max 20 on a few dates in second half of Aug.

1995: Singles from 3-4 Mar, then up to 15 almost daily from 15 Mar to 2 May, but 25 on Kemmuna on 12 Apr. Singles on Kemmuna on 8 May and 14 May. Autumn passage from 21 Jul, with 1-10 on most dates till 7 Oct.

#### Sardinian Warbler Sylvia melanocephala Bufula Sewda

1993: Common and breeding in usual numbers. Reported in single or low double figures from many localities throughout the year, max 25 on Kemmuna and Buskett in April, and 30 at Buskett in June.

1994: Resident and breeding commonly on the three main islands. Generally in single to low double figures but higher numbers in spring and summer when up to 40 on Kemmuna and 50 at Buskett.

1995: Common and widespread breeding resident on the three main islands, usually in single or low double figures for many localities.

## Lesser Whitethroat Sylvia curruca Bekkafik Irmiedi

1994: 1 at Ghadira on 7 Nov.

1995: Singles at Ghadira on 13 Oct and 26 Oct.

## Common Whitethroat Sylvia communis Bekkafik Ahmar

1993: 10 on Manoel Island on 26 Mar, 1 on 3 Apr and and then daily from 8 Apr to 19 May in single and low double figures, but influxes on Kemmuna of 40-50 on 5 dates from 14 Apr to 11 May, and max 100+ on 12 May. Late bird at Ras il-Waħx on 7 Jun and 1 autumn record on 12 Sep at Dwejra.

1994: 1 on Kemmuna on 30 Mar. Up to 15 on most days from 5 Apr to 24 May (daily from 12 Apr), but 25 on 18 Apr and 20 on 13 May, both on Kemmuna. 3 singles in autumn: at Għadira on 23 Aug, at Is-Simar on 27 Aug and at Buskett on 13 Sep. 1995: Singles on 1 Apr. Single or low double figures on most days from 6 Apr to 17 May, but 30-50 on 23 Apr, 25 Apr and 30 Apr, all on Kemmuna. 40 at Dwejra on 8 May and 50-80 on Kemmuna from 8-9 May. In autumn, 1 at Is-Simar on 5 Oct.

## Garden Warbler Sylvia borin Bekkafik

1993: In single or low double figures from 12 Apr to 31 May, but influxes of 50-100 on several days from 10-15 May, mostly on Kemmuna. 1 on 6 Aug then in single or low double figures almost daily from 14 Aug to 9 Nov, max 20 at Buskett/Wied il-Luq on 21-22 Aug and at Bingemma on 28 Aug, and 30 again at Bingemma on 3 Oct and 7 Oct.

1994: In single or low double figures daily from 14 Apr to 27 May, and 4 sightings from 30 May to 8 Jun, but max 40-50 on 5 dates from 6-21 May, mostly on Kemmuna. 1 on 7 Aug, 1-3 on most dates from 14 Aug to 1 Sep, then almost daily from 5 Sep to 20 Oct, mostly in single figures but up to 20 in mid-Sep.

1995: In single or double figures of up to 40 on most days in spring from 8 Apr to 30 May (daily from 14 Apr to 21 May), but 50-70 on Kemmuna on 8-12 May. Up to 20 on most days from 1 Sep to 13 Oct, with 5 at Ghajn Żejtuna on 25 Oct. An exceptionally late bird at Rabat on 28 Dec.

## Blackcap Sylvia atricapilla Kapinera

1993: In single or double figures on most days from Jan to 17 Apr, max 100+ at Buskett on 4 Feb, and 50+ at Bingemma on 6 Feb and 23 Feb. Singles on 23 Apr and 9 May. Then in single figures on most days from 4 Sep till end of year.

1994: Up to 30 on most dates from Jan-Mar but 4 sightings of 45-80 throughout these months, all at Buskett. 14 sightings of 1-3 in Apr, then singles on Kemmuna in 5 May and at Buskett on 26 Jun. In autumn, 1-2 at 2 sites on 29 Sep, then almost daily from 5 Oct till end of year in low single figures of up to 10.

1995: On 5 dates till mid-Jan, then on most dates till mid-Apr, mostly in double figures of up to 50, but 100-400 on 11 dates from 2 Feb to 16 Mar (mostly in Feb), all at Buskett. Singles at Ghadira and Kemmuna from 25-29 Apr and at Wied il-Luq on 28 May. 1 at Dwejra on 30 Sep, then almost daily from 8 Oct till end of year, mostly 1-10, but 30 at Buskett on 21 Dec.

# Yellow-browed Warbler Phylloscopus inornatus Vjolin tal-Faxx

1993: 1 at Ghadira on 15 Oct.

# Dusky Warbler Phylloscopus fuscatus Vjolin Skur

1994: 1 at Ghadira on 20 Oct and 27 Oct - first record for Malta.

## Eastern/Western Bonelli's Warbler Phylloscopus orientalis/bonelli Vjolin Bajdani

1993: Singles on 15 Apr at Lunzjata and on Comino from 14-15 May.

1994: 14 records of 1-4 on 11 dates from 28 Mar to 16 Apr, mostly at Ghadira.

1995: 2 at Salina on 3 Apr, then singles on 4 dates from 10-29 Apr, all at Ghadira.

#### Wood Warbler Phylloscopus sibilatrix Vjolin Hadrani

1993: 5 at Ghadira on 18 Mar then daily in single to medium double figures from 30 Mar to 19 May, max 50+ on Kemmuna on 5 May and at Ghadira and at Manoel Island on 13 May. 1 at Ghadira on 24 May. Then 2 at Buskett on 15 Aug, 1 at Ghadira on 24 Aug and 1-3 on most days from 4 Sep to 31 Oct.

1994: In single or low double figures almost daily from 23 Mar to 21 May, but 9 sightings of 25-120 at Għadira with highest on 28 Apr and 5 sightings of 25-40 on Kemmuna from 23 Apr to 2 May. In autumn, 3 at Buskett on 2 Sep, then 11 sightings of 1-2 from 15 Sep to 22 Oct.

1995: 1 on 31 Mar, then daily from 5 Apr to 14 May, with late singles on 16 May and 20 May, mostly in low double figures of up to 30, but 40-70 from 10-19 Apr and 40 on 2 May, all at Ghadira. In autumn, singles at Ghadira on 1 Sep and 15 Sep, then 1-6 on most dates from 21 Sep to 27 Oct.

## Common Chiffchaff Phylloscopus collybita Vjolin tax-Xitwa

1993: In single or low double figures daily from Jan to 14 Apr, max 50 at Ghadira on 26 Feb. 1 at Buskett on 3 Jul. Then in single or low double figures of up to 40 from 18 Oct till end of year, but 200+ in Gozo on 27 Nov and 60 at Lunzjata on 17 Dec. 1994: Up to 20 wintering from Jan-Mar at several sites, but up to 40 at Ghadira by end Feb and 50 at Lunzjata on 30 Jan. Singles at Ghadira on 13 Apr and at various sites from 7-13 May. Then almost daily in single or low double figures from 7 Oct till end of year, with max 50 at Wied Qleigha on 14 Nov and 30 at Lunzjata on 7 Dec.

1995: In double figures of up to 50 from Jan-Mar at any one site, but 300 at Lunzjata on 31 Jan. Up to 30 in Apr till 13 Apr, mostly at Ghadira, with late singles on Kemmuna on 25 Apr and on Manoel Island on 9 May. In low single figures from 14-24 Oct, then daily till end of year with numbers reaching a peak of 60 at Ghadira by mid-Nov, otherwise up to 50.

## Willow Warbler Phylloscopus trochilus Vjolin Pastard

1993: 1 on 6 Mar and in single or very low double figures from 15 Mar to 15 May, max 20+ on Kemmuna on 16 Apr. 1 on 8 Aug and then in single figures on most days from 22 Aug to 4 Nov, but 12 at Ghadira on 1 Oct and 2 Oct.

1994: In single or low double figures of up to 20 on most dates from 13 Mar to 11 May, but 25-30 on 3 dates at Għadira and 30-40 on 2 dates on Kemmuna from 11-24 Apr. Singles at Dwejra on 29 May and at Buskett on 8 Aug. Then in single figures of up to 10 almost daily from 15 Aug to 22 Oct. Late bird at Għadira on 8 Nov.

1995: In single or low double figures of up to 30 daily from 3 Mar to 12 May. In autumn, singles on 21 Aug and 26-27 Aug, then on most days from 1 Sep to 31 Oct, mostly in single figures of up to 5, but 15 at Ghadira from 12-13 Oct and 10 at another two sites on 14-15 Oct.

## Goldcrest Regulus regulus Bufula tal-Qamar

1993: Up to 8 on most days at various localities from Jan till end of Mar. Then singles on 5 dates (6 sites) from 30 Oct to 17 Nov.

1994: 2 at Dwejra on 22 Jan, and singles at Buskett on 24 Jan and at Ghadira on 25 Jan. In autumn, 2 at Ghadira on 24 Nov and 5 at Rabat on 27 Nov.

1995: 1-2 at Buskett on 2 Feb and 4 Feb, at Għadira on 22 Feb, and at Dwejra on 11 Mar. 2 at Qawra on 29 Oct, and singles at Għadira on 8 dates from 25 Oct to 1 Dec. 1-3 at Dwejra on 24 Oct and on 3 dates from 13-21 Dec.

## Firecrest Regulus ignicapillus Bufula tat-Toppu Ahmar

1993: Up to 5 on 11 dates from Jan to 11 Feb, and up to 3 on 5 dates from 5-18 Mar. Then singles on 6 dates from 18 Oct to 4 Nov, all but one at Ghadira.

1994: Singles at Lunzjata on 12 Feb and at Ghadira on 8 Mar. In autumn, 4 single sightings from 24-27 Oct, another 4 single sightings in Nov, and 1 on 26 Dec at Buskett.

1995: Singles at Għadira on 7 Jan and at Buskett on 21 Feb. Then singles at Għadira on 14 Oct and at Għajn Żejtuna on 25 Oct. 1-2 at Għadira from 10-11 Nov and 1 at Is-Simar on 15 Nov.

## Gold/Firecrest Regulus sp.

1993: In single figures on 9 dates from 3-24 Jan, but 15+ at Buskett on 14 Jan, 1-2 on 5 scattered days from 7-24 Feb, and up to 5 almost daily from 13-31 Mar, but 10+ at Buskett on 14 Mar. Then 1-2 on 11 scattered dates from 9 Nov till end of year, but 10+ at Lunzjata on 20 Nov and at Addolorata Cemetery on 21 Nov.

1994: 14 sightings of up to 5 from Jan to 15 Mar. Then 9 sightings of 1-3 from 29 Oct to 10 Dec, but 6 at Addolorata Cemetery on 6 Nov

1995: 16 sightings from 6 Jan to 9 Mar, mostly 1-2 but 4 at Rabat on 8 Jan. In autumn, 11 sightings from 24 Oct to 24 Dec, all in singles except for 3 at Dwejra on 3 Dec and 5 at Rabat on 8 Dec.

## Spotted Flycatcher Muscicapa striata Żanżarell tat-Tikki

1993: In single or low double figures from 25 Apr to 26 May, but max 40 on 1 May at Dwejra, and 40-50 on Kemmuna on 11-13 May. 1 at Bingemma on 31 May and 19 June, and present at Buskett, where breeding was confirmed, in June to 23 Aug, max.13 on 20-21 Jun. 1 at Dwejra on 23 Aug then 1-2 on 10 dates from 1-26 Sep and on 6 scattered dates from 2-26 Oct. 1994: In single or low double figures almost daily from 20 Apr to 27 May, but 25 at Ghadira on 27 Apr, 25-40 on Kemmuna on 5 dates from 27 Apr to 12 May, and 35 at Dwejra on 8 May. 1 at Ghallis on 7 Jun. 3 breeding pairs at Buskett in Jun-Aug, max.11 birds on 5 Jul. In autumn, 1-3 on 12 dates from 30 Aug to 16 Oct, but 7 at Buskett on 16 Sep. Latest, 2 at Addolorata Cemetery on 6 Nov.

1995: 1-2 on 21 Apr and 23 Apr, then on most days from 27 Apr to 7 Jun, mostly up to 20 but 40 on 30 Apr and 30 on 8 May both on Kemmuna. Breeding at Addolorata Cemetery (1 pair) and at Buskett, where up to 16 present during Jul. Singles at Ghadira on 25 Jun and at Dwejra on 19 Aug, then 1-6 on most days from 2 Sep to 16 Oct. Latest, 1 at Is-Simar on 25 Oct.

# Red-breasted Flycatcher Ficedula parva Żanżarell Sidru Ahmar

1993: Singles at Targa Gap on 12 Sep, at Rabat on 9 Oct and 14 Oct, and at Ghadira on 20 Oct.

1994: 3 singles in spring: on Kemmuna on 26 Apr, at Ghadira on 27 Apr and again on Kemmuna on 28 Apr. In autumn 1 at Ghadira on 26 Sep and 14 Nov.

1995: Singles on 25 Sep and on 5 dates from 7-26 Oct, all at Ghadira.

# Semi-collared Flycatcher Ficedula semitorquata Zanzarell tal-Lvant

1993: 1 at Buskett on 3 May.

**1995**: 1 on Kemmuna on 1 May.

#### Collared Flycatcher Ficedula albicollis Zanzarell tal-Kullar

1993: 1-2 on 13 days from 8 Apr to 8 May.

1994: 1 at Ghadira on 25 Mar, then 13 sightings of 1-2 from 23 Apr to 6 May, mostly on Kemmuna.

1995: 21 sightings of singles on 15 dates from 6 Apr to 11 May, mostly at Buskett, Dwejra and Kemmuna.

#### Pied Flycatcher Ficedula hypoleuca Żanżareli Iswed

1993: Singles on 3 dates from 31 Mar to 9 Apr, then daily in single or low double figures from 12 Apr to 19 May, max 30 at Bingemma on 30 Apr and 1 May. Only one record in autumn: single at Lunzjata on 12 Sep.

1994: Up to 10 on most days from 2 Apr to 14 May, with most sightings in second half of Apr, but 20-30 on 3 dates on Kemmuna from 24 Apr to 3 May. Singles at Ghadira on 9 Sep and at Salina on 23 Sep.

1995: 1 at Xaghra on 28 Mar, then in single figures daily from 6 Apr to 8 May, but 15-20 from 16-17 Apr and 20 on 30 Apr at Kemmuna. 2 at Salina on 14 May and 1 at Buskett on 11 Jun. 1 at Ghadira on 28 Aug.

## Penduline Tit Remiz pendulinus Pendulin

1993: 2 at Lunzjata on 10 Jan, at Ghadira on 30 Jan, and at Is-Simar on 31 Jan. 1-3 at Ghadira on 13 dates from 19 Feb to 20 Mar, but 6 on 2 Mar. 1 at Lunzjata on 16 Mar.

1994: 2 at Ghadira on 5 Jan.

1995: 2 at Ghadira on 26 Oct.

#### Golden Oriole Oriolus oriolus Tajra Safra

1993: 1 on 5 Apr, then in single figures on most days from 18 Apr to 13 Jun, and singles at Buskett on 5 dates from 20 Jun to 11 July. In autumn singles on 7 scattered dates from 31 Aug to 2 Oct.

1994: 2 at Wied iż-Żurrieq on 5 Apr, then in single figures almost daily from 22 Apr to 30 May, but 20 on Kemmuna on 27 Apr, and 12 on 29 Apr and 15 on 7 May, both at Buskett. Singles at Buskett on 4 dates from 5 Jun to 3 Jul, and on 8 dates from 28 Aug to 21 Sep.

1995: 1-3 almost daily from 14 Apr to 30 May, but 7 at San Anton Gardens on 7 May. 7 sightings of 1-2 in autumn from 2-12 Sep, mostly at Buskett.

#### Red-backed Shrike Lanius collurio Kaccamendula Hamra

1993: Singles on Kemmuna on 9 May and 14 May and at Ghadira on 20 May, and at Buskett on 11 Jul. Then 1-2 on 5 scattered dates from 1-26 Sep.

1994: Singles on Kemmuna on 10 May and at Dwejra on 22 May, and at Buskett on 8 Jun.

1995: 1 on Kemmuna on 6 May, then 7 sightings of singles from 28 May to 25 Jun at Dwejra, and Għadira, and 1 at Is-Simar on 1 Oct.

## Great Grey Shrike Lanius excubitor Kaccamendula Griza Prima

1995: 1 at Manoel Island on 11 May.

# 'Grey Shrike' sp. Lanius sp.

1994: Singles at L-Ahrax on 27 Mar and at Buskett on 6 Sep.

# Woodchat Shrike Lanius senator Kaccamendula

1993: In single figures almost daily from 28 Mar to 21 May, with many records from Kemmuna, max 8 on 1 May. Female at Fiddien on 13 Jun and up to 6 at Dwejra from 26 Jul to 3 Aug. Then up to 4 almost daily at various localities fro 12 Aug to 3 Sep, and singles on 12-13 Aug at Nadur (Malta).

1994: Up to 6 on most days fro 1 Apr to 26 May, mostly in mid-late Apr, but 20 on 24 Apr and 10 on 25 Apr on Kemmuna. 1 at Qammieħ on 4 Jun. Breeding pair at Dwejra present throughout Jun-Aug, with 5 juveniles seen on 17 Jul. Juvenile at Wied Qlejgħa on 21 Aug and 2 at Buskett on 8 Sep.

1995: In single figures almost daily from 31 Mar to 15 May, and 1 on 21 May, but 10-15 on 19-20 Apr and 7 on 8 May, most records from Kemmuna. Pair breeding at Dwejra present during Jun-Aug. Singles at Is-Simar (juvenile) on 15 Jul, at Għajn Riħana on 14 Aug and on 7-8 Sep at Dwejra.

#### Common Starling Sturnus vulgaris Sturnell

1993: Single to medium treble figures on most days Jan to 19 Mar, but 1500+ counted roosting at Valletta on 30 Jan. Then up to 4 on 20 dates from 22 Mar to 11 May, mostly on Kemmuna, where at least 1 pair breeding, and 1 there on 1 Jun. Up to 5 on 10 dates from 3-23 Aug mostly at Marsa and 2 at Floriana on 15 Sep. Then daily up to medium treble figures from 28 Sep till end of year, but ca. 1350 roosting at Birkirkara on 30 Oct, and 2000+ on Kemmuna on 14 Nov and 3000+ at Ghallis on 27 Nov.

1994: In double to medium treble figures in Jan-Mar, but 3000 roosting at Valletta on 29 Jan. Lower numbers in Mar. Daily in single figures in Apr-Jul at various sites. Breeding confirmed on Kemmuna, at Floriana (3 juveniles seen on 15 Jun) and at Buskett (2 juveniles plus 2 adults seen on 3 Jul). 2 on Kemmuna on 8 Sep, 6 sightings of 1-5 from 20-29 Sep, then daily from 1 Oct, mostly in single to treble figures of up to 500, but flocks of 1000-5000 in late Oct/early Nov, with up to 1000 at roost sites till end of year.

1995: Wintering in double to treble figures of up to 300 in Jan-Mar till 14 Mar, but 800 at Ghadira on 8 Jan and 7000-10,000 (1 flock) over Gozo Channel on 10 Feb. Up to 11 present on Kemmuna on most days from 18 Mar to 31 May. 1-3 at various localities throughout summer, mostly 1-3 but up to 6 at Marsa from Aug-Sep. Then winter visitors from 22 Sep onwards; with up to 1000 on several days from Oct-Dec, but 1500 at Is-Simar on 26 Oct and 4000 on Kemmuna on 17 Nov.

## Spanish Sparrow Passer hispaniolensis Ghammiel tal-Bejt

1993-95: Abundant and breeding resident on the 3 main islands.

#### Tree Sparrow Passer montanus Ghammiel tas-Sigar

1993: Breeding in usual numbers, max 50+ at Rabat in August. Up to 10 in many localities outside the breeding season.

1994: Resident and breeding at usual sites. Up to 15 at various sites in Jan-Jun; higher numbers in second half of year with up to 40 in Aug at Wied Qleigha, and 40 at Ghadira on 31 Oct.

1995: In single figures at various sites, but 20 at Buskett on 9 Sep and at Tal-Virtù on 25 Oct, and 50 at Rabat on 8 Dec.

## Common Chaffinch Fringilla coelebs Sponsun

1993: In single figures on most days from Jan-Mar, but 15 at Valletta on 30 Jan and at Bingemma on 6 Feb and 20+ at Buskett from 13-14 Mar. 1-3 almost daily mainly at Ghadira and Buskett from Apr-Aug, and singles on 6 scattered dates from 12-27 Sep. Then again almost daily in single or up to medium double figures from 5 Oct till end of year, max 90 at Dwejra, 50 at Xaghra and 40 at Buskett all on 30 Oct and 50 at Ghadira on 16 Nov.

1994: In single to low double figures of up to 15 from Jan-Mar but 30 at Għadira on 18 Mar. In single figures at various sites on most dates from 17 Apr to end of Sep, mostly at Buskett and Għadira. 1 on 3 Oct, then almost daily from 9 Oct. In single figures on most dates but 15-20 on 3 dates from 24-29 Oct and 30 at Mtahleb on 20 Nov.

1995: In single to low double figures of up to 23 from Jan-Feb, with lower numbers from Mar to mid-Oct (only 20 sightings from 8 Jul to 14 Oct), mostly 1-3 but 5 at Wied il-Luq on 25 Jun. On most dates from mid-Oct to end of Dec, mostly in single to low double figures of up to 30 but 50 at Ghar Lapsi on 5 Nov. 100 at Buskett on 12 Nov and 60 at Pietà on 13 Nov.

#### European Serin Serinus serinus Apparell

1993: In single or low double figures almost daily from Jan to 6 Apr, max 30+ at Munxar on 5 Jan. Then up to 4 on scattered dates throughout May to 12 Sep, most at Għadira and Buskett, where a female handled for ringing had a brood patch. 1-2 at Buskett from 6-11 Oct, then up to 3 almost daily from 28 Oct till end of year.

1994: 1-3 from Jan-Mar at various sites on regular dates. Singles at Rabat on 16 Apr and at Għadira on 20 Apr, on 4 dates in second half of Jun, and on 16 Jul at Buskett and at Għadira on 23 Jul. In autumn, 1-2 almost daily from 2-9 Nov, then 5 sightings of 1-2 from 22 Nov to 10 Dec. Single at Is-Simar on 26 Dec and a good passage reported from Mellieħa area on same date.

1995: On most dates in Jan-Feb, mostly in single to low double figures of up to 25, but 60 at Buskett on 18 Jan and on 2 Feb. 1-2 on 6 dates in Mar, all at Ghadira, and 20 sightings of 1-2 from 12 Apr to 25 Sep, mostly at Buskett and Ghadira. 15 sightings from 23 Oct to 31 Dec, mostly 1-2 at Ghadira, but 5 at Marsa on 28 Dec.

#### Greenfinch Carduelis chloris Verdun

1993: In single or low double figures almost daily in Jan to 25 Apr, but max 50+ on Kemmuna on 17 Jan and 42 at Argotti on 4 Feb, and an exceptional passage (500+) at Munxar on 5 Jan. Singles on 4 dates from 6-23 May, on 17 June, and 1-2 almost daily from 11 Jul to 4 Aug mostly at Ghadira. Two sightings of singles on 14 Aug and 1-2 on 7 scattered dates from 1 Sep to 5 Oct, but 6 at Nadur (Malta) on 19 Sep. Then in single or low double figures almost daily from 16 Oct till end of year, max.20 at Xaghra and 10 at Buskett on 30 Oct.

1994: Up to 5 in Jan-Mar but 20 on 16 Feb at Floriana and 50 at Dwejra on 26 Feb. 1-4 from 1-9 Apr, but 20 at Santa Luċija on 3 Apr, then 1-2 almost daily from 17 Apr to 30 May, but 8 at Buskett on 29 Apr and 5 again there on 7 May. 1-3 from mid-Jun to mid-Oct, mostly at Għadira and Buskett. Migrating birds evident from late Oct when 20 at Qawra on 25 Oct, 5 at Għajnsielem on 29 Oct and on Kemmuna on 30 Oct. Lower numbers of up to 3 in Nov-Dec.

1995: 23 sightings of 1-3 from 1 Jan to 28 Mar, but 9 at Pietà on 9 Feb and 5 at Buskett on 24 Mar. 9 to 16 sightings of 1-2 each month from Apr to Jul, mostly in May, but 5 at Manoel Island on 5 Apr and 4-5 at Addolorata Cemetery on 10-11 Jul, where a pair raised 3 young. 6 sightings of singles from 2 Aug to 23 Sep, mostly at Ghadira and Buskett, and 21 sightings of 1-4 from 13 Oct to 13 Dec.

#### Goldfinch Carduelis carduelis Gardell

1993: 2 at Mtarfa on 16 Jan then singles on 10 Feb, from 25-26 Mar, on 7 Apr, on 4 dates from 18-26 May, on 4 Sep, and on 3 Dec. 4 at Għallis on 27 Nov.

1994: 10 sightings from Jan-Mar, mostly 1-2, but 4 at Dwejra on 1 Jan and 15 at Marsa on 3 Mar. Singles on Kemmuna on 18 Apr and at Rabat from 7-8 May. Then 8 sightings of singles in 1-16 Nov, but 6 at Qawra on 1 Nov and 2 at Addolorata Cemetery on 6 Nov.

1995: 1in Gozo on 26 Jan, then up to 13 on 4 dates from 11 Feb to 8 Apr, all at Qammieħ. 2 on Kemmuna on 8 Apr and 1 at Għadira on 12 Jun. In autumn, singles at Mqabba on 18 Oct and at Birkirkara on 21 Oct, at Pietà on 2 Nov and at Għadira on 2 Dec.

## Siskin Carduelis spinus Ekru

1993: 19 on Kemmuna on 17 Jan, and singles at Buskett on 7 Feb, and at Ghadira on 15 Mar, 19 Mar, 20 May and 10 Jun. Then singles on 6 scattered dates from 7 Oct to 10 Dec.

1994: Singles at Buskett on 24 Jan, at Ghadira on 8 Jul, at Targa Gap on 1 Nov and at Ghadira on 11 Nov.

## Linnet Carduelis cannabina Gojjin

1993: In single or low double figures of up to 40 at various localities almost daily from Jan to 5 Apr, but 80+ at Munxar on 5 Jan and 200+ at Valletta on 30 Jan, and ca.1000 roosting at Argotti on 4 Feb, 80+ at Dwejra on 10 Feb and 500 at Argotti on 11 Feb. In single figures on 6 dates from 29 Mar to 11 Apr, max.7 at Id-Delli on 31 Mar, 2 on Kemmuna on 27 Apr, and singles on 15 May, 18 May, 28 Jul, 3 Aug and 5 Oct. Then in single or up to medium double figures almost daily from 15 Oct till end of year, max 50+ at Xaghra and 40+ at Buskett on 30 Oct, but 400 at Buskett on 11 Nov.

1994: In single or low double figures of up to 15 from Jan-Mar, but 40 at Floriana on 6 Jan and 20 at Valletta on 29 Jan. 1-2 on most dates in Apr, then singles on Kemmuna on 3 May and 12 May. 1-2 on 5 dates from Jun-Sep mostly at Ghadira. In autumn, almost daily from 16 Oct. Highest figures towards end of Oct and end of Nov/beginning of Dec, with 4 sightings of 25-50 from 26-30 Oct and 20-80 at Ghadira from 27 Nov to 5 Dec, otherwise up to 15.

1995: In single or low double figures on most dates from Jan-Mar but 38 at Luqa on 15 Jan. 1-10 on several dates from Apr-May mostly on Manoel Island; then singles at Qala Pt. on 15 Jun and at Is-Simar on 9 Sep. 2 at Dwejra on 3 Oct, then 35 sightings on 27 dates from 21 Oct till end of year, mostly 1-10 but 17 at Qawra on 14 Nov and 16 at Marsa on 28 Dec.

## Common Crossbill Loxia curvirostra Kručjat

1993: 1 at Ghadira on 22 Sep and 11at Buskett on 30 Sep.

## Trumpeter Finch Bucanetes githagineus Trumbettier

1995: Singles on Kemmuna on 19 Mar and at Ta' Hagrat (Mgarr, Malta) on 23 Oct.

## Common Rosefinch Carpodacus erythrinus Bumungar

1993: Adult male at Lunzjata on 15 Aug.

#### Hawfinch Coccothraustes coccothraustes Taż-Żebbug

1993: 1 at Buskett on 15 Aug.

1994: 1 at Ghadira on 16 Nov.

1995: Singles at Salina on 2 Apr, and at Xaghra on 20 Oct and 22 Oct.

## Cirl Bunting Emberiza cirlus Ortolan Iswed

1993: An escaped male at Buskett on 5 dates from 1-17 Aug.

#### Ortolan Bunting Emberiza hortulana Ortolan

1993: 1 at Sarraflu on 10 Apr.

1994: Singles at Salina on 8 Apr, at Ramla Valley and Xaghra on 11 Apr and at Ghajn Tuffieha on 17 Apr.

# Rustic Bunting Emberiza rustica Durrajsa Qastnija

1993: 2 on 25 Sep and 1 on 30 Oct at Lunzjata.

#### Little Bunting Emberiza pusilla Durrajsa Qerqnija

1994: 1 at Lunzjata on 16 Oct.

1995: 1 at Lunzjata on 14 Oct.

## Reed Bunting Emberiza schoeniclus Durrajsa tal-Qasab

1993: 1 at Ramla Valley on 31 Oct, then 1-2 almost daily from 2 Nov to 9 Dec, all from Ghadira and Is-Simar.

1994: 1 at Lunzjata on 16 Oct, then 1-2 on most days at Ghadira from 31 Oct to 12 Dec. 1 at is-Simar on 2 Dec.

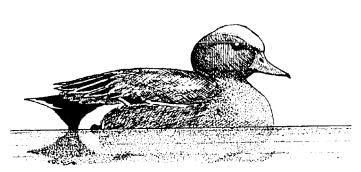
1995: 1 at Ghadira on 23 Feb, then 1-3 on most days from 20 Oct till end of year. 2 at Rabat on 22 Oct, otherwise all sightings at Ghadira and is-Simar.

## Corn Bunting Miliaria calandra Durrajsa

1993: In single figures throughout the year with most records from the north of Malta and Gozo, but 20 at Dwejra on 15 Mar and 40+ at Mtaħleb on 10 Aug.

1994: Resident and breeding in small numbers at various sites. Highest counts of 17 at Dwejra on 22 Mar and 20 at Baħrija on 27 Jun, otherwise in low single figures.

1995: Breeding uncommonly at rapidly decreasing sites. Mostly seen in single figures of up to 10, but 25 at Dwejra on 20 Mar. Larger gatherings from Sep-Oct, when 20-25 at Dwejra on 4 dates from 16 Sep to 25 Oct and 45 at Ghadira on 21 Sep.



Anas penelope