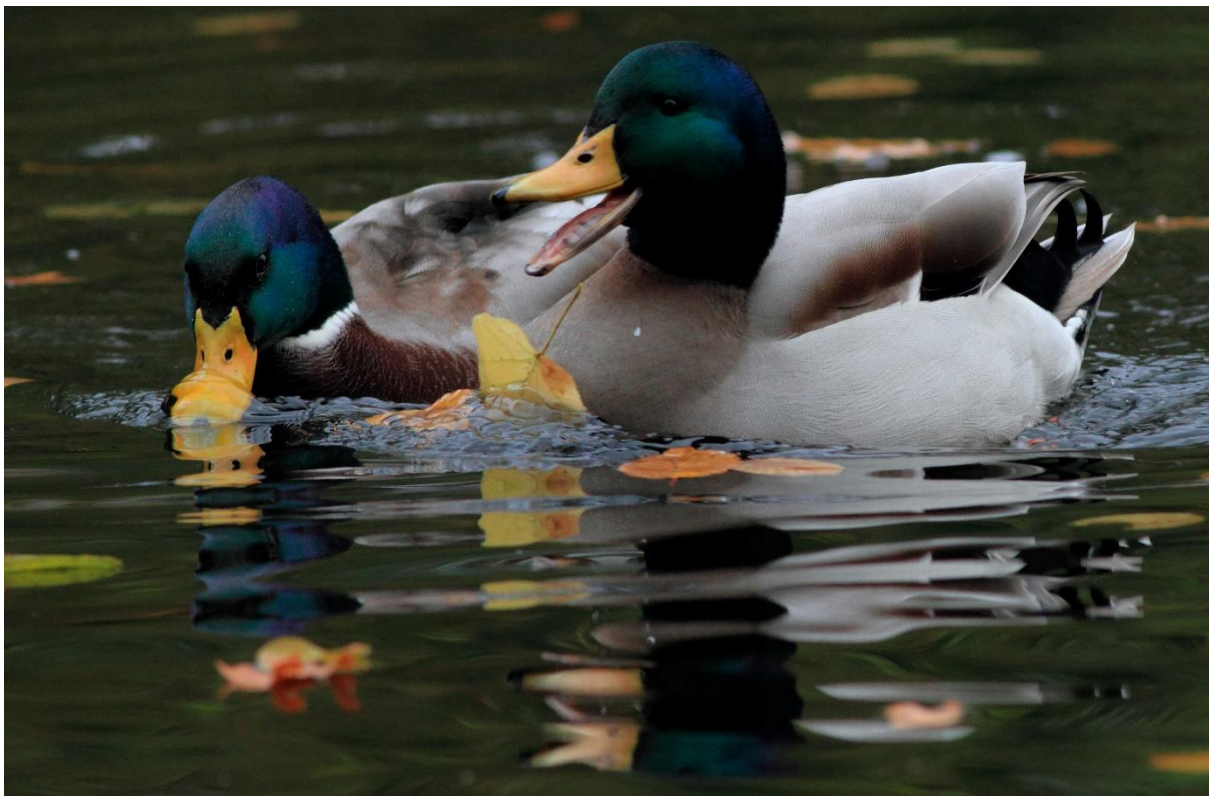


**Huntable bird species under the Birds Directive –  
scientific overview of the periods of return to their  
rearing grounds and of reproduction  
in the Member States**

Species accounts



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# 1. Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*

A036



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

## Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
BE	-	+	+	+	+	2	
BG	-	+	-	+	+	1	1
CY	-	-	-	-	+		
CZ	-	+	-	-	+	2	1
DE	+	+	-	+	+		1
DK	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
EE	-	+	+	+	+	2	
EL	-	+	-	-	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
FIS	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
FR	-	+	-	+	+	2	1
HR	-	+	+	-	+	2	1
HU	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
IE	-	+	-	-	+	2	1
IT	-	+	-	-	+	4	
LT	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
LU	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
MT	-	-	-	+	+		
NL	-	+	-	-	-	1	1
PL	-	+	-	+	+		1
PT	-						
RO	-	+	-	+	+		
SE	-	+	+	+	+	1	
SI	-	+	-	-	-	4	
SK	-	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Breeds discontinuously in cool temperate regions of Europe and Asia. Introduced from the 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards to many European countries (and more widely), and, in most cases, it is not now possible to distinguish between such historical introductions and wild birds. However, easternmost birds thought to be of substantially wild origin. Large numbers winter in the Baltic area of Denmark and Germany, as well as in the west of the Black Sea.

**Movements:** Sedentary. A large part of the European breeding population is essentially sedentary (e.g. in UK, Ireland, and the Netherlands), or dispersive at most. However, Mute Swans breeding in northern areas and in East-central Europe and Asia with continental winters are entirely migratory. There is considerable moult migration in summer, starting from June onwards.

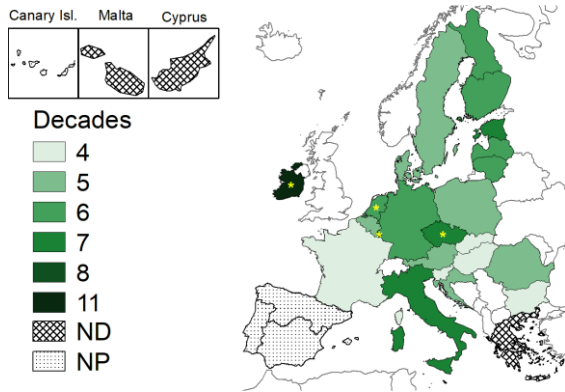
**Populations:** Within Europe three main wintering populations occur (Scott & Rose 1996; AEW 2008): (1) Northwest/Central European breeding population; (2) the Black Sea/Southeast Europe breeding population; and (3) further east, the West-Central Asia/Caspian breeding population. Scott & Rose (1996) note a number of possible subdivisions within the Northwest/Central European breeding population, but the validity of these as true populations is dubious given known movements demonstrated by ringing and as a consequence of severe winter weather.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

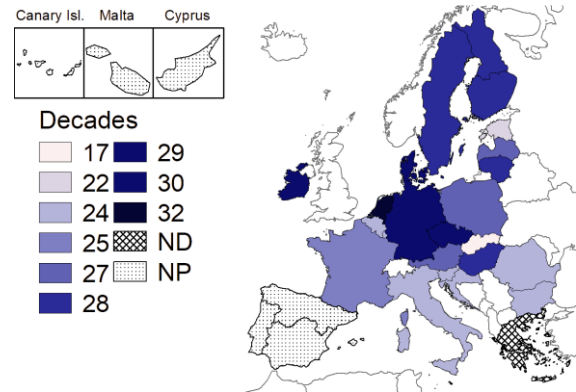
**Breeding:** Clutch size 5-8 (1-11); incubation 36 (35-41) days; full flight of young birds at 120-150 days. Some broods accompany parents to wintering area; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds (or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decode	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36			
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### Limitations of data

**Start of spring migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the central parts of the EU (AT and DE data differ by 3 decades from each other). Also IE data stands out. Mute Swan is sedentary in many countries and there are at least three wintering populations which could partially explain these inconsistencies.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the central parts of the EU (RO, HR, SI, IT data differs by 3-4 decades from that of HU and AT) and in the Baltic region (EE data differs 3-4 decades from LV and LT).

## 2. Bean Goose *Anser fabalis*

A039



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	-	+	+		
BE	+	-	-	+	+		
BG	+	-	-	-	+		
CY	+						
CZ	+	-	-	+	+		
DE	+	-	-	+	+		
DK	+	-	-	+	+		
EE	+	-	-	+	+		
EL	+						
ESC	+						
ESN	+						
ESS	+						
FIN	+	-	+	+	-		
FIS	+	-	+	+	-		
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	+	-	-	-	+		
HU	+	-	-	+	+		
IE	+	-	-	-	+		
IT	+	-	-	+	+		
LT	+	-	-	+	+		
LU	+	-	-	-	+		
LV	+	-	-	+	-		
MT	+	-	-	+	-		
NL	+	-	-	+	+		
PL	+	-	-	+	+		
PT	+	-	-	-	+		
RO	+	-	-	-	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
SI	+	-	-	+	+		
SK	+	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Breeds widely across northern Eurasia and wintering in southern Europe, Central Asia, to China and Japan.

**Movements:** Fennoscandian breeders (*A. f. fabalis*) overwinter mainly in southern Sweden and northeast Denmark, moving further southwest in severe winter weather. Those breeding in western Siberia winter mainly along Baltic coasts of eastern Germany moving west in cold weather to western Germany and Netherlands. Peak numbers occur on southern Swedish and Danish wintering areas in January-February, and then on Swedish staging areas in March and October.

*A. f. rossicus* migrates south of Baltic staging areas from which one group moves to overwinter in Netherlands and western Germany. Others migrate to central European floodplains. Birds leave Netherlands from February, returning to Germany, Poland and central Europe with rapid departure in March. Autumn migration starts early September with wintering area arrival in November-December.

**Populations:** Two subspecies occur in EU (AEWA 2018): (1) *A. f. fabalis* (Taiga Bean Goose) breeds northern Fennoscandian taiga zone eastwards through northern Russia and western Siberia, wintering mainly Sweden, around Baltic (Poland, eastern Germany, but also Denmark with low numbers further south; and (2) *A. f. rossicus* breeds in northern Siberian tundra zones and winters mainly in western and central Europe as far south as the northern Balkans.

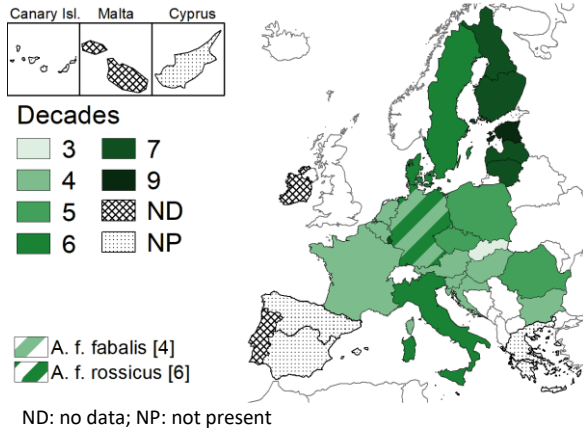
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

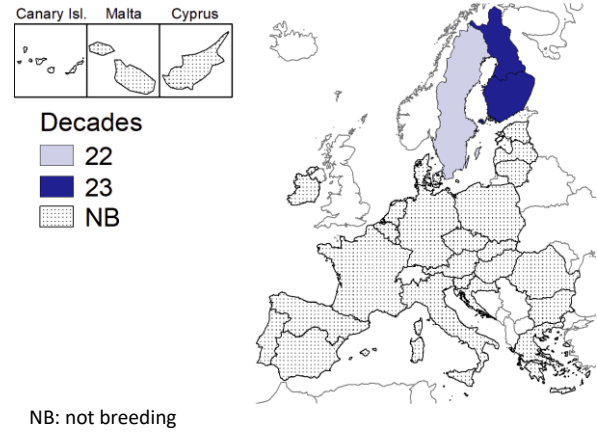
**Breeding:** Clutch size 4-6; incubation 27-29 days; fledging period c. 40 days. Young stay with parents through first autumn and winter; one brood.

**International Plan:** AEWA Action Plan ([Marjakangas et al. 2015](#)).

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C				
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the western parts of the EU (LU data differs by 3 decades from data of BE and NL). Some inconsistencies may be explained by the fact that data refer to different subspecies. CZ, HU and LT report on difficulties in separating wintering and migrating populations. NL reports on difficulties in estimating the start of migration due to the influence of the weather.

### 3. Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhyncos*

A040



Photo: Ainars Mankus ©

#### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-						
BE	+	-	-	-	+		
BG	-						
CY	-						
CZ	-						
DE	-	+	-	+	+		
DK	+	-	-	+	+		
EE	-	-	-	+	-		
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	-	-	-	+	-		
FIS	-	-	-	+	-		
FR	-	-	-	-	+		
HR	-	-	-	+	-		
HU	-						
IE	+	-	-	-	+		
IT	-						
LT	-	-	-	+	-		
LU	-						
LV	-						
MT	-						
NL	-	-	-	+	+		
PL	-	-	-	+	-		
PT	-						
RO	-						
SE	-	-	-	+	+		
SI	-						
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Distribution confined to the west Palearctic and eastern Greenland. Birds breeding in low arctic east Greenland and Iceland winter in Scotland and England, while birds breeding in high arctic Svalbard winter mainly in Denmark, The Netherlands and Belgium. Roost sites used in winter are highly traditional.

**Movements:** Migratory. Migrates to winter at temperate latitudes, sporadically occurring further south in Europe during periods of extreme cold weather. Geese from the Icelandic-breeding area undergo a moult-migration to east Greenland in late summer.

**Populations:** Two distinct populations occur in Europe (Scott & Rose 1996; AEWA 2018): (1) a western population breeding in east Greenland and central Iceland and moving to northern UK in winter (Mitchell *et al.* 1999); and (2) an eastern population breeds on Svalbard, migrating through Norway to over-winter in Denmark, The Netherlands and Belgium (Madsen *et al.* 1999). Ringing recoveries show only small levels of interchange between the two populations. Both populations have been the subject of detailed research over many decades and accordingly their population dynamics are very well understood.

EU population status and trends:

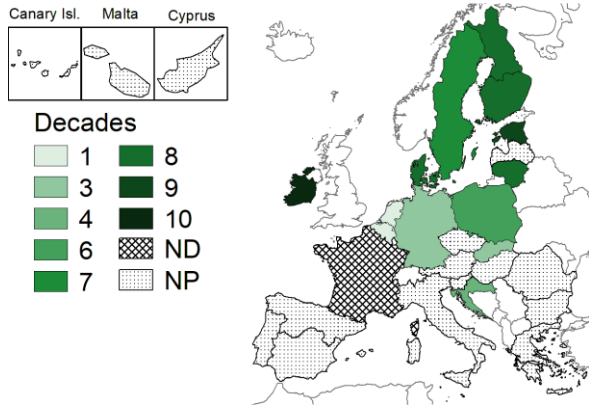
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-5 (1-9); incubation 26-27 days; full flight of young birds at c. 56 days; one brood with no replacement clutches. Young stay with parents through their first autumn and winter.

**International Plan:** AEWA Action Plan for Svalbard population ([Madsen & Williams 2012](#)).

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

### End of the period of reproduction



The species is not breeding in the EU

ND: no data; NP: not present

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	J	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C					
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36				
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the wintering region of the eastern population (DK data differs by 5-7 decades from the data of DE). Also IE data stands out since the reported start of spring migration is very late.



## 4. Greater White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*

A041



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	+		
BE	+	-	-	+	+		
BG	+	-	-	+	+		
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	+	-	-	+	+		
DE	+	-	-	+	+		
DK	+	-	-	+	+		
EE	+	-	-	+	-		
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	-	-	-	+	-		
FIS	-	-	-	+	-		
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	+	+		
HU	+	-	-	+	+		
IE	+	-	-	+	+		
IT	-	-	-	+	+		
LT	+	-	-	+	-		
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	+	-	-	+	-		
MT	-	-	-	+	-		
NL	+	-	-	+	+		
PL	+	-	-	+	+		
PT	-						
RO	+	-	-	+	+		
SE	+	-	-	+	+		
SI	-	-	-	+	+		
SK	+	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.  
Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Breeding across arctic northern Europe, Greenland, Asia and north America, and wintering in Europe, the Middle East, China, Japan and south to Mexico. Does not naturally breed in EU, although overwinters in large and increasing numbers.

**Movements:** Migratory. Pre-nuptial migration of *A. a. albifrons* begins in February with important spring staging areas used in central Russia (Stroud *et al.* 2002). Autumn migration begins in September and with reaching Germany from early October onwards. *A. a. flavirostris* has a two-stage migration with critical staging in Iceland in both spring (late March-April) and autumn (September – October). Milder winter temperatures now result in departures from wintering areas starting a month earlier than 1980s (Fox *et al.* 2012).

**Populations:** Four populations of two subspecies occur in Europe (Scott & Rose 1996; Madsen *et al.* 1999): *A. a. albifrons* (European White-fronted Goose): (1) Breeding in northwest Siberia and arctic northeast Europe and winters in temperate northwestern Europe (from Germany to France and England). (2) Breeding in western Siberia and wintering in central Europe (Czech Republic, Austria, Hungary and northeastern Italy). (3) Breeding in western Siberia and wintering around Black Sea (Greece, Romania and Bulgaria) and Turkey. *A. a. flavirostris* (Greenland White-fronted Goose): (4) Breeds western Greenland and winters in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales (Stroud *et al.* 2012).

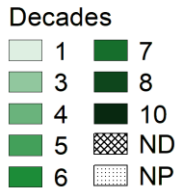
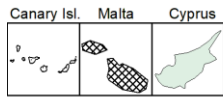
EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 5-6; incubation 27-28 days; fledging period 40-43 days; one brood.

**International Plan:** AEWPA Action Plan for Greenland population (Stroud *et al.* 2012).

**Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds**

**End of the period of reproduction**



The species is not breeding in the EU

ND: no data; NP: not present

**Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction**

Month	Decade																																						
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36			
AT																																							
BE																																							
BG																																							
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CZ																																							
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PL																																							
PT																																							
RO																																							
SE																																							
SI																																							
SK																																							

**Limitations of data**

**Start of prenuptial migration:** The data for CY and LU differs by 3-5 decades from their neighbouring Member States. The fact that data refers to different subspecies could explain some of the inconsistencies.



## 5. Greylag Goose *Anser anser*

A043

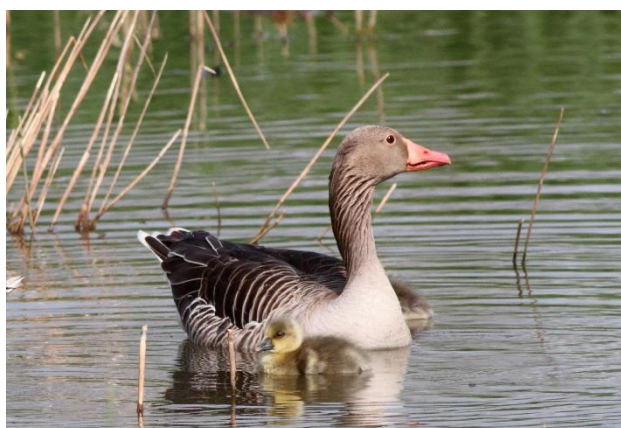


Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of repro-duction	End of repro-duction
AT	+	+	+	+	+	3	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	-	+	+	1	1
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
DE	+	+	+	+	+		1
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	+	-	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	-	+	+	+	3	1
ESS	+	-	+	+	+	3	1
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	+	-	+	+	1	1
HR	+	-	+	-	+	1	1
HU	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
IE	+	+	-	-	+	1	1
IT	+	+	-	+	+	4	
LT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
LV	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	-		
NL	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	+	-	+	+	+		
PT	+	-	-	+	+		
RO	+	+	-	-	-		
SE	+	+	+	+	+	4	
SI	+	+	+	+	+	4	
SK	+	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Breeds widely across boreal and temperate Europe, Asia, wintering south to north Africa, Middle East, India and southern China.


**Movements:** Partially migratory. Both migratory and resident (including introduced) populations occur (Madsen *et al.* 1999). Birds breeding in Fennoscandia and Germany start migrating in September through Benelux to winter mainly in Spain (December-January), with increasing numbers staying in Benelux. Birds breeding in eastern Baltic, Poland, and central Europe return by mid-March, moving south from August to November to winter almost exclusively in Tunisia and Algeria. Birds breeding near Black Sea and central Turkey undertake only limited movements to coastal wintering areas. All populations show tendencies to either earlier and/or weaker autumn migrations, tending to stay closer to breeding areas during non-breeding season.

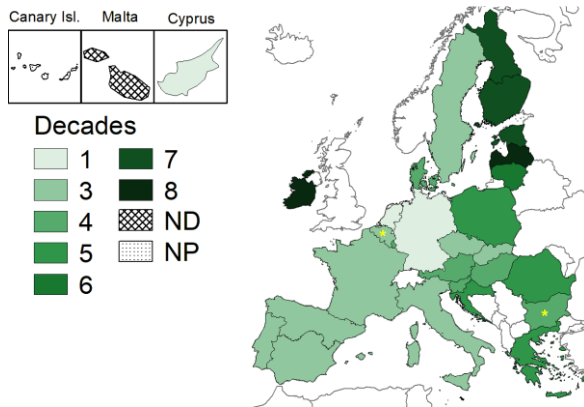
**Populations:** Two races occur in Europe: nominate Western Greylag Goose breed in west/northwest Europe, while Eastern Greylag Goose *A. a. rubrirostris* breed in east Europe and Asia. Five populations occur (Scott & Rose 1996; AEW 2018): *A. a. anser*: (1) Icelandic breeders migrating to winter in UK/Ireland in October, returning from early March. (2) A now widespread resident population in UK (Mitchell *et al.* 2012). (3) Northwest European birds wintering in southwest Europe. (4) Birds breeding in eastern and central Europe migrating south as far as north Africa. *A. a. rubrirostris*: (5) Mainly sedentary in Black Sea/Turkey (mostly birds breeding in Russia and Ukraine). Large introduced populations have been established in western Europe and are sedentary, some of which (*e.g.* in Belgium) are *rubrirostris*-type.

**Breeding:** Clutch size 4-6 (3-12); incubation 27-28 days; fledging period 50-60 days; one brood.

**International Plan:** AEW Action Plan for Northwest/Southwest European Population (Powolny *et al.* 2018).

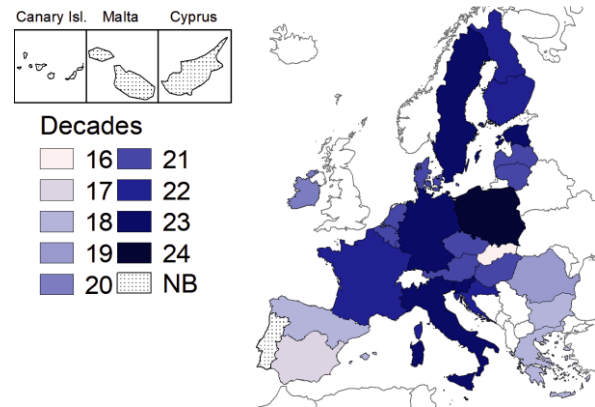
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



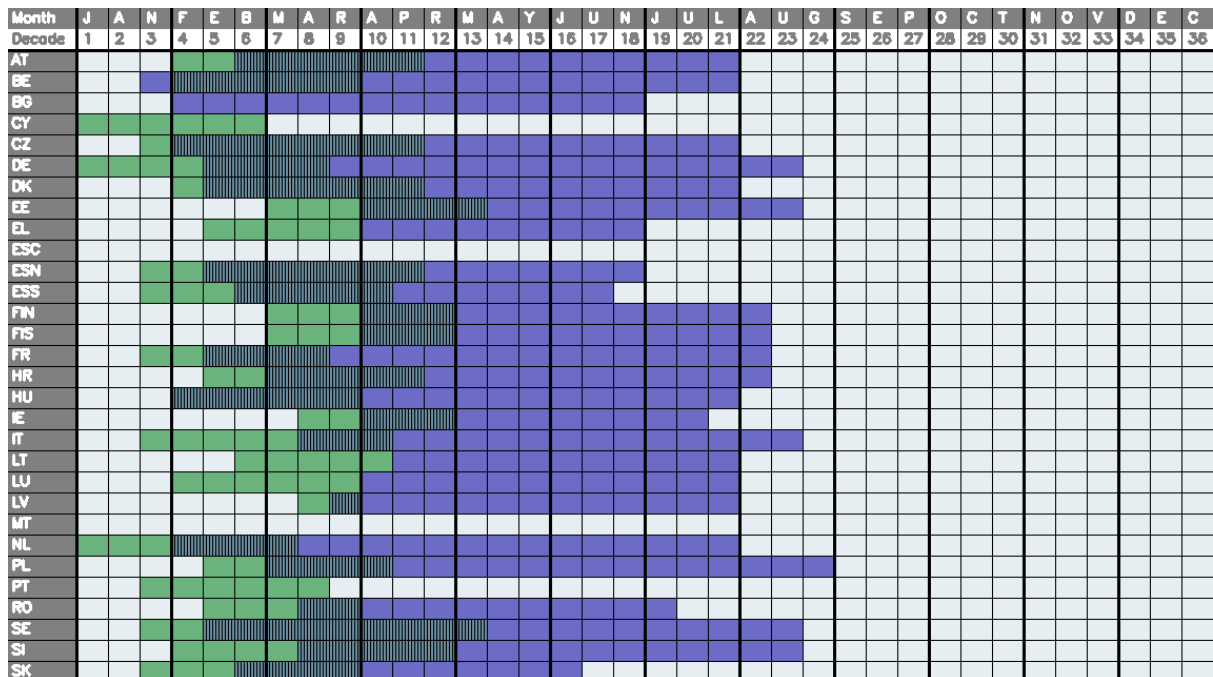
ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the western part of the EU (IE data differs by 6 decades from NL data), in the central/southern part of the EU (data of many MS differ by 3-4 decades from DE data), and in the northern part of the EU (LV, LT, EE, FI data differ by 3-5 decades from SE). The fact that the data refers to different populations (5) and races (2) could explain some of the inconsistencies.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the south/western part of the EU (ES data differs by 4-5 decades from FR data), in the central/eastern part of the EU (SK, DE data differs by 3-4 decades from PL, and RO, BG, EL data differs by 3 decades from HU and IT). The criteria to identify the start of reproduction vary between countries which could partly explain some of the inconsistencies.

## 6. Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*

A044



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+						
BE	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
BG	+						
CY	+						
CZ	+	-	-	+	-		
DE	+	+	-	+	+		1
DK	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+						
EL	+						
ESC	+						
ESN	+						
ESS	+						
FIN	+	-	+	-	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	-	-	1	1
FR	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
HR	+						
HU	+						
IE	+	+	-	-	-	1	1
IT	+						
LT	+	-	-	+	+		
LU	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+						
NL	+	+	-	-	-	1	1
PL	+	-	+	+	+		
PT	+						
RO	+						
SE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
SI	+						
SK	+	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Nearctic. This north American species was introduced to England in 1665 (Kirby 1999) and has spread widely, continuing to expand its distribution and numbers in northern and western Britain (Balmer *et al.* 2013). It was introduced to Sweden in 1929 (Andersson *et al.* 1999), since colonising Finland, Latvia, Denmark, northern France, Belgium, The Netherlands and Germany. Twelve subspecies are recognized globally. In continental Europe, the main population consists of the large nominate subspecies *B. c. canadensis*, but several other subspecies occur.

**Movements:** Wild Canada Geese from North America occur occasionally as vagrants in Europe mainly of the eastern arctic breeding race *B. c. interior* and Richardson's Cackling Goose *B. h. hutchinsii* (formerly considered as a race of *Branta canadensis*) (Stoddart 2016). Non-native British breeding birds and those breeding in the Netherlands are relatively sedentary or slightly dispersive. Finnish, Latvian and Swedish birds mostly winter around the Baltic, in Denmark and Germany but may move further south during severe winter weather.


**Populations:** Two populations occur in Europe, although these have no formal status given the non-native status of the species: (1) birds breeding in UK; and (2) birds breeding in Fennoscandia and continental Europe.

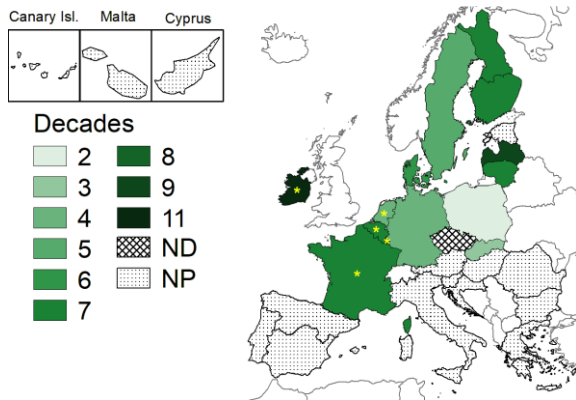
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 5-6 (3-11); incubation 28-30 days; full flight of young birds at 40-48 days; one brood.

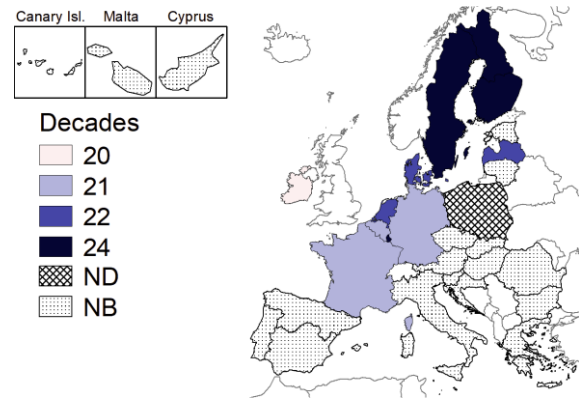
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
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BG																																						
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the western part of the EU (the data of IE differs by 4 decades from the data of FR and the data of BE differs by 3 decades from the data of NL) and in the Baltic region (LT and LV data differ by 5 decades from PL).

**End of reproduction:** The data of LU differs by 3 decades from neighbouring Member States.

## 7. Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*

A046



Photo: Ainars Mankus ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-						
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-						
CY	-						
CZ	-	-	-	+	-		
DE	+	-	-	+	+		
DK	+	-	-	+	+		
EE	-	-	-	+	-		
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	-	-	-	+	-		
FIS	-	-	-	+	-		
FR	-	-	-	-	+		
HR	-						
HU	-						
IE	-	-	-	-	+		
IT	-						
LT	-	-	-	+	-		
LU	-						
LV	-	-	-	+	-		
MT	-						
NL	-	-	-	+	+		
PL	-	-	-	+	+		
PT	-						
RO	-						
SE	-	-	-	+	-		
SI	-						
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Brent Geese breed on the high-arctic coasts of Eurasia and North America, mainly on small islets free of Arctic Foxes *Alopex lagopus*. They overwinter along temperate Atlantic and Pacific coasts where their historical food was inter-tidal seagrasses *Zostera* spp., although with increases of population they have adapted to feeding on a range of short-cropped grasslands close to coasts. Notwithstanding that, they are still dependent on coastal habitats for much of the year.

**Movements:** Migratory. Undertakes long migrations between high arctic breeding areas and wintering grounds at temperate latitudes or at more southern latitudes during severe winters.

**Populations:** Three discrete and well described populations of two races occur in Europe (Madsen *et al.* 1999; Scott & Rose 1996; AEWA 2018): *B. b. bernicla*: (1) Breeds in northern Russia, predominantly on the Taymyr Peninsula, stages in Wadden Sea and winters mainly in The Netherlands, southeastern England and in northwest France. *B. b. hrota*: (2) breeds in northwestern Greenland, Svalbard and Franz Joseph Land and winters mainly in Denmark and in one site in eastern England. (3) breeds in northeastern Greenland and northeast Canada mainly winters in Ireland, and the Channel Islands, sometimes also occurring on northern French coasts.

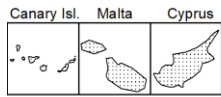
EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-5; incubation 24-26 days; fledging period c. 40-45 days; one brood.

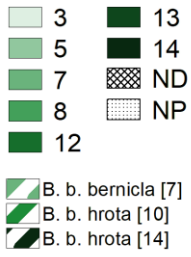
**International Plan:** AEWA Action Plan for Canada/Ireland population of *hrota* (Robinson & Colhoun 2006).

**Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds**

**End of the period of reproduction**



**Decades**



The species is not breeding in the EU

ND: no data; NP: not present

**Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction**

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decode	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
BE																																					
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**Limitations of data**

No comment.



## 8. Eurasian Wigeon *Mareca penelope*

A050

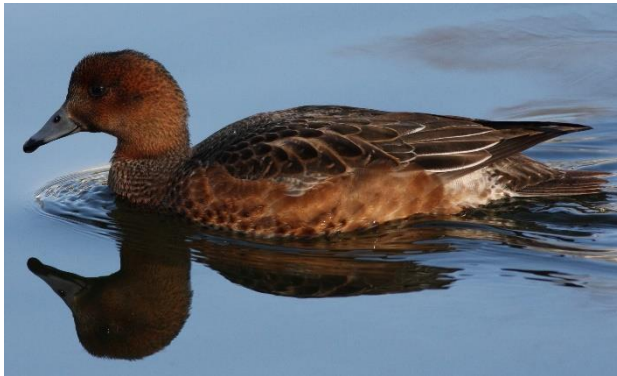


Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	-	+	+		
BE	+	-	-	+	+		
BG	+	-	-	+	+		
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	+	-	-	+	+		
DE	+	-	+	+	+		
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	-	-	+	+		
ESS	+	-	-	+	+		
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	+	-	-	+	-		
HU	+	-	-	+	-		
IE	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
IT	+	-	-	+	+		
LT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
LU	+	-	-	+	+		
LV	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	+	-	+	+	+		
PL	+	-	+	+	+		
PT	+	-	-	+	+		
RO	+	-	+	+	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
SI	+	-	-	+	+		
SK	+	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. This herbivorous duck has a widespread distribution in northern Eurasia, from Iceland, Ireland and Britain to the Kamchatka Peninsula. It breeds in sub-arctic and boreal wetlands, south into northern steppe regions.

**Movements:** Almost entirely migratory. Birds originating from Scandinavia, European Russia and northern Siberia (some coming as far as 80°E) winter in northwest Europe, but during very severe winters they may reach Spain in large numbers. Most of birds breeding in west and central Siberia, winter in the Caspian and Black Seas, and in the Mediterranean region (westwards to southern Iberia). They are less subject to long-distance winter movements. Some populations are mainly sedentary. In periods of severe winter weather and when wetlands are frozen in northwestern Europe wintering birds move rapidly to the Atlantic coasts of France (Ridgill & Fox 1990).

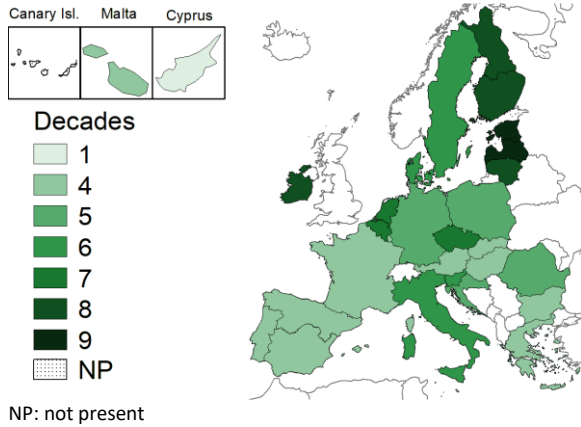
**Populations:** No discrete populations are identifiable, but within Europe, two broad populations have been defined for conservation management purposes on the basis of wintering areas (Scott & Rose 1996; AEW 2018): (1) Northwest Europe - essentially occurring on North Atlantic and North Sea; and (2) Black Sea/Mediterranean (coasts).

EU population status and trends:

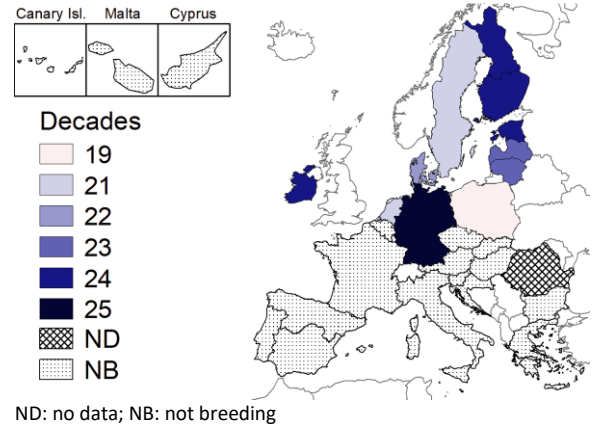
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-9 (6-12); incubation 24-25 days; full flight of young birds at 40-45 days; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C							
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
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### Limitations of data

**Start of spring migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the central part of the EU (CZ data differs by 3 decades from the data of AT and SK) and in the western part of the EU (BE and NL data differ by 3 decades from FR data). Different populations of Wigeon within Europe could partly explain partly these inconsistencies.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the northern part of the EU (SE data differs by 3 decades from the data of FI) and in the central/western parts of the EU (PL, DK, BE and NL data differ by 3-6 decades from the DE data). There is some variation in the use of criteria to identify the start of reproduction and many Member States did not report on this.



## 9. Gadwall *Mareca strepera*

A051



Photo: Ainars Mankus ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	-	+	+	1	
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	+	-	+	+	+	2	1
DE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	+	-	+	+	2	
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
HU	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
IT	+	+	+	+	+	4	
LT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	+	-	-	+	+		
LV	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	-		
NL	+	+	-	+	+	1	1
PL	+	-	+	+	+	4	
PT	+	+	+	+	+	1	
RO	+	+	-	+	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	+	-	+	+	-		
SK	+	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Gadwall breed through temperate, middle latitude regions of north America and Eurasia. Its distribution has expanded westwards from continental to more oceanic climates through the twentieth century. They occur throughout the year mainly in more eutrophic, shallow, standing or still freshwaters avoiding coastal wetlands.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. More northern breeding birds move to lower latitudes in winter but breeding birds in more temperate regions tend to be rather sedentary. Most of the breeding birds of Scandinavia, the Baltic States and European Russia winter in western Europe, where they mix with the sedentary local breeding population. The birds migrating to Greece in winter originate from southwest Asia and possibly further east.

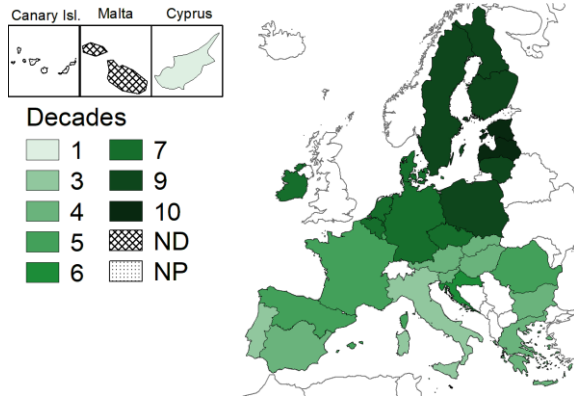
**Populations:** Within Europe, two broad populations have been defined for conservation management purposes (Scott & Rose 1996; AEW 2018): (1) Northwest Europe; and (2) Central Europe, Black Sea and Mediterranean. The boundary between these two groups through the middle of Europe is poorly defined.

EU population status and trends:

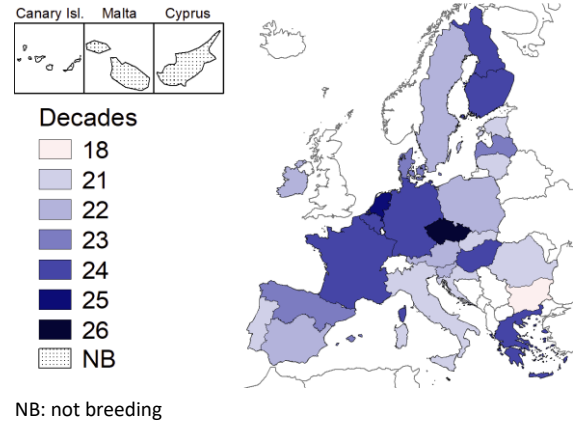
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-12 (6-15); incubation 24-26 days; fledging period full flight of young birds at 45-50 days; independence at or just before fledging; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C						
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
BG																																						
CY																																						
CZ																																						
DE																																						
DK																																						
EE																																						
EL																																						
ESC																																						
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LV																																						
MT																																						
NL																																						
PL																																						
PT																																						
RO																																						
SE																																						
SI																																						
SK																																						

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the Mediterranean region (HR data differs by 3 decades from IT data, and data of CY differs by 3 decades from data of EL). In more temperate regions where sedentary local breeding and migrating birds mix, the identification of the start of prenuptial migration may be challenging.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in many parts of the EU. In the central part of the EU (AT, SK, PL data differ by 3-5 decades from the CZ data), in the northern part of the EU (EE, LT, SE data differ by 3 decades from the FI data) and in the Mediterranean/Balkan region (the end of reproduction in IT, HR, BG is reported to be 3-6 decades earlier than in FR and GR). There is some variation in the criteria used to identify the start of reproduction, which could explain some of these inconsistencies.

## 10. Common Teal *Anas crecca*

A052



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	-	+	+	1	
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	+	-	+	+	+	2	1
DE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	-	+	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	-	+	+	+	2	1
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	+	-	-	+	+		
HU	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
IT	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
LT	+	-	+	+	+	2	1
LU	+	-	-	+	+		
LV	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	+	-	+	+	+	4	
PT	+	-	-	+	+		
RO	+	+	+	+	-		
SE	+	-	+	+	-	4	
SI	+	-	+	+	-		
SK	+	+	+	+	+	2	2

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Common Teal breed widely across northern Eurasia (and north America) and winter as far south as north Africa. It occurs in a wide range of wetlands.

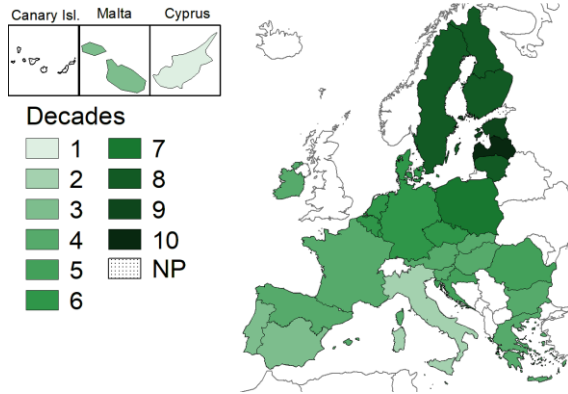
**Movements:** Mainly migratory. Guillemain & Elmberg (2014) present a detailed review of movements based on ringing showing that population structuring is more complex than conventionally presented (below). Most birds wintering in northwest Europe originate from Fennoscandia, the Baltic States, northwest Russia and northern Poland (also Viksne *et al.* 2010). Birds usually wintering in the western Mediterranean include birds breeding in western Siberia, west-central Russia and central Europe. Those wintering in the eastern Mediterranean originate mainly from central Russia and Ukraine. Its small body size makes it extremely vulnerable to the effects of severe winter weather and when wetlands are frozen in northwestern Europe wintering birds move rapidly to southern France and Iberia (Ridgill & Fox 1990).

**Populations:** Within Europe, two broad populations (both of the nominate race) have been defined for conservation management purposes (Scott & Rose 1996; AEW 2018): (1) Birds breeding and wintering in Northwest Europe (from Denmark to UK, Ireland and southwest France); and (2) birds breeding in Western Siberia and Northeast Europe, and wintering in Black Sea and Mediterranean regions. Generally poor demarcation of populations in reality.

EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

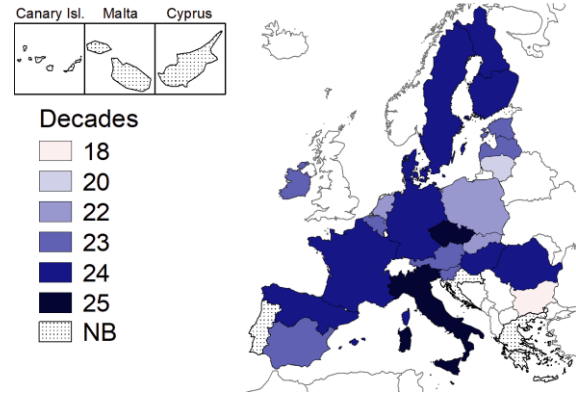
**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-11 (7-15); incubation 21-23 days; full flight of young birds at 25-30 days; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



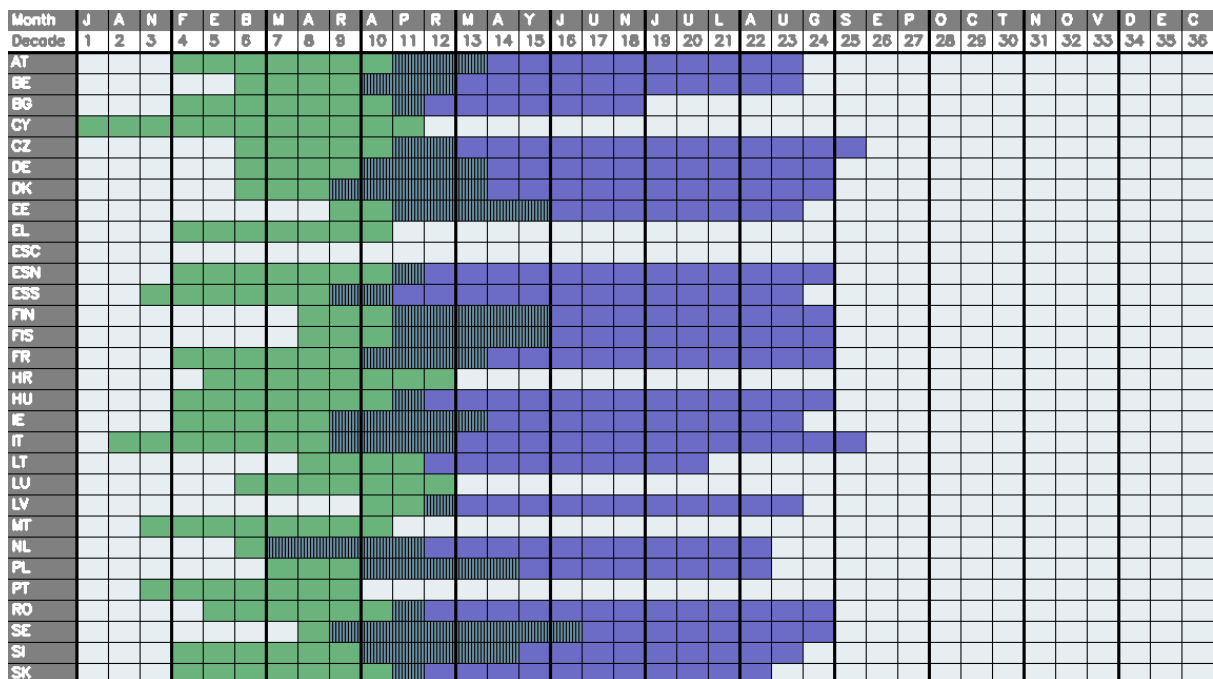
NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence mainly in the Mediterranean region (IT data differ by 3 decades from HR, and CY data by 3 decades from the EL data) and in the northern part of the EU (discrepancy in the sequence of spring migration between LV, EE, FI). There is a need to develop a common methodology to distinguish prenuptial migration from non-migration (late wintering) movements of birds in search of food further to changing weather conditions.

**End of reproduction:** BG and LT data differ by up to 3 decades from their neighbours. PL, SK data differ by 3 decades from CZ. There is also some variation in the criteria used to identify the start of reproduction. There may be a lack of clarity regarding the end of reproduction.

# 11. Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

A053

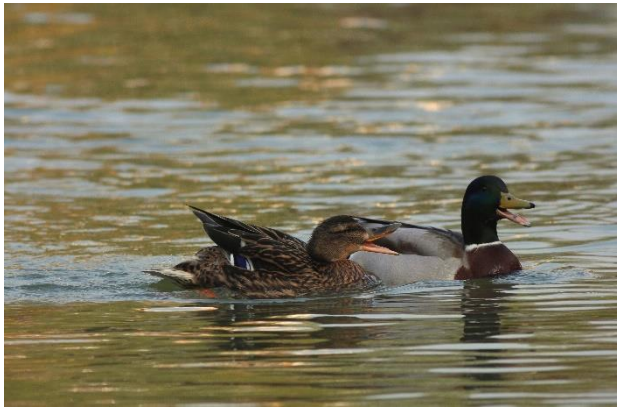


Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

## Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	-	+	+	1	1
CY	+	+	+	+	+	4	
CZ	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
DE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
EE	+	+	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	+	+	+	+	2	
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
FIN	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
FIS	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HU	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
IE	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
IT	+	+	+	+	+	4	
LT	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
LU	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
MT	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
NL	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	+	+	+	+	+	4	
PT	+	+	+	+	+	4	
RO	+	+	-	+	+		
SE	+	+	+	+	+	4	
SI	+	+	+	+	+		
SK	+	+	+	+	+	1	2

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Wide breeding distribution across north America and northern Eurasia including steppe, boreal and to low arctic zones. With a generalist ecology, it occurs in a wide variety of different wetland types. All countries in Europe also hold populations of introduced Mallards, many of which have been historically released for game-shooting purposes.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Northern breeding birds are generally migratory, wintering much further south, while birds breeding in temperate regions are sedentary or dispersive (*e.g.* in most of western Europe). Thus, Mallards wintering around North Sea coasts comprise a mixture of locally breeding birds, as well as migrants from Fennoscandia, Baltic countries and northwest Russia. Most birds breeding in Central Europe are migratory and winter along the northern Mediterranean coast. Pre-nuptial migration begins as early as mid-January. Moulting migrations occur from mid-May. Females and juveniles leave the breeding grounds in September.


**Populations:** There are no discrete populations within Europe, but for conservation management purposes, Mallard have conventionally been separated into three populations (all of the nominate race) (Scott & Rose 1996; AEW 2018): (1) birds breeding and wintering in northwest Europe; (2) birds breeding in northern Europe and wintering in the west Mediterranean; and (3) birds breeding in northeast and central Europe wintering in the Black Sea/East Mediterranean area.

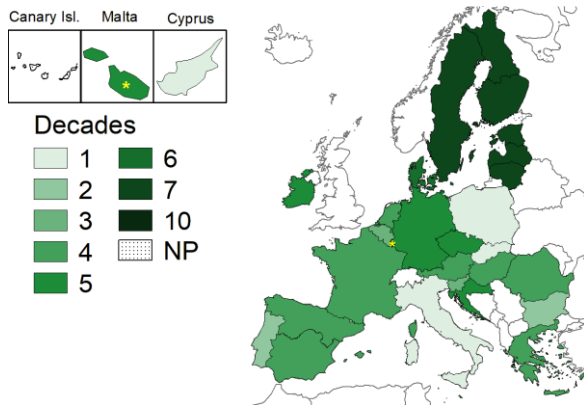
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 9-13 (4-18); incubation 27-28 days; fledging period 50-60 days.

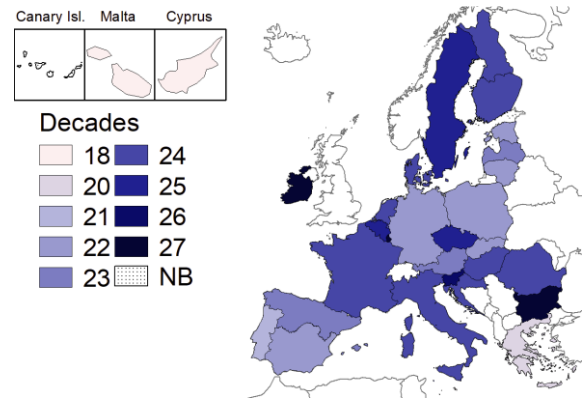
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



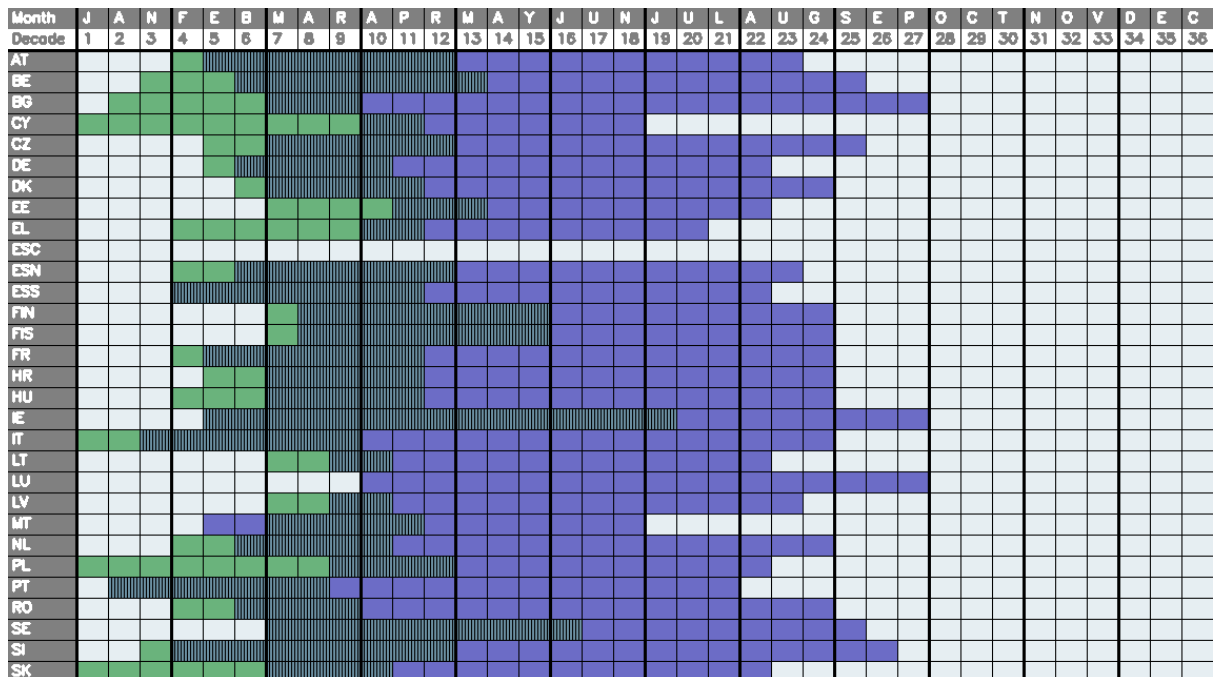
NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the Mediterranean region (data of all MS differ by 4-5 decades from the data of IT) and in the northeastern part of the EU (data of PL and SK are significantly different from neighbouring Member States). Inconsistencies could partly be explained by variable methods used to distinguish migrating birds from resident/dispersive birds. The presence of resident birds only in LU is questionable.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the central-eastern part of the EU (data of PL and DE differ by 4 decades from CZ, and DE data differs by 3-5 decades from BE and LU data. AT data differs by 3 decades from SI data) and the Balkan region (EL data differs by 7 decades from BG data, and RO data by 3 decades from BG data). Different populations within Europe and the use of different definitions for the end and start of reproduction could explain some of these inconsistencies.



## 12. Pintail *Anas acuta*

A054

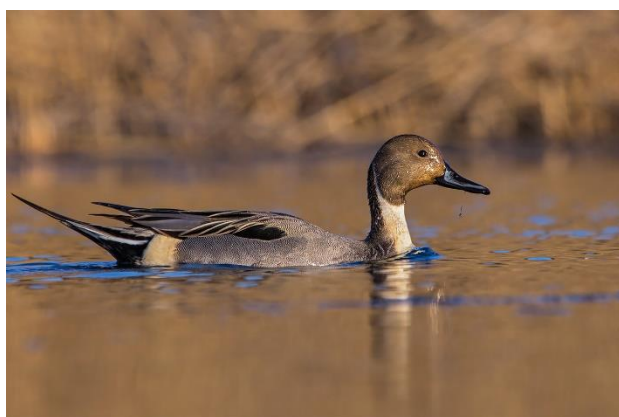


Photo: Ainars Mankus ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	-	+	+	1	
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	+	-	-	+	+		
DE	+	-	+	+	+		
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
ESS	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	+	+	+		
HR	+	-	-	+	+		
HU	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	+	-	+	+	+	2	1
IT	+	-	-	+	+		
LT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	+	-	-	+	-		
LV	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	+	-	+	+	+		
PL	+	-	+	+	+	4	
PT	+	-	-	+	+		
RO	+	-	+	+	-		
SE	+	-	+	+	-	4	
SI	+	-	-	+	-		
SK	+	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Wide breeding distribution across north America and northern Eurasia. In western Eurasia, breeds mainly from the low arctic through boreal regions to forest-steppe between 60-70°N. Pintail breeding in Europe and western Asia, winter over a very large area, ranging from west and central Europe to southern Sahel (Zwarts *et al.* 2009). In northwest Europe, Pintail is amongst the most concentrated of waterfowl in winter, with half the population confined to just thirteen sites.

**Movements:** Migratory. Most birds in the relatively small population wintering in northwest Europe originate mainly from northern Europe and west-Siberia. Birds wintering in the Mediterranean, Black Sea and Sahel (Zwarts *et al.* 2009) breed in northeast Europe and west Siberia. Pre-nuptial migration begins in February in west Africa, and in late February and March in western Europe. Males leave breeding areas in late May and early June, and may undertake extensive moult migrations. Dispersal from moulting areas and breeding grounds occurs from mid-August to early September.

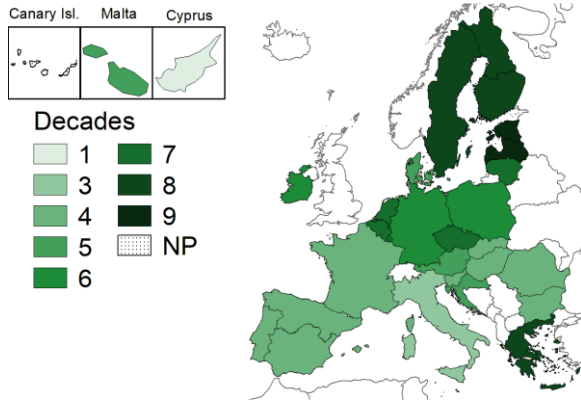
**Populations:** Three populations occur in Europe (Scott & Rose 1996; AEWA 2018), namely those in: (1) Northwest Europe (wintering essentially on Atlantic and North Sea coasts); (2) Western Siberia, Northeastern and East Europe/South Europe and West Africa; and (3) Western Siberia/Southwest Asia, Northeast and Eastern Africa. These are essentially defined by their wintering areas.

EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 7-9 (6-12); incubation 22-24 days; fledging period 40-45 days; one brood.

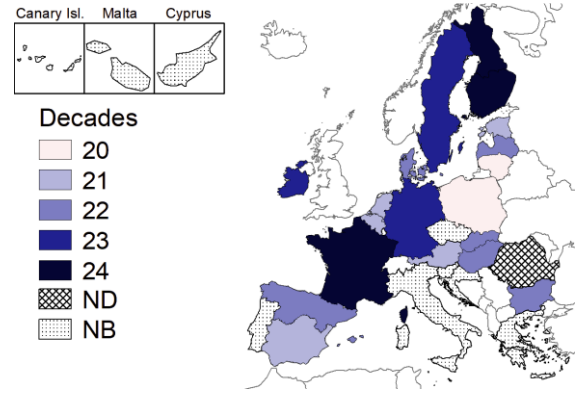
**International Plan:** EU Management Plan ([Jensen & Lutz 2007a](#))

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	U	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C							
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
BG																																						
CY																																						
CZ																																						
DE																																						
DK																																						
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RO																																						
SE																																						
SI																																						
SK																																						

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in EL and MT (where prenuptial migration starts later than in other parts of the Mediterranean region) and in the northern part of the EU (DK data differs by 3 decades from SE data). There is also lack of coherence between BE and FR, which might be explained by the use of data corresponding to southern FR. Different populations in Europe could partly explain these incoherencies.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence around the Baltic Sea (EE data differs by 3 decades from FI and PL data by 3 decades from DE data). There is a lack of coherence between BE and FR, which might be explained by the fact that the Pintail is a very rare breeder in FR. The patchy map could partly be explained by the different behaviour of different wintering populations in Europe. There is also some variation in the criteria used to identify the start of reproduction. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in RO because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.



## 13. Garganey *Spatula querquedula*

A055



Photo: Ainars Mankus ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
BE	+	-	+	+	-	1	2
BG	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
CY	+	-	+	+	-	4	
CZ	+	-	+	+	-	2	1
DE	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
DK	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	-	4	
EL	+	-	+	+	-	2	
ESC	+	-	-	+	-	1	1
ESN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
ESS	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
FIN	+	-	+	-	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	-	-	1	1
FR	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
HR	+	-	+	+	-	2	1
HU	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	+	-	+	-	-	1	1
IT	+	-	+	+	-	4	
LT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	+	-	+	+	-	1	2
LV	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
PL	+	-	+	+	+	4	
PT	+	-	+	+	-		
RO	+	-	+	+	-		
SE	+	-	+	+	-	4	
SI	+	-	+	+	-		
SK	+	-	+	+	-	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Breeds widely at temperate latitudes across Europe and Asia, mostly between 42°-65°N. Birds breeding in western Eurasia winter almost exclusively in Africa south of the Sahara where they occur in very large numbers on estuaries and floodplain wetlands such as the Senegal Delta, the Inner Niger Delta, and Lake Chad (Zwarts *et al.* 2009).

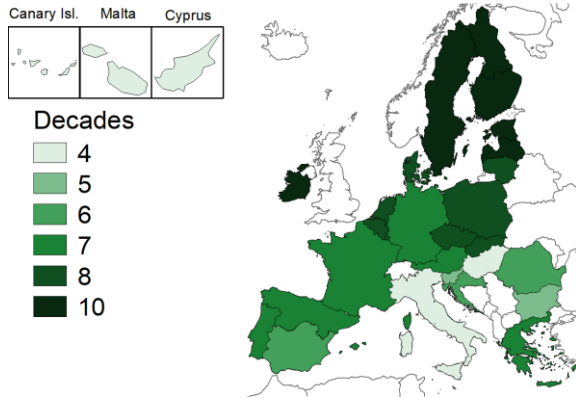
**Movements:** Migratory. Breeding populations in Europe reach their wintering areas in West Africa via Spain, Italy and Greece. Pre-nuptial migration begins in February with birds starting to arrive on their breeding grounds in western Europe as early as mid-March. In the Sahel, weight gain determines date of departure. Sahelian wintering birds breeding in Europe can accumulate sufficient weight for a direct flight to Europe, although longer flights to Siberian breeding areas require 'refueling' on staging areas (Zwarts *et al.* 2009). Thus, further north and east, birds may not arrive on their breeding grounds until mid-May. Moulting gatherings of males are formed from late May. The autumn migration begins in late July and reaches a peak in Europe in August and early September.

**Populations:** Two populations occur in Europe defined on the basis of their wintering areas (Scott & Rose 1996; AEWA 2018), comprising (1) Europe/west Africa; and (2) Southwest Asia/eastern Africa. The latter population migrates through the eastern Black Sea but otherwise occurs outside Europe.

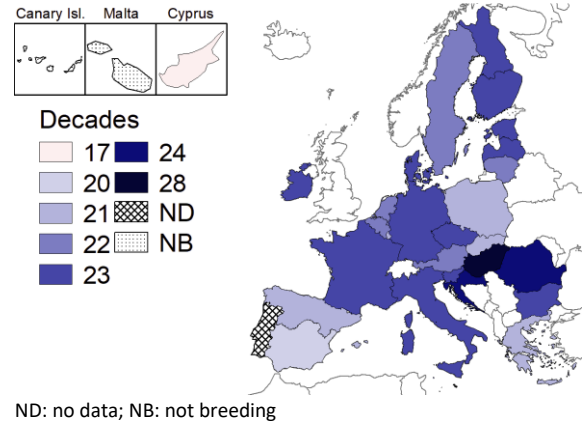
EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-9 (6-14); incubation 21-23 days; fledging period 35-40 days; one brood.

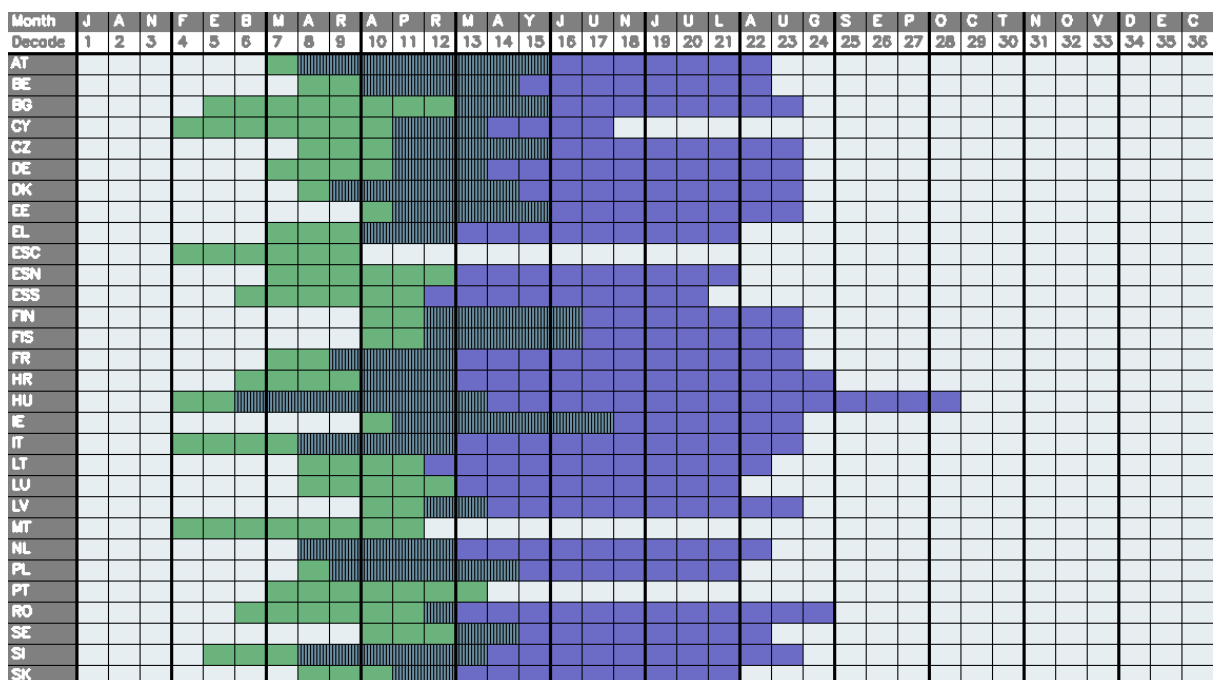
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the Mediterranean region (data of many MS differ by 3 decades from data of IT, and the migration starts late in EL compared to neighbouring Member States) and in the eastern part of the EU (SK data differs by 4 decades from HU data). The different behavior of the two populations occurring in Europe could partly explain some of these incoherencies.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in many parts of the EU. The most striking differences (4-7 decades) are between the data for AT, SI, HR, RO, and SK and the data of HU, as well the data of CY which differs by 4 decades from EL data. There is some variation in the criteria used to identify the start of reproduction.

## 14. Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata*

A056



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	-	+	+	1	1
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	+	-	+	+	+	2	1
DE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	+	-	-	+	+		
HU	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
IT	+	-	+	+	+	4	
LT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	+	-	-	+	-		
LV	+	+	+	+	-	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	+	-	+	+	+	4	
PT	+	-	+	+	+		
RO	+	-	+	+	-		
SE	+	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	+	-	+	+	-		
SK	+	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. This dabbling duck breeds across north America and northern Eurasia, extending from steppe areas in the south to the low arctic. There is a discontinuous distribution of largely sedentary breeding birds in Europe.

**Movements:** Partially migratory determined by latitude. Northern breeding birds are entirely migratory, wintering in temperate and tropical latitudes. Some southern European breeding birds are sedentary or dispersive. Birds wintering in northwest Europe originate from Fennoscandia and Russia and western Siberia. Large numbers migrate through northwest Europe and winter in countries around the Mediterranean, where they mix with birds of more eastern origin and with those breeding in central and southeast Europe. Smaller numbers overwinter in west Africa and south of the Sahel. As with other ducks, during severe winter weather in northwest Europe many Shoveler move rapidly to southern France, Iberia and the coast of the southern Mediterranean (Ridgill & Fox 1990).

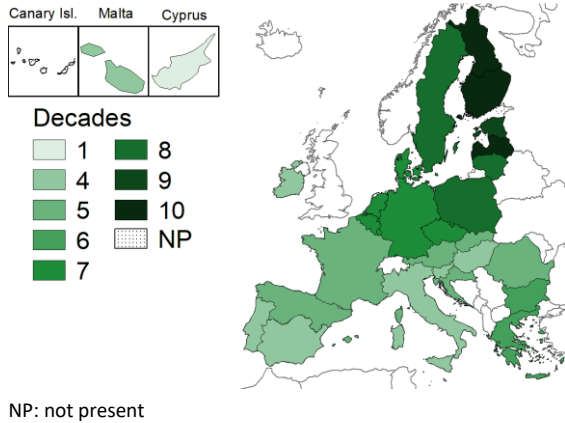
**Populations:** Two European populations are recognized for conservation management purposes, separated on their wintering quarters (Scott & Rose 1996; AEW 2018): (1) Northwest Europe - wintering mainly on Atlantic and North Sea coasts from Denmark to the UK, Ireland and Aquitaine; (2) birds wintering in the Black Sea region, the Mediterranean and in west Africa.

EU population status and trends:

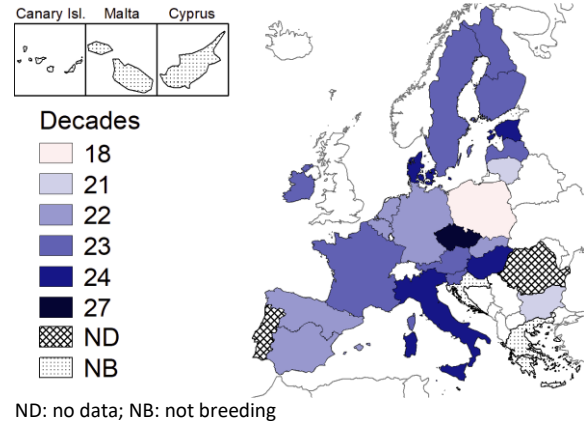
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 9-11 (6-14); incubation 22-23 days; full flight of young birds at 40-45 days; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	U	L	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C			
Decode	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
BE																																					
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RO																																					
SE																																					
SI																																					
SK																																					

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the Baltic region (LV data differs by 2 decades from LT data) and in the eastern Mediterranean (EL data differs by 5 decades from CY data).

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in many parts of the EU. The most striking difference (4 -9 decades) appears to be between the data for DE, PL, SK, AT and data for CZ. There is also some variation in the criteria used to identify the start of reproduction. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in RO because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

## 15. Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina*

A058



Photo: Ainars Mankus ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	-	+	+	+	+		
BG	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
CY	-	-	+	+	+		
CZ	-	-	+	+	-	2	1
DE	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
DK	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	-						
EL	-	-	+	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
FIN	-						
FIS	-						
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
HU	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	-						
IT	-	-	+	+	+	4	
LT	-	-	-	+	-		
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	-	-	-	+	-		
MT	-						
NL	-	-	+	+	-		
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	-	-	+	+	+	4	4
RO	-	-	+	-	-		
SE	-						
SI	-	-	+	+	-		
SK	-	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.  
Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Patchy breeding distribution from Iberia across southern and central Europe to east Kazakhstan, with largest numbers breeding in steppe and desert zones from the northern Black Sea to approximately 100°E. Within Europe, breeds mainly in southeast Spain and in small isolated populations scattered over central and parts of northwest Europe. Largest EU breeding populations are in Spain, France and Germany.

**Movements:** Most east European and central Asian breeding birds are migratory, moving either southwest to the Caspian and Black Sea, or south to south- and southwest Asia. Western and central European breeding birds are partially migratory. Pre-nuptial migration begins in February-March and breeding areas are re-occupied by April or early May. Moulting migration of adult males and immatures starts in early June, with flocks of several hundred moulting in some areas in late summer. Birds breeding in Camargue moving to Bodensee. Males moult and are flightless for four weeks between June and August, females one month later. The main autumn migration occurs in October and November with most birds reaching wintering grounds by December.

**Populations:** Two separate populations occur in Europe (Scott & Rose 1996; AEWA 2018): (1) the central Europe and west Mediterranean population; and (2) the Black Sea and East Mediterranean population.

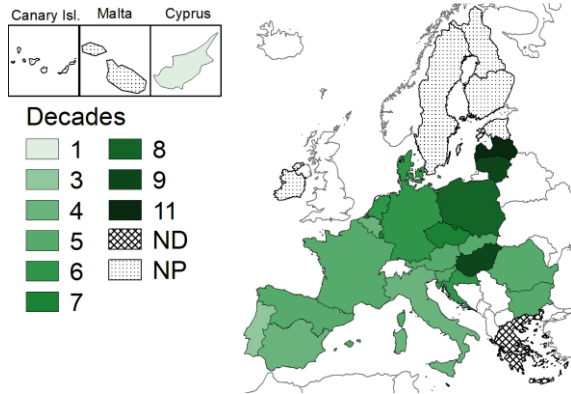
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-10 (6-14); incubation 26-28 days; fledging period 45-50 days; independence at the time of fledging; one brood.

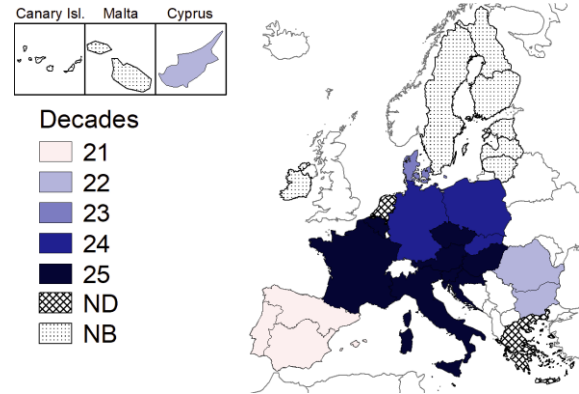
**International Plan:** EU Management Plan ([Perennou 2007](#)).

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



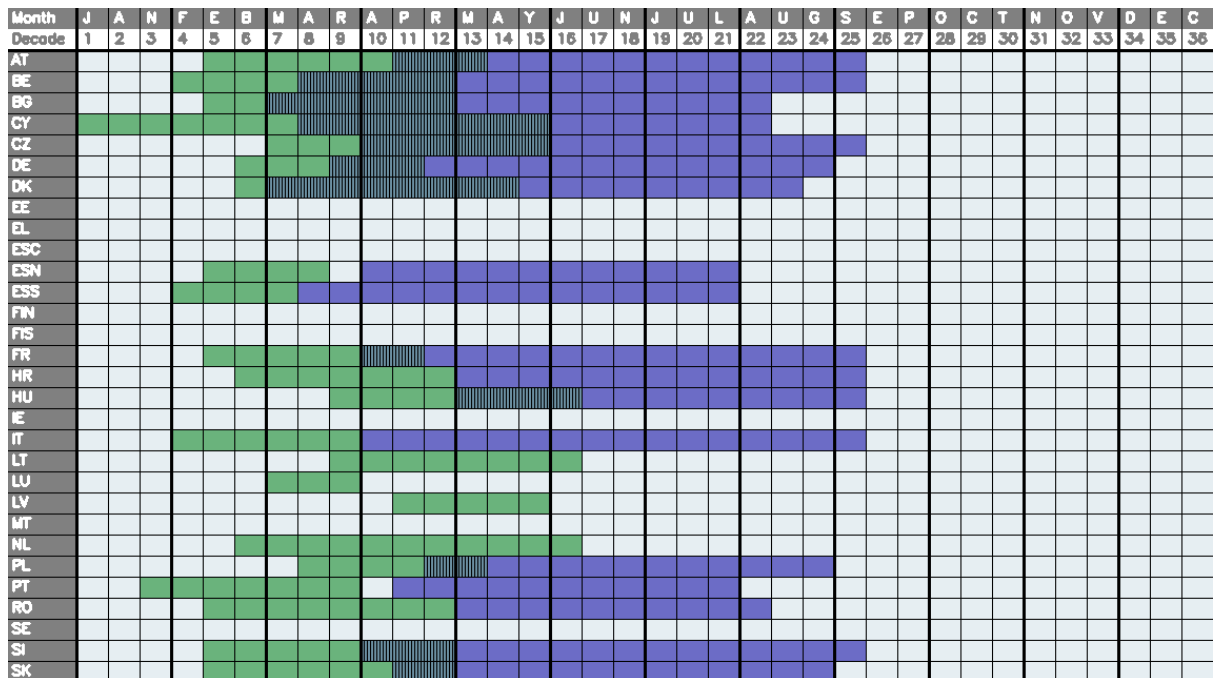
ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the eastern parts of the EU.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the Mediterranean region (ESN & ESN data differ by 4 decades from the data for FR). FR data is coherent with IT data. There is some variation in the use of criteria to identify the start of reproduction.



## 16. Common Pochard *Aythya ferina*

A059



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	2	2
BG	+	+	-	+	+	1	1
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
DE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	+	+	+	+	2	
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	+	-	+	+	+	2	1
HU	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
IE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
IT	+	+	+	+	+	4	
LT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	+	+	-	-	+	1	2
LV	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	+	-	+	+	+	4	4
PT	+	+	+	+	+		
RO	+	+	-	+	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
SI	+	+	+	+	+		
SK	+	+	+	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Wide breeding distribution at temperate latitudes across Eurasia to southeastern Russia and northeastern China, being a bird of steppe wetlands (Viksne *et al.* 2010).

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Present throughout year on temperate breeding grounds in western and southern Europe. Winters through much of western Europe (originating from as far as 120°E) and sometimes north Africa. Pre-nuptial migration from February, mainly March and early April, with breeding grounds occupied early March (in south) to early May (in Siberia). In eastern and southern Europe, autumn migration peaks late September-October; in maritime countries of western Europe, main movements October-November. As in all freshwater ducks, severe winter weather forces birds south and west (Ridgill & Fox 1990). Very gregarious, often wintering in flocks of many thousands. Some segregation of sexes in winter, with males generally staying further north than female. Larger gatherings of moulting birds, mostly males, locally found in western Europe between early June-late August or September, peaking mid-July. Birds flightless for three-four weeks during wing moult.

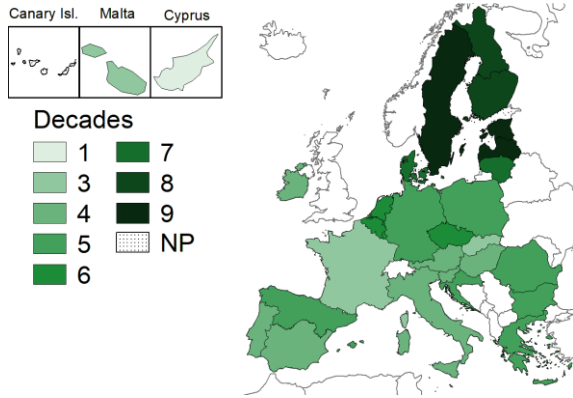
**Populations:** Conventionally treated as two populations (Scott & Rose 1996; AEW 2018): (1) Northeast and northwest European population; and (2) Central Europe, Black Sea, and Mediterranean. Poor demarcation of these populations in eastern Europe and Russia (Viksne *et al.* 2010).

EU population status and trends:

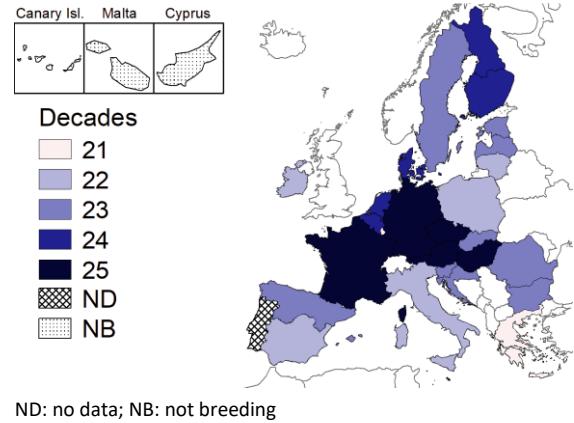
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-10 (4-22, >15 probably always two females); incubation 24-28 days; fledging period 50-55 days; one brood, replacement clutches laid after egg loss.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	J	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C			
Decode	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** Several Member States report a mixture of resident, migrating, and wintering populations. The lack of coherence is most striking in the southeastern Mediterranean region (EL data differs by 4 decades from CY data) and in the eastern part of the EU (CZ data differs by 3 decades from SK data).

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the central parts of the EU (PL data differs by 3 decades from DE and CZ data) and in the Mediterranean region (IT data differs by 3 decades from FR and AT data). There is some variation in the criteria used to identify the start of reproduction.



## 17. Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

A061



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of repro-duction	End of repro-duction
AT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
BG	+	-	-	+	+		
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
DE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	-	-	+	+	2	1
FIN	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	+	-	+	+	+	2	1
HU	+	-	+	+	+		
IE	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
IT	+	+	-	+	+		
LT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
LU	+	+	-	-	+	1	2
LV	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+						
NL	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	+	-	+	+	+	4	
PT	+	+	-	+	+		
RO	+	+	-	+	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
SI	+	-	+	+	+		
SK	+	+	+	+	+	2	2

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. This diving duck has a wide breeding distribution in northern Eurasia, from Iceland to the Bering Sea. It breeds in wetlands in taiga to low arctic regions between 45°N and 70°N.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Sedentary in temperate regions of western Europe but northern populations are migratory moving south and west to avoid winter weather.

Birds breeding in Iceland, Fennoscandia, the Baltic region and Russia east to 65°E, winter in the Baltic, in countries around the North Sea and on Atlantic coastlines, where they join resident birds. Birds wintering in central Europe include local breeding birds and birds breeding in northeast European Russia. Those wintering in the Black Sea and east Mediterranean originate from northeast European Russia and northwest Siberia.

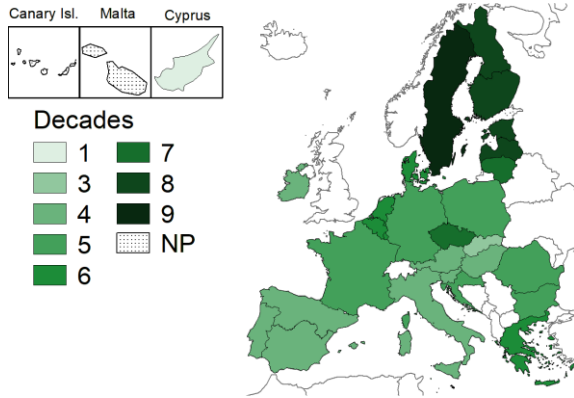
**Populations:** Two European populations are recognized for conservation management purposes, separated on the basis of wintering distribution (Scott & Rose 1996; AEWA 2018): (1) northwest Europe - wintering especially on southern North Sea coasts and in the Baltic; (2) birds wintering in the central Europe, Black Sea and the Mediterranean.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

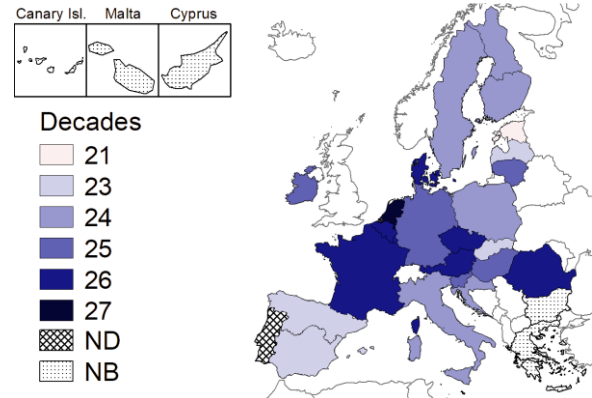
**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-11 (3-22) but >14 probably always by two females; incubation 23-28 days; full flight of young birds at 45-50 days; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



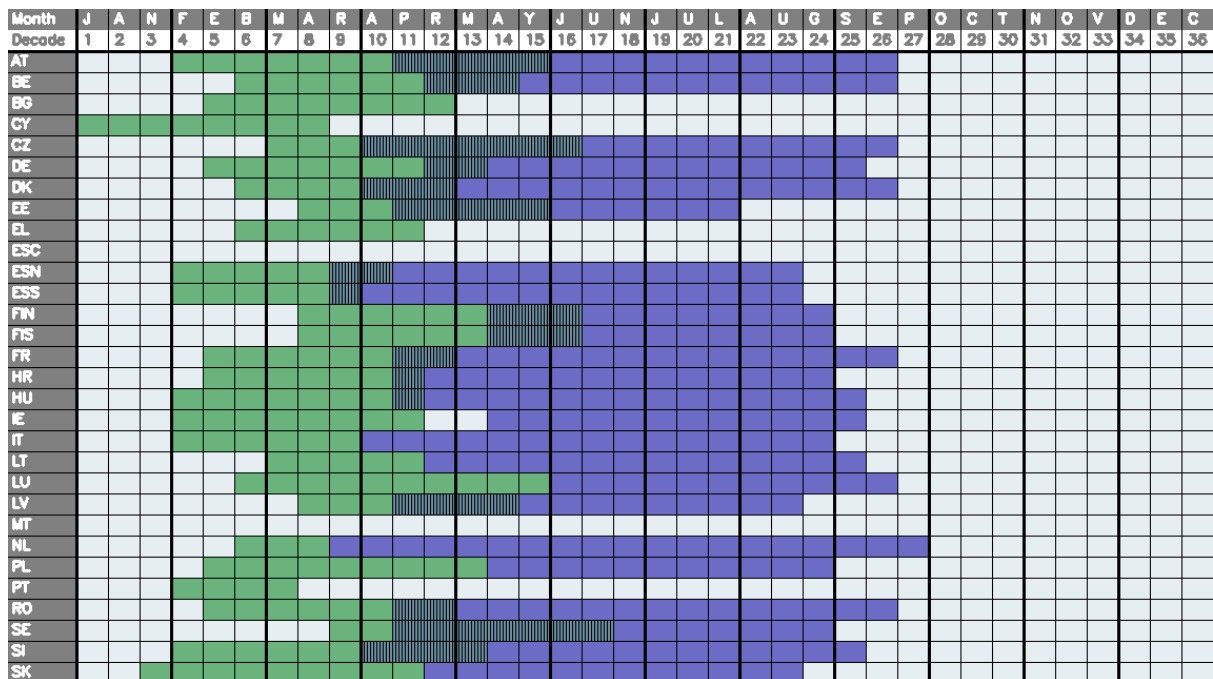
NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a notable lack of coherence in the eastern Mediterranean region (EL data differs by 5 decades from CY data), the northern part of the EU (SE data differs by 3 decades from DK data), and the eastern part of the EU (CZ data differs by 3-4 decades from AT and SK data).

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the eastern part of the EU (SK data differs by 3 decades from AT and CZ data) and in the north-eastern part of the EU (EE data differs by 3 decades from FI data). Some inconsistencies could be explained by the difficulty to distinguish between resident and migrating birds (western and central Europe).

## 18. Greater Scaup *Aythya marila*

A062



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	+		
BE	+	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-						
CZ	-	-	-	+	+		
DE	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	-	-	+	+		
EE	-	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
FIS	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	-	+		
HU	-	-	-	+	+		
IE	+	-	-	+	+		
IT	-	-	-	+	+		
LT	-	-	-	+	+		
LU	-						
LV	+	-	-	+	+		
MT	-						
NL	+	-	-	+	+		
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	-	-	-	-	+		
RO	+	-	-	+	+		
SE	-	-	+	+	+	1	
SI	-						
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. This diving duck has a wide breeding distribution at high latitudes through northern Eurasia and north America.

**Movements:** Migratory. The Icelandic breeding population winters mainly in Ireland and Scotland. Birds breeding in Fennoscandia and northwestern Russia winter mainly in the Baltic and along North Sea and Atlantic coasts south to France. More easterly breeding birds winter around the northern Black and Caspian Seas. During severe winter weather considerable numbers move south. Small numbers also occur on large lakes in Northern Ireland, in central Europe and in the Adriatic.

**Populations:** Two separate European populations occur with distinct wintering distributions (Scott & Rose 1996; AEW 2018): (1) Northwest Europe - wintering especially on southern North Sea coasts and in the Baltic; (2) birds wintering in Central Europe, Black Sea and the Mediterranean from easterly breeding areas.

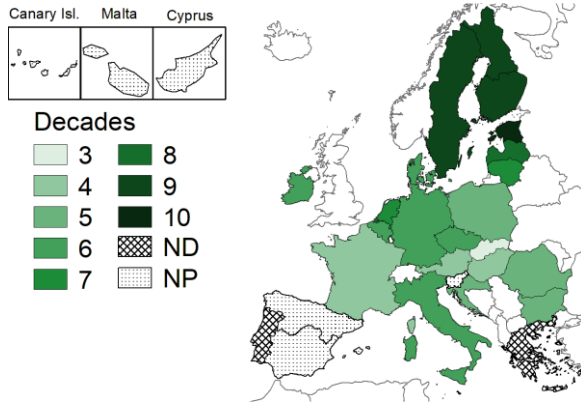
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

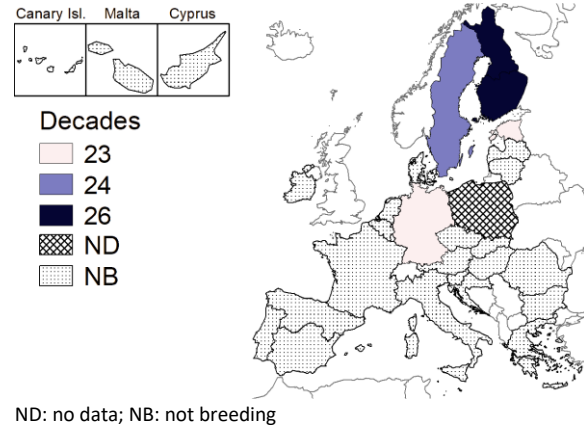
**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-11 (6-15), but more than 15 probably always by two females; incubation 26-28 days; full flight of young birds at 40-45 days; one brood.

**International Plan:** EU Management Plan (Jensen *et al.* 2009).

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36			
AT																																							
BE																																							
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** CZ data differs by 3 decades from data of SK. Some discrepancies in EU data could be explained by the fact that there are two separate populations. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in EL because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the northern part of the EU.

## 19. Common Eider *Somateria mollissima*

A063

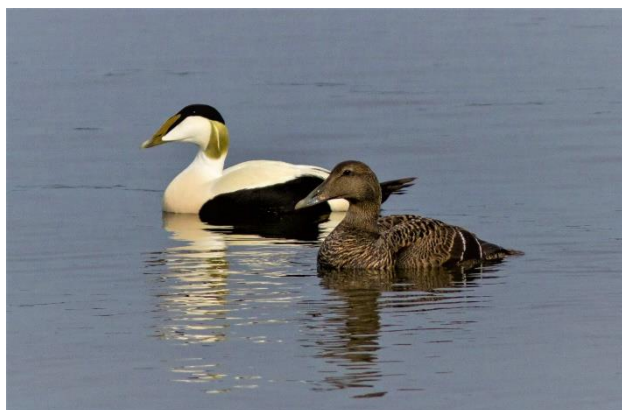


Photo: Petri Alroth ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of repro-duction	End of repro-duction
AT	-						
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-						
CZ	-	-	-	-	+		
DE	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	-	+		
HU	-						
IE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
IT	-	-	+	-	+		
LT	-	-	-	-	+		
LU	-						
LV	-	-	-	+	+		
MT	-						
NL	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	-						
RO	-						
SE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
SI	-	-	-	+	-		
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Breeds at high latitudes across northern Eurasia and Canada, wintering mainly within breeding range. Winters at sea in north and northwest Europe.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Many mainly sedentary, but large numbers from Russia and Fennoscandia are migratory, wintering mostly along north and west Norwegian coasts and in southern Baltic and Wadden Seas. A few winter inland in central Europe and west Mediterranean. In Denmark, the main autumn migration occurs in October and November, although some adult females and juveniles arrive in Wadden Sea from September, returning from late February. British/Irish birds mainly sedentary or dispersive, including *S. m. faroensis*. Most adult males leave breeding grounds in May and June to aggregate with non-breeding and immature birds. Many Baltic males and immatures undertake moult migration in late June and July through western Baltic to Wadden Sea.

**Populations:** Six subspecies known globally but within EU, three populations of two races occur (Scott & Rose 1996; AEWA 2018): *S. m. mollissima*: (1) Baltic, Denmark and Netherlands (including British/Irish birds per Stroud *et al.* (2016)). Winters mainly in southern Baltic and North Sea, with small numbers reaching Bay of Biscay, central Europe and west Mediterranean (France and Italy). (2) Norway and northwest Russia. *S. m. faroensis*: (3) Shetland and Orkney.


EU population status and trends:

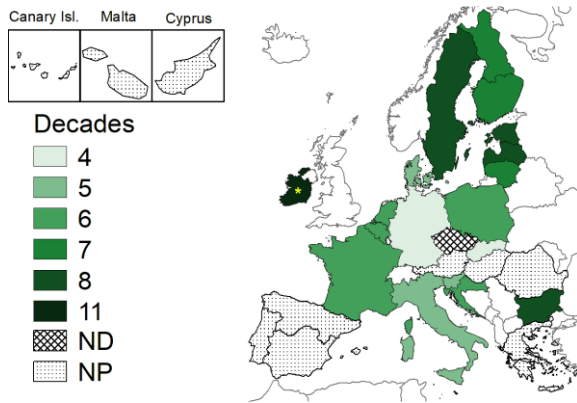
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 4-6 (1-8) >8 usually by two females); incubation 25-28 days; fledging period 65-75 days; one brood.

**International Plan:** AEWA Action Plan under preparation.

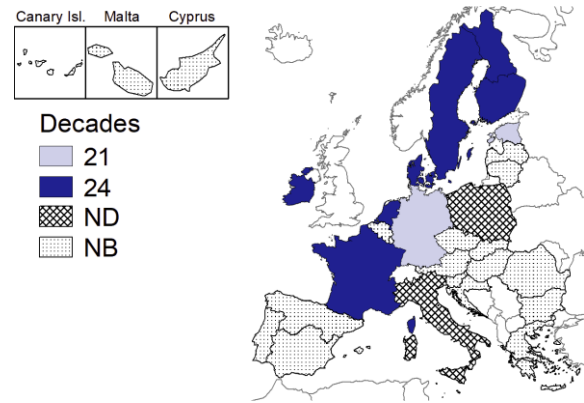
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	R	A	P	M	A	Y	J	J	U	N	J	J	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C			
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
BE																																					
BG																																					
CY																																					
CZ																																					
DE																																					
DK																																					
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RO																																					
SE																																					
SI																																					
SK																																					

### Limitations of data

**Prenuptial of migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the northern part of the EU (SE data differs by 3 decades from data of DK). The earlier start of migration in FI compared to EE and LV does not seem logical. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in IE because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the northern part of the EU (EE data differs by 3 decades from data for FI).



## 20. Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*

A064



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-						
BE	-						
BG	-	-	-	-	+		
CY	-						
CZ	-						
DE	-	-	-	+	+		
DK	+	-	-	+	+		
EE	+	-	-	+	+		
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
FR	+	-	-	-	+		
HR	-	-	-	-	+		
HU	-						
IE	+	-	-	-	+		
IT	-						
LT	-	-	-	+	+		
LU	-						
LV	+	-	-	+	+		
MT	-						
NL	-	-	-	+	+		
PL	-	-	-	+	+		
PT	-						
RO	-						
SE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
SI	-						
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Long-tailed Ducks are an arctic-breeding species with a circumpolar distribution. In the non-breeding season, they occur in shallow marine waters. Birds breeding in northern Europe stay close to breeding areas (Iceland, Norway), or winter south to the southern North and Baltic Seas and around the UK and Ireland.

**Movements:** Migratory. Those breeding in Fennoscandia, north European Russia and western Siberia winter over a large area, ranging from coastal north Norway southwest to the UK and Ireland. Most of this large population however overwinters in a small area ranging from the south Baltic Sea to west Denmark and southern Sweden. A few thousand reach the Wadden Sea and only stragglers are recorded further south, especially in hard winters. Some of the birds of the large Greenland and Iceland breeding population migrate to marine waters west of UK and Ireland, although there has been a ringing recovery linking Greenland with the Baltic (Lyngs 2003).

**Populations:** Two poorly defined populations occur within the EU (Scott & Rose 1996; AEW 2018): (1) birds breeding in Iceland and Greenland winter in marine waters around Ireland and western Britain; (2) birds breeding in Svalbard and western Siberia winter in northwest Europe, largely in Baltic waters.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 6-9 (5-11); incubation 24-29 days; full flight of young birds at 35-40 days; one brood.

**International Plan:** AEW Action Plan ([Hearn et al. 2015](#)).



## 21. Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra*

A065



Photo: Jason Thompson ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-						
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	-	+		
CY	-						
CZ	-	-	-	-	+		
DE	+	-	-	+	+		
DK	+	-	-	+	+		
EE	+	-	-	+	+		
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	-	+	+		
ESS	-						
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	-	+		
HU	-						
IE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
IT	-	-	-	-	+		
LT	-	-	-	+	+		
LU	-						
LV	+	-	-	+	+		
MT	-						
NL	-	-	-	+	+		
PL	-	-	-	+	+		
PT	-	-	-	+	+		
RO	-						
SE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
SI	-						
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Breeds on freshwater pools, small lakes and within peatland landscapes at high latitudes across northern Eurasia, from Iceland and Ireland in the west to Alaska. Birds breeding in western Eurasian winter from Baltic Sea and southern North Sea, in UK and Irish waters, and south along Atlantic seaboard to Mauritania. Most of the population overwinters within the EU. Common Scoters are highly gregarious in the non-breeding season, occasionally forming flocks of over 100,000.

**Movements:** Migratory. Outside breeding season almost exclusively a marine species, using shallow inland waters for feeding on benthic molluscs, but deeper waters for roosting. Most birds breeding in Fennoscandia and Russia east to the river Lena, overwinter in the western part of the Baltic and off the coast of the Wadden Sea, with only a relatively small number of birds moving further south and west. Icelandic breeding birds have been recorded south to Iberian Peninsula and even the Azores. From late June-August a large moult migration of males and immatures occurs from the Baltic to the Wadden Sea. Flightless moult period for several weeks in early August-September.

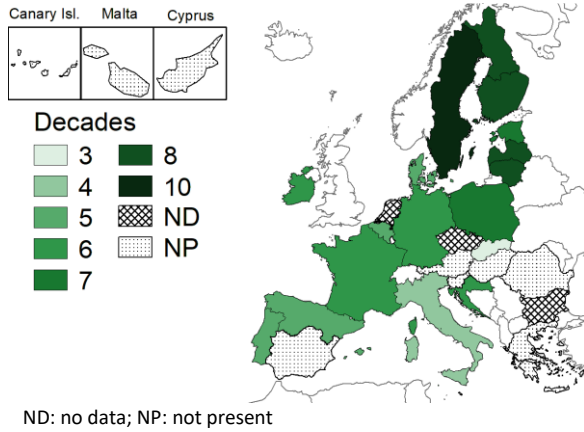
**Populations:** One population is recognized (Scott & Rose 1996; AEWA 2018), i.e. the west Siberia and north Europe/west Europe and northwest Africa population.

EU population status and trends:

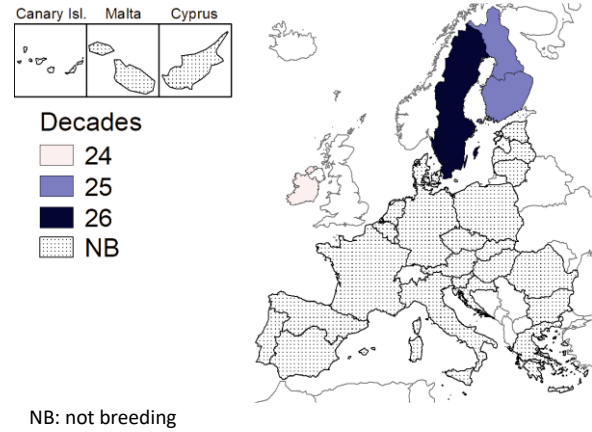
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 6-8 (5-11); >11 probably by two females; incubation 30-31 days; full flight of young birds at 45-50 days; one brood.

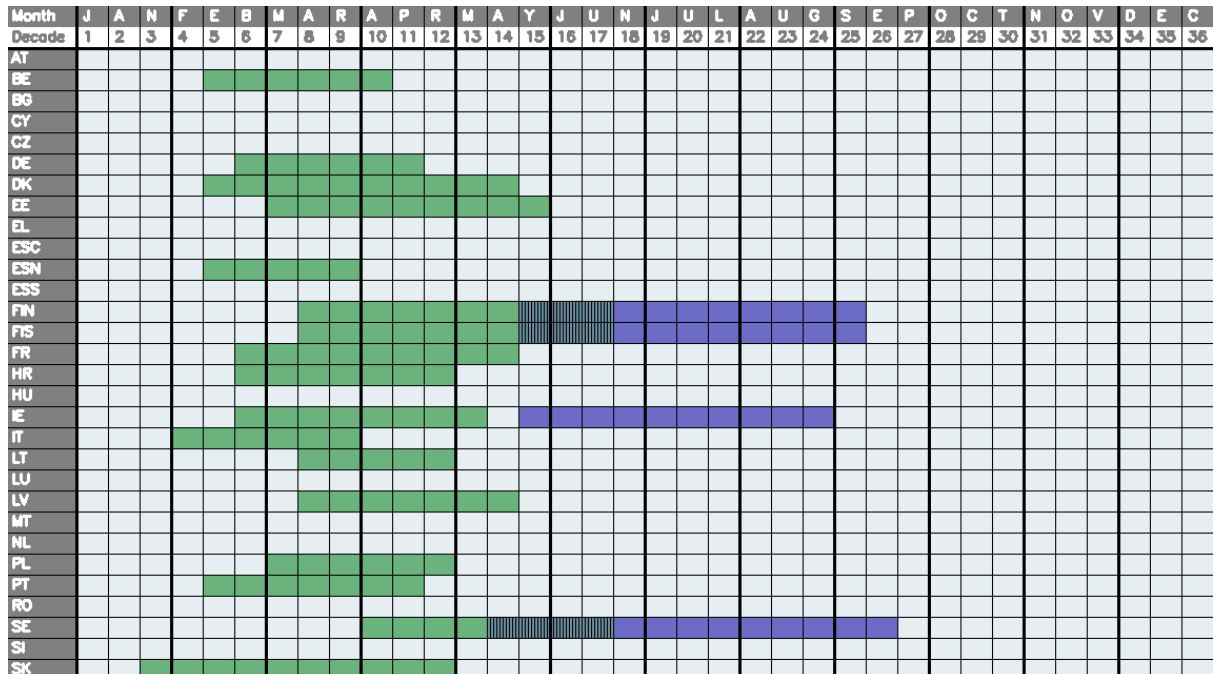
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the northern part of the EU (illogical sequence of the start of prenuptial migration in SE and FI and between Baltic countries).

**End of reproduction:** No comment.

## 22. Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca*

A066



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-						
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	-	+		
CY	-						
CZ	-	-	-	-	+		
DE	+	-	-	+	+		
DK	+	-	-	+	+		
EE	-	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	-	+		
HU	-						
IE	+	-	-	-	+		
IT	-	-	-	-	+		
LT	-	-	-	+	+		
LU	-						
LV	+	-	-	+	+		
MT	-						
NL	-	-	-	+	+		
PL	-	-	-	+	+		
PT	-						
RO	-						
SE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
SI	-						
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. A boreal species breeding from north Europe across northern Eurasia and north America. A separate small population breeds southeast of the Black Sea. The main wintering range extends south to northwestern Europe. Winters mostly in shallow coastal waters. Gregarious in winter, usually occurring in large flocks, sometimes of several thousand birds and often in company with Common Scoter.

**Movements:** Migratory. Birds breeding from Fennoscandia east to Siberia winter mainly in the Baltic Sea, with smaller numbers continuing further south-west. Following severe cold weather small influxes can occur on freshwaters in Central Europe. Pre-nuptial migration starts late, with large numbers remaining in Danish waters until April. Huge numbers concentrate in the Gulf of Riga in early May, before overland migration to breeding areas. In June, most males leave breeding grounds to moult in large gatherings, mainly along the Russian north coast, with small numbers in Danish waters. Birds are flightless for three to four weeks during wing moult. Adult females migrate before males. The main autumn migration in the Baltic occurs in October and November.

**Populations:** Two populations of nominate race *M. f. fusca* occur in Europe (Scott & Rose 1996; AEWA 2018): (1) Western Siberia and Northwest Europe; and (2) Black Sea/Caspian.

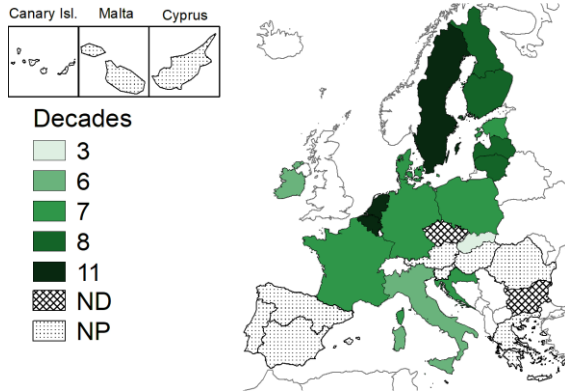
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 7-9 (5-12) >12 usually by two females; incubation 26-29 days; fledging period 50-55 days; one brood.

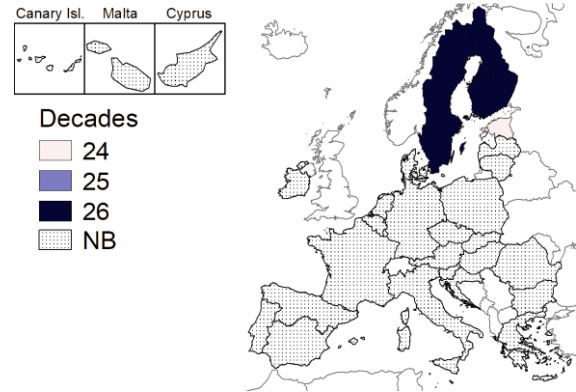
**International Plan:** EU Management Plan (Jensen & Lutz 2007b) and AEWA Action Plan (Dagys & Hearn 2018).

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



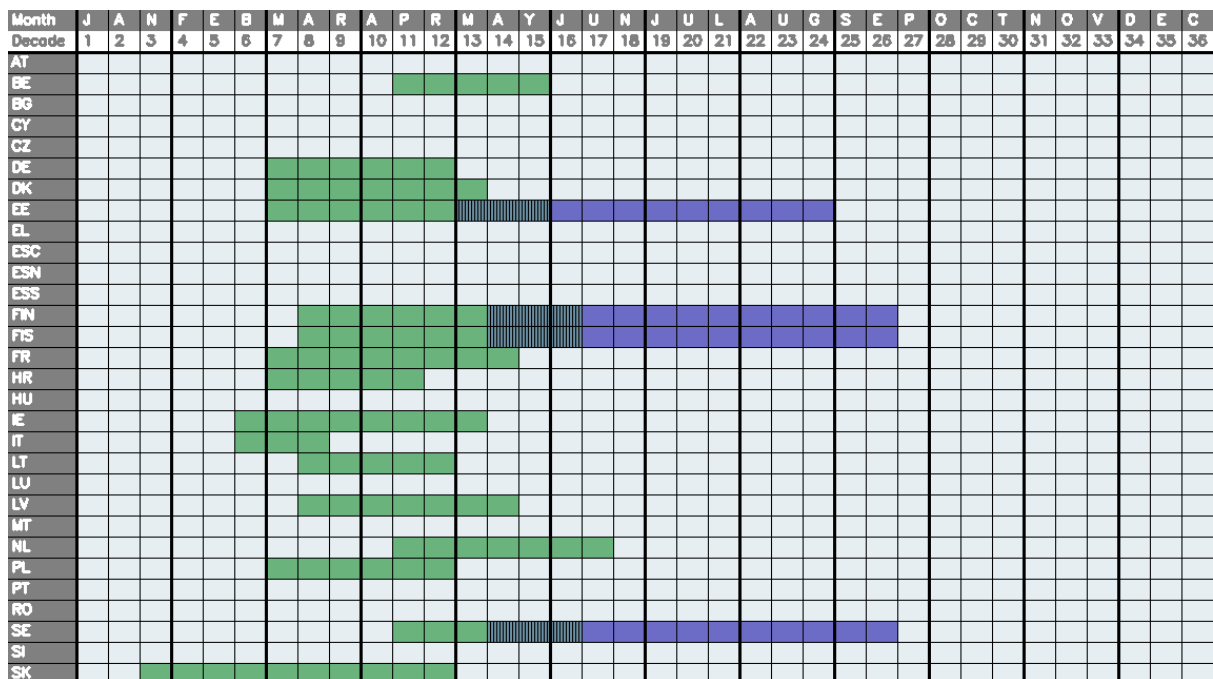
ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the central part of the EU (the start of migration is much earlier in SK than in DE). The difficulty to distinguish between wintering movements further to cold spells and migratory movements might explain these incoherencies. There is also a lack of coherence in northern Europe (SE data differs by 3-4 decades from data for FI and DK). BE and NL data differ by 4 decades from the data of neighbouring Member States.

**End of reproduction:** No comment.



## 23. Common Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*

A067



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	-	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-						
CZ	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
DE	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
FR	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
HR	-	-	-	+	+		
HU	+	-	-	+	+		
IE	+	-	-	+	+		
IT	-	-	-	+	+		
LT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
LU	-	-	-	-	+		
LV	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	-						
NL	-	-	+	+	+		
PL	-	-	+	+	+	4	4
PT	-						
RO	+	+	-	-	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
SI	-	-	-	+	+		
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Widely breeding in taiga zones across northern Eurasia and North America, from western Norway eastwards (north to 55°N). Wintering range of Palearctic birds extends south to Mediterranean, Black and Caspian Seas. Scattered breeding populations are also found in the Baltic States, Germany, Czech Republic and Scotland, with recent colonization of Denmark. Occurs as a rare winter visitor to north Africa during severe winters.

**Movements:** Migratory. Winters mainly at sea in the northern parts of its winter range but also on large rivers, lakes, reservoirs and coastal lagoons further south, often far inland (e.g. in Central Europe). Birds breeding in northern Europe winter mainly in the Baltic, and marine waters of Denmark, Netherlands, UK and Ireland. Moulting gatherings are common, e.g. in Matsalu Bay (Estonia), southern Sweden and Finland. Males arrive at moulting sites from early June, and reach peak numbers in late August, when many adult females arrive. The birds are flightless for three to four weeks during the wing moult. On average, female migrate further than males, and juveniles further than adults.

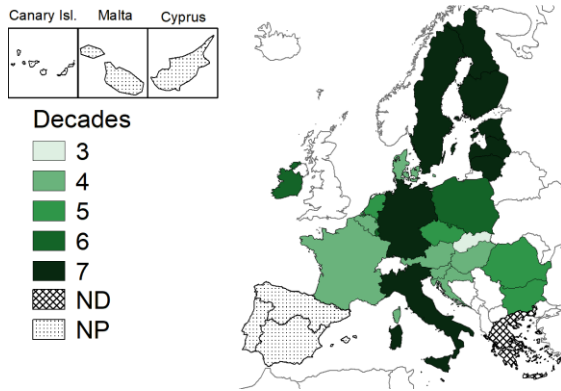
**Populations:** Three populations occur in Europe based on the winter distribution (Scott & Rose 1996; AEWA 2018) namely those: (1) wintering in Northwest and Central Europe; (2) wintering in Middle Danube/Adriatic Sea; and (3) wintering in the Black Sea.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

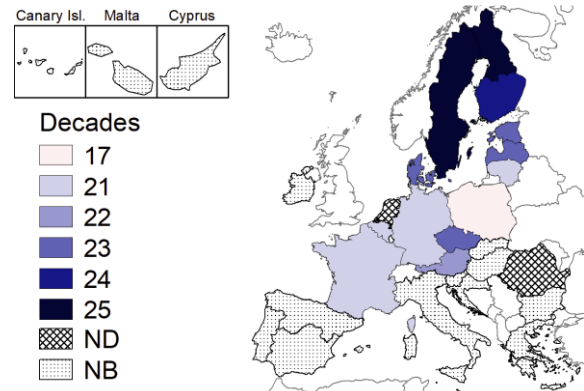
**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-11 (5-13), up to 22 but by two or more females; incubation 29-30 days; fledging period 57-66 days; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	M	A	P	M	A	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C									
Decode	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
BG																																						
CY																																						
CZ																																						
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SE																																						
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** Data for DE and IT are not consistent with data from neighbouring Member States. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in EL because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

**End of reproduction:** There is a possible lack of coherence in the Baltic region (the end of reproduction in LT is earlier than in LV). Data for PL differs significantly from the data from neighbouring Member States. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in RO because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

## 24. Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*

A069



Photo: Ainars Mankus ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	+		
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-						
CZ	-	-	-	+	-		
DE	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	-	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	-	-	-	-	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	-	-	+		
ESS	-						
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	-	-	+	+	-		
HR	-	-	-	-	+		
HU	-						
IE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
IT	-	-	-	-	+		
LT	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
LU	-						
LV	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	-	+	-	+	+		
PL	-	-	+	+	+	4	4
PT	-	-	-	-	+		
RO	-	-	-	+	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
SI	-	-	-	+	+		
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Red-breasted Mergansers have a wide breeding range across northern Eurasia and north America, nesting in boreal regions to low arctic Fennoscandia and European Russia. It nests in typically open habitats, requiring surrounding cover and so preferring areas with woodland or scrub. In the non-breeding season, it is found in coastal areas and larger inland waters around and across much of Europe.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Birds breeding in Iceland, UK and Ireland are partly sedentary. Birds from most of the breeding range migrate south and west after breeding to winter around European coasts and in major wetlands from Iberia to the western Baltic.

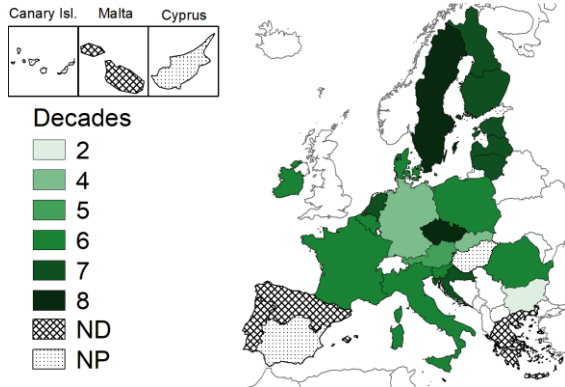
**Populations:** Two populations occur in Europe and are recognized by AEW (Scott & Rose 1996; AEW 2018): (1) the Northwest and Central European breeding population (which includes birds breeding in east Greenland and Iceland), which winters across much of north and west Europe; and (2) the Northeast European breeding population which winters in and around the Black Sea, Aegean and eastern Mediterranean.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

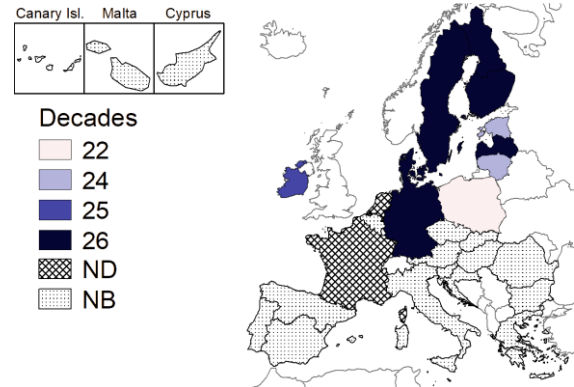
**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-10 (6-14), larger numbers by two females; incubation 31-32 days; full flight of young birds at 60-65 days; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C					
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
BG																																						
CY																																						
CZ																																						
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RO																																						
SE																																						
SI																																						
SK																																						

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** Data from DE and CZ seem not to be coherent with that of neighbouring Member States. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in MT because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence around the Baltic Sea (e.g. the data for PL differs by 4 decades from the data for DE).

## 25. Goosander *Mergus merganser*

A070



Photo: Ainars Mankus ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-						
CZ	-	+	-	+	+	2	2
DE	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	-	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	-	+	+	-	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
FIS	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
FR	-	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	-	-	+	-	+	1	1
HU	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
IE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
IT	-						
LT	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
LU	-	-	-	-	+		
LV	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	-						
NL	-	-	-	+	+		
PL	-	-	+	+	+	4	
PT	-						
RO	-	+	-	+	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
SI	-	-	+	+	+		
SK	-	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Goosanders have a wide breeding range across Eurasia and north America in forested taiga north of 50°N. Wintering extends south to southern Europe, China, and Japan. In Europe it breeds from Iceland and Britain, across Fennoscandia, and discontinuously in central Europe eastwards. It overwinters south and west to western France, Adriatic coasts, and Black and Caspian Seas. There is a small, isolated breeding population in the southern Balkans.


**Movements:** Partially migratory. Northernmost breeding birds migrate south, but southern and western breeding birds are mainly sedentary, moving only short distances. Males from Britain undertake a late summer moult migration to Norway (Little & Marchant 2002). Birds breeding in Fennoscandia and northwest Russia winter mainly in the Baltic and North Seas. In mild winters, about 60% of the Northwest European population winter in the Baltic, but in hard winters, these birds move southwest.

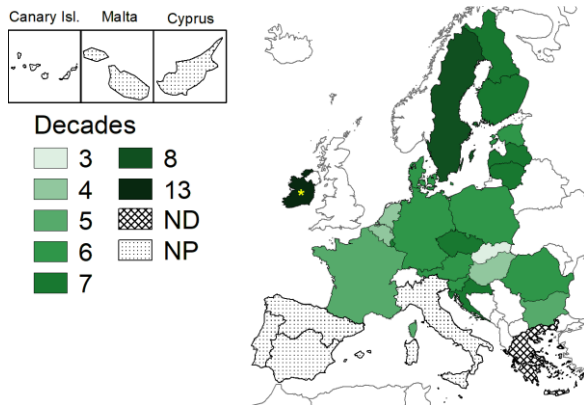
**Populations:** Five populations of nominate *M. m. merganser* occur in Europe (Scott & Rose 1996; Wetlands International 2012; AEWA 2018): (1) the Northwest and Central European breeding population, which winters across much of north and west Europe; (2) the Northeast European breeding population which winters around the Black Sea, Aegean and eastern Mediterranean; (3) the Iceland breeding population; and (4) the Central-west Europe breeding population occurring in Switzerland, France and Austria; (5) the Balkans breeding population. Populations 3, 4 & 5 are non-migratory.

EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-11 (4-22); incubation 30-32 days; fledging period 60-70 days; one brood.

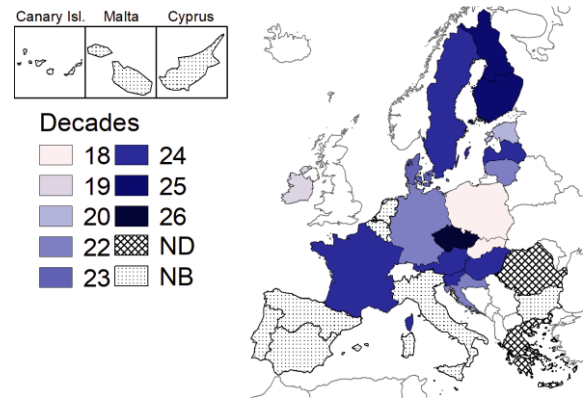
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	A	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the western part of the EU (notably concerning data from IE). Discrepancies in other parts of the EU could be explained by behavior of different populations and dispersal rates during hard winters. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in IE because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

**End of reproduction:** The data for PL and SK differ significantly from the data of CZ and DE. EE data is not consistent with the data for FI and LV.



## 26. Hazel Grouse *Bonasa bonasia*

A104



Photo: Ainars Mankus ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	-	-	-	4	2
BE	-	+	-	-	-		
BG	-	+	-	-	-	1	
CY	-						
CZ	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
DE	-	+	-	-	-	3	3
DK	-						
EE	+	+	-	-	-	4	
EL	-	+	-	-	-		
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FIS	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FR	+	+	-	-	-	3	2
HR	-	+	-	-	-	4	2
HU	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
IE	-						
IT	-	+	-	-	-		
LT	-	+	+	-	+	4	2
LU	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
MT	-						
NL	-						
PL	+	+	-	-	-	4	4
PT	-						
RO	+	+	-	-	-		
SE	+	+	-	-	-	4	
SI	-	+	-	-	-		
SK	+	+	-	-	-	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. This woodland grouse has a wide distribution in deciduous, coniferous and mixed forests of Eurasia, from eastern France to China, Manchuria and northern Japan. Europe comprises a small proportion of its global range. Occurs in wooded landscapes from lowlands to subalpine forests at c. 1,900 m, and from southern taiga zones to the sub-arctic. It prefers extensive mature stands of Norway Spruce *Picea abies*, fir *Abies* or larch *Larix* with a lush shrub layer and mixture of birch *Betula* and alder *Alnus* (Hagemeyer & Blair 1997). In Europe it occurs broadly between 40° and 70°N. About 95% of the EU population breeds in Finland and Sweden.

**Movements:** Sedentary. Its highly sedentary nature makes the species vulnerable to local over-exploitation and/or inappropriate forest management and has resulted in historical local extinctions leading to its current fragmented distribution.

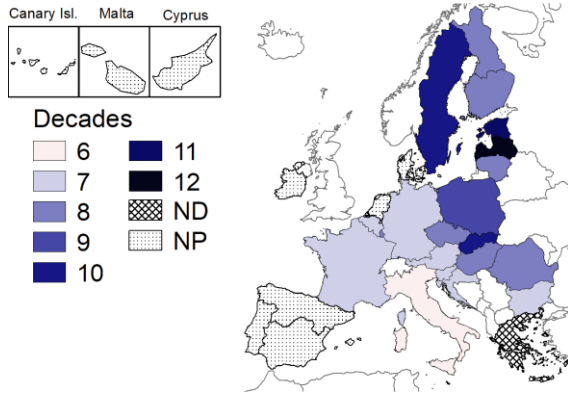
**Populations:** Two subspecies occur in Europe (Cramp & Simmons 1980): (1) nominate *B. b. bonasia* inhabits northern Europe east to the Urals and the Pechora River where it grades into *B. b. sibirica*; (2) *B. b. rupestris* occurs from southeast Belgium and eastern France east to Poland, Balkans and Greece, Bulgaria and Romania and has a highly fragmented distribution.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

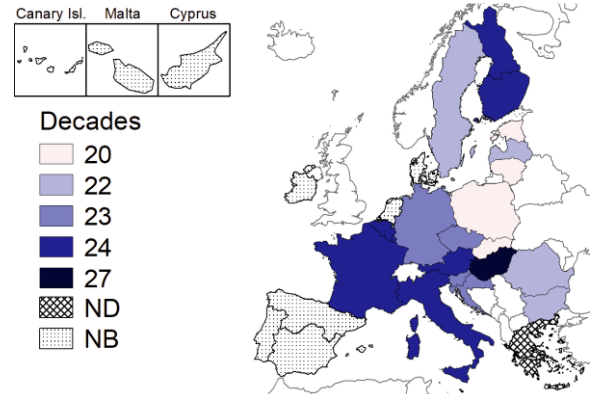
**Breeding:** Clutch size 7-11 (5-14); incubation 25 days (23-27); fledging - capable of precocious flight at 15-20 days; independence 30-40 days; one brood.

### Start of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	R	A	P	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C						
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
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### Limitations of data

**Start of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the northern of the EU (SE differs by 2 decades from FI, EE data differs by 4 decades from FI data, and LV data by 4 decades from LT data) and the eastern part of the EU (SK data differs by 2 decades from CZ data).

**End of reproduction:** There is a slight discrepancy in the data for FI and SE where most of the species breeds in the EU, as well as among the Baltic countries. There is a lack of coherence in the eastern part of the EU (SK data differs by 7 decades from data of HU) and PL data differs by 3 decades from DE data. The different criteria used to identify the end of the reproduction period could explain some of these differences.

## 27. Willow/Red Grouse *Lagopus lagopus*

A461



Photo: Ingeborg van Leeuwen ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of repro-duction	End of repro-duction
AT	-						
BE	-						
BG	-						
CY	-						
CZ	-						
DE	-						
DK	-						
EE	-	+	-	-	-		
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FIS	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FR	-						
HR	-						
HU	-						
IE	+	+	-	-	-	4	2
IT	-						
LT	-						
LU	-						
LV	-						
MT	-						
NL	-						
PL	-						
PT	-						
RO	-						
SE	+	+	-	-	-	4	
SI	-						
SK	-						

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. The Willow Grouse has a wide distribution in arctic and boreal regions of North America and Eurasia with a circumpolar distribution in both oceanic and continental zones. The least arboreal grouse species, it occurs in largely treeless tundra, moors, heaths, and bogs where Heather *Calluna vulgaris* and other edible heath species occur. Populations fluctuate in numbers in response to changes in demographic factors and also in response to local habitat management.

**Movements:** Sedentary. In Europe, only local movements occur. However, highest latitude arctic breeders (in Siberian Russia) show long-distance movements south in winter. Elsewhere local movements also occur in response to severe winter weather and especially heavy snowfall.

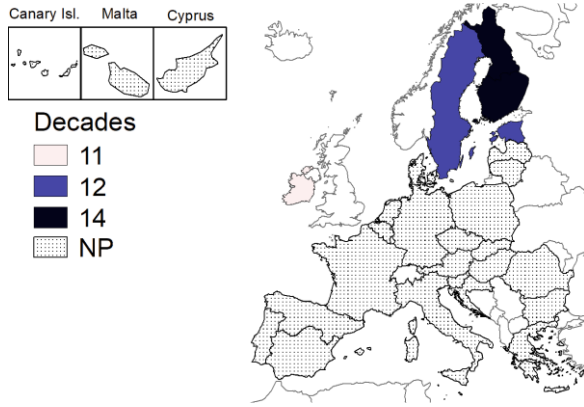
**Populations:** Five races occur in Europe, two of which occur in the EU (Cramp & Simmons 1980): (1) nominate *L. l. lagopus* inhabits Scandinavia, Finland, the Baltic States, Belarus and northern Russia south to c. 60°N; and (2) *L. l. hibernicus* occurs in Ireland (McMahon *et al.* 2012). European races occurring outside the EU are (3) *L. l. scoticus* in Britain; (4) *L. l. variegatus* occurring on islands of Trondheim Fjord in western Norway; and (5) *L. l. rossicus* occurring in Russia south of the nominate race.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

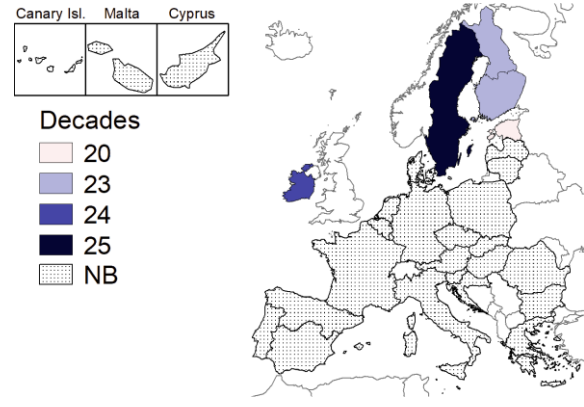
**Breeding:** Clutch size 6-9 (2-17); incubation 19-25 days; fledging period - capable of precocious flight at 12-13 days, full-grown at ca. 30-35 days; independence c. six decades after hatching; one brood.

### Start of the period of reproduction



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36			
AT																																							
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### Limitations of data

**End of reproduction:** The reproduction ends 2 decades earlier in FI than in SE. The criterion used by SE to identify the end of reproduction is not known.

## 28. Ptarmigan *Lagopus muta*

A106



Photo: Mick Thompson ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	-	-	-	4	2
BE	+						
BG	+	+	-	-	-		
CY	+						
CZ	+						
DE	+	+	-	-	-	1	3
DK	+						
EE	+						
EL	+						
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	-	-	3	2
ESS	+						
FIN	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FIS	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FR	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
HR	+						
HU	+						
IE	+						
IT	+	+	-	-	-		
LT	+						
LU	+						
LV	+						
MT	+						
NL	+						
PL	+						
PT	+						
RO	+						
SE	+	+	-	-	-	4	
SI	+	+	-	-	-		
SK	+						

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Ptarmigan has a discontinuous circumpolar distribution in arctic, boreal and alpine regions of north America and Eurasia. It breeds at greater altitude or latitude than Red/Willow Grouse (*Lagopus lagopus*) mainly above the tree line. Local distribution is determined by the distribution and abundance of heath and other dietary species.

**Movements:** Sedentary. This is mainly a sedentary species even at the highest latitudes, although eruptions can occur among arctic populations. Populations can show cyclical changes determined by both demography and predators, with an up to ten-fold variation in Iceland and three-fold in Scotland and Switzerland (Hagemeijer & Blair 1997). Undertakes altitudinal migration following the retreat of the snowline on hills and mountains. Low numbers of vagrants have recently been observed in Bulgaria (Miltshew & Georgiewa 1998), and elsewhere ringing has demonstrated movements of up to 300 km.

**Populations:** Five races occur in Europe, three of which occur in the EU (Cramp & Simmons 1980): (1) nominate *L. m. muta* from Fennoscandia to the Urals; (2) *L. m. helveticus* inhabits the Alps; (3) *L. m. pyrenaicus* occurs in Pyrenees; (4) *L. m. millaisi* occurs in Scotland; (5) and *L. m. islandorum* breeds in Iceland.

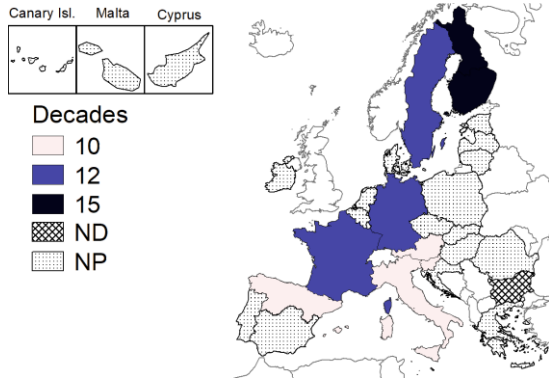
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 5-8 (3-12); incubation 21-23 days (20-26); fledging - capable of precocious flight at 15-20 days, exceptionally, or in strong wind, at 7-10 days; independence c. six decades after hatching; one brood.

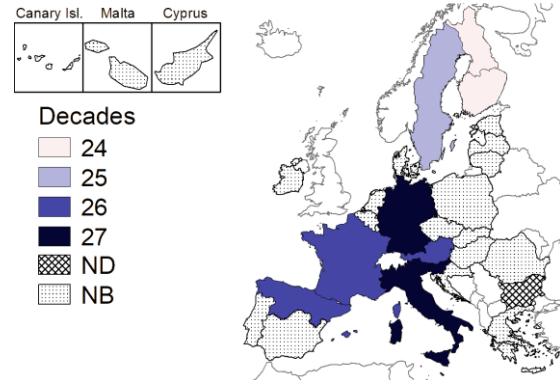


### Start of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C			
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36				
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### Limitations of data

**Start of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the northern part of the EU (FI data differs by 3 decades from SE data) and in the rest of the EU (part of differences could be explained by the different races of Ptarmigan in the Alps and Pyrenees). There is some variation in the criteria used to identify for the start of the reproduction.

**End of reproduction:** No comment.



## 29. Black Grouse *Lyrurus tetrix*

A107



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	-	-	-	4	2
BE	+	+	-	-	-		
BG	-						
CY	-						
CZ	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
DE	+	+	-	-	-	3	3
DK	-						
EE	-	+	-	-	-	4	
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FIS	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FR	+	+	-	-	-	3	2
HR	-						
HU	-						
IE	-						
IT	+	+	-	-	-		
LT	-	+	+	-	+	4	2
LU	-						
LV	+	+	-	-	-	3	2
MT	-						
NL	-						
PL	-	+	-	-	-	4	4
PT	-						
RO	-	+	-	-	-		
SE	+	+	-	-	-	4	
SI	-	+	-	-	-		
SK	-	+	-	-	-	1	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Black Grouse inhabits boreal, sub-arctic and alpine forests and linked heathland and peatland habitats in Eurasia, from UK and Ireland to Manchuria. In some regions, it penetrates the steppe region. In western Europe (Britain, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Austria, and Denmark) its distribution is strongly fragmented and largely relict. It occurs in transitional areas between woodland, and heaths, moorland, steppe or areas of marginal cultivation. Also occurs within open woodlands as long as not dense and with access to glades and clearings.

**Movements:** Sedentary. This is a sedentary species strongly tied to small home ranges. In temperate regions, tracking studies show little dispersal beyond those ranges with movements (when they occur) limited typically to <10 km. However, in more northerly areas, movements in winter appear to be more frequent, sometimes involving hundreds of birds, and linked to snow cover restricting availability of food. Documented movements of up to 1,000 km are known from Sweden with one male moving 500 km and making a 20 km sea-crossing to Öland (Toms 2002).

**Populations:** Two races occur in Europe (Cramp & Simmons 1980): nominate *L. t. tetrix* which occurs across continental Europe and northern Siberia; and *L. t. britannicus* in Britain.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 6-11 (4-15), >15 probably by two females; incubation 25-27 days; fledging period - capable of precocious flight at 10-14 days, independence c. eight decades after hatching; one brood.



## 30. Western Capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus*

A108



Photo: Petri Alroth ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	-	-	-	4	2
BE	-						
BG	+	+	-	-	-	4	
CY	-						
CZ	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
DE	+	+	-	-	-	3	3
DK	-						
EE	-	+	-	-	-	4	
EL	-	+	-	-	-		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	+	-	-	-	3	2
ESS	-						
FIN	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FIS	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FR	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
HR	-	+	-	-	-	4	2
HU	-						
IE	-						
IT	+	+	-	-	-		
LT	-	+	+	-	+	4	2
LU	-						
LV	+	+	-	-	-	3	2
MT	-						
NL	-						
PL	-	+	-	-	-	4	4
PT	-						
RO	+	+	-	-	-		
SE	+	+	-	-	-	4	
SI	-	+	-	-	-		
SK	-	+	-	-	-	1	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Occurs broadly across northern Eurasia from Europe to about 120°E in central Siberia. Capercaillie inhabits old coniferous forests in temperate and boreal regions of Europe and western Asia. It is a widespread resident in northern European forests, but its distribution is highly fragmented in southern and western Europe. This is largely as a consequence of its essentially sedentary status; past over-exploitation (resulting in historic extirpations); and inappropriate management of its woodland habitats. As a consequence, many of the discontinuous populations are now small in size.

**Movements:** Sedentary. European populations are sedentary although hens may move up to 20 km or more. Some Russian populations are migratory.

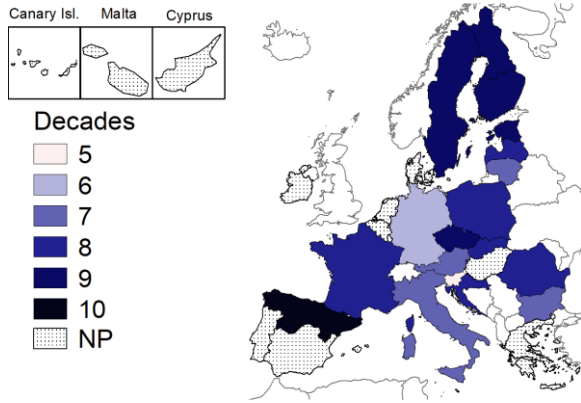
**Populations:** Four races occur in Europe (Cramp & Simmons 1980): (1) nominate *T. u. urogallus* occurs widely across Europe from Scotland to northwest Siberia and including Scandinavia, the Vosges, Jura and the Alps; (2) *T. u. rudolfi* occurs in the southern and eastern Carpathians; (3) *T. u. aquitanicus* in the Pyrenees; and (4) *T. u. cantabricus* in the Cantabrian Mountains of northern Spain.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-eionet.europa.eu/article12>

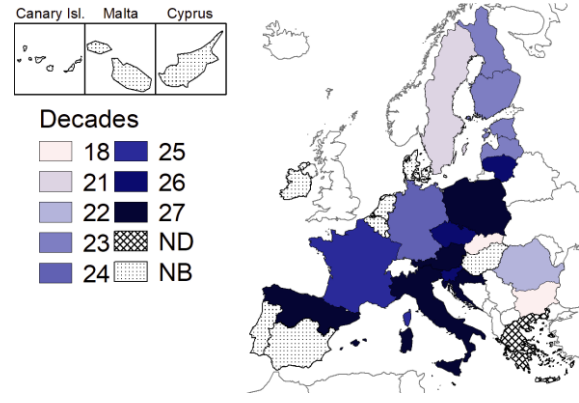
**Breeding:** Clutch size 7-11 (5-16) occasionally more but then probably always by two females; incubation 24-26 days; fledging period - capable of precocious flight at 2-3 weeks, full-grown at 2-3 months; independence of young at c. nine decades; one brood.

### Start of the period of reproduction



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	R	A	P	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
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### Limitations of data

**Start of reproduction:** There are discrepancies which could be partly explained by different sub-species and different criteria used to identify the start of reproduction.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the eastern part of the EU (BG data differs by 4 decades from RO data and has not provided the criterion used for the end of reproduction) as well as in the central part of the EU (DE data differs by 3 decades from PL data) and in the northern part of the EU (LV data differs by 3 decades from LT data). Overall, there is some variation in the criteria used to identify the end of reproduction, and some Member States have not reported the criteria used. Differences in altitude of breeding areas could explain some inconsistencies.

## 31. Black Francolin *Francolinus francolinus*

A716



Photo: Giorgi Darchiashvili ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-						
BE	-						
BG	-						
CY	+	+	+	-	-		
CZ	-						
DE	-						
DK	-						
EE	-						
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	-						
FIS	-						
FR	-						
HR	-						
HU	-						
IE	-						
IT	-						
LT	-						
LU	-						
LV	-						
MT	-						
NL	-						
PL	-						
PT	-						
RO	-						
SE	-						
SI	-						
SK	-						

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. The main distribution of Black Francolin lies to the east of the western Palearctic, occurring discontinuously from the eastern Mediterranean, across the Middle East and Caucasus, to northern India as far as Bhutan. The species previously bred in Italy (Sicily, Sardinia, and parts of the mainland) and Greece, but these populations are now extinct. It also bred in eastern Spain and the Balearic islands - where it was almost certainly introduced - but these populations are also now extinct. Within the EU, the only population now occurs in Cyprus. It is found on the fringes of forests or woodlands and more open areas, as well as in a range of essentially low-intensity agricultural areas and fallows, although needs access to water in all habitats used.

**Movements:** Sedentary. Resident throughout its global range.

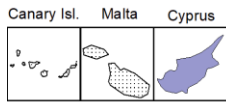
**Populations:** Only the nominate race *F. f. francolinus* occurs in Europe (Cramp & Simmons 1980).

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-12 (7-18); incubation 18-19 days; fledging period unknown; independence – precocial and nidifugous, however brood stays with parents during the first winter; one brood but possibly a second and presumed to relay after clutch loss.

### Start of the period of reproduction

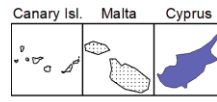


Decades  
 ■ 7  
 ■ NP



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



Decades  
 ■ 24  
 ■ NB



NB: not breeding

### Period of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
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### Limitations of data

Cyprus has not informed about the criteria used for setting the start and the end of the reproduction period.



## 32. Chukar *Alectoris chukar*

A411



Photo: Giorgi Darchiashvili ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-						
BE	-						
BG	+	+	-	-	-	4	
CY	+	+	+	-	-	1	
CZ	-						
DE	-						
DK	-						
EE	-						
EL	+	+	-	-	-	1	
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	-						
FIS	-						
FR	-						
HR	+	+	-	-	-	4	2
HU	-						
IE	-						
IT	-						
LT	-						
LU	-						
LV	-						
MT	-	+	+	-	-	4	3
NL	-						
PL	-						
PT	-						
RO	-						
SE	-						
SI	-						
SK	-						

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. The Chukar's natural range extends from the eastern Balkans (Bulgaria, Greek Thrace, Crete, and most Aegean Islands), through central Asia and the Himalayas, to northeastern China.

Historically, it has been introduced (for shooting motivations) into many countries including in Great Britain (not established), France and part of Greece (mainland, Corfu). It occurs at middle latitudes and in continental or Mediterranean climates, ranging from lowland plains to (local) altitudes of up to 4,500 m. It lives on arid or semi-arid hillsides with xerophilous vegetation, though in Europe it also inhabits vineyards, olive groves and dry agricultural land, but elsewhere forested mountain slopes.

**Movements:** Sedentary, although where occurring in mountains in winter will move locally to either steeper (and thus less snowy) slopes, or into valley bottoms in severe conditions (Cramp & Simmons 1980).

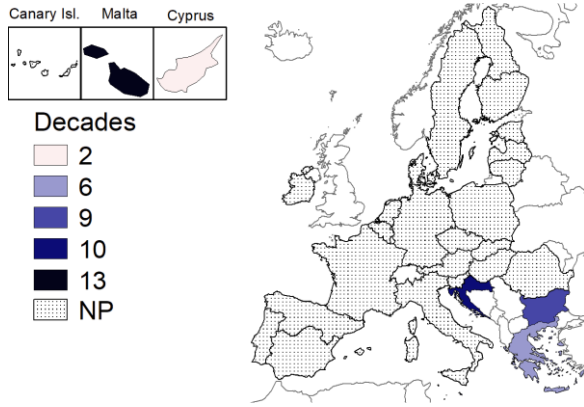
**Populations:** Two races occur in the EU (Cramp & Simmons 1980): (1) *A. c. cypristes* which occurs in Cyprus, southern Turkey, Crete and the southern Aegean Islands; and (2) *A. c. kleini* which occurs in southeast Bulgaria and Thrace, east from 25°N, northwest and northern Turkey and the Caucasus. No other population structuring is known.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

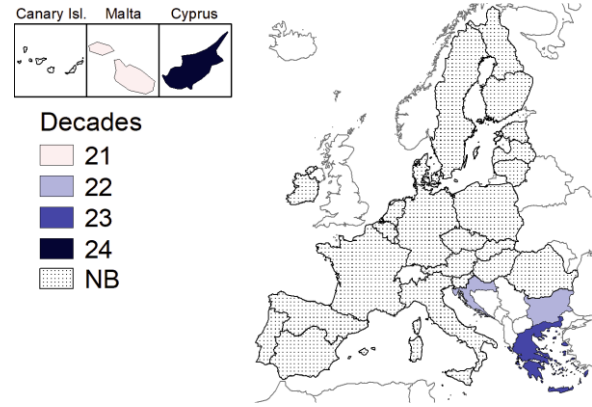
**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-15 (6-20); incubation 22-24 days; fledging - capable of precocious flight at 7-10 days, full-flight of young birds at c. 50 days; one brood.

### Start of the period of reproduction



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	M	A	P	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C								
Decode	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
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### Limitations of data

**Start of reproduction:** There is a serious lack of coherence between Member States (up to 12 decades). The use of different criteria to identify the start of reproduction cannot be the only reason for these differences.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence between the data of MT and CY (a difference of 3 decades). Only HR and MT have reported their criteria for identifying the end of reproduction.

### 33. Rock partridge *Alectoris graeca*

A109



Photo: Felix Kälin ©

#### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
BE	+						
BG	+	+	-	-	-		
CY	+						
CZ	+						
DE	+	+	-	-	-		
DK	+						
EE	+						
EL	+	+	-	-	-	1	
ESC	+						
ESN	+						
ESS	+						
FIN	+						
FIS	+						
FR	+	+	-	-	-	3	2
HR	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
HU	+						
IE	+						
IT	+	+	-	-	-	4	
LT	+						
LU	+						
LV	+						
MT	+						
NL	+						
PL	+						
PT	+						
RO	+						
SE	+						
SI	+	+	-	-	-		
SK	+						

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Endemic to Europe. Inhabits both low-altitude rocky steppes and mountainous open heaths and grasslands. Occurs in the Alps (breeding here at altitudes of 1,400 – 2,500 m), the central and southern Apennines, Sicily, the Balkan Peninsula including Greece, and at continental mid-latitudes in warm temperate and Mediterranean zones. It lives in dry, rocky mountains above the tree-line but below the snowline, including screes, rocky escarpments, and crags. Local declines and historic losses of populations appear caused by abandonment of traditional mountain farming and over-exploitation (Hagemeyer & Blair 1997).

**Movements:** Sedentary. Known to make some local movements between high altitude summer quarters and lower altitude wintering quarters, however. It does however occur at high altitudes in winter where local conditions keep ground snow-free.

**Populations:** Three races occur in the EU: (1) nominate *A. g. graeca* occurs in Greece, southeast Balkans, and central and southwest Bulgaria; (2) *A. g. whitakeri* occurs in Sicily; and (3) all other European birds (Alps from France to Austria, Apennines and west and southwest Balkans) are of the race *A. g. saxatilis*.

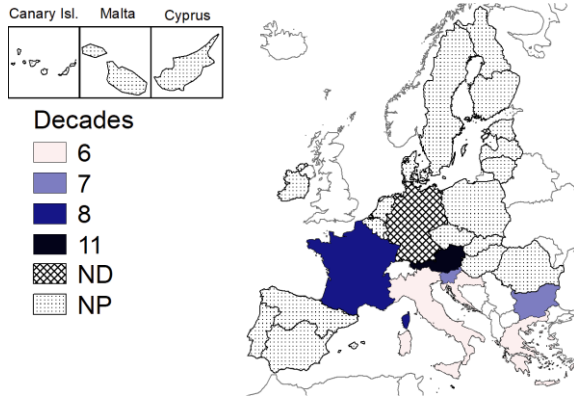
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-14 (6-21) highest numbers perhaps by two females; incubation 24-26 days; fledging period - capable of precocious flight at 7-10 days, independence of young c. six decades after hatching; one or two broods, clutches sometimes laid a few days apart and second clutch incubated by the male.

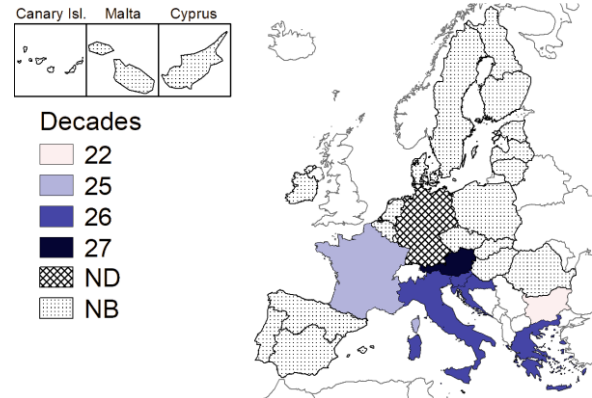
**International Plan:** EU Management Statement ([Palumbo & Valvo 1999](#)).

### Start of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C								
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
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### Limitations of data

**Start of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the central part of the EU (AT data differs by 4-5 decades from SI and IT data).

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the Balkan region (BG data differs by 4 decades from the data of EL).

## 34. Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*

A110



Photo: Petri Alroth ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+						
BE	+						
BG	+						
CY	+						
CZ	+						
DE	+						
DK	+						
EE	+						
EL	+						
ESC	+	+	-	-	-	3	3
ESN	+	+	-	-	-	3	3
ESS	+	+	-	-	-	3	3
FIN	+						
FIS	+						
FR	+	+	-	-	-	3	2
HR	+						
HU	+						
IE	+	+	-	-	-		
IT	+	+	-	-	-	4	
LT	+						
LU	+						
LV	+						
MT	+						
NL	+						
PL	+						
PT	+	+	-	-	-	4	
RO	+						
SE	+						
SI	+						
SK	+						

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Occurs in southwestern Europe (France, Spain, Portugal, Corsica, northern Italy, and the Balearic Islands). While it has disappeared from Germany, the Channel Islands and northern France, it has been historically introduced to Great Britain, Madeira, the Azores and Canary Islands. Occurs across diverse climate zones from Mediterranean to humid temperate regions, and preferring lowland to montane environments. Breeds in a wide range of different habitats, typically characterized by being open with bare soil surfaces permitting fast running, and thus being particularly associated with arable farmland.

**Movements:** Sedentary. In Spain, some birds breeding at higher altitudes descend to valleys in winter to avoid severe weather.

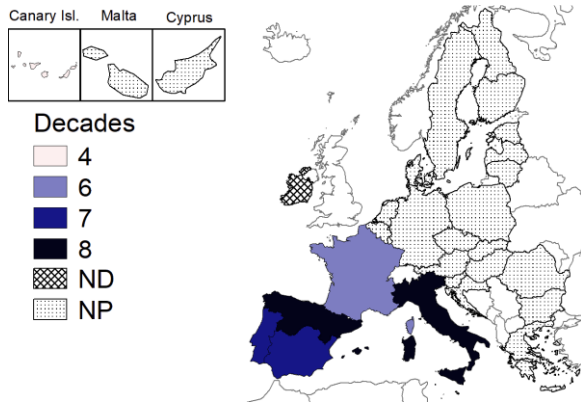
**Populations:** Three races occur: (1) nominate *A. r. rufa* in central and southern France, northwest Italy, Elba and Corsica (and British introductions); (2) *A. r. hispanica* in northern and northwest Spain, northern and central Portugal; and (3) *A. r. intercedens* in southern and eastern Spain and perhaps southern Portugal.

EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 10-16 (7-20); incubation 23-24 days; fledging period - capable of precocious flight at c. ten days; young independent c. six decades after hatching and stay with parents throughout first winter; one or two simultaneous broods.

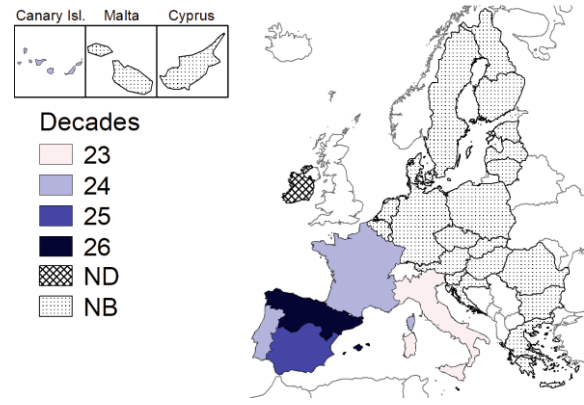


### Start of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
AT																																				
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### Limitations of data

**Start of reproduction:** There is an incoherence between the data for FR and IT which could partly be explained by the different criteria used to identify the start of reproduction and the fact that IT reports a continuous occupation of breeding territories.

**End of reproduction:** There are some incoherencies between ES and IT which could be explained by the use of different criteria to identify the end of reproduction and the fact that three races exist for this species. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in IE because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.



## 35. Barbary Partridge *Alectoris barbara*

A111



Photo: Frits van der Meer ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-						
BE	-						
BG	-						
CY	-						
CZ	-						
DE	-						
DK	-						
EE	-						
EL	-						
ESC	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
ESN	+						
ESS	+	+	-	-	-	3	2
FIN	-						
FIS	-						
FR	-						
HR	-						
HU	-						
IE	-						
IT	+	+	-	-	-	4	
LT	-						
LU	-						
LV	-						
MT	-						
NL	-						
PL	-						
PT	-						
RO	-						
SE	-						
SI	-						
SK	-						

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. This partridge is mainly a bird of north Africa, but also occurs, following introductions, in the Canary Islands, and Gibraltar (in late 19<sup>th</sup> century) from where it has spread to the adjacent Spanish mainland. It also occurs in Sardinia, where it may have been introduced in Roman times (Hagemeyer & Blair 1997). It occupies a wide range of habitats in Mediterranean, steppe, and desert zones, living on bare stony hills, scrub, open or degraded maquis, unimproved agricultural land, vineyards, and woodland. It is found at altitudes of up to 3,300 m in the Atlas Mountains. The Barbary Partridge has broadly similar ecology, though a different distribution, to the Rock Partridge *Alectoris graeca*.

**Movements:** Sedentary.

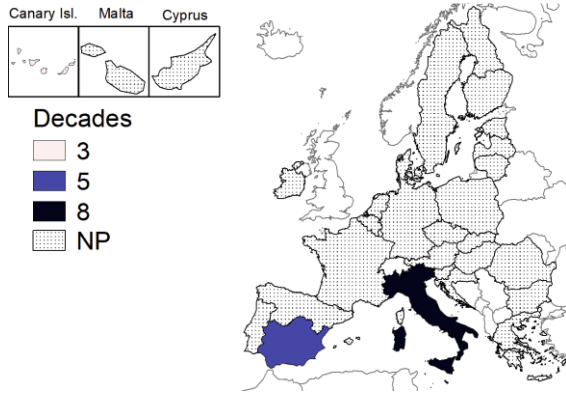
**Populations:** Two races occur in Europe: (1) the nominate race *A. b. barbara* is found in Gibraltar and Sardinia as well as northeast Morocco, northern Algeria and northern Tunisia; whilst (2) birds introduced to the Canary Islands are of the race *A. b. koenigi* whose range includes northwest Morocco. Two other subspecies occur within its limited north African range.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

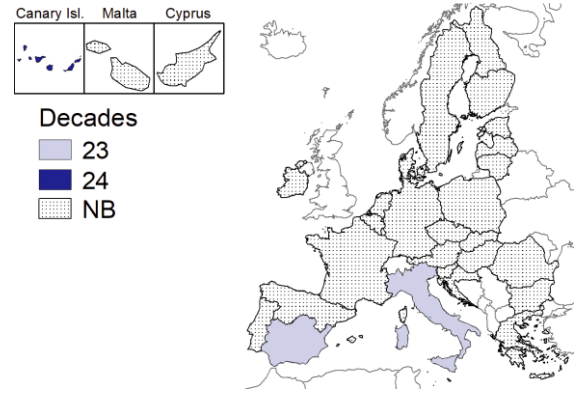
**Breeding:** Clutch size 10-14 (8-18); incubation probably c. 25 days; fledging period - presumably capable of precocious flight at 7-10 days; young independent c. six decades after hatching.

### Start of the period of reproduction



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C				
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
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### Limitations of data

No comment.

## 36. Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix*

A112



Photo: Andris Soms ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	-	-	-	1	1
BE	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
BG	+	+	-	-	-	1	
CY	+						
CZ	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
DE	+	+	-	-	-	3	3
DK	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
EE	+	+	-	-	-	4	
EL	+	+	-	-	-		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	-	-	3	3
ESS	+						
FIN	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FIS	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FR	+	+	-	-	-	3	2
HR	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
HU	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
IE	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
IT	+	+	-	-	-	4	
LT	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
LU	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	+	+	-	-	-	3	2
MT	+	+	-	-	-		
NL	+	+	-	-	-	1	1
PL	+	+	-	-	-	1	
PT	+	+	-	-	-		
RO	+	+	-	-	-		
SE	+	+	-	-	-	4	
SI	+	+	-	-	-		
SK	+	+	-	-	-	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Grey Partridge was originally a steppe species, distributed from central Europe to Mongolia. It has become adapted to arable land and consequently been able to colonise most of Europe, from the Mediterranean to 65°N in Scandinavia. Through much of its range it prefers open, low-intensity, mixed farmland (with a mosaic of field types), avoiding woodland and heavy cover.

**Movements:** Mainly sedentary although partly migratory in eastern Europe and capable of short-distance movements elsewhere.

**Populations:** Six races in Europe: (1) nominate *P. p. perdix* occurs northwest Europe from Scandinavia, Ireland and northern France, south across central Europe to Greece and southwest Bulgaria; (2) *P. p. hispaniensis* restricted to Pyrenees and Cantabrian Mountains of Spain and Portugal; (3) *P. p. italica* limited to central and southern Italy, where currently very rare and probably extinct or nearly so; (4) *P. p. armoricana* is found in northern and central France north to Ardennes; (5) *P. p. sphagnetorum* occurs in northeast Netherlands and neighbouring Germany; and (6) *P. p. lucida* occurs east of nominate race from Finland, east Poland, and northern Bulgaria across Russia.

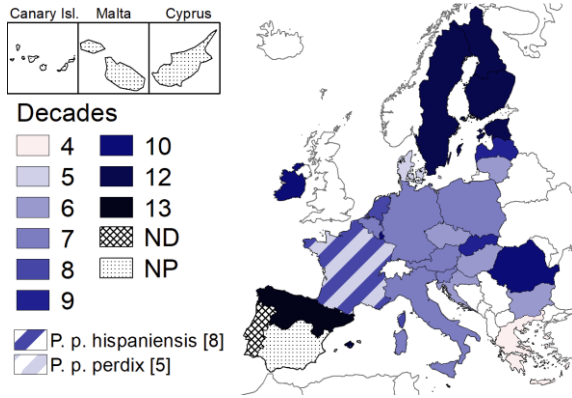
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 10-20 (4-29). Often stated that clutches of >24 from two females but not always so; incubation 23-25 days; fledging period - capable of precocious flight at ca. 15 days; independence at ca. six decades; one brood.

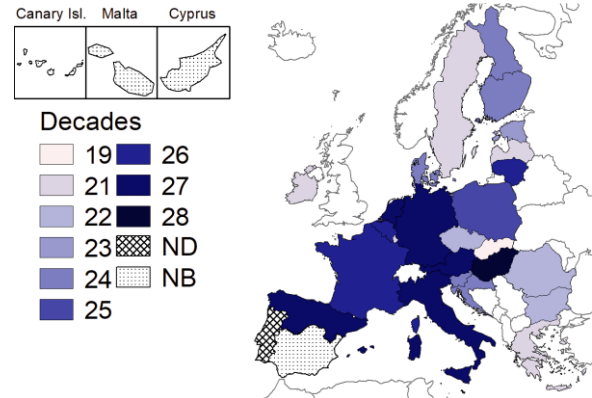
**International Plan:** EU Management Statement for Italian Grey Partridge *P. p. italica* (Palumbo 1999).

### Start of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	M	A	P	M	A	M	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C							
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
BE																																					
BG																																					
CY																																					
CZ																																					
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PT																																					
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SE																																					
SI																																					
SK																																					

### Limitations of data

**Start of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the Balkan region (BG data differs by 4 decades from EL data, RO data differs by 4 decades from HU), as well as in the eastern part of EU (SK data differs by 3 decades from CZ data), the Baltic region (3 decades difference between the Baltic countries) and in south western part of the EU (ESN data differs by 5 decades from FR data (*P. p. hispaniensis*)). Differences in the criteria used to identify the start of reproduction could partly explain some of these inconsistencies.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the data for several Member States in the northern and eastern parts of the EU (up to 6 decades). Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction vary among Member States.

## 37. Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix*

A113



Photo: Janis Jansons ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of repro-duction	End of repro-duction
AT	+	-	+	+	-	1	2
BE	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
BG	+	-	+	+	+	1	2
CY	+	+	+	+	+	1	
CZ	-	-	+	-	-	1	1
DE	-	-	+	+	-	1	3
DK	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
EE	-	-	+	+	-	4	
EL	+	+	+	+	+	4	
ESC	+	+	-	+	-	4	2
ESN	+	-	+	+	-	4	2
ESS	+	+	+	+	+	4	2
FIN	-	-	+	-	-	1	2
FIS	-	-	+	-	-	1	2
FR	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
HR	+	-	+	+	-	1	4
HU	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
IE	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
IT	+	+	+	+	+	4	
LT	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
LU	-	-	+	-	-	1	2
LV	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
MT	+	-	+	+	-	1	2
NL	-	-	+	-	-		
PL	-	-	+	+	-		4
PT	+	+	+	+	+	4	
RO	+	-	+	+	-		
SE	-	-	+	+	-	4	
SI	-	-	+	+	-		
SK	-	-	+	+	-	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic and Afrotropical.

Distributed in western Eurasia, northern India, and much of Africa. In the Palearctic, the species has a wide breeding distribution across temperate Europe, western Asia and northern Africa. The main wintering areas are in Africa south of the Sahel and in India, although increasing numbers now overwinter in north Africa. About 10-25% of its global range occurs in Europe, where it is widespread south of 60°N. It occurs in a wide range of essentially open habitats at altitudes of up to 1,000 m, including arable farmland, steppe, and other natural grasslands. Size of populations varies markedly determined by a range of factors.

**Movements:** Migratory. The European population is highly migratory with most of the birds moving to Africa in winter, though numbers remain in Iberia and elsewhere in southern Europe. Migration ecology is complex however, and poorly understood. The pre-nuptial migration to European breeding grounds occurs in late April – early May.

**Populations:** Three races occur in Europe: (1) nominate *C. c. coturnix* occurs throughout Europe other than the Azores where (2) *C. c. conturbans* occurs; and (3) on Madeira where *C. c. confisa* occurs.

EU population status and trends:


<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

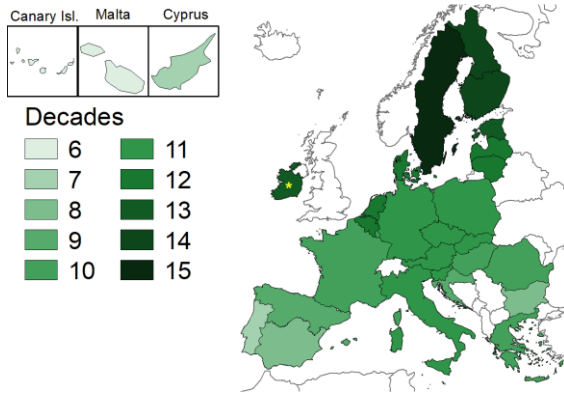
**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-13 (7-18) more than 18 probably by two females; incubation 17-20 days; fledging period - c. 19 days, but can flutter off grounds at c. 11 days.

**International Plan:** EU Management Plan ([Perennou 2009](#)).

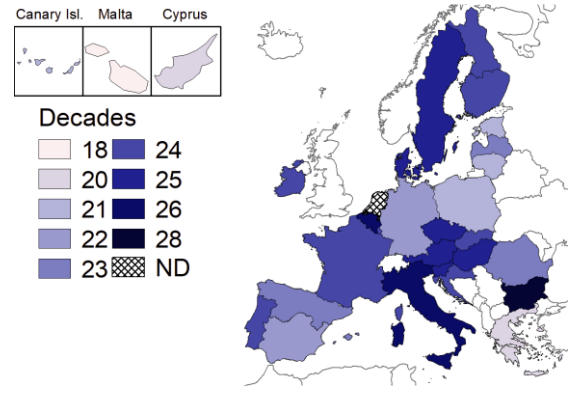


### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction )

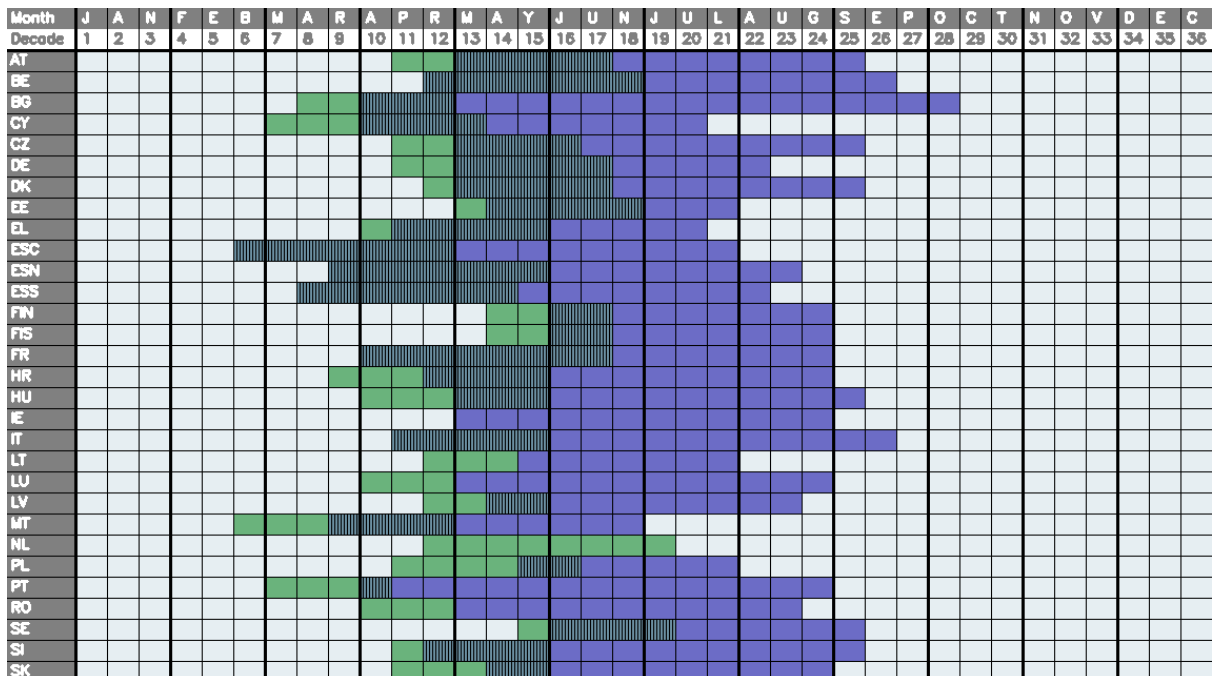


### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the Mediterranean region (IT data differs by 5 decades from MT data, EL data by 3 decades from CY data). IE reported no data for the prenuptial migration period.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in all parts of the EU (the most striking is the difference of 8 decades between MT and IT and EL and BG).



## 38. Common Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*

A115



Photo: Petri Alroth ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
BE	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
BG	+	+	-	-	-	4	
CY	+						
CZ	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
DE	+	+	-	-	-	3	3
DK	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
EE	+						
EL	+						
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
ESS	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FIN	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FIS	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FR	+	+	-	-	-	3	2
HR	+	+	-	-	-	4	2
HU	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
IE	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
IT	+	+	-	-	-		
LT	+	+	-	-	-	4	2
LU	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	+	+	-	-	-	3	2
MT	+	+	-	-	-	4	3
NL	+	+	-	-	-	1	1
PL	+	+	-	-	-		
PT	+						
RO	+	+	-	-	-		
SE	+	+	-	-	-		
SI	+	+	-	-	-		
SK	+	+	-	-	-	1	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Introduced. The natural breeding distribution of Common Pheasant extends from the Caucasus to Manchuria, Korea and Japan. It was introduced in western Europe in Roman times, but in Greece it was perhaps already present as early as 1,300 BC. It was introduced in many regions of Europe only at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century or even at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It now occurs across much of lowland Europe from Finland to Italy, but its distribution (and breeding density) is sparser in Mediterranean regions. Pheasants are found in lowland wooded valleys, scrubland, and thickets below about 500-700 m altitude, and are particularly associated with arable farmland landscapes. Reared birds are still widely released for shooting purposes, and these probably sustain local populations in some areas.

**Movements:** Sedentary, although very short distance movements have been recorded.

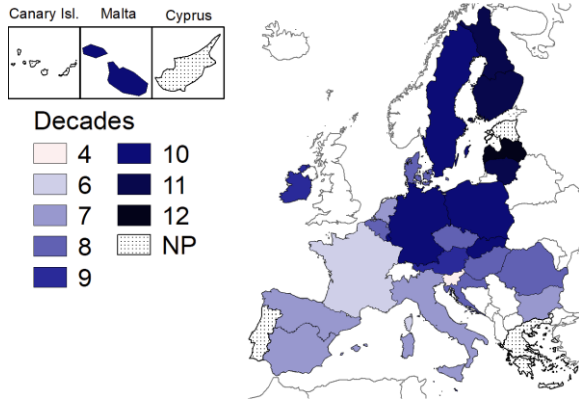
**Populations:** Several races have been introduced to Europe and there is significant genetic diversity amongst birds now resident in the EU as a result of these releases (Cramp & Simmons 1980).

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

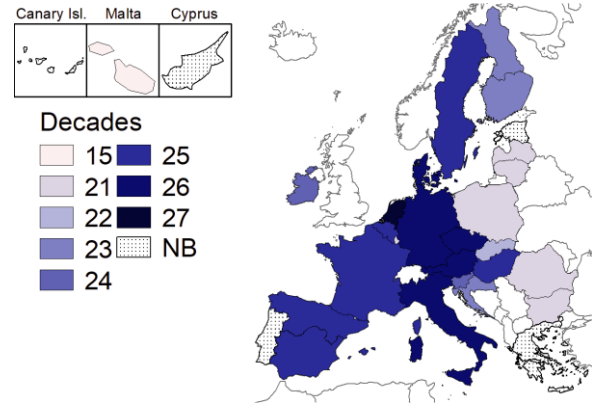
**Breeding:** Clutch size 8-15 (2-23) >18 always by two females; incubation 23-28 days; fledging period - capable of precocious flight at ca. 12 days; broods remain with female for 70-80 days before becoming independent; one brood.

### Start of the period of reproduction



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C				
Decode	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
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### Limitations of data

**Start of reproduction:** Member States are using different criteria to identify the start of reproduction. Some Member States report that the species is feral/introduced.

**End of reproduction:** There is lack of coherence between the data for MT and for ESS (10 decades difference) and the whole reproduction period in MT seems to be too short considering the time needed for chicks to be independent. There is also a lack of coherence between data from PL, SK and DE (data differ 3-4 decades). Member States are using different criteria to identify the end of reproduction. Some Member States report difficulties in assessing the end of reproduction due to the scarce numbers of breeding individuals.

## 39. Common Turkey *Meleagris gallopavo*

A460



Photo: Tim Lumley ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	-	-	-	4	1
BE	-						
BG	-						
CY	-						
CZ	+						
DE	+	+	-	-	-		
DK	-						
EE	-						
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	-						
FIS	-						
FR	-						
HR	-						
HU	-						
IE	-						
IT	-						
LT	-						
LU	-						
LV	-						
MT	-						
NL	-						
PL	-						
PT	-						
RO	-						
SE	-						
SI	-						
SK	+						

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Introduced. This species has been introduced from North America with some success in many parts of the world. In Europe, the first record introduction was in the Lower Rhine area in 1571, in Britain (since the 17<sup>th</sup> century), the Czech Republic before 1781 but mainly since 1880, France (since 1875), Hungary (since 1930) and Austria (1880, 1947) (sources in Hagemeyer & Blair 1997). Birds persist in the Czech Republic, where a small population (530 birds in 1988 – Hagemeyer & Blair 1997) was established in 1927, although the survival of this population in riverine woodlands appears to depend on supplementary feeding in winter. Article 12 reports for 2008-2012 also reported 20-40 individuals in Austria, and 3-4 pairs in UK.

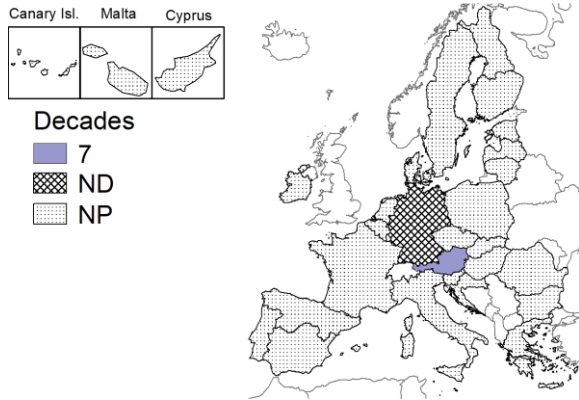
**Movements:** Sedentary.

**Populations:** European introductions sourced from North America.

EU population status and trends:  
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

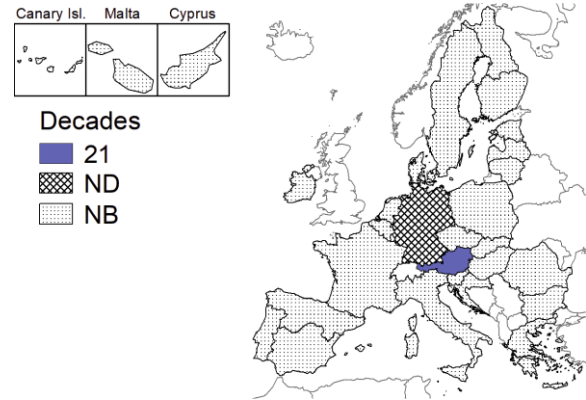
**Breeding:** No information about the reproduction of the European introduced population is available.

### Start of the period reproduction



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Period of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
BE																																					
BG																																					
CY																																					
CZ																																					
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### Limitations of data

The species has been reported as present by DE (a few feral individuals). However, DE has not reported data for the reproduction.

## 40. Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*

A118



Photo: Petri Alroth ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	-	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	-	+	-	+	+	1	
CY	-	-	+	+	+	1	
CZ	-	-	+	+	+	2	1
DE	-	+	+	+	+	1	3
DK	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	-	-	+	-	+	1	
EL	-	+	-	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	+	-	-	-	4	4
ESS	-	+	-	-	-	4	4
FIN	-	-	+	-	-	1	1
FIS	-	-	+	-	-	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
HU	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	-	+	-	+	+	2	1
IT	+	+	-	+	+	4	
LT	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	-	-	+	+	+	1	2
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	-	-	+	+	+		
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	-	+	-	-	+		4
RO	-	-	+	+	+		
SE	-	-	+	+	+	1	
SI	-	-	+	+	-		
SK	-	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. This small rail inhabits wetlands in a major part of Eurasia, from Iberia and southern Scandinavia to Iran, China, and eastern Siberia. In Europe it occurs in suitable wetland habitats in a wide range of climatic zones. It is found from Iberia to the Black Sea and north to southern Finland and Iceland. Water Rails live in permanently waterlogged dense vegetation fringing wetlands, and their generally secretive behaviour means that knowledge of their occurrence is poor outside the breeding season when males are vocal. They prefer base-rich eutrophic wetlands (either with still or slow-moving, fresh, or brackish water) and typified by a mosaic of species-rich vegetation types.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Birds of south and west Europe are largely sedentary, although those in northern and eastern Europe are migratory, in winter joining resident birds in the south and west of the continent. Birds breeding in Iceland are resident, however.

**Populations:** Two races occur in Europe: (1) *R. a. hibernans* is resident in Iceland; whilst (2) birds occurring elsewhere in Europe are of nominate *R. a. aquaticus*.


EU population status and trends:

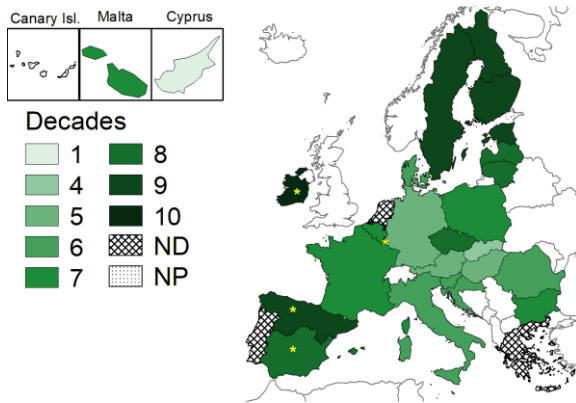
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 6-11 (5-16); incubation 19-22 days; full flight of young birds at 20-30 days; one or two broods.



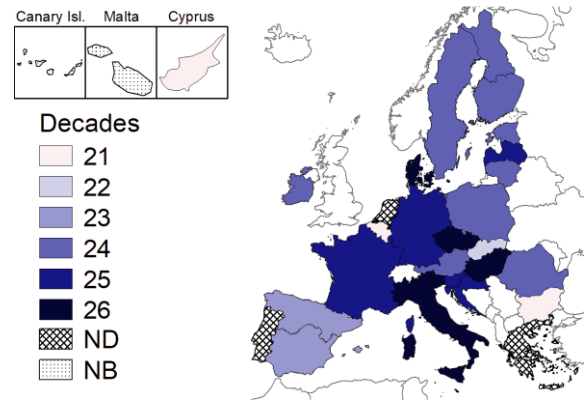
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	M	A	P	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C								
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
BG																																						
CY																																						
CZ																																						
DE																																						
DK																																						
EE																																						
EL																																						
ESC																																						
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SI																																						
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### Limitations of data

**Start of spring migration:** There are important discrepancies e.g. ES, BE, CZ, and FR data compared to DE, AT, and HU data.

**End of reproduction:** Several northern Member States (FI, SE, PL) have an earlier date for the end of reproduction than in southern Member States (IT, HR, HU). The number of broods may partly explain such a difference.



## 41. Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

A123

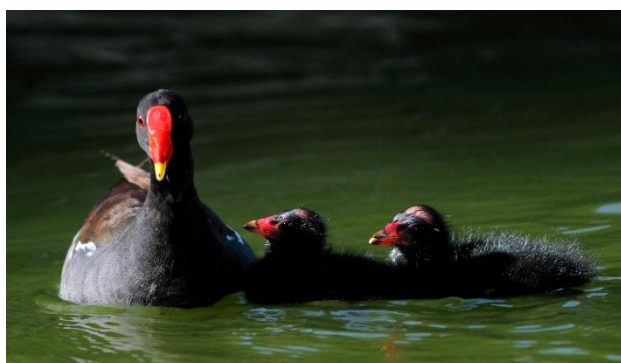


Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	–	+	+	+	+	2	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	–	+	+	+	+	1	
CY	–	+	+	+	+	1	
CZ	–	+	+	+	–	1	1
DE	–	+	+	+	+	1	3
DK	–	+	+	+	+	2	1
EE	–	–	+	–	+	4	
EL	+	+	–	+	+	2	
ESC	–						
ESN	–	+	–	–	–	3	2
ESS	–	+	–	–	–	3	2
FIN	–	–	+	–	–	1	1
FIS	–	–	+	–	–	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	–	+	+	+	+	2	1
HU	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
IE	–	+	–	–	+	2	1
IT	+	+	–	+	+	4	
LT	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
LU	–	+	–	–	–	1	2
LV	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+	–	+	+	+	1	1
NL	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
PL	–	+	–	+	+		
PT	+	+	–	+	+	4	
RO	+	+	+	+	+		
SE	–	+	+	+	–	4	
SI	–	+	+	+	–		
SK	–	+	+	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Widespread globally. This cosmopolitan species inhabits freshwater wetlands across major part of Europe, reaching 65°N in western Norway. It occupies a wide range of climatic zones from boreal and temperate, to steppe and Mediterranean, and having both oceanic and continental climates. Is found especially in lowland, freshwater, eutrophic wetlands sheltered by woodlands or tall emergent vegetation that provide cover. Moorhens avoid extensive areas of open waters.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. The birds of western and southern Europe are sedentary, although northern and eastern populations (birds breeding in Finland, east of the Baltic, and central Europe from Hungary to the Balkans) move towards the south and west in winter to avoid the consequences of the freezing of their preferred shallow-water habitats.


**Populations:** Two races of Moorhens occur in Europe: (1) nearly all European birds belong to the nominate race (1) *G. c. chloropus*; although (2) the tiny population of *G. c. correiana* is restricted to one, possibly three, islands in the Azores with a population of just 20-30 pairs (Hagemeyer & Blair 1997).

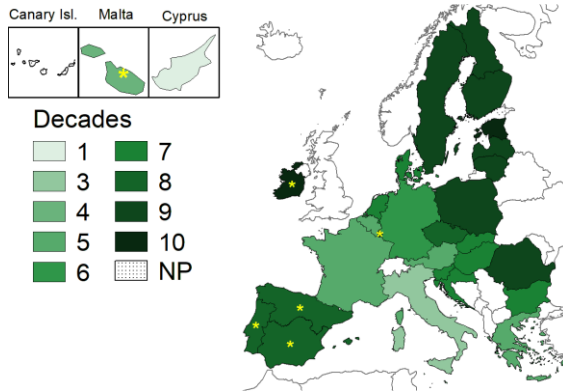
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 5-9 (2-13) >13 eggs probably always by two females: clutch size increases from start of season in late March to peak in late April, declining thereafter; incubation 21-22 days; fledging period - 40-50 days, rarely to 70 days; independent after 52–99 days – mean 72 days; one or two broods.

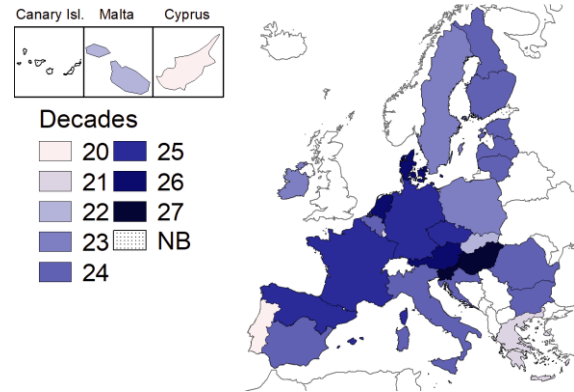
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	J	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C				
Decode	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36			
AT																																							
BE																																							
BG																																							
CY																																							
CZ																																							
DE																																							
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LV																																							
MT																																							
NL																																							
PL																																							
PT																																							
RO																																							
SE																																							
SI																																							
SK																																							

### Limitations of data

**Start of spring migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the south western part of the EU (PT and ES data differ by 3 decades from FR data) and the eastern part of the EU (RO data seems not logical compared to its neighbouring Member States). Whether the species is migratory or sedentary in a Member State could partly explain incoherencies.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence within Iberian Peninsula and within the Balkan region. The presence of a second brood might not always have been taken into account (e.g. EL, PT).

## 42. Common Coot *Fulica atra*

A125

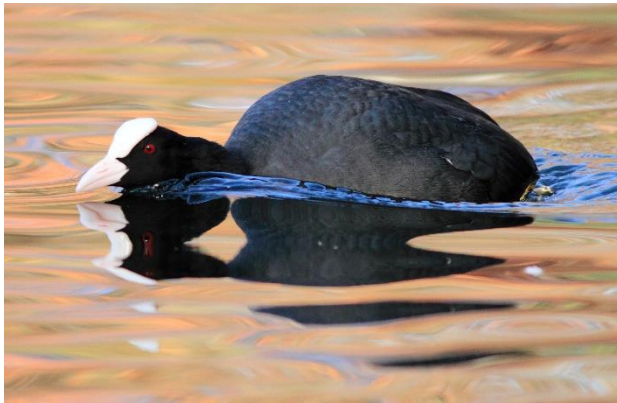


Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	+	+	+	1	
CY	+	+	+	+	+	4	
CZ	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
DE	+	+	+	+	+	1	3
DK	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	+	+	+	+	2	
ESC	+	+	-	-	+	2	1
ESN	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
FIN	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HU	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
IE	+	-	-	+	+	2	1
IT	+	+	+	+	+	4	
LT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
LU	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
NL	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	+	+	-	+	+		
PT	+	+	-	+	+	4	4
RO	+	+	+	+	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
SI	+	-	+	+	-		
SK	+	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic, Indo-Malay, and Australasian. This aquatic rail inhabits much of Eurasia, from Iberia and Fennoscandia, as far as north and northwestern Africa, southern India, to Japan and eastern Siberia. It is a widespread and adaptable species, occurring in a range of different still-water wetlands where it occasionally occurs at high densities. It occupies a wide range of climatic zones and also of wetland types, occurring both on still and moving waters (where there is suitable vegetation).

**Movements:** Through much of Europe it is sedentary, but populations of north and northeast move to overwinter in southwestern Europe, in the Balkans and in north Africa to avoid the consequences of frozen wetlands. Moulting migrations are known and very large moulting flocks reported from the Black and Baltic Seas but their origins are unknown (O'Halloran 2002). In winter, there can be significant cold-weather movements within Europe in response to periods of severe freezing (Ridgill & Fox 1990).


EU population status and trends:

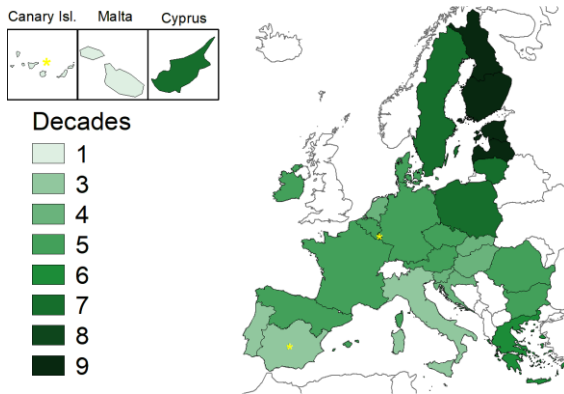
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Populations:** Two populations of the nominate race *F. a. atra* occur in Europe, defined on the basis of winter distributions (AEWA 2018): (1) birds wintering in northwest Europe; (2) birds wintering in Black Sea and Mediterranean regions. The breeding areas of these populations are not clearly distinguished.

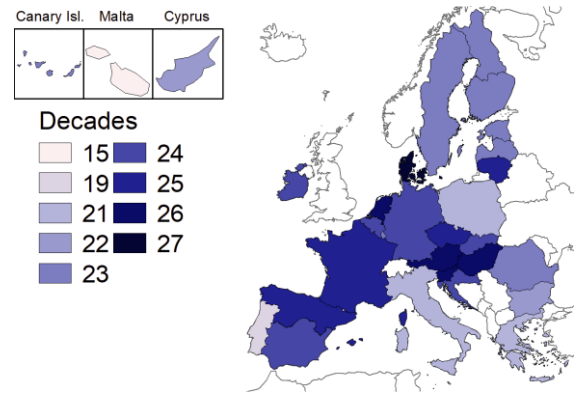
**Breeding:** Clutch size 6-10 (1-13) >14 probably always derive from two females; incubation 21-24 days; fledging period 55-60 days; independence about the same time as fledging; one or two broods.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

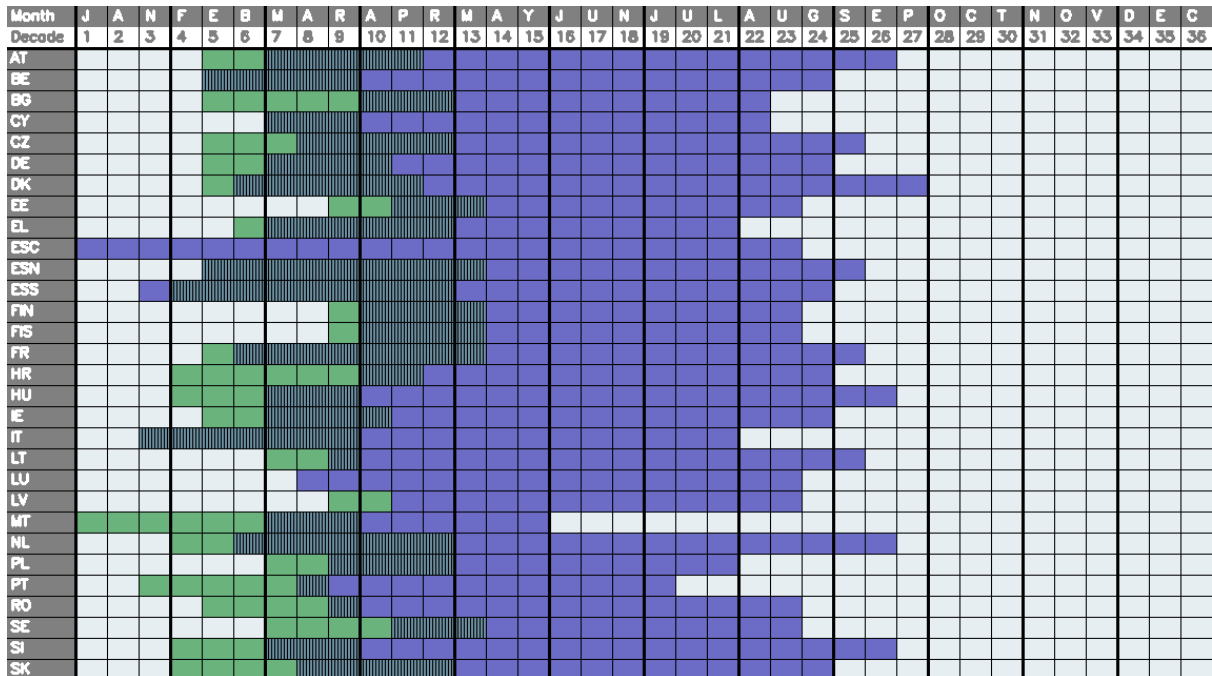
(or start of reproduction for residents )



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** The start of migration in EL is late compared to neighbouring Member States. The use of different criteria to identify the start of prenuptial migration may explain some inconsistencies.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in many parts of the EU. The most striking differences relate to data from PT which differs by 5 decades from ES data and MT data that differs by 5 decades from IT data. There is a need to investigate to what extent the second brood has been taken into account. The use of different criteria to identify the end of reproduction may explain some inconsistencies.

## 43. Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*

A130



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	–						
BE	–	+	+	+	+		
BG	–	–	+	+	–	1	
CY	–	–	–	+	–		
CZ	–	–	–	+	–		
DE	–	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	–	+	+	+	1	1
EE	–	–	+	+	–	1	
EL	–	+	–	+	+		
ESC	–						
ESN	–	–	+	+	+	1	2
ESS	–	–	–	+	+		
FIN	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
FIS	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	–	–	–	+	–		
HU	–						
IE	–	+	+	+	+	2	1
IT	–	+	–	–	–	4	
LT	–	–	+	+	–	2	1
LU	–						
LV	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
MT	–	–	–	+	–		
NL	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
PL	–	–	+	+	–		
PT	–	–	–	+	+		
RO	–	–	+	+	–		
SE	–	–	+	+	–	1	
SI	–						
SK	–	–	–	+	–		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Oystercatchers have a discontinuous distribution in temperate and subarctic Eurasia, breeding on coasts in the north and west, but inland in eastern parts of its range, (and increasingly also in western Europe). In the west, its main distribution extends from northern Scandinavia and Iceland, to western France, with highly sporadic breeding along northern Mediterranean coasts. Further east, Oystercatchers breed in small numbers along rivers and both freshwater and saline lakes in Ukraine, Russia, and the central Asia republics.

**Movements:** Migratory. Whilst some birds in western Europe (*H. o. ostralegus*) are largely sedentary, those breeding in northern and eastern Europe are migratory and winter mainly in the Wadden Sea, Dutch Delta region, around British and Irish coasts, as well as north and west Africa. Some birds of the *longipes* race winter in the eastern Mediterranean, on the coasts of east and northeast Africa and Arabia.

**Populations:** Within Europe, two populations occur, each comprising all of two races (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEW 2018): (1) nominate *H. o. ostralegus* breed along Atlantic, North Sea and arctic coasts, as well as the north Mediterranean; and (2) *H. o. longipes* breeds to the east of the Black Sea and migrates to east Africa and Arabian coasts.

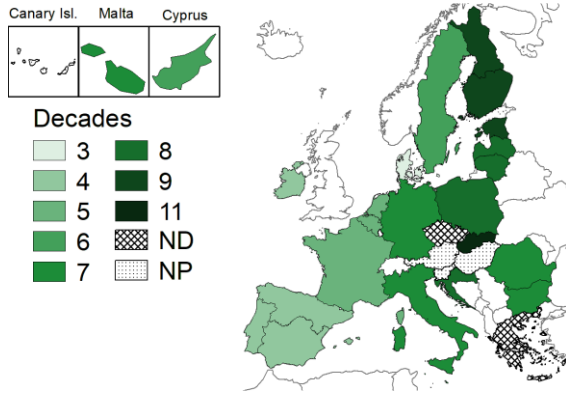
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3 (1-4, rarely 5); incubation 24-27 days; full flight of young birds at 28-32 days; one brood.

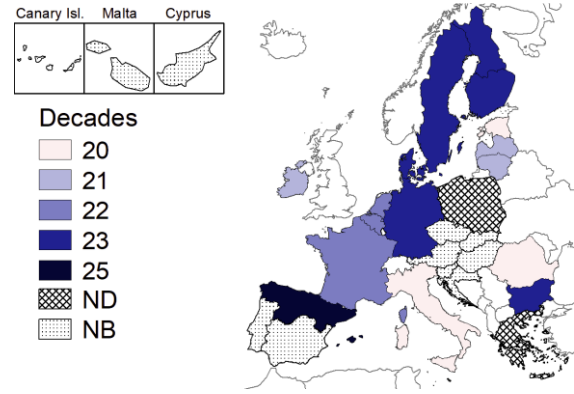
**International Plan:** EU multi-species Action Plan ([Leyrer \*et al.\* 2018](#)).

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



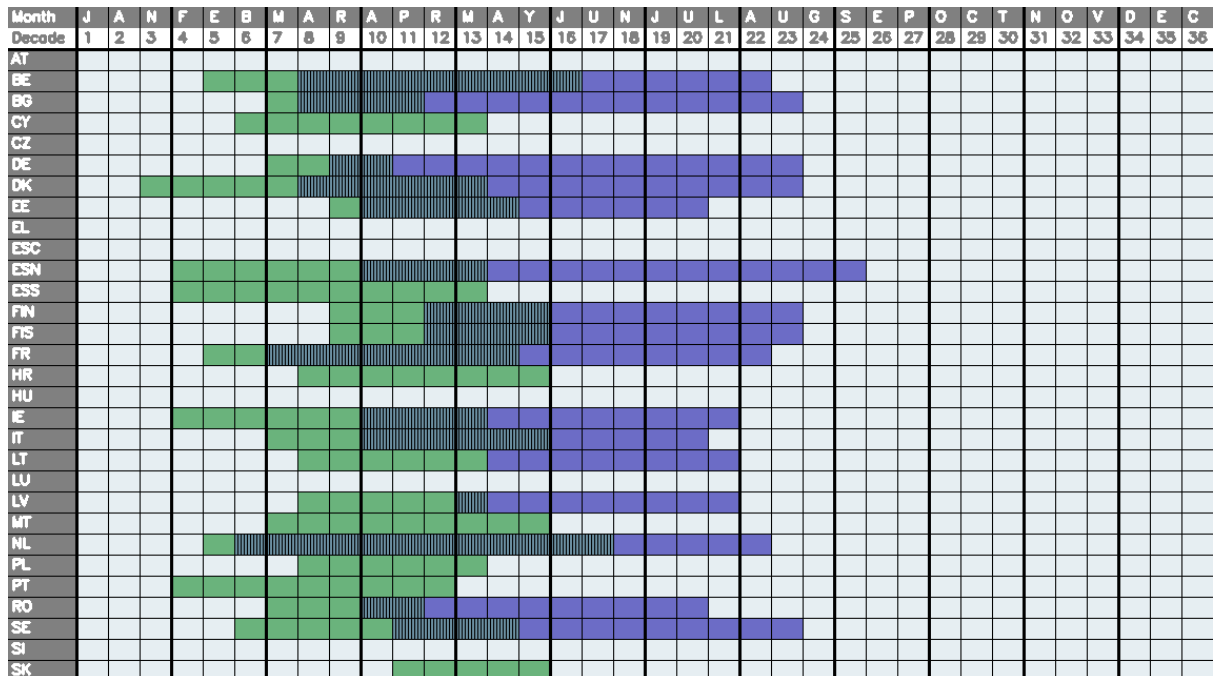
ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of spring migration:** The start of migration in SK is much later than in neighbouring Member States.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the south western part of the EU (FR data differs by 3 decades from ESN). Some inconsistencies could be partly explained by the use of different criteria to identify the start of reproduction.



## 44. Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*

A140



Photo: Petri Alroth ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	-		
BE	+	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	-	+	-		
DE	-	-	-	+	+	1	1
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	-	-	+	+	-	4	
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	-	+	+		
ESS	-	-	-	+	+		
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	+	+		
HU	-	-	-	+	-		
IE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
IT	-	-	-	+	+		
LT	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	+	-	-	+	+		
PL	-	-	-	+	+		
PT	+	-	-	+	+		
RO	-	-	-	+	-		
SE	-	-	+	+	-	4	
SI	-	-	-	+	+		
SK	-	-	-	+	-		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. This plover inhabits tundra, moors, fens and high-altitude grasslands in boreal Europe and western Asia, from Iceland to central Siberia (Byrkjedal & Thompson 1998). Southern range limits contracted markedly since mid- 19<sup>th</sup> century, and formerly widespread lowland population from The Netherlands to Poland now almost extinct.

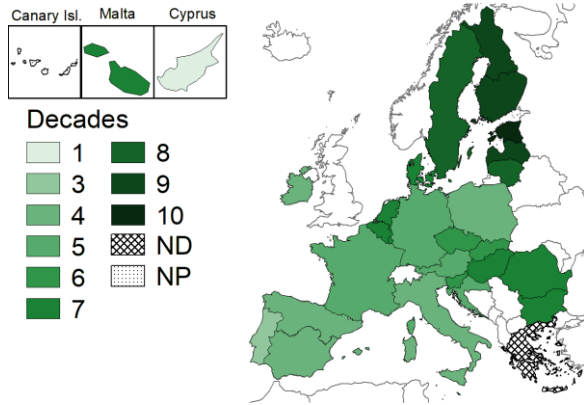
**Movements:** Partially migratory in Britain and Ireland, wholly migratory elsewhere. In mild winters most stay in Europe, mainly in UK, Ireland, Netherlands to Iberia, and locally around the Mediterranean. Pre-nuptial migration occurs in March-April with breeding areas reoccupied May to early June. Main southward movement to wintering areas occurs in October-December.

**Populations:** Four populations of two subspecies occur in Europe (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEW 2018): (1) nominate *P.a. apricaria* comprising European temperate breeders (in UK, Ireland, south Scandinavia, Germany and Baltic states) and wintering in northwest Europe. Three arctic-breeding populations of *P.a. altifrons* also occur: (2) the Iceland, Faeroes and east Greenland population wintering in Ireland, UK, France, Iberia and northwest Africa; (3) a north European population breeding in northern Scandinavia and Russia and wintering in west and continental Europe, east Britain and northwest Africa; and (4) the poorly known west and north-central Siberian breeding population which probably migrates through the eastern Mediterranean.

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-4 (2-5); incubation 28-31 days; fledging period 25-33 days, with some flying before full size attained; one brood.

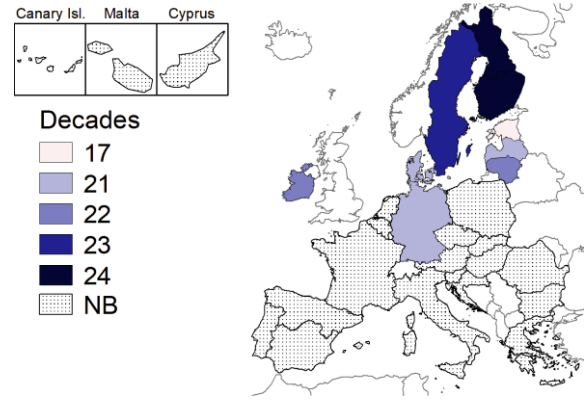
**International Plan:** EU Management Plan (Béchet 2009) and EU multi-species Action Plan (Leyrer *et al.* 2018).

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
BG																																						
CY																																						
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SK																																						

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the Mediterranean region (MT data differs by 3 decades from IT data) and in the northern part of the EU (PL differs by 4 decades from SE). There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in EL because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the Baltic countries (EE data differs by 5 decades from LT, and by 7 from FI).

## 45. Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

A141



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	-		
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	-	+	-		
DE	-	-	-	+	+		
DK	+	-	-	+	+		
EE	-	-	-	+	-		
EL	-	-	-	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	-	+	+		
ESS	-	-	-	+	+		
FIN	-	-	-	+	-		
FIS	-	-	-	+	-		
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	+	+		
HU	-	-	-	+	-		
IE	-	-	-	+	+		
IT	-	-	-	+	+		
LT	-	-	-	+	-		
LU	-						
LV	-	-	-	+	-		
MT	+	-	-	+	-		
NL	-	-	-	+	+		
PL	-	-	-	+	+		
PT	-	-	-	+	+		
RO	-	-	-	+	-		
SE	-	-	-	+	-		
SI	-	-	-	+	+		
SK	-	-	-	+	-		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. This arctic-breeding plover breeds from the Canadian high arctic, through Alaska, to northwest Russia (as far as the Kanin Peninsula), nesting on dry tundra ridges on around the shores of the Arctic Ocean (Byrkjedal & Thompson 1998). It does not breed within the EU, occurring only in the non-breeding season. The main European concentrations are found on estuarine habitats from the Wadden Sea, along the Atlantic and North Sea coasts of UK, Netherlands, Belgium, to western France and Iberia.

**Movements:** The species is highly migratory undertaking trans-hemisphere movements. They migrate from high arctic breeding Russian grounds to, and through, Europe, with some wintering on African coasts as far south as South Africa. In periods of severe winter weather when mudflat habitats freeze movements south or west occur.

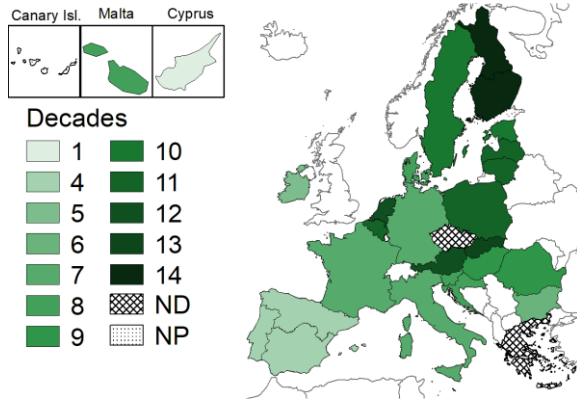
**Populations:** Two populations of the nominate race *P. s. squatarola* occur in Europe, defined on their non-breeding distributions (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEW 2018): (1) the Eastern Atlantic population winters on North Sea and Atlantic coasts of western Europe, and the west Mediterranean, with some reaching west African coasts and the Gulf of Guinea; (2) the Southwest Asia, Eastern and Southern African population migrates through the Black Sea, Aegean and eastern Mediterranean to Arabian and eastern African coasts.

EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-4; incubation 26-27 days; full flight of young birds at 35-45 days; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

### End of the period of reproduction



The species is not breeding in the EU

ND: no data; NP: not present

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
BE																																					
BG																																					
CY																																					
CZ																																					
DE																																					
DK																																					
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RO																																					
SE																																					
SI																																					
SK																																					

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is lack of coherence in many parts of the EU (FR data differs by 3 decades from ESN data, BE data by 4 decades from DE, AT data by 5 decades from DE, and SE data by 4 decades from FI). CY data is based on “very few” wintering/passage birds. Movements due to severe winter conditions are known for this species and there are two populations of the nominate race which could partly explain some of the inconsistencies.

## 46. Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*

A142



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+		
BG	–	–	+	+	+	1	
CY	–	–	–	+	+		
CZ	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
DE	–	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	–	+	+	+	1	1
EE	–	–	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	–	–	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	–	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	+	–	+	+	2	1
FIN	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
FIS	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
HU	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
IE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
IT	+	+	+	+	+	4	
LT	–	–	+	+	–	2	1
LU	–	–	+	+	–	1	2
LV	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
MT	+	–	–	+	+		
NL	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
PL	–	–	+	+	+	4	1
PT	–	–	–	+	+		
RO	–	–	+	+	–		
SE	–	–	+	+	–	1	
SI	–	–	+	+	–		
SK	–	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Lapwings inhabit boreal, temperate, steppe and Mediterranean regions of Europe and Asia, from Iberia to Finland, and from Ireland to China. They breed in a wide range of open-ground habitats, including low-intensity farmland and other grassland types, but occupancy is always determined by the ready availability of soil invertebrates for food. In the non-breeding season, Lapwings overwinter in coastal and agricultural landscapes in maritime climates from the UK and Ireland, to Morocco and around Mediterranean basin. UK and Denmark constitute the northernmost regular wintering areas and its winter range lies to the south and west of the 3°C isotherm.

**Movements:** Mainly migratory. Some western and southern sub-populations only partially so. Sensitive to prolonged cold spells. In more northern wintering areas occasional spells of very cold weather in winter lead to pronounced movements, which can occur any time between autumn and spring migration periods, and sometimes move birds as far south as north Africa. Pre-nuptial migration begins early (from late January in southern wintering areas), and in temperate Europe is at peak in early March.

**Populations:** A single population is recognized within Europe (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEWA 2018) comprising all the birds breeding on Europe and west Asia.


EU population status and trends:

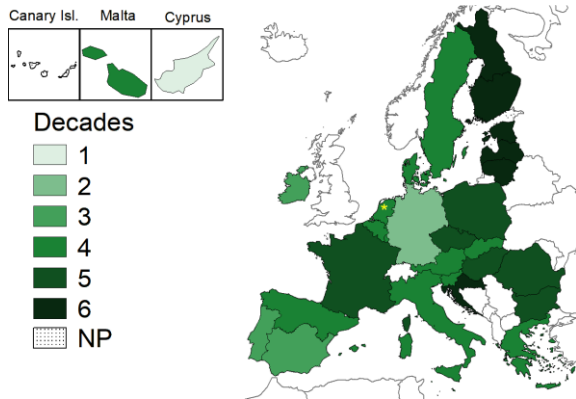
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-4 (2-5); incubation 26-28 days; fledging period 35-40 days; one brood.

**International Plan:** EU Management Plan (Petersen 2009) and EU multi-species Action Plan (Leyrer *et al.* 2018).

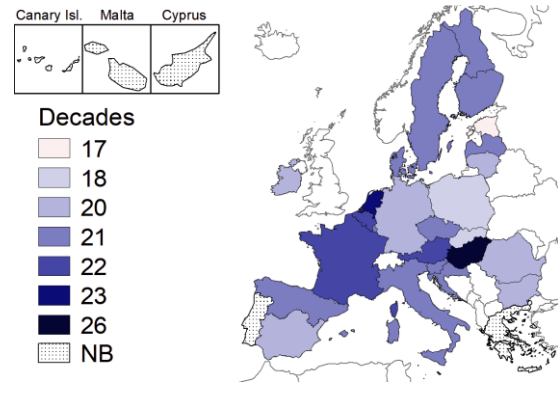
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C				
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
BE																																					
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the western part of the EU (FR data differs by 3 decades from DE data). The mixture of wintering and resident populations, as reported by NL, renders the phenology more complex.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the western part of the EU (NL data differs by 3 decades from DE). Not all Member States use the same criteria for the start of reproduction. This could partly explain some of the observed inconsistencies. HU data is notably different from that of PL (8 decades difference).



## 47. Red Knot *Calidris canutus*

A143



Photo: Ainars Mankus ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of repro-duction	End of repro-duction
AT	-						
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	-	+		
CY	-	-	-	-	+		
CZ	-	-	-	-	+		
DE	-	-	-	-	+		
DK	+	-	-	-	+		
EE	-	-	-	-	+		
EL	-	-	-	-	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	-	-	+		
ESS	-	-	-	-	+		
FIN	-	-	-	-	+		
FIS	-	-	-	-	+		
FR	+	-	-	-	+		
HR	-	-	-	-	+		
HU	-						
IE	-	-	-	-	+		
IT	-	-	-	-	+		
LT	-	-	-	-	+		
LU	-	-	-	-	+		
LV	-	-	-	-	+		
MT	-	-	-	-	+		
NL	-	-	-	-	+		
PL	-	-	-	-	+		
PT	-	-	-	-	+		
RO	-	-	-	-	+		
SE	-	-	-	-	+		
SI	-	-	-	-	+		
SK	-	-	-	-	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. This small wader has a circumpolar breeding distribution, nesting at most northerly latitudes on high-arctic tundra, mainly northeastern Canada, north and east Greenland and northern Siberia (Delany *et al.* 2009). Red Knots do not breed in the EU. They spend the non-breeding season on traditionally used intertidal estuaries in northwest Europe or western and southern Africa, whose suitability as habitat is highly determined by the abundance of their food: small, intertidal bivalve molluscs.

**Movements:** Migratory. Red Knots undertake extreme migrations, sometimes trans-equatorial, and use traditional locations providing suitable conditions for feeding.

**Populations:** Red Knot within Europe belong to two distinct populations (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEW 2018): (1) *C. c. islandica* breed in northeastern Canada and Greenland and winter along the coasts of northwestern Europe (mainly UK, Ireland, The Netherlands, and France). Inter-tidal wetlands in northern Norway provide critical spring staging areas on their return to high-arctic breeding grounds. (2) *C. c. canutus* mainly breed in Taymyr but also elsewhere in northern Siberia, and overwinter on several major coastal wetlands in western and southern Africa, visiting Europe only on migration (with important spring staging areas in the Wadden Sea). Whilst flights from Europe to west Africa are usually undertaken non-stop, estuaries in western France, Spain and Portugal can be of critical importance in some years.

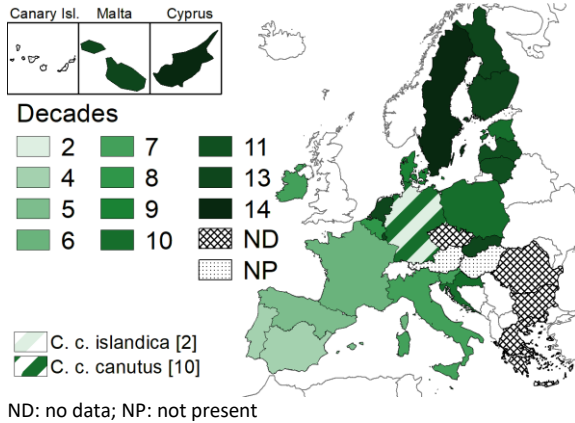
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-4; incubation 21-22 days; full flight of young birds at ca. 18-20 days; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

### End of the period of reproduction



The species is not breeding in the EU

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
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PL																																						
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RO																																						
SE																																						
SI																																						
SK																																						

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the western part of the EU (DK and FR data respectively differ 7 and 4 decades from DE data, very late end of migration in LU). The CY data, which indicates only one decade in mid-May, merits further examination. With regard to observed differences across the EU, the two distinct populations in Europe may partly explain some of the observed incoherencies.

## 48. Ruff *Calidris pugnax*

A151



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	-		
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	-	+	-		
DE	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
DK	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
EE	-	-	+	+	-	4	
EL	-	-	-	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	-	+	+		
ESS	-	-	-	+	+		
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	+	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	+	-		
HU	-	-	-	+	-		
IE	-	-	-	+	+		
IT	+	-	-	+	+		
LT	-	-	+	+	-	2	1
LU	-						
LV	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	-		
NL	-	-	+	+	+		
PL	-	-	+	+	-		
PT	-	-	-	+	+		
RO	-	-	-	+	-		
SE	-	-	+	+	-	4	
SI	-	-	-	+	-		
SK	-						

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Ruff have a wide breeding distribution across boreal and arctic zones of northern Eurasia. In Europe, most birds breed in Fennoscandia and Russia, and sparsely elsewhere in northwest Europe and the Baltic States. Breeding occurs in lowland tundra or bogs in the north, and wet meadows or coastal marshes in the south, although the latter now holds only small populations.

**Movements:** Migratory. Whilst small numbers of European breeding birds stay to overwinter, most move to sub-Saharan Africa, occurring in large densities on the major Sahelian floodplain wetlands (Zwarts *et al.* 2009). Some easterly breeding Russian birds migrate to India and Arabia, but some also occur in western Europe (Zwarts *et al.* 2009).

**Populations:** Two populations occur in Europe, defined on their wintering areas (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEWA 2018): (1) the West Africa population comprises birds wintering from Senegal to roughly Chad and likely originating from Europe and the western and central Russian arctic; (2) the South Asia, Eastern and Southern African population comprises birds wintering across the rest of Africa, Arabia and India, and breeding in central and eastern parts of Russia. There is likely overlap between these populations on Black Sea staging areas.

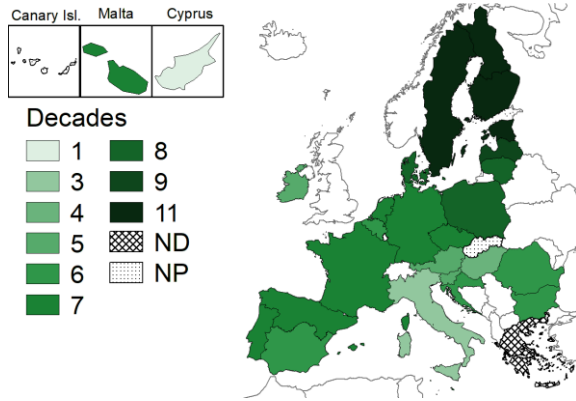
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

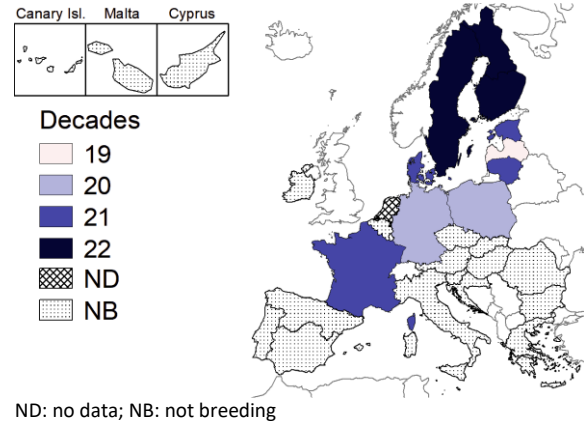
**Breeding:** Clutch size 2-4; incubation 20-23 days; fledging period 25-28 days; independence at or before fledging as the female, who is the only parent caring for young, sometimes departs before fledging; one brood.

**International Plan:** EU multi-species Action Plan (Leyrer *et al.* 2018).

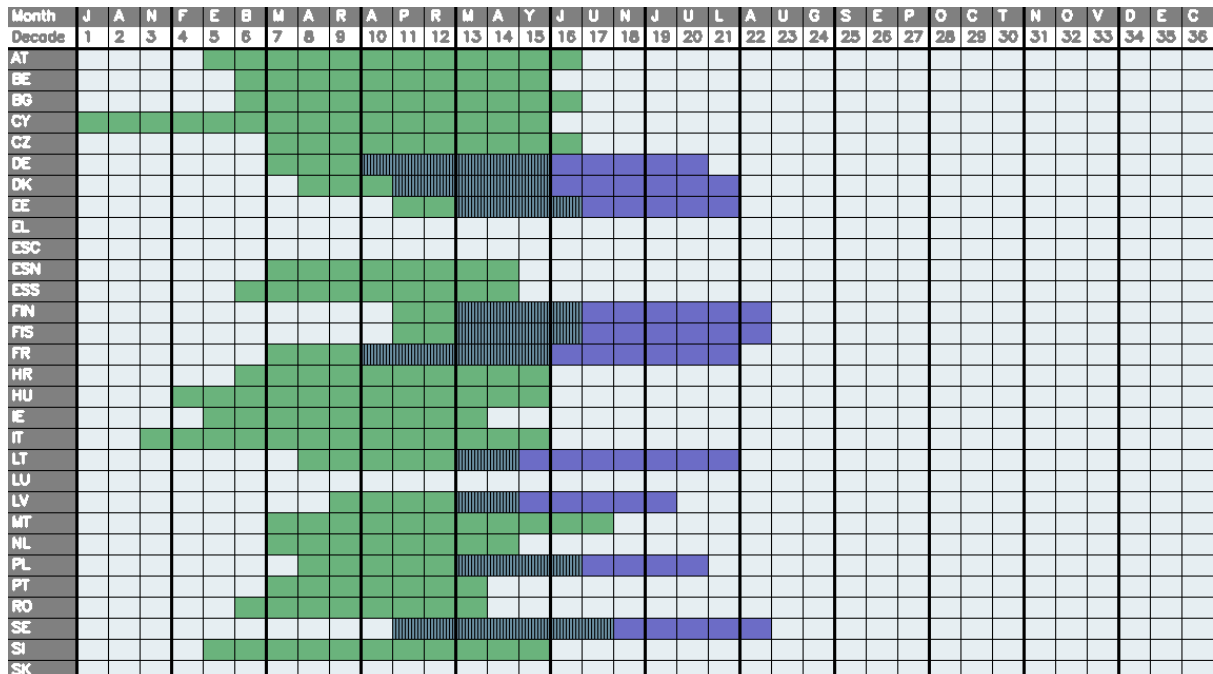
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the Mediterranean region (MT and FR data differ by 4 decades from IT data).

**End of reproduction:** LV data is notably different from the data of its neighbouring Member States.

## 49. Jack Snipe *Lymnocyptes minimus*

A152



Photo: Ainars Mankus ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of repro-duction	End of repro-duction
AT	+	-	-	+	+		
BE	+	-	-	+	+		
BG	+	-	-	+	+		
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	+	-	-	+	+		
DE	+	-	-	+	+		
DK	+	-	-	+	-		
EE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	-	-	+	+		
ESS	+	-	-	+	+		
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	+	-	-	+	+		
HU	+						
IE	+	-	-	+	+		
IT	+	-	-	+	+		
LT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	+	-	-	+	+		
LV	+	-	-	+	+		
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	+	-	-	+	+		
PL	+	-	+	+	+		
PT	+	-	-	+	+		
RO	+	-	-	+	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	+						
SK	+	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Jack Snipe have an extensive breeding distribution in sub-arctic and boreal regions of northeastern Europe across Russia to western Eurasia. Within Europe it breeds only in Fennoscandia and (locally) in the Baltic States. It nests typically in birch *Betula* or willow *Salix* taiga, close to sedge-dominated mires, however it also breeds in some more treeless peatlands (Olivier 2007). In the non-breeding season, it occurs locally in terrestrial wetlands across much of Europe, with significant numbers occurring in sub-Saharan Africa south of the Sahel.

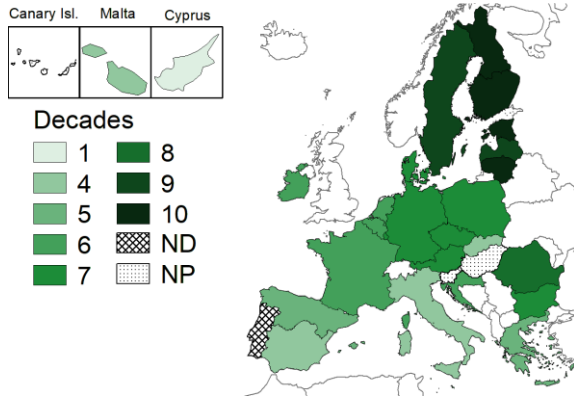
**Movements:** Migratory. Jack Snipe move entirely away from breeding areas in the non-breeding season: birds breeding in Europe and western Siberia winter in western and southwestern Europe and northwestern sub-Saharan Africa (Delany *et al.* 2009).

**Populations:** Two populations occur in Europe, defined essentially for conservation management purposes (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEWA 2018): (1) the European breeding population (roughly from the Urals westwards), which winter in Europe, the Mediterranean basin and Africa; and (2) the Western Siberian population breeding east of the Urals which winters in the Middle East and east Africa.

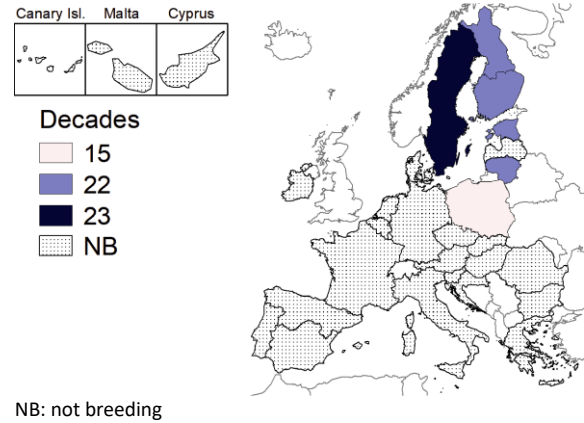
EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size (3)-4 eggs; incubation at least 24 days; fledging period not recorded – but probably 2-3 decades after hatching as other snipes; normally one brood but two broods suspected in circumstances where there is early loss of nest (Olivier 2007).

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decode	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
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SE																																						
SI																																						
SK																																						

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the eastern part of the EU (difference of 3 decades between the data of SK and its neighbouring Member States). Several Member States report that little data is available due to the species' secretive behaviour, and AT reports a mix of wintering and resident birds, which may explain part of the observed inconsistencies.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the eastern part of the EU (PL data differs by 7 decades from LT data). PL reports that the species is an ephemeral breeder and no nesting phenology is available.



## 50. Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

A153



Photo: Ainars Mankus ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	-	-	+	+		
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
DE	+	-	+	+	+	1	3
DK	+	-	+	+	+		
EE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	+	-	-	+	+		
ESN	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
ESS	+	-	-	+	+		
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
HR	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
HU	+	-	+	+	-	4	1
IE	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
IT	+	-	+	+	+		
LT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	+	-	-	+	+		
LV	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	+	-	+	+	+		
PT	+	-	+	+	+	1	4
RO	+	-	+	+	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	+	-	+	+	+		
SK	+	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Common Snipe has a large Palearctic breeding distribution occurring from the Atlantic to Pacific. Within Europe it is a widespread breeder from Iceland to Russia north of approximately 50°N, nesting in a range of wet grassland habitats. The main wintering range extends from UK, Ireland, Denmark, Belgium, Netherlands and France, south to Iberia and north Africa, and eastwards through the Mediterranean to the Middle-East, sub-Saharan Africa, India and southeast Asia.

**Movements:** Mostly migratory. Some birds in the western maritime countries are only partially migratory or even resident.

Fennoscandian populations mainly winter in Ireland, Britain, France, and Iberia, as well as in Denmark and the Netherlands. Birds moving through southern Fennoscandia include birds from northwest Russia. Pre-nuptial migration starts in February in Iberia, and March elsewhere, breeding grounds being occupied in April-May.

**Populations:** Three populations of two subspecies occur in Europe (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEW 2018): (1) the European population of nominate *G. g. gallinago* breeds broadly west of the Urals; (2) the Western Siberia population of *G. g. gallinago* breeds further east, migrating to east and central Africa via the east Mediterranean; and (3) *G. g. faeroeensis* breeds in Iceland and Faeroes, wintering in UK, Ireland, northern France and Iberia.

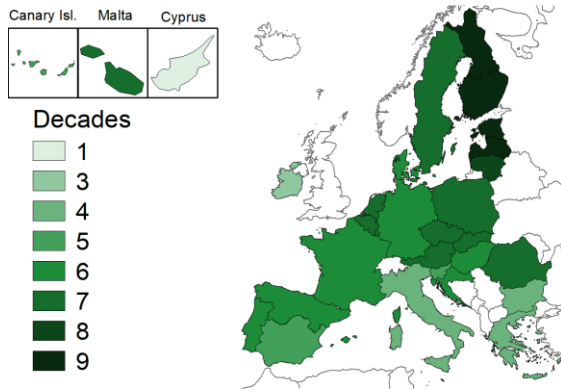
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

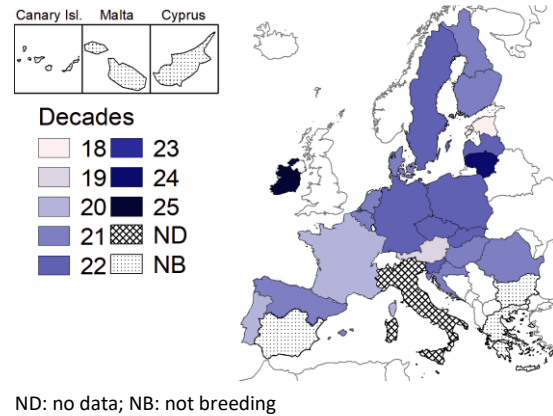
**Breeding:** Clutch size 4 (2-5); incubation 18-20 days; fledging period 19-20 days; independent before or soon after fledging; probably only one brood.

**International Plan:** EU multi-species Action Plan ([Leyrer \*et al.\* 2018](#)).

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C						
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
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SI																																					
SK																																					

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the Mediterranean region (MT data differs by 3 decades from data of IT and EL data differs by 3 decades from CY data). The IE data is notably different from other MS. This might be explained by difficulties in identifying the start of the prenuptial migration due to a mixing of wintering and resident population.

**End of reproduction:** IE data differs by 4-5 decades from other Member States in the western part of the EU, which can possibly be explained by the fact that there are two broods in IE. There is a lack of coherence in the central part of the EU (AT data differs by 3 decades from data for CZ, SK, DE, PL, and SI, which may be explained by the fact that AT data is based on limited information) and the northern part of the EU (EE data differs by 3-4 decades from data of FI, LV, and LT). There is also some variation in the use of criteria to identify the start and end of reproduction, which may partly explain some of the observed inconsistencies.

## 51. Eurasian Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*

A155



Photo: Petri Alroth ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	-	+	+	+	1	
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
DE	+	-	+	+	+	1	3
DK	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	+	+	-	-	-	4	1
ESN	+	-	+	+	+	4	1
ESS	+	-	-	+	+		
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
HR	+	-	+	+	+	1	3
HU	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
IE	+	+	-	+	+	1	1
IT	+	-	+	+	+	1	4
LT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	-		
NL	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	+	-	+	+	+		
PT	+	+	-	+	+	1	4
RO	+	+	-	+	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	+	-	+	+	-		
SK	+	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Extensive distribution breeding in wet woodlands, from the Azores and Ireland in west, to Pacific coasts of Russia. Birds overwinter in Europe, north Africa, Middle East, India, and southeast Asia to Japan. In Europe, breeding from Fennoscandia and Russia, to Mediterranean basin and Canary Islands.

**Movements:** Breeding populations in western maritime countries (and Atlantic islands) are sedentary, whilst those elsewhere are migratory. Scandinavian populations move southwest to winter mainly in Britain and France. Finnish birds move mainly south and winter mostly in Italy and Balkans. Autumn movements start after onset of frosts. Birds from the large Russian population are recorded wintering across most of west and central Europe. Most birds are on wintering grounds by November but further (sometimes large scale) movements westwards may occur in response to cold weather. Return migration starts in February in Mediterranean region and first half of March elsewhere. Tracking studies have demonstrated fidelity to wintering sites between years (Hoodless *et al.* 2020).


**Populations:** Monotypic. Four populations occur within Europe (Delany *et al.* 2009): (1) birds breeding across Europe, wintering south and west Europe and north Africa; and separate, sedentary populations in (2) Azores, (3) Madeira; and (4) Canary Islands.

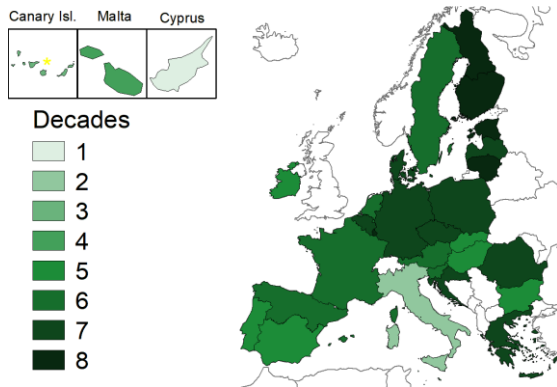
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

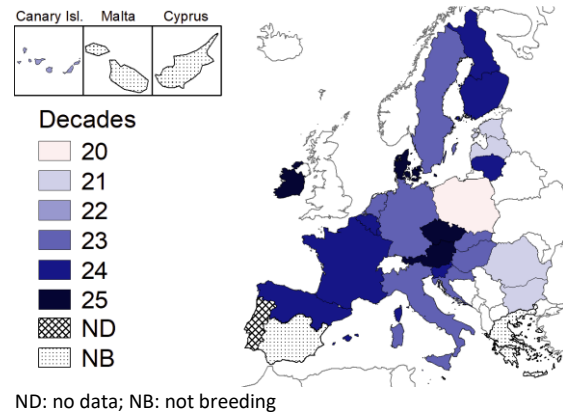
**Breeding:** Clutch size 4 (2-5); incubation 21-24 days; fledging period 15-20 days but sometimes able to get off ground at ten days; independence 5-6 weeks after hatching; normally one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	S	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C				
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
BE																																					
BG																																					
CY																																					
CZ																																					
DE																																					
DK																																					
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MT																																					
NL																																					
PL																																					
PT																																					
RO																																					
SE																																					
SI																																					
SK																																					

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a need to examine further the distinction between migratory movements and movements within wintering areas to lift apparent inconsistencies between Member States.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the northeaster part of the EU (LT and FI data differ by 3 decades from LV, EE, PL data and by 3 decades from CZ data). The criteria to identify the end of reproduction vary from one Member States to the other and are sometimes unknown. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in PT because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

## 52. Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

A156



Photo: Petri Alroth ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
BE	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-	-	-	+	-		
CZ	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
DE	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
DK	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
EE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
EL	-	-	-	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	-	+	+		
ESS	-	-	-	+	+		
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
HR	-	-	-	+	-		
HU	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	-	-	+	+	+	4	1
IT	-	-	+	+	+	4	
LT	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	-	-	-	+	-		
NL	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
PL	-	-	+	+	-	4	1
PT	-	-	-	+	+		
RO	-	-	+	+	-		
SE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	-	-	+	+	-		
SK	-	-	+	+	-	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Wide but fragmented breeding distribution from Iceland, across Europe to western Siberia, with isolated populations in eastern Siberia. Two-thirds of the species' world population breeds in Europe. Nesting occurs on wet lowland grassland, grassy moorland or peatlands, typically adjacent to freshwaters. In the non-breeding season, favours upper reaches of muddy estuaries, muddy inland lakes and nearby wet farmland, flooded grassland, and in the Sahel, floodplain wetlands and rice-fields (Zwarts *et al.* 2009).

**Movements:** Migratory. Birds move south and west from north temperate breeding areas, Icelandic birds migrating to winter in UK, Ireland and along the Atlantic coast from France to Portugal. Other wintering areas occur locally around Mediterranean coasts, but mainly in the Sahel (Zwarts *et al.* 2009).

**Populations:** Three populations of two races occur in Europe (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEWA 2018): (1) *L. l. islandica* breeds mainly in Iceland with small numbers in Ireland and Scotland; (2) the Western European population of *L. l. limosa* breeds from France and Netherlands to central Europe migrating down Atlantic coasts to west Africa; and (3) the Eastern European population of *L. l. limosa* breeds in northeastern Europe and Russia, migrating via eastern Mediterranean to central and eastern Africa.

EU population status and trends:

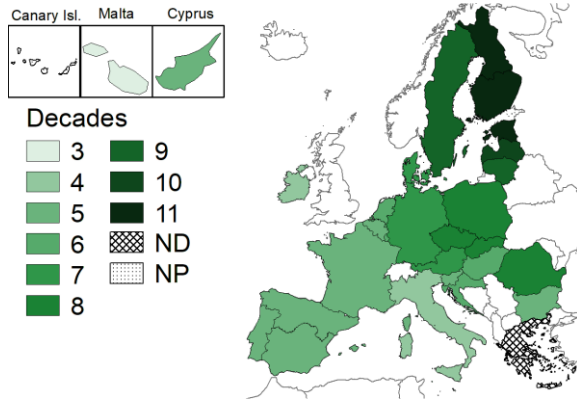
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-4 (5); incubation 22-24 days; fledging period 25-30 days; independence at or soon after fledging; one brood.

**International Plan:** EU Management Plan (Jensen & Perennou 2007) and EU multi-species Action Plan (Leyrer *et al.* 2018).

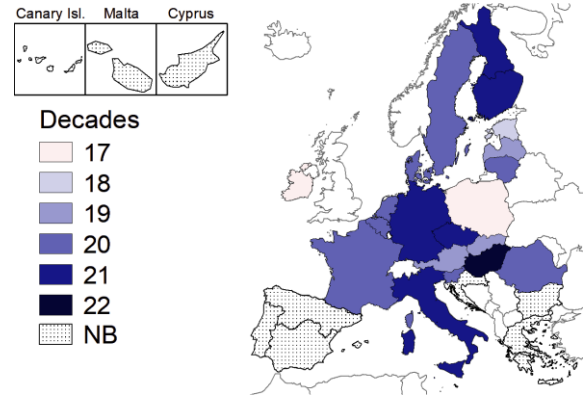


### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



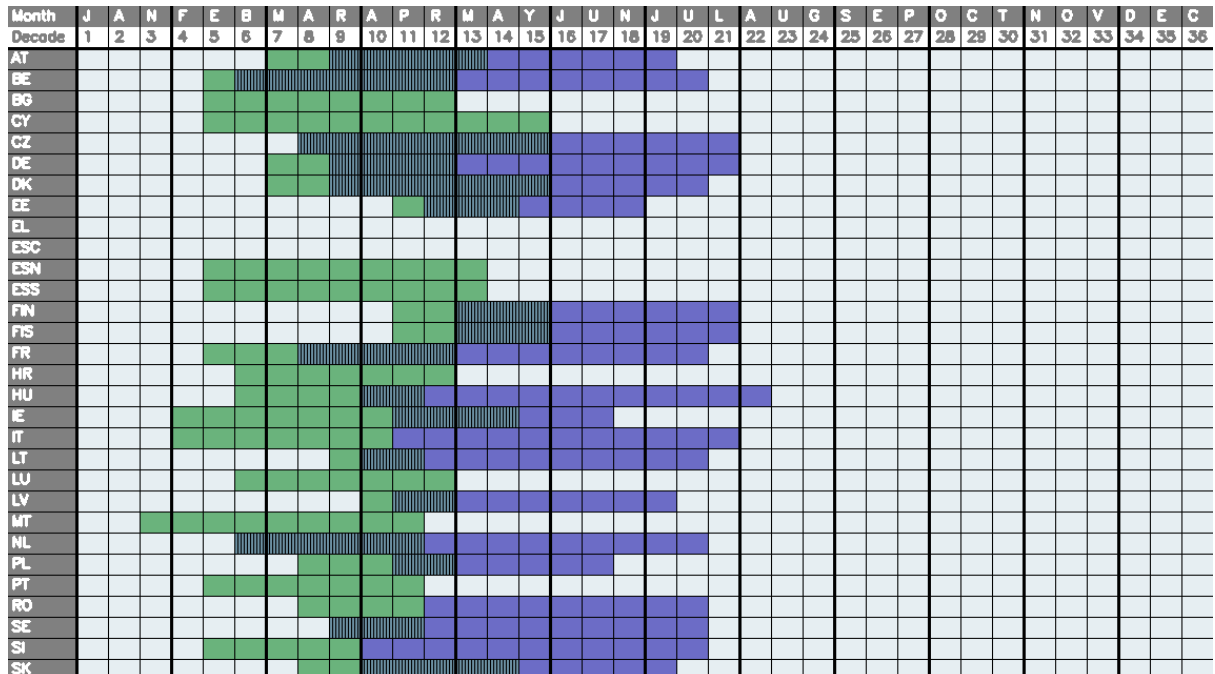
ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** No comment.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the eastern part of the EU (HU data differs by 4 decades from PL data) and between EE and FI (difference of 3 decades). IE data stands out too.



## 53. Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

A157



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-						
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-	-	-	+	-		
CZ	-	-	-	+	-		
DE	-	-	-	+	+		
DK	+	-	-	+	+		
EE	-	-	-	+	-		
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	-	+	+		
ESS	-	-	-	+	+		
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	+	+		
HU	-						
IE	-	-	-	-	+		
IT	-	-	-	+	+		
LT	-	-	-	+	-		
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	-	-	-	+	-	1	1
MT	-	-	-	+	-		
NL	-	-	-	+	+		
PL	-	-	-	+	-		
PT	-	-	-	+	+		
RO	-						
SE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	-						
SK	-	-	-	+	-		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.  
Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Bar-tailed Godwits breed in arctic and sub-arctic regions of Eurasia and western Alaska. Within EU breeding is restricted to Sweden and Finland. They migrate to over-winter on mainly inter-tidal wetlands in western Africa, northern Mediterranean, and Atlantic and North Sea coasts of Europe from Iberia to the Wadden Sea (Delany *et al.* 2009). In the non-breeding season, the species aggregates in large numbers on coastal wetland with high densities of benthic invertebrates.

**Movements:** Migratory. The species is a very long-distance migrant, some moving from low arctic breeding grounds in northernmost Russia to the most southerly coasts of southern Africa in the non-breeding season. Migration patterns and timing is complex (Delany *et al.* 2009). Staging areas in the Wadden Sea and southern North Sea are of critical importance during both pre-nuptial and autumn migrations.

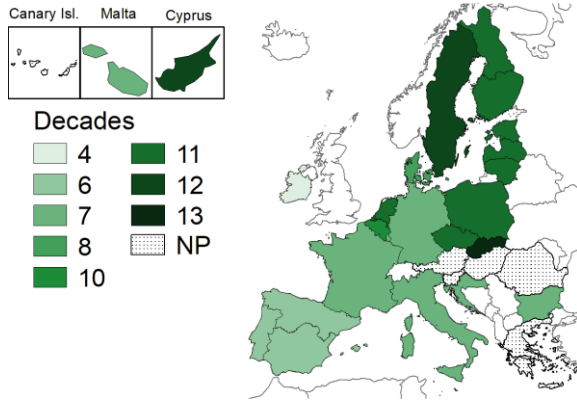
**Populations:** Two biogeographical populations are recognized, whose distributions overlap during migration periods (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEWA 2018): (1) *L. l. lapponica* breed in northern Fennoscandia, European Russia, and western Siberia, and overwinter mainly in northwestern Europe from the Wadden Sea to southern Portugal and around the coasts of UK and Ireland; and (2) *L. l. taymyrensis* breed further east in northern Siberia and migrate along the coasts of western Europe, to overwinter mainly in western Africa, but reaching as far as South Africa.

EU population status and trends:

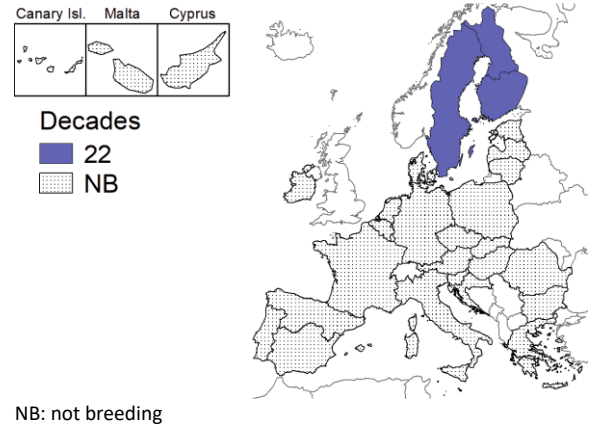
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-4 (2); incubation 20-21 days; fledging period not recorded; independence dependent at least until fledging; single brood.

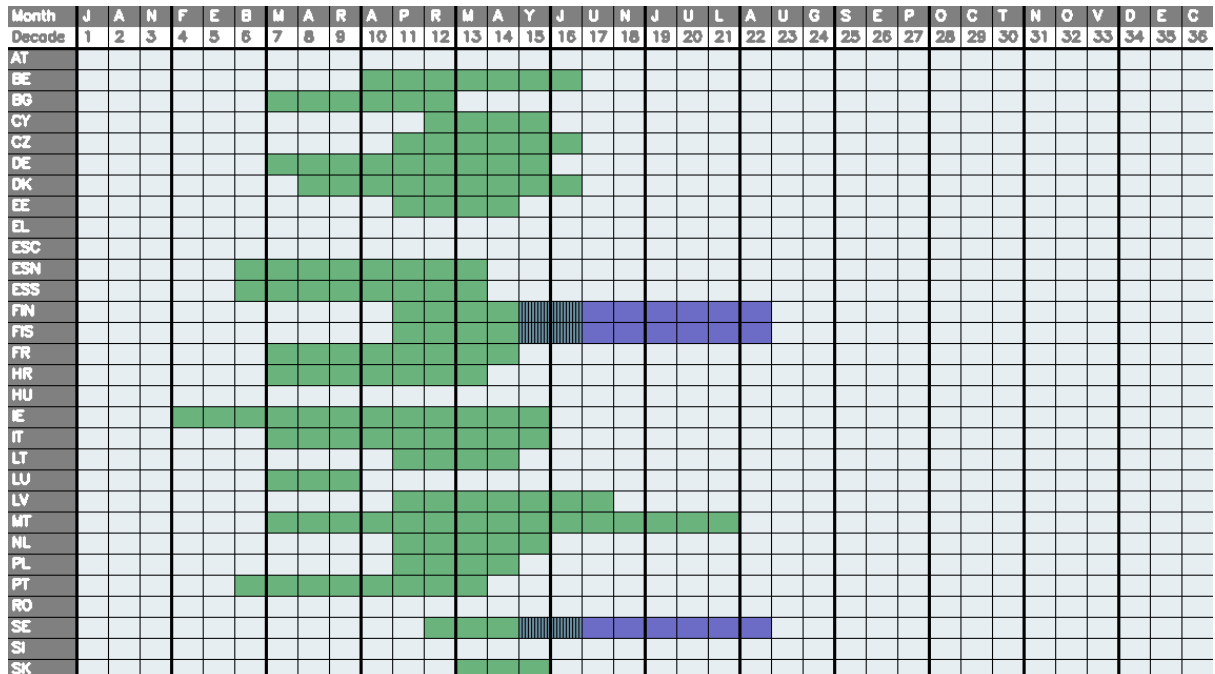
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** The SK data is notably different from that of the neighbouring Member States.

**End of reproduction:** No comment.

## 54. Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

A158



Photo: Janis Jansons ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	-		
BE	-	-	-	+	-		
BG	-	-	-	+	-		
CY	-	-	-	+	-		
CZ	-	-	-	+	-		
DE	-	-	-	+	-		
DK	+	-	-	+	-		
EE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
EL	-	-	-	+	-		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	-	+	+		
ESS	-	-	-	+	+		
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	+	+		
HU	-	-	-	+	-		
IE	-	-	-	+	+		
IT	-	-	-	+	-		
LT	-	-	-	+	-		
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	-	-	-	+	-		
NL	-	-	-	+	-		
PL	-	-	-	+	+		
PT	-	-	-	+	+		
RO	-	-	-	+	-		
SE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	-						
SK	-	-	-	+	-		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Whimbrel inhabits boreal and arctic regions of Eurasia and North America, having a discontinuous breeding distribution from Iceland to the western Hudson Bay. In Europe, it breeds in northern Scotland, through upland Fennoscandia, patchily in Estonia and Latvia, and in sub-arctic and low arctic areas of European Russia. It overwinters on the coasts of Africa, Arabia, and the Persian Gulf. Breeding occurs on dwarf-shrub and alpine heaths, moorlands and peatlands. On migration Whimbrel stage at freshwater wetlands but in the non-breeding season it is exclusively found on coasts.

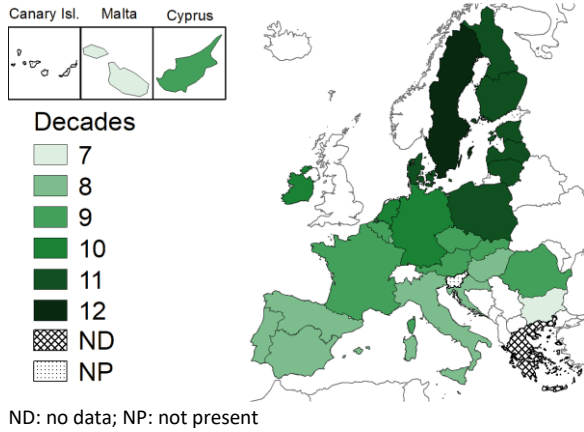
**Movements:** Migratory. Whimbrel undergo long-distance migrations. Icelandic breeding birds move to west Africa, via staging sites in UK and Iberia (Gunnarsson & Guðmundsson 2016). Recent satellite tracking has shown these movements to involve rapid, non-stop, direct flights over the Atlantic (Alves *et al.* 2016). Small numbers winter in Europe, mainly in southern Iberia.

**Populations:** Two biogeographical populations occur in Europe, whose distributions overlap in the non-breeding season (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEW 2018): (1) *N. p. islandica* breeds in Iceland and northern Scotland, and migrates to western Africa; and (2) the Northeast European breeding population of *N. p. phaeopus* breeds in Fennoscandia and European Russia, and migrates to western and southern Africa.

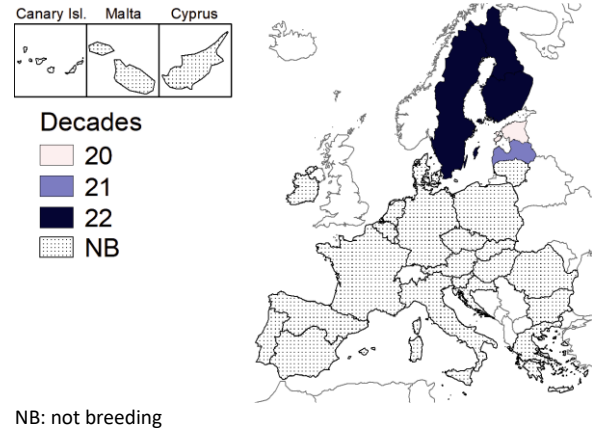
EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-4 (2-5); incubation 27-28 days; fledging period 35-40 days; independent at or soon after fledging; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
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SK																																						

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** No comment.

**End of reproduction:** The EE data differs by two decades from FI and SE data.

## 55. Curlew *Numenius arquata*

A160



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of repro-duction	End of repro-duction
AT	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
BE	–	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	–	–	–	+	+		
CY	–	–	–	+	+		
CZ	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
DE	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	–	+	+	+	1	1
EE	–	–	+	+	–	1	
EL	–	–	–	+	+		
ESC	–						
ESN	–	–	–	+	+	3	1
ESS	–	–	–	+	+		
FIN	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
FIS	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
FR	+	–	+	+	+	1	1
HR	–	–	–	+	+		
HU	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
IE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
IT	–	–	+	+	+		
LT	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
LU	–	–	–	+	–		
LV	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
MT	–	–	–	+	–		
NL	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
PL	–	–	+	+	–	4	1
PT	–	–	–	+	+		
RO	–	–	+	+	+		
SE	–	–	+	+	+	1	
SI	–	–	+	+	–		
SK	–	–	–	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Breeds in temperate, steppe and boreal zones of Europe and Asia to about 145°E in western China. Avoids Mediterranean zones, breeding in a wide range of essentially damp, open wetland habitats across Europe. Its distribution is now markedly discontinuous because of historic and on-going declines in habitat quality. In the non-breeding season, it occurs in freshwater and coastal wetlands, especially those where muddy, soft sediments are prevalent such as inter-tidal mudflats or very wet grasslands.

**Movements:** Migratory. Some are resident in France and UK. Most European breeders migrate south and west to the coasts of the Mediterranean, Africa, Arabia, and the Persian Gulf. Banc d'Arguin, in Mauritania, is usually the southern limit for west and central European birds (Delany *et al.* 2009). Many first-year birds remain in winter quarters.

**Populations:** Two races occur in Europe, whose distributions are largely non-overlapping in both breeding and non-breeding season (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEWA 2018): (1) nominate *N. a. arquata* breeds across the whole of Europe, and in the east, its distribution abuts (2) *N. a. orientalis* which breeds in southeast Europe and European Russia, and overwinters across much of the east Mediterranean and Africa, Arabia and Persian Gulf.


EU population status and trends:

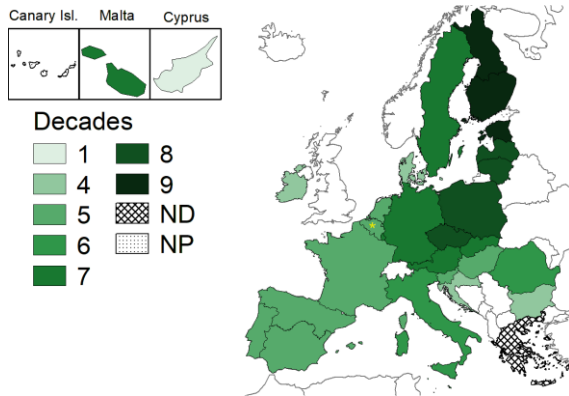
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 4 (2-5); incubation 27-29 days; fledging period 32-38 days; independent at or soon after fledging; broods: one brood.

**International Plan:** AEWA Action Plan ([Brown 2015](#)).

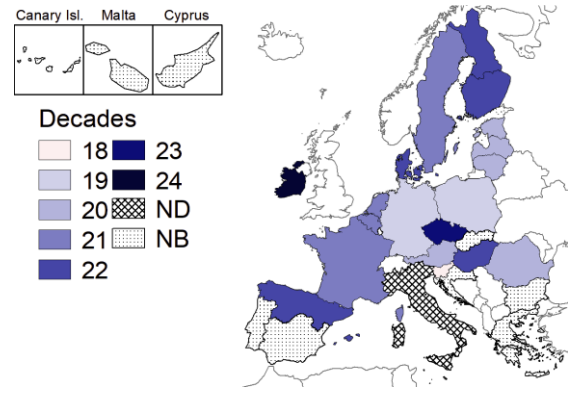
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C						
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
BE																																					
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SE																																					
SI																																					
SK																																					

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** The start of the prenuptial migration is 3 decades earlier in DK than in SE (2014 data). The resident character of the species in BE and IE needs to be further examined.

**End of reproduction:** The end of reproduction in IE is late compared to other Member States. CZ data is based on sporadic observations.



## 56. Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

A161



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	-		
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-	-	-	+	-		
CZ	-	-	-	+	-		
DE	-	-	-	+	-		
DK	+	-	-	+	-		
EE	-	-	-	+	-		
EL	-	-	-	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	-	+	+		
ESS	-	-	-	+	+		
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	+	-		
HU	-	-	-	+	-		
IE	-	-	-	+	+		
IT	-	-	-	+	+		
LT	-	-	-	+	-		
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	-	-	-	+	-		
MT	-	-	-	+	-		
NL	-	-	-	+	-		
PL	-	-	-	-	+		
PT	-	-	-	+	+		
RO	-	-	-	+	+		
SE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	-	-	-	+	-		
SK	-	-	-	+	-		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Spotted Redshank breeding in sub-arctic (in Fennoscandia) and low arctic (in Russia) habitats across the whole of northern Eurasia. It breeds in northern taiga and thinly wooded tundra, nesting on open peatlands and mires. In the non-breeding season, it occurs on Mediterranean coasts, along the Nile Valley, and broadly across sub-Saharan central Africa, where it uses a range of shallow-water wetlands.

**Movements:** Migratory. Spotted Redshanks are highly migratory, moving from arctic breeding areas to sub-Saharan Africa, although small numbers stay in the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions, and locally in western Europe. Migration usually occurs on a broad front although a few important staging areas are known, especially in southern and central Europe.

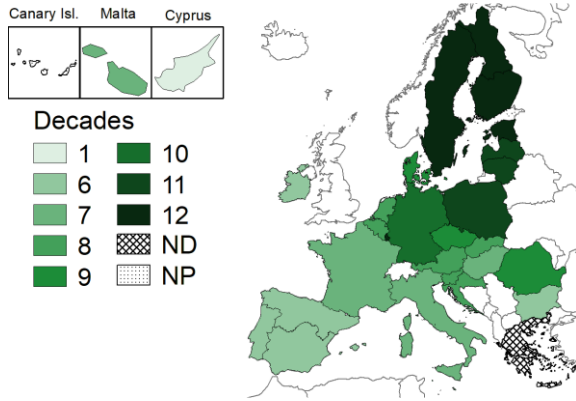
**Populations:** Two biogeographical populations occur in Europe (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEWA 2018): (1) the European population comprises birds from Fennoscandia east to the northern Urals, and migrating through the Mediterranean to western and central Africa; and (2) the Western Siberian population which breeds further east to about 105°N, and which migrate through the eastern Mediterranean to central and eastern Africa. These populations overlap in the eastern Mediterranean and central Africa.

EU population status and trends:

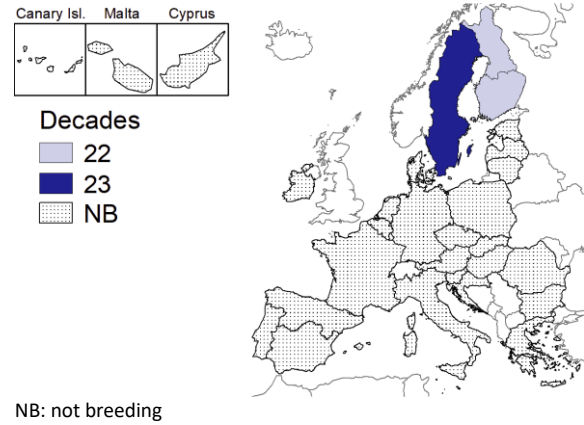
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 4 (3); incubation period not recorded; fledging period not recorded; independence not recorded; one brood.

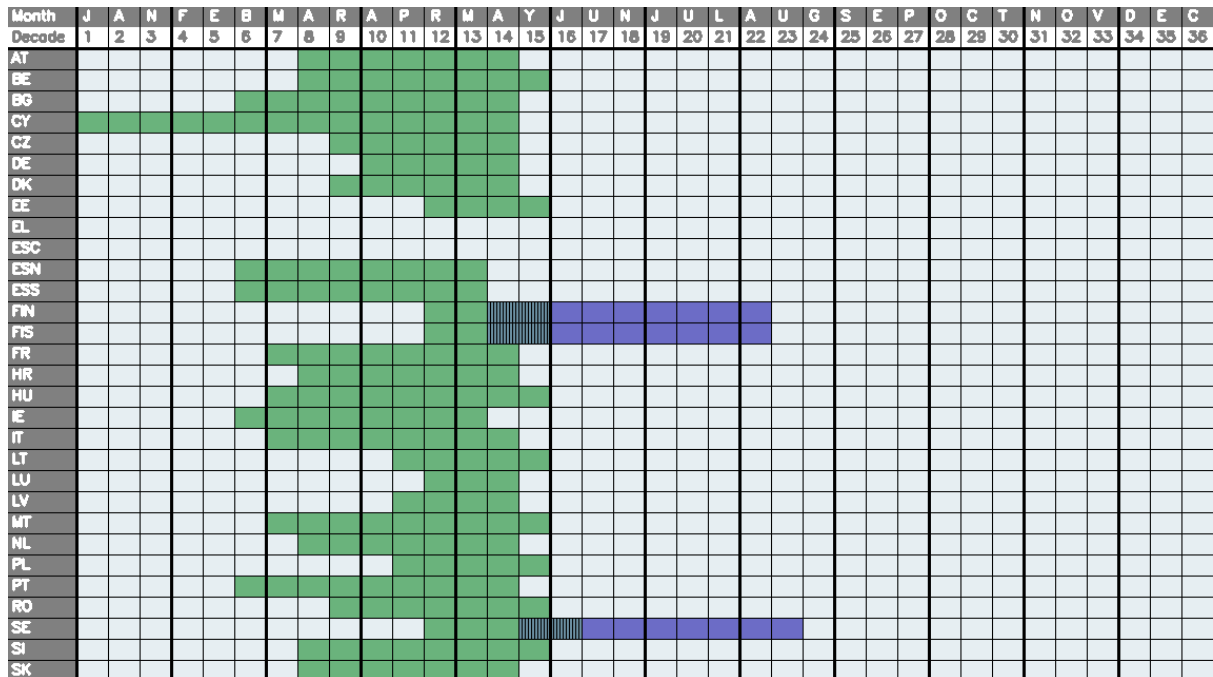
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** The very early start of the prenuptial migration in CY is unlikely.

**End of reproduction:** No comment.

## 57. Redshank *Tringa totanus*

A162



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
BE	-	+	+	+	+		
BG	-	-	+	+	+	1	
CY	-	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
DE	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	-	+	+	+		
EE	-	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	-	-	+	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	+	+	+	3	1
ESS	-	-	+	+	+	3	1
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
HR	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
HU	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	-	+	+	+	-	4	1
IT	-	-	+	+	+	4	
LT	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	-	-	-	+	-		
NL	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	-	-	+	+	+	4	1
PT	-	-	+	+	+	1	4
RO	-	-	+	+	+		
SE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	-	-	+	+	-		
SK	-	-	+	+	-	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Breeds in temperate, boreal and steppe regions of Eurasia, from Iberia and Iceland, to China, especially in damp grasslands and other wetlands.

**Movements:** Migratory. Population definitions and their movements are complex (see below).

**Populations:** Five populations of three races occur in Europe (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEWA 2018): (1) *T. t. robusta* breeds in Iceland and Faeroes, and winters locally in Britain, Ireland and the North Sea area from southern Norway to northwest France; (2) the Northern European population of *T. t. totanus* breeds in Fennoscandia, northwestern European Russia, and migrates along the Atlantic coast of western Europe to winter mainly in west Africa; (3) the Britain/Ireland population of *T. t. totanus* (formerly considered *T. t. britannica*) breeds there, and winters also in northwest France (occasionally to northern Spain); (4) the Central and Eastern European population of *T. t. totanus*, breeds from France and Iberia, north to Baltic and east to Urals and Black Sea, wintering in Iberia, Mediterranean, and north and west Africa east to the Gulf of Guinea; and (5) the Southwest Asian/East African population of *T. t. ussuriensis*, breeds in southeast Europe, western Siberia and southwest Asia and winters south to Middle East and east Africa.


EU population status and trends:

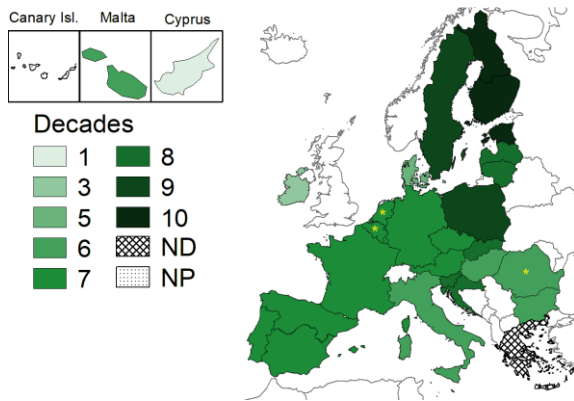
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 4 (3-5); incubation 24 (22-29) days; fledging period variable, 25-35 days; independent at fledging; one brood.

**International Plan:** EU Management Plan (Jensen *et al.* 2009) and EU multi-species Action Plan (Leyrer *et al.* 2018).

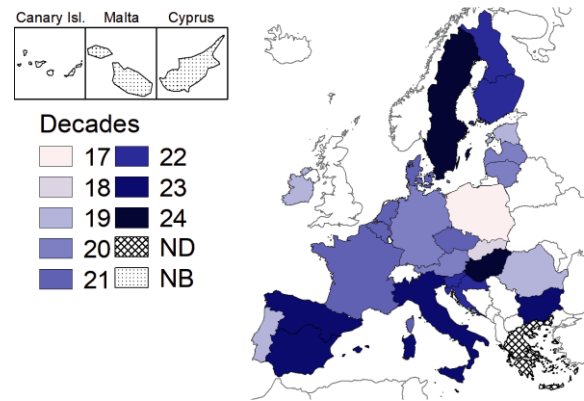
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	M	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C					
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
BE																																					
BG																																					
CY																																					
CZ																																					
DE																																					
DK																																					
EE																																					
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FR																																					
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PT																																					
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SE																																					
SI																																					
SK																																					

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** The CY data needs to be further examined.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the northern part of the EU (DK data differs by 3 decades from SE data, DK also did not report the criteria used to identify the start and end of reproduction). The difference between FR and ESN and IT might be explained by the use of different criteria to set the end of reproduction. There is a difference of 7 decades between HU and PL. Complex movements of different populations could partly explain some of these discrepancies.

## 58. Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

A164



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	-		
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	-	+	-		
DE	-	-	-	+	-		
DK	+	-	-	+	-		
EE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
EL	-	-	-	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	-	+	+		
ESS	-	-	-	+	+		
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	+	-		
HU	-	-	-	+	-		
IE	-	-	+	+	-		
IT	-	-	-	+	+		
LT	-	-	-	+	-		
LU	-						
LV	-	-	-	+	-		
MT	-	-	-	+	-		
NL	-	-	-	+	-		
PL	-	-	-	+	+		
PT	-	-	-	+	+		
RO	-	-	-	+	-		
SE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	-	-	-	+	-		
SK	-						

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Greenshank is a boreal breeding wader, inhabits marshes and wet clearings in taiga, and occurring from Scotland and Fennoscandia across the whole northern Eurasia. It nests on peatlands, open marshes, and eutrophic lakes with decaying vegetation, as well as clearings in open taiga. After breeding, Greenshanks migrate south to overwinter on the Atlantic seaboard of western Europe; locally in the Mediterranean; along the Nile Valley; the coasts of Arabia and the Persian Gulf; and broadly across the whole of sub-Saharan Africa, where it overwinter in a range of shallow-water wetlands (Zwarts *et al.* 2009).

**Movements:** Migratory. Greenshanks are wholly migratory moving from the arctic to southernmost Africa. Migration usually occurs on a broad front although a few important staging areas are known, especially on the coast of the Black Sea.

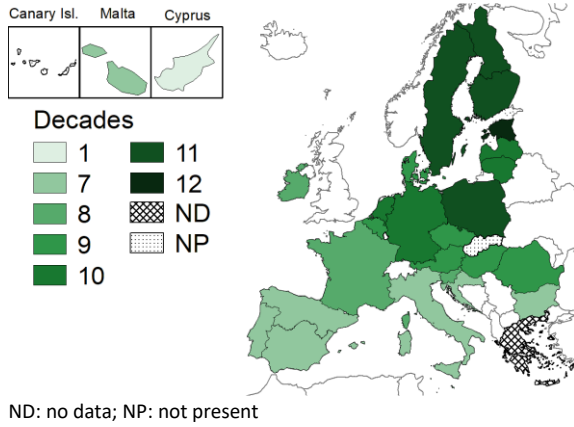
**Populations:** Two biogeographical populations occur in Europe (Delany *et al.* 2009; AEW 2018): (1) the Northwest European population whose distribution is taken as Fennoscandia west of Russia, and which are thought to winter west of line from Greece to the Nigeria/Cameroon border; and (2) the Northeast Europe and Western Asian population which breeds across Russia, wintering in Africa to the east of the previous population, as well as the coasts of Arabia and the Persian Gulf.

EU population status and trends:

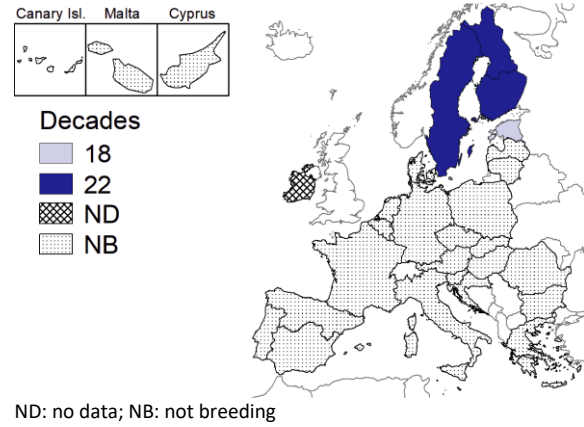
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 4 (3); incubation 23-26 days; full flight of young birds at 25-31 days; independence at or soon after fledging; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C						
Decode	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
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RO																																						
SE																																						
SI																																						
SK																																						

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** The very early start of the prenuptial migration in CY data is unlikely.

**End of reproduction:** The EE data is incoherent (breeding starts before migration) and requires further clarification.



## 59. Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*

A179



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	-	+	-	+	+	1	1
CY	-	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
DE	+	+	+	+	+	3	1
DK	+	+	+	+	+		
EE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	-	-	-	+	+		
ESC	+	-	-	+	+		
ESN	+	-	+	+	+	4	1
ESS	+	-	+	+	+	4	1
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
FR	-	-	+	+	+	4	1
HR	-	-	+	+	+	4	1
HU	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
IE	-	+	+	+	+	2	1
IT	-	+	+	+	+	4	
LT	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
LU	-	-	-	+	+		
LV	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	-	-	-	+	+		
NL	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	-	-	+	+	+		4
RO	-	-	+	+	-		
SE	+	+	+	+	+	1	
SI	-	-	+	+	-		
SK	+	+	+	+	+	1	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Black-headed Gulls nest across the major part of the steppe, temperate and boreal regions of Eurasia, from the Atlantic coast to Kamchatka, but avoid high latitude regions. In the non-breeding season, they occur widely in European seas, but also occur inland feeding on soil invertebrates in a range of grassland and agricultural habitats and often in mixed-species flocks. They nest colonially at high densities, frequently in association with other seabird species.

**Movements:** Migratory. Mainly migratory in the eastern and northern part of their range, dispersive or partially migratory elsewhere. Black-headed Gulls disperse widely around European coasts from the Black Sea and Mediterranean north to waters around Iceland, Greenland and northeast Canada. Birds from Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea region winter in northwestern Europe.

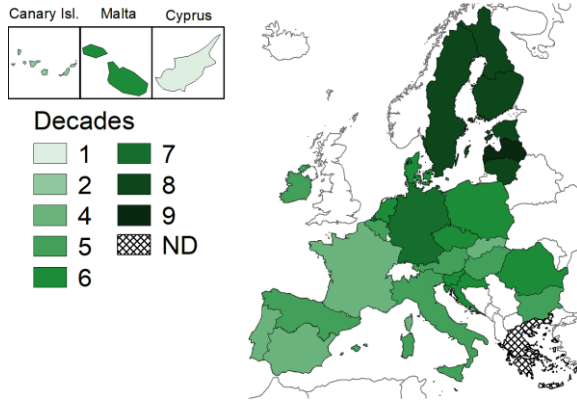
**Populations:** Two populations occur in Europe (Wetlands International 2012; AEWA 2018): (1) the West European population breeding in north and west Europe, and wintering in west Europe, the western Mediterranean and west Africa; and (2) the East Europe population which breeds in Bulgaria and Romania, the Balkans, Turkey, and European Russia, and overwinters in the eastern Mediterranean, the Black Sea and Turkey.

EU population status and trends:

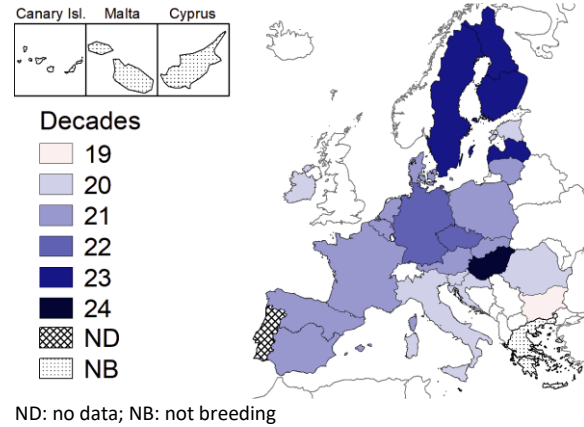
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 2-3 (1-4); incubation 23-26 days; full flight of young birds at c. 35 days; one brood.

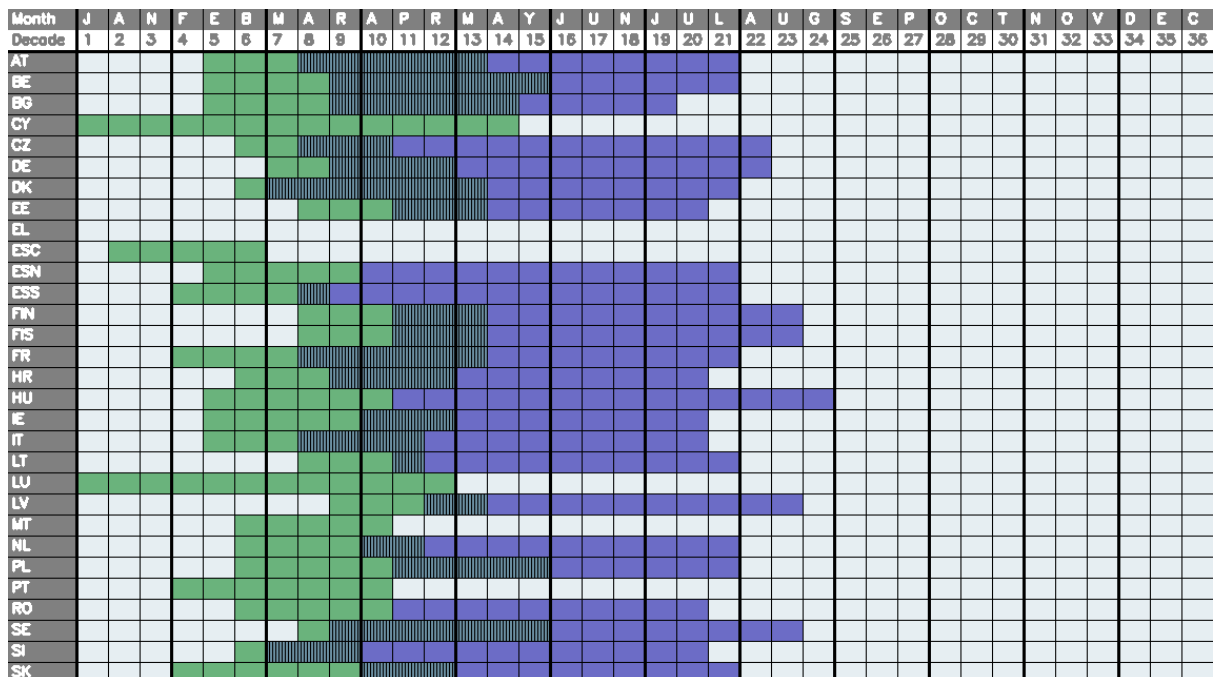
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the western part of the EU (DE data differs by 3 decades from FR data and 2 decades from BE data). Differences might be explained by dispersive movements or a mixing of migratory and resident populations.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the northern part of the EU (EE data differs by 3 decades from FIS and LV data) and in the central-eastern part of the EU (AT and SK data differ by 3 decades from HU data). Overall, there is some variation in the use of criteria to identify the start and end of reproduction.

## 60. Common (Mew) Gull *Larus canus*

A182



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of repro-duction	End of repro-duction
AT	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	-	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	+	+	+	2	1
DE	+	+	+	+	+	3	1
DK	+	-	+	+	+		
EE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	-	-	-	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
FIS	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
FR	-	-	+	+	+	1	4
HR	-	-	-	+	+		
HU	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	-	+	+	+	+	2	1
IT	-	-	-	+	+		
LT	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
LU	-	-	-	-	+		
LV	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	-	-	-	+	-		
NL	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	-	-	-	+	+		
RO	-	-	-	+	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
SI	-	-	-	+	-		
SK	-	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. This species inhabits boreal, temperate and steppe regions of Eurasia and North America. As well as breeding coastally, it also forms colonies inland. Locally it also breeds in the low arctic of Fennoscandia and European Russia. In the non-breeding season, it occurs around the coasts of northwest Europe, from western France to Iceland and including the North and Baltic Seas but does not occur into the Atlantic to any great extent. Nests colonially, often at significant densities.

**Movements:** Mainly migratory. Most European birds wintering on the coasts from the Baltic Sea to UK and Ireland, but small numbers reach the Iberian Peninsula, whilst birds breeding in European Russia move south to winter on the coasts of the Black Sea.

**Populations:** Two subspecies occur within Europe (Wetlands International 2012; AEW 2018): (1) nominate *L. c. canus* which breeds in northwest and central Europe and winters on Atlantic coasts as far as the Mediterranean; and (2) *L. c. heini* which breeds in northeast Europe and western Siberia and winters around the Black and Caspian Seas.

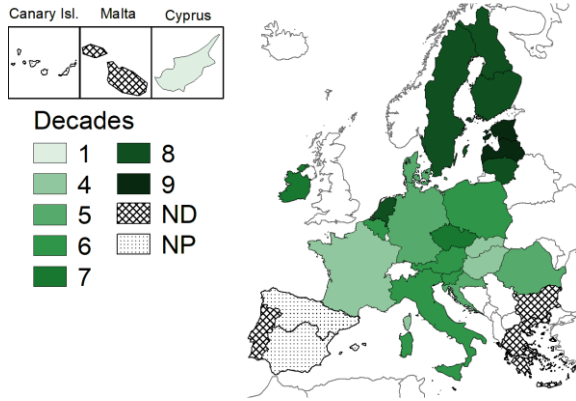
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

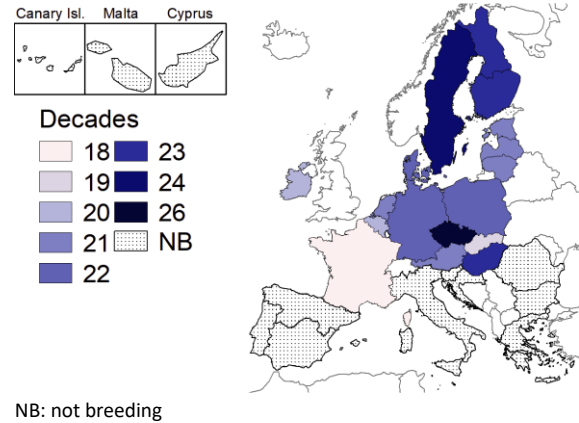
**Breeding:** Clutch size 3 (2-5); incubation 22.5-28 days; full flight of young birds at c. 35 days; one brood.

**International Plan:** EU Management Plan ([Paz & Poulin 2009](#)).

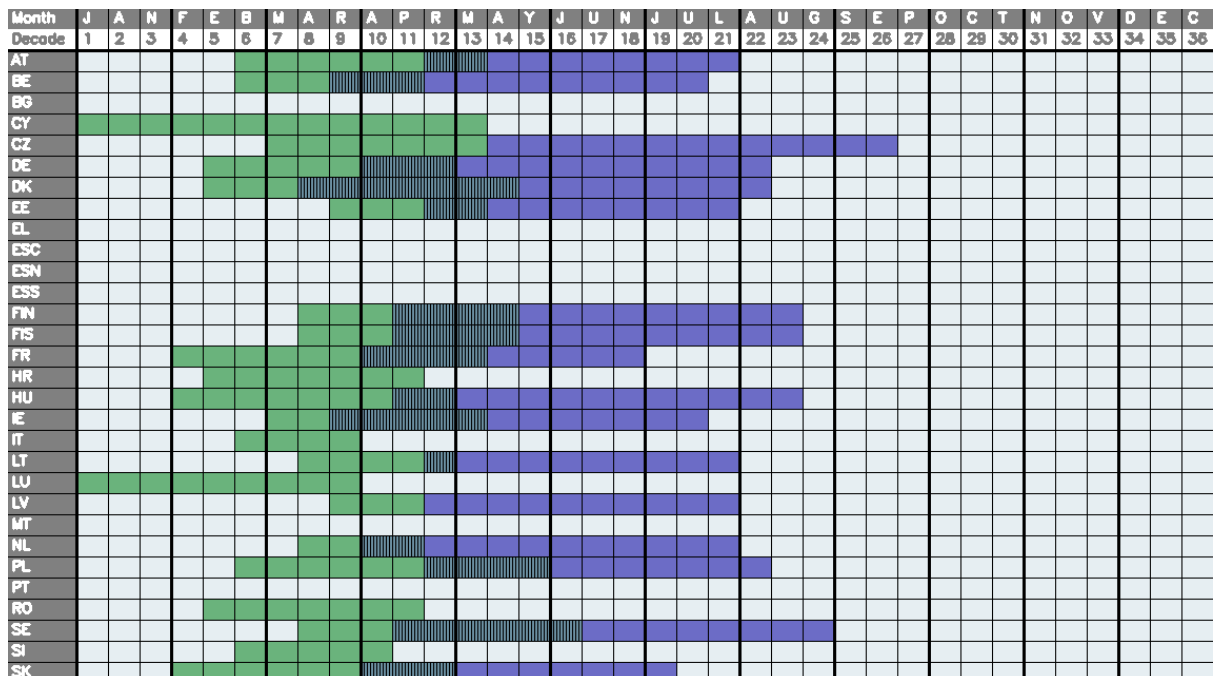
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** Data for CY and LU stand out. SK and HU have an early start of migration and NL a late one compared to neighbouring Member States.

**End of reproduction:** The reproduction ends very early in FR compared to neighbouring Member States. There is a lack of coherence in the central part of the EU. The CZ data is only based on sporadic observations. The use of different criteria for the end of reproduction could partly explain such differences.

## 61. Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

A183



Photo: Petri Alroth ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	+		
BE	-	-	+	+	+	1	2
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	-	+	-		
DE	+	-	+	+	+	3	1
DK	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
EE	-	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	-	-	-	+	+		
ESC	-	+	-	-	+	3	1
ESN	-	+	+	+	+	3	1
ESS	-	+	+	+	+	3	1
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
FR	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
HR	-	-	-	+	-		
HU	-						
IE	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
IT	-	-	-	+	+		
LT	-	-	-	+	+		
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	-	-	-	+	-		
MT	-	-	-	+	+		
NL	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	-	-	+	+	+		4
RO	-	-	-	+	-		
SE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	-						
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Breeds on essentially higher latitude coasts of northern and western Europe, from Iberia and Iceland in west, to Taymyr in northern Siberia. In non-breeding season occurs widely at sea moving south to coasts of west and east Africa, the Black and Mediterranean Seas, and inland through Rift Valley.

**Movements:** Mostly migratory. Western European birds (*Larus f. graellsii* and *L. f. intermedius*) winter off coasts of Iberia, north and west Africa, although increasing numbers remain in North Sea and around in UK and Irish waters. Northeastern Baltic breeders (*Larus f. fuscus*) move to east Africa via eastern Mediterranean, Red Sea and the Persian Gulf.

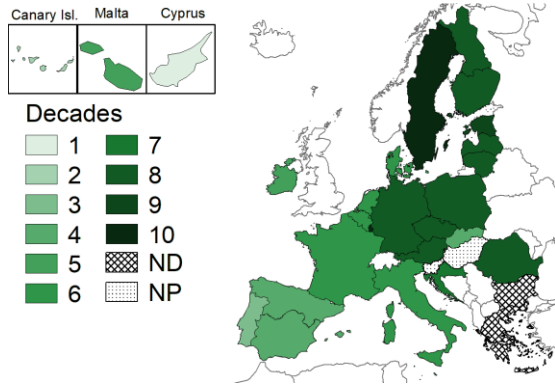
**Populations:** Four subspecies occurring within Europe are recognized (AEWA 2018): (1) *L. f. fuscus* (Baltic Gull) breeding in north Norway, east Sweden, east Denmark, Finland, Estonia, west Russia east to White Sea and wintering in Africa. (2) *L. f. graellsii* breeding in southwest Greenland, Iceland, Faeroes, Ireland, Britain, Belgium and France and wintering in west European waters to west Africa. (3) *L. f. intermedius* breeding in south Norway, west Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands and Spain and also wintering in west European waters to west Africa. (4) *L. f. heuglini* (Heuglin's Gull) breeding in northeast Europe and west Siberia and wintering in southwest Asia and northeast Africa.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

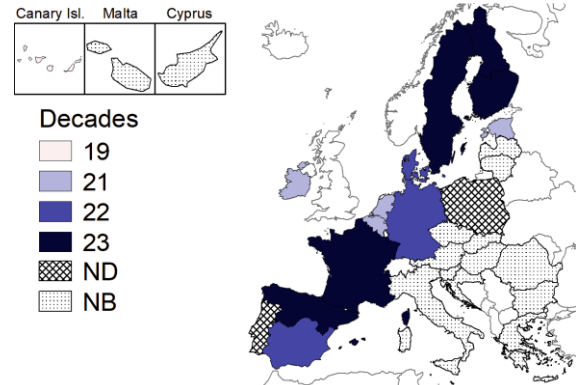
**Breeding:** Clutch size 3 (1-4); incubation 24-27 days; fledging period 30-40 days; independent soon after fledging; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



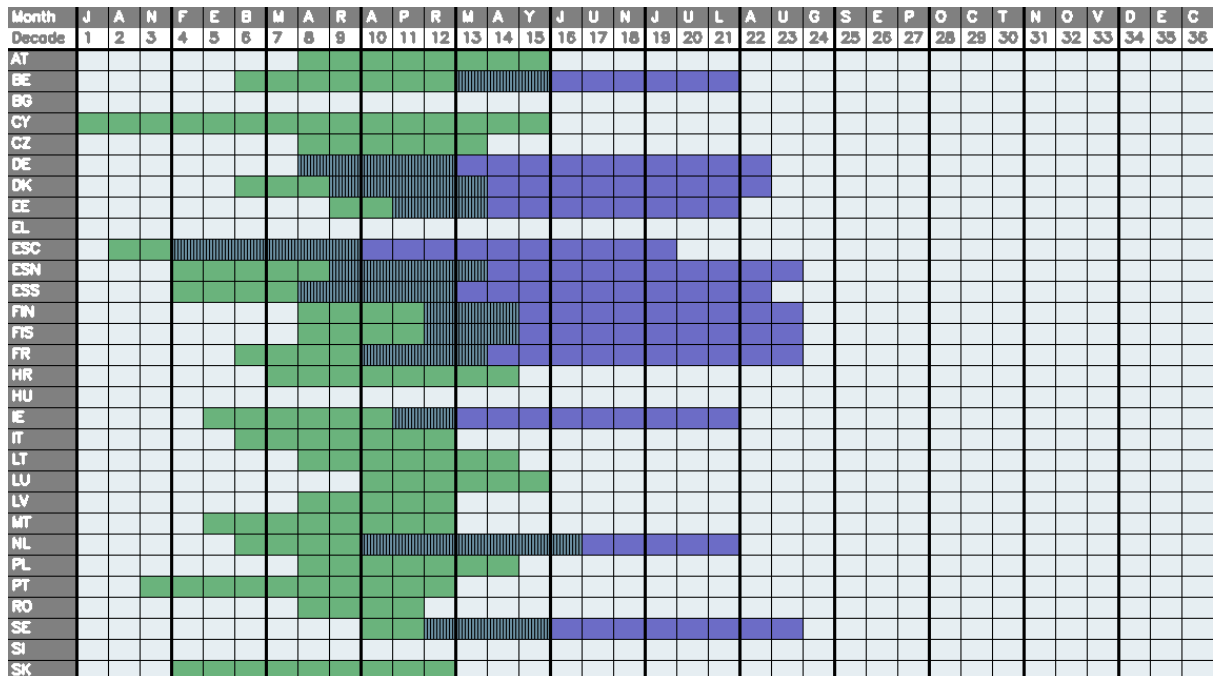
ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** The CY data is based on few observations only. The start of the prenuptial migration in LU is very late. The SK data is notably different from neighbouring Member States. There is a difference of two decades between FI and SE. Some of the discrepancies could be explained by the existence of different subspecies.

**End of reproduction:** Northern and Southern Member States have declared the same decade for the end of the reproduction period. Some of the discrepancies could be explained by the use of different criteria to identify the end of reproduction and the existence of different subspecies.



## 62. Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

A184



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	+		
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-						
CZ	-	-	-	+	+		
DE	+	+	+	+	+	3	1
DK	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-						
ESS	-						
FIN	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
FIS	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
FR	-	+	+	+	+	4	1
HR	-	-	-	-	+		
HU	-						
IE	-	+	-	+	+	2	1
IT	-						
LT	-	-	+	+	+	2	1
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	-						
NL	-	+	-	-	+	1	1
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	-	-	-	-	+		
RO	-						
SE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
SI	-						
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Herring Gulls inhabit north America and northwestern Europe, from southwestern France, UK, and Ireland, to northwestern Russia. Most of these birds breed in coastal habitats, but in some regions (especially northern Fennoscandia and European Russia) the species also breeds far inland. Herring Gulls range widely inland during the non-breeding season, as also do non-breeding birds in the summer. Herring Gulls nests largely colonially usually in association with other seabird species.

**Movements:** Largely migratory. Mainly migratory in northern Europe (northern Norway, Gulfs of Bothnia and Finland) with birds generally moving in a southwesterly direction in winter. Elsewhere the species is either resident or dispersive to a varying degree.


**Populations:** Two races occur within Europe (Wetlands International 2012; AEW 2018): (1) the North and Northwest Europe population of nominate *L. a. argentatus* breeding in Denmark and Fennoscandia to east Kola Peninsula in Russia, and wintering in north and west Europe; and (2) the Iceland and Western European population of *L. a. argenteus*, breeding in Iceland, Ireland, Britain, northwest France to Germany, and wintering in northwest Europe to north Iberia. Populations mix in the non-breeding season.

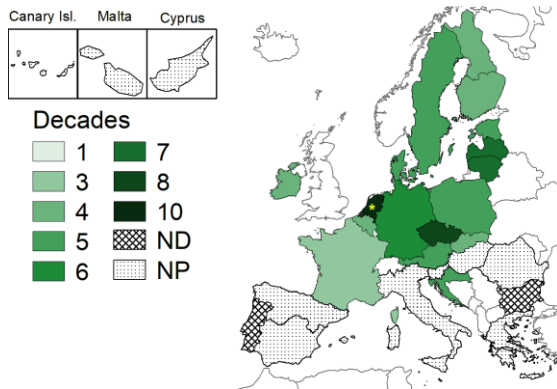
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3 (2-4); incubation 28-30 days; fledging 35-40 days; independence soon after fledging; one brood.

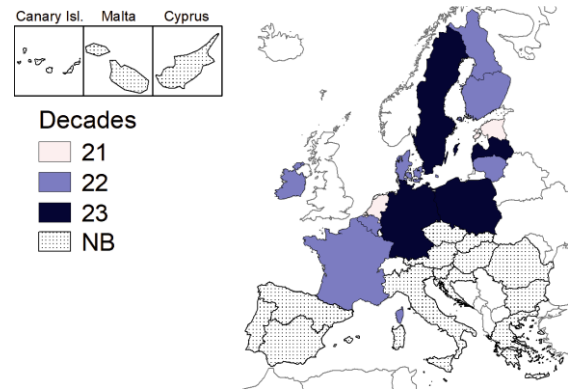
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	U	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C				
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
BE																																					
BG																																					
CY																																					
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### Limitations of data

**Start of spring migration:** The CZ and LU data need to be further examined. There is also an absence of migratory birds (and migration data) in NL.

**End of reproduction:** No comment.

## 63. Caspian Gull *Larus cachinnans*

A459



Photo: Photo: Giorgi Darchiashvili ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	+		
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	+	-	+	+	1	
CY	-	+	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	+	+	+		
DE	-	-	+	-	+	3	1
DK	-	-	-	+	+		
EE	-						
EL	-	+	-	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+						
ESS	+						
FIN	-						
FIS	-						
FR	-	-	-	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	+	+		
HU	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
IE	-						
IT	-						
LT	-						
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	-						
MT	-	+	+	+	+	4	1
NL	-						
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	-						
RO	-						
SE	-						
SI	-	-	+	-	-		
SK	-	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. The Caspian Gull breeds around the Black and Caspian Seas eastwards across central Asia to northwest China. Its European distribution has been expanding with recent breeding in Poland and eastern Germany. It typically nests colonially, often in association with other gull species. In the non-breeding season, it ranges widely and is found from the southern North Sea and southern Baltic through the eastern Mediterranean to the waters of the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf.

**Movements:** Migratory. Although some birds in the vicinity of the Black and Caspian Seas are sedentary, many birds show migratory and dispersive movements to marine areas south and west of the core breeding range.


**Populations:** One population is recognized in Europe (AEWA 2018), i.e. the Black Sea and Western Asia breeding population. Caspian Gull was formerly considered a sub-species of Herring Gull *L. argentatus* but is now recognized as a full species.

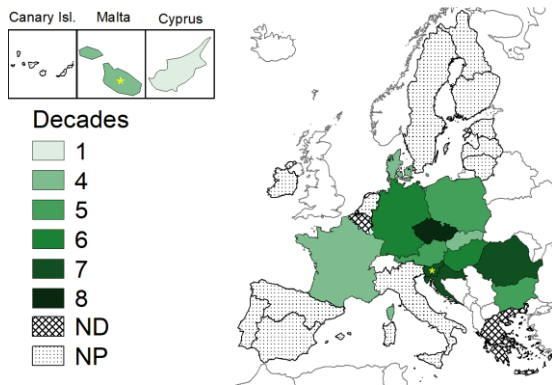
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 2-3; incubation 27-31 days; full flight of young birds 35-40 days; usually independent soon after fledging; one brood.

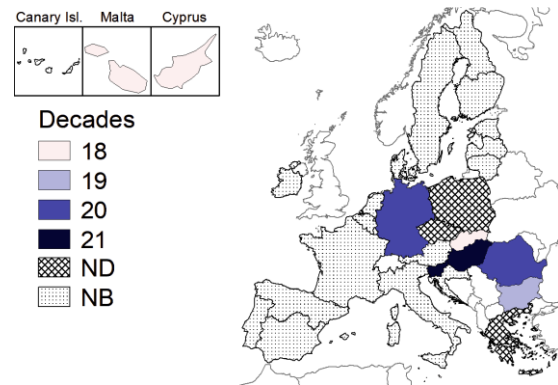
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	U	L	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C					
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36			
AT																																							
BE																																							
BG																																							
CY																																							
CZ																																							
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** CY and LU data stand out. The start of prenuptial migration in HR and CZ is late compared to neighbouring countries. BG reports a difficulty in distinguishing *Larus cachinnans* from *Larus michahellis*.

**End of reproduction:** The lack of data in several Member States makes it impossible to assess the coherence of data.

## 64. Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis*

A604



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	-						
BG	-	+	-	-	-	1	
CY	-						
CZ	-	-	+	+	+		
DE	-	+	+	-	+	3	1
DK	-						
EE	-						
EL	-						
ESC	+	+	-	-	-	4	1
ESN	+	+	-	-	-	4	1
ESS	+	+	-	-	-	4	1
FIN	-						
FIS	-						
FR	-	+	+	+	+	4	1
HR	-	+	+	+	+	4	1
HU	-						
IE	-	-	+	-	+		
IT	-	+	+	+	+	4	
LT	-	-	-	+	+		
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	-						
MT	-						
NL	-						
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	-	+	-	-	+	1	
RO	-						
SE	-						
SI	-						
SK	-	+	+	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. The Yellow-legged Gull breeds around the coasts of the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions (including in northeast Africa), the Atlantic coast of Iberia and southwestern France north to Brittany, and west to the Azores and Madeira. Yellow-legged are colonial breeders and in some places have started to nest in trees and buildings.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Whilst some birds are largely sedentary around breeding areas, many birds move in the non-breeding season northwards to central Europe and the coasts of the Channel and southern North Sea. Others move south and west along the coasts of Africa as far as Senegal and Gambia, and also east to the Red Sea.


**Populations:** One population is recognized in Europe (AEWA 2018): the Mediterranean, Iberia and Morocco breeding population. Yellow-legged Gull was formerly considered a sub-species of Caspian Gull *L. cachinnans* but is now recognized as a full species. *L. michahellis* is covered by *L. cachinnans* under the Birds Directive.

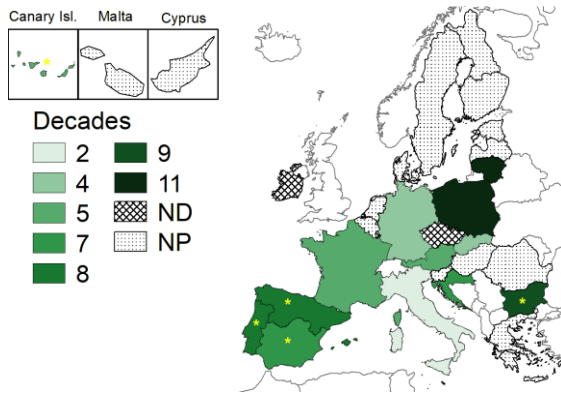
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3; incubation 27-31 days; full flight of young birds 35-40 days; usually independent soon after fledging; one brood.

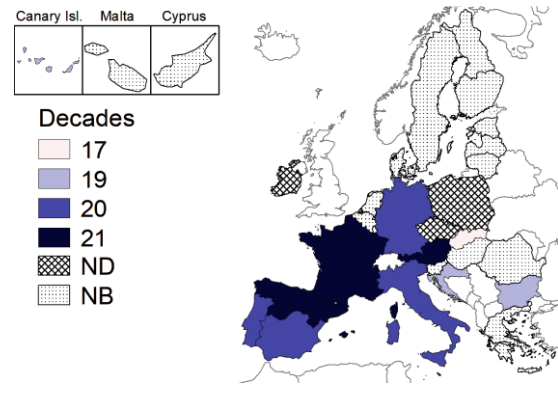
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	M	A	P	M	A	Y	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C										
Decode	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36			
AT																																							
BE																																							
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SE																																							
SI																																							
SK																																							

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the western part of the EU (the migration starts much earlier in IT than in ES and FR).

**End of reproduction:** SK data is notably different from the neighbouring Member States.



## 65. Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

A187



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-						
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	-						
CZ	-	-	-	+	+		
DE	+	+	+	+	+	3	1
DK	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	-						
ESC	-						
ESN	-	-	-	-	+		
ESS	-						
FIN	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
FIS	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
FR	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
HR	-	-	-	-	+		
HU	-						
IE	-	-	-	+	+	2	1
IT	-						
LT	-						
LU	-						
LV	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	-						
NL	-	+	-	-	+		
PL	-	-	-	+	+		
PT	-	-	-	+	+		
RO	-						
SE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
SI	-						
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Great Black-backed Gulls inhabits marine coasts of the Atlantic Ocean and the Baltic Sea, also occurring on the coasts of Greenland as well as on the Atlantic coast of north America and as far as the eastern Great Lakes. In Europe it breeds in northwest France, in western UK, Ireland, Iceland and Svalbard, the coasts of the Gulfs of Bothnia and Finland, and east to the White Sea. In the non-breeding season, it disperses widely in the marine environment (Atlantic, North Sea and Baltic) but rarely occurs inland. Great Black-backed Gulls typically nest alongside other seabirds on whom it predated eggs and young.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Birds in the north of the range (north of the Arctic Circle) are entirely migratory, whilst those in the south of the range are largely sedentary. Those of the north move in a southwest direction in winter.

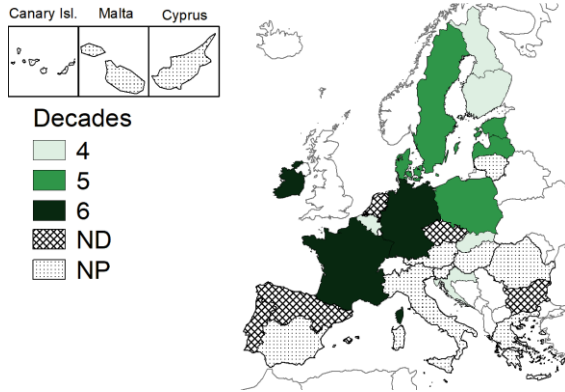
**Population:** One population occurs within Europe (Wetlands International 2012; AEWA 2018): the North and West European population, which breeds on European coasts.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

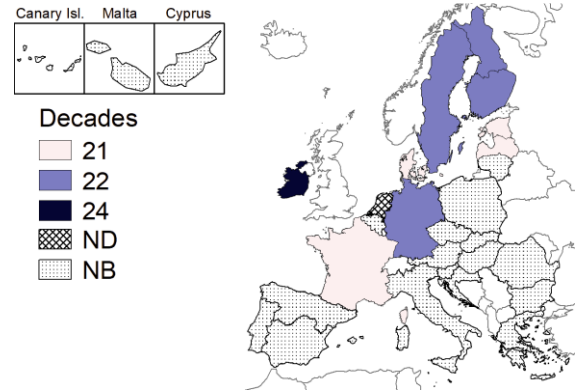
**Breeding:** Clutch size 2-3 (1-5); incubation 27-28 days; fledging 7-8 weeks; independent soon after fledging; one brood.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



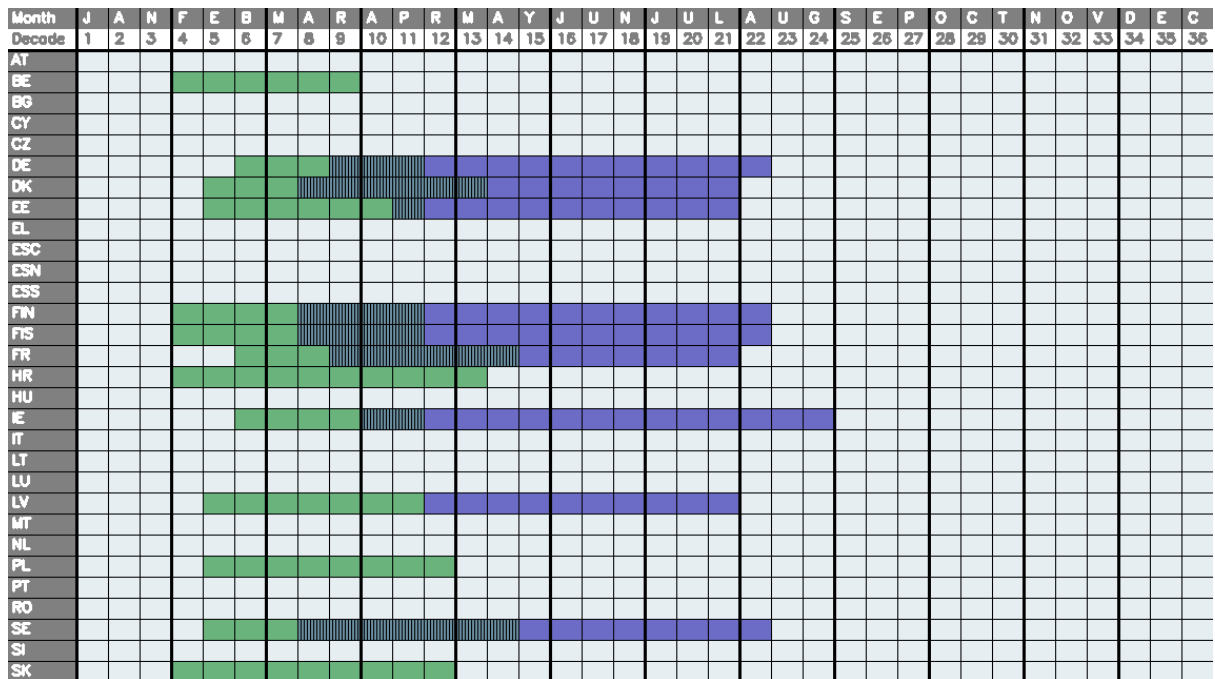
ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** No comment.

**End of reproduction:** No comment.

## 66. Rock Dove *Columba livia*

A206



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
BE	+						
BG	+	+	+	-	-	1	
CY	+	+	-	-	-		
CZ	+	+	-	-	-		
DE	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
DK	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
EE	+	+	-	-	-	4	
EL	+	+	-	-	-		
ESC	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
ESN	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
ESS	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
FIN	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FIS	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
FR	+	+	-	-	-		
HR	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
HU	+						
IE	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
IT	+	+	-	-	-		
LT	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
LU	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
MT	+	+	+	-	-	2	
NL	+						
PL	+	+	-	-	-		
PT	+	+	-	-	-	4	4
RO	+						
SE	+	+	-	-	-	1	
SI	+						
SK	+	+	-	-	-	2	2

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. Rock Doves naturally inhabit coastal and inland cliffs in southern and western Europe, Africa (north of the Equator), and a major part of central and southern Asia including Indian sub-continent. They have a wide distribution across many climatic zones, from Mediterranean, steppe and temperate regions, although tend to avoid high latitudes (and so are absent from the very north of Europe). Rock Doves are often associated with human habitat and agricultural landscapes where they feed on seeds.

**Movements:** Resident. Some local movements in arid regions.

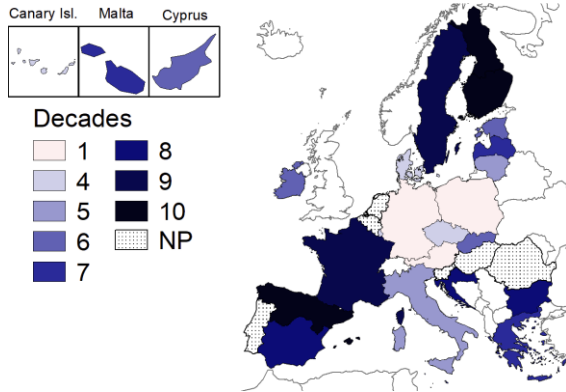
**Populations:** Apart from its natural range, the Rock Dove has developed feral populations, through human intervention. All the natural populations have, to some extent, hybridised with feral pigeons in such a way that it is nearly impossible today to get an idea of the real situation of this species. This difficulty is increased by the fact that only few studies have been conducted on the Rock Dove. Within Europe, the nominate subspecies *C. l. livia* occurs (Cramp 1985). No other population structuring is known.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

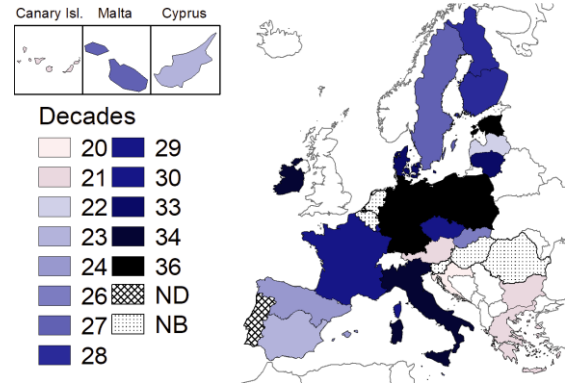
**Breeding:** Clutch size 2 (1); incubation 16-19 days; full-flight of young at 35-37 days; young become independent at or soon after fledging; probably up to five broods.

### Start of the period of reproduction



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	U	L	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C				
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
BG																																						
CY																																						
CZ																																						
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SI																																						
SK																																						

### Limitations of data

**Start and end of reproduction:** The feral pigeon breeds almost all the year round in many Member States. In those Member States where feral and wild populations co-exist, it is not clear whether data concern both populations or not. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in PT because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

## 67. Stock Dove *Columba oenas*

A207



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
BE	-	+	+	+	+	1	
BG	-	+	-	+	+	1	
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
DE	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
DK	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	-	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	+	-	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
FR	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
HR	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
HU	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
IE	-	+	-	-	-	1	1
IT	-	+	-	+	+	4	
LT	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	-	-	+	-	-	1	2
LV	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	-	-	-	+	-		
NL	-	-	+	+	+	1	2
PL	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
PT	+	+	-	+	+	1	4
RO	+	+	-	+	+		
SE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	-	-	+	+	+		
SK	-	-	+	+	-	1	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Stock Doves inhabit Mediterranean, temperate, and boreal regions of Europe and western Asia, eastwards to Mongolia and western China. Within Europe, they are a widespread lowland breeder, with a range that extends to 65°N, and does not include montane environments (<1,000 m). They nest in tree holes of old deciduous and coniferous (mostly Pine *Pinus*) forests, but feed largely in open areas. In some regions it is well-adapted to urban habitats.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Birds breeding in temperate western Europe and Mediterranean regions are resident, while those breeding in continental climatic regions of central Europe European Russia (and including northerly breeding birds) winter around the Mediterranean.


**Populations:** All European birds are of the nominate race *C. o. oenas* (Cramp 1985). No other population structuring is known.

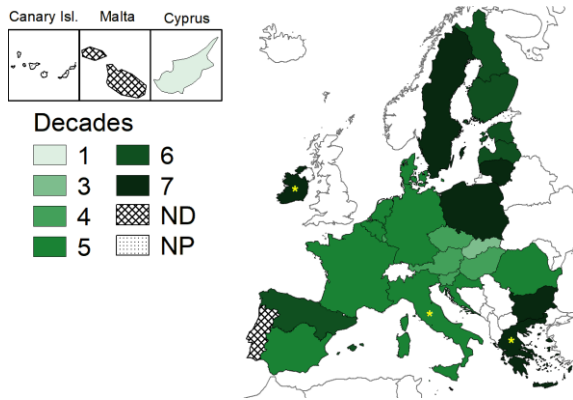
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 2 (1-4); incubation 16-18 days; fledging period 20-30 days; independence occurs shortly after fledging; 2-4 (1-5) broods.

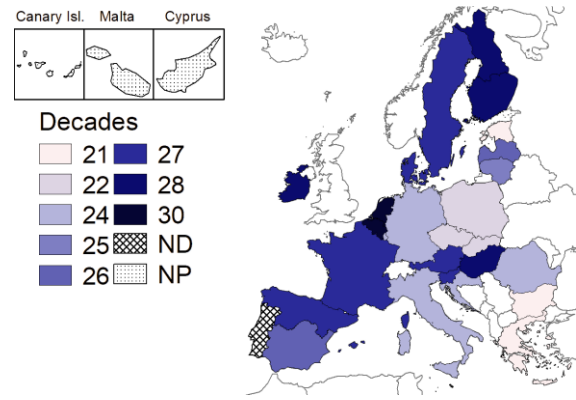
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C						
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
BE																																					
BG																																					
CY																																					
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DE																																					
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NL																																					
PL																																					
PT																																					
RO																																					
SE																																					
SI																																					
SK																																					

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the southeast part of the EU (EL data differs by 8 decades from CY data). Some countries indicate that resident and migrating birds intermix. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in PT and EL because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the Mediterranean/Balkan region (reproduction ends in EL and BG 3 decades earlier than in RO; same situation in IT and HR compared to their neighbouring countries; RO data differs by 4 decades from HU data). The different criteria used to identify the end of reproduction could explain part of inconsistencies as well as the fact that Stock Dove can have up to 4-5 broods and this might not always have been taken into account. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in PT because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.



## 68. Woodpigeon *Columba palumbus*

A208



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	-	+	-	1	1
CY	+	+	-	-	+	1	
CZ	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
DE	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	+	-	+	+	4	
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
FIN	+	-	+	+	-	1	2
FIS	+	-	+	+	-	1	2
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
HU	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
IT	+	+	-	+	+		
LT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	+	+	-	-	+	1	2
LV	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	-		
NL	+	-	+	+	+	1	2
PL	+	-	+	+	+		
PT	+	+	-	-	+	1	
RO	+	+	-	+	+		
SE	+	+	+	+	+	1	
SI	+	-	+	+	-		
SK	+	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Woodpigeons inhabit the major part of Europe, north to 67°N, with a Eurasian distribution reaching Kazakhstan and Bangladesh and 60°E in central Asia. It also occurs in north Africa. Originally the Woodpigeon was a bird of forest and densely wooded regions, but it has adapted to agricultural habitats and more recently to urban areas and occurs in Europe in all but high montane (and high latitude) environments. In the non-breeding season, it is closely associated with agricultural landscapes.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Birds of urban areas and of temperate southern and western Europe are mainly sedentary. Those living in forested areas of the north and the northeast, as well as in continental climatic regions in eastern Europe, are migratory, leapfrogging the mainly sedentary west European population to winter mainly on the Iberian Peninsula.


**Populations:** Two races occur within Europe (Cramp 1985): nearly all birds are of (1) the nominate race *C. p. palumbus*; but (2) *C. p. azorica* breeds on the Azores and is a rare endemic there. The race *C. p. maderensis* from Madeira is now extinct. No other population structuring is known.

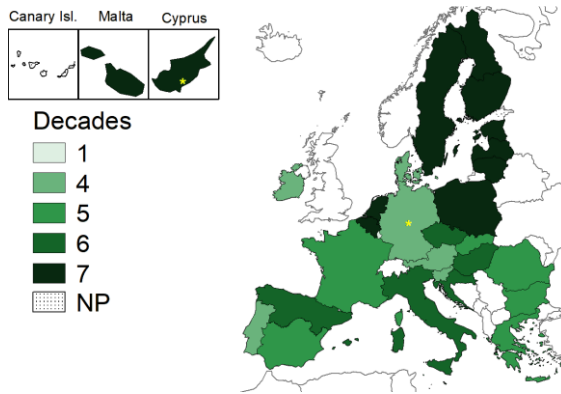
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 1-2; incubation 17 days; fledging period variable, 33-34 days for undisturbed birds, but range 20-35 days; independence at least one week after fledging; 2-3 broods.

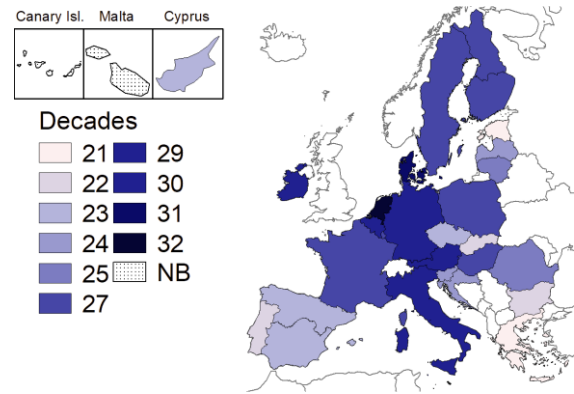
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C								
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
BE																																						
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CY																																						
CZ																																						
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LV																																						
MT																																						
NL																																						
PL																																						
PT																																						
RO																																						
SE																																						
SI																																						
SK																																						

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the western part of the EU (data of BE and NL differ by 3 decades from DE data. The very early start of the prenuptial migration period in LU needs to be further clarified). MT data is questionable as the prenuptial migration is reported as starting in the same period as in FI, LV, NL.

**End of reproduction:** Woodpigeon can have 2-3 broods. Therefore, the end of reproduction is expected to be late in autumn (as NL data shows), a situation that does not appear to apply in several Member States (e.g. PT, PL, SK, EE, and EL).

## 69. Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

A209



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
BE	-	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	-	-	-	1	
CY	+	+	-	-	-	4	
CZ	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
DE	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
DK	+	+	+	+	-	1	1
EE	-	+	+	-	+	4	
EL	-	+	-	-	-		
ESC	-	+	-	-	-	3	1
ESN	-	+	-	-	-	3	1
ESS	-	+	-	-	-	3	1
FIN	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
FIS	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
FR	+	+	-	+	-	2	1
HR	-	+	-	-	-	2	1
HU	+	+	-	-	-	1	1
IE	-	+	-	+	-	2	1
IT	-	+	-	-	-		
LT	-	-	+	+	+	2	1
LU	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	-	+	-	-	-	1	1
MT	-	+	+	+	-	2	1
NL	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
PL	-	+	-	-	-		
PT	-	+	-	-	-	4	4
RO	+	+	-	-	-		
SE	-	+	+	+	-	4	
SI	-	+	-	-	-		
SK	+	+	-	-	-	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Since the 1930s, the Collared Dove, originally a bird of the Indian subcontinent, has colonised Europe via Turkey. It is now found breeding across most of the continent, reaching 65°N, although is not widespread in Iberia or around the Mediterranean. In western Europe, it inhabits mainly suburban areas, small towns and large villages, nesting in parks, gardens, orchards and other such anthropogenic habitats. It is particularly widespread in northern and southern regions and has recently expanded strongly in the south.

**Movements:** Sedentary. Breeding adults are largely resident as are a proportion of young birds. Other immature birds make pronounced dispersal without return movements towards natal area. In montane areas there can be marked seasonal movements in altitude, with birds moving into lowland areas in the non-breeding season.

**Populations:** All European birds are of the nominate race *S. d. decaocto* (Cramp 1985) whose range extends across Eurasia. No other population structuring is known.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 2 (1); incubation 14-18 days; full flight of young birds at 15-19 days; independence about one week after fledging; 3-6 broods.



## 70. European Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*

A210



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
BE	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
BG	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
CY	+	-	+	+	-	1	
CZ	-	-	+	-	-	2	1
DE	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
DK	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
EE	-	-	+	-	-	1	
EL	+	-	+	+	-	1	
ESC	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
ESN	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
ESS	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
FIN	-	-	+	-	-	1	1
FIS	-	-	+	-	-	1	1
FR	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
HR	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
HU	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	-	-	+	-	-		
IT	+	-	+	+	-		
LT	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
LV	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
MT	+	-	+	+	-	1	1
NL	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
PL	-	-	+	+	-		
PT	+	-	+	+	-	1	
RO	+	-	+	+	-		
SE	-	-	-	+	-		
SI	-	-	+	+	-		
SK	-	-	+	+	-	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Breeds widely across Europe, western Asia, Middle East and north Africa, with isolated populations (subspecies *rufescens* and *hoggara*) in Egypt and southern Sahara, and *arenicola* south of Mediterranean to the eastern Caspian. Nominate race *turtur* is largely confined to Europe north to 60°N, breeding from UK east to Poland and northern Russia, and south to northern Mediterranean coast and Canary Islands, Asia Minor, and from Syria to Kazakhstan and western Siberia (Fisher *et al.* 2018). In the non-breeding season, occurs in Sahelian regions from Senegal in west to southwest Mali, although it occurs in many other African countries

**Movements:** Long-distance migrant. The International Action Plan (Fisher *et al.* 2018) describes migration patterns in detail. Western European populations migrate via southwest France and Iberia, and thence to west Africa (Zwarts *et al.* 2009). Birds breeding in central Europe move southwards through Italy, Malta and north Africa to wintering grounds, whilst movements of more easterly breeding birds are more poorly known but likely migrate through the Balkans and around the eastern Mediterranean.

**Populations:** Population structure is poorly known (Fisher *et al.* 2018). Only the nominate race occurs in Europe.

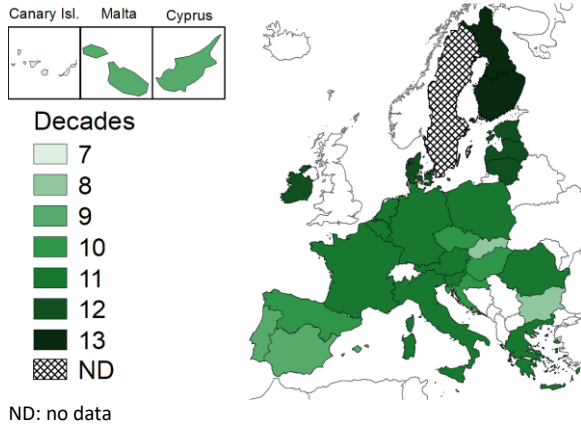
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

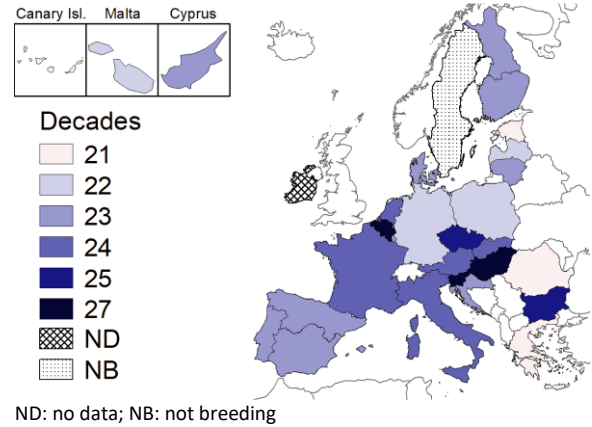
**Breeding:** Clutch size 1-2; incubation 13-14 (-16) days; fledging period ca 20 days; independence soon after fledging; 2-3 broods, but probably only one brood in northern populations.

**International Action Plans:** EU Management Plan (Lutz & Jensen 2007) and EU/CMS Species Action Plan (Fisher *et al.* 2018).

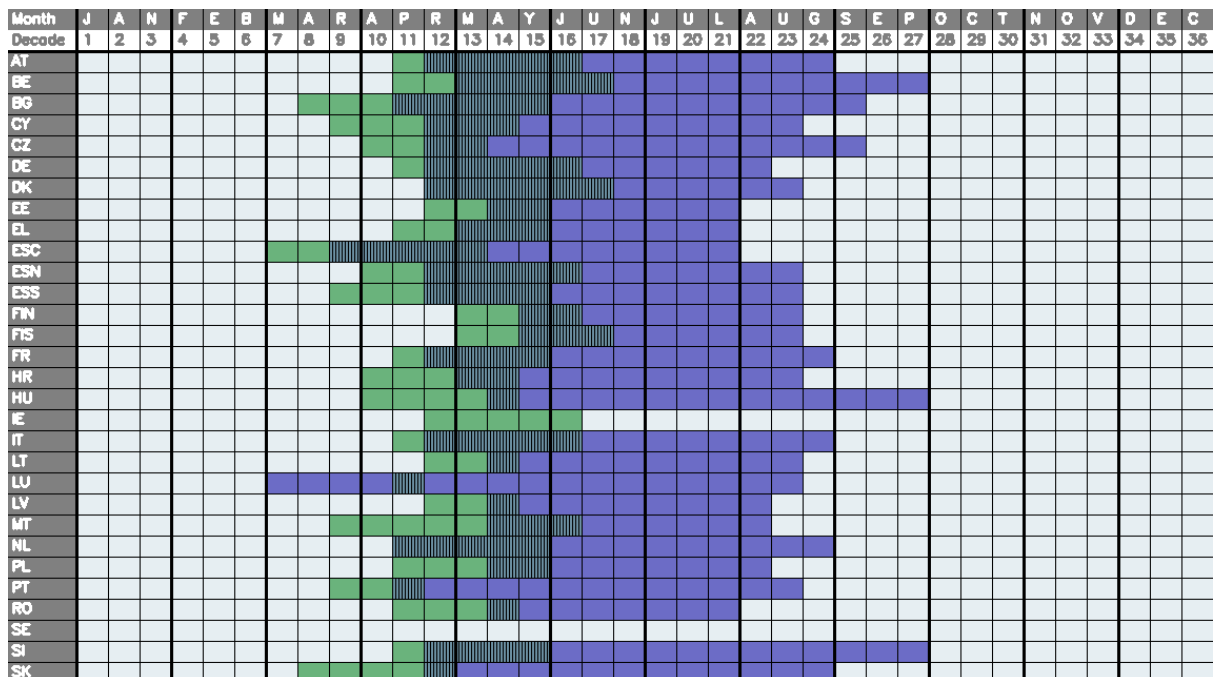
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the eastern part of the EU (earlier start of migration in SK and BG than in neighbouring Member States). The LU data needs to be revised (only provided for one decade).

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence across the EU, in particular in the central and eastern parts of the EU.



## 71. Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

A247



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	-	+	+	+	+	1	
BG	-	-	+	+	+	1	
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	+	-	-	1	1
DE	-	-	+	+	+	1	3
DK	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	-	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	-	+	+	+	4	
ESC	-						
ESN	-	+	-	+	+	3	2
ESS	-	+	-	-	+	3	2
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	-	+	+	+	+	2	1
HU	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
IT	+	-	+	+	+		
LT	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	-	-	+	-	-	1	2
LV	-	-	+	+	+	1	2
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	-	-	+	-	+	1	2
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	-	+	-	+	+	4	
RO	+	-	+	+	-		
SE	-	-	+	+	+	1	
SI	-	+	+	+	-		
SK	-	+	+	+	+	1	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Skylarks are very widespread and have a broad distribution across Eurasia. It breeds across the whole of Europe, from Iberia to northern Scandinavia. Originally a bird of steppes or similar open, grassland habitats, it has become adapted to agricultural habitats and most birds now breed on farmland.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Skylarks are wholly migratory in the north and east, although in the south and west, roughly west from Denmark to the Adriatic, birds are mainly resident. Northern and eastern Europe Skylarks (including birds coming from as far as 50°E) leave their breeding areas and move southwest in a broad front across Europe to winter mainly in Ireland, Britain, Benelux, western and southern France, Iberia and Italy, joining resident birds there.

**Populations:** Four races occur within Europe (Cramp 1988): (1) nominate *A. a. arvensis* occurs across much of northwestern Europe from Ireland, southern Britain, Fennoscandia, and east to the Urals; (2) *A. a. scotica* occurs in Ireland and northern Britain; (3) *A. a. guillelmi* occurs in northwest Iberia; and (4) *A. a. cantarella* occurs from northeast Spain across the northern Mediterranean region to southern Russia. No other population structuring is known.

EU population status and trends:

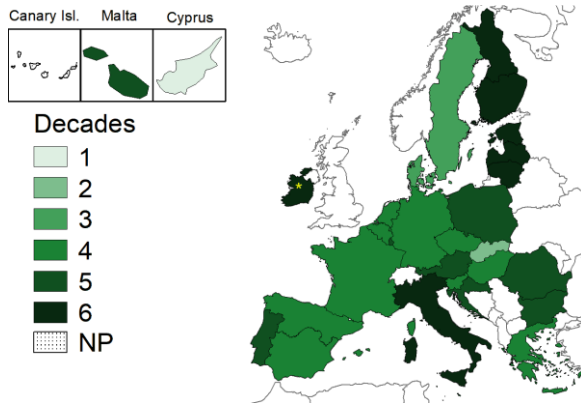
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-5 (7); incubation 11 days; semi-nidicolous; fledging period c. 18-20 days, but young usually leave nest at 8-10 days; become independent 25 days from hatching; usually up to four broods, but fewer in the north.

**International Plan:** EU Management Plan ([Petersen 2007](#)).

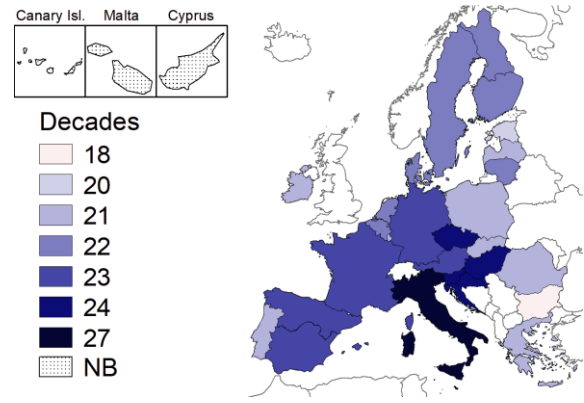
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents 🌟)



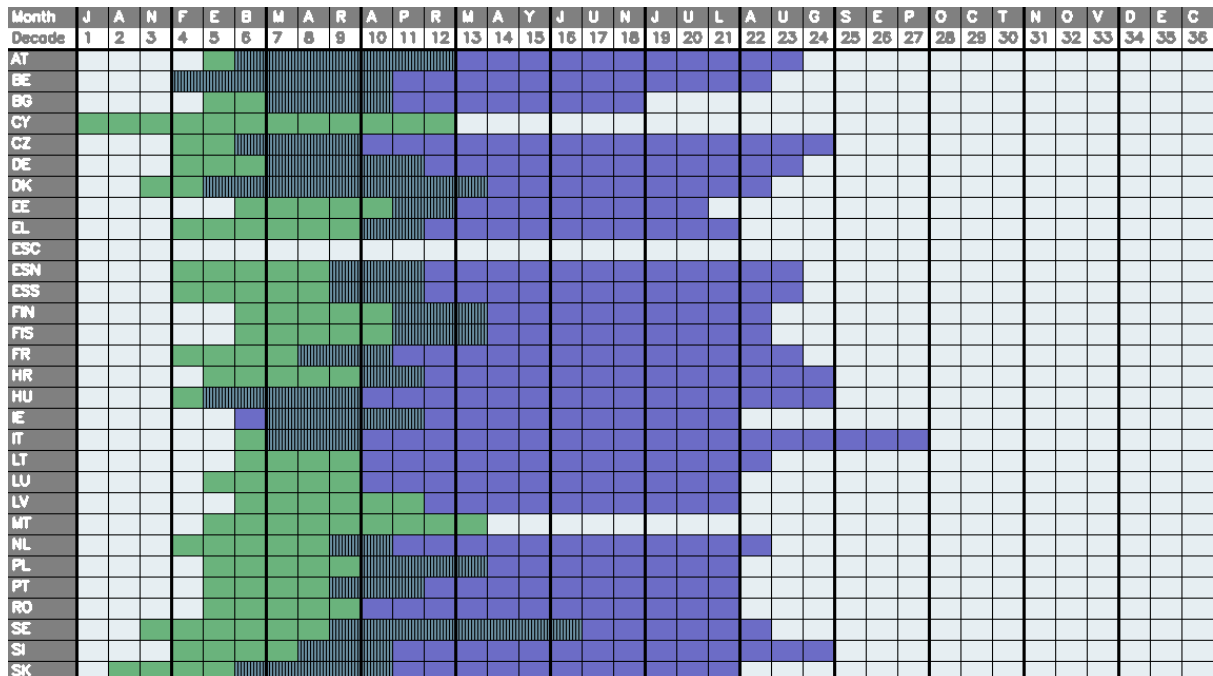
NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence between the southern and northern parts of the EU (the prenuptial migration starts earlier in DK and SE than e.g. in IT). The distinction between resident and migrating birds in southern Europe and the existence of different races might explain some discrepancies.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in particular in the eastern part of the EU and the Mediterranean region. The reproduction in IT ends late compared to many Member States. The Skylark can have up to 4 broods. This might not always have been taken into account. In addition, different criteria have been used to identify the start and the end of reproduction.

## 72. Blackbird *Turdus merula*

A283



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	+	+	+	+	2	1
BE	-	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	-	+	+	+	+	1	
CY	+	+	+	+	+	4	
CZ	-	+	+	-	-	2	1
DE	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	-	+	+	+	+	2	1
EE	-	+	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	+	-	+	+	2	
ESC	-	+	-	+	+		
ESN	-	+	-	+	+		
ESS	-	+	-	+	+		
FIN	-	+	+	+	+	1	2
FIS	-	+	+	+	+	1	2
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	-	+	+	+	+	2	1
HU	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
IE	-	+	-	+	+		
IT	+	+	-	+	+	4	
LT	-	-	+	+	+	2	1
LU	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	-	+	-	+	+	1	2
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	+	+	-	+	+	4	
RO	-	+	-	+	+		
SE	+	+	+	+	+	1	
SI	-	+	-	+	-		
SK	-	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.


**Distribution:** Palearctic. Blackbirds have a broad distribution, across a wide range of climatic zones, from northwest Africa across continental Europe and Turkey, but then occurring discontinuously in central Asia, India and southern China. The European population constitutes more than half of the global population and in Europe it is only absent from northern Fennoscandia. They breed in an exceptionally diverse range of habitats including farmland, heaths, moorlands, woodlands, and including urban and suburban areas.

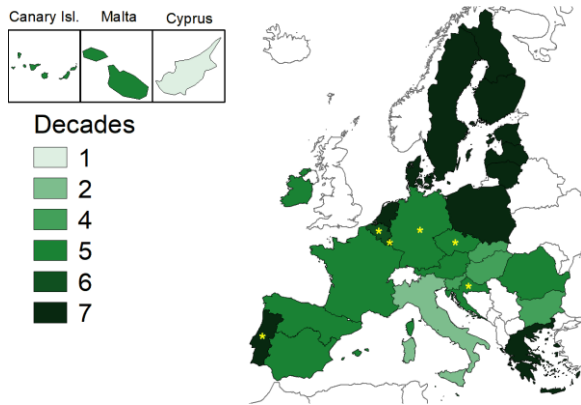
**Movements:** Partially migratory. In southern and western Europe, the species is sedentary, but the birds breeding in the north of its range, and in continental climate zones in the east are migratory and winter in the southwest, joining resident birds occurring there.

**Populations:** Four races occur within Europe (Cramp 1988): (1) nominate *T. m. merula* occurs widely across Europe; (2) *T. m. aterrimus* breeds in the Balkans and around the northern Black Sea; (3) *T. m. cabreræ* breeds in Madeira and the western Canaries; and (4) *T. m. azorensis* breeds in the Azores. No other population structuring is known.

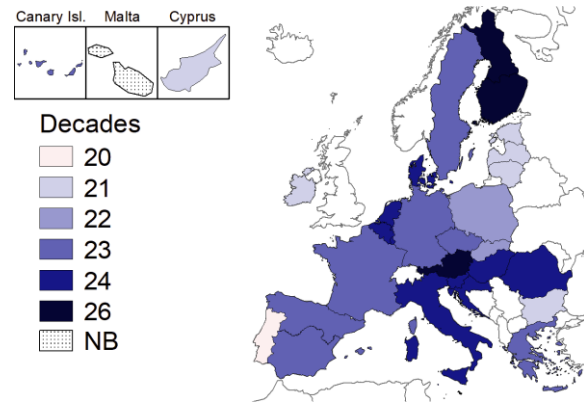
**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-5 (2-6), varies within season (smallest clutches at beginning and end); incubation 12-14 days; fledging period 14 (10-19) days; independence three weeks after hatching; two-three broods except in northern range where three are rare.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )

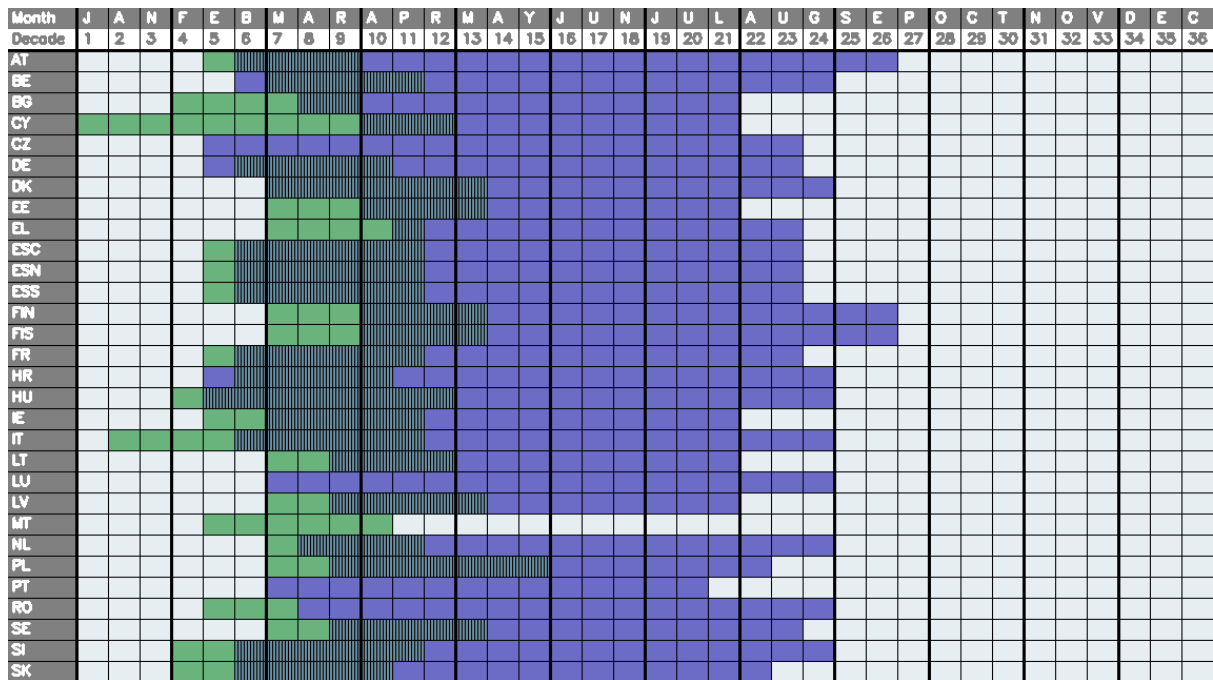


### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in the Mediterranean region (EL has a very late start of migration compared to IT). Several Member States report the presence of resident and migratory populations (see also *T. philomelos*). Different subspecies could partly explain some of these discrepancies.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in many parts of the EU. PT data is notably different from neighbouring Member States. There is a difference of 3 decades or more between FI and neighbouring Member States. RO data needs to be further examined. Blackbirds can have 2-3 broods. This might not have always been taken into account.

## 73. Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*

A284



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of repro-duction	End of repro-duction
AT	+	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	-	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	-	-	-	+	+		
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
DE	-	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
EE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	-	+	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	-	-	-	+	+		
ESS	-	-	-	+	+		
FIN	+	-	+	+	+	1	2
FIS	+	-	+	+	+	1	2
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	-	-	+	+	+		
HU	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
IE	-	-	-	+	+		
IT	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
LT	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
LU	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	-	-	+	+	+		
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	-	-	-	+	+		
RO	+	+	+	+	+		
SE	+	-	+	+	+	1	
SI	-	-	+	+	+		
SK	-	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Fieldfares breed a major part of temperate, boreal, and subarctic Eurasia, from central Europe and Scandinavia to eastern Siberia. In Europe, it has a more northern distribution, being absent in the breeding season from the Mediterranean basin and reaching the low arctic of northern Fennoscandia and European Russia. It is originally a species of the taiga, and has considerably extended its breeding area to the west, and since the 1950s has irregularly bred in Iceland and Greenland. It breeds in farmland and other cultivated landscapes as well as a range of open habitats with trees including deciduous and or mixed forests with open structure.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Most birds are migratory and winter in western, central, and southern Europe, south the northern and eastern Mediterranean. Across much of central Europe, resident birds are joined by migrants from northern or eastern regions where severe winters force movements. Post-breeding migration occurs on a broad front, but involving large flocks showing often simultaneous movements south and east. Migration patterns can vary according to age, with adults usually migrating further than first-year birds (Hagemeijer & Blair 1997).

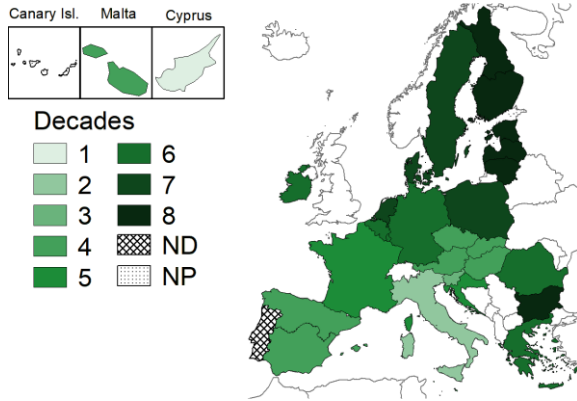
**Populations:** No racial differentiation or population structuring is known (Cramp 1988). No other population structuring is known.

EU population status and trends:

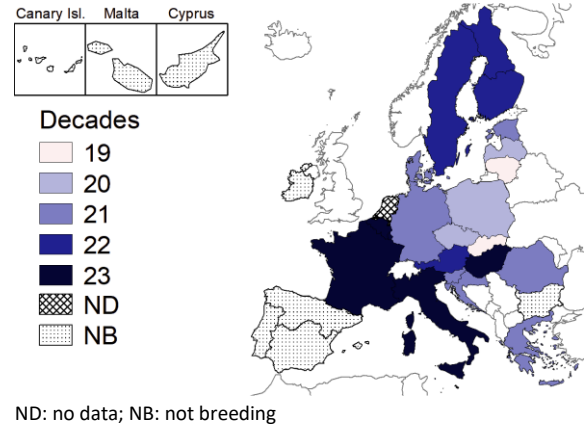
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 5-6 (3-7); incubation 10-13 days; fledging period 12-15 days; independence c. 30 days after hatching; one-two broods.

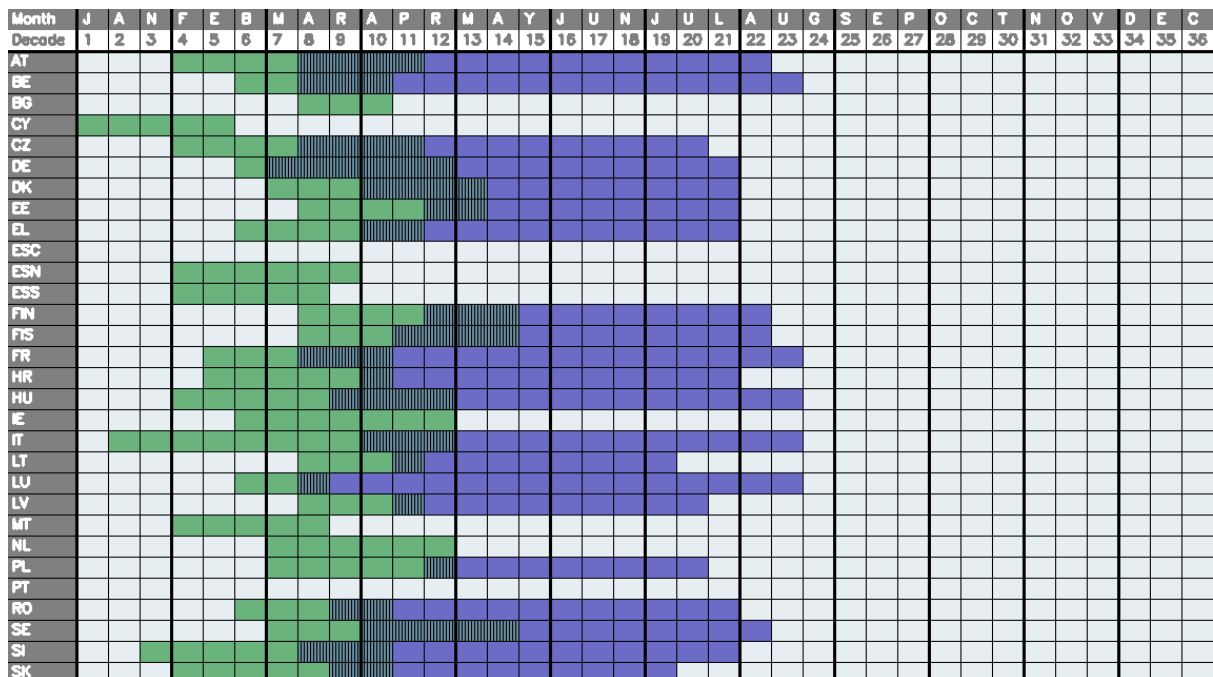
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



### End of the period of reproduction



### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction



### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in BG, EL, and RO compared to IT, CZ, SK, AT, and HU. There are 3 decades of difference between FR and IT. The difficulty in distinguishing between migratory and resident birds might explain some of the observed inconsistencies.

**End of reproduction:** There are significant differences in the eastern part of the EU (a difference of 4 decades between SK and HU). Some differences could be explained by the use of different criteria for the start of reproduction and the fact that Fieldfares can have two broods, which might have been not taken into account consistently.



## 74. Songthrush *Turdus philomelos*

A285



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
BE	-	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	-	+	+	+	+	1	
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
DE	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
DK	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
EE	-	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	+	-	+	+	2	
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	+	-	+	+	2	1
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	-	-	+	+	+	2	1
HU	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
IE	-	+	+	+	+	2	3
IT	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
LT	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	-	-	+	-	-	1	2
LV	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	-	-	+	+	+	1	2
PL	-	-	+	+	+	3	
PT	+	-	+	+	+	4	
RO	+	-	+	+	-		
SE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	-	+	+	+	+		
SK	-	-	+	+	-	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 - construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Breeds across a major part of Europe and northern Asia eastward to Lake Baikal. Within Europe breeds from northern Spain and Ireland in the west, to northern Scandinavia and Finland, although lacking or rarely occurring in southern Iberia and Mediterranean.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Populations of southern and western Europe are sedentary. Those in far north and east are migratory and winter in the south and west of Europe. Other countries, such as Britain and Ireland have largely resident populations, but both receive birds in autumn from Scandinavia whilst some local breeders move south to continental Europe (Thomson 2002). Weak leap-frog migration appears to occur with most northerly breeding birds moving furthest south to overwinter in north Africa, whilst most easterly breeding birds remain furthest east wintering around northeastern Mediterranean and Middle East. Autumn and winter movement patterns in the Mediterranean region, including North Africa, are very complex (Andreotti et al. 1999).

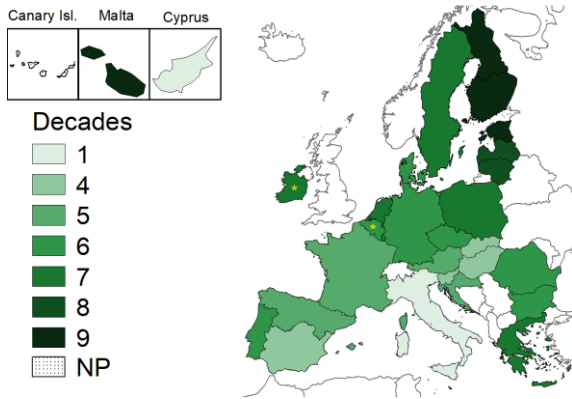
**Populations:** Three subspecies occur in Europe (Cramp 1988): (1) *T. p. clarkei* in Ireland, most of Britain, northwest France, Belgium and The Netherlands; (2) *T. p. hebridensis* in the Scottish Western Isles and Skye; and (3) nominate *T. p. philomelos* through the rest of Europe. No other population structuring is known.

EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size usually 3-5 (2-6); incubation 13 (10-17) days; fledging period 13 (11-17) days; independent shortly after fledging; 2-3 broods, but not more than two in northern range.

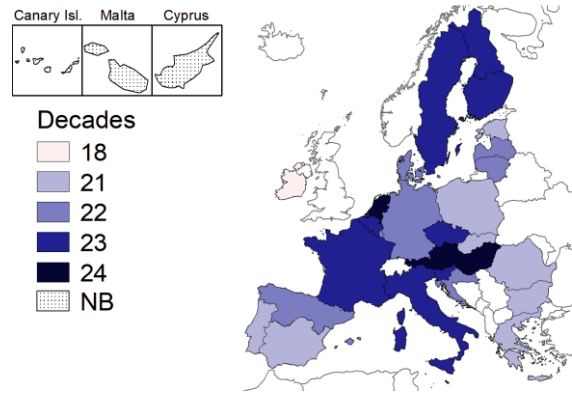
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents 🌟)



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	J	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C			
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence in particular in the south and eastern parts of the EU. The start of the prenuptial migration is much earlier in IT, SK, and HU than in neighbouring Member States. Several Member States report that migratory and resident populations intermix. Important wintering movements in the Mediterranean region might explain some of the observed incoherencies.

**End of Reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in particular in the eastern part of the EU (HU and AT report a late decade compared to neighbouring Member States). The use of different criteria to identify the start and end of reproduction could explain some of the observed discrepancies. Song Thrush can have 2-3 broods except in its northern range and this might not have been taken into account consistently.

## 75. Redwing *Turdus iliacus*

A286



Photo: Heikki Korpelainen ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	-	-	+	+		
BE	-	-	-	+	+		
BG	-	-	-	-	+		
CY	+	-	-	+	+		
CZ	-	-	-	+	+		
DE	-	-	-	+	+		
DK	-	-	-	+	+		
EE	-	-	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	-	-	+	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	-	-	+	+		
ESS	+	-	-	+	+		
FIN	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
FIS	-	-	+	+	-	1	2
FR	+	-	-	+	+		
HR	-	-	-	+	+		
HU	-	-	-	+	+		
IE	-	-	-	+	+		
IT	+	-	-	+	+		
LT	-	-	+	+	-	1	1
LU	-	-	-	+	-		
LV	-	-	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+	-	-	+	+		
NL	-	-	-	+	+		
PL	-	-	+	+	+		
PT	+	-	-	+	+		
RO	+	-	-	+	+		
SE	-	-	+	+	-	1	
SI	-	-	-	+	+		
SK	-	-	-	+	+		

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Redwing has a wide breeding distribution in northern temperate and boreal regions of Eurasia extending to the low arctic of northern Fennoscandia and European Russia. Almost the entire world population winters in western and southern Europe, and around the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. A smaller part of the population winters south of the Caspian Sea. It nests in birch *Betula* and a range of scrubby habitats but including mixed woodland with pines *Pinus* and spruces *Picea*. In the south of its range, it nests in parks and gardens and other anthropogenic habitats.

**Movements:** Migratory. Redwings are almost entirely migratory, moving south and west from northern and eastern breeding areas to winter across Europe as far as the Mediterranean and northern Africa. Some Redwings occur year-round in the east of the Baltic. Ringing recoveries indicate post-breeding migration occurs on a broad front. Most easterly breeders, in eastern Siberia, migrate 6,500 km to reach European wintering areas.

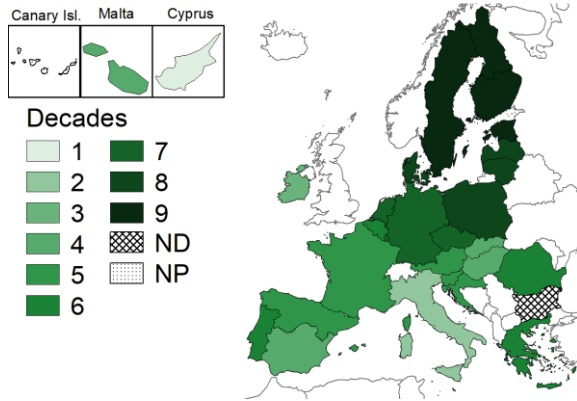
**Populations:** Two races occur in Europe (Cramp 1988): (1) nominate *T. i. iliacus* occurs across the whole of the Eurasian range; with (2) *T. i. coburni* occurring in Iceland and the Faeroes. No other population structuring is known.

EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

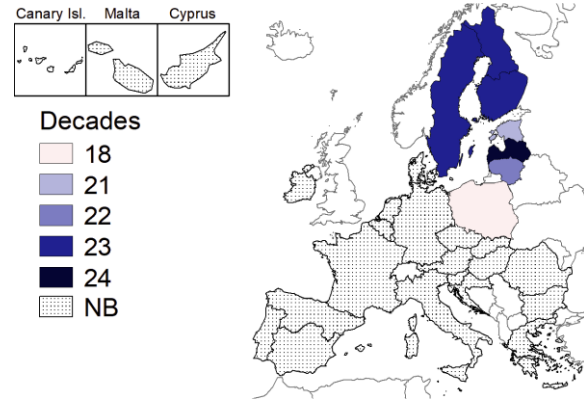
**Breeding:** Clutch size 4-6 (3-7); incubation 12-13 days; fledging period 9-13 days; independence 14 days after fledging; two broods, but only one in northern and alpine Fennoscandia.

### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C					
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is a lack of coherence particularly in the Mediterranean region. The start of the prenuptial migration in CY is very early compared to other southern Member States. Several Member States report mixed populations of migratory and resident birds, as well as a lack of knowledge (EL) and discrete nocturnal migration (ES). Further insight is needed on the character of different movements (migratory movements vs movements within wintering quarters, as highlighted for *T. philomelos*).

**End of reproduction:** The data for PL is notably different from other Member States.

## 76. Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*

A287



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	–	+	+	+	+	2	1
BE	–	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	–	+	+	+	+	1	
CY	+	–	–	+	+		
CZ	–	+	+	+	–	1	1
DE	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
DK	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
EE	–	–	+	+	–	1	
EL	+	+	–	+	+	4	
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	–	+	+	2	1
ESS	+	+	–	+	+	2	1
FIN	–	–	+	+	–	1	2
FIS	–	–	+	+	–	1	2
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
HR	–	–	+	+	+		
HU	–	+	+	+	+	1	1
IE	–	+	+	+	+	2	1
IT	–	+	–	+	+		
LT	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
LU	–	+	–	–	–	1	2
LV	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
MT	+	–	–	+	–		
NL	–	–	+	+	+	1	2
PL	–	–	+	+	+		
PT	+	+	–	–	–	4	4
RO	+	+	+	+	+		
SE	–	–	+	+	–	1	
SI	–	+	+	+	+		
SK	–	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Mistle Thrush breeds across Eurasia from northwest Africa through Europe as far as Lake Baikal. They occur in a broad range of climatic zones from Mediterranean to sub-arctic. They breed across nearly the whole of Europe other than in northern and western Fennoscandia and in lowlands around the Black Sea and north Mediterranean. Mistle Thrush breed in open coniferous forests, some deciduous forests, and other open habitats that have isolated large trees. In the non-breeding season, they occur widely across western Europe and north Africa.

**Movements:** Partially migratory. Sedentary or dispersive in southern and western Europe. The main winter range of central European and Fennoscandian birds extends from Belgium through western and southern France to northeast Spain. Across much of central Europe, resident birds are joined by migrants from northern or eastern regions where severe winters force movements. First birds appear on central European breeding grounds in February.

**Populations:** Two races occur in Europe (Cramp 1988): (1) nominate *T. v. viscivorus* occurs across much of the western Palearctic to western Siberia; and (2) *T. v. deichleri* occurs in Corsica and Sardinia. No other population structuring is known.


EU population status and trends:

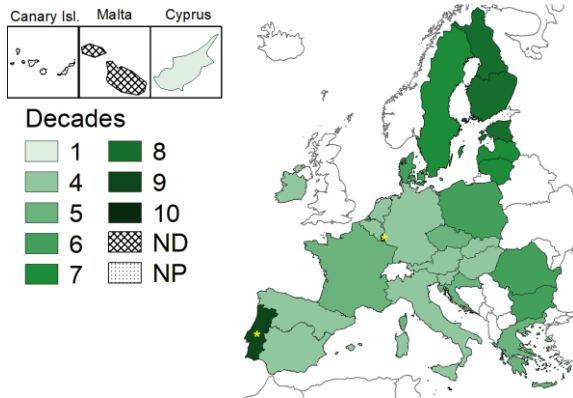
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-5 (6); incubation 12-15 days; fledging 12-15 days; independent c. two weeks after fledging; two to three broods.



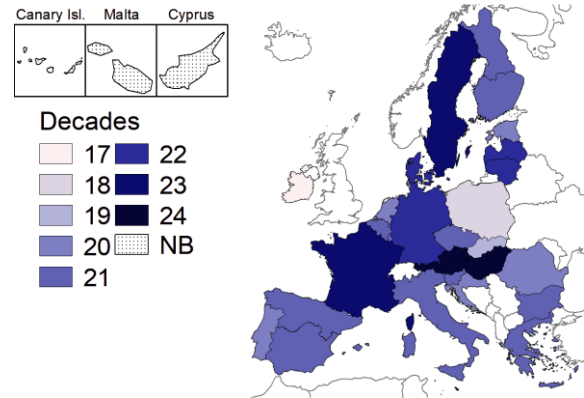
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	M	A	M	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C						
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
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SK																																					

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** Early start of spring migration in CY needs to be further examined, so does the presence of only resident birds in LU and PT. MT has never provided data on prenuptial migration, therefore there is a need to improve knowledge for this species to underpin any decision on hunting in MT.

**End of reproduction:** The end of reproduction in FR and HU seem to be late compared to neighbouring Member States. Mistle Thrush can have 2-3 broods and this might not always have been taken into account, which can explain some of the inconsistencies, as well as the use of different criteria to identify the start and the end of reproduction.



## 77. Jay *Garrulus glandarius*

A342



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	+	-	-	-	2	2
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	-	+	-	-	-	1	1
CY	-	+	-	-	-		
CZ	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
DE	+	+	-	+	+	2	3
DK	+	+	+	+	+	2	2
EE	-	+	+	+	+	4	
EL	-	+	-	-	-		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	+	-	-	-	3	1
ESS	-	+	-	-	-	3	1
FIN	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
FIS	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	2
HR	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
HU	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
IE	-	+	-	-	-	2	2
IT	+	+	-	-	-		
LT	-	+	+	+	+	2	1
LU	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	-	+	+	+	+	2	2
MT	-						
NL	+	-	+	+	+	1	2
PL	-	+	+	+	+	2	
PT	+	+	-	-	-	4	4
RO	+	+	-	-	-		
SE	+	+	-	-	-	4	
SI	+	+	-	-	-		
SK	+	+	-	-	-	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic and northern Oriental. Jay breed across a wide range of climatic zones through Eurasia from western Europe and northwest Africa, to Japan in the east, and in a separate area from south Himalayas to China. They occur continuously across Europe, other than in northern Scotland and northern (and high altitude) Fennoscandia and subarctic areas further east. They are a strongly arboreal species, nesting in a wide range of woodland types, preferring broad-leaved species but also using coniferous woodland in the north of their range.

**Movements:** Sedentary. Largely sedentary in west and south of the range and an eruptive migrant in the east and north. Among the northernmost breeders, some always move south in winter.


**Populations:** Seven races of Jay occur in Europe (Cramp & Perrins 1994): (1) nominate *G. g. glandarius* occurs in Fennoscandia and across much of Europe to the northern Balkans; (2) *G. g. rufitergum* breeds in The Netherlands, Belgium and Britain; (3) *G. g. hibernicus* breeds in Ireland; (4) *G. g. fasciatus* breeds in Spain; (5) *G. g. albipectus* occurs in Italy and the southern Balkans; (6) *G. g. cretorum* breeds in Greece and Crete; and (7) *G. g. krynicki* occurs in southern Bulgaria and southern Romania. No other population structuring is known.

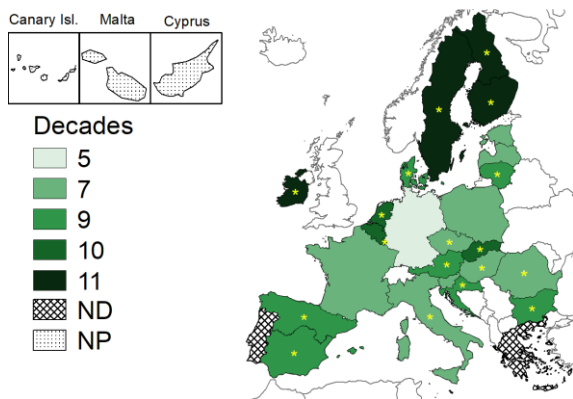
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 5-7 (3-10); incubation 16-17 days (to 19 days); full flight of young 21-22 (19-23) days; independence: young cease to be fed 6-8 weeks after hatching; one brood.

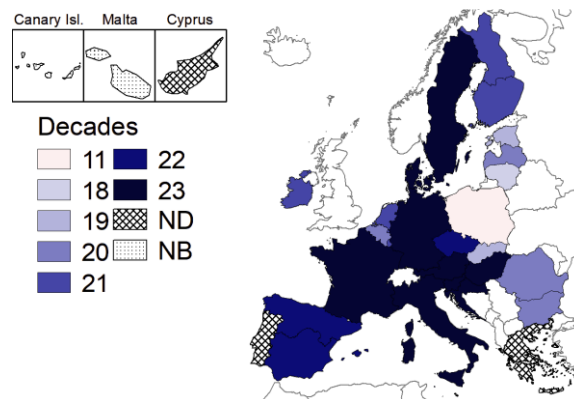
## Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

## End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

## Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C			
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
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## Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** The occurrence of different races in Europe could explain part of the observed discrepancies. The prenuptial migration period starts two decades earlier in DE than in FR.

**Start of reproduction for resident birds:** The reproduction period starts much later in IE than in many Member States. Member States use different criteria to identify the start of reproduction.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the eastern part of the EU (difference of 4 decades between HU and SK) and the western part of the EU (difference of 3 decades between BE and DE). The PL is not consistent with neighbouring Member States. The existence of different races could explain a part of the observed inconsistencies. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in PT because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

## 78. Magpie *Pica pica*

A343



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	+	-	-	-	2	2
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
CY	+	+	-	-	-	4	
CZ	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
DE	+	+	-	-	-	3	3
DK	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
EE	-	+	-	-	-	4	
EL	+	+	-	-	-		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
ESS	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
FIN	+	+	-	-	-		
FIS	+	+	-	-	-		
FR	+	+	-	-	-	2	1
HR	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
HU	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
IE	-	+	-	-	-	2	2
IT	+	+	-	-	-		
LT	-	+	-	-	-	2	1
LU	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
MT	-						
NL	+	+	-	-	-	1	2
PL	-	+	-	-	-	4	
PT	+	+	-	-	-	4	4
RO	+	+	-	-	-		
SE	+	+	-	-	-	4	
SI	+	+	-	-	-		
SK	+	+	-	-	-	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Holarctic. The distribution of Magpie is continuous across Eurasia between 15° and 70°N, and they occur across a wide range of climatic zones from Mediterranean to subarctic. In Europe, the Magpie is missing only from most of the Atlantic islands, as well as from Crete, Sardinia, Corsica, Malta, and the Balearic Islands, as well as high montane regions. Magpies reside in a wide range of habitat types, including in urban and suburban areas (as opportunities and lack of persecution permit). Magpies avoid both densely forested and treeless habitats, rocky terrain, and extensive wetland areas, and prefer open or lightly wooded lowland countryside.


**Movements:** Sedentary. Magpies show limited dispersal from nesting areas, although more so in the north of their range. In winter, it may wander locally in search of food, but otherwise it does not show directional migration.

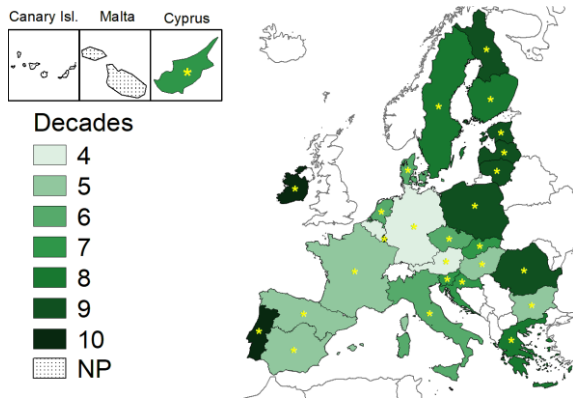
**Populations:** Four races of Magpie occur in Europe (Cramp & Perrins 1994): (1) nominate *P. p. pica* in southern Scandinavia and most of continental Europe other than occupied by the following three races; (2) *P. p. fennorum* breeds in northern Scandinavia and the Baltic states eastwards into Russia; (3) *P. p. bactriana* occurs in eastern Romania and across much of central Asia; and (4) *P. p. melanotus* in Iberia. No other population structuring is known.

EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 5-7 (3-10); incubation 21-22 days; fledging period 24-30 days, independence c. seven decades after hatching; one brood.

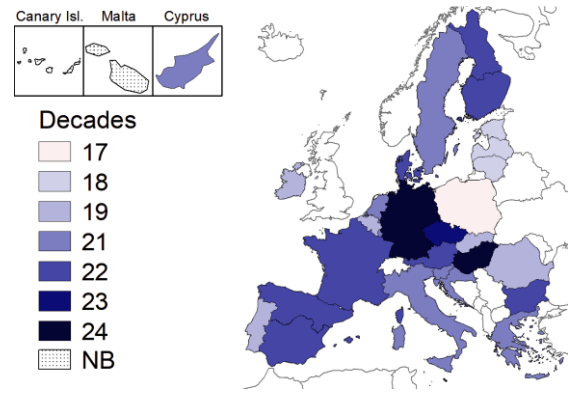
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	R	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	S	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C				
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
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### Limitations of data

**Start of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the Iberian region (PT data differs by 5 decades from data for ESS and ESN), as well as in the central of the EU (reproduction starts much earlier in DE and AT than in neighbouring Member States), and in the eastern part of the EU (early start of reproduction in BG). Different races of Magpie and the use of different criteria to set the start of reproduction could explain apart of inconsistencies. The migratory character of Magpie in BE needs to be further examined.

**End of reproduction:** There is lack of coherence in the central (Member States surrounding DE), southern (difference of 3 decades between PT and ES), and in the eastern parts of the EU (Member States surrounding HU). Different races of Magpie and the use of different criteria to set the end of reproduction could explain part of inconsistencies.

## 79. Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*

A347



Photo: Petri Alroth ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of repro-duction	End of repro-duction
AT	–	+	+	+	+	2	2
BE	–	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	–	–	–	2	2
CY	+	+	–	–	–	4	
CZ	–	+	+	–	+	1	1
DE	–	+	–	+	+	2	3
DK	–	+	+	+	+	2	2
EE	–	+	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	+	–	–	+		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	–	–	+	2	2
ESS	+	+	–	–	+	2	2
FIN	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
FIS	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
FR	–	+	–	+	+	2	2
HR	+	+	–	–	–	2	2
HU	–	–	+	+	+	2	2
IE	–	+	–	–	+	2	2
IT	–	+	–	–	–		
LT	–	+	+	+	+	2	1
LU	–	+	–	–	–	1	2
LV	–	+	+	+	+	2	2
MT	–						
NL	+	–	+	+	+	1	2
PL	–	+	+	+	+	2	3
PT	–	+	–	–	–	4	4
RO	+	+	–	–	–		
SE	+	+	+	+	–	4	
SI	–	+	–	–	–		
SK	–	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Jackdaws occur very widely in Europe and western Asia. They range from Ireland and Iberian Peninsula in the west to upper Yenisey, eastern Tien Shan mountains and northwest Himalayas in the east. In Europe they occur widely other than high montane areas and northern Fennoscandia. Jackdaws have adapted to anthropogenic habitats where they frequently occur, although they also use natural habitats for nesting, especially where there is an abundance of crevice nesting opportunities.


**Movements:** Partial migrant. In Britain and Ireland most birds are sedentary, but in continental Europe the species undergoes extensive west-southwest movements in autumn, particularly in northern regions. Fennoscandian birds overwinter in The Netherlands, France, Britain, and Ireland. However, migratory arrivals occur within the range of sedentary populations especially within the south of the range.

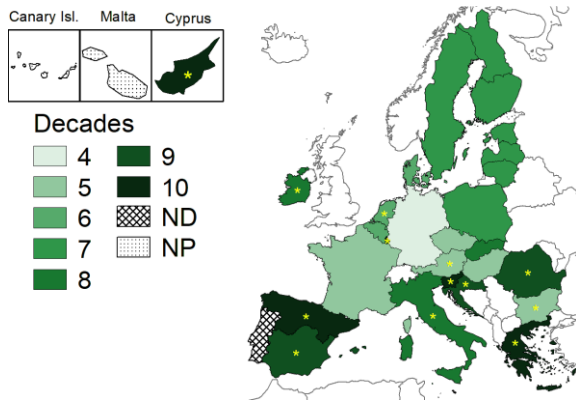
**Populations:** Three races occur in Europe (Cramp & Perrins 1994): (1) nominate *C. m. monedula* occurs essentially in northern, central and eastern Europe, from Fennoscandia to the Balkans; (2) *C. m. spermologus* occurs in western Europe, from the Netherlands, UK and Ireland, to Iberia and Morocco; and (3) *C. m. soemmerringii* breeds in eastern Europe from southeast Finland to the Balkans and east to Mongolia. No other population structuring is known.

EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 4-6 (2-8); incubation 17-18 days (16-20); full flight of young birds at 28-36 days; independence: c. five weeks after fledging; one brood.

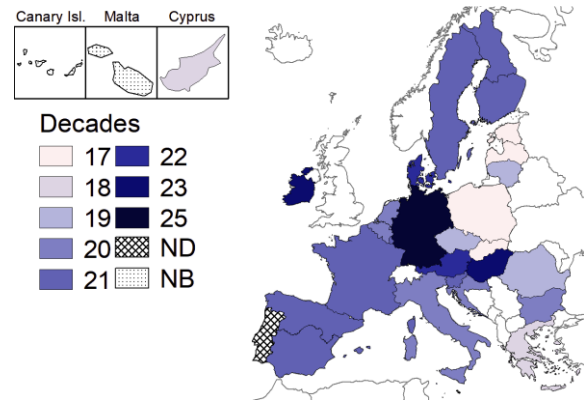
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



ND: no data; NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	R	M	A	M	J	J	J	A	A	S	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C					
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in EL because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

**Start of reproduction for resident birds:** There is lack of coherence in all parts of the EU. Some inconsistencies could be partly explained by the use of different criteria to set the start of reproduction, as could the occurrence of different races of Jackdaw.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the central and eastern parts of the EU (difference of 8 decades between DE and PL). The use of different criteria to set the end of reproduction could partly explain some of these inconsistencies.



## 80. Rook *Corvus frugilegus*

A348



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	-	+	+	+	+	1	2
BE	-	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	-	-	+	1	2
CY	-						
CZ	-	+	+	-	+	2	1
DE	-	+	+	+	+	2	3
DK	-	+	+	+	+	2	2
EE	+	-	+	+	+	4	
EL	-	+	-	+	+		
ESC	-						
ESN	-	+	-	-	-	2	2
ESS	-						
FIN	-	-	+	-	-	4	2
FIS	-	-	+	-	-	4	2
FR	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
HR	+	+	-	-	-	2	2
HU	+	-	+	+	+	2	2
IE	-	+	-	-	+	2	2
IT	-	-	-	-	+		
LT	+	+	+	+	+	2	1
LU	-	+	-	-	-	1	2
LV	-	+	+	+	+	2	1
MT	-						
NL	-	+	-	+	+	2	2
PL	-	+	+	+	+		
PT	-	-	-	-	+		
RO	+	+	+	+	+		
SE	+	+	+	+	-	4	
SI	-	-	-	+	+		
SK	+	+	+	+	+	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Rooks are widely distributed across temperate middle latitudes of Europe and in the boreal, steppe and desert zones of Asia Minor to Yenisey River, northwest Altai and northwest Sinkiang. In Europe there are two centres of distribution, one comprising the regions bordering the North Sea (Ireland, UK, and France to Denmark); and the other the plains of east-central Europe (Germany to the Baltic States, south east to the Black Sea). Rooks nest colonially in tall trees, and the availability of these provide a limitation to breeding. In winter, Rooks feed on soil invertebrates in a range of agricultural habitats, including grasslands and bare arable.


**Movements:** Resident to migratory. Winters in Europe within and south of the breeding range, adults tending to move shorter distances than juveniles. British and Irish birds are almost entirely resident and Spanish and French birds mainly resident. Partial migrant in The Netherlands, Germany and Scandinavia. Chiefly migratory in Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Baltic states and in the Balkans. Pre-nuptial migration starts early, usually February-March, exceptionally from January. Following post-breeding dispersal, autumn departure begins in September with main movements in October-November. Hard-weather movements sometimes reported during mid-winter.

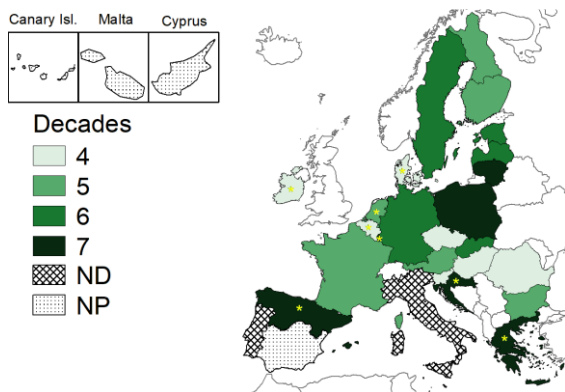
**Populations:** Only the nominate race *C. f. frugilegus* occurs in Europe (Cramp & Perrins 1994), and no biogeographical populations are recognized.

EU population status and trends:  
<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 2-6 (1-7); incubation 16-18 days; fledging period 30-36 days; independence - fed by parents for c. six weeks after fledging; one brood.

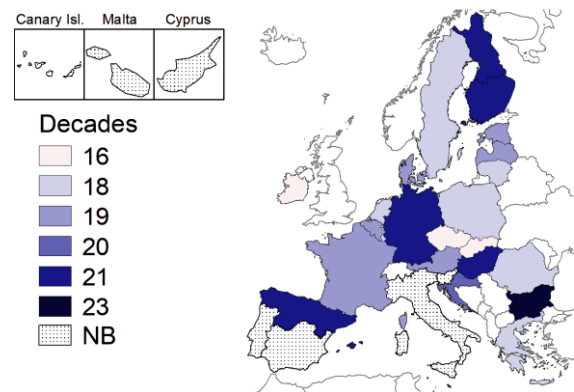
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



ND: no data; NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	M	A	Y	J	J	J	A	A	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C							
Decode	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
AT																																						
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### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** PL and LT report a late start of the prenuptial migration period compared to neighbouring Member States. Several Member States report that resident and migratory populations intermix. The 2014 data for BG has been retained since the proposed data was not underpinned by new references. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in EL because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

**Start of reproduction:** HR reports a late start to reproduction (difference of 3 decades with DK).

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in the central and eastern parts of the EU (CZ, SK, BG). The use of different criteria to set the end of the reproduction could explain some of the observed inconsistencies.

## 81. Carrion Crow and Hooded Crow *Corvus corone*

A349



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of reproduction	End of reproduction
AT	–	+	+	+	+	2	2
BE	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
BG	+	+	–	–	–	2	1
CY	+	+	–	–	–	4	
CZ	+	+	–	–	–	1	1
DE	+	+	–	+	+	2	3
DK	+	+	+	+	+	2	2
EE	+	+	+	+	+	4	
EL	+	+	–	–	–		
ESC	+						
ESN	+	+	–	–	–	2	2
ESS	+	+	–	–	–	2	2
FIN	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
FIS	+	+	+	+	+	1	2
FR	+	+	–	–	+	2	1
HR	+	+	–	–	–	2	2
HU	+	+	–	–	–	1	1
IE	–	+	–	–	–	2	2
IT	+	+	–	–	–		
LT	+	+	–	–	–	2	1
LU	+	+	–	–	–	1	2
LV	+	+	+	+	+	2	2
MT	–						
NL	+	+	–	–	–	1	2
PL	–	+	–	+	+	4	1
PT	+	+	–	–	–	4	4
RO	+	+	–	–	–		
SE	+	+	+	+	+	4	
SI	+	+	–	–	–		
SK	+	+	–	–	–	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Occupies an enormous Eurasian range and mostly abundant throughout this distribution: among the most widespread of all Palearctic birds. Occurs from Atlantic to Pacific, and in Europe from Mediterranean coasts to northern Norway, and breeding within a wide range of habitats and altitudes.


**Movements:** Nominate Carrion Crows are essentially sedentary while high latitude northern, and continental eastern Hooded Crow breeding populations include sedentary, partly migratory and almost completely migratory birds. Fennoscandian crows are partially migratory, more so in north than south. Migrants from Denmark and Scandinavia move southwest, reaching Netherlands, northeast France, and eastern Britain. Those from western Finland migrate through southeast Sweden to Netherlands. Those from eastern Finland and the Baltic states migrate south of Baltic to reach Germany and Poland. Hooded Crows breeding in the Mediterranean region (subspecies *sardonius*) are sedentary.

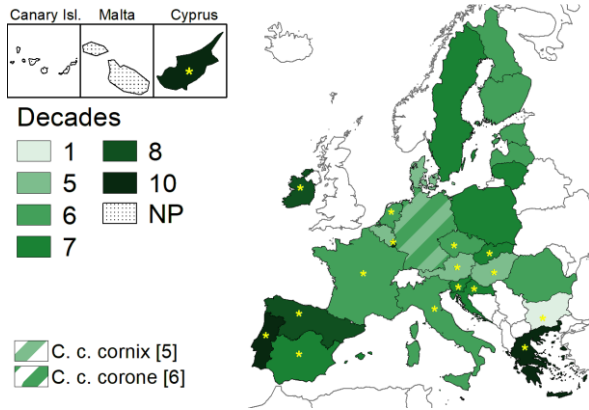
**Populations:** Usually considered as two groups, sometimes treated as two species. Carrion Crow *C. c. corone* group occurs in two separated populations, in southwest Europe and eastern Palearctic; with the Hooded Crow *C. c. cornix* group between these, in northern, central and southern Europe (west to Corsica). No other population structuring is known.

EU population status and trends: <https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-6 (2-7); incubation 18-19 days (17-20); full flight of young birds at 28-38 days; independence usually six decades after hatching; one brood.

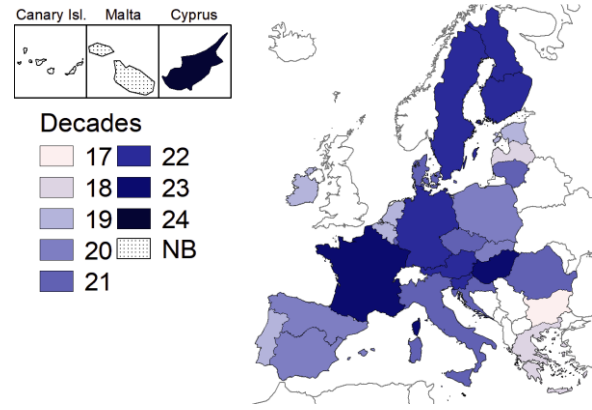
### Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



NP: not present

### End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

### Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	R	A	P	M	A	Y	J	U	N	J	U	L	A	U	G	S	E	P	O	C	T	N	O	V	D	E	C		
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
AT																																					
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PT																																					
RO																																					
SE																																					
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SK																																					

### Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** No comment.

**Start of reproduction:** The data of BG (very early start of reproduction) stands out, as does the data for EL, LU, and PT. The existence of different populations in Europe and the use of different criteria to set the start of reproduction could explain some of the discrepancies.

**End of reproduction:** There is a lack of coherence in many parts of the EU.

## 82. Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

A351



Photo: Otars Opermanis ©

### Species status

Country	Annex II	Status of occurrence				Criteria*	
		Resident	Migrant: breeding	Migrant: passage	Migrant: wintering	Start of repro-duction	End of repro-duction
AT	–	–	+	+	+	1	2
BE	–	+	+	+	+	1	
BG	+	+	+	+	+	1	1
CY	+	–	–	+	+		
CZ	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
DE	–	+	+	+	+	1	1
DK	–	+	+	+	+	1	2
EE	–	–	+	+	+	1	
EL	+	+	+	+	+	4	
ESC	+	+	–	–	+	2	2
ESN	+	+	–	+	+	2	2
ESS	+	+	–	+	+	2	2
FIN	–	–	+	+	–	1	2
FIS	–	–	+	+	–	1	2
FR	+	+	+	+	+	2	2
HR	–	–	+	+	+	1	2
HU	+	–	+	+	–	1	2
IE	–	+	–	+	+	2	2
IT	–	+	+	+	+		
LT	–	–	+	+	–	1	1
LU	–	+	–	–	–	1	2
LV	–	–	+	+	+	1	1
MT	+	–	+	+	+	1	3
NL	–	–	+	+	+	1	2
PL	–	–	+	+	+	4	
PT	+	–	–	+	+		
RO	+	+	+	+	–		
SE	–	–	+	+	+	1	
SI	–	–	+	+	+		
SK	–	–	+	+	–	2	1

\* Criteria used to identify the start of reproduction: 1 – occupation of breeding sites, 2 – construction of nest, 3 – number of decades counted (back) from egg laying, 4 – other.

Criteria used to identify the end of reproduction: 1 – full flight of young birds, 2 – independence of young birds, 3 – number of decades counted from the end of hatching, 4 – other.

**Distribution:** Palearctic. Starlings breed across Eurasia between 40° to 70°N.

Introduced to and is now widespread in north America, South Africa and Australasia.

Widespread breeder across Europe, which accounts for less than half of its global breeding range. Starlings move south and west in the non-breeding season and European populations overwinter also in Iberia, north Africa and around the Mediterranean. Nests in a wide range of natural and anthropogenic habitats, but avoids arid areas, dense forests extensive wetlands and rocky terrain.

**Movements:** Partial migrant. Generally migratory in north and east of breeding range; partial migrant in south and west.

Autumn migration of adults is predominantly to the southwest, but more southerly in the east and more westerly in west.


**Populations:** Five races occur in Europe (Cramp & Perrins 1994): (1) nominate *S. v. vulgaris* breeds across Europe from Iceland and France (south to the Pyrenees) to Volgograd, including northeast Spain, mainland Italy, western Greece, western Bulgaria, central Romania and Ukraine; (2) *S. v. tauricus* occurs in eastern Greece; eastern Bulgaria, eastern Romania and Turkey; (3) *S. v. faroensis* and (4) *S. v. zetlandicus* occur respectively in the Faroes, and Shetland Islands and Outer Hebrides; (5) *S. v. granti* breeds in the Azores. Other races occur in European Russia.

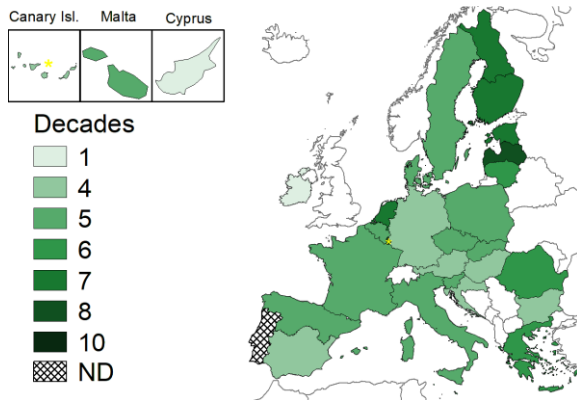
EU population status and trends:

<https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12>

**Breeding:** Clutch size 3-8; incubation 11-15 days; fledging c. 21 days; independence a few days after fledging; usually only one brood in northeast, but in south and west sometimes two.

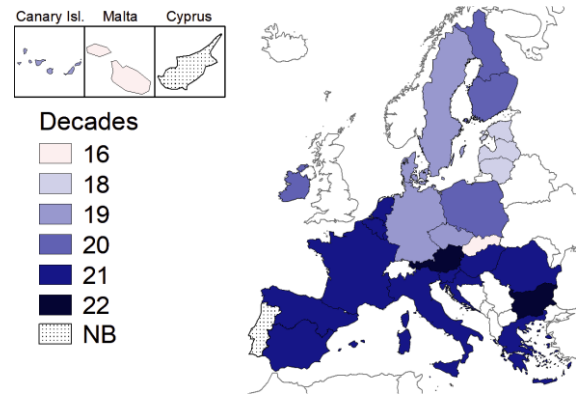
## Start of the period of return to the rearing grounds

(or start of reproduction for residents )



NP: not present

## End of the period of reproduction



NB: not breeding

## Periods of prenuptial migration and reproduction

Month	J	A	N	F	E	B	M	A	M	A	P	M	A	M	J	J	J	A	A	S	S	E	P	O	O	N	N	D	D	C								
Decade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		
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## Limitations of data

**Start of prenuptial migration:** The data for CY and IE are significantly different from data for neighbouring Member States. Several Member States report difficulties in separating resident birds from migrating ones. Some inconsistencies could be partly explained by different behaviors of different races. There is not enough data to underpin a decision on hunting in PT because no data has been provided in 2019 and no data was available in the 2014 version of the document.

**End of reproduction:** Most Member States in the southern part of the EU report a later date for the end of reproduction than those in the North. Furthermore, MT and SK have a very early end of reproduction, which requires further investigation. The existence of five races in Europe and number of broods may explain some inconsistencies.