



**Systematic List**  
**Birds of Ria de Alvor**

**2019**

A total of 181 species of birds, out of the 320 observed total, were registered in the Ria de Alvor Natura 2000 site in 2019. One new species was added to the site list: Ferruginous Duck, *Aythya nyroca*.

A huge change happened during the year as part of the main Western dyke collapsed. Now at high tide, water floods the lower and upper Western Marsh. This change affected the landscape and vegetation composition, with many invasive species being eradicated from some areas, namely the Hottentot fig, *Carpobrotus edulis*, and the few plants of Pampas grass, *Cortaderia selloana*. But it also had an impact on the birds present in the area and will surely have long term effects which will reflect in the bird records during the next years, not least because of the water level which prevents birds to use some areas in high tide and also because they use other areas in which they can hide more easily in the vegetation.

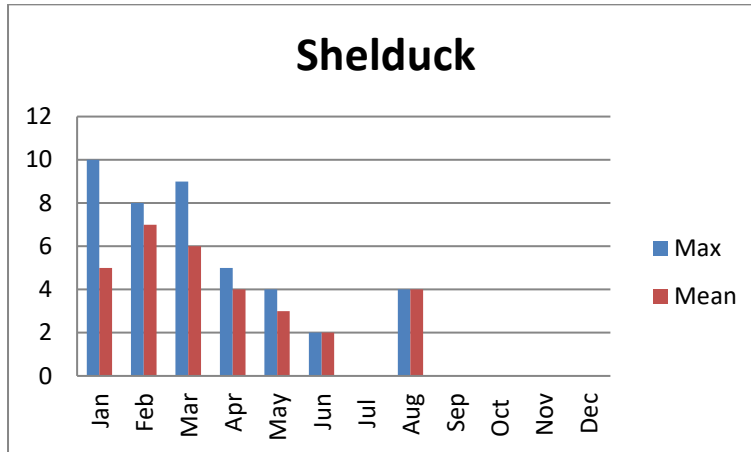
Highlights for 2019 were: the first Roseate Tern, *Sterna dougallii*, since 1994, a long-staying Snow Bunting, *Plectrophenax nivalis*, at Alvor, the first one since 1996, a Fieldfare, *Turdus pilaris*, and a Rock Sparrow, *Petronia petronia*, both not seen since 2006, the first Temminck's Stint, *Calidris temminckii*, since 2010, a Lesser Yellowlegs, *Tringa flavipes*, not seen in the area since 2013 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Great Northern Diver, *Gavia immer*, for the area.

Other interesting records were: the wintering of a couple of Great White Egrets, *Ardea alba*, the many Purple Herons, *Ardea purpurea*, seen on migration, the biggest flock of Glossy Ibis, *Plegadis falcinellus*, recorded in the area until now, various sightings of a Black Stork, *Ciconia nigra*, during winter, high numbers of Flamingos, *Phoenicopterus roseus*, almost all year, very low numbers of Black-winged Stilts, *Himantopus himantopus*, which disappeared from the Western Marsh, and Avocets, *Recurvirostra avosetta*, the unusual high number of sightings of Slender-billed Gulls, *Chroicocephalus genei*, in the area and also a possible record for the number of observed Audouin's Gull, *Ichthyaelus audouinii*, the first Tawny Pipit, *Anthus campestris*, since 2014, the numerous Bluethroats, *Luscinia svecica*, wintering in the area, very few sightings of Iberian Grey Shrike, *Lanius meridionalis*, and the increasing number of sightings of Magpie, *Pica pica*.

A few birds carrying rings were noted this year: Spoonbill, *Platalea leucorodia*, Flamingo, *Phoenicopterus roseus*, Red knot, *Calidris canutus*, the Black-headed, *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*, Audouin's, *Ichthyaelus audouinii*, Yellow-legged, *Larus michahellis*, and Lesser Black-backed Gulls, *Larus fuscus*, and Blackcap, *Sylvia atricapilla*.

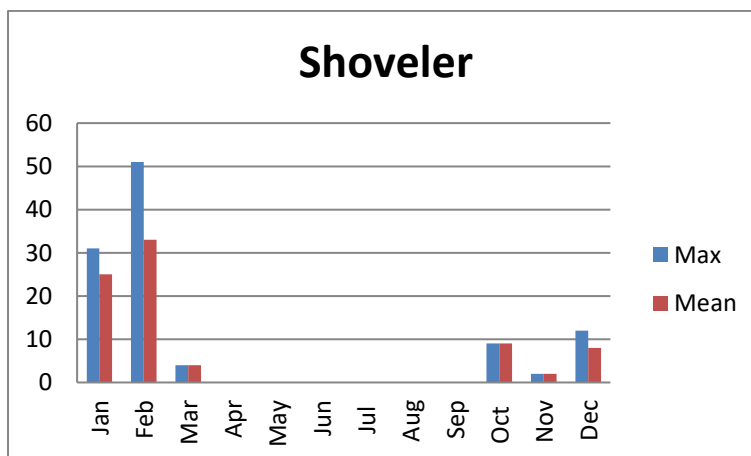
**The complete bird list for 2019 is described below (bird names according to Gill, F & D Donsker (Eds). 2018. IOC World Bird List, v 8.2).**

**Common Shelduck, *Tadorna tadorna*:** Up to 10 birds present between January and the end of June, then 4 birds seen in August.

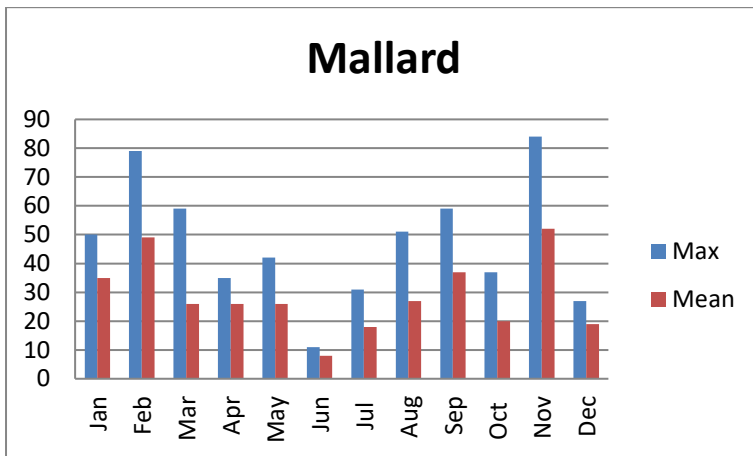


**Muscovy Duck, *Cairina moschata*:** 1 on the 4<sup>th</sup> of January flying over Quinta da Rocha.

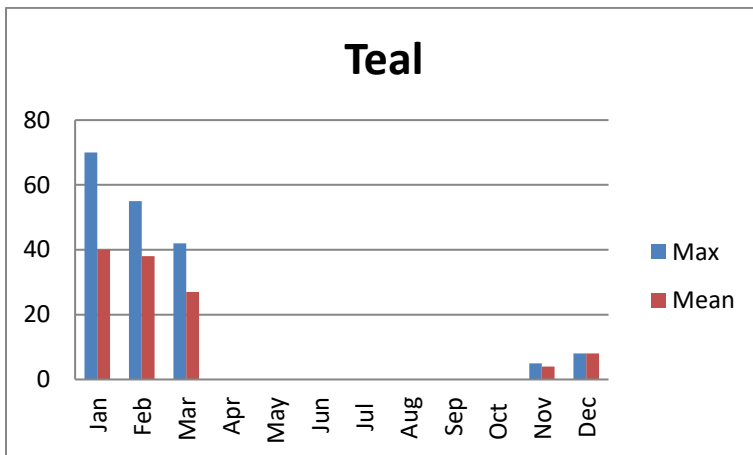
**Northern Shoveler, *Spatula clypeata*:** Present from January until the end of March, with a maximum of 51 on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February at Abicada, then present from mid-October until the end of the year (maximum of 12 in December).



**Mallard**, *Anas platyrhynchos*: Present all year.



**Eurasian Teal**, *Anas crecca*: Present from January until the end of March, with a maximum of 70 on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January at Abicada. Then, present from early November until the end of the year, with a maximum of 25 on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December.



**Ferruginous Duck**, *Aythya nyroca*: 1 on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March seen flying over Montes de Alvor lagoon. 1<sup>st</sup> sighting of the species in the area.

**Common Scoter**, *Melanitta nigra*: 23 on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March, 37 on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March all seen from Alvor beach and 1 on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September at Abicada.

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

**Common Quail, *Coturnix coturnix*:** Heard between January and early July.

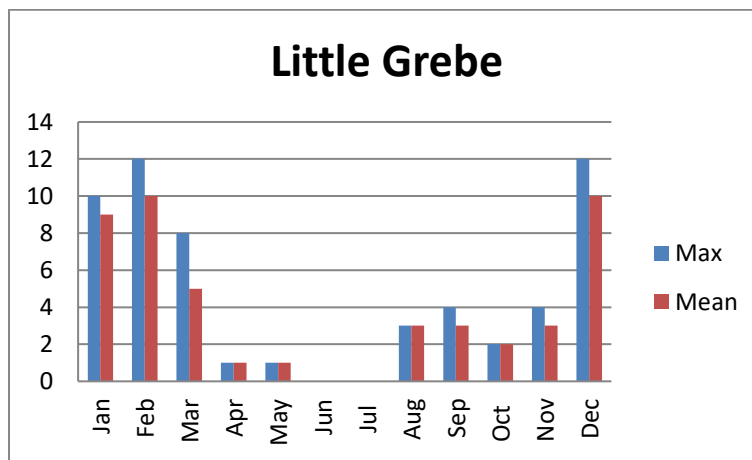


**Common Loon, *Gavia immer*:** 1 at the estuary on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December.

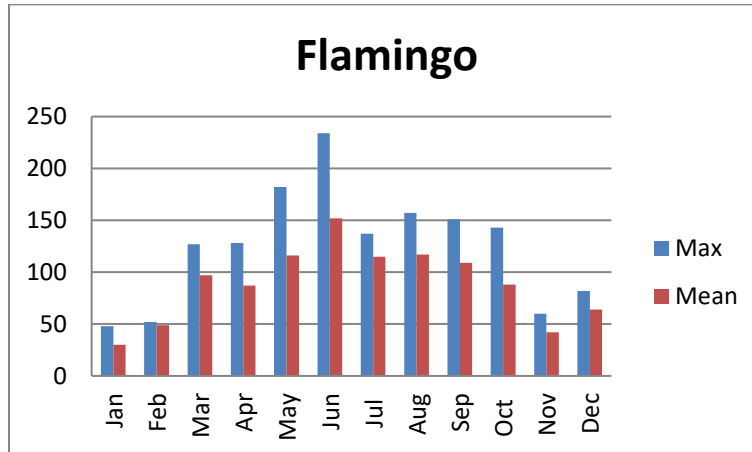
**Cory's Shearwater, *Calonectris borealis*:** 2 on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March seen from Alvor beach.

**Balearic Shearwater, *Puffinus mauretanicus*:** 1 on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March seen from Alvor beach.

**Little Grebe, *Tachybaptus ruficollis*:** Seen between January and mid-May, with a maximum of 12 at Abicada in February. Then, present between mid-august until the end of the year with a maximum of 12 at Abicada.



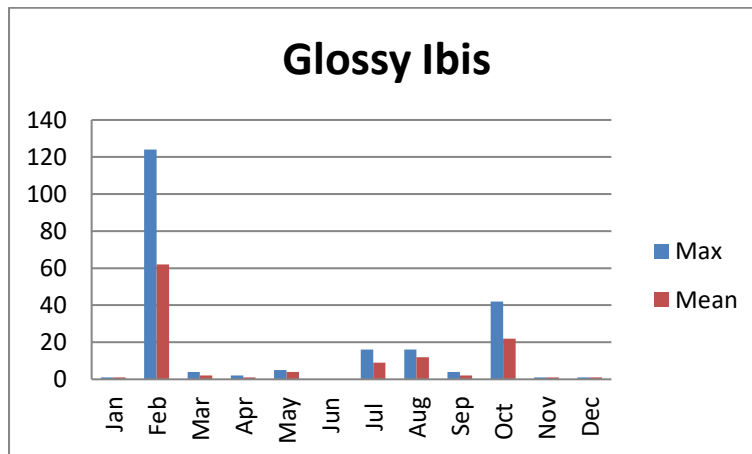
**Greater Flamingo, *Phoenicopterus roseus*:** Present all year, with a maximum of 234 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June at the Western Marsh. 32 ringed birds have been controlled over the year (30 from Spain and 2 from France).



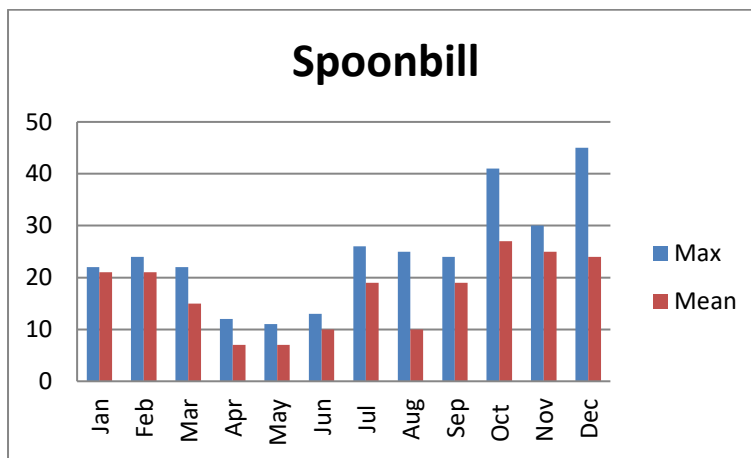
**Black Stork, *Ciconia nigra*:** 1 bird seen on the 18<sup>th</sup> of October over Cruzinha, then 1 with White Storks on the 31<sup>st</sup> of November and 1 (possibly the same) at Abicada on the 27<sup>th</sup> of December (also with White Storks).

**White Stork, *Ciconia ciconia*:** Present all year (maximum of 277 in October).

**Glossy Ibis, *Plegadis falcinellus*:** Seen all year except in June. Maximum of 124 birds on the 8<sup>th</sup> of February.



**Eurasian Spoonbill, *Platalea leucorodia*:** Present all year with higher numbers in autumn and winter (maximums of 24 in February at Abicada and 45 in December at the Western Marsh). 13 ringed birds have been controlled over the year (7 from the Netherlands, 4 from Spain, 2 from Germany). Several of these birds are regular winter visitors (one of them has been seen every year since 2008).

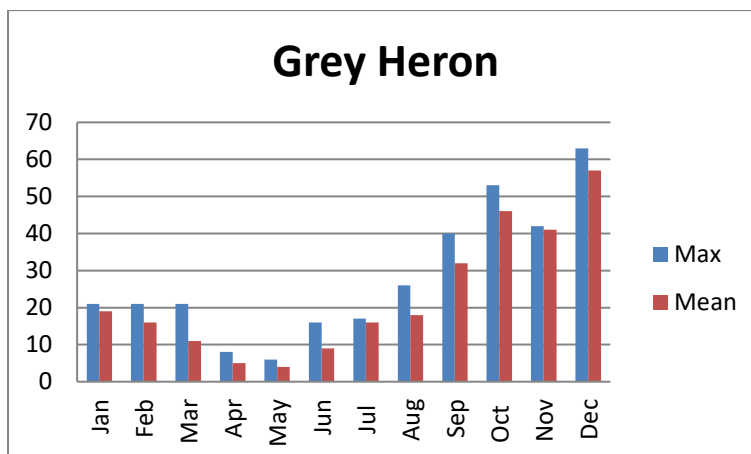


**Black-crowned Nigh Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax*:** 1 on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May at Cruzinha, 1 on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June at Mexilhoeira Grande, 1 on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and 1 on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August, both at Cruzinha. All sightings are of birds heard calling in flight at night.



**Western Cattle Egret, *Bubulcus ibis*:** Present all year.

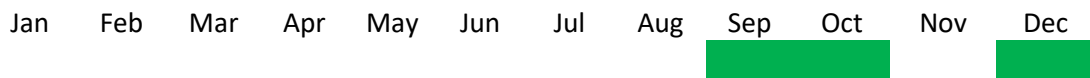
**Grey Heron, *Ardea cinerea*:** Present all year with higher numbers in autumn and winter (maximum of 28 on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January and 63 on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December, both at the Western Marsh).



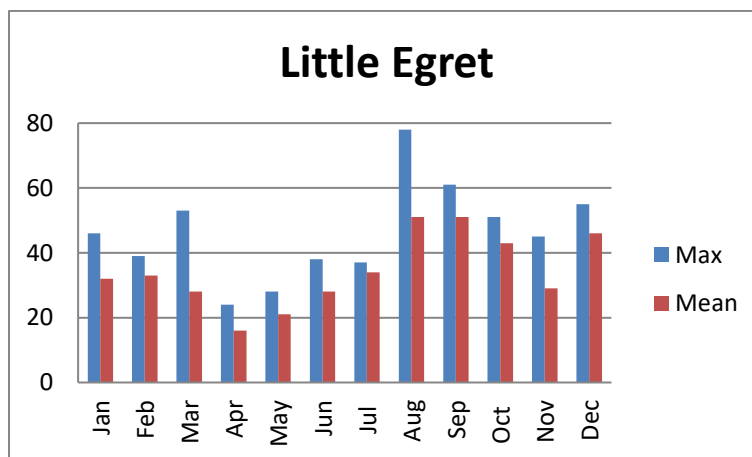
**Purple Heron, *Ardea purpurea*:** Recorded between March and June in spring, with a maximum of 19 birds at the Western Marsh on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March. Then, 1 bird at the Western Marsh in October.



**Great Egret, *Egretta alba*:** Maximum of 2 birds present between at Abicada and the Western, Marsh between September and the end of the year.



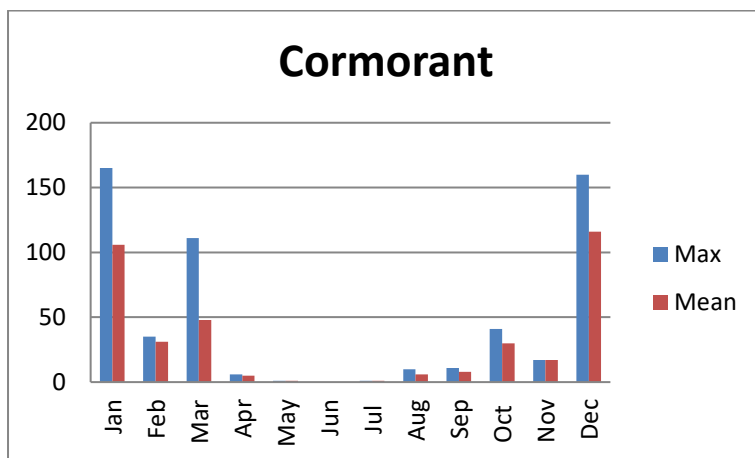
**Little Egret, *Egretta garzetta*:** Present all year; maximum of 78 at the Western Marsh on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August.



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



**Great Cormorant**, *Phalacrocorax carbo*: Present between January and May, with a maximum of 165 on the 4<sup>th</sup> of January. One sighting of 1 bird in July and then, present from mid-August until the end of the year with a maximum of 160 on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December.

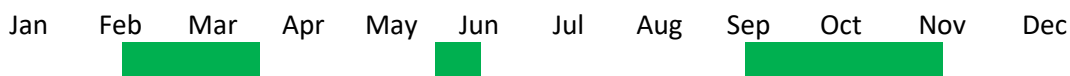


**Western Osprey**, *Pandion haliaetus*: Seen all year, except in June.

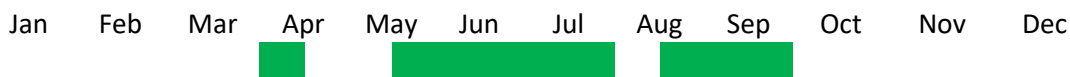
**Black-winged Kite**, *Elanus caeruleus*: Present all year.

**Griffon Vulture**, *Gyps fulvus*: 1 seen at Mexilhoeira Grande on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January and a flock of 120 flew over Quinta da Rocha on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November.

**Booted Eagle**, *Hieraaetus pennatus*: Seen in February and March, June and then between September and mid-November (maximum of 11 birds over Cruzinha in October).



**Short-toed Snake Eagle**, *Circaetus gallicus*: First sighting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April, then seen until the end of September.



**Eurasian Sparrowhawk**, *Accipiter nisus*: 3 sightings: 1 on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August, 1 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October and 2 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October.

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

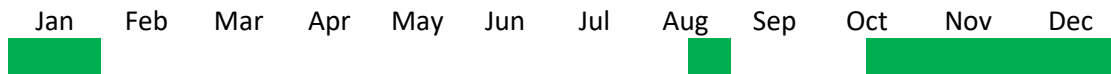
**Hen Harrier, *Circus cyaneus*:** 3 sightings: 1 on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January, 1 on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October and 1 on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November.

**Red Kite, *Milvus milvus*:** 1 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January over Cruzinha.

**Black Kite, *Milvus migrans*:** Seen in April, May, July, August and October.



**Common Buzzard, *Buteo buteo*:** Present in January (maximum of 3 birds on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January at Abicada), 1 bird in August and then from October until the end of the year.

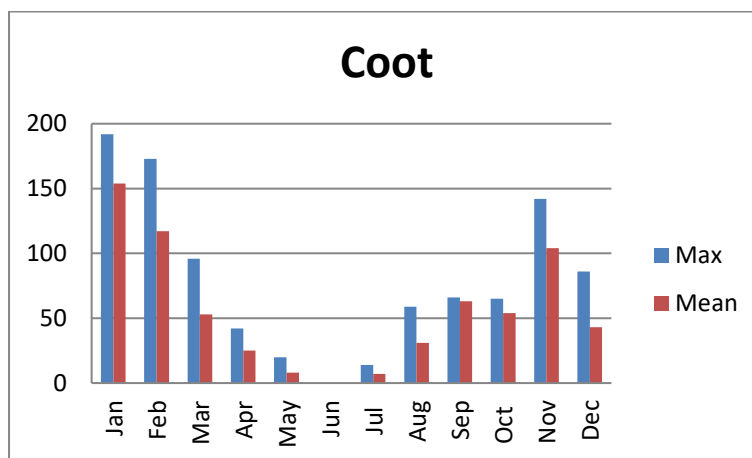


**Water Rail, *Rallus aquaticus*:** Heard or seen all year, except in June and July.

**Western Swampen, *Porphyrio porphyrio*:** Seen at Abicada between January and July and in December.

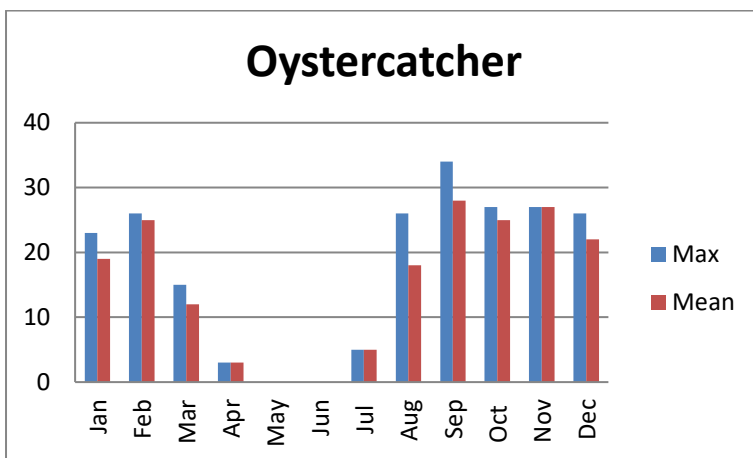
**Common Moorhen, *Gallinula chloropus*:** Present all year. Maximum of 6 birds at Abicada.

**Eurasian Coot, *Fulica atra*:** Seen all year, except in June, with bigger numbers in winter and autumn (maximum of 192 birds on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January and 142 on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November). All the sightings are from Abicada.

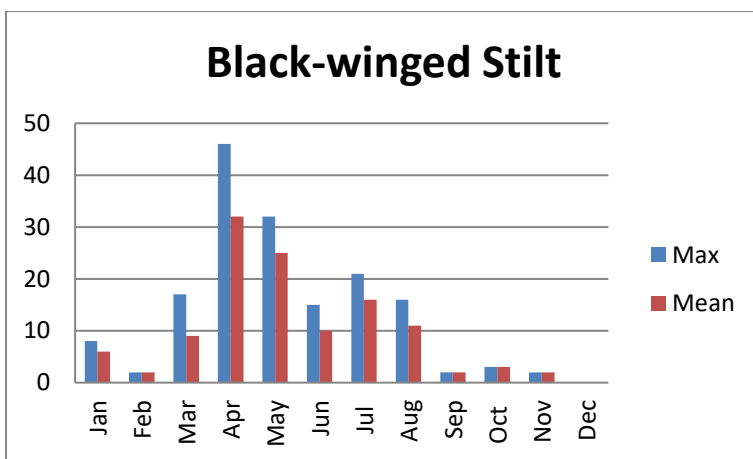


**Eurasian Stone Curlew, *Burhinus oedichnemus*:** Heard or seen between January and September. 2 birds seen on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December.

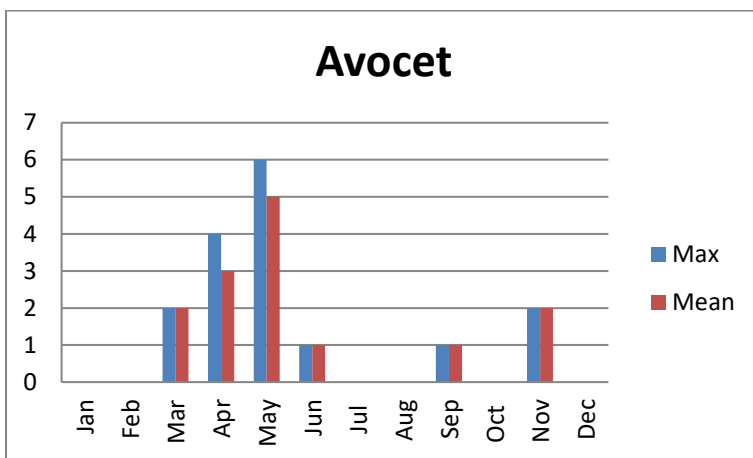
**Eurasian Oystercatcher**, *Haematopus ostralegus*: Present between January and April with a maximum of 26 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February. Then, from the end of July until the end of the year, with a maximum of 34 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September.



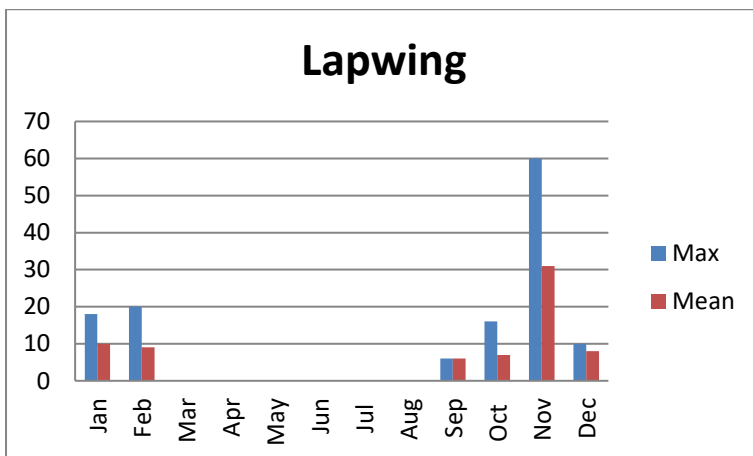
**Black-winged Stilt**, *Himantopus himantopus*: Present all year, except in December, with a maximum of 46 birds on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April at Odiáxere salt pans.



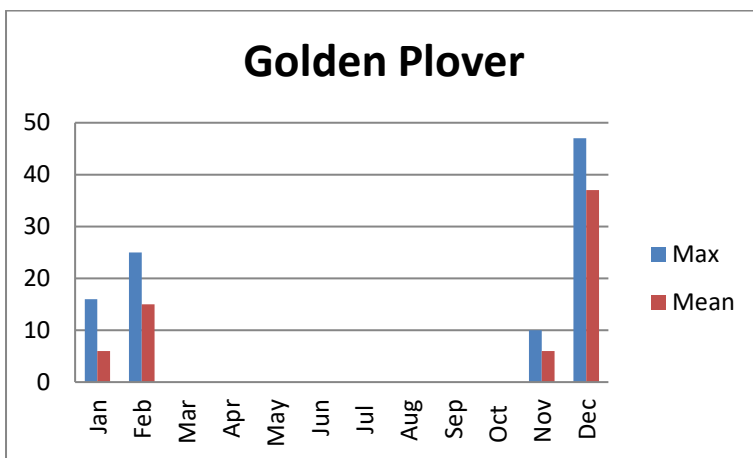
**Pied Avocet**, *Recurvirostra avosetta*: Present between March and mid-June with a maximum of 6 birds in May at the Western Marsh. 2 birds were seen building a nest at the salt pans on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May but disappeared shortly after. Then, 1 bird in September and 2 in November.



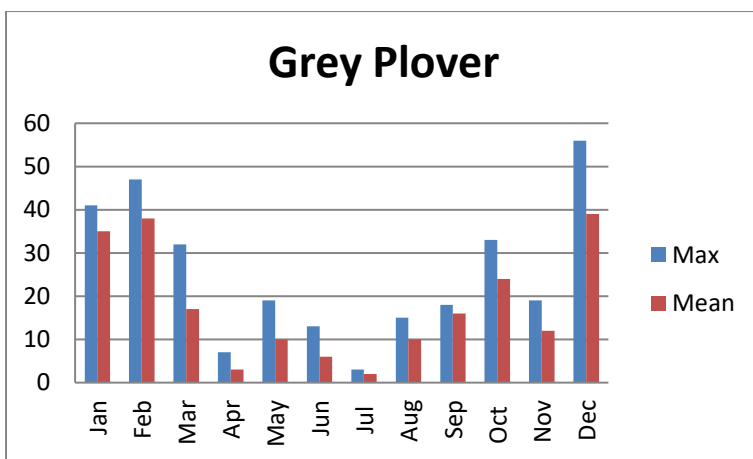
**Northern Lapwing**, *Vanellus vanellus*: Present from January to the end of February, and then again from the end of September until the end of the year; maximum of 20 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February and 60 on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November.



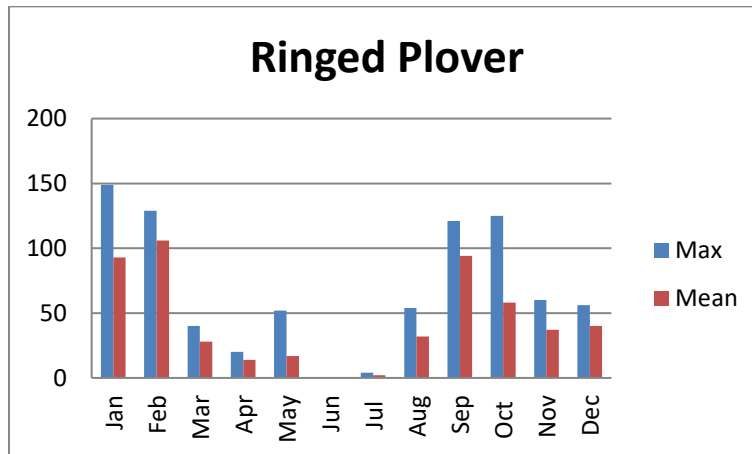
**European Golden Plover**, *Pluvialis apricaria*: Present in January and February, with a maximum of 25 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February at the Western Marsh. Then, present from November until the end of the year with a maximum of 47 on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December.



**Grey Plover**, *Pluvialis squatarola*: Present all year, with maximums of 47 on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February and 56 on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December, both at the Western Marsh.



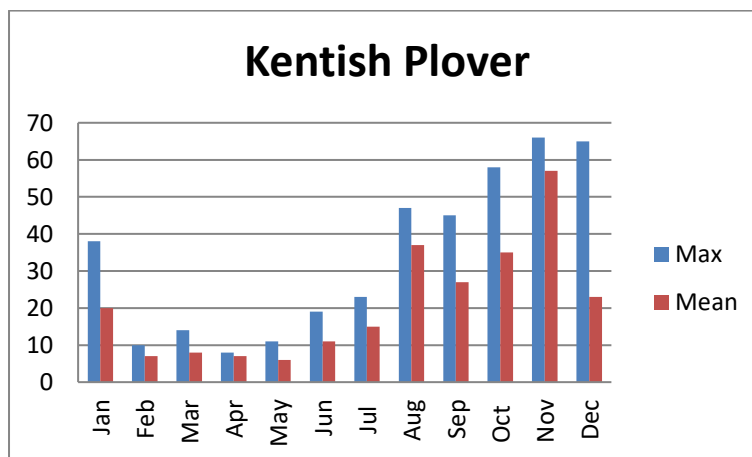
**Common Ringed Plover**, *Charadrius hiaticula*: Present all year, except in June, with higher numbers in autumn and winter (maximum of 149 on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January and 125 on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September).



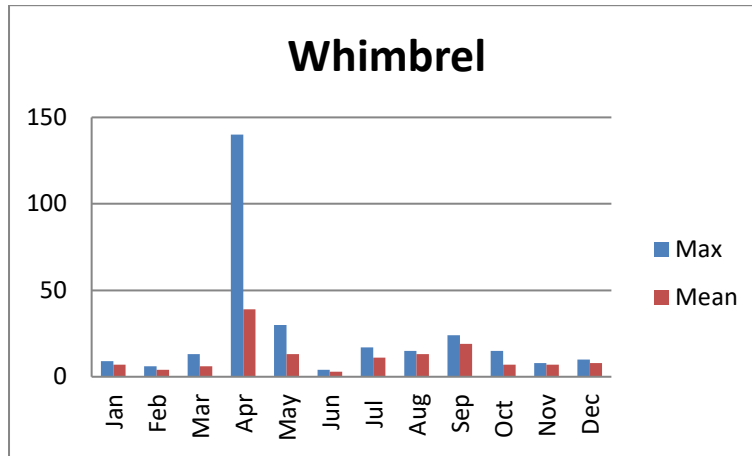
**Little Ringed Plover**, *Charadrius dubius*: Seen between March and June, all sightings from Odiáxere salt pans and Abicada.



**Kentish Plover**, *Charadrius alexandrinus*: Present all year, with a maximum of 66 on the 21<sup>st</sup> of November.



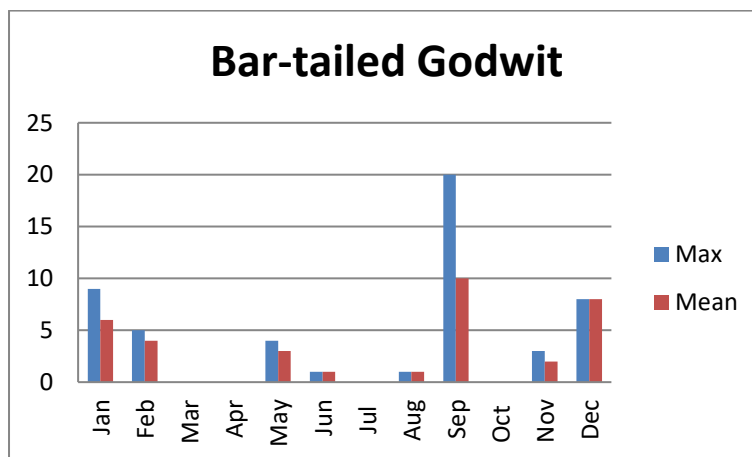
**Whimbrel**, *Numenius phaeopus*: Present all year. Migration peaked in April with 140 on the 14<sup>th</sup>.



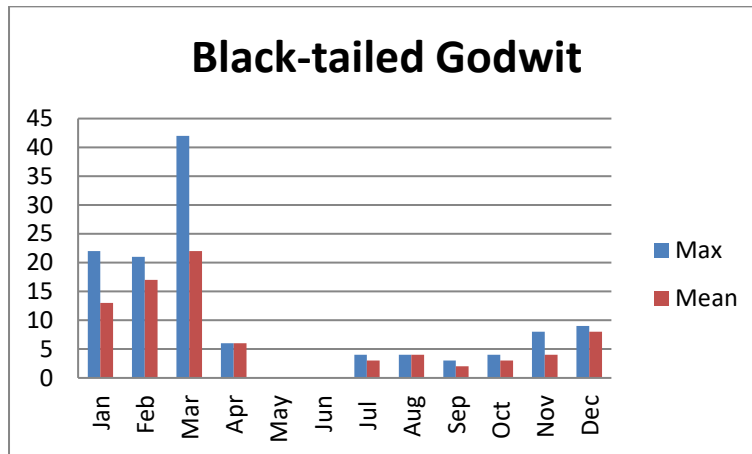
**Eurasian Curlew**, *Numenius arquata*: Maximum of 2 birds between January and March and then between July and November.



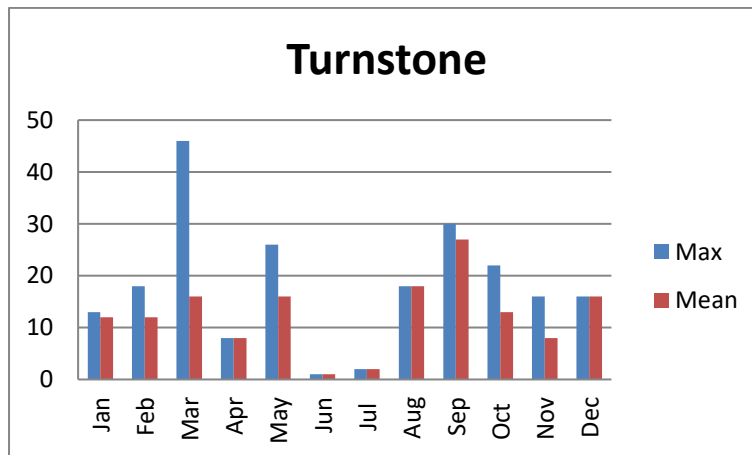
**Bar-tailed Godwit**, *Limosa lapponica*: Present in January, February, May, June (maximum of 9 on the 4<sup>th</sup> of January), and between August and the end of the year (maximum of 20 of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September).



**Black-tailed Godwit, *Limosa limosa*:** Present between January and April (maximum of 42 birds on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March at Abicada), and from July until the end of the year (a maximum of 9 on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December).

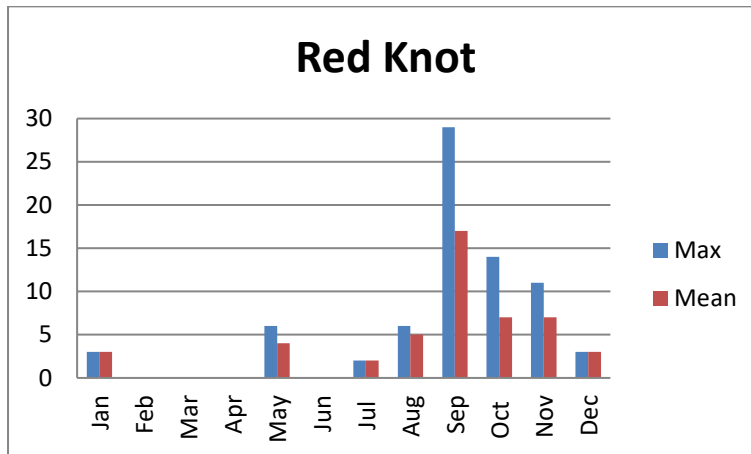


**Ruddy Turnstone, *Arenaria interpres*:** Present all year, with maximums of 46 on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March and 30 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September.

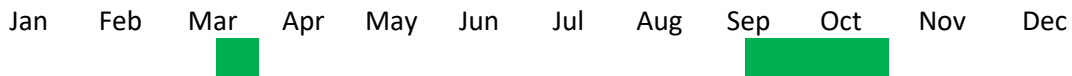




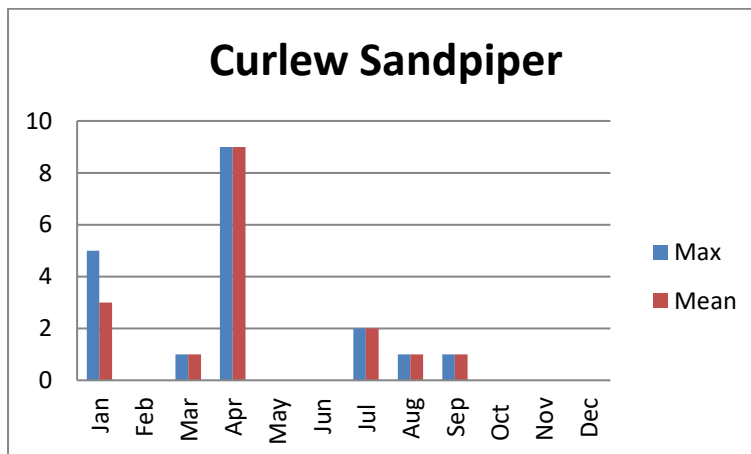
**Red Knot**, *Calidris canutus*: Present in January, May and between July and the end of the year (maximum of 29 on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September). 1 bird ringed in Mauritania was controlled in autumn.



**Ruff**, *Calidris pugnax*: 5 sightings during the year: 2 on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of March at Abicada, 1 on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September at the Western Marsh, and 1 on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of October at Abicada.

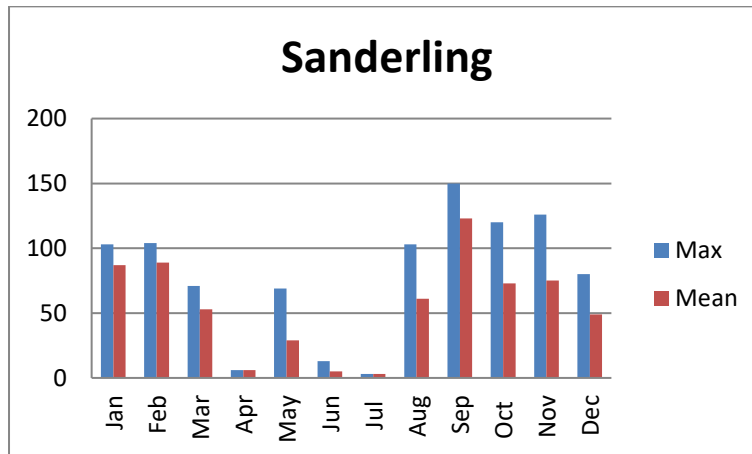


**Curlew Sandpiper**, *Calidris ferruginea*: Seen in January, March, April and between July and September, maximum of 9 birds on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April at Odiáxere salt pans.

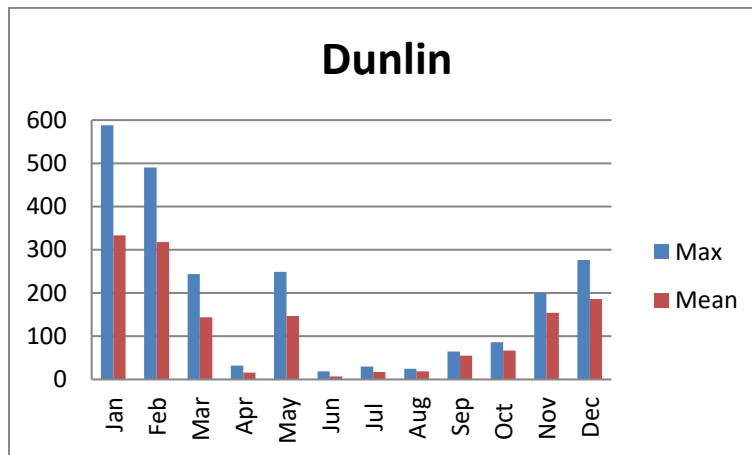


**Temminck Stint**, *Calidris temminckii*: 1 on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May at the salt pans.

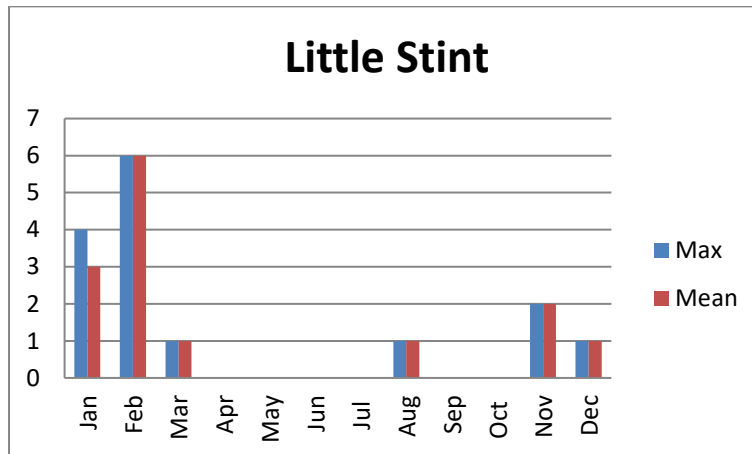
**Sanderling, *Calidris alba*:** Present all year with maximums of 104 in January and 150 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September.



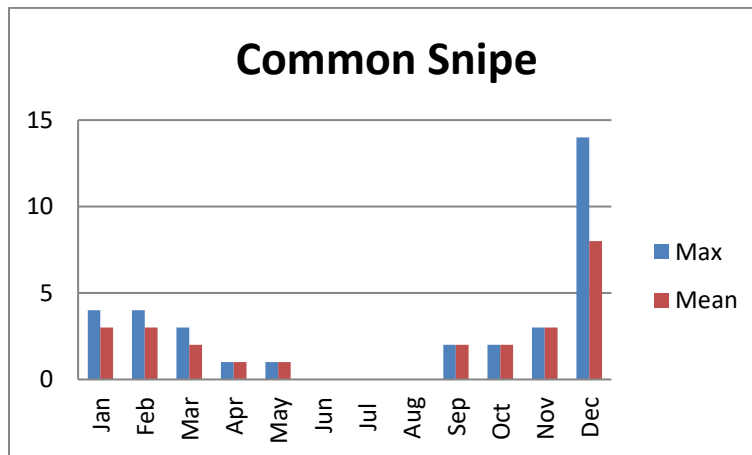
**Dunlin, *Calidris alpina*:** Present all year, with higher numbers in autumn and winter (maximum of 588 on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January and 276 on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December).



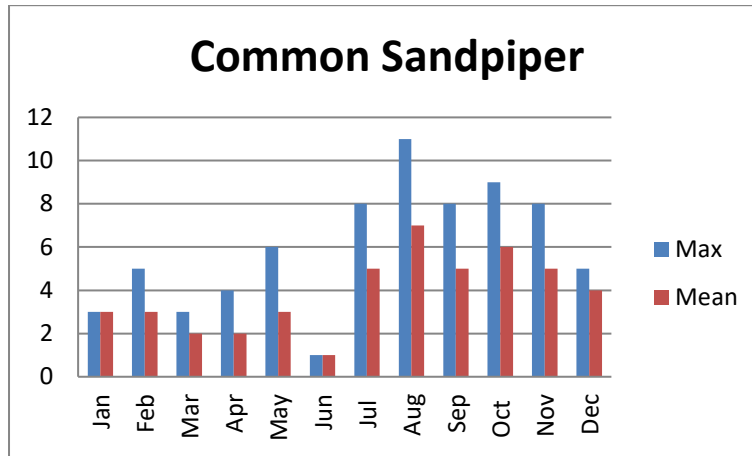
**Little Stint**, *Calidris minuta*: Present between January and March, in August and between October and the end of the year with a maximum of 6 birds on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February.



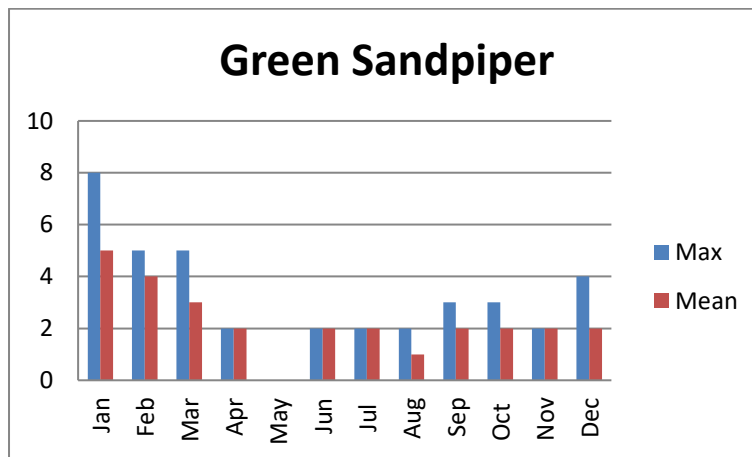
**Common Snipe**, *Gallinago gallinago*: Present from January to May and then from September until the end of the year, with a maximum of 14 in December.



**Common Sandpiper, *Actitis hypoleucos*:** Present all year, with a maximum of 11 birds in August.

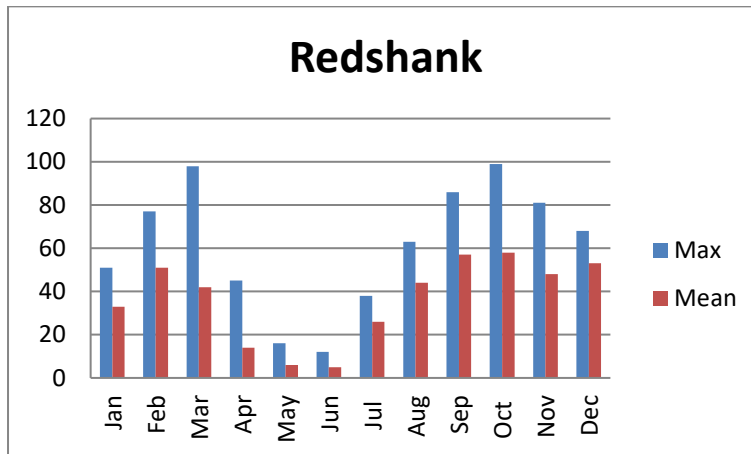


**Green Sandpiper, *Tringa ochropus*:** Present between January and April, then, between the end of June and the end of the year, with a maximum of 8 birds.



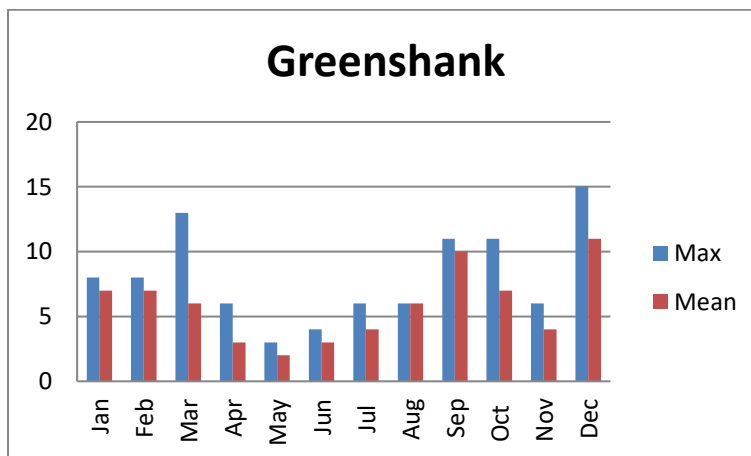
**Lesser Yellowlegs, *Tringa flavipes*:** 1 at the Western Marsh on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July and 1 at Abicada (could it be the same?) on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of December.

**Common Redshank, *Tringa totanus*:** Present all year with higher numbers in autumn and winter (maximums of 98 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March at Abicada and 99 on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October at the Western Marsh).

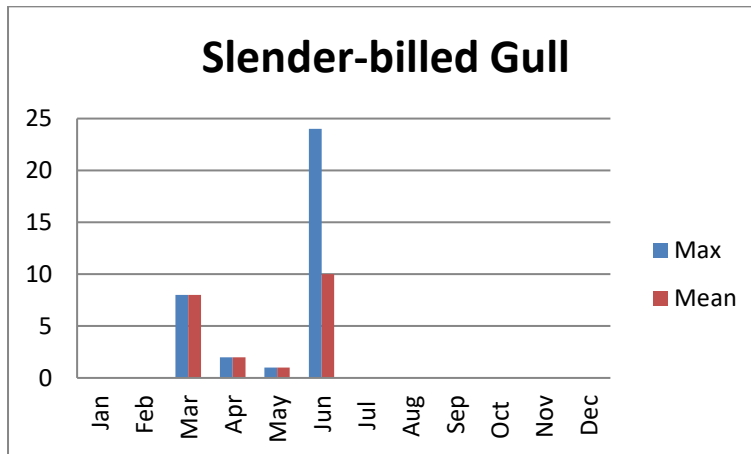


**Wood Sandpiper, *Tringa glareola*:** 1 bird on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September at Abicada.

**Common Greenshank, *Tringa nebularia*:** Present all year, with a maximums of 15 birds on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December.

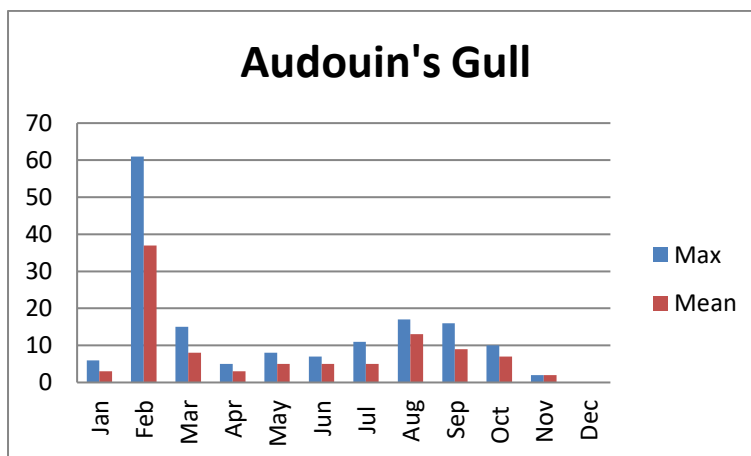


**Slender-billed Gull**, *Chroicocephalus genei*: 6 sightings between mid-March and mid-June (half of them in June) with a maximum of 24 birds on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June.

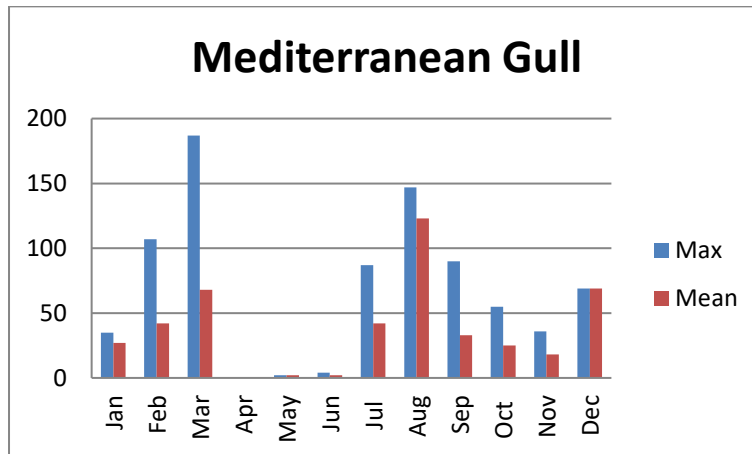


**Black-headed Gull**, *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*: Present all year. 1 bird ringed in Poland was controlled during the year.

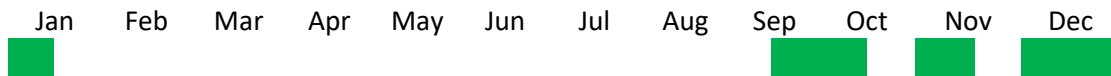
**Audouin's Gull**, *Ichthyaeetus audouinii*: Present all year, except in December with a maximum of 61 birds on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February. 2 birds ringed in Portugal and Spain were controlled during the year.



**Mediterranean Gull, *Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus*:** Present all year, except in April, with a maximum of 187 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March.



**Great Black-backed Gull, *Larus marinus*:** Seen in January and between September and the end of the year, always only 1 bird.

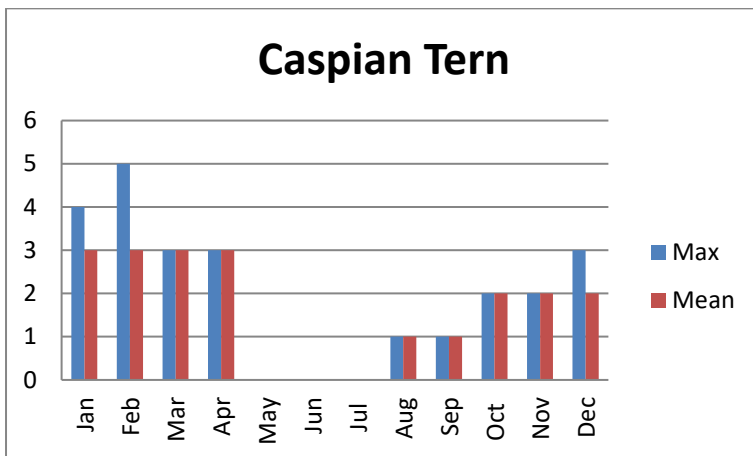


**Yellow-legged Gull, *Larus michahellis*:** Present all year. 5 ringed birds were found during the year (all from Portugal).

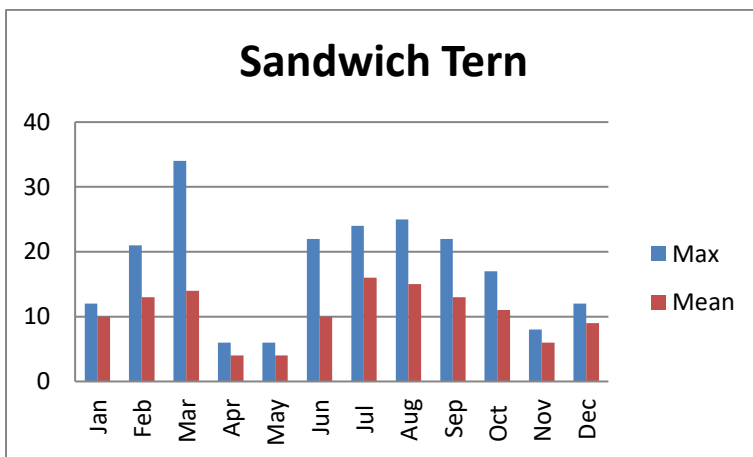
**Lesser Black-backed Gull, *Larus fuscus*:** Present all year. 8 ringed birds were found during the year (3 from Portugal, 1 from the Netherlands, 1 from Scotland, 1 from England and 2 from Ireland).

**Gull-billed Tern, *Gelochelidon nilotica*:** 1 at the Western Marsh on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May and 1 on the 24<sup>th</sup> of August.

**Caspian Tern, *Hydroprogne caspia*:** Present between January and April and then between August and the end of the year, with a maximum of 5 birds in February.

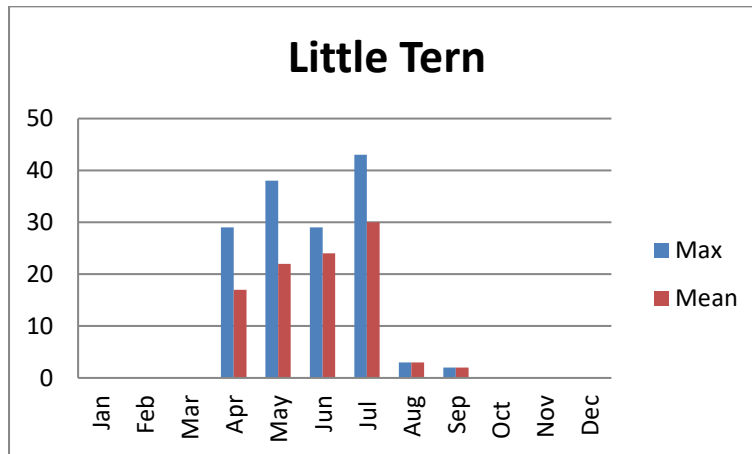


**Sandwich Tern, *Thalasseus sandvicensis*:** Present all year, with a maximum of 34 birds on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March.





**Little Tern, *Sternula albifrons*:** Present between mid-April (first birds seen on the 18<sup>th</sup>) and the end of September (last bird seen on the 23<sup>rd</sup>).



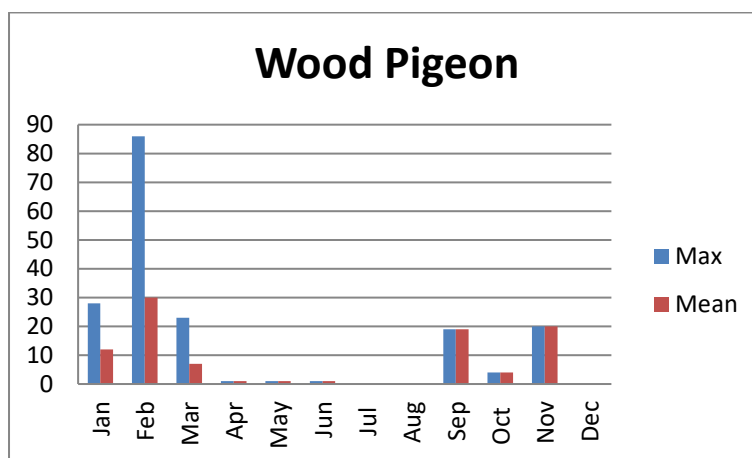
**Roseate Tern, *Sterna dougallii*:** 1 at the salt pans on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June.

**Common Tern, *Sterna hirundo*:** 1 on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April.

**Great Skua, *Stercorarius skua*:** 3 on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March and 1 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December, both from Alvor beach.

**Feral Pigeon, *Columba livia*:** Present all year.

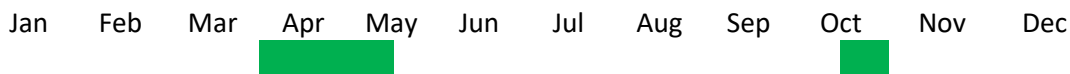
**Common Wood Pigeon, *Columba palumbus*:** seen all year except in July and August, mostly at Abicada. Maximum of 86 birds in February.



**European Turtle Dove, *Streptopelia turtur*:** 1 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July, and 2 on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September.

**Eurasian Collared Dove, *Streptopelia decaocto*:** Present all year.

**Common Cuckoo**, *Cuculus canorus*: Seen (or heard) every week between April and mid-May, then 1 bird caught and ringed at Cruzinha on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October.



**Western Barn Owl**, *Tyto alba*: 1 on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July at Abicada.

**Little Owl**, *Athene noctua*: Present all year.

**Red-necked Nightjar**, *Caprimulgus ruficollis*: First heard on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April and then present until the end of August, 1 bird on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September.



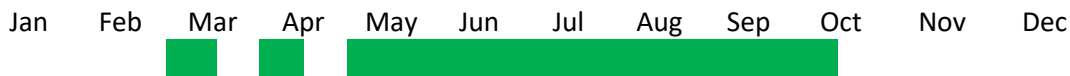
**Alpine Swift**, *Tachymarptis melba*: Present from the end of March until the beginning of August. Then, seen at the end of September and beginning of October.



**Common Swift**, *Apus apus*: Present from the end of March until the end of September. 1 bird on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December at the Western Marsh.



**Pallid Swift**, *Apus pallidus*: Present from mid-March until mid-October.



**Common Kingfisher**, *Alcedo atthis*: Seen all year, except in April.

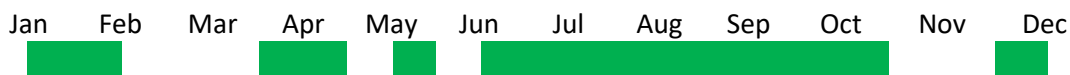
**European Bee-eater**, *Merops apiaster*: Present from the 29<sup>th</sup> of March until the end of August.



**Eurasian Hoopoe, *Upupa epops*:** Present all year.

**Eurasian Wryneck, *Jynx torquilla*:** 3 sightings during the year: 1 on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March, 1 on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September and 1 on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October.

**Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, *Dryobates minor*:** Seen all year except in March and November.



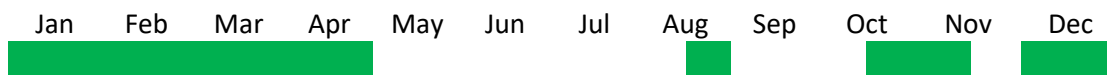
**Great Spotted Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos major*:** Seen all year except in March, April and November.



**Iberian Green Woodpecker, *Picus sharpei*:** Present all year, except in February.

**Common Kestrel, *Falco tinnunculus*:** Present all year.

**Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus*:** Seen between January and April, in August and between October and the end of the year.



**Iberian Grey Shrike, *Lanius meridionalis*:** 3 sightings, in July (1 sighting) and October (2 sightings).

**Woodchat Shrike, *Lanius senator*:** Present from the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March until mid-September.

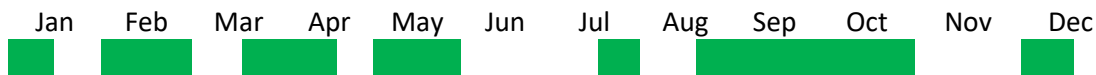


**Eurasian Golden Oriole, *Oriolus oriolus*:** First detected on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April, then present until mid-September.



**Iberian Magpie, *Cyanopica cooki*:** Present all year.

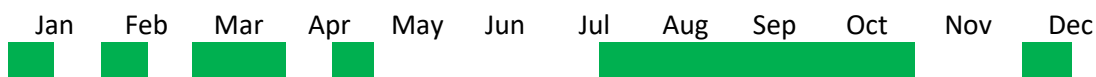
**Common Magpie, *Pica pica*:** 1 or 2 birds seen all year except in June and November.



**Western Jackdaw, *Coloeus monedula*:** Seen between January and mid-March, in June November and December. Maximum of 4 birds in January.



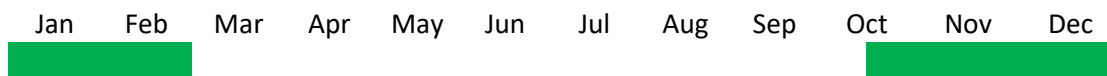
**Northern Raven, *Corvus corax*:** 2 birds present in the area seen all year except in May, June and November.



**Eurasian Blue Tit, *Cyanistes caeruleus*:** Present all year.

**Great Tit, *Parus major*:** Present all year.

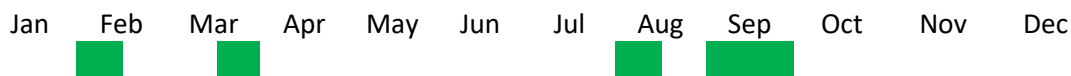
**Eurasian Skylark, *Alauda arvensis*:** Present in January and February and then from the end of October until the end of the year.



**Crested Lark, *Galerida cristata*:** Present all year.

**Greater Short-toed Lark, *Calandrella brachydactyla*:** Seen in March and May at Abicada.

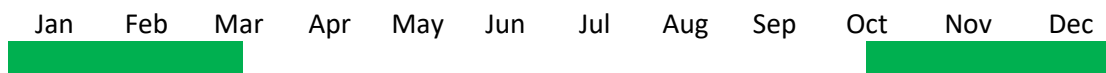
**Sand Martin, *Riparia riparia*:** 6 sightings during the year: 1 on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February at Abicada, 1 on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 1 on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March at Abicada, 1 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August, 3 on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 1 on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September.



**Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica*:** Present all year, except in November and December.



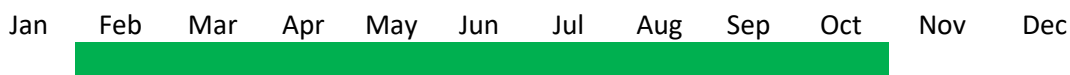
**Eurasian Crag Martin, *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*:** Present from January until mid-March and then from the end of October until the end of the year.



**Common House Martin, *Delichon urbicum*:** Present from the 24<sup>th</sup> of January (2 birds) until mid-October. 1 bird on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December.



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



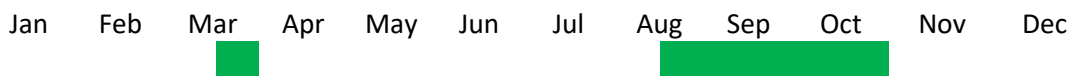
**Cetti's Warbler, *Cettia cetti*:** Recorded all year, except in January and July, mostly at Abicada.

**Long-tailed Tit, *Aegithalos caudatus*:** 3 at Cruzinha on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October.

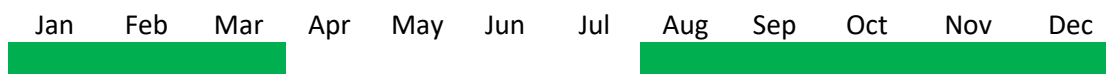
**Western Bonelli's Warbler, *Phylloscopus bonelli*:** Only 3 sightings: 1 on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March (ringing), 1 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April and 1 on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September (ringing).

**Yellow-browed Warbler, *Phylloscopus inornatus*:** 1 caught and ringed at Cruzinha on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October.

**Willow Warbler, *Phylloscopus trochilus*:** 2 birds on 28<sup>th</sup> of March (ringing) and then present between the end of August until the end of October.



**Common Chiffchaff**, *Phylloscopus collybita*: Present from January until the end of March and then from the beginning of August until the end of the year.



**Iberian Chiffchaff**, *Phylloscopus ibericus*: 1 sighting during the year: 1 bird calling at Cruzinha on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August.

**Sedge Warbler**, *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*: 1 on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August and 1 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September.

**Eurasian Reed Warbler**, *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*: Present from the end of March Until mid-July and then in September and October, mostly at Abicada.



**Melodious Warbler**, *Hippolais polyglotta*: Present between mid-July and mid-September.

**Savi's Warbler**, *Locustella luscinioides*: Up to 2 birds singing at Abicada between the end of March and the end of May.

**Zitting Cisticola**, *Cisticola juncidis*: Present all year.

**Eurasian Blackcap**, *Sylvia atricapilla*: Present all year. 1 ringed bird from Belgium was caught at Cruzinha.

**Garden Warbler**, *Sylvia borin*: present in September and October.

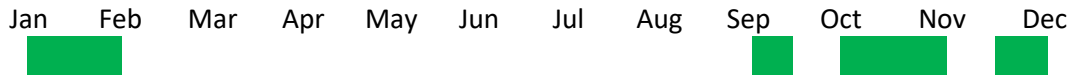
**Common Whitethroat**, *Sylvia communis*: 1 bird on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March and present in September and beginning of October.

**Dartford Warbler**, *Sylvia undata*: 1 on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December and 3 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December, both at Alvor dunes.

**Subalpine Warbler**, *Sylvia cantillans*: 1 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March, and then 2 sightings in the first half of October (5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>).

**Sardinian Warbler**, *Sylvia melanocephala*: Present all year.

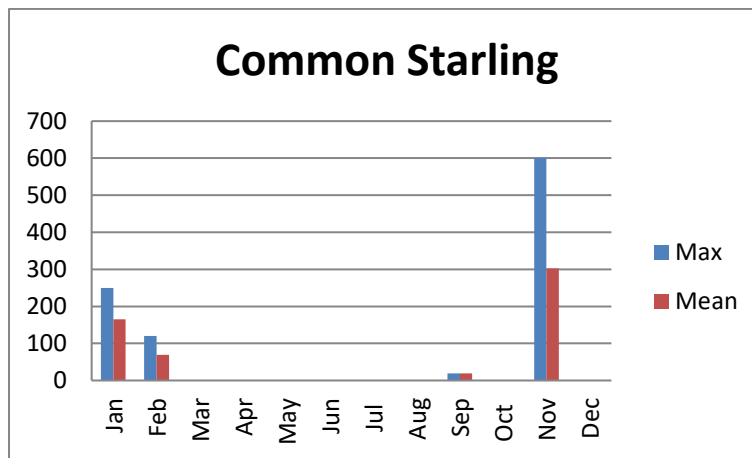
**Common Firecrest**, *Regulus ignicapilla*: Present in January and February and between September and mid-December.



**Eurasian Wren**, *Troglodytes troglodytes*: Present between April and October and in December.

**Short-toed Treecreeper**, *Certhia brachydactyla*: Present between March and the end of the year.

**Common Starling**, *Sturnus vulgaris*: Present in January and February and between mid-October and mid-November with a maximum of about 600 birds in November.



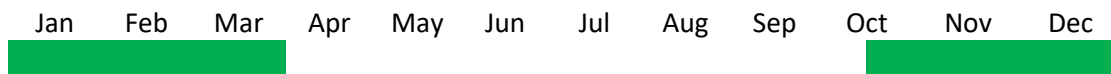
**Spotless Starling**, *Sturnus unicolor*: Present all year.

**Common Blackbird**, *Turdus merula*: Present all year.

**Fieldfare**, *Turdus pilaris*: 1 on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December at Quinta da Rocha.

**Redwing**, *Turdus iliacus*: Seen in January and February.

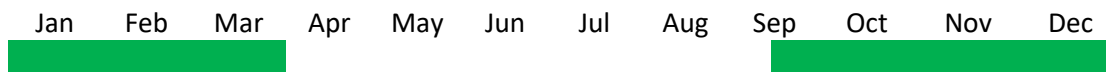
**Song Thrush**, *Turdus philomelos*: Present from January until the end of March, then from the end of October until the end of the year.



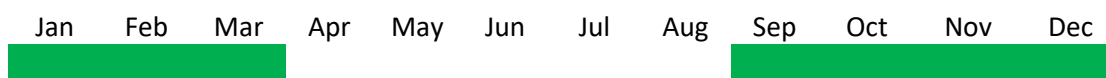
**Mistle Thrush**, *Turdus viscivorus*: 2 on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December at Meia-Praia.

**Spotted Flycatcher**, *Muscicapa striata*: Present in September.

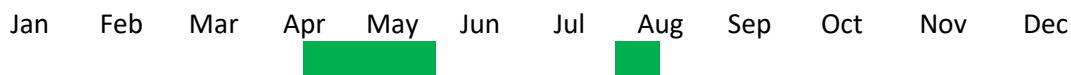
**European Robin**, *Erithacus rubecula*: Present from January until the end of March, then from the end of September until the end of the year.



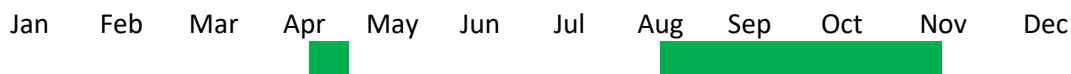
**Bluethroat**, *Luscinia svecica*: Present from January until the end of March. Then, from the beginning of September until the end of the year with a maximum of 7 birds.



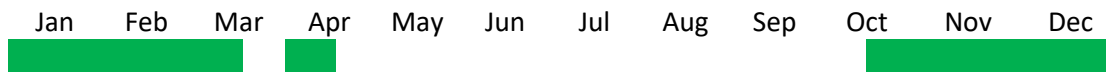
**Common Nightingale**, *Luscinia megarhynchos*: Detected from the 16<sup>th</sup> of April until the end of May, then, only one sighting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August.



**European Pied Flycatcher**, *Ficedula hypoleuca*: 1 sighting in April and then present from the end of August until mid-November.



**Black Redstart**, *Phoenicurus ochruros*: Present between January and March, 1 sighting in April and then from the end of October until the end of the year.



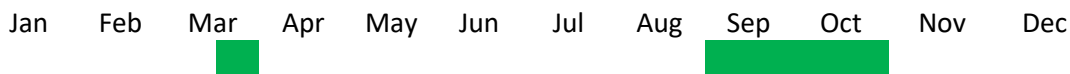
**Common Redstart**, *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*: Present in September and October.

**Whinchat**, *Saxicola rubetra*: 1 bird on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September.

**European Stonechat**, *Saxicola rubicola*: Present all year.

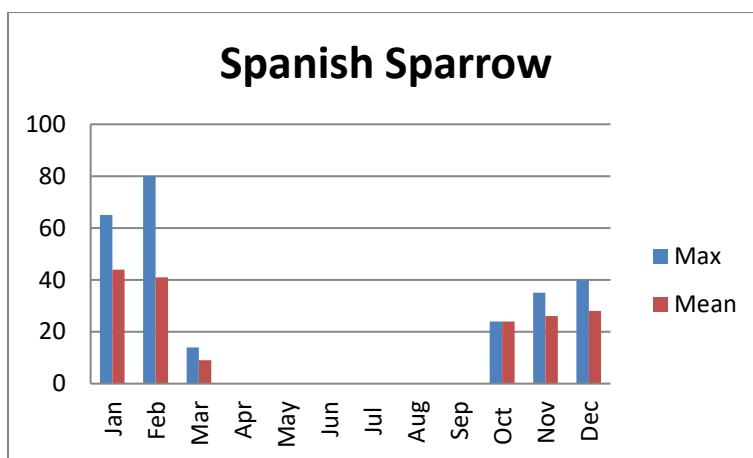


**Northern Wheatear**, *Oenanthe oenanthe*: 2 sightings at the end of March. Then, present from the beginning of September until the end of October.



**House Sparrow**, *Passer domesticus*: Present all year.

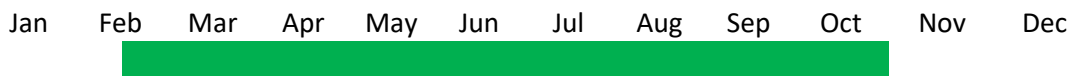
**Spanish Sparrow**, *Passer hispaniolensis*: Present from January to mid-March, and from October until the end of the year, with a maximum of 80 birds on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February.



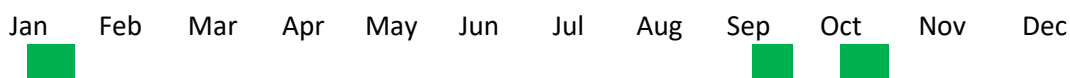
**Rock Sparrow**, *Petronia petronia*: 1 on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February at Quinta da Rocha.

**Common Waxbill**, *Estrilda astrild*: Present all year.

**Western Yellow Wagtail**, *Motacilla flava*: Present from the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February until the end of October. 1 bird belonging to the *thunbergi* subspecies was recorded in April and 1 *flavissima* bird was seen in September.



**Grey Wagtail**, *Motacilla cinerea*: Seen in January, September and October.

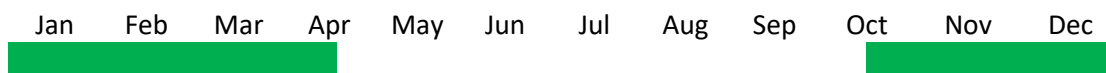


**White Wagtail**, *Motacilla alba*: Present all year except in June.

**Richard's Pipit**, *Anthus richardi*: 1 on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December at Quinta da Rocha.

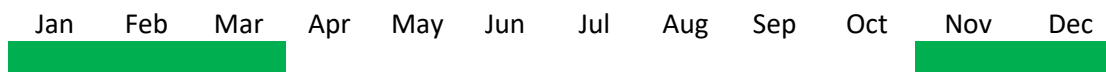
**Tawny Pipit**, *Anthus campestris*: 1 bird on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September and another (the same?) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October, both at Quinta da Rocha.

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

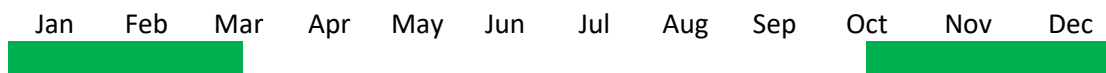


**Tree Pipit**, *Anthus trivialis*: 2 sightings in September at Quinta da Rocha.

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



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



**Brambling**, *Fringilla montifringilla*: 1 heard flying over the Western Marsh on the 4<sup>th</sup> of November.

**European Greenfinch**, *Chloris chloris*: Present all year.

**Common Linnet**, *Linaria cannabina*: Present all year.

**European Goldfinch**, *Carduelis carduelis*: Present all year.

**European Serin**, *Serinus serinus*: Present all year.

**Eurasian Siskin**, *Carduelis spinus*: Only recorded in November and December.

**Snow Bunting**, *Plectrophenax nivalis*: 1 at Alvor dunes between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of October at least.

**Corn Bunting**, *Emberiza calandra*: Present all year.

**Common Reed Bunting, *Emberiza schoeniclus*:** 1 to 2 birds at Abicada in January and February and then 2 on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December, also at Abicada.

2019 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, Nigel Genn, Debora Campos, Mark and Lucia Bagott, Iris Figueira, Antoine Cubaixo, Natalia Marreiros, Helder Ferreira, Peter Schutten, Paulo de Sousa, Nelson Fonseca, Peter Howlett, Declan Manley, Sonia Cruz, Geoffrey Morrison, Tiago Caldeira, Alexandre Leitão, Carlos Pacheco, Willem Scheres, Heather Coats, Jo Conway, Richard Dann, Roger Skan, Nuno dos Santos, Sergio Correia, Marcial Felgueiras, Isabel Soares, Rob Thomas, Sara Roda.

Yellow-browed Warbler - Cruzinha © E.van Buren



Roseate Tern - Western Marsh © G. Réthoré



Snow Bunting - Alvor dunes © G. Réthoré

