

## RINGING REPORT FOR 2021

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In 2021, 64 ringing sessions and 8 ringing demonstrations were realized and 631 birds of 46 species were caught and ringed at Cruzinha and Estômbar. Again, no Storm-Petrel ringing campaign was organized this year. The number of species is the same as in 2020 (fig. 1) but the number of birds is even lower (fig. 2). This year, we had the help of ringers from Wales as usual and Heather Coats came back for a couple of weeks ringing and the weekly ringing at Cruzinha all year round continued.

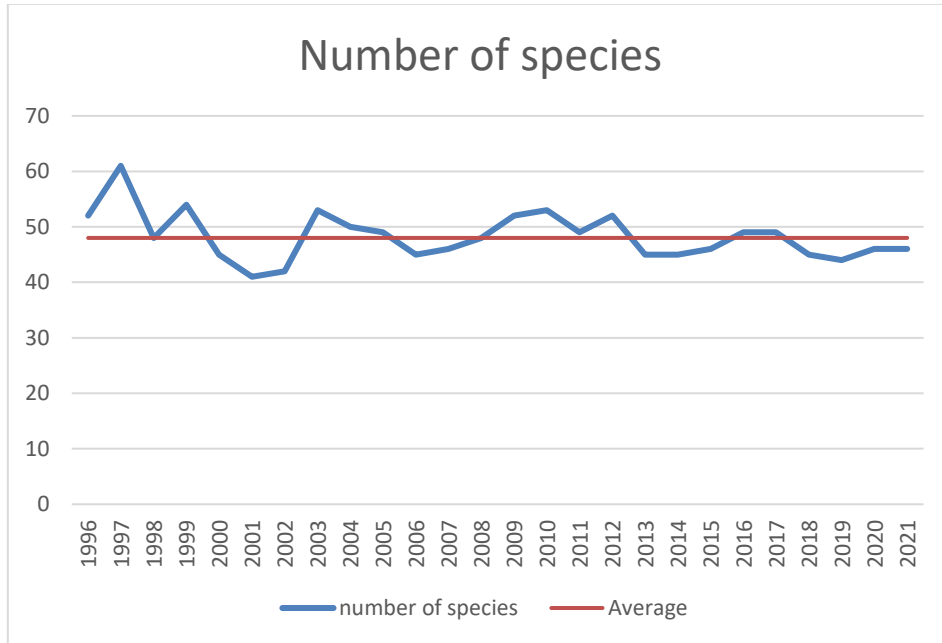


Figure 1: Number of species ringed every year at Cruzinha.

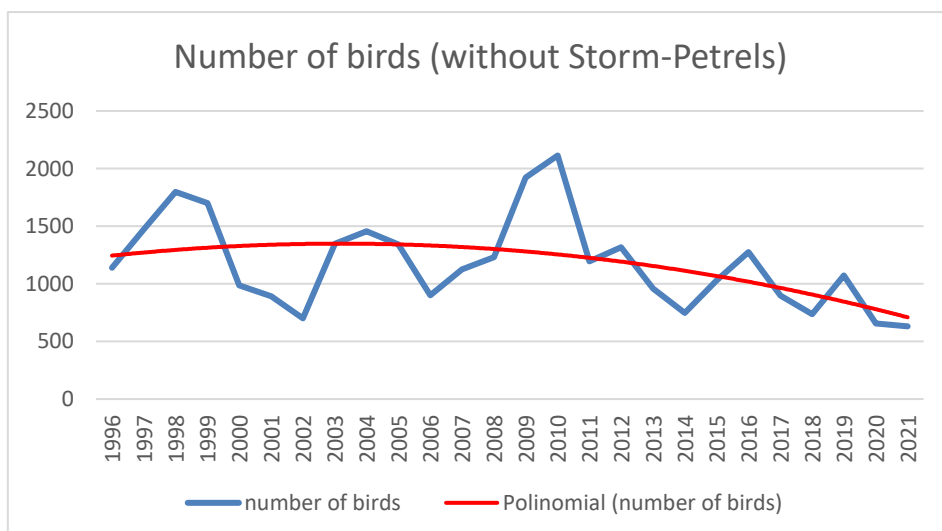


Figure 2: Number of birds ringed per year (without Storm-Petrels), between 1996 and 2021 and its' decreasing trend.

A few species were caught again after several years: Woodchat Shrike (not caught since 2012), Crested Lark (the first since 2008), Bluethroat (this bird was caught at Estômba, it was the first one since 2012, when a bird was ringed at Sagres during the Birdwatching Festival and the grand total is now of 200 birds), Wheatear (not caught since 2004), Crossbill (the first since 1997) and Meadow Pipit (the last one had been in 2014).

The grand total of Blue Tits is now over 200 birds caught. It was however the worst year, since 2014, for Barn Swallow (only one bird ringed) and a bad year for Willow Warblers (19 birds ringed, only 2018 had been worse with 16 birds). The number of House Sparrows ringed kept decreasing, with only 51 birds ringed in 2021 (fig. 3). The situation is the same for Goldfinches with only nine birds ringed in 2021 (fig. 4).

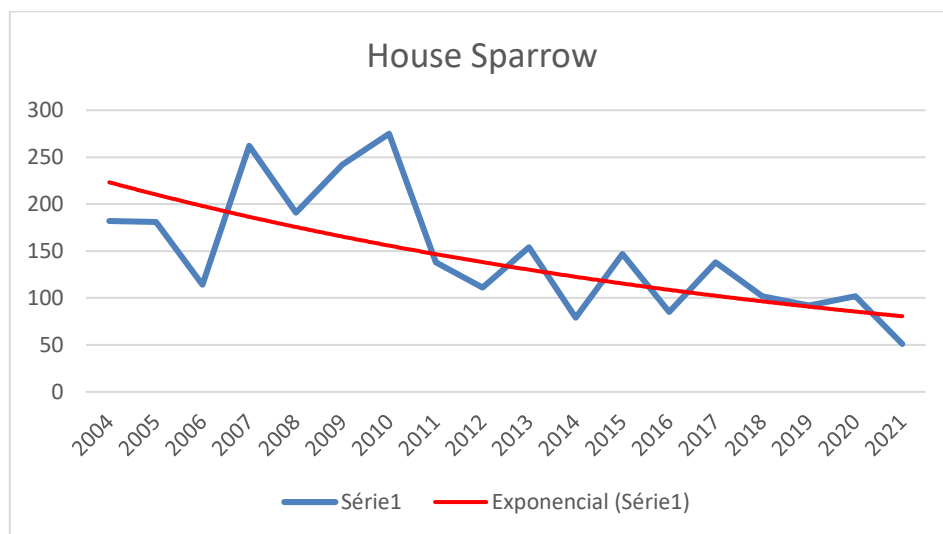


Figure 3: Number of House Sparrows ringed per year at Cruzinha, between 2004 and 2021 and its' the decreasing trend.

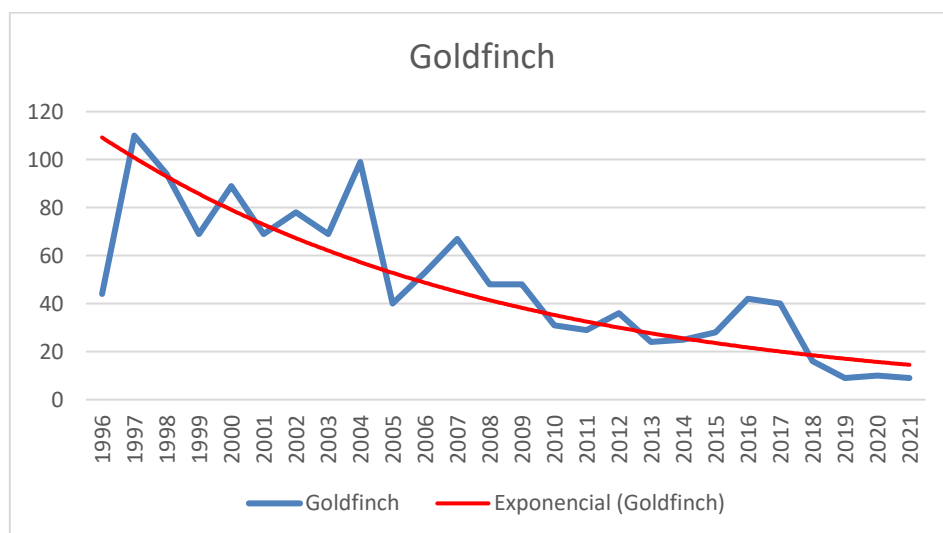


Figure 4: Number of Goldfinches ringed per year at Cruzinha, between 1996 to 2020 and its' decreasing trend.

One the other hand, it was one of the best years for some other species, like the Reed Warbler with 10 birds (same total as in 2017), the Garden Warbler (41 birds, the best total since 2012 when 45 birds were caught), the Whitethroat (four birds, the best total since 2015 when six birds were caught), the Song Thrush (eight birds, the best total since 2017 when nine birds were caught) and the Siskin with 28 birds, the best total ever!

We caught the first Long-tailed Tit since 2018 and a total of four were ringed during the year, which hadn't happen since 2012. The species bred at Cruzinha or around in 2012. Finally, only one Bonelli's Warbler was caught, like in 2018.

**Monthly and annual totals of birds ringed by A Rocha in 2021 and the total for all years** (bird names according to Gill F, D Donsker & P Rasmussen (Eds). 2020. IOC World Bird List (v10.2))

Species	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	2021	Grand Total
Red-necked Nightjar								1	1				2	41
Eurasian Hoopoe		1	1		1		1		2				6	598
Common Kingfisher					1		6	2	3				12	341
Great Spotted Woodpecker						1							1	7
Woodchat Shrike								1					1	325
Eurasian Golden Oriole							2	1					3	110
Iberian Magpie		1		4		4	1	1	1	2	2	1	17	425
Eurasian Blue Tit				1	1	2		1	1				6	202
Great Tit					6	1	1	2	1		1		12	992
Crested Lark						1							1	84
Barn Swallow				1									1	1648
Long-tailed Tit				2					2				4	27
Western Bonelli's Warbler				1									1	130
Willow Warbler									16	3			19	2904
Common Chiffchaff	6	3		2				1	1	11	15	5	44	9097
Eurasian Reed Warbler									9	1			10	2456
Melodious Warbler							2	3					5	907
Common Grasshopper Warbler										1			1	64
Eurasian Blackcap	9		3	4		1			33	39	15	9	113	12862
Garden Warbler									37	4			41	4164
Sardinian Warbler	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	4	7				21	1665
Western Subalpine Warbler			1										1	295
Common Whitethroat								1	3				4	520
Eurasian Wren			1	1		1							3	61
Short-toed Treecreeper						2		1					3	78
Common Blackbird	3	3	3	7	18	9	8	1	4		2	3	61	2667
Song Thrush	2		1								5		8	679
Spotted Flycatcher									1	1			2	219
European Robin			2						4	10	4	3	23	3045
Bluethroat											1		1	200

Species	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	2021	Grand Total
Common Nightingale							1		3				4	641
European Pied Flycatcher								1	25	5			31	2041
Black Redstart	1										1		2	168
Common Redstart									4	1			5	381
European Stonechat	1									1		1	3	305
Northern Wheatear									2				2	53
House Sparrow		5	1	9	8	8	6		4	4	6		51	2645
Common Waxbill							3		4		8		15	1848
Meadow Pipit	1												1	223
Common Chaffinch											4	3	7	1081
European Greenfinch	1	1	2	1	2	4	1	1	5	13	4		35	3126
Common Linnet						1							1	72
Red Crossbill									1				1	37
European Goldfinch			1		5				1		2		9	2396
European Serin			3	3		2					1		9	1641
Eurasian Siskin			4								7	17	28	148
<b>Totals</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>42</b>		



Red Crossbill © R.Dann