

Systematic List of the Birds of Ria de Alvor 2018

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A total of 185 species of birds, out of the 319 seen, were registered in the Ria de Alvor Natura 2000 site in 2018. One new species was added to the site list: Moustached Warbler (*Acrocephalus melanopogon*). This observation was submitted to the Portuguese Rarity Committee and we are awaiting for their decision.

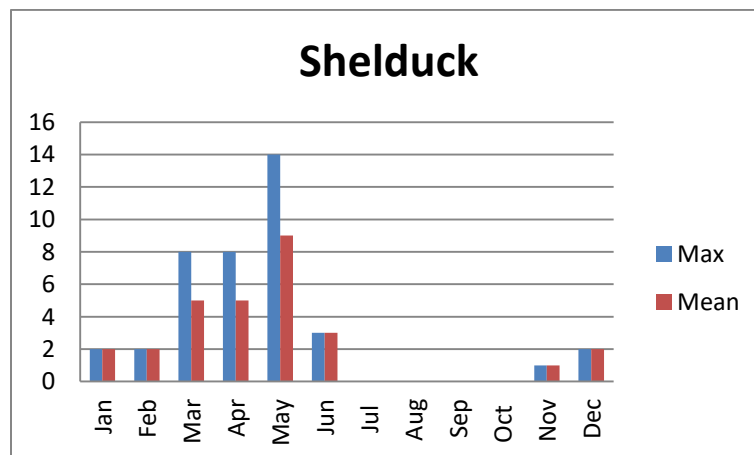
Highlights for 2018 were: an Eleonora's Falcon (*Falco eleonora*), not seen in the area since 1996, the first Common Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) since 1997, even though it is most likely an escaped bird, no sighting of Yellow-browed Warbler (*Phylloscopus inornatus*) for the first time since 2012, and Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter nisus*), which did not happen since 2007, a Little Swift (*Apus affinis*), the last one was in 2014 but it is still a rare bird in Portugal, and an American Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*), the species had not been registered since 2000.

Other interesting records were: the first confirmed breeding of Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*) in the area, a possible record number of Shovelers (*Anas clypeata*), a big flock of Griffon Vultures (*Gyps fulvus*) in October, the important passage of Bar-tailed Godwits (*Limosa lapponica*) in spring, the first Black-eared Wheatear (*Oenanthe hispanica*) since 2013, very few sightings of Whitethroats (*Sylvia communis*) and Bonelli's Warbler (*Phylloscopus bonelli*), the presence all year long of 2 Ravens (*Corvus corax*), a big flock of Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) (about 300 birds) wintering in the area, the possible breeding of Tree Sparrows (*Passer montanus*) in the area, the species had not been recorded since 2011 and a Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*), not seen in the area since 2014.

A few birds carrying rings were noted this year: White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*), Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*), Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus roseus*), Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), Bar-tailed Godwit, Audouin's (*Larus audouinii*), Mediterranean (*Larus melanocephalus*), Yellow-legged (*Larus michahellis*) and Lesser Black-backed Gulls (*Larus fuscus*), Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*) and Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*).

The complete bird list for 2018 is described below (bird names follow the systematic list of Crochet and Joynt, 2015).

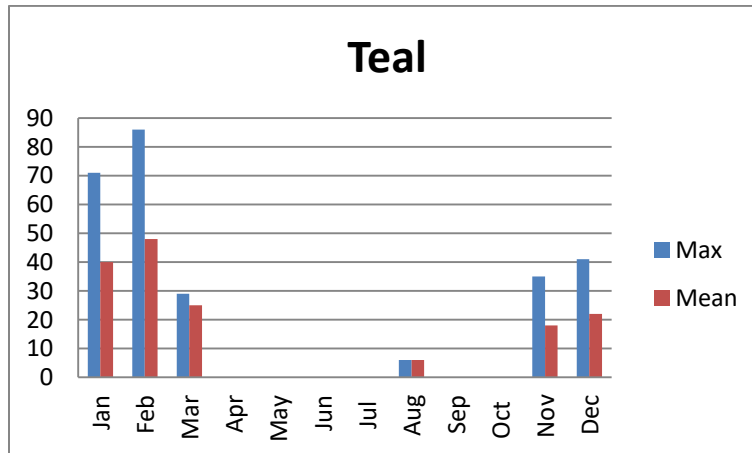
Common Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*): Up to 8 birds present between January and April, then 14 birds (adults and juveniles) seen in May. This is the 1st confirmed breeding of the species in the area. Then, present in November and December (2 birds).



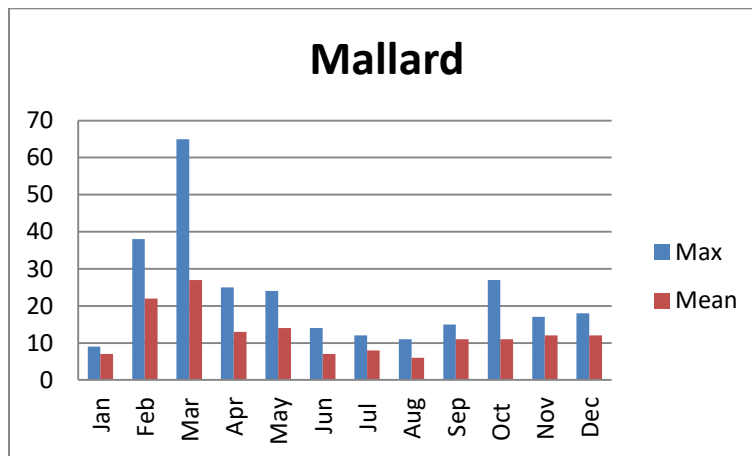
Muscovy Duck (*Cairina moschata*): 1 at Abicada on the 26th of September.

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*): 3 on the 15th of December at Abicada.

Eurasian Teal (*Anas crecca*): Present from January until mid-March, with a maximum of 71 on the 28th of January. Then, 6 birds on the 7th of August at the Western Marsh and present from early November until the end of the year, with a maximum of 41 on the 2nd of December at Abicada.



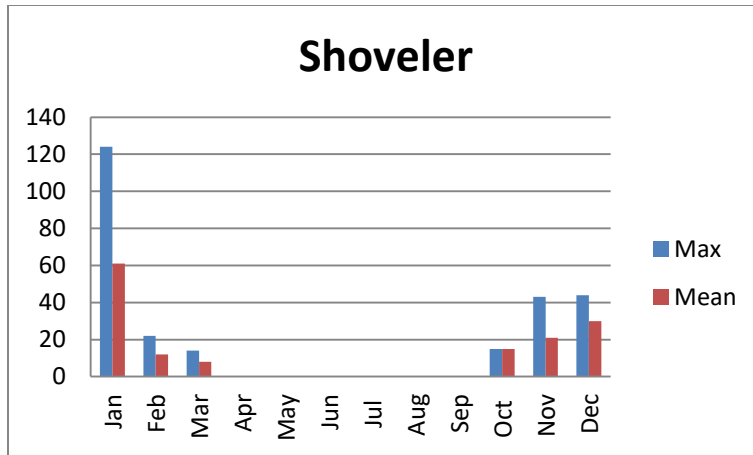
Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*): Present all year.



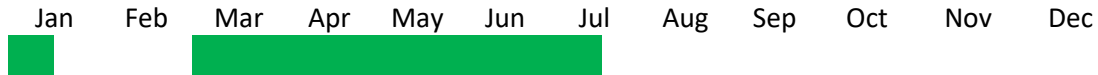
Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*): 10 on the 10th of October at Abicada and a female at Odixere saltpans on the 4th of November.

Garganey (*Anas querquedula*): 1 on the 1st of April and 1 on the 5th of December, both at Abicada.

Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*): Present from January until mid-March, with a maximum of 124 on the 14th of January, then present from mid-October until the end of the year (maximum of 59 in December).



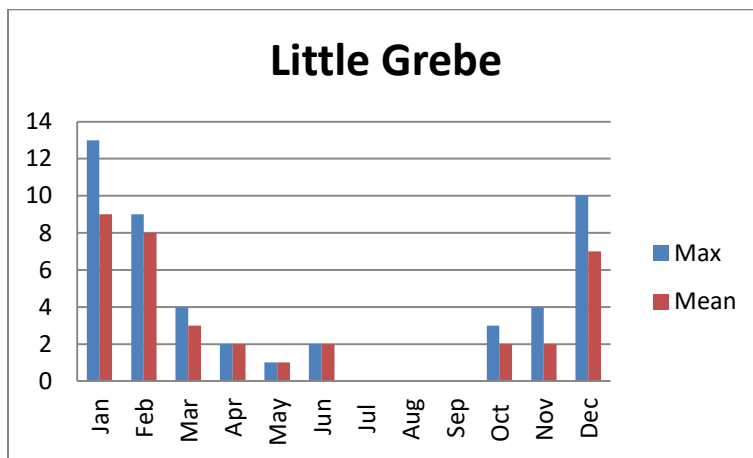
Common Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*): One sighting in January and then, heard from March and detected until early July.



Red-legged Partridge (*Alectoris rufa*): Present all year.

Common Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*): 1 female on the 23rd of February near the Western Marsh.

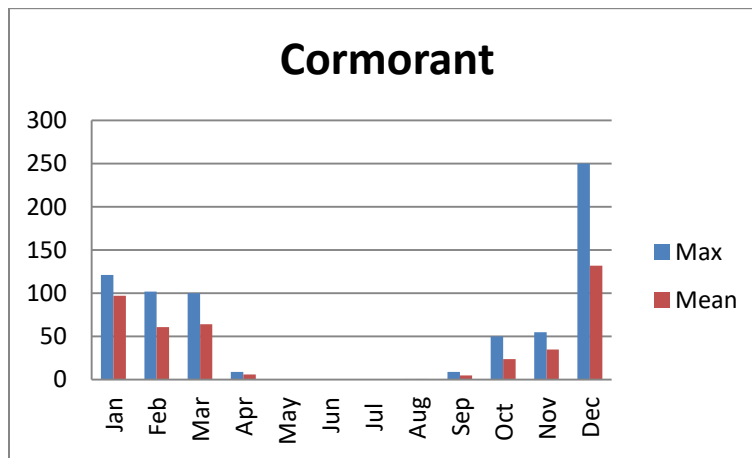
Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*): Seen between January and the end of June, with a maximum of 13 at Abicada in January. Then, present between mid--October until the end of the year with a maximum of 10 at Abicada.



Cory's Shearwater (*Calonectris diomedea*): 8 on the 16th of September from Alvor beach.

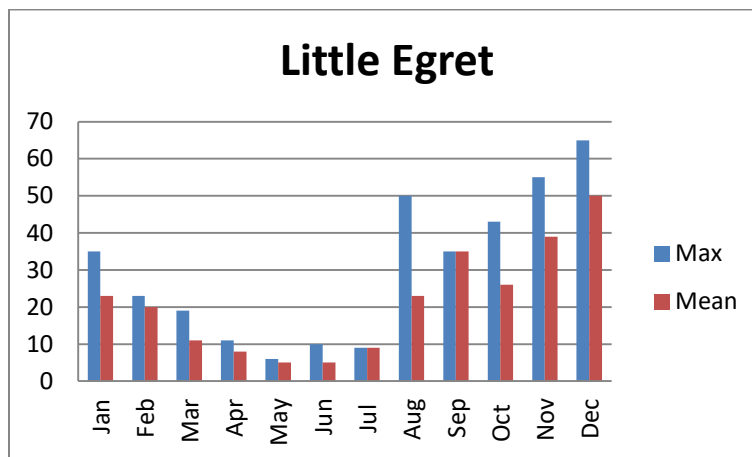
Northern Gannet (*Morus bassanus*): Detected all year except in April, July and August. This species is probably under detected.

Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*): Present between January and April, with a maximum of 121 on the 5th of January. Then, present from mid-August until the end of the year with a maximum of 250 on the 23rd of December.

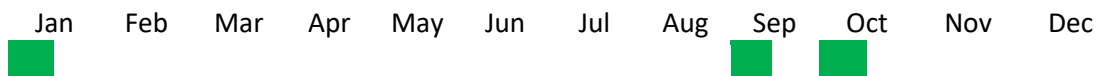


Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*): Present all year.

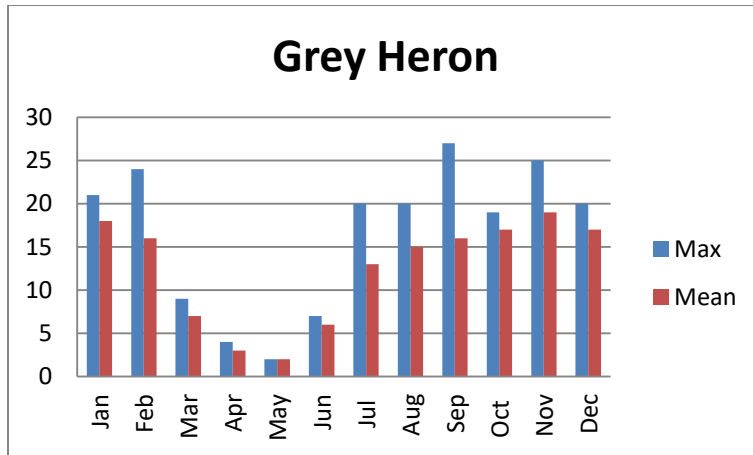
Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*): Present all year; maximum of 65 at the Western Marsh in December.



Great Egret (*Egretta alba*): Present at Abicada in January, September and October.



Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*): Present all year with higher numbers in autumn and winter (maximum of 24 on the 2nd of February and 27 on the 2nd of September, both at the Western Marsh).

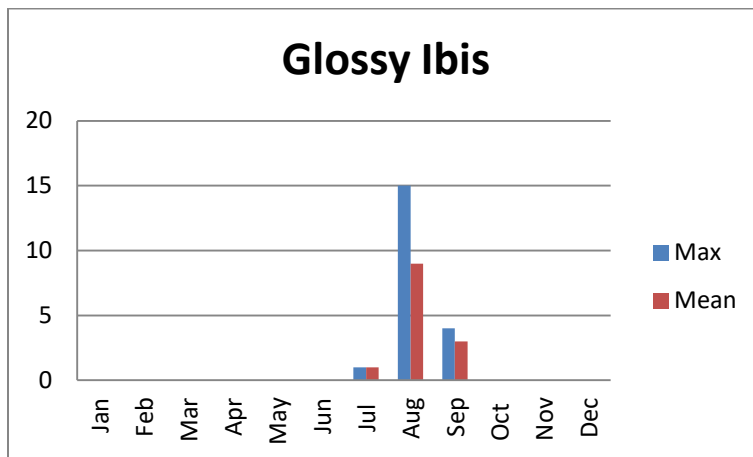


Purple Heron (*Ardea purpurea*): 1 bird seen in April and June at Abicada

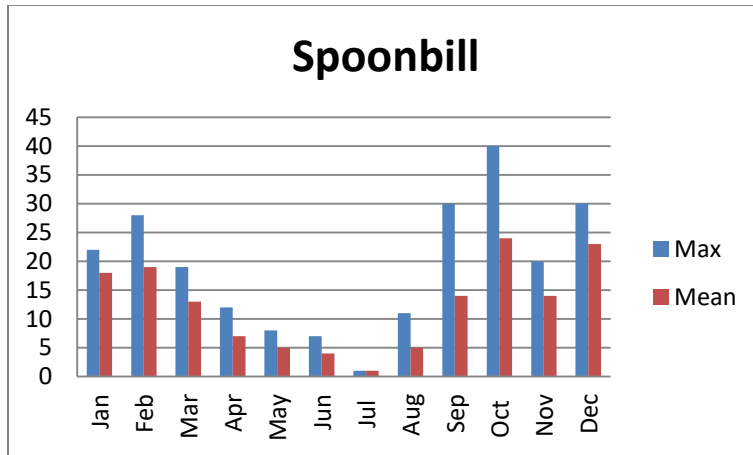
Black Stork (*Ciconia nigra*): 1 bird seen on the 19th of January, then 2 on the 17th of October and 1 bird at Abicada between the 30th of November and 9th of December.

White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*): Present all year (maximum of 218 in August). One ringed bird was controlled near Odiaxere saltpans (from Portugal).

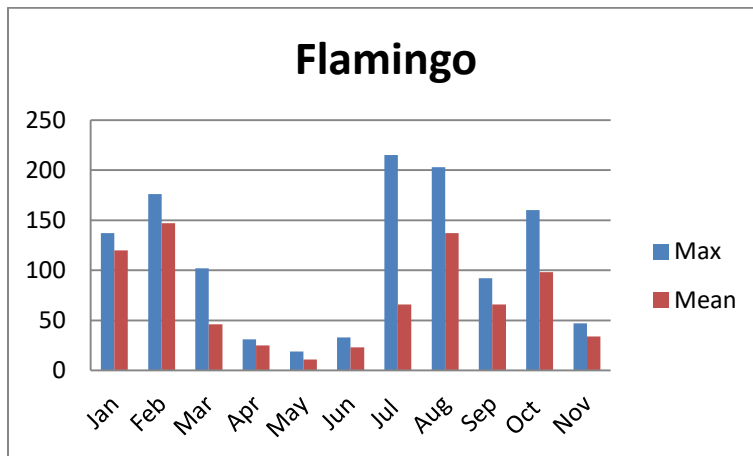
Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*): Seen between July and September. Maximum of 15 birds on the 19th of August at Abicada.



Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*): Present all year with higher numbers in autumn and winter (maximums of 28 in February at Abicada and 40 in October at the Western Marsh). 5 ringed birds have been controlled over the year (all from the Netherlands). Several of these birds are regular winter visitors (one of them has been seen every year since 2008).



Greater Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus roseus*): Present all year, with a maximum of 203 on the 20th of August at Abicada. 44 ringed birds have been controlled over the year (43 from Spain and 1 from France).



Black-winged Kite (*Elanus caeruleus*): Present all year.





Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*): Seen between August and October, with a maximum of 29 birds on the 24th of August.

Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*): 1 on the 29th of October at the Western Marsh.

Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*): 1 on the 16th of November at the Western Marsh.

Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*): 1 flock of 460 flew eastward over Quinta da Rocha on the 29th of October (part of this flock slept near Mexilhoeira Grande the previous day).

Short-toed Snake Eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*): First sighting on the 20th of January at Odiáxere salt pans, then seen until the beginning of May. Only one sighting in the autumn: 1 bird at Abicada on the 22nd of October.



Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
											

Western Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*): Present all year with at least 4 different birds. Breeding confirmed in the area.




Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*): 2 sightings: 1 on the 26th of January and 1 on the 25th of October, both at the Western Marsh.

Montagu's Harrier (*Circus pygargus*): 1 adult male near Cruzinha on the 10th of June.

Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*): Present between January and April (maximum of 6 on the 4th of March at Abicada), then from October until the end of the year.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
											

Booted Eagle (*Aquila pennata*): 2 sightings in spring: 1 on the 13th of March and 1 on the 7th of June. Then, seen between mid-October until the beginning of December (maximum of 2 birds at Abicada in October).

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
											

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*): Seen all year. 1 bird ringed in Germany was seen in the area, possibly the same bird as the previous year.

Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*): Present all year.

Eurasian Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*): 1 sighting in the autumn: 1 on the 29th of November at the Western Marsh.

Eleonora's Falcon (*Falco elonorae*): 1 pale bird on the 26th of September at Abicada.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*): Seen all year except in July.

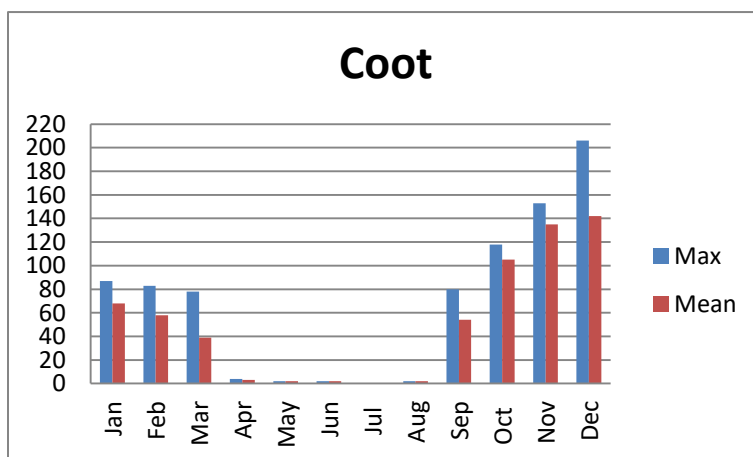
Water Rail (*Rallus aquaticus*): Heard or seen all year. Breeding confirmed at Abicada with the observation of 2 juveniles in June.

Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*): Present all year. Maximum of 8 birds at Odiaxere salt pans.

Purple Swampphen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*): Seen at Abicada between January and June and in November and December.

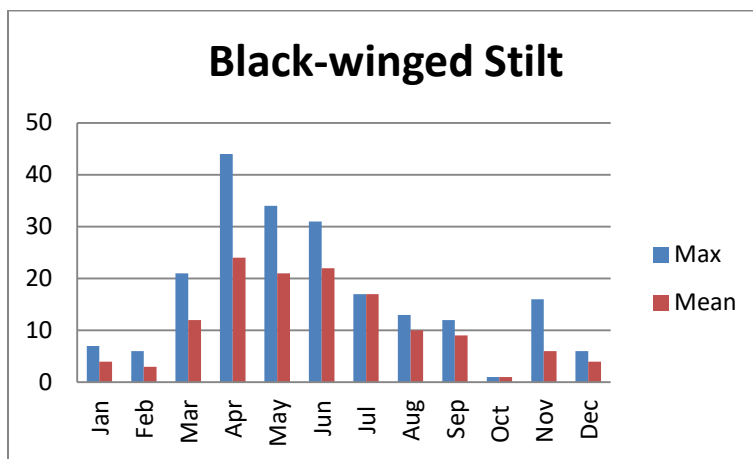
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
											

Eurasian Coot (*Fulica atra*): Seen all year, except in July, with bigger numbers in winter and autumn (maximum of 87 birds on the 14th of January and 206 on the 3rd of December). All the sightings are from Abicada.

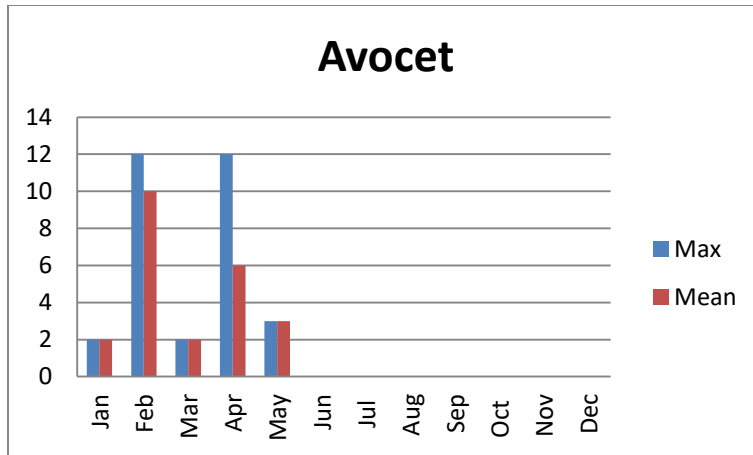


Eurasian Stone Curlew (*Burhinus oedichnemos*): Heard or seen between February and August.

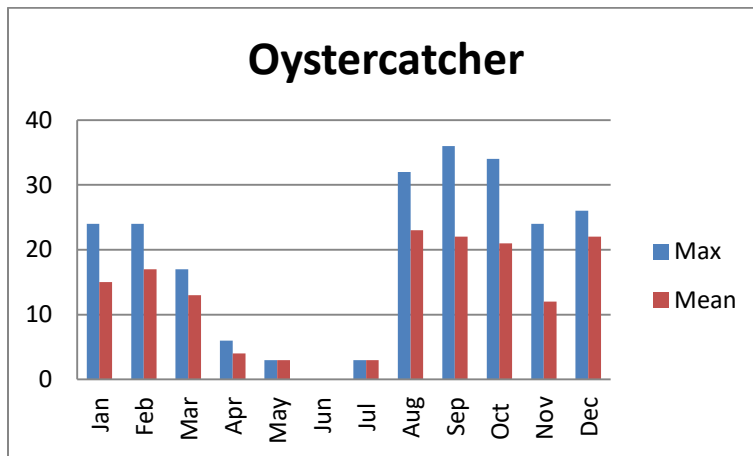
Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*): Present all year, with a maximum of 34 birds on the 9th of May at Abicada.



Pied Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*): Present between January and mid-May, with a maximum of 12 birds on the 20th of February at Abicada. 1 bird seemed laying on eggs early May at Abicada but then dissapered.

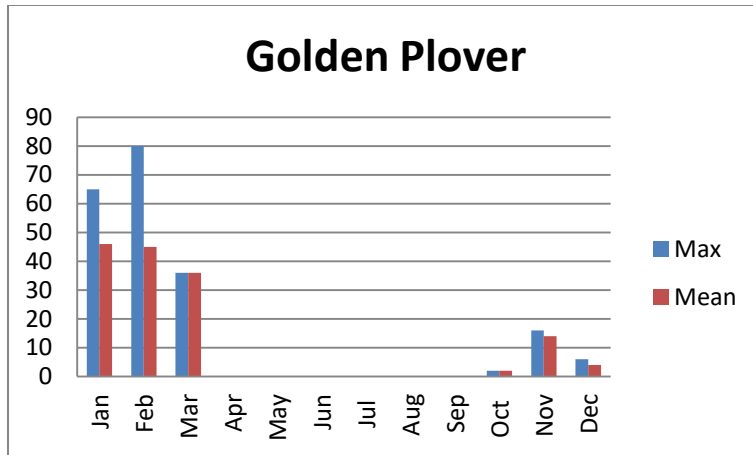


Eurasian Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*): Present between January and May with a maximum of 24 on the 26th of January. Then, from mid-July until the end of the year, with a maximum of 36 on the 16th of September.

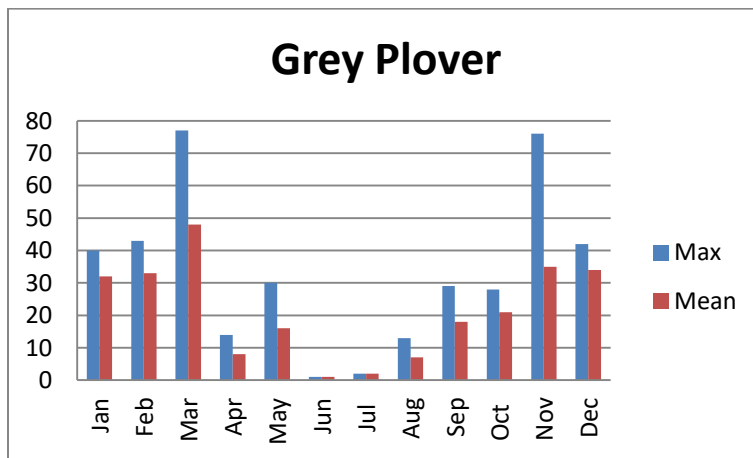


American Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*): 1 on the 9th of April at the Western Marsh. Waiting for acceptance by the Portuguese Rarity Committee.

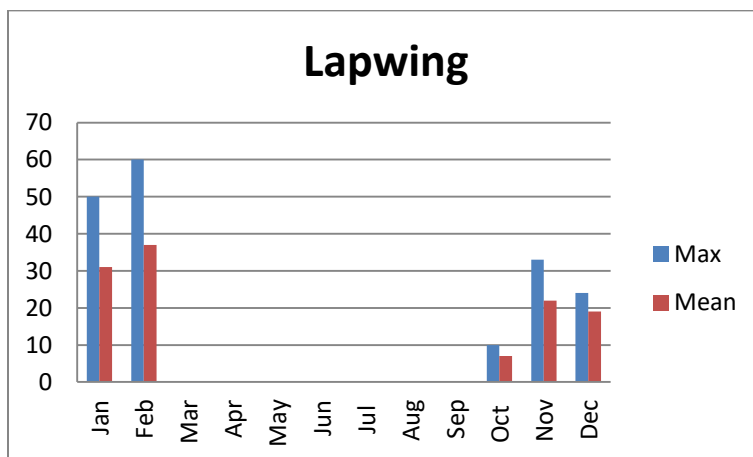
European Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*): Present between January and March, with a maximum of 80 on the 18th of February at the Western Marsh. Then, present from mid-October until the end of the year with a maximum of 16 on the 22nd of November.



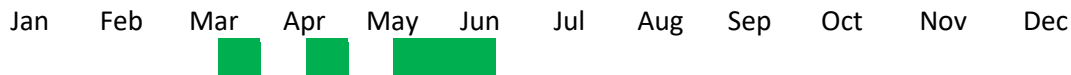
Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*): Present all year, with maximums of 77 on the 2nd of March and 76 on the 20th of November, both at the Western Marsh.



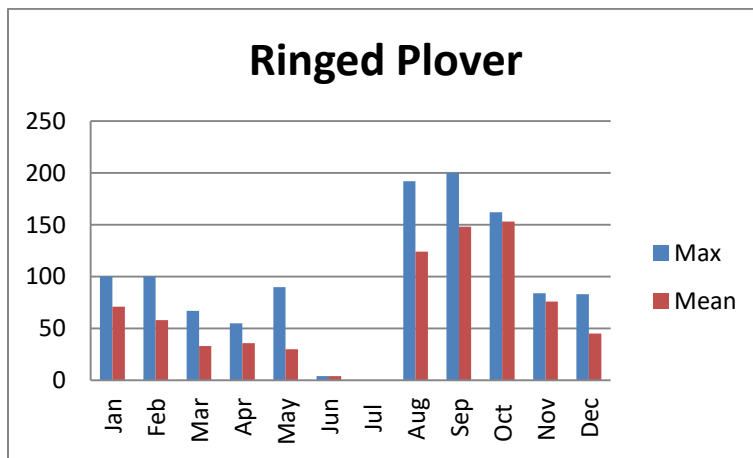
Northern Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*): Present from January to the end of February, and then again from the beginning of October until the end of the year; maximum of 60 on the 21st of February and 33 on the 4th of November.



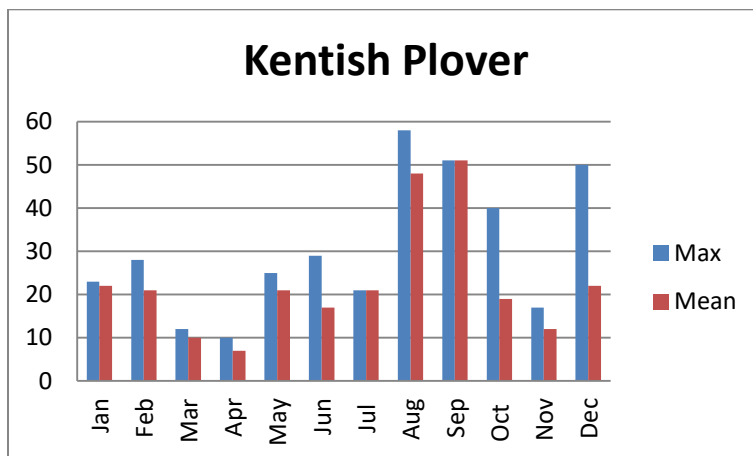
Little Ringed Plover (*Charadrius dubius*): Seen between March and June, all sightings from Odiaxere salt pans and Abicada.



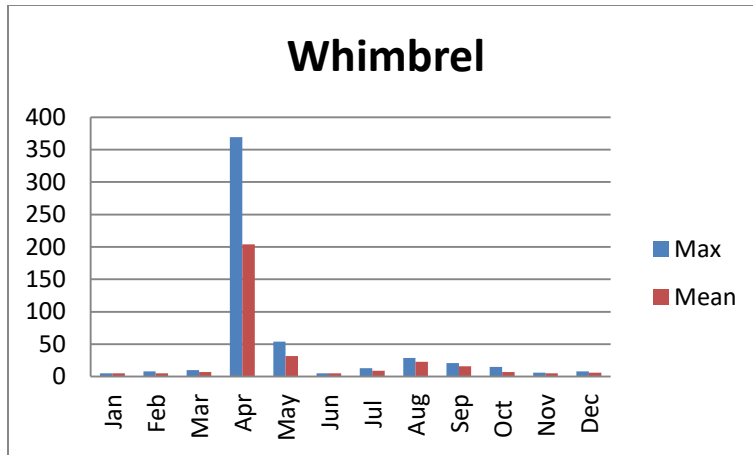
Common Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*): Present all year, except in July, with higher numbers in autumn and winter (maximum of 100 in January and February and 200 on the 11th of September).



Kentish Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*): Present all year, with a maximum of 58 on the 28th of August.



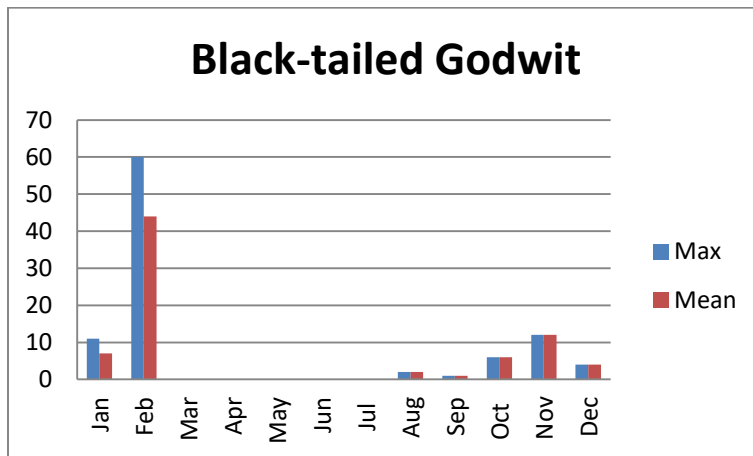
Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*): Present all year. Migration peaked in April with 369 on the 23rd and more than 1363 birds were counted moving north-east between the 16th and 24th of April.



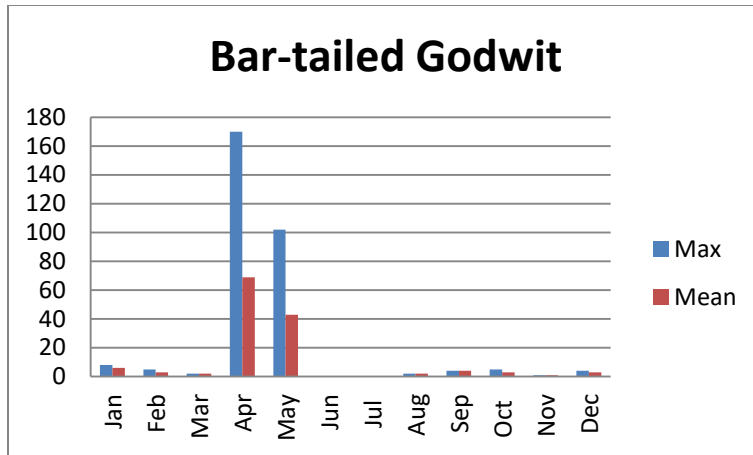
Eurasian Curlew (*Numenius arquata*): several sightings during the year: 1 on the 13th of June, 1 on the 4th of July, 2 on the 26th of September, and 3 present in November and November.



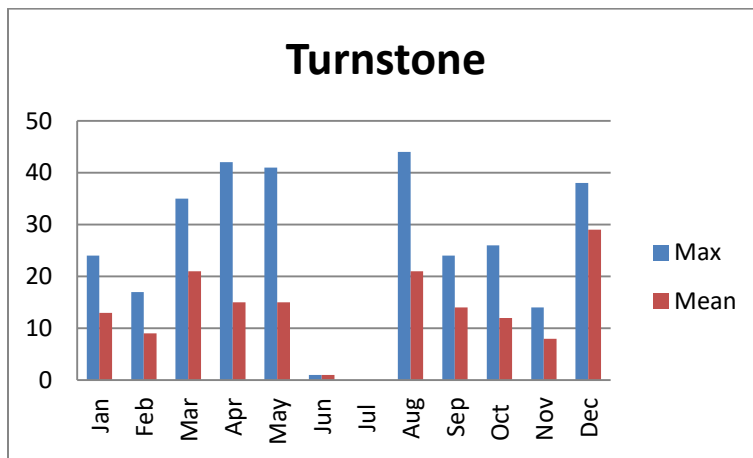
Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*): Present in January and February (maximum of 60 birds on the 21st of February at Abicada), and from August until the end of the year (a maximum of 12 on the 9th of November).



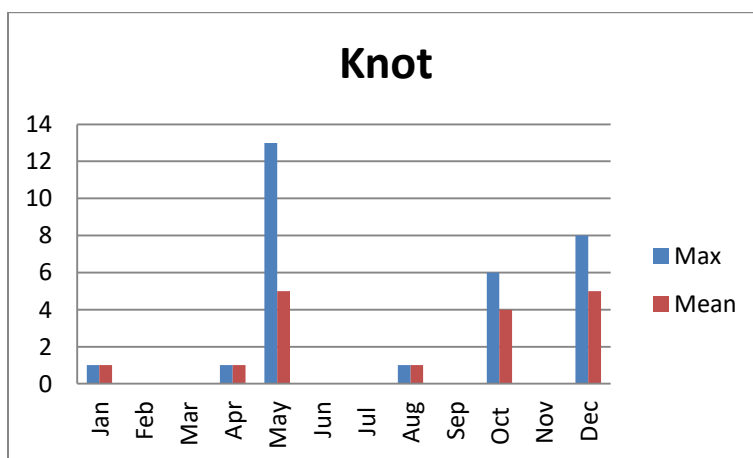
Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*): Present between January and May (maximum of 170 on the 28th of April), and between August and the end of the year (maximum of 5 of the 3rd of October). 4 ringed birds were controlled during the year (3 from the Netherlands and 1 from France).



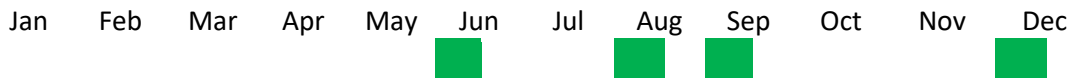
Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*): Present all year, except in July, with maximums of 42 on the 17th of April and 44 on the 24th of August.



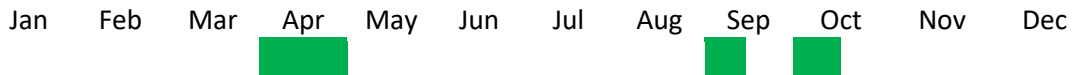
Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*): Present in January, April, May, August, October and December (maximum of 43 in February), then in May, August and November (maximum of 13 on the 23rd of May).



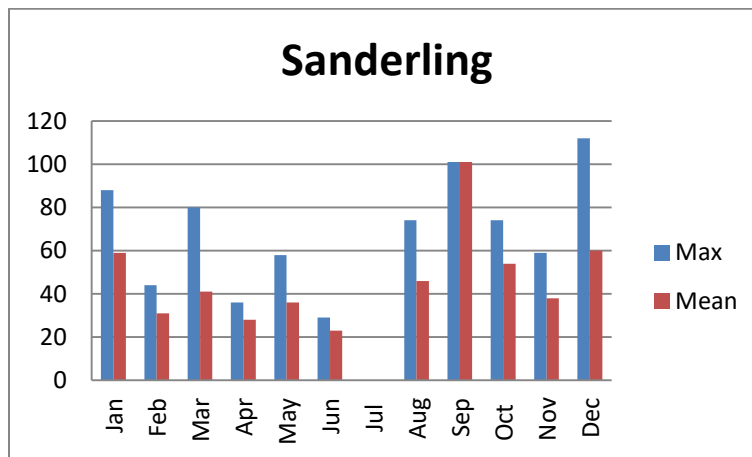
Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*): 4 sightings during the year: 1 on the 8th of June, 1 on the 11th of August, 1 on the 11th of September, all at the Western Marsh and 2 on the 2nd of December at Abicada.



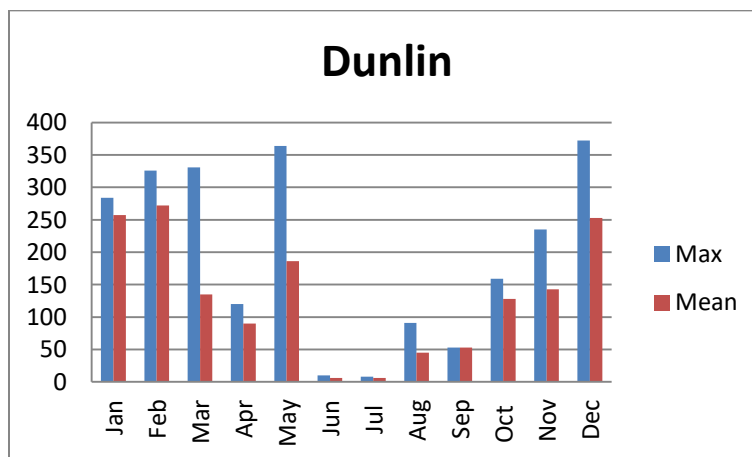
Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*): There were a few observations during the year: 6 on the 7th and 17th of April, 2 on the 11th of September and 1 on the 7th of October.



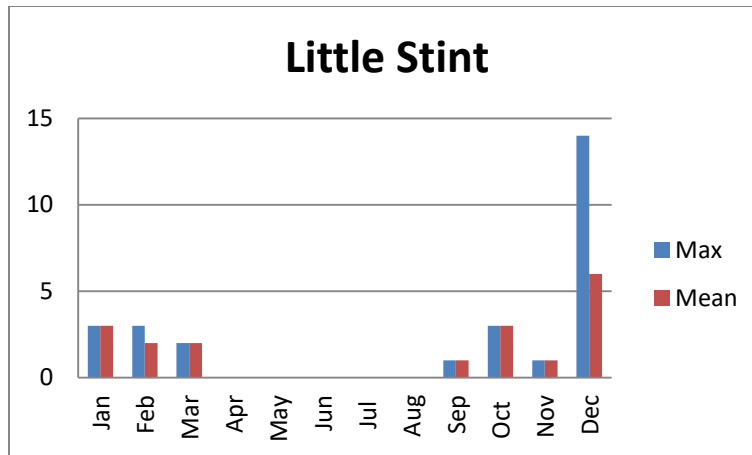
Sanderling (*Calidris alba*): Present all year except in July with maximums of 88 on the 16th of January and 112 on the 3rd of December.



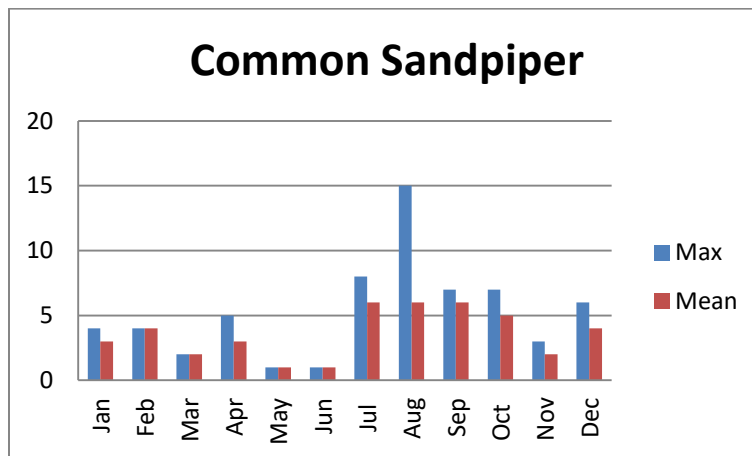
Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*): Present all year, with higher numbers in autumn and winter (maximum of 331 on the 2nd of March and 372 on the 3rd of December).



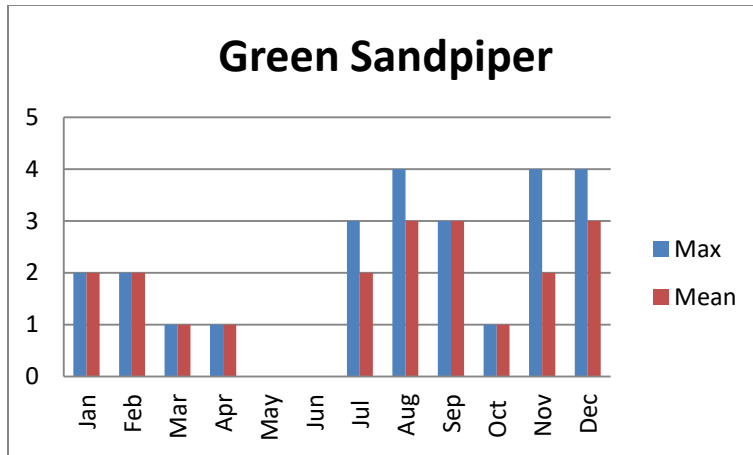
Little Stint (*Calidris minuta*): Present between January and March and between September and the end of the year with a maximum of 14 birds.



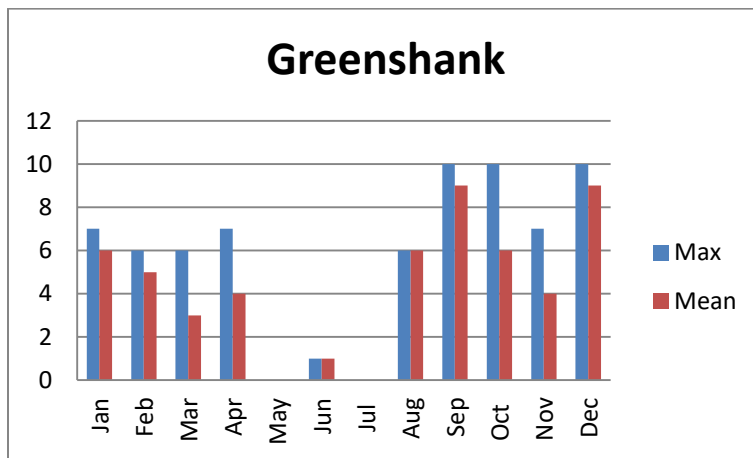
Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*): Present all year, except in June, with a maximum of 15 birds in August.



Green Sandpiper (*Tringa ochropus*): Present between January and April, then, between July and the end of the year, with a maximum of 4 birds.

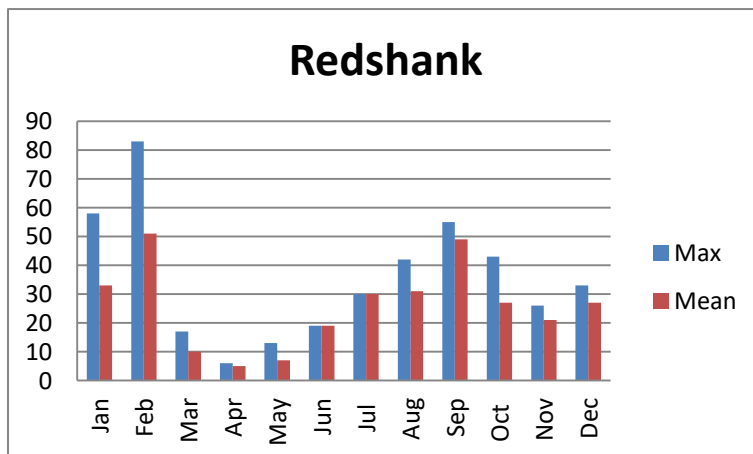


Common Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*): Present all year except in May and July, with a maximum of 10 birds.

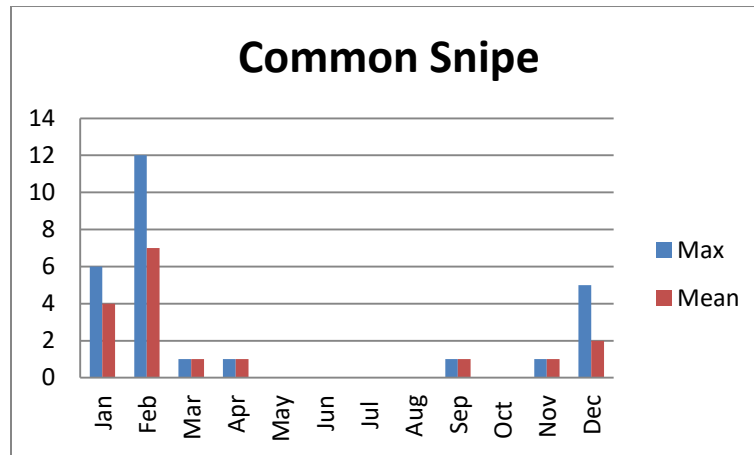


Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*): 1 bird on the 15th of August at Abicada.

Common Redshank (*Tringa totanus*): Present all year with higher numbers in autumn and winter (maximums of 83 on the 24th of February and 55 on the 2nd of August, both at Abicada).



Common Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*): Present from January to April and then from September until the end of the year, with a maximum of 12 in February.

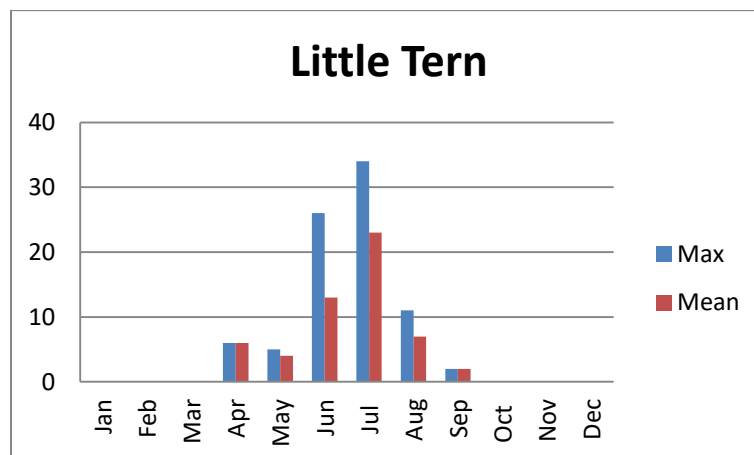


Collared Pratincole (*Glareola pratincola*): 4 sightings in the second half of April, always 1 bird.

Great Skua (*Stercorarius skua*): 1 on the 3rd of November from Alvor beach.

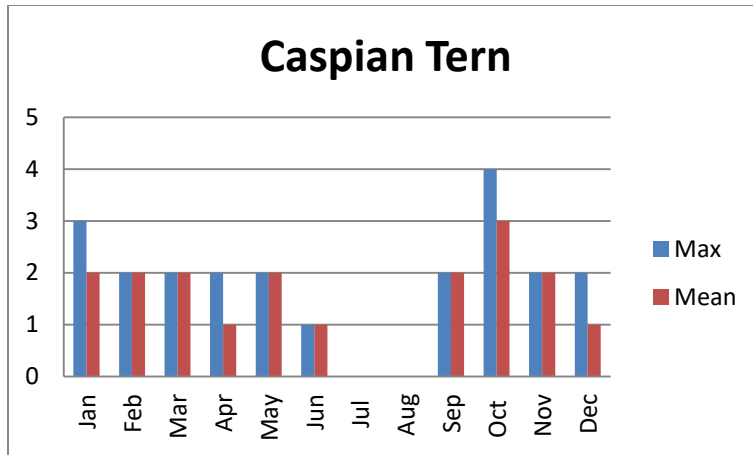
Razorbill (*Alca torda*): 1 on the Odiaxere river on the 2nd of February.

Little Tern (*Sternula albifrons*): Present between mid April (first birds seen on the 17th) and mid-September (last bird seen on the 10th).

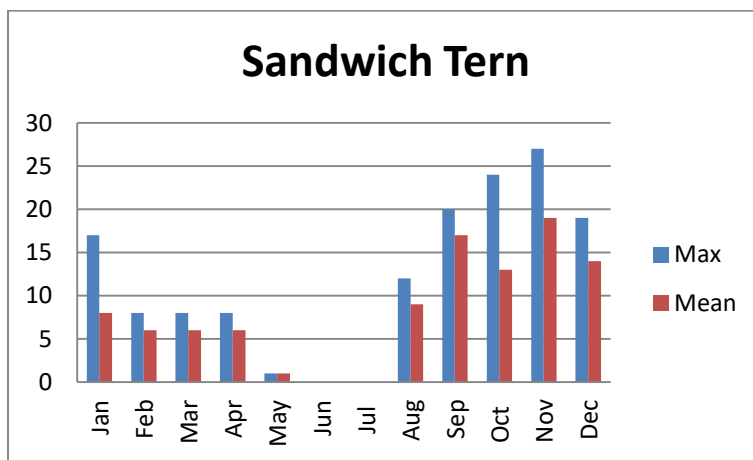


Gull-billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*): 1 at the Western Marsh on the 21st of April.

Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*): Present all year except in July and August, with a maximum of 4 birds in October.



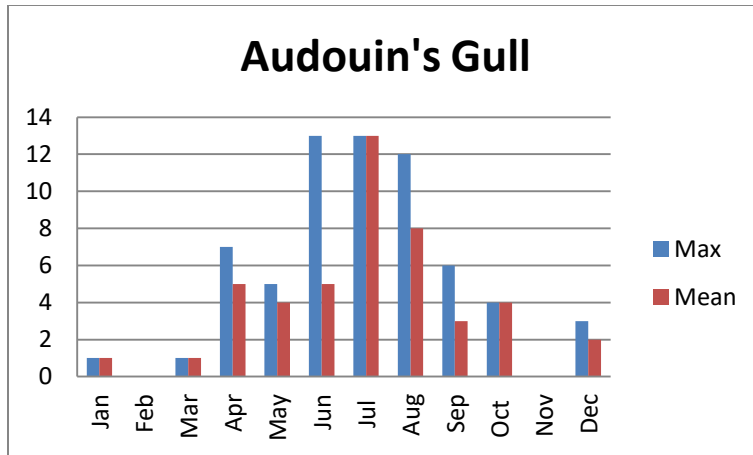
Sandwich Tern (*Sterna sandvicensis*): Present all year, except in June and July, with a maximum of 27 birds on the 20th of November.



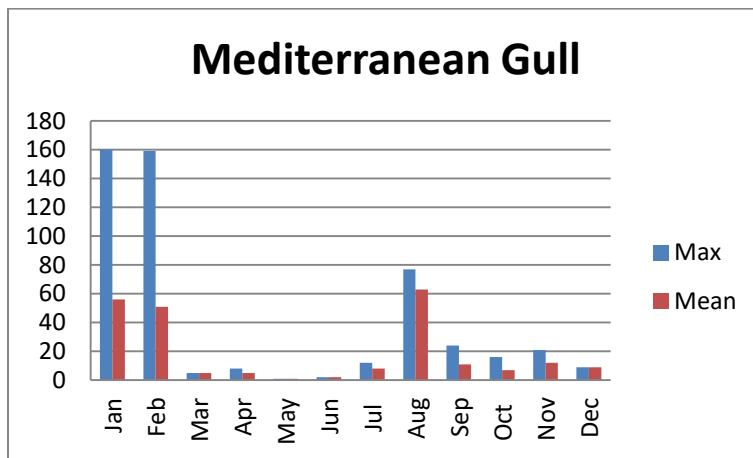
Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*): 1 on the 11th of September.

Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*): Present all year.

Audouin's Gull (*Larus audouinii*): Present all year, except in February and November with a maximum of 13 birds in June and July. 2 birds ringed in Portugal were controlled during the year.



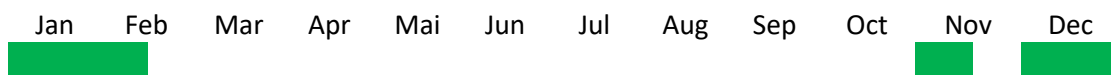
Mediterranean Gull (*Larus melanocephalus*): Present all year, with a maximum of 160 on the 12th of January. 2 birds were controlled in 2018 (from France).



Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*): Present all year. 10 ringed birds were found during the year (3 from Spain, 3 from the Netherlands, 1 from Scotland, 1 from Guernsey, 1 from Ireland and 1 from Denmark).

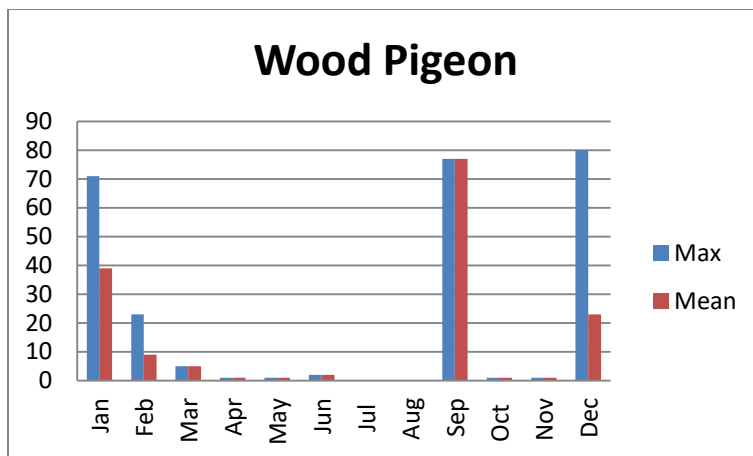
Yellow-legged Gull (*Larus michahellis*): Present all year. 3 ringed birds were found during the year (all from Portugal).

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*): Seen in January and February and in November and December, always only 1 bird.



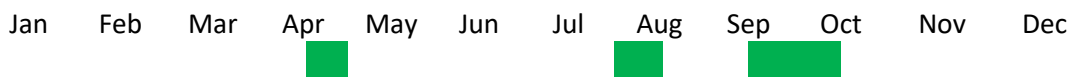
Feral Pigeon (*Columba livia*): Present all year.

Common Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumbus*): seen all year except in July and August, mostly at Abicada. Maximum of 80 birds in December.



Eurasian Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*): Present all year.

European Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia turtur*): 1 on the 22nd and 23rd of April, 1 on the 1st of August, 1 on the 22nd of September and 1 on the 3rd of October.

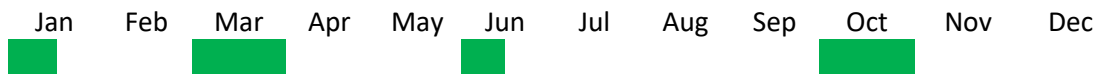


Common Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*): Seen (or heard) every week between April and June.



Great Spotted Cuckoo (*Clamator glandarius*): 1 juvenile on the 18th and 19th of June at the Western Marsh.

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*): Sightings in January, March, June and October (always 1 bird).



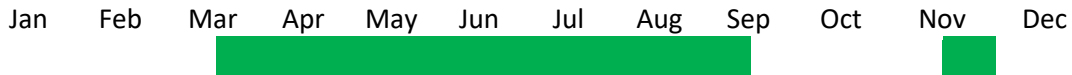
Little Owl (*Athene noctua*): Present all year.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*): Only 1 sighting: 1 bird on the 21st of November at Abicada.

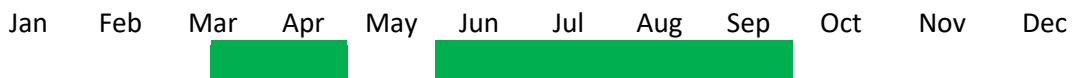
Red-necked Nightjar (*Caprimulgus ruficollis*): First heard on the 22nd of April and then present until the beginning of October.



Common Swift (*Apus apus*): Present from mid-March until mid-September. 1 bird on the 17th of November at Abicada.



Pallid Swift (*Apus pallidus*): Present from mid-March until the end of September, but no sighting in May.



Alpine Swift (*Apus melba*): Present from mid-March until the end of June. Several sightings in the autumn: 50 birds on the 3rd of November at Abicada and 1 on the 30th of November at Cruzinha.

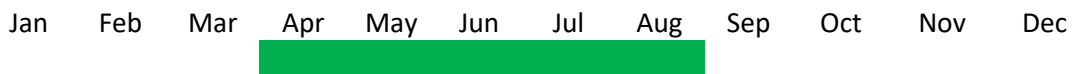


Little Swift (*Apus affinis*): 1 on the 13th of June at Cruzinha (part of an influx in the Algarve).

Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*): Seen all year, except in April and May.



European Bee-eater (*Merops apiaster*): Present from the 8th of April until the end of August.



European Roller (*Coracias garrulus*): 1 n the 8th of May at Quinta da Rocha.

Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*): Present all year.

Eurasian Wryneck (*Jynx torquilla*): 2 sightings in October.

European Green Woodpecker (*Picus viridis*): Present all year, except in January, February and October.

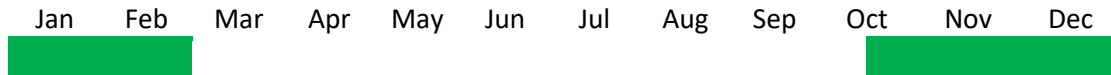
Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*): Seen all year except in April.

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos minor*): Seen all year except in January and July.

Greater Short-toed Lark (*Calandrella brachydactyla*): Seen in April and June.

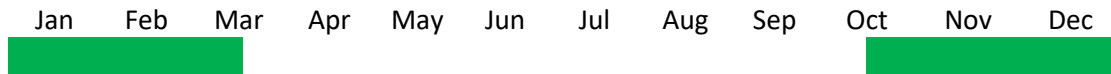
Crested Lark (*Galerida cristata*): Present all year.

Eurasian Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*): Present in January and February and then from the end of October until the end of the year.

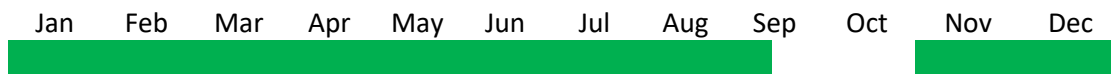


Sand Martin (*Riparia riparia*): 2 sightings of a bird at Abicada in the first half of March, 1 on the 21st and 25th of April at the Western Marsh and Abicada. Then, 1 on the 27th of August and 2 on the 4th of September, both at the Western Marsh.

Eurasian Crag Martin (*Ptyonoprogne rupestris*): Present from January until the end of March and then from mid-October until the end of the year.



Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*): Present all year, except in October.



Common House Martin (*Delichon urbicum*): Present from the 13th of February (2 birds) until mid-October. 1 bird on the 17th of November at Abicada.

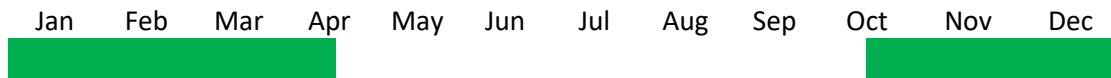


Red-rumped Swallow (*Cecropis daurica*): Present from the 24th of February (1 bird) until the end of October.

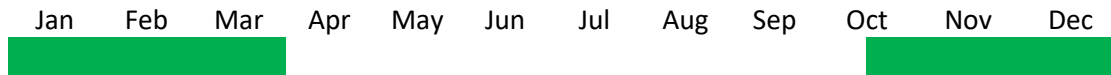


Tree Pipit (*Anthus trivialis*): 1 on the 22nd of April at Mexilhoeira Grande.

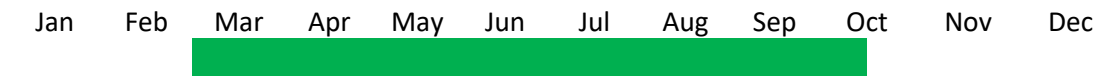
Meadow Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*): Present from January until mid-April, then from mid-October until the end of the year.



Water Pipit (*Anthus spinoletta*): Present between January and the end of March. Then, present from the end of October until the end of the year.



Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava*): Present from the 10th of March until mid-October. 1 bird belonging to the *thunbergi* subspecies was recorded in May.



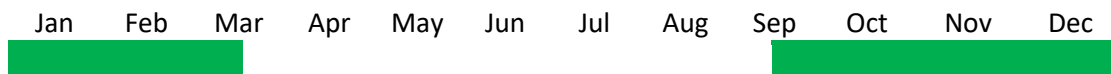
Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*): Seen in April, June and between October and December.



White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*): Present all year except in July and September.

Winter Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*): Present all year, except in September.

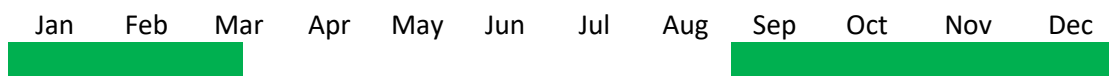
European Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*): Present from January until mid-March, then from the end of September until the end of the year.



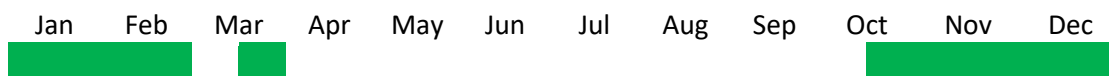
Common Nightingale (*Luscinia megarhynchos*): Detected from the 11th of April until the end of June, then, from the end of August until the end of September.



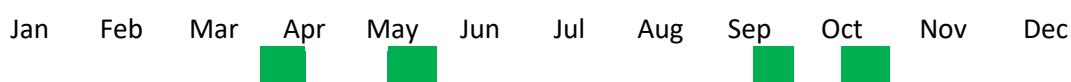
Bluethroat (*Luscinia svecica*): Present from January until mid-March. Then, from the beginning of September until the end of the year with a maximum of 5 birds.



Black Redstart (*Phoenicurus ochruros*): Present between January and March and then from the end of October until the end of the year.



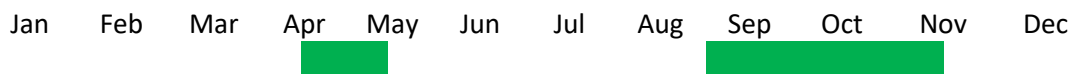
Common Redstart (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*): Present in April, May, September and October.



Whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra*): Present in September and October.

European Stonechat (*Saxicola rubicola*): Present all year.

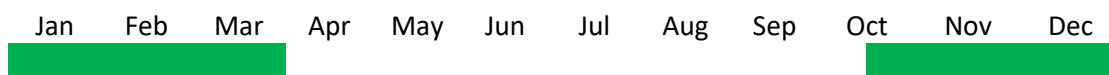
Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*): 4 sightings in April and May. Then, present from mid-September until the beginning of November.



Black-eared Wheatear (*Oenanthe hispanica*): 1 juvenile caught and ringed at Cruzinha on the 29th of July.

Common Blackbird (*Turdus merula*): Present all year.

Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*): Present from January until the end of March, then from the end of October until the end of the year.



Redwing (*Turdus iliacus*): Seen in January and February with maximums of 13 and 14. Then, 2 sightings of a bird in November, on the 1st and 20th.

Mistle Thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*): 1 on the 1st of December at Abicada.

Cetti's Warbler (*Cettia cetti*): Present all year.

Zitting Cisticola (*Cisticola juncidis*): Present all year.

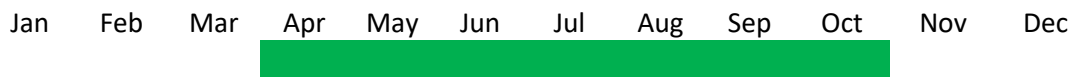
Savi's Warbler (*Locustella luscinioides*): Up to 3 birds singing at Abicada between April and the end of June.

Melodious Warbler (*Hippolais polyglotta*): Present in August.

Moustached Warbler (*Acrocephalus melanopogon*): 1 on the 5th and 2 between the 6th and 8th of December at Abicada. This would be the 1st record for the area if accepted by the Portuguese Rarity Committee.

Sedge Warbler (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*): 1 on the 2nd and 1 on the 6th of September.

Eurasian Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*): Present from April to the end of October, mostly at Abicada.



Great Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*): 1 on the 19th of April at Abicada.

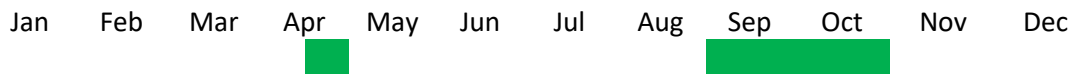
Dartford Warbler (*Sylvia undata*): 1 on the 19th of January at Alvor dunes.

Subalpine Warbler (*Sylvia cantillans*): 1 on the 19th of April, and then present in October.

Sardinian Warbler (*Sylvia melanocephala*): Present all year.

Common Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*): 1 bird on the 22nd of April and 1 on the 15th of September.

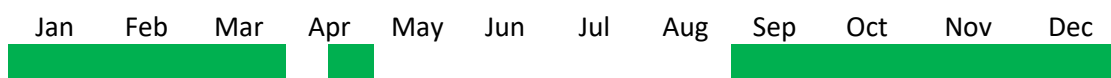
Garden Warbler (*Sylvia borin*): 1 sighting on the 23rd of April, then present in September and October.



Eurasian Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*): Present all year, except in July and August. 1 ringed bird from UK was caught at Cruzinha.

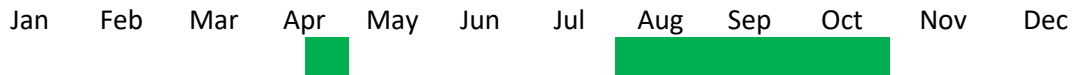
Western Bonelli's Warbler (*Phylloscopus bonelli*): Only 2 sightings: 1 on the 22nd of April and 1 on the 6th of September.

Common Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*): Present from January until the end of April and then from mid-September until the end of the year. 1 bird carrying a British ring was caught at Cruzinha.

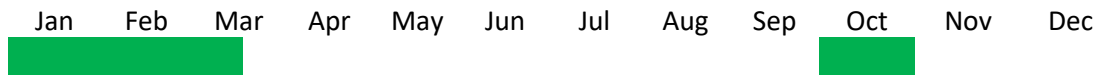


Iberian Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus ibericus*): 3 sightings during the year: 1 bird singing at Abicada on the 1st of April, 1 on the 12th of August and 1 on the 13th of September, both at the Western Marsh.

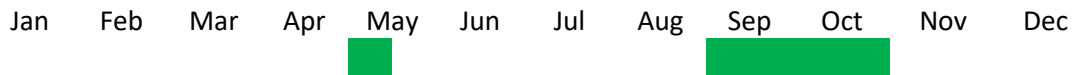
Willow Warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*): 1 bird on 23rd of April at Abicada and then present between the beginning of August until the end of October.



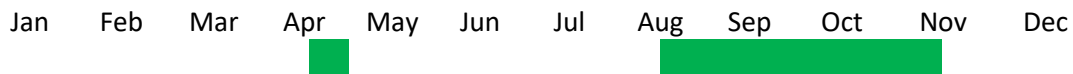
Common Firecrest (*Regulus ignicapilla*): Present between January and March and seen in October.



Spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa striata*): 1 sighting in spring: 1 on the 6th of May. Then, present in September and October.



European Pied Flycatcher (*Ficedula hypoleuca*): 2 sighting in April and then present from the end of August until the beginning of November.



Long-tailed Tit (*Aegithalos caudatus*): 2 at Cruzinha on the 25th of January.

Eurasian Blue Tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*): Present all year.

Great Tit (*Parus major*): Present all year.

Short-toed Treecreeper (*Certhia brachydactyla*): Present between April and August.



Eurasian Penduline Tit (*Remiz pendulinus*): 1 on the 9th of December at Abicada.

Eurasian Golden Oriole (*Oriolus oriolus*): First detected on the 18th of April, then present until the end of August. No sighting in July.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			■				■				

Southern Grey Shrike (*Lanius meridionalis*): Seen in January, May, August and December.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
■				■			■				■

Woodchat Shrike (*Lanius senator*): Present from the 8th of April until mid-September. No sighting in July.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			■				■				

Azure-winged Magpie (*Cyanopica cyanus*): Present all year.

Common Magpie (*Pica pica*): Several sightings during the year: 1 on the 12th of January, 3 on the 7th and 1 on the 20th of March, 1 on the 22nd of April, 1 on the 3rd of October and 2 on the 18th of November.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
■		■	■						■	■	

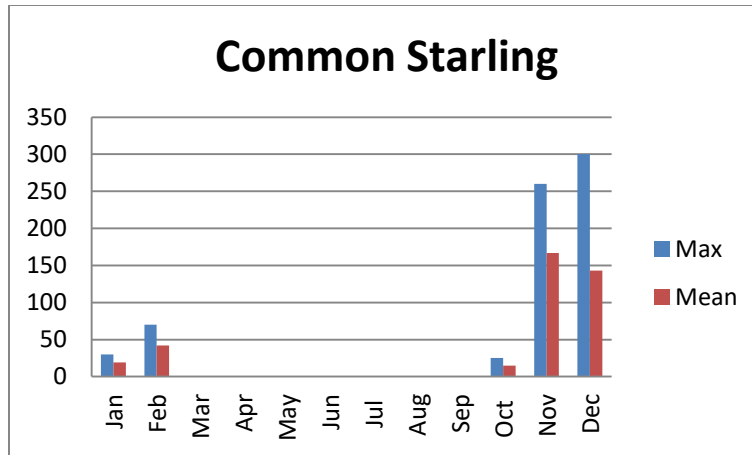
Western Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*): Seen between January and May and between September and December. Maximum of 8 birds in December.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
■			■	■				■	■	■	

Northern Raven (*Corvus corax*): 2 birds present in the area all year. 6 birds were seen together on the 12th of October

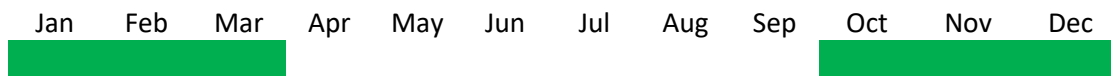
Spotless Starling (*Sturnus unicolor*): Present all year.

Common Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*): Present in January and February and between the end of October and the end of the year with a maximum of 300 birds in December.



House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*): Present all year.

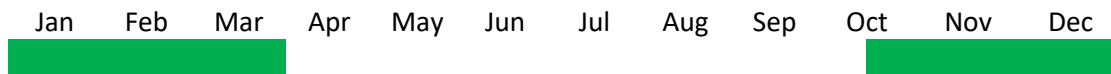
Spanish Sparrow (*Passer hispaniolensis*): Present from January to the end of March, then present from October until the end of the year, with a maximum of 77 birds on the 12th of December.



Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*): 2 birds on the 18th of April and 5th of June. Possible breeding.

Common Waxbill (*Estrilda astrild*): Present all year.

Common Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*): Present from January until the end of March, and then from the end of October until the end of the year.



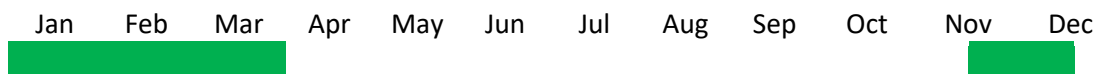
Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*): 1 heard at Cruzinha on the 25th of January.

European Serin (*Serinus serinus*): Present all year.

European Greenfinch (*Carduelis chloris*): Present all year.

European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*): Present all year.

Eurasian Siskin (*Carduelis spinus*): Present between January and March. 2 sightings at the end of November and beginning of December.



Common Linnet (*Carduelis cannabina*): Present all year.

Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*): Between 1 and 8 birds at Abicada in November and December.

Corn Bunting (*Emberiza calandra*): Present all year.

2018 was another good year for sightings at the Ria de Alvor. This was possible thanks to all the birders who were in the area and registered all their observations. A very big thank you to: Filipa Bragança, Lars Gonçalves, Susana Almeida, Carl Hawker, Arjan van Vuuren, Jane and Steve Page, Pauline Flessemean, Lindy Schneider, Lucy Rowley, Bart Steen, Willem Scheres, Michael Pocock, Joachim and Lieselotte Cochlovius, Luisa Sequeira, Peter Young, Victor Humphrey, Beulah Wood, Mark Purcell, Ben Porter, Hannah Hereward, Nils Brouillard, Ellie Huckle, Emma Clark, Jack Devlin, Gisele Schoene, Pim van Erven, Elise Brower, Moray Henderson, Heather Coats, Jo Conway, Richard Dann, Berenice Golfin, Tim and Annie Hall, Alexandre Rica Cardoso, Anne Hoefakher, Pierre Manchondus, Roger Skan, Yassir Bouchnafar, Nuno dos Santos, Bert van der Auwermeulen, Sergio Correia, Nelson Fonseca, Marcial Felgueiras, Isabel Soares, Rob Thomas, Sara Roda, Filipe Bally.

References

Crochet P.-A., Joynt G. (2015). AERC list of Western Palearctic birds. July 2015 version.



Little Swift - Cruzinha © B.Porter



Black-eared Wheatear - Cruzinha
© F.Bragança



American Golden Plover - Western
Marsh © G.Réthoré