

## Sixth report on birds from the Cape Verde Islands, including records of 25 taxa new to the archipelago

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### ABSTRACT

Recent data on status and distribution of resident and migrant birds in the Cape Verde Islands are presented, including records of 25 taxa new to the archipelago, viz. *Mareca penelope*, *M. americana*, *Anas carolinensis*, *A. clypeata*, *Pterodroma arminjoniana*, *Sula dactylatra*, *Egretta thula*, *Ardea melanocephala*, *Hieraaetus pennatus*, *Porzana porzana*, *Crecopsis egregia*, *Porphyryula martinica*, *Pluvialis apricaria*, *Calidris fuscicollis*, *C. bairdii*, *Gallinago delicata*, *Larus audouinii*, *L. atricilla*, *Streptopelia decaocto*, *Ceryle rudis*, *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*, *Motacilla citreola*, *Erithacus rubecula*, *Oenanthe leucopyga* and *Lanius senator*. The current situation of some endemic taxa is discussed, some of which (e.g. *Ardea bournei*) are critically endangered, while others (e.g. *Acrocephalus brevipennis*) have been shown to be more widespread than previously known.

### RESUMO

São apresentados os dados recentes sobre o estado e a distribuição de aves residentes e migratórias nas ilhas de Cabo Verde, incluindo 25 novos registos para o archipélago, nomeadamente *Mareca penelope*, *M. americana*, *Anas carolinensis*, *A. clypeata*, *Pterodroma arminjoniana*, *Sula dactylatra*, *Egretta thula*, *Ardea melanocephala*, *Hieraaetus pennatus*, *Porzana porzana*, *Crecopsis egregia*, *Porphyryula martinica*, *Pluvialis apricaria*, *Calidris fuscicollis*, *C. bairdii*, *Gallinago delicata*, *Larus audouinii*, *L. atricilla*, *Streptopelia decaocto*, *Ceryle rudis*, *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*, *Motacilla citreola*, *Erithacus rubecula*, *Oenanthe leucopyga* e *Lanius senator*. Discute-se a situação actual de taxa endémicas, nomeadamente algumas em grande perigo (e.g. *Ardea bournei*) enquanto outras provaram ser mais abundantes do que anteriormente se pensava (e.g. *Acrocephalus brevipennis*).

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## INTRODUCTION

This is the sixth – long overdue – supplement to *The Birds of the Cape Verde Islands* (Hazevoet 1995). For previous instalments, see Hazevoet (1997, 1998, 1999a, 2003) and Hazevoet *et al.* (1996). Most data in the current report concern the years 2003-2009, but records from earlier years that came to light after the publication of previous supplements are also included.

During the last decade, the Cape Verde Islands have become an increasingly popular destination for birdwatchers and professional ornithologists alike. This has resulted in an amazing number of rare bird observations and the grand total of species level taxa recorded in the archipelago now stands at 211, an increase of 67 since the publication of the 1995 check-list (not counting a number of introduced taxa that may or may not have established a permanent population or that have disappeared since being introduced). Among these, the number of Nearctic herons and waders that have now been recorded in the islands is particularly impressive, especially in comparison with the modest number of Afrotropical migrants and vagrants.

Amongst studies of local breeding birds, those of Raso Lark *Alauda razae* have already resulted in a steady flow of papers on its ecology and behaviour (Donald *et al.* 2003, 2005, 2007, Donald & Brooke 2006). The discovery of subfossil owl pellets with remains of *razae* on the islands of Santa Luzia, São Vicente and Santo Antão (Mateo *et al.* 2009) sheds new light on the taxon's history in the archipelago. With a 150 m drop in sea level during the last ice age, Raso, Branco, Santa Luzia and São Vicente formed a single island, while the deep channel between São Vicente and Santo Antão would have been even narrower than today. A similar 'ice age distribution' would probably have applied to the Giant Skink *Macroscincus coctei*, long presumed extinct, of which a maxilla was recently found in a scat of a feral cat on Santa Luzia (see Mateo *et al.* 2004).

Among other passerines, the discovery of a breeding population of the Cape Verde Cane Warbler *Acrocephalus brevipennis* on the island of Fogo (Hering 2008, Hering & Fuchs 2007, 2009, Hering & Hering 2005) has

significantly increased the known population of this endemic bird. Results of raptor studies were published by Ontiveros (2003, 2005) and Palma *et al.* (2004). On the island of Maio, long term studies of Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus* are being conducted by Tamas Szekely (University of Bath) and his team.

Amongst the most gratifying developments in recent years is the emergence of a number of dedicated local ornithologists. Samir Martins, who is currently preparing his master's thesis, has been studying the Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*, while Aline Rendall has concentrated on the endemic Purple Heron *Ardea bournei* and the Cane Warbler on Santiago. Both have demonstrated great enthusiasm and perseverance and their contributions to the knowledge and conservation of Cape Verde's birds will be especially worthwhile.

Another hopeful development is the emergence of local initiatives promoting the conservation of nature. Established in 2006, the people behind Biosfera I have recently been quite successful in preventing the traditional October raids of fledglings of Cape Verde Shearwater *Calonectris edwardsii* on Raso by fishermen from Santo Antão (see <http://www.biosferaum.org/>). Such private initiatives were unheard of only a few years ago, when culinary books with recipes for shearwaters, petrels and sea turtles were still being published without protest or restraint. Hopefully, the establishment of the *Sociedade Caboverdiana de Zoologia* will also contribute to raising environmental awareness, to the benefit of Cape Verde's wildlife.

Unless stated otherwise, general data on distribution, status, number of records, etc. in the following are taken from Hazevoet (1995, 1997, 1998, 1999a, 2003) and Hazevoet *et al.* (1996). In the taxon accounts, islands are listed in clockwise order, starting with the main island of Santiago. Taxonomy generally follows Hazevoet (1995) and Sangster *et al.* (1999). Records of rare taxa were scrutinized by the author, with the assistance of Nils van Duivendijk, Jan van der Laan and C.S. Roselaar.

ABBREVIATIONS: AK – Andras Kosztolanyi; AQ – Alessio Quaglierini; AR – Aline Rendall; AS – Aat Schaftenaar; AT – Araceli Tico; AX – António Xeira; CBa – Chris Batty; CBe – Chris Bell; CGe – Dirk Colin & Nico Geiregat; CGr – Tim Collins & Mags Grindle; CJH – Cornelis J. Hazevoet; DF – Dick Forsman; DL – Domingos Leitão; DM – Diederik van der Molen; EKR – Gonçalo Elias, Erling Krabbe & Adam Riley; EW – Edwin Winkel; FJ – Flemming Jensen; FV – Frédéric Vanhove; FW – Ferdinand Wegmann; GM – Geir Mobakken; HD – Henk van Dijk; HH – Henk Hendriks; HK – H.G. Karlsson; HN – Roy de Haas & Anja Nusse; IRT – Ian R. Thompson; JA – Janne Aalto; JL – Jan van der Laan *et al.*; JM – James Murray; JO – John Oates; KD – Klaus Drissner; LA – Liz Anderson; LB – Leo Boon; LD – Luuk

Draaijer; LLJ – Luis Felipe López Jurado; MB – Mike Brooke; MC – Massimo Marcone & Francesca Cimino; MG – Mike Greenfelder/Lindblad Expeditions; MR – Magnus Robb; PC – Paul Cardy; PD – Paul Donald *et al.*; PH – Peter van Horssen; PLS – Pedro López Suárez; PW – Pim Wolf *et al.*; RB – Robin Brace; RBT – Rubén Barone Tosco; RC – Kris De Rouck & Dirk Colin; RE – Richard Ek *et al.*; REK – Richard & Erica Klim; RK – Robert Kelsh; RP – Robert Payne; RW – Richard White; SA – Sten Asbirk; SD – Simon Davies; SG – Sandra Goetsch; SJB – Saray Jimenez Bordón; SJP – Salvador J. Peris; SM – Samir Martins; SP – Stuart Piner; ST – Simon Tickle; TC – Tony Clarke/Birdquest; TD – Tim Dodman; TS – Tamas Szekely; YBa – Yves Bas; YBe – Yvonne Benting.

### BREEDING BIRDS

In this section, additional data on Cape Verde breeding birds are presented, including range expansions within the archipelago, new breeding sites, data on rare

endemic taxa, new or rare records for a particular island, as well as other noteworthy observations.



Fig 1. *Pelagodroma marina*, Laje Branca, Maio, 16 April 2009 (Robert Kelsh)



***Pelagodroma marina* (Latham, 1790)**

BOAVISTA: c. 150 were counted at night at Ilhéu dos Pássaros, 26-27 March 2009 (JL). MAIO: the number of burrows at Laje Branca was estimated independently by two observers at 2,500-5,000 (RK) and c. 3,000 (TS), 16 April 2009.

Elsewhere in the Cape Verdes, White-

faced Storm Petrel breeds on Branco (a few 100 pairs at most) and Ilhéu de Cima (several 1,000s). On Branco (and presumably Ilhéu de Cima as well), trampling of burrows by visiting fishermen is a major problem. A comprehensive count of this and other seabirds at Ilhéu de Cima is long overdue.

***Phaethon aethereus* Linnaeus, 1758**

SANTIAGO: up to 15 birds at the cliffs east of Praia harbour during the years 2004-2009 (many observers); >17 at cliffs east of Cidade Velha, 3 March 2004 (AS), probably constitutes a so far unreported nesting site. SÃO VICENTE: three flying around Ilhéu dos Pássaros, 28 February 2008 (DM), and one there, 18 February 2009 (HD). RASO: a comprehensive count, 20-23 March 2007, yielded 85 occupied burrows, of which 13 had large young (PW). SAL: at least 16 at Ponta da Fragata, 26 March 2003 (LD). BOAVISTA: counts at the colony at Ponta do Sol, 8-19 November 2008, led to an estimate

of 40-50 pairs (FJ), while six were seen at Ilhéu de Curral Velho, 26 March 2009 (JL).

The records from Ilhéu dos Pássaros, São Vicente, are the first there in recent times and an inspection of the islet – situated at the entrance to the main port of Cape Verde and thought to be devoid of seabirds since the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century – is warranted. The tropicbirds at Ponta do Sol, Boavista, suffer from predation by both humans and feral cats, while on Raso (a Nature Reserve by law) human destruction of tropicbirds is rampant. No recent counts of breeding sites on Brava and Ilhéus do Rombo are available.



Fig. 2. *Phaethon aethereus*, victims of vandalism, Boavista, 5 March 2007 (Pedro López Suárez)

**Fregata magnificens** Mathews, 1914

There were a few records away from Boavista, where the only breeding site is situated. SÃO VICENTE: a male at Porto Grande, 15 January 2008 (CJH), and one there (sex unknown), 14 July 2009 (CJH); one (sex unknown) off Praia do Norte, 18 February 2008 (HD). SAL: a male near Ilhéu de Rabo de Junco, 1 November 2007 (CJH).

In March 2009, the frigatebird population at Ilhéu de Cural Velho, Boavista, consisted of two males and two females (PLS). Since 2003, there has been no breeding activity at Ilhéu de Baluarte, apparently now a former breeding site (López Suárez *et al.* 2007; PLS).

**Bubulcus ibis** (Linnaeus, 1758)

SANTIAGO: a count of a roost at Barragem de Poilão yielded 1,344 birds, 1 March 2008 (SG). BOAVISTA: there was a colony with *c.* 60 nests in *Prosopis* trees at Fundo das Figueiras in January-February 2004, but due to constant harassment by local youth not a single young fledged (PLS). MAIO: a

breeding colony with *c.* 25 nests was suspected in palm trees at Casas Velhas in April 2009 (TS).

Cattle Egret is a widespread migrant visitor and scarce breeding bird. These are the first reports of breeding since 1968.

**Egretta garzetta** (Linnaeus, 1766)

SÃO VICENTE: 60 roosting at dusk at the sewage ponds, 19 July 2005 (PH). Apart from a dubious 19<sup>th</sup> century record, this is the largest group size on record. Little Egret is a

not uncommon resident throughout the archipelago and possibly a Palearctic winter visitor in small numbers.

**Ardea bournei** De Naurois, 1966

SANTIAGO: largest numbers counted at the colony at Banana da Ribeira Montanha were *c.* 20 birds, including juveniles, 18-19 October 2003 (EKR), and 46 birds, including 26 juveniles, 31 October 2005 (RC). In 2006, a pair bred at Ribeira Cuba in the Serra Malagueta, *c.* 18 km north of the Banana colony (Cesarini *et al.* 2008). Since March 2000, there have been no reports of herons or active nests from the now apparently abandoned nesting tree at Boa Entrada.

For the first time in many years the population appears to be stable (or at least

not declining) and, like other water birds, the Cape Verde Purple Heron has benefited from the construction of the watershed at Poilão, where some birds are now present almost throughout the year. Nevertheless, with some 10-20 pairs at most, the total population stays at a dangerously low level, especially as vandalism at the nesting site continues, e.g. at least two juveniles at Banana were killed by local youth in February 2005 (CBa) and another in October 2006 (Hering & Barone 2007).

**Milvus migrans** (Boddaert, 1783)

SAL: one at Espargos, 27-28 March 2007 (TC). BOAVISTA: one at Deserto de Viana, 3 March 2006 (AQ). MAIO: five seen in the air at once, 2 km northeast of Ribeira Dom João, 31 December 2004, and one (a different bird, missing primaries in one wing) at Porto Inglês, 2 January 2005 (CGr); one at Monte Penoso, 18 April 2009 (RK).

Small numbers of Black Kite continue being reported from the three eastern islands, where it historically is the only kite present. Whether these constitute local breeding birds or Palearctic migrant visitors remains a matter of contention. No definite breeding data from the eastern islands are known.

**Milvus indet.**

SANTO ANTÃO: distant views of kites in the Tarrafal de Monte Trigo area, 22 December (1), 24 December (1), and 29 December 2007 (2) (CGr). Although only identified as *Milvus*, these observations show that kites

still survive on Santo Antão. A survey in April-May 1999 yielded only two sightings of kites on Santo Antão (Hille & Thiollay 2000), while none were seen there during a raptor survey in June 1999 (Palacios 2002).

**Coturnix coturnix** (Linnaeus, 1758)

RASO: One or more seen and singing on several dates, September-October 2001 (PD); one present, 16 December 2005 (MB); at least 12 males singing (with many more present) and possibly breeding in the unusually long grass, due to heavy rainfall in previous months, in November 2009 (SD).

Quail is a widespread and common breeding bird throughout the islands, but these are the first records for Raso, demonstrating that it may turn up just about anywhere when local circumstances are favourable.

**Gallinula chloropus** (Linnaeus, 1758)

SANTIAGO: 1-3 adults, two juveniles and one chick at Barragem de Poilão, 3-30 March 2007 (CBe, PC, PW, TC), at least six present, 15-17 December 2007 (CGr), 3-4 adults, 2-3 juveniles and 3-4 chicks, 3-27 February 2008 (FV, HK, SG), c. 10 (including juveniles), 18-19 March 2008 (TC), 1-4 there, 21 March-7 April 2009 (JL, RE). BOAVISTA: at least two adults and a juvenile at the interior part of Ribeira do Rabil, 5 April 2007 (PLS, AR), three juveniles, 13 May 2007, an adult, 24 July 2007, and a dead juvenile, 27 July 2007 (PLS), juveniles had been regularly observed there in previous years (PLS); two at Rabil lagoon, 27 March 2009 (JL); 3-4 at Ribeira do Rabil (interior sector), 9-14 April 2009 (PLS, RE).

During the past few years, the status of Moorhen in Cape Verde has changed

dramatically. While in the previous Cape Verde Bird Report only the second record since 1969 could be reported, there is now evidence for small but substantial breeding populations at two localities, i.e. at the Barragem de Poilão, which has been beneficial for many water birds, and at the interior section of Ribeira do Rabil (aka Monte Trigo) on Boavista. Indeed, it appears altogether possible that Moorhen has maintained a small population at the latter site, which has standing water throughout the year, ever since it was last recorded there during the mid-1960s. Apart from having been only rarely visited during the last decades, the site is difficult to survey and a small population of Moorhen could easily have remained unnoticed.

**Himantopus himantopus** (Linnaeus, 1758)

SAL: a nest with eggs at the Santa Maria salt pans, 14 May 2007 (AK), and adults with chicks there during the first week of July 2008 (LA). BOAVISTA: 36 at Rabil lagoon, 17 July 2009 (SM), was the largest number recorded away from Sal so far.

Until recently, the only breeding locality in Cape Verde was at the Pedra de Lume

salt pans, Sal, but disturbance due to tourism has now probably reached fatal levels and its future as a viable breeding site for Black-winged Stilt seems doubtful. Elsewhere, parties of up to 10 are regularly seen (but as yet no breeding known) on Boavista and Maio, while small numbers visit Santiago and São Vicente.

**Tyto detorta** Hartert, 1913

SANTA LUZIA: found breeding in October 1999, while large deposits of pellets provided evidence for the owl's long term presence on the island (Siverio *et al.* 2007). MAIO: a hand reared young close to fledging in December 2004, was said to have been

collected 'north' of Porto Inglês (CGr).

Breeding of the Barn Owl on Santa Luzia had not been established so far, while breeding on Maio was only first reported in March 2000 (Siverio *et al.* 2004).

**Halcyon leucocephala** (P.L.S. Müller, 1776)

MAIO: one near Casas Velhas, 30 September 2008 (IRT, TS, YBe). A common breeding bird on Santiago, Fogo and Brava, Grey-headed Kingfisher is unknown to occur on any of the other islands. Although it cannot be ruled out that the bird reached Maio

unaided, it is more likely that one was brought there and subsequently released, as this colourful bird is a favorite with local people. Similarly, a dead fledgling found on Sal in 1987 was reckoned to have been man-assisted (cf. Hazevoet 1995).

**Eremopterix nigriceps** (Gould, 1841)

RASO: nine on 4 November and at least six remaining until 16 November 2006 (MB). SAL: several flocks, varying in size from four to 23 birds, were seen in the dune area near Santa Maria during the first week of July 2008 (LA). Black-crowned Finch Lark is a locally common breeding bird on Santiago,

Fogo, Boavista and Maio, and there are also records from Brava, São Vicente and São Nicolau. The record from Sal, indicating the existence of a local population, is only the third for the island and there was only a single record from Raso.

**Ammomanes cincturus** (Gould, 1841)

SANTA LUZIA: two on 20 January 2003 (PD). Bar-tailed Desert Lark is a common and widespread breeding bird on Sal, Boavista

and Maio, and locally common on Santiago, Fogo and São Nicolau. There was only a single record from Santa Luzia.

**Alaemon alaudipes** (Desfontaines, 1789)

SANTIAGO: two at Praia airport, 11 July 2005 (PH). SAL: one in the Ponta da Fragata area, 31 October 2000 (RBT); one at Terra Boa, 11 October 2001 (RBT); two adults feeding a juvenile near Santa Maria, 6 January 2003 (PD); one at Pedra de Lume, 20 February 2004 (AS); two at Santa Maria, 5 November 2005 (RC), and one there, 15 March 2006 (REK); one at the airport, 21 November 2007 (CJH); two north of Palmeira, 4 December 2007 (YBa); three at Santa Maria, 7-10 January 2008 (CGr); altogether eight at various locations, 31 July 2008 (JM); one at

Santa Maria and one north of there, 16 April 2009 (RE); a male singing and displaying near Pedra de Lume, 10 November 2009 (SD).

Hoopoe Lark was first recorded on Sal in 1995, but there have been regular reports since, including breeding records, and a small but apparently growing population appears now to be established. There was only a single tentative record from Santiago. Elsewhere in Cape Verde, Hoopoe Lark is only known from Boavista and Maio, where it is common and widespread.

**Acrocephalus brevipennis** (Keulemans, 1866)

SANTIAGO: one singing in irrigated fields just south of Tarrafal, 17 October 2006 (EW). FOGO: in October 2004, 32 territories were

counted in the northeast of the island (Hering & Hering 2005), while a subsequent survey in October 2006 located 129 territories at

medium height on the northern slopes (Hering & Fuchs 2007, 2009). BRAVA: no warblers were found during a survey in January 2006 (Hering 2008). SÃO NICOLAU: visits in September-October 2001 and January 2003 to the three sites where *brevipennis* had been recorded in 1998 (cf. Hazevoet *et al.* 1999) yielded 9-10 territories in 2001 and 8-9 territories in 2003, compared

to eight territories in 1998 (Donald *et al.* 2004).

This is the first record of the Cane Warbler from Santiago north of the line Ribeira da Barca-Boa Entrada-Pedra Badejo. The records from Fogo confirm long-standing rumours of its existence there. The population on São Nicolau appears to remain stable at a very low level.

### ***Sylvia atricapilla* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

RASO: a female, 13 November 2009 (SD), possibly a vagrant from the Palearctic. BOAVISTA: one at João Galego and up to four along the track from João Galego to the eastern shore, 6-8 April 2003 (CGe); one at Deserto de Viana, 11 April 2006 (AX).

The records from Boavista follow those

in 1995, 1998, and 1999, confirming that a small population exists on the island. Elsewhere, Blackcap is common and widespread on Santiago, Fogo, Brava, Santo Antão and São Nicolau. There was one previous record of a possible Palearctic migrant, i.e. one on Maio, 2 January 1987.

### ***Estrilda astrild* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

SÃO VICENTE: six near the sewage ponds, 13 January 2005 (DF), and again six there, 1 November 2005 (RC). Common Waxbill, an introduced bird, is locally common on

Santiago. Apparently, some were recently released on São Vicente, where it had not been recorded since 1924.

## **SCARCE AND RARE MIGRANTS**

In the following, the numbers in brackets at the beginning of each entry indicate 1) the number of records up to 1 January 1980 and 2) the number of records since that date. Records of taxa, previously included in these reports, of which there are now more than 20 records since 1 January 1980 (viz. *Egretta gularis*, *Platalea leucorodia*, *Circus aeruginosus*, *Calidris alpina*, *Philomachus pugnax*, *Limosa lapponica*, *Tringa totanus*, *T.*

*glareola*, *Larus ridibundus*) are included only when an observation represents a new island record or when there are otherwise remarkable circumstances (e.g. unusual numbers or date), in which case the total number of records since 1 January 1980 is given as >20. When the number of records before 1 January 1980 is uncertain this is indicated as (--). Taxa new to the archipelago are marked with an asterisk.

### **\**Mareca penelope* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

(0, 1) MAIO: a male at Casas Velhas, 31 December 2004-1 January 2005 (CGr). This is the first record of Eurasian Wigeon for the Cape Verde Islands. In West Africa, it is a

scarce to uncommon Palearctic winter visitor from Mauritania and northern Sénégal to Chad (Borrow & Demey 2001).

### **\**Mareca americana* (Gmelin, 1789)**

(0, 1) MAIO: a male and a female at Casas Velhas, 31 December 2004-1 January 2005 (CGr). This is the first record of American Wigeon for the Cape Verde Islands. In West

Africa, this Nearctic vagrant has been recorded once in Sénégal (Borrow & Demey 2001).





Fig. 3. *Mareca penelope* and *M. americana*, Casas Velhas, Maio, 1 January 2005 (Tim Collins)

#### **Anas crecca** Linnaeus, 1758

(2, 11) SANTIAGO: a maximum of 7 (four males and three females) at Barragem de Poilão, 23 November 2007-11 March 2008 (CGr, DL, FV, FW, HK, SG). SÃO VICENTE: a male at the sewage ponds, 1-2 January 2007 (HH). SAL: one at the Pedra de Lume salt pans, 24 October 2003 (EKR), and a male and a female there, 20 February 2004 (AS). BOAVISTA: two at Ribeira do Rabil, 13

December 2003 (LLJ), and a male there, 9 January 2008 (CJH). Common Teal has been recorded (October-March) from Santiago (1), São Vicente (6), Sal (2), and Boavista (4). It cannot be excluded that some records, in particular those of females and molting males, in fact concerned *Anas carolinensis* and records are here accepted as *Anas crecca* (*sensu lato*).

#### **\*Anas carolinensis** Gmelin, 1789

(0, 1) SÃO VICENTE: a male at the sewage ponds, 13 January 2005 (DF), and 10 February 2005 (AS). This is the first record of Green-winged Teal for the Cape Verde

Islands. In West Africa, there are as yet no records of this Nearctic duck (cf. Borrow & Demey 2001). See also *Anas crecca* above.

#### **Anas acuta** Linnaeus, 1758

(0, 3) SAL: a female at Ribeira da Madama, 4 December 2008 (ST). MAIO: a female between Calheta de Baixo and Ponta de Morro, 30 December 2004 (CGr).

The only previous record of Pintail was of one on Sal in February 1996, at the same location as the one in 2008.



Fig. 4. *Anas carolinensis*, sewage ponds, São Vicente, 13 January 2005 (Dick Forsman)



Fig. 5. *Anas clypeata* and *A. acuta*, Ribeira da Madama, Sal, 4 December 2008 (Simon Tickle)

***Anas querquedula* Linnaeus, 1758**

(0, 2) SAL: two females at Ribeira da previous record of Garganey was of one on Madama, 4 December 2008 (ST). The only São Vicente, 14-18 April 2001.

***Anas discors* Linnaeus, 1766**

(0, 2) SANTIAGO: a female at Barragem de Poilão, 15-17 December 2007 (CGr), and again one there, 9 March 2008 (FW), are here taken as a single record of a long-staying bird. The only previous record of Blue-winged Teal was of one on São Vicente, 12 March 2000.

**\**Anas clypeata* Linnaeus, 1758**

(0, 4) SANTIAGO: a female at Barragem de Poilão, 15-17 December 2007 (CGr), and 3 February 2008 (FV), are taken here as a single record of a long-staying bird. SÃO VICENTE: six females at the sewage ponds, 18 December 2007-2 January 2008 (CGr), and a male there, 28 February 2008 (DM). SAL: a female at Ribeira da Madama, 4 December 2008 (ST).  
These are the first records of Northern Shoveler for the Cape Verde Islands. In West Africa, this Palearctic duck is a locally common winter visitor (Borrow & Demey 2001).

***Aythya collaris* (Donovan, 1809)**

(0, 3) SÃO VICENTE: two females at the sewage ponds, 12 March 2003 (RP), and again two females there, 10-20 December 2007 (YBa, CGr). Ring-necked Duck has been recorded (November, December, March) from São Vicente (2) and Sal (1).



Fig. 6. *Aythya affinis*, sewage ponds, São Vicente, 13 January 2005 (Dick Forsman)



***Aythya affinis*** (Eyton, 1838)

(0, 2) SÃO VICENTE: a female at the sewage ponds, 13 January-10 February 2005 (AS, DF). The only previous record of Lesser

Scaup was of three females in January-February 1999, also at the São Vicente sewage works.

**\**Pterodroma arminjoniana*** (Giglioli and Salvadori, 1869)

(0, 1) BRAVA: one ('intermediate' morph) c. 5 miles off the southern tip of Brava, 30 September 2008 (MG). This is the first record of Trindade Petrel for the Cape Verde Islands. Breeds at Trindade island and the Martin Vaz archipelago in the South Atlantic.

In the North Atlantic, it has been recorded off North Carolina from May to September (Patteson & Brinkley 2004) and in the Azores from May to October (Dubois & Seitre 1997, Birding Azores <http://tinyurl.com/yjvja6r>).



Fig. 7-8. *Pterodroma arminjoniana*, off southern Brava, 30 September 2008 (courtesy of Lindblad Expeditions)

***Calonectris diomedea*** (Scopoli, 1769)

(--, 10) CAPE VERDE SEAS: one amongst a party of *C. edwardsii* between Raso and São Nicolau, 8 March 2002 (LB), and again one there, 14 December 2002 (PD); two flying north past Raso, in a steady stream of *C. edwardsii*, 22 March 2007 (PW); one between Raso and São Nicolau, 28 November 2009 (SD). Although probably a regular passage migrant in Cape Verde seas,

Cory's and Scopoli's Shearwater *C. diomedea* and *C. borealis* are seldom reported. The last record previously was of one between São Vicente and Santo Antão, 7 March 1996. There are records from November, December, February and March. Records are here accepted as *Calonectris diomedea* (*sensu lato*).

***Puffinus gravis*** (O'Reilly, 1818)

(2, 6) CAPE VERDE SEAS: three between São Nicolau and Raso, 4 December 2002 (PD); at least 10 between Raso and São Nicolau, 28 November 2009 (SD). There are records from September (2), October (1), November

(2), December (2), and February (1). As there are many records north, west and east of the Cape Verde Islands, Great Shearwater is probably a not uncommon passage migrant.

**Puffinus griseus** (Gmelin, 1789)

(1, 2) CAPE VERDE SEAS: one between Raso and São Nicolau, 24 March 2009 (JL). Sooty Shearwater has been recorded in March (1) and April (2), but is probably less rare as a passage migrant than the scanty records suggest.

**Puffinus puffinus** (Brünnich, 1764)

(3, 4) CAPE VERDE SEAS: one between São Vicente and Santo Antão, 24 December 2003 (JA); one off Raso, 22 March 2007 (PW). Manx Shearwater has been recorded in September (1), October (2), November (1), December (2), and March (1). Like other migrant procellarids, it remains largely unreported, but probably is an uncommon passage migrant.

**Oceanodroma leucorhoa** (Vieillot, 1817)

(--, 5) CAPE VERDE SEAS: one between Raso and São Nicolau, 22 October 2003 (EKR). Leach's Storm-petrel has been recorded from October to May. It probably is a not uncommon winter visitor and there are many sightings, just extralimital, suggesting a regular occurrence.

**Sula sula** (Linnaeus, 1766)

(0, 5) SANTO ANTÃO: one off Ponta do Sol, 21 July 2005 (PH); the bird was seen during a sea watch and was flying east together with numerous Cape Verde Shearwaters *Calonectris edwardsii* (cf. van Horssen 2007). RASO: a subadult white morph in the Brown Booby *S. leucogaster* colony, 20 November 2009 (SD). CAPE VERDE SEAS: one came aboard *MV Causeway* at c. 17°N, 23°W, just north of Sal island, 17 April 1977 (Nuovo 2008); an immature among a feeding frenzy of Brown Boobies and Cape Verde Shearwaters between Fogo and Brava, 22 October 2009 (MG, RW).

The only previous record of Red-footed Booby was of one at Ilhéu de Cima, 24 August 1986. An immature at 19°45'N, 23°05'W, c. 190 nm northeast of the Cape Verde Islands, 21 October 2007 (RW), was just outside the geographical area considered here.

**\*Sula dactylatra** Lesson, 1831

(0, 1) BOAVISTA: an adult was regularly present at Ilhéu de Curral Velho during 2003-2005 (PLS). This is the first record of Masked Booby for the Cape Verde Islands. Previously, subfossil (probably Holocene) bones of an unfledged juvenile, indicating local breeding, had been collected on Ilhéu de Cima. Nearest breeding colonies are on Ascension Is., South Atlantic, and Fernando de Noronha, off Brazil. Masked Booby is a rare vagrant off West Africa (Borrow & Demey 2001).

**Morus bassanus** (Linnaeus, 1758)

(2, 1) BOAVISTA: an immature (probably first winter) off Praia de Chave, 3 March 2006 (AQ). This is the first record of Northern Gannet since 1980. The two previous records concerned the recovery of a ringed bird (location within islands unknown) and an observation at sea south of Santiago island.





Fig 9. *Sula dactylatra*, Ilhéu de Curral Velho, Boavista, 22 April 2005 (Pedro López Suárez)



Fig. 10. *Phalacrocorax lucidus*, Sal Rei, Boavista, 28 March 2007 (Pedro López Suárez)

**Phalacrocorax lucidus** (Lichtenstein, 1823)

(--, 3) SANTIAGO: an immature at Barragem de Poilão was present at least throughout March 2007 (CBe, TC, PC, PW). SAL: an immature at Palmeira, 4 December 2007 (YBa). BOAVISTA: two immatures were seen from early March 2007 onwards, while during May-August 2007 four birds were present, with one still remaining in October 2007 (PLS); these cormorants were mainly seen at Sal Rei and surroundings, but occasionally also along the southern shore.

At least four and possibly six individuals were involved. It seems likely that the bird seen at Palmeira, Sal, was one of the long-staying immatures from Boavista. Quite

possibly, the bird present on Santiago in March moved to Boavista later on, but as there is no certainty about this, each island record is counted separately. These are the first records of White-breasted Cormorant since 1924. There are scanty 19<sup>th</sup> Century records, lacking in detail, from São Vicente, Raso, São Nicolau and Boavista. The single 20<sup>th</sup> Century record is of an immature female collected on Boavista, 17 March 1924. *P. lucidus* is a locally common breeding bird from Mauritania to Guinea. Although considered resident, some dispersal evidently takes place, as demonstrated by the 2007 Cape Verde records.



Fig. 11. *Pelecanus onocrotalus*, found at Olho do Mar, Boavista, 12 September 2007 (Pedro López Suárez)



Fig. 12-13. *Pelecanus onocrotalus*, Sal Rei, Boavista, July or August 2000 (photographer unknown)

**Pelecanus onocrotalus** Linnaeus, 1758

(0, 2) BOAVISTA: a skull was found at Olho do Mar, 12 September 2007 (PLS). As reported previously (Hazevoet 2003), a Great White Pelican was photographed at Sal Rei in July or August 2000, and a pelican skull was kept privately there. It is unclear

whether the skull belonged to the photographed bird or to another individual. As a second skull has now been found, it can be concluded that at least two and perhaps three individuals have occurred on Boavista.

**Ixobrychus minutus** (Linnaeus, 1766)

(1, 2) SANTIAGO: an immature male at Barragem de Poilão, 22 March 2007 (TC), and one there, 1-19 March 2008 (FW, SG, TC). The only previous record of Little Bittern was of a juvenile collected on Brava,

17 October 1969. Although Frade (1976) assigned this to Afrotropical 'subspecies' *payesii*, subsequent examination of the specimen showed it to be nominate *minutus* (Hazevoet 1999b).

**Nycticorax nycticorax** (Linnaeus, 1758)

(1, 9) SANTIAGO: five at Barragem de Poilão, 26-30 March 2007 (PW), seven on 15-17 December 2007 (CGr), three, 3 February-11 March 2008 (FV, FW, SG), and 1-2 immatures there, 21 March-7 April 2009 (JL,

RE). BOAVISTA: one at Rabil lagoon, 27-28 March 2007 (TC).

Night Heron has been recorded (October-March) from Santiago (5), São Vicente (1), Raso (1), and Boavista (3).

**Ardeola ralloides** (Scopoli, 1769)

(2, 8) SANTIAGO: one near Tarrafal, 19-20 October 2003, and one at the Pedra Badejo lagoons, 20 October 2003 (EKR); one at Barragem de Poilão, 4-30 March 2007 (CBe, PW, TC), again one, 9 March 2008 (FW), and two there, 21 March-7 April 2009 (JL, RE). SÃO NICOLAU: one west of Vila da

Ribeira Brava, 27 September 2006 (CJH). BOAVISTA: one at Ribeira do Rabil, 5 April 2007 (AR, PLS).

Squacco Heron has now been recorded (September-November, February-April) from Santiago (7), São Nicolau (1), Sal (1), and Boavista (1).

**Egretta ardesiaca** (Wagler, 1827)

(0, 2) RASO: one along the shore, 6 March 2007 (CBe, SP). The only previous record of

Black Heron was of one on Boavista in February-March 1985.

**\*Egretta thula** (Molina, 1782)

(0, 1) SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 1-3 November 2005 (RC). This is the first record of Snowy Egret for the Cape Verde Islands. The bird was stained with oil, possibly the result of a (partly) ship-assisted

journey across the Atlantic. There appear to be as yet no records of this North American heron from the West African mainland (cf. Borrow & Demey 2001).

**Egretta intermedia** (Wagler, 1829)

(1, 11) SANTIAGO: one at Praia, 28-30 March 2007 (PW). SANTO ANTÃO: one at Coculi, 28 November 2006 (MC). SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 18 April 2003 (CGe), and again one there, 26 December 2003 (JA).

The bird at Praia was seen flying to a roost together with a few *Bubulcus ibis* on 28 March and was subsequently seen together with *Egretta garzetta* on 30 March. Intermediate Egret has been recorded



(November-January, March-May) from (3), Sal (1), and Boavista (3).  
Santiago (3), Santo Antão (2), São Vicente

**Casmerodius albus** (Linnaeus, 1758)

(0, 2) SANTIAGO: 1-2 at Barragem de Poilão, 21 March-7 April 2009 (JL, RE). As the birds had dull dark legs, they likely were of Afrotropical or Palearctic rather than

American origin. The only previous record of Great Egret was of one on Boavista, 9 March 1999.



Fig. 14. *Ardea melanocephala*, Barragem de Poilão, Santiago, 21 March 2009 (Cor Hopman)

**\**Ardea melanocephala*** Vigors and Children, 1826

(0, 1) SANTIAGO: an immature at Barragem de Poilão, 21 March-7 April 2009 (JL, RE). This is the first record of Black-headed

Heron for the Cape Verde Islands, an uncommon to common resident throughout West Africa (Borrow & Demey 2001).

***Ardea purpurea*** Linnaeus, 1766

(2, 6) SÃO VICENTE: an immature at the sewage ponds, 3 December 2006 (MC). BOAVISTA: one at Rabil lagoon, 5 March 2005 (CBa). Purple Heron has been recorded

(September, December, January, March, April, July) from Santiago (1), São Vicente (3), and Boavista (4).

***Plegadis falcinellis* (Linnaeus, 1766)**

(1, 5) SANTIAGO: one at Achade Lage, 30 October 2005 (RC), and 1-2 at Barragem de Poilão, 3 February-19 March 2008 (FV, FW, GM, HK, SG, TC). BOAVISTA: one at Ribeira do Rabil, 13 December 2003 (LLJ). Glossy Ibis has been recorded (October, December, February-April) from Santiago (3), Boavista (2), and Maio (1).

***Platalea leucorodia* Linnaeus, 1758**

(4, >20) SANTIAGO: a colour ringed bird at Ilhéu Santa Maria, off Praia, 16 January 2005, was ringed as a nestling on the island of Terschelling (53°25'N, 05°28'E), The Netherlands, 28 May 2003; amongst six at Barragem de Poilão, 25 December 2006 to 30 March 2007, were two colour ringed birds ringed as nestlings at Markiezaat (51°27'N, 04°16'E), The Netherlands, 26 June 2006, and amongst seven at Barragem de Poilão, 15 December 2007 to 19 March 2008, were the same two colour ringed birds seen there in December 2006-March 2007, with one still present there, 15 April 2008. BOAVISTA: one of a group of six at Rabil lagoon, 25 February 2009, was ringed as a nestling on the island of Schiermonnikoog (53°29'N, 06°09'E), The Netherlands, 5 June 2008; one

of a group of four at the interior sector of Ribeira do Rabil, 9-14 April 2009, was ringed as a nestling at Markiezaat (51°27'N, 04°16'E), The Netherlands, 9 June 2008. Data courtesy of Working Group Spoonbills International.

These are the third to seventh reports from the Cape Verde Islands of Spoonbills colour ringed as nestlings in The Netherlands. Although there were only four records of Spoonbill before 1980, there have been 60+ records since. The increase in Spoonbill observations is not solely due to the influx of birdwatchers in the islands, but reflects the growth of the Dutch Spoonbill population, from c. 175 pairs in 1960 to 1,894 pairs in 2008 (data Working Group Spoonbills International).

***Phoenicopterus roseus* Pallas, 1811**

(--, 1) BOAVISTA: one at João Barrosa, 17 October 2008 (SJB). This is the first record since 1924. In the past (pre-20<sup>th</sup> Century), flamingos bred – at least occasionally – on Sal and Boavista and perhaps also on Maio. In West Africa, there are breeding colonies

in Mauritania and northern Sénégal, where mainly resident, although some dispersal occurs and migrants from Europe occur during the northern winter (Borrow & Demey 2001).

***Circus pygargus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

(0, 5) RASO: an immature seen on four days and possibly present throughout, 4-18 November 2006 (MB), and an immature or female there, 24 March 2007 (TC). SAL: an immature at Santa Maria, 16 September 2007 (RB). MAIO: an immature at Morrinho, 30 December 2004 (CGr).

Montagu's Harrier has been recorded (September, November, December, March) from Raso (1), Sal (1), Boavista (2), and Maio (1). Apart from these, there are five records of unidentified Montagu's/Pallid Harrier *C. pygargus/macrourus*.

**\**Hieraaetus pennatus* (Gmelin, 1788)**

(0, 2) SANTIAGO: an adult pale morph in display flight at Boa Entrada, 21 March 2007 (TC). SANTO ANTÃO: an adult dark morph at Corda, 22 February 2004 (AS). These are the first records of Booted Eagle for the Cape

Verde Islands. It is an uncommon Palearctic migrant to the Sahel zone (Borrow and Demey 2001), frequent to seasonally common in Senegambia (Barlow *et al.* 1997).





Fig. 15. *Phoenicopiterus roseus*, João Barrosa, Boavista, 17 October 2008 (Saray Jimenez Bordón)



Fig. 16. *Circus pygargus*, Santa Maria, Sal, 16 September 2007 (Robin Brace)



Fig. 17. *Porzana porzana*, sewage works, São Vicente, 13 January 2005 (Dick Forsman).



Fig. 18. *Crecopsis egregia*, found at Ilhéu dos Pássaros, Boavista, 4 February 2004 (Pedro López Suárez)

**\**Porzana porzana* (Linnaeus, 1766)**

(0, 2) SANTIAGO: one at Barragem de Poilão, 21-22 March 2007 (TC). SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 13 January 2005 (DF). These are the first records of Spotted Crake for the Cape Verde Islands. In West Africa, it

is a generally rare Palearctic winter visitor, patchily recorded from Mauritania and Sénégal, where common in the Sénégal River delta (Borrow & Demey 2001).

**\**Crecopsis egregia* (Peters, 1854)**

(0, 1) BOAVISTA: the mummified remains of an adult were found at Ilhéu dos Pássaros, 4 February 2004 (PLS); the skeleton has been deposited at the Biology Department of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain. This is the first record of African Crake for the Cape Verde Islands. Occurs

throughout sub-Saharan Africa. A common to rare resident and intra-African migrant in West Africa, except the arid north and forest (Borrow & Demey 2001). There are three records from the Canary Islands, one in 2001 and two in 2006, all in November (*Ardeola* 50: 134-135, 2003; 55: 269, 2008).

**\**Porphyryla martinica* (Linnaeus, 1766)**

(0, 1) SANTIAGO: a second calendar year bird at Barragem de Poilão, 26 February-19 March 2008 (FW, GM, HK, SG, TC). This is the first record of American Purple Gallinule for the Cape Verde Islands. The taxon is

known for its long-distance vagrancy and there are records from the Canary Islands (Ramos 2008), but not from the West African mainland (cf. Borrow & Demey 2001).

***Haematopus ostralegus* Linnaeus, 1758**

(2, 11) SANTA LUZIA: one on 21 January 2003 (PD). Oystercatcher has been recorded (August-April) from Santiago (1), Ilhéu de

Cima (1), Santo Antão (1), São Vicente (4), Santa Luzia (1), Branco (1), São Nicolau (1), Sal (1), and Boavista (2).

***Recurvirostra avosetta* Linnaeus, 1758**

(1, 10) SAL: one at the Pedra de Lume salt pans, 15 March 2006 (REK). MAIO: one present for several days at the Porto Inglês salt pans, mid-September 2009 (AT, TS).

Avocet has been recorded (October-April) from São Vicente (1), Sal (3), Boavista (3), and Maio (4).

***Glareola pratincola* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

(2, 8) SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 26 December 2003 (JA), and again one there, 21-27 February 2004 (AS). MAIO: one at the salt pans near Porto Inglês, 25-26 September 2007 (PLS, TS), and 1-3 there, 28 September-5 October 2008 (IRT, TS, YBe),

one at Casas Velhas, 6 January 2008 (TS), and one at Ribeira da Lagoa, 17-19 April 2009 (RK, TS). Collared Pratincole has been recorded (September-May) from Santiago (2), São Vicente (2), Sal (1), and Maio (5).

***Charadrius dubius* Scopoli, 1786**

(2, 21) SANTIAGO: 2-4 at Barragem de Poilão, 15 December 2007-19 March 2008 (CGr, FV, HK, SG, TC), and one there, 21-22 March 2009 (JL). SÃO VICENTE: two at the sewage ponds, 10 February 2005 (AS), four on 30

November 2006 (MC), two there, 18 December 2007 (CGr), and 3-5 there, 28 February 2008 (DM). SAL: three at the Pedra de Lume salt pans, 21 February 2008 (DM).



Little Ringed Plover has been recorded (August-May) from Santiago (11), São Vicente (9), Sal (1), and Boavista (2). With 21 records since 1980, it is clear that Little

Ringed Plover is a scarce but regular Palearctic migrant visitor. Except for unusual observations (e.g. new island records), the taxon will not be included in future reports.

### **Charadrius semipalmatus** Bonaparte, 1825

(0, 6) SANTIAGO: one at Praia, 11 April 2003 (CGe); one first winter bird at Tarrafal, 30 October 2005 (RC), and again a first winter bird, c. 1 km south of Tarrafal, 17 October 2006 (EW). SÃO VICENTE: one first winter

bird at the sewage ponds, 1-3 November 2005 (RC). Semipalmated Plover has been recorded (October, November, February-April) from Santiago (3), São Vicente (2), and Sal (1).

### **Pluvialis dominicus** (P.L.S. Müller, 1776)

(3, 9) SANTIAGO: one at Praia, 11-12 April 2003 (CGe). SÃO VICENTE: two adults at the sewage ponds, 27 February 2004 (AS), one first winter bird, 1-3 November 2005 (RC), 1-3 (two first winter and an adult) there, 3 December 2006-25 February 2007 (DF, HH,

MC, MR). RASO: one on 21 October 2006 (EW). American Golden Plover has been recorded (October-April) from Santiago (2), Santo Antão (1), São Vicente (8), and Raso (1).

### **\*Pluvialis apricaria** (Linnaeus, 1758)

(0, 1) SANTIAGO: one just south of Tarrafal, 4 March 2006 (REK). The bird was seen in a maize plot at the experimental farm south of the sewage ponds, together with *Vanellus spinosus* (see below). This is the first record

of European Golden Plover for the Cape Verde Islands. In West Africa, the taxon is a rare winter visitor to Mauritania and a vagrant to Senegambia (Lamarche 1988, Borrow & Demey 2001).

### **Vanellus spinosus** (Linnaeus, 1758)

(0, 2) SANTIAGO: one just south of Tarrafal, together with *Pluvialis apricaria* (see above), 4 March 2006 (REK). The only previous

record of Spur-winged Lapwing, a widespread breeding bird in West Africa, was of one on São Nicolau, 11 April 2001.

### **Calidris canutus** (Linnaeus, 1758)

(1, 11) SÃO VICENTE: one at Baía das Gatas, 6 December 2007 (YBa). SAL: an adult and two juveniles at the Santa Maria saltpans, 20-23 October 2007 (JO), and two there, 7 January 2008 (CGr). BOAVISTA: two at the

eastern shore near Antigas Salinas, 8 April 2003 (CGe). Knot has been recorded (October-January, March, April, July) from Santiago (2), São Vicente (2), Sal (2), Boavista (5), and Maio (1).

### **Calidris pusilla** (Linnaeus, 1766)

(0, 3) SÃO VICENTE: three first winter birds at the sewage ponds, 1-3 November 2005 (RC). Semipalmated Sandpiper, a vagrant

from North America, has been recorded (November, March) from São Vicente (2), and Boavista (1).



Fig. 19. *Charadrius semipalmatus*, Tarrafal, Santiago, 17 October 2006 (Edwin Winkel)



Fig. 20. *Pluvialis dominicus*, Raso, 21 October 2006 (Edwin Winkel)





Fig. 21. *Calidris minutilla*, Rabil lagoon, Boavista, 15 April 2009 (Richard Ek)

***Calidris minutilla*** (Vieillot, 1819)

(0, 4) SAL: one at the Pedra de Lume salt pans, 16 April 2009 (RE). BOAVISTA: one at Rabil lagoon, 13-15 April 2009 (RE). Least Sandpiper, a Nearctic vagrant, has been recorded (March-April) from São Vicente (2), Sal (1), and Boavista (1).

**\**Calidris fuscicollis*** (Vieillot, 1819)

(0, 5) SANTIAGO: one adult winter bird at Praia, 31 October 2005 (RC). SÃO VICENTE: one first winter and two adult winter birds at the sewage ponds, 1-3 November 2005 (RC), and one there, 18 December 2007-2 January 2008 (CGr). SAL: one first winter bird at Santa Maria and another at the Pedra de Lume salt pans, 5 November 2005 (RC). These are the first records of White-rumped Sandpiper for the Cape Verde Islands. In West Africa, there are records of this North American migrant from Ivory Coast and Ghana (Borrow & Demey 2001).

**\**Calidris bairdii*** (Coues, 1861)

(0, 1) SAL: an adult at the Santa Maria salt pans, 20-22 October 2007 (JO). This is the first record of Baird's Sandpiper for the Cape Verde Islands. In West Africa, this Nearctic vagrant has been claimed (but not substantiated) in Mauritania, Sénégal, and The Gambia (Borrow & Demey 2001).



Fig. 22. *Calidris fuscicollis*, sewage works, São Vicente, 3 November 2005 (Kris De Rouck)



Fig. 23. *Calidris bairdii*, Santa Maria, Sal, 20 October 2007 (John Oates)

**Calidris melanotos** (Vieillot, 1819)

(0, 2) SANTIAGO: two at Tarrafal, 19-20 October 2003 (EKR). The only previous record of Pectoral Sandpiper was of one near Tarrafal, Santiago, 16-17 October 2001, a remarkable temporal and spatial concurrence in the occurrence of this Nearctic vagrant (see also *Tringa melanoleuca* below).

**Calidris temminckii** (Leisler, 1812)

(0, 5) SANTIAGO: one at the Pedra Badejo lagoons, 5 March 2006 (REK). SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 3 December 2006 (MC). BOAVISTA: one at Rabil lagoon, 2-3 March 2008 (HK, GM). Temminck's Stint has been recorded (November, December, March) from Santiago (1), São Vicente (1), Sal (1), and Boavista (2).

**Lymnocyptes minimus** (Brünnich, 1764)

(0, 2) SANTIAGO: one at Barragem de Poilão, 15-17 December 2007 (CGr). The only previous record of Jack Snipe was of one on Maio, 26 August 1986. The taxon may well be under-recorded due to its skulking habits.

**Gallinago gallinago** (Linnaeus, 1758)

(0, 23) SANTIAGO: 1-2 at Barragem de Poilão, 3-30 March 2007 (CBe, PW, TC), five there, 15-17 December 2007 (CGr), 3-5 there, 27 February-19 March 2008 (SG, TC), seven there, 21-22 March 2009 (JL), and one there, 6-7 April 2009 (RE). SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 27 February 2004 (AS), and again one there, 11 March 2006 (REK). SAL: two at Ribeira da Madama, 4 December 2008 (ST). BOAVISTA: one at Ribeira do Rabil (interior part), 9 January 2008 (CJH); one at Rabil lagoon, 17 March 2008 (TC), and one there, 14 April 2009 (RE). MAIO: one at the salt pans near Porto Inglês, 17 November 2007 (PLS); one at Ribeira de Dom João, 2 October 2008 (IRT, YBe).

It cannot be ruled out that some of the above in fact concerned *Gallinago delicata* (see below) and records are here accepted as *Gallinago gallinago* (*sensu lato*). Snipe has been recorded (October-March) from Santiago (6), São Vicente (8), Sal (2), Boavista (5), and Maio (2). With 23 records (involving many more individuals) since 1996, it is clear that the taxon is a regular winter visitor in small numbers. This is the last report in which *G. gallinago* is included, but observers are asked to remain alert for the possibility of *G. delicata*.

**\*Gallinago delicata** (Ord, 1825)

(0, 1) SANTIAGO: one at Barragem de Poilão, 26-30 March 2007 (PW). This is the first record of Wilson's Snipe, a vagrant from the Nearctic, for the Cape Verde Islands. There appear to be as yet no records from West Africa (cf. Borrow & Demey 2001). See also *G. gallinago* above.

**Limosa limosa** (Linnaeus, 1758)

(2, 6) SÃO VICENTE: three at the sewage ponds, 3 December 2006 (MC). BOAVISTA: c. 10 at Ribeira do Rabil, 13 December 2003 (LLJ). MAIO: one at Ribeira de Dom João, 30 September 2008 (IRT, YBe). Black-tailed Godwit has been recorded (August-October, December-January) from São Vicente (2), Sal (1), Boavista (3), and Maio (2).





Fig. 24. *Gallinago delicata*, Barragem de Poilão, Santiago, 26 March 2007 (René Pop)

***Tringa erythropus* (Pallas, 1764)**

(0, 11) SÃO VICENTE: two at the sewage ponds, 3 December 2006 (MC). SAL: one at the Pedra de Lume salt pans, 4 March 2003 (RP). MAIO: one south of Ribeira Dom João, 31 December 2004 (CGr).

Spotted Redshank has been recorded (September, November-March) from Santiago (1), São Vicente (5), Sal (1), Boavista (3), and Maio (1).

***Tringa totanus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

(1, >20) BOAVISTA: one at Rabil lagoon, 28 March 2007, and again one there, 17 March 2008 (TC).

Although there was only one old record, Redshank has been regularly reported from São Vicente and Sal since 1980, but the above were only the fifth and sixth record for

Boavista, others being from Santiago (1) and Maio (1). Regularly present at the Pedra de Lume salt pans on Sal and the sewage ponds on São Vicente, from late August to late April. Away from these two locations records are few.

***Tringa stagnatilis* (Bechstein, 1803)**

(0, 2) SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 30 November 2006 (MC). The only previous record of Marsh Sandpiper, a

vagrant from the Palearctic, was of one on Sal, 23 November 1989.

***Tringa melanoleuca* (Gmelin, 1789)**

(0, 3) SANTIAGO: one at the sewage ponds south of Tarrafal, 19 October 2003 (EKR). SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 30 November 2006 (MC). The only previous record of Greater Yellowlegs, a Nearctic

vagrant, was of one near Tarrafal, Santiago, 16-17 October 2001, a remarkable concurrence in temporal and spatial occurrence (see also *Calidris melanotos* above).

***Tringa flavipes* (Gmelin, 1789)**

(0, 13) SANTIAGO: one at the sewage ponds south of Tarrafal, 19 October 2003 (EKR); one at Cidade Velha, 29 December 2003 (JA); 1-2 at Barragem de Poilão, 16 December 2007-19 March 2008 (CGr, FV, FW, GM, HK, SG, TC). SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 26 December 2003 (JA), one there, 3 December 2006-1 February 2007 (DF, HH, MC), and again one there, 18 December 2007-2 January 2008 (CGr). SAL:

two at the Pedra de Lume saltpans, 6 January-20 April 2003 (CGr, PD), 1-4 there, 24 October 2003-20 February 2004 (AS, EKR, JA), and one there, 24 February-15 March 2008 (HK, GM, TC).

Lesser Yellowlegs, a Nearctic migrant, has been recorded (September-April) from Santiago (3), São Vicente (3), Sal (5), and Boavista (2). All records are since 1999.

***Tringa ochropus* Linnaeus, 1758**

(2, 14) SANTIAGO: 1-3 at Barragem de Poilão, 3-30 March 2007 (CBe, PW, TC), 1-3 there, 15 December 2007-19 March 2008 (CGr, HK, SG, TC), and 1-3 there, 21 March-7 April 2009 (JL, RE). SÃO VICENTE: two at the sewage ponds, 10 February 2005 (AS), and one there, 2 November 2005 (RC). SÃO NICOLAU: one at the Ribeira Brava river mouth, 29 November 2009 (SD). BOAVISTA:

one at Sal Rei, 21 December 2003 (JA); one at Ribeira do Rabil (interior part), 9 January 2008 (CJH). MAIO: one at Lagoa, 3 October 2008 (IRT, YBe).

Green Sandpiper has been recorded (October-April) from Santiago (8), São Vicente (3), São Nicolau (1), Boavista (3), and Maio (1).

***Tringa solitaria* A. Wilson, 1813**

(0, 2) SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 13 January 2005 (DF). The only previous record of Solitary Sandpiper, a vagrant

from the Nearctic, was of one on Boavista, 12 March 1997.

***Actitis macularia* (Linnaeus, 1766)**

(0, 8) SANTIAGO: one first winter bird at Praia, 31 October 2005 (RC). SANTO ANTÃO: one at Ponta da Sol, 21 November 2003 (AS), and again one (possibly the same bird) there, 24-25 February 2004 (AS). SÃO VICENTE: two at the sewage ponds, 26 December 2003

(JA), one first winter bird, 2-3 November 2005 (RC), and again one there, 1-2 January 2007 (HH). A migrant from the Nearctic, Spotted Sandpiper has been recorded (October-March) from Santiago (1), Santo Antão (2), and São Vicente (5).

***Phalaropus lobatus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

(0, 2) MAIO: one at the Porto Inglês saltpans, 20 October 2009 (AT, TS). This is the second record of Red-necked Phalarope, the

only other being of one at the Pedra de Lume saltpans, Sal, 17 January-4 February 1995.

***Phalaropus fulicaria* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

(--, 13) SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 30 November 2006 (MC). CAPE VERDE SEAS: two flying north past Raso, 20 March 2007 (PW). Grey Phalarope has been

recorded (October-May) from São Vicente (1), Sal (1), and at sea (11). Presumably more common at sea than the few records indicate.





Fig. 25. *Tringa flavipes*, sewage ponds, São Vicente, 1 February 2007 (Dick Forsman)



Fig. 26. *Tringa solitaria*, sewage ponds, São Vicente, 13 January 2005 (Dick Forsman)

**Stercorarius skua** (Brünnich, 1764)

(3, 12) CAPE VERDE SEAS: two between Branco and São Nicolau, 22 October 2003, and two off Barril, São Nicolau, the next day, were presumed to be the same birds (EKR); one between Raso and São Nicolau, 17 December 2004 (MB), and one there, 24 March 2007 (TC); one flying north past Raso, 22 March 2007 (PW); three off Barril, São

Nicolau, 23 March 2009 (JL); two between São Nicolau and Raso, 11 April 2009 (RE).

As in previous years, all records of Great Skua were from the Branco-Raso area. The three pre-1980 records are of one west of Santo Antão and of ringing recoveries on São Vicente and Sal.

**Stercorarius** indet.

CAPE VERDE SEAS: a 'great skua' between Branco and São Nicolau, 15 April 2003 (CGe), was presumably *S. skua*, but the

possibility of *S. maccormicki* could not be ruled out.

**Larus sabini** J. Sabine, 1819

(2, 1) BOAVISTA: a juvenile at Sal Rei, 22 December 2000 (TD). Only the first record since 1980, the two previous records of

Sabine's Gull were of adults at sea in April 1976.

**Larus genei** Brême, 1839

(0, 2) BOAVISTA: an adult at Boca de Salina, 15 February 2007 (PLS). The only previous record of Slender-billed Gull was of an

immature at Santa Maria, Sal, 16 February 1994.

**\*Larus audouinii** Payraudeau, 1826

(0, 1) SÃO NICOLAU: a third winter bird flying east past Juncalinho, 5 January 2008 (CGr). This is the first record of Audouin's Gull for the Cape Verde Islands. In West

Africa, this Mediterranean taxon is a rare migrant (September-May) to coastal Mauritania and Senegambia (Lamarche 1988, Borrow & Demey 2001).

**Larus michahellis** Naumann, 1840

(1, 27) SÃO VICENTE: two at Mindelo, 12 March 2003 (RP), two second winter birds, 10 February 2005 (AS), six (including one adult), 11 March 2006 (REK), three, 15 September 2006 (CJH), and five (including one adult) there, 1-2 January 2007 (HH). RASO: a first winter bird offshore, 25 November 2009 (SD). SÃO NICOLAU: up to 12 first winter birds at Tarrafal, 8-25 January 2003 (PD). SAL: one adult at Palmeira, 2 November 2007 (CJH). With 27 records (September-June) since 1980, involving

many more individuals, it is clear that Yellow-legged Gull is a regular visitor in the Cape Verde Islands. Whether these birds belong to nominate *michahellis* or *atlantis* has still to be determined, although the majority of birds seen in Cape Verde are thought to concern the latter. In addition, there are many records of unidentified immature *L. michahellis/fuscus*. Barring unusual records, this is the last report in which Yellow-legged Gull is included.

**\*Larus atricilla** Linnaeus, 1758

(0, 1) SÃO VICENTE: an adult in non-breeding plumage at Praia de Lazareto, 23

July 2009 (CJH). This is the first record of Laughing Gull for the Cape Verde Islands. In

West Africa, this Nearctic taxon has been recorded as a vagrant in Senegambia (Borrow & Demey 2001) and also in the Canary Islands (Ramos 2008).

***Gelochelidon nilotica* Gmelin, 1789**

(0, 5) MAIO: two at Calheta de Baixo, 30 December 2004-2 January 2005 (CGr); one at the salt pans near Porto Inglês, 6 October 2008 (IRT, YBe), and one there, 1 January 2008 (PLS); two first winter birds at Ribeira da Lagoa, 19 April 2009 (RK). The only previous record of Gull-billed Tern was of two on Boavista, 31 January 1995.

***Sterna caspia* Pallas, 1770**

(0, 9) BOAVISTA: one at Sal Rei, 24 December 2000 (TD). MAIO: one at Casas Velhas, 31 December 2004-1 January 2005 (CGr); one at the salt pans near Porto Inglês, 25 September 2007 (PLS, TS), one there, 15 November 2007 (PLS), and again one there, 7 January 2008 (SM), are here counted as a single record of a long-staying bird. Caspian Tern has been recorded (September, November-April) from São Vicente (1), Boavista (5), and Maio (2), and at sea (1).

***Sterna maxima* Boddaert, 1783**

(0, 3) BOAVISTA: 1-2 at Sal Rei and Rabil lagoon, 24-25 December 2000 (TD). Royal Tern has been recorded (December, February-April) from Sal (1), and Boavista (2). Possibly, the record of three long-staying birds at Rabil lagoon, Boavista, 16 March-23 April 2001 (cf. Hazevoet 2003), concerned the same party as those reported here.



Fig. 27. *Gelochelidon nilotica*, Ribeira da Lagoa, Maio, 19 April 2009 (Robert Kelsh)





Fig. 28. *Sterna caspia*, saltpans, Maio, 15 November 2007 (Pedro López Suárez)



Fig. 29. *Sterna sandvicensis*, Ribeira da Madama, Sal, 4 December 2008 (Simon Tickle)



***Sterna sandvicensis* Latham, 1787**

(1, 18) SANTIAGO: one along the shore at Praia, 21-23 December 2006 (HH). SAL: two immatures at Santa Maria, 26 October 2003 (EKR); one at Ribeira da Madama, 4 December 2008 (ST). BOAVISTA: one at Rabil lagoon, 10 February 2008 (FV). MAIO: three at Calheta de Baixo, 30 December 2004-2 January 2005 (CGr); one at the salt pans near Porto Inglês, 12 November 2007 (PLS), and again one there, 7 January 2008 (SM). Sandwich Tern has been recorded (October-March) from Santiago (2), São Nicolau (3), Sal (2), Boavista (5), Maio (4), and at sea (3).

***Sterna hirundo* Linnaeus, 1758**

(2, 11) SAL: an immature at Santa Maria, 26 October 2003 (EKR). CAPE VERDE SEAS: one between São Nicolau and Raso, 14 April 2003 (CGe). Common Tern has been recorded (October, December, January, April-June) from Santiago (1), Santo Antão (1), Sal (6), Boavista (3), Maio (1), and at sea (1).

***Sterna albifrons* Pallas, 1764**

(0, 15) BOAVISTA: one at Rabil lagoon, 3 March 2005 (CBa). First recorded on Maio in 1988, all subsequent records of Little Tern have been from Rabil lagoon and the nearby shore, where a few appear to be present annually from October to April.

***Oena capensis* (Linnaeus, 1766)**

(0, 2) BOAVISTA: a male at Ponta da Varandinha, 2 December 2006 (PLS). This is the second record of Namaqua Dove, a common resident and intra-African migrant in the Sahel zone, the previous being of one on Maio, 21 July 1995.



Fig. 30. *Oena capensis*, Ponta de Varandinha, Boavista, 2 December 2006 (Pedro López Suárez)



Fig. 31. *Streptopelia turtur*, Santa Maria, Sal, 17 September 2007 (Robin Brace)

### ***Streptopelia turtur* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

(2, 10) SAL: one at Pedra de Lume, 30 September 2005 (RBT); three at Santa Maria, 17 September 2007 (RB). Turtle Dove has been recorded (August-October, February) from Santiago (2), São Vicente (3), Sal (4), Boavista (2), and Maio (1).

### **\**Streptopelia decaocto* (Frivaldsky, 1838)**

(0, 2) SÃO NICOLAU: one at Vila da Ribeira Brava, 12 November 2009 (SD). SAL: one at Espargos, 3 April 2006 (AX).

These are the first records of Collared Dove for the Cape Verde Islands. Even considering the taxon's spectacular range expansion during the last century, its

appearance in Cape Verde still comes as a surprise. In the Canary Islands, Morocco and Western Sahara, it has become well-established since the 1990s (Bergier 2000, Bergier & Thévenot 2008, Bergier *et al.* 1999, Lorenzo & Barone 2007, Ramos 2008).

### ***Asio flammeus* (Pontoppidan, 1763)**

(0, 10) RASO: single birds on 13 December 2002 and 15 and 21 January 2003 presumably concerned the same individual (PD); one present, 22-24 November 2009 (SD). MAIO: one at the salt pans near Porto

Inglês, 5 October 2008 (TS). Short-eared Owl has been recorded (October-March) from Raso (4), Sal (3), and Maio (1), with another two seen from ships at sea between the islands.

### **\**Ceryle rudis* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

(0, 1) FOGO: one at Porto do Vale dos Cavaleiros (São Filipe harbour), 19 October 2004 (RW). This is the first record of Pied Kingfisher for the Cape Verde Islands. In

West Africa, it is common south of 17°N, probably mainly sedentary, but seasonal changes in abundance have been reported (Borrow & Demey 2001).



Fig. 32. *Ceryle rudis*, Porto do Vale dos Cavaleiros, Fogo, 19 October 2004 (Richard White)



Fig. 33. *Merops apiaster*, João Barrosa, Boavista, 7 April 2006 (António Xeira)

**Merops apiaster** Linnaeus, 1758

(1, 5) SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 3 December 2006 (MC), and again one there, 2 January 2007 (HH), are here counted as a single record. SAL: 3-9 near Santa Maria, 20 August-4 September 2002 (SJP). BOAVISTA: one at João Barrosa, 7 April 2006 (AX). European Bee-eater has been recorded (August-September, December-May) from São Vicente (1), São Nicolau (1), Sal (2), and Boavista (2).

**Clamator glandarius** (Linnaeus, 1758)

The sighting of Great Spotted Cuckoo on Boavista in 1999 or 2000, previously published without further locality (cf. Hazevoet 2003), was at Ribeira da Renca near Cabeço dos Tarafes (PLS). The precise date appears to have been lost, but a poor quality photograph has been deposited in the Cape Verde Bird Archive.

**Riparia riparia** (Linnaeus, 1758)

(2, 16) SÃO VICENTE: three at the sewage ponds, 18 September 2006 (CJH). SAL: one near Ponta do Sinó (west of Santa Maria), 16 March 2003 (LD); one at the Santa Maria sewage works, 1 March 2008 (HK); one at Santa Maria, 16 April 2009 (RE). Sand Martin has been recorded (August-October, February-April) from Santiago (2), São Vicente (5), Raso (1), São Nicolau (2), and Sal (8).

**\*Ptyonoprogne rupestris** (Scopoli, 1769)

(0, 1) SAL: one at Ribeira da Fontona, 8 January 2008 (CGr). This is the first record of Crag Martin for the Cape Verde Islands. In West Africa, it is a rare Palearctic winter visitor to Mauritania and northern Sénégal and a vagrant in The Gambia (Lamarche 1988, Borrow & Demey 2001).



Fig. 34. *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*, Ribeira da Fontona, Sal, 8 January 2008 (Tim Collins)



**Hirundo daurica** Laxmann, 1769

(0, 15) SÃO VICENTE: 1-3 at the sewage ponds, 12 March-18 April 2003 (CGr, RP), and two there, 19 December 2007 (CGr). SÃO NICOLAU: one at Fajã valley, 7 February 2008 (FV); one at Tarrafal, 11 April 2009 (RE). SAL: three at Santa Maria, 16 April

2009 (RE). BOAVISTA: one at Curral Velho, 14 April 2009 (RE). Red-rumped Swallow has been recorded (December-April) from Santiago (2), São Vicente (4), Branco (1), São Nicolau (3), Sal (4), and Boavista (1). All records are since 1996.

**Anthus campestris** (Linnaeus, 1758)

(0, 2) SÃO NICOLAU: one near the airport, 28 January 2003 (PD). This is only the second record of Tawny Pipit for the Cape Verde

Islands, the previous being of one on Boavista, 12 March 1986.

**Anthus trivialis** (Linnaeus, 1758)

(0, 6) RASO: one on 6 November 2006 (MB). SAL: one at Santa Maria, 11-12 September 2007 (RB). Tree Pipit has been recorded

(September, November, March, April) from Raso (1), São Nicolau (1), Sal (1), Boavista (2), and Maio (1).

**Anthus cervinus** (Pallas, 1811)

(0, 6) SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 13 December 2007-2 January 2008 (CGr, YBa). SAL: two (one first winter and an adult) at the Santa Maria sewage works,

7-10 January 2008 (CGr), and again two there, 1 March 2008 (HK). Red-throated Pipit has been recorded (December-March) from São Vicente (3), and Sal (3).



Fig. 35. *Motacilla citreola*, Santa Maria, Sal, 10 January 2008 (Tim Collins)

**\**Motacilla citreola* Pallas, 1776**

(0, 4) BOAVISTA: a male along Rabil lagoon, 11 April 2007 (PLS). SAL: one at the Santa Maria salt pans, 22 October 2007 (JO); one at the Santa Maria sewage works, 7-10 January 2008 (CGr), and a male there, 1 March 2008

(GM, HK). These are the first records of Citrine Wagtail for the Cape Verde Islands. In West Africa, this vagrant from the Palearctic has been recorded once in Sénégal (Borrow & Demey 2001).

***Motacilla alba* Linnaeus, 1758**

(1, 18) SANTIAGO: one at Praia, 27 July 2003 (HN). SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 26 December 2003 (JA), one there, 11 March 2006 (REK), again one, 1-2 January 2007 (HH), and 1-2 there, 19-20 December 2007 (CGr). RASO: one on 7 November 2003 (MB). SÃO NICOLAU: one at the airport, 24 October 2003 (EKR). SAL: two at the Santa

Maria sewage works, 7-10 January 2008 (CGr).

White Wagtail has been recorded (July, October-March) from Santiago (3), São Vicente (8), Raso (2), São Nicolau (2), and Sal (4). The single pre-1980 record is of one collected in 1924, all others are since 1989.

**\**Erithacus rubecula* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

(0, 1) SANTIAGO: one at the botanical garden, São Jorge dos Orgãos, 4 February 2007 (SA). This is the first record of European Robin for the Cape Verde Islands.

In West Africa, it has been recorded in coastal Mauritania only (Lamarche 1988, Borrow & Demey 2001).

***Phoenicurus phoenicurus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

(0, 3) BOAVISTA: a female at Rabil, 2 March 2006 (AQ). Common Redstart has been

recorded (October, March) from Sal (2), and Boavista (1).

***Oenanthe oenanthe* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

(2, 30) SANTIAGO: one male at Tarrafal, 30 October 2005 (RC); one east of Praia harbour, 22 March 2009 (JL). SANTO ANTÃO: one at Ponta do Sol, 9 December 2007 (YBa). RASO: one, 21 October 2003 (EKR); one, possibly *leucorhoa*, 27 November 2009 (SD). SÃO NICOLAU: two males near the airport, 28 January 2003 (PD). SAL: one at the Pedra de Lume salt pans, 24 October 2001 (RBT); a female at Santa Maria, 29 January 2003 (PD), and one there, 5 March 2003 (RP); two at Espargos, 28 March 2007 (TC); one at Santa Maria, 7 January 2008 (CGr), and one at the Santa Maria sewage works, 1 March 2008 (HK).

BOAVISTA: 1-2 near Rabil, 5-7 March 2006 (AQ); one male at Rabil, 7 December 2006 (MC).

Northern Wheatear has been recorded (October-April) from Santiago (3), Santo Antão (1), Branco (1), Raso (3), São Nicolau (3), Sal (12), Boavista (7), and Maio (2). With 32 records, of which more than half from the eastern islands of Sal and Boavista, it is clear that Northern Wheatear is a regular migrant visitor to the Cape Verde Islands. Both 'subspecies' *oenanthe* and *leucorhoa* occur. Except for unusual records, Northern Wheatear will not be included in future reports any further.

**\**Oenanthe leucopyga* (C.L.Brehm, 1855)**

(0, 1) SANTIAGO: a first winter bird at Cidade Velha, 16 January 2005 (DF). This is the first record of White-crowned Black Wheatear for the Cape Verde Islands. In

West Africa, this desert bird is a common resident and local migrant from Mauritania east to Chad, but rare south of 18°N (Lamarche 1988, Borrow & Demey 2001).



Fig. 36. *Oenanthe leucopyga*, Cidade Velha, Santiago, 16 January 2005 (Dick Forsman)

***Turdus philomelos* C.L. Brehm, 1831**

(0, 3) SANTA LUZIA: one at Ribeira Penada, Song Thrush has been recorded (January-21-22 January 2003 (PD). SAL: one at February) from Santa Luzia (1) and Sal (2). Espargos, 24 February 2008 (GM, HK).

***Sylvia borin* (Boddaert, 1783)**

(0, 2) SAL: one at Pedra de Lume, 9 March Garden Warbler was of 1-2 on Raso, 1-4 2004 (TC). The only previous record of October 2001.

***Phylloscopus collybita* (Vieillot, 1817)**

(0, 3) RASO: one on 6 January 2003 (PD). Boavista (1), Chiffchaff remains a rare Palearctic vagrant. With only three records (September, December, January) from Raso (2) and

***Phylloscopus trochilus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

(0, 8) SÃO VICENTE: one at Mindelo, 3 January 2007 (HH). SAL: one at Burracona, 4 December 2007 (YBa). Willow Warbler has been recorded (September, October, December, January, March) from São Vicente (1), Raso (1), São Nicolau (3), Sal (1), and Boavista (2). One of the records from Boavista concerned >10 birds at different locations, 19-22 September 1988, demonstrating that influxes may occur during the migration season.

**\*Lanius senator** Linnaeus, 1758

(0, 1) SAL: one at Pedra de Lume, 9 March 2004 (TC). This is the first record of Woodchat Shrike for the Cape Verde Islands. In West Africa, it is a widespread Palearctic winter visitor from Mauritania to Liberia, east to Chad and CAR, common in the west, but rare in the east (Borrow & Demey 2001).

**Sturnus vulgaris** Linnaeus, 1758

(1, 2) SÃO VICENTE: one at the sewage ponds, 31 December 2007 (CGr). Common Starling has been recorded (October, December, March) from São Vicente (2) and São Nicolau (one collected 1970).

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