

AUTUMN COUNTS OF WADERS AT SOME WETLANDS IN SOUTH AND EAST OF SPAIN

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Introduction

In September and October 1979, we carried out a wader census programme at several places in the South and East of the Iberian Peninsula (Fig.1) in order to obtain information on this poorly documented area during the time of post-nuptial migration.

All the places were visited just once except the Salinas de Bonanza (Cádiz) counted twice, and the Cano del Guadiamar 1 (Sevilla), a very small locality easy to census, where the count was made several times during different days, in order to observe the population variations.

Every census area has been satisfactorily covered, except the Salinas de San Fernando (Cádiz), which was surveyed only from the road. The Marismas del Guadalquivir (Huelva-Sevilla) are very dry in this season, so the census covers almost all the flooded places. The results are grouped into the various zones in Tables 1-6, which also include the localities where no birds were seen.

The different habitats present are coded as follows: B: sandy beach, I: intertidal mud, S: salt plains, R: rice fields, L: permanent and temporary lagoons, M: salt marshes, D: dry marshland.

(Counts at some of these sites in southern Spain were made in spring 1980 by P.J.Dugan who found higher numbers of some species, suggesting a seasonal difference - see WSG Bull. 30: 14-16. - Eds.)

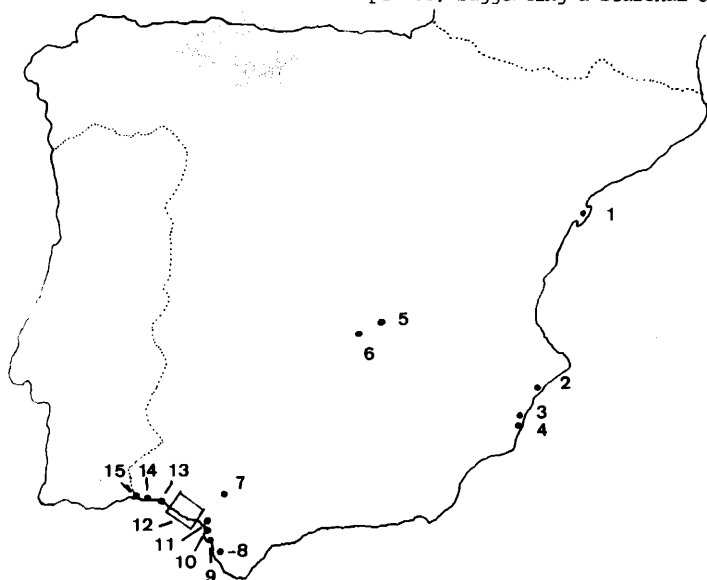


Figure 1. Localities visited

- 1- Delta de l'Ebre (Tarragona)
- 2- Salinas de Santa Pola (Alicante)
- 3- Salinas de Torre Vieja (Alicante)
- 4- Salinas de la Mata (Alicante)
- 5- Laguna de Pedro Muñoz (Ciudad Real)
- 6- Laguna de Alcazar de San Juan (Ciudad Real)
- 7- Laguna de las Cabezas (Sevilla)
- 8- Salinas de San Fernando (Cadiz)
- 9- Beach Chipiona-Rota (Cadiz)
- 10- Beach Chipiona-Sanlucar de Barrameda (Cadiz)
- 11- Salinas de Bonanza (Cadiz)
- 12- Marismas del Guadalquivir (Sevilla-Huelva): 10 localities
- 13- Marismas de Huelva (Huelva)
- 14- Salinas de Isla Cristina (Huelva)
- 15- Ayamonte (Huelva)

Table 1. Mediterranean coast

Date	Habitats present	A	B	C	D	TOTAL
		12/13.09.79	02.10.79	02.10.79	02.10.79	
		BIMRS	S	S	S	
	Black-winged Stilt <i>H.himantopus</i>	18	.	.	.	18
	Avocet <i>R.avosetta</i>	552	47	.	.	599
	Little Ringed Plover <i>Ch. dubius</i>	91	3	.	.	94
	Ringed Plover <i>Ch. hiaticula</i>	54	17	.	.	71
	Kentish Plover <i>Ch. alexandrinus</i>	574	71	7	.	652
	Grey Plover <i>P. squatarola</i>	10	1	.	.	11
	Lapwing <i>V. vanellus</i>	20	.	.	.	20
	Knot <i>C. canutus</i>	1	.	.	.	1
	Sanderling <i>C. alba</i>	76	.	.	.	76
	Little Stint <i>C. minuta</i>	520	78	.	.	598
	Curlew Sandpiper <i>C. ferruginea</i>	171	33	.	.	204
	Dunlin <i>C. alpina</i>	857	141	2	.	1000
	Ruff <i>Ph. pugnax</i>	6	.	.	.	6
	Snipe <i>G. gallinago</i>	125	.	.	.	125
	Black-tailed Godwit <i>L. limosa</i>	360	10	.	.	370
	Bar-tailed Godwit <i>L. lapponica</i>	41	.	.	.	41
	Whimbrel <i>N. phaeopus</i>	9	.	.	.	9
	Curlew <i>N. arquata</i>	9	.	.	.	9
	Spotted Redshank <i>T. erythropus</i>	109	.	.	.	109
	Redshank <i>T. totanus</i>	507	29	.	.	536
	Greenshank <i>T. nebularia</i>	17	.	.	.	17
	Green Sandpiper <i>T. ochropus</i>	3	1	.	.	4
	Wood Sandpiper <i>T. glareola</i>	150	.	.	.	150
	<i>Tringa sp.</i>	233	.	.	.	233
	Common Sandpiper <i>A. hypoleucos</i>	8	2	.	2	12
	Turnstone <i>A. interpres</i>	1	.	.	.	1
	Red-necked Phalarope <i>Ph. lobatus</i>	.	1	.	.	1
	TOTAL	4522	434	9	2	4967

A: Delta de l'Ebre (Tarragona). Total census.
C: Salinas de la Mata (Alicante)

B: Salinas de Sta. Pola (Alicante)
D: Salinas de Torre Vieja (Alicante)

Table 2: Steppe lagoons of central Spain

Date	A		B		TOTAL
	09.09.79		09.09.79		
Habitats present	L		L		
Little Ringed Plover <i>Ch. dubius</i>	7		.		7
Ringed Plover <i>Ch. hiaticula</i>	37		46		83
Kentish Plover <i>Ch. alexandrinus</i>	41		55		96
Little Stint <i>C. minuta</i>	370		.		370
Curlew Sandpiper <i>C. ferruginea</i>	45		.		45
Dunlin <i>C. alpina</i>	580		.		580
Ruff <i>Ph. pugnax</i>	8		38		46
Spotted Redshank <i>T. erythropus</i>	.		10		10
Redshank <i>T. totanus</i>	42		60		102
Green Sandpiper <i>T. ochropus</i>	17		1		18
Common Sandpiper <i>A. hypoleucos</i>	8		4		12
TOTAL	1155		214		1369

A: Laguna de Pedro Muñoz (Ciudad Real)

B: Laguna de Alcazar de San Juan (Ciudad Real)

Table 3. Atlantic coast. All the sandy beaches were counted at low tide.

Date	A		B		C		D		E		F		G		TOTAL
	12.09.79		12.09.79		12.09.79		29.09.79		22.09.79		24.09.79		16.09.79		
Habitats present	IMS		IMS		IM		BI		BI		BI		S		
Oystercatcher <i>H. ostralegus</i>	125		.		.		93		.		.		.		218
Black-winged Stilt <i>H. himantopus</i>	.		20		.		.		.		.		5		25
Little Ringed Plover <i>Ch. dubius</i>	6		30		.		22		20		8		.		86
Ringed Plover <i>Ch. hiaticula</i>	46		120		200		55		6		51		.		478
Kentish Plover <i>Ch. alexandrinus</i>	114		50		70		27		38		137		.		436
Grey Plover <i>P. squatarola</i>	79		.		.		.		.		24		.		103
Knot <i>C. canutus</i>	17		.		.		.		.		.		.		17
Sanderling <i>C. alba</i>	29		.		.		91		82		437		.		639
Little Stint <i>C. minuta</i>	.		42		.		.		.		.		.		42
Curlew Sandpiper <i>C. ferruginea</i>	.		12		.		.		.		.		.		12
Dunlin <i>C. alpina</i>	56		50		.		.		.		.		.		106
Black-tailed Godwit <i>L. limosa</i>	.		77		2250		.		.		.		.		2327
Bar-tailed Godwit <i>L. lapponica</i>	142		.		.		21		.		3		.		166
Whimbrel <i>N. phaeopus</i>	.		.		.		.		.		9		.		9
Spotted Redshank <i>T. erythropus</i>	.		24		.		.		.		2		.		26
Redshank <i>T. totanus</i>	977		250		350		1		.		1		.		1579
Greenshank <i>T. nebularia</i>	.		.		.		.		.		1		.		1
Green Sandpiper <i>T. ochropus</i>	.		1		2		.		.		.		.		3
Common Sandpiper <i>A. hypoleucos</i>	.		21		6		1		.		7		.		35
Turnstone <i>A. interpres</i>	16		.		.		.		122		41		.		179
TOTAL	1607		697		2878		311		268		721		5		6487

A: Ayamonte (Huelva)

B: Salinas de Isla Cristina (Huelva)

C: Marismas de Huelva (Huelva)

D: Beach Torre Carbonera-Marismillas (Huelva), 18 km.

E: Beach Rota-Chipiona (Cadiz), 2,5 km.

F: Beach Chipiona-Sanlucar de Barrameda (Cadiz), 1,5 km. G: Salinas de San Fernando (Cadiz). Partial census.

Table 4. Marismas del Guadalquivir.

Date (1979)	A		B		C		D		E		F		G		H		I		TOTAL
	13.09		13.09		30.09		29.09		30.09		28.09		28.09		17.09		23.09		
Habitats present	L		L		IM		IM		IM		DM		DM		M		D		
Black-winged Stilt <i>H. himantopus</i>	25		8		.		.		34		.		.		25		.		92
Avocet <i>R. avosetta</i>	40		.		.		.		15		.		.		40		.		95
Little Ringed Plover <i>Ch. dubius</i>	4		.		.		.		172		.		.		1		.		177
Ringed Plover <i>Ch. hiaticula</i>	8		3		.		.		16		.		.		39		.		66
Kentish Plover <i>Ch. alexandrinus</i>	14		4		2		.		505		.		.		21		.		546
Lapwing <i>V. vanellus</i>	40		.		.		30		175		.		.		.		150		395
Little Stint <i>C. minuta</i>	4		.		.		.		600		.		.		5		.		609
Dunlin <i>C. alpina</i>	8		5		.		50		3000		.		.		.		.		3063
Ruff <i>Ph. pugnax</i>	5		.		.		.		2		.		.		3		.		10
Snipe <i>G. gallinago</i>	.		.		.		.		2		.		.		.		7		9
Black-tailed Godwit <i>L. limosa</i>	6		.		.		.		.		.		.		3		.		9
Curlew <i>N. arquata</i>	.		.		.		.		3		.		.		.		.		3
Spotted Redshank <i>T. erythropus</i>	18		.		22		.		84		.		.		7		.		131
Redshank <i>T. totanus</i>	4		8		.		.		20		.		.		50		.		82
Greenshank <i>T. nebularia</i>	.		.		4		.		21		.		.		.		.		25
Green Sandpiper <i>T. ochropus</i>	.		.		.		.		5		.		.		30		.		35
Common Sandpiper <i>A. hypoleucos</i>	.		.		.		.		.		.		.		.		3		3
TOTAL	176		28		28		80		4654		0		0		224		160		5350

A: Laguna de Sta. Olalla (Huelva)

B: Laguna de La Dulce (Huelva)

C: Caño del Guadiamar 2 (Sevilla)

D: Lucio del Membrillo (Huelva)

E: Lucio del Cangrejo (Sevilla)

F: Lucio de Mari Lopez (Sevilla)

G: Lucio de El Lobo (Sevilla)

H: Lucio de Las Cabezas (Sevilla)

I: El Martinazo (Huelva)

Table 5. Salinas de Bonanza (Cadiz)

Habitats present	IMS		
Date		12.09.79	25.09.79
Black-winged Stilt	<i>H. himantopus</i>	386	58
Avocet	<i>R. avosetta</i>	280	650
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Ch. dubius</i>	40	73
Ringed Plover	<i>Ch. hiaticula</i>	258	250
Kentish Plover	<i>Ch. alexandrinus</i>	38	500+
Grey Plover	<i>P. squatarola</i>	13	.
Lapwing	<i>V. vanellus</i>	5	35
Knot	<i>C. canutus</i>	38	.
Little Stint	<i>C. minuta</i>	307	67
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>C. ferruginea</i>	88	250
Dunlin	<i>C. alpina</i>	720	500
Ruff	<i>Ph. pugnax</i>	3	5
Snipe	<i>G. gallinago</i>	.	2
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>L. limosa</i>	4200	3500+
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>L. lapponica</i>	5	4
Spotted Redshank	<i>T. erythropus</i>	170	34
Redshank	<i>T. totanus</i>	450	350
Greenshank	<i>T. nebularia</i>	2	2
Green Sandpiper	<i>T. ochropus</i>	6	7
Common Sandpiper	<i>A. hypoleucos</i>	12	26
	TOAL	7021	6313+

Table 6. Caño del Guadamar 1 (Sevilla)

Habitats present	LM							
Date (1979)		17.09	20.09	22.09 a.m.	22.09 a.m.	23.09	24.09	25.09
Black-winged Stilt	<i>H. himantopus</i>	67	.	48	43	12	18	59
Avocet	<i>R. avosetta</i>	50	.	.	48	.	43	23
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Ch. dubius</i>	.	.	11	8	33	21	15
Ringed Plover	<i>Ch. hiaticula</i>	10	.	11	10	40	5	14
Kentish Plover	<i>Ch. alexandrinus</i>	30	30	.	.	21	34	33
Little Stint	<i>C. minuta</i>	.	.	.	.	10	8	2
Dunlin	<i>C. alpina</i>	6	.	11	9	8	2	12
Ruff	<i>Ph. pugnax</i>	4	15	16	22	28	7	39
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>L. limosa</i>	105	.	31	34	10	6	13
Spotted Redshank	<i>T. erythropus</i>	15	260	44	200	45	31	127
Redshank	<i>T. totanus</i>	35	18	20	15	12	9	10
Greenshank	<i>T. nebularia</i>	.	.	.	.	1	1	1
Green Sandpiper	<i>T. ochropus</i>	2	.	4	5	4	6	2
Common Sandpiper	<i>A. hypoleucos</i>	2	1
	TOTAL	326	323	196	394	224	191	351

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