

TRAVELREPORT
EASTERN TURKEY
16 TO 31 MAY 2008



Blue-cheeked Bee-ater near Attaturk Dam

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ITENERARY

Fri 16-05 Flight from London to Istanbul and later on to Gaziantep.
Sat 17-05 Birded at Dunalik and Birecik area.
Sun 18-05 Birded at the "Ibiswadi", and Birecik area.
Mon 19-05 Birded at Isliki, Birecik and Attaturk Dam.
Thue 20-05 Birded at Isliki in the morning (dipped Kurdish Wheatear).and drove to the Goksu Delta (Siflike), via the Tarsus Delta.
Wed 21-05 Birded at the Goksu Delta and the hillside's north of Siflike.
Thur 22-05 Birded at the Goksu Delta..
Fri 23-05 Drove from Siflike to Akseki.
Sat 24-05 Birded at Akseki in the morning and than drove to Nigde
Sun 25-05 Birded at Demirkazik all day, (went up by tractor, lazy bastard as I am...)
Mon 26-05 Birded at the Sultan Marshes (near Nigde)
Thue 27-05 Birded along the way at Lake Nidge, Kulu Golu, Magan Golu (both very dry) and drove to Kizilcahaman.
Wed 28-05 Birded in the morning at Kizilcahaman and later on drove to Istanbul and took a ferry across the Bosphorus.
Thur 29-05 Flown from Istanbul to Trabson and drove to Sivrikaya
Fri 30-05 Birded from the road at Sivrikaya south to Ispir.
Sat 31-05 Birded all day from the road around Sivrikaya

Legenda:

*AAAA = New (Holarctic) Species (12)

AAAA = Good bird for the area or for myself

The Dutch name is given when known (according to van den Berg, Dutch Birding-name when the species is on the Dutch list). The list order is conform Palaearctic Birds by Beaman with the recent changes on the splitting and lumping issue mainly based on the book "Dutch Birding bird names". Subspecies is only mentioned when thought to be important and really visible in the field.

The weather was mostly good but at the higher places, often clouds (fog) and rain and even a hailstorm at Demirkazik were encountered. In the lowlands it was (Mediterranean) hot

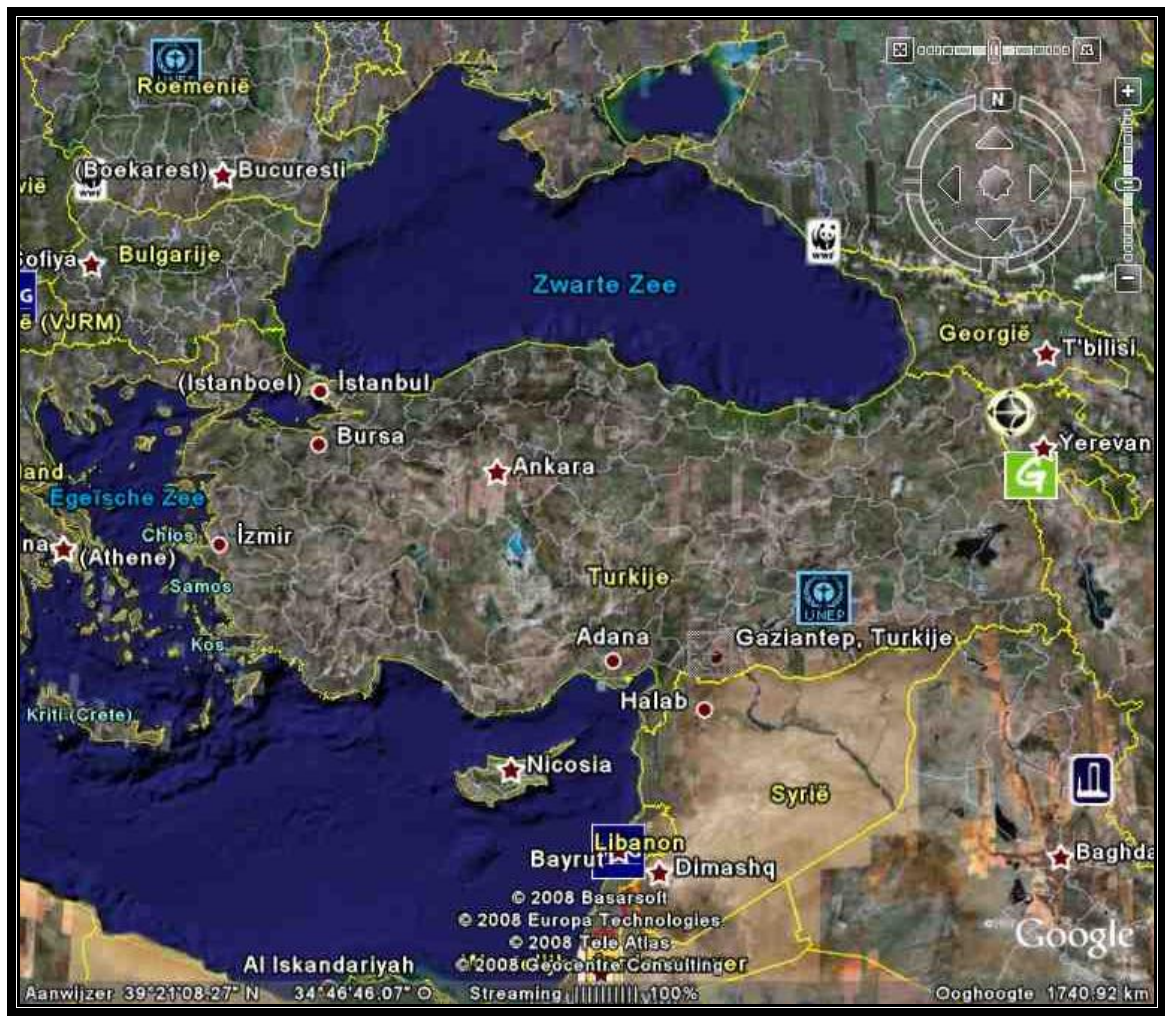
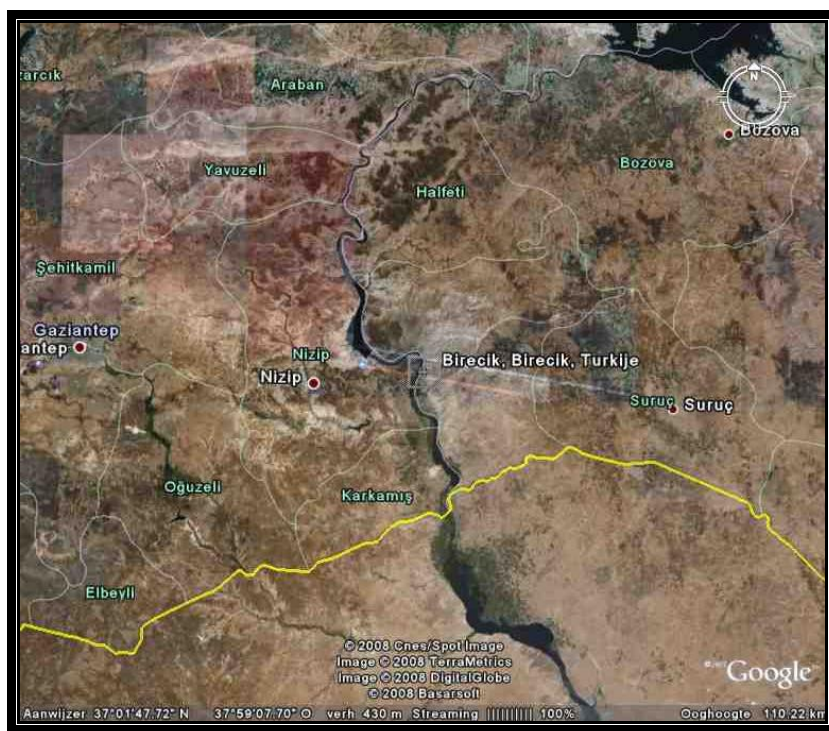
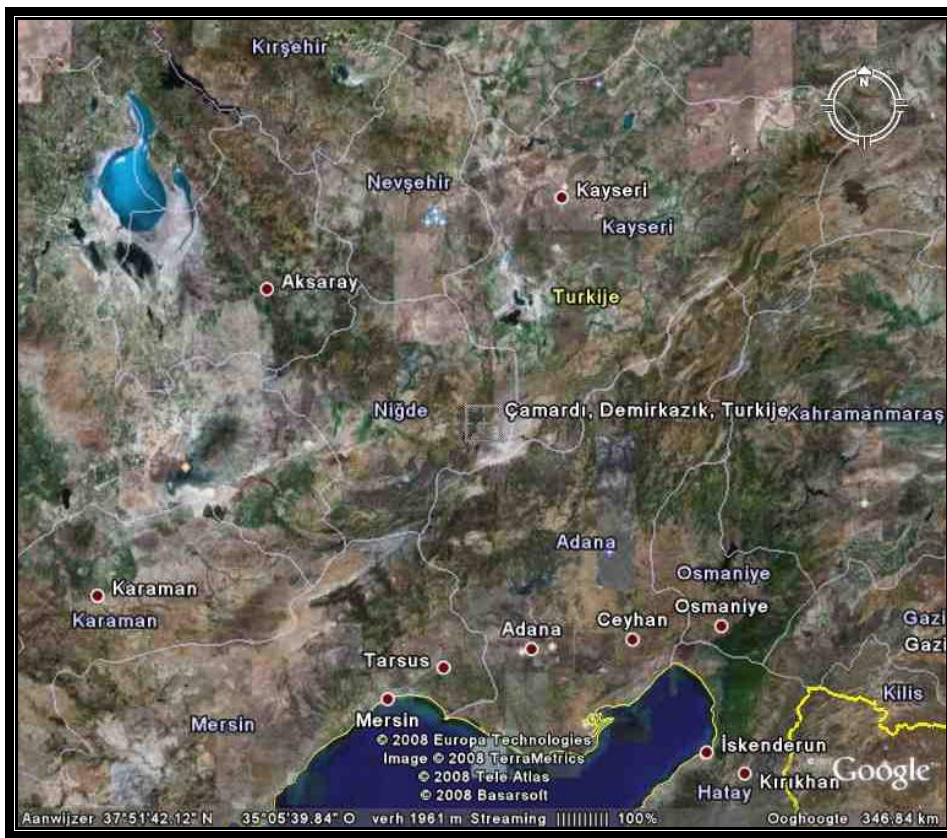


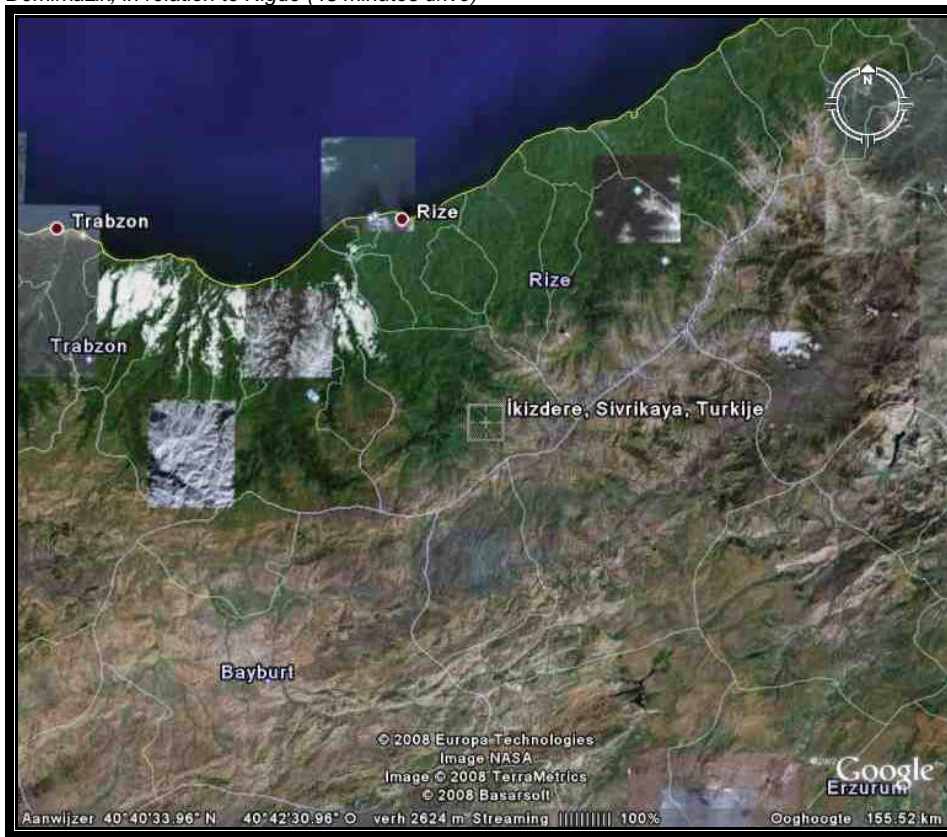
Photo of Google of Turkey with the visited sites.



Birecik in relation to Gaziantep (1 hour drive)



Demirkazık, in relation to Niğde (45 minutes drive)



Sivrikaya in relation to Trabzon (less than 2 hour drive)

THE BIRDSPECIES

001 LITTLE GREBE – *tachybaptus ruficollis*

(dodaars)

A total of 25 birds seen at suitable sites during the trip.

002 GREAT CRESTED GREBE – *podiceps cristatus*

(fuut)

A total of 58 seen spread over the trip, the most (50) during the crossing over the plateau.

003 BLACK-NECKED GREBE – *podiceps nigricollis*

(geoorde fuut)

27-05 25 ex. in pairs at the lake near the University of Nigde.

004 YELKOUAN SHEARWATER – *puffinus yelkouan*

28-05 150 ex, in small flocks going back and forward over the Bosphorus, often at close range.

I did not pay much attention on ID, they seemed less black and white.

005 GREAT CORMORANT – *phalacrocorax carbo* ssp: *sinensis*

(aalscholver)

A total of 8 birds seen on two days during the trip.

006 EUROPEAN SHAG – *phalacrocorax aristotelis* ssp: *desmarestii*

(kuifaalscholver)

28-05 2 ex. seen during the Bosphorus crossing, both immatures.

007 PYGMY CORMORANT – *phalacrocorax pygmeus*

(dwergaalscholver)

A total of 10 birds seen at the Birecik area. All in “summer” plumage with brown upperneck and head.

008 GREAT WHITE PELICAN – *pelecanus onocrotalus*

(roze pelikaan)

21+22-06 200+ at the Goksu delta, in big flocks. Also quite a few immatures.

009 LITTLE BITTERN – *ixobrychus minutus*

(woudaapje)

A total 9 birds seen spread over the trip in suitable habitat, most around Birecik.

010 BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON – *nycticorax nycticorax*

(kwak)

A total of 4 birds seen spread over the trip.

011 WESTERN(?) CATTLE EGRETT – *bubulcus ibis*

(koereiger)

A total of 17 seen on three occasions during the trip. Surprising low numbers.

012 SQUACCO HERON – *ardeola ralloides*

(ralreiger)

The most common “white” heron with a total of 42 seen during the trip.

013 LITTLE EGRETT – *egretta garzetta*

(kleine zilverreiger)

Seen at most suitable habitats.

014 GREAT (WHITE) EGRETT – *egretta alba*

(grote zilverreiger)

A total of 4 birds seen at the Goksu Delta

015 GREY HERON – *ardea cinerea*

(blauwe reiger)

A total of 15 seen spread over the trip.

016 PURPLE HERON – *ardea purpurea*

(purperreiger)

A total of 40 birds seen in small colonies seen on the trip in suitable habitats.

017 BLACK STORK – *ciconia nigra*

(zwarte ooievaar)

28-05 2 adults seen flying back and forth at Kizilcahaman

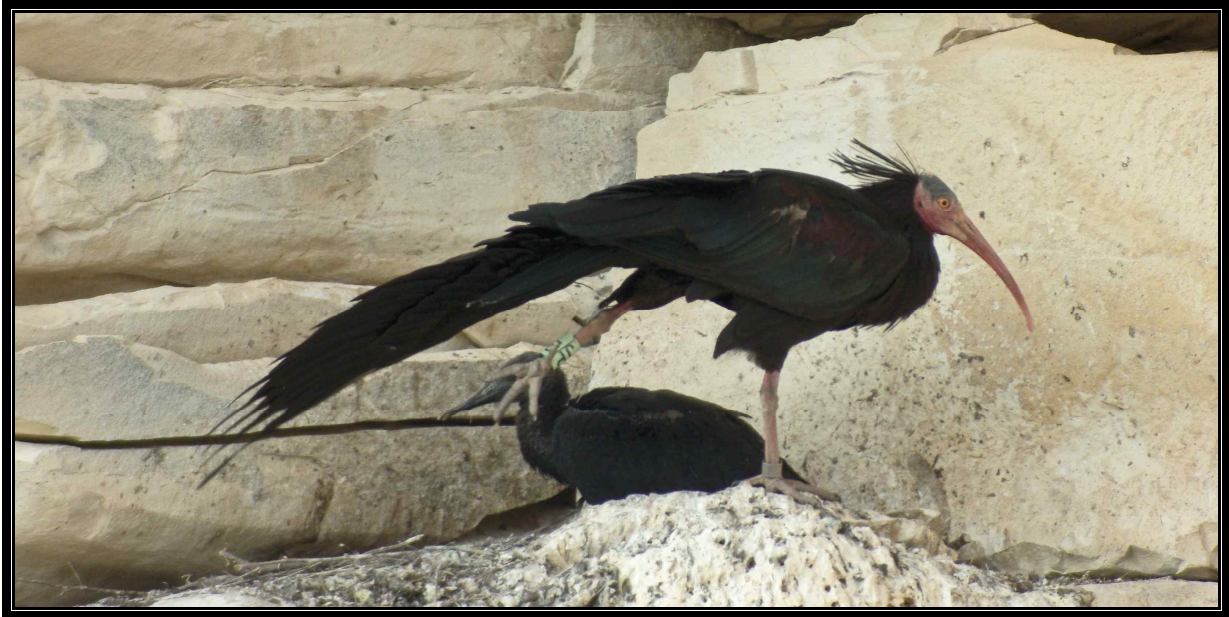
018 WHITE STORK – *ciconia ciconia*

(ooievaar)

Seen almost daily in small flocks or at nests during the trip.

---- NORTHERN BALD IBIS – *geronticus eremitus*

A total of 62 birds seen flying free at Birecik, gathering for a roost in the evening and feeding along the river. Also a nest outside the colony with one young. It seems that over the years always one or two pairs bred outside the feral colony. The birds are not taking in during the ‘winter months’ anymore and stay around all year. Young birds are not always ringed anymore. The young we saw was unringed



Northern Bald ibis, the pair that bred outside the feral colony

019 GLOSSY IBIS – *plagadis falcinellus*

(zwarte ibis)

27-05 1 ex. at the lake near Nigde, a subadult.

020 EURASIAN SPOONBILL – *platalea leucorodia*

(lepelaar)

A total of 37 seen on three locations during the trip.

021 GREATER FLAMINGO – *phoenicopterus roseus*

(flamingo)

27-05 500 ex, seen spread over the day at several lakes visited.

022 RUDDY SHELDUCK – *tadorna ferruginea*

(casarca)

Common during the trip, with the highest numbers on 27-05, with 400 ex. seen spread over the visited lakes, but also pairs in the mountains.

023 COMMON SHELDUCK – *tadorna tadorna*

(bergeend)

27-05 100 ex. seen at the visited lakes on the plateau.

024 EURASIAN TEAL – *anas crecca*

(wintertaling)

22-05 1 male at the Goksu Delta.

025 MALLARD – *anas platyrhynchos*

(wilde eend)

A total of 41 seen during the trip, with the most at the Goksu Delta.

026 NORTHERN PINTAIL – *anas acuta*

(pijlstaart)

22-05 5 ex. at the Goksu Delta in one flock.

027 NORTHERN SHOVELER – *anas clypeata*

(slobeend)

22-05 3 ex. at the Goksu Delta

028 MARBLED DUCK – *marmaronetta angustirostris*

(marmereend)

21+22-05 9 ex. seen quite well at the Goksu Delta, with a maximum of four together.

029 RED-CRESTED POCHARD – *netta rufina*

(krooneend)

A total of 72 seen, all in breeding pairs, also flying like Shovelers with a few males following one female.

030 COMMON POCHARD – *aythya farina*
(tafeleend)

A total of 24 seen at two days during the trip.

031 FERRUGINOUS DUCK – *aythya nyroca*
(witoogeend)

21+22-05 4 seen well at the Goksu Delta.

032 EUROPEAN HONEY BUZZARD – *pernis apivorus*
(wespendief)

19-05 2 ex. at Islıki, flying north.

24-05 3 ex. at Akseki, flying north.

Still some migration.

033 LAMMERGEIER – *gypaetus barbatus*
(lammergier)

28-05 2 adults seen well at Kizilcahaman. The birds “hunted” low over the hills.

034 EGYPTIAN VULTURE – *neophron percnopterus*
(aasgier)

28-05 1 adult at Kizilcahaman.

035 EURASIAN GRIFFON VULTURE – *gyps fulvus*
(vale gier)

25-05 2 ex. at Demircazik, very nice views flyng together with a Golden eagle.

036 EURASIAN BLACK VULTURE – *aegypius monachus*
(monniksgier)

28-05 2 ex. seen very well at Kizilcahaman. Head pattern good visible

037 SHORT-TOED EAGLE – *circaetus gallicus*
(slangenarend)

21-05 2 ex, a pair, displaying at Akseki.

038 WESTERN MARSH HARRIER – *circus aeruginosus*
(bruine kiekendief)

A total of 33 birds seen spread over the trip.

039 COMMON BUZZARD – *buteo buteo*
(buizerd)

28-05 2 ex at Kizilcahaman.

31-01 1 ex. at Sivrikaya.

Looking like normal Buzzards.

040 LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD – *buteo rufinus*
(arendbuizerd)

The most common raptor during the trip. Seen almost daily with up to 20 birds (27-05) a day.

041 ASIAN IMPERIAL EAGLE – *aquila heliaca*
(keizerarend)

28-05 1 adult seen (briefly) at Kizilcahaman.

042 GOLDEN EAGLE – *aquila chrysaetos*
(steenarend)

25-05 1 subadult seen well perched and in flight at Demircazik

043 LESSER KESTREL – *falco naumanni*
(kleine torenvalk)

27-05 3 ex, two males and a female hunting above our heads at Magan Golu, very nice views.

044 COMMON KESTREL – *falco tinnunculus*
(torenvalk)

Quite common during the trip.

045 EURASIAN HOBBY – *falco subbuteo*
(boomvalk)

A total of 5 birds seen. Still some on migration, because one was seen sitting along the road at Sivrikaya, very high up in the mountains.

***046 CACASIAN BLACK GROUSE – TETRAO MLOKOSIEWICZI**

30+31-05 a maximum of 12 seen quite well at Sivrikaya. Seen very well in the scope. Red above the eye, white shoulder patch and white underwings visible. The birds often hopped up and down in courtship.



Caucasian Black Grouse, Sivrikaya

***047 CASPIAN SNOWCOCK – TETRAOGALLUS CASPIUS**

25-05 6 ex, of which two seen very well, the others heard. One came in and landed quite close at us and walked up a slope, the other was scoped up. As in the books, with obvious white under tail.



Caspian Snowcock ,at Demirkazik



Caspian Snowcock, Demirkazik, same bird, digital zoom

048 CHUCKAR – alectornis chukar

17-05 2 ex. around Birecik

25-05 4 ex. seen well at Demirkazik

***049 SEE-SEE PARTRIDGE – AMMOPERDIX GRISEOGULARIS**

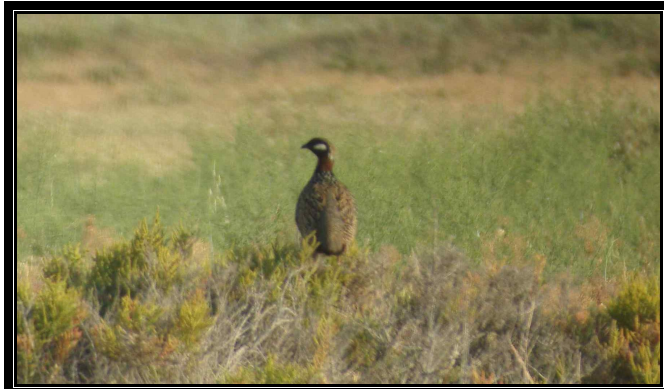
18-05 4 ex, two times two birds, one male seen well and one immature seen looking at us for a long time. The male seen well with black lines on the lore which was white and white dots in the blue neck.



See-see Partridge, Birecik, immature

050 BLACK FRANCOLIN – francolinus francolinus

A total of 5 birds seen and more heard in the lowlands in the first part of the trip.



Black francolin, Goksu Delte

051 COMMON MOORHEN – *gallinule chloropus*

(waterhoen)

17-05 1 ex. at Birecik.

052 GREY-HEADED SWAMP-HEN – *porphyrio poliocephalus*

21+22 3 ex, one seen well on the big lake at the Goksu Delta, nice grey head.

053 EURASIAN COOT – *fulica atra*

(meerkoe)

Quite common seen in small flocks on suitable habitat.

054 COMMON CRANE – *grus grus*

(kraanvogel)

26-05 2 ex. seen at the Sultan marshes, quite distant

055 EURASIAN OYSTERCATCHER – *haematopus ostralegus*

(scholekster)

17-05 1 ex. seen flying over

27-05 commonly seen spread over the day.

056 BLACK-WINGED STILT – *himantopus himantopus*

(stelkluut)

The commonest wader during the trip with a maximum of 100 birds on one day (27-05)

057 PIED AVOCET – *recurvirostra avosetta*

(kluut)

26-05 2 ex. at Magan Golu.

058 COLLARED PRATINCOLE – *glareola pratincola*

(vorkstaartplevier)

22-05 2 ex. flying over at the Goksu Delta

26-05 2 ex. at the Sultan Marshes, very nice views perched.

27-05 3 ex. at Magan Golu

059 LITTLE RINGED PLOVER – *charadrius dubius*

(kleine plevier)

22-05 2 ex. in the Goksu Delta

27-05 3 ex. spread over the day.

060 COMMON RINGED PLOVER – *charadrius hiaticula*

(bontbekplevier)

22-05 10 ex. in one group at the Goksu Delta.

061 KENTISH PLOVER – *charadrius alexandrinus*

(strandplevier)

Seen on three locations with a total of 35 birds, also inland.

062 GREY PLOVER – *pluvialis squatarola*

(zilverplevier)

22-05 12 ex. in one flock at the Goksu Delta, all first summers.

063 SPUR-WINGED LAPWING – *vanellus spinosus*

(sporenkiviet)

Quite commonly seen on the trip with a total 34 birds.

064 NORTHERN LAPWING – *vanellus vanellus*

(kiviet)

26-05 10 ex., Sultan marshes

27-05 20 ex. seen spread over the day.

065 LITTLE STINT – *calidris minuta*

(kleine strandloper)

22-05 10 ex. at the Goksu Delta.

27-05 15 ex, spread over the visited Golu's.

066 CURLEW SANDPIPER – *calidris ferruginea*

(krombekstrandloper)

22-05 7 ex. in one flock, with a nice summer bird at the Goksu Delta.

067 RUFF – *philomachus pugnax*

(kemphaan)

A total of 6 birds seen on three days during the trip, all in good habitat for them.

068 EURASIAN CURLEW – *numenius arquata*

(wulp)

22-05 1 ex. At the Goksu Delta.

069 COMMON REDSHANK - tringa totanus

(tureluur)

A total of 4 seen on the Golu's on the plateau.

070 COMMON SANDPIPER – actitis hypoleucos

(oeverloper)

30-01 1 ex. on the river near Sivrikaya.

071 MEDITERRANEAN GULL – larus melanocephalus

(zwartkopmeeuw)

27-05 4 ex. at Magan Golu

28-05 20 ex. on the crossing of the Bosphorus.

072 LITTLE GULL – hydrocoloeus minutes

(dwergmeeuw)

22-05 4 ex. at the Goksu delta, three immatures and an adult.

073 BLACK-HEADED GULL - chroicocephalus ridibundus

(kokmeeuw)

A total of 6 birds seen spread over the trip, all immatures.

074 SLENDER-BILLED GULL - chroicocephalus genei

A total of 359 birds seen on the the trip. A large flock of bading birds was seen at Magan Golu.

075 CASPIAN GULL – larus cachinnans

(pontische meeuw)

A total of 25 seen at a ploughed field at the large lake of the Goksu Delta.

076 YELLOW-LEGGED GULL – larus michahellis

(geelpootmeeuw)

The commonest big gull during the trip, also in some colonies.

077 GULL-BILLED TERN – sterna nilotica

(lachstern)

27-05 75 at Magan Golu.

078 CASPIAN TERN – sterna caspia

(reuzenster)

A maximum of 2 birds, one immature? and an adult at the Goksu Delta on a little island.

079 SANDWICH TERN – sterna sandvicensis

(grote stern)

22-05 2 ex. at the Goksu Delta.

080 COMMON TERN – sterna hirundo

(visdief)

A small colony in the Goksu Delta harbour of about 15 birds.

081 LITTLE TERN – sterna albifrons

(dwergstern)

A maximum of 30+ birds at the Goksu Delta

26-05 2 ex. at Nigde.

082 WHISKERED TERN – chlidonias hybridus

(witwangstern)

The most common marshstern with about 120 birds seen, with the largest flock at Magan Golu.

083 WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN - chlidonias leucopterus

(witvleugelstern)

27-05 4 adults at Magen Golu.

084 ROCK DOVE – columba livia

A total of 16 birds where seen spread over the trip, in small flocks, which seemed to be not mixed with the feral ones.

085 STOCK DOVE – columba oenas

(holenduif)

24-05 1 ex. along the way, flushed from the road.

086 COMMON WOOD PIGEON – *columba palumbus*

(houtduif)

Seen daily in Birecik with a maximum of 4 birds.

087 EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE – *streptopelia decaocto*

(turkse tortel)

The commonest pigeon during the trip, common everywhere.

088 EUROPEAN TURTLE DOVE – *streptopelia turtur*

(tortelduif)

A total of 8 seen during the trip.

089 LAUGHING DOVE – *streptopelia senegalensis*

29-05 10 ex. in Istanbul.

090 COMMON CUCKOO – *cuculus canorus*

(koekoek)

A total of 7 birds seen and heard spread over the trip.

091 PALLID SCOPS OWL – *otus brucei*

17-05 1 ex, seen very well at the teahouse of Birecik. Flushed from a tree and settled in an other tree, responded by calling back to the tape. Quite buffy/sandy collared, without horizontal barring on the underparts.



Pallid Scops owl Birecik

092 EUROPEAN SCOPS OWL – *otus scops*

(dwerghooruil)

27-05 1 ex. heard (but not seen because of noisy locals..) at Kizilcahaman.

093 DESERT LITTLE OWL – *ATHENE NOCTUA* ssp: *lilith*

(steenuil)

A total of 4 birds seen travelling though Turkey, often found along the road. All birds very sandy collared.

094 LONG-EARED OWL – *asio otus*

(ransuil)

18-05 2 immatures still in covered in down at the teahouse in Birecik.

095 EUROPEAN NIGHTJAR – *caprimulgus europaeus*

(nachtzwaluw)

18-05 1 ex. In the reeds at Birecik.

21-05 1 ex, coming in from the sea, going north at dusk at Siflike



European Nightjar in the reeds at Birecik, a migrant

096 COMMON SWIFT – *apus apus*

(gierzwaluw)

Common during the trip mostly in the cities.

097 ALPINE SWIFT – *apus melba*

(alpengierzwaluw)

Seen at various sites, mostly in the cities with the highest numbers in Istanbul.

098 LITTLE SWIFT – *apus affinis*

(huisgierzwaluw)

18-05 20+ seen at a little colony near the Ibis wadi at Birecik. Also hanging at the cliff.

099 COMMON KINGFISHER – *alcedo atthis*

(ijsvogel)

17+18-05 1 ex. at Birecik, probably the same bird.

100 PIED KINGFISHER – *ceryle rudis*

17+18-05 1 ex, the same at Birecik, nice views, fishing.

101 BLUE-CHEEKED BEE-ATER – *merops persicus*

(groene bijeneter)

19-05 15+ at a colony at Attaturk Dam. Very nice views of birds inspecting nest holes, flying and sitting around.



Blue-cheeked Bee-ater at Attaturk Dam by Rainer Ertel

102 EUROPEAN BEE-ATER – *merops apiaster*

(bijeneter)

Seen (and heard) on many days during trip in small colonies with a maximum of 30 on a day.

103 EUROPEAN ROLLER – coracias garrulus

(scharrelaar)

A total of 17 birds seen spread over the trip with a maximum of 6 on one day (18-05)

104 EURASIAN HOOPOE – upupa epos

(hop)

A total of 31 seen spread over the trip.

105 EUROPEAN GREEN WOODPECKER – picus viridis

(groene specht)

28-05 one juvenile in a nest hole in a tree sticking out his head at Kizilcahaman.

106 SYRIAN WOODPECKER – dendrocopos syriacus

A total of 7 birds seen around Birecik, some nice views.

107 LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER – dendrocopos minor

(kleine bonte specht)

28-05 1 female seen well along the stream at Kizilcahaman.

108 MIDDLE-SPOTTED WOODPECKER – dendrocopos medius

(middelste bonte specht)

24-05 1 female flew across the road at Akseki.

109 CALANDRA LARK – malanocorypha calandra

(kalanderleeuwerik)

Quite common on many days in agricultural area's with the most on 26-05. Nice views.

110 BIMACULATED LARK – malanocorypha bimaculata

19-05 1 ex. singing in song flight at Isliki. Reasonable views, short tail.

111 GREATER SHORT-TOED LARK – calandrella brachydactyla

(kortteenleeuwerik)

A total of 6 birds seen on the trip on three occasions.

112 ASIAN(?) SHORTTOED LARK – calandrella cheleensis ssp: aharonii

Common on the plateau and seen many times, singing and in display flights.



Asian Short-toed Lark at Kulu Golu

113 CRESTED LARK – galerida cristata

(kuifleeuwerik)

Common and seen on almost all days in the southern(eastern) part of Turkey.

114 WOODLARK – lulla arborea

(boomleeuwerik)

24-05 4 ex. seen well at Akseki.

115 EURASIAN SKYLARK – alauda arvensis

(veldleeuwerik)

27-05 1 ex. along the way flying out of the crops passed.

116 CAUCASIAN HORNED LARK – eremophila alpestris ssp: penicillata

26-05 10 ex. seen at Demircazik

30+31-05 a maximum of 15 on a day seen at Sivrikaya.

Only at the treeless rocky slopes in the mountains. Nice red/brown neck.

117 SAND MARTIN – riparia riparia

(oeverzwaluw)

Common all over the trip.

118 EURASIAN CRAG MARTIN – hirundo rupestris

(rotszwaluw)

A total of 39 seen spread over the trip in suitable habitat, not necessary very high up.

119 BARN SWALLOW – hirundo rustica

(boerenzwaluw)

Common all over the trip.

120 RED-RUMPED SWALLOW – hirundo daurica

(roodstuitzwaluw)

A total of 51 seen spread over the trip. Also in small flocks still passing through (Goksu Delta) and in small colonies.

121 COMMON HOUSE MARTIN – delichon urbica

(huiszwaluw)

Common all over the trip.

122 TAWNY PIPIT – anthus campestris

(duinpieper)

26-05 1 ex. seen well at the Sultan Marshes.

123 WATER PIPIT – anthus spinoletta ssp: coutellii

(waterpieper)

25-05 1 ex. at Demirkazik

30+31-05 a total of 15 ex. seen daily, singing at the highest parts in the mountains.

124 BLACK-HEADED WAGTAIL – motacilla flava ssp: feldegg

(balkankwikstaart)

Quite common in the lowlands and marshy area's visited during the trip, also with fledged young ! in the Goksu.

125 CITRINE WAGTAIL – motacilla citreola

(citroenkwikstaart)

22-05 1 male at the Goksu Delta sitting on a twig in a group of 124.

26-05 1 male feeding along a canal at the Sultan Marshes. Very nice views.

126 GREY WAGTAIL – motacilla cinerea

(grote gele kwikstaart)

25-05 1 ex. at Demirkazik.

31-05 3 ex. at Sivrikaya.

127 WHITE WAGTAIL – motacilla alba

(witte kwikstaart)

A total of 19 ex. seen spread over the trip.

128 WHITE-SPECTACLED BULBUL – pycnonotus xanthopygos

A total of 14 birds seen spread over the south eastern part of the trip.

129 WHITE-THROATED DIPPER – cinclus cinclus ssp: caucasicus

(waterspreeuw)

30-05 2 ex. along the stream around Sivrikaya, with a fledged juv.

***130 RADDE'S ACCENTOR – PRUNELLA OCULARIS**

25-05 3 ex. seen very well together (competing males) singing at Demirkazik.

Looks very much as Arabian Accentor but less well streaked from below. Quite dark on the upperparts. Song accentor like.

131 ALPINE ACCENTOR – prunella collaris

(alpenheggemus)

30-05 1 ex, feeding on a stone wall at the highest point at Sivrikaya.

31-05 7 ex, five in one flock feeding at the rocks near the highest point at Sivrikaya

132 EASTERN RUFOUS –TAILED SCRUB ROBIN – *cercotrichas galactotes* ssp: *syriacus*

A total of 4 birds seen in the Birecik area. Very nice views.

133 EUROPEAN ROBIN – *erithacus rubecula*

(roodborst)

31-05 1 ex. singing at Sivrikaya.

134 THRUSH NIGHTINGALE - *luscinia luscinia*

(noordse nachtegaal)

18-05 1 ex. seen in the open in a ditch at Birecik, nice views, probably an (unexpected) migrant. All features seen well, with the dull upperparts and upper tail and light mouth corners.

135 COMMON NIGHTINGALE – *luscinia megarhynchos*

(nachtegaal)

28-05 2 ex. singing at Kizilcahaman.

136 WHITE-THROATED ROBIN – *iranica gutturalis*

(perzische roodborst)

17-05 10+ ex. seen and heard well at Dunalik.

19-05 1 ex. at Isliki.

20-05 1 ex. at Isliki.

Very nice views of singing males, some (first winters?) where less orange on the underparts and looked more pale orange.

137 CAUCASIAN BLACK REDSTART – *phoenicurus ochruros* ssp: *ochruros*

25-05 6 ex. at Demirkazik, quite high up

30+31-05 a total of 8 ex. seen spread over the two days. Only high up in the mountains.

All black, with a red underbelly.

138 EHRENBERG'S REDSTART – *phoenicurus phoenicurus* ssp: *samamiticus*

(oosterse gekraagde roodstaart)

24-05 2 ex, both males at Akseki. Wingpanel not seen because they were singing high up in the trees, song the same as "ours".

139 WHINCHAT – *saxicola rubetra*

(paapje)

28-05 1 ex. singing high up at Sivrikaya.

140 COMMON STONECHAT – *saxicola rubicola*

(roodborsttapuit)

28-05 1 male at Kizilcahaman.

141 ISABELLINE WHEATEAR - *oenanthe isabellina*

(isabeltapuit)

19-05 3 ex. seen along the way.

Common to extremely common on the plateau in grassy areas.

142 NORTHERN WHEATEAR – *oenanthe oenanthe*

(tapuit)

Common the mountains above the tree line.

143 EASTERN BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR – *oenanthe melanoleuca*

(oosterse blonde tapuit)

Common in the mountains in the south east and a total of 39 birds seen there.

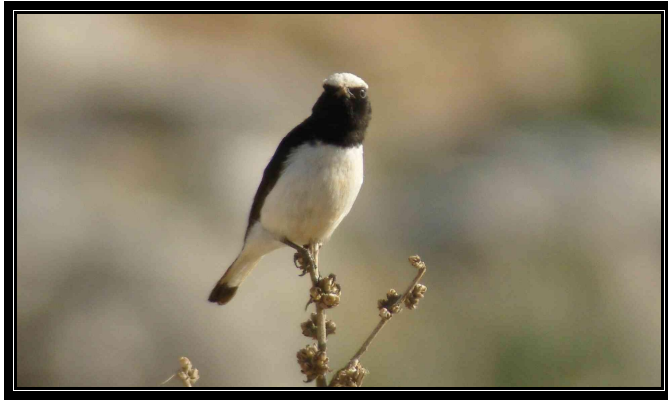
28-05 1 male at Kizilcahaman.

144 FINCH'S WHEATEAR – *OENANTHE FINSCHII

19-05 1 male at Islike.

25-05 2 ex, male and female at Demirkazik when walking down.

Very nice wheatear with an almost black back (wings) showing a thin white line on the back (mantle).



Finch Wheatear male at Islike

145 RUFOUS-TAILED ROCK THRUSH – *monticola saxatilis*

(rode rotslijster)

25-05 4 ex. at Demirkazik, three males fighting for a female.

146 BLUE ROCK THRUSH – *monticola solitarius*

(blauwe rotslijster)

A total of 7 birds seen spread over the trip in suitable mountains habitat.

147 CAUCASIAN RING OUZEL – *turdus torquatus ssp: amicornum*

30-05 1 male feeding on a slope at Sivrikaya in the snow (and probably therefore lower down). I could not see any difference with “our” birds.

148 COMMON BLACKBIRD – *turdus merula*

(merel)

A total of 8 birds seen spread over the trip.

149 SONG THRUSH – *turdus philomelos*

(zanglijster)

A total of 4 birds seen mostly at Sivrikaya.

150 MISTLE THRUSH – *turdus viscivorus*

(grote lijster)

24-05 10 ex. seen at Akseki all in one area.

151 CETTI’S WARBLER – *cettia cetti*

(cetti’s zanger)

Heard often at Birecik in the gravel holes.

28-05 4 ex. at Kizilcahaman.

152 GRACEFUL PRINIA – *prinia gracilis*

A total of 3 seen at Birecik.

22-05 2 ex. seen at the Goksu Delta.

153 SAVI’S WARBLER – *locustella luscinioides*

(snor)

26-05 2 ex. seen very well at the Sultan Marshes, singing.

154 EASTERN MOUSTACHED WARBLER – *acrocephalus melanopogon ssp: mimicus*

22-05 1 ex. seen in song at the Goksu Delta.

26-05 3 ex. at the Sultan Marshes.

Very different from the western birds, with almost no warm brown on the flanks.



Eastern Moustached Warbler at the Goksu Delta

155 MARSH WARBLER – *acrocephalus palustris*

(bosrietzanger)

31-05 1 ex. singing in scrub at a stream at Sivrikaya/

156 CASPIAN REED WARBLER – *acrocephalus scirpaceus* ssp: *fuscus*

Seen daily in suitable habitat around Birecik and the Goksu Delta. A bit more grey than “our” birds.

157 GREAT REED WARBLER – *acrocephalus arundinaceus*

(grote karrekiet)

A total of 6 seen around Birecik.

22-05 2 ex. at the Goksu Delta.

26-05 1 ex. at the Sultan Marshes.

158 EASTERN OLIVACEOUS WARBLER – *hippolais pallida*

A total of 11 seen on four days spread over the trip. Heard more often.

159 UPCHER'S WARBLER – *hippolais languida

A total of 9 birds seen and heard well in the dryer and higher up parts of Birecik.

Big, but easiest to find on song flight and song (different than 158, less reed warbler like). Dark tail not very obvious.



Upcher's Warbler at Dunalik

160 OLIVE-TREE WARBLER – hippolais olivetorum

21-05 3 ex, seen and heard well in the hills north of Islike.

A huge grey hippo with an obvious wing panel



Olive-tree Warbler, north of Islike by Rainer Ertel

161 MENETRIES WARBLER – sylvia mystacea ssp: rubescens

18-05 10 ex seen in the ibis wadi at Birecik, nice views. The males had almost no pink on the underparts.



Menetries Warbler near Birecik by Rainer Ertel

162 RUPPELL'S WARBLER – sylvia rueppelli

21-05 3 ex, seen and hear well in the hills north of Islike.

24-05 1 ex. at Akseki.

163 EASTERN ORPHEAN WARBLER – sylvia crassirostris

17-05 3 ex. at Dunalik.

19-05 1 ex, a first year male (?) at Islike.

The male at Islike was much alike to the Dutch bird but without a white eye. All birds had markings on the undertail coverts.

164 BARRED WARBLER – sylvia nisoria

(sperwergrasmus)

17-05 1 first summer at Dunalik.

28-05 1 first summer male, singing at Kizilcahaman.

Both birds where not very well barred and had brown wings.

165 LESSER WHITETHROAT – sylvia curruca

(braamsluiper)

A total of 14 birds seen spread over the trip. All birds looked very dark headed.

166 COMMON WHITETHROAT – sylvia communis

(grasmus)

28-05 1 male singing at Kizilcahaman.

167 BLACKCAP – sylvia atricapilla

(zwartkop)

21-05 2 ex. in the hills north of Islike.

31-05 1 male at Sivrikaya.

168 GREEN WARBLER – phylloscopus trochiloides ssp: nitidus

A total of 6 birds seen around Sivrikaya, in the low forested parts.

Very nice light green birds. The supercilium did not run over the top of the upper bill. Song often heard.



Green Warbler at Sivrikaya by Rainer Ertel

169 BALKAN WARBLER – phylloscopus orientalis

(balkan bergfluitser)

18-05 1 ex. in the teahouse park at Birecik, a migrant.

24-05 3 ex, seen very well singing at Akseki.

***170 CAUCASIAN TJIFTJAF – PHYLLOSCOPUS LORENZII**

A total of 3 seen and heard at Sivrikaya, two birds very high up feeding in the rhododendron.

As a stubby brown tjif, song like common tjif but slightly different but the same melody.



Caucasian Tjiftjaf at Sivrikaya

171 GOLDCREST – regulus ignicapillus

(goudhaan)

23-05 1 ex. seen and heard at Akseki.

A total of 4 birds at Sivrikaya.

172 SPOTTED FLYCATCHER – muscicapa striata

(grauwe vliegenvanger)

A total of 9 birds seen with the most (6 ex.) on 24-05 around Akseki. Also in the lowlands.

173 BEARDED REEDLING – panurus biarmicus

(baardman)

22-05 2 ex seen briefly at the reed beds of the Goksu Delta. I did not have a good look at the birds to see a subspecies difference.

***174 IRAQ BABBLER – TURDOIDES ALTIROSTRIS**

17-05 1 bird (probably every time the same) seen three times, at one of the gravel pits along the Euphrates at Birecik. The place described by K. M. Olsen on the net:

(http://www.netfugl.dk/pictures.php?id=showpicture&picture_id=16875)

Nice views of this plain small babbler in the open in the reed.



Iraq Babbler at Birecik by Rainer Ertel

175 SOMBRE TIT – parus lugubris

17-05 4 ex. at Dunalik.

20-05 1 ex. in the hills at Islike.

21-05 2 ex. in the hills at Islike.

Nice views, with a very broad bib.

176 COAL TIT – parus ater

(zwarte mees)

A total of 18 birds seen on the trip in evergreen forest.

177 EUROPEAN BLUE TIT – parus caeruleus

(pimpelmees)

21-05 1 ex. in the hills north of Islike.

178 GREAT TIT – parus major

(koolmees)

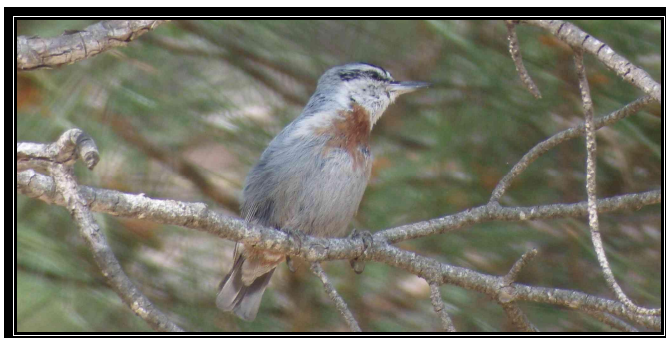
17-05 6 ex at Dunalik

Seen on both day's at Akseki. In low numbers.

***179 KRUPER'S NUTHATCH – SITTA KRUEPERI**

21-05 2 ex. in the hills north of Islike.

23+24-05 5 ex. in total at Akseki.



Kruper's Nuthatch in the hills north of Islike

***180 EASTERN ROCK NUTHATCH – SITTA TEPHRONOTA ssp: dresseri**

17 t/m 20-05 a total of 10 seen (and two nests) in the dry area's around Birecik.

Big, with a big bill broad black eyestripe behind the eye and warm buff lower part of the flanks and undertailcoverts.

181 WESTERN ROCK NUTHATCH – sitta neumayer ssp: syriaca

17-05 1 ex. seen well at Dunalik.

19-05 2 ex. seen well at Islike.

Very white on the underparts. And thinner billed than 180

182 WALLCREEPER – tichodroma muraria

(rotskruiper)

29+30-05 2 ex, at a nest site at the highest point at Sivrikaya.

With a nice black throat.



Wallcreeper at Sivrikaya

183 SHORT-TOED TREECREEPER – certhia brachydactyla

(boomkruiper)

23+24-05 a total of 3 birds seen at Akseki.

184 EURASIAN GOLDEN ORIOLE – oriolus oriolus

(wielewaal)

28-05 6 ex, some seen well at Kizilcahaman.

185 RED-BACKED SHRIKE – lanius collurio

(grauwe klauwier)

Commonly seen on most day's during the trip, even in Istanbul city (migrants?)

186 LESSER GREY SHRIKE – lanius minor

(kleine klapekster)

A total of 6 birds seen at the lowlands in the south east, all nice males.

187 WOODSHAT SHRIKE – lanius senator

(roodkopklauwier)

A total of 5 birds seen mostly in the hills in the south east.

188 MASKED SHRIKE – lanius nubicus

20-05 4 ex, at the Taurus Delta (near Goksu), very nice views at a nest.

24-05 6 ex. at Akseki, quite common there and close views.

189 EURASIAN JAY – garrulus glandarius

(vlaamse gaai)

A total of 10 birds seen spread over the trip in suitable habitat.

190 EURASIAN MAGPIE – pica pica

(ekster)

A total of 15 seen mainly at the central plateau.

191 ALPINE CHOUGH – pyrrhocorax graculus

25-05 20 ex. at Demirkazik.

192 RED-BILLED CHOUGH – pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax

25-05 20 ex. at Demirkazik

30+31-05 a total of 19 seen at Sivrikaya.

193 WESTERN JACKDAW – corvus monedula

(kauw)

A total of 28 birds seen spread over the trip, mainly near or in villages.

194 ROOK – corvus frugilegus

(roek)

24-05 20 ex. in a colony along the road.

27-05 20 ex. in a colony along the way.

195 HOODED CROW – corvus cornix

(bonte kraai)

Common during the whole trip.

196 COMMON RAVEN – corvus corax

(raaf)

21-05 1 ex. in the hills north of Sivlike.

27+28-05 a total of 3 birds at Kizilcahaman.

197 COMMON STARLING – sturnus vulgaris

(spreeuw)

Common during the whole trip.

198 ROSY STARLING – sturnus roseus

(roze spreeuw)

17-05 1 ex. at one of the gravel pits at Birecik.

18-05 20 ex. in small flocks around Birecik.

Nice views of feeding birds in trees or small flocks fly by, all adults.

199 HOUSE SPARROW – passer domesticus

(huismus)

Common throughout the whole trip.

200 DEAD SEA SPARROW – passer moabiticus

17-05 1 male at the gravel pits at Birecik.

18-05 10 ex, in a small colony near Birecik, with very nice views of singing males at nests.

201 EURASIAN TREE SPARROW – passer montanus

(ringmus)

25-05 3 ex. low down at Demikazik.

202 SPANISH SPARROW – passer hispaniolensis

(spaanse mus)

17-05 50 ex, in two big flocks at Dunalik.

***203 PALE ROCKFINCH – CARPOSPIZA BRACHYDACTYLA**

Commonly seen and heard (about 25 birds a day) at the rocky high up parts at Dunalik and Islike (both in the south-east). The song was very easy to recognize (like an insect buzz). This seems to be a very good year for the species which is sometimes difficult to find.



Pale Rockfinch at Dunalik

204 YELLOW-THROATED PETRONIA – petronia xanthocollis

18-05 5 ex. near Birecik, nice views of a birds near a nest, with the yellow throat. Small sparrow.

205 ROCK SPARROW – petronia petronia

A total of 36 seen at several sites on stony hillsides (sometimes quite high up) spread over the trip.

206 WHITE-WINGED SNOWFINCH – montifringilla nivalis

25-05 20 ex. at Demirkazik.

30+31-05 a total of 10 seen at the highest point of Sivrikaya.

207 COMMON CHAFFINCH – fringilla coelebs

(vink)

A total of 39 seen and heard spread over the trip in the suitable forrest.

208 RED-FRONTED SERIN – serinus pusillus

25-05 5 ex, in two small groups seen at Demirkazik

30-05 2 ex. at Sivrikaya.



Red-fronted Serin at Sivrikaya

209 EUROPEAN SERIN – serinus serinus

(europese kanarie)

A total of 23 seen and heard spread over the trip.

210 EUROPEAN GREENFINCH – carduelis carduelis

(groenling)

A total of 9 seen on several occasions during the trip.

211 EUROPEAN GOLDFINCH – carduelis carduelis

(putter)

A total of 20 seen spread over the trip.

212 COMMON LINNET – carduelis spinus

(kneu)

17-05 20 ex at Dunalik.

25-05 1 male at Demirkazik

213 TURKISH TWITE – *carduelis flavirostris* ssp: *brevirostris*

30+31-05 a total of 16 seen at Sivrikaya. Different as “our” Twites with obvious black sides of the breast.



Turkish Twite at Sivrikaya

214 COMMON CROSSBILL – *loxia curvirostra*

(kruisbek)

24-05 5 ex. at Akseki.

30+31-05 a total of 16 seen at the forest near the hotel at Sivrikaya.

215 ASIAN CRIMSON-WINGED FINCH – *RHODOPECHYS ALIENUS

25-05 2 ex. at Demirkazik feeding in a field much lower down than expected.



Asian Crimson-winged Finch at Demirkazik

216 DESERT FINCH – *rhodospiza obsoleta*

18-05 13 seen at the ibiswadi near Birecik.

19-05 2 ex. seen very well at Islike.

217 TRUMPETER FINCH – *bucanetes githagineus*

(woestijnvink)

19-05 3 ex. at Islike near a nest site, seen very well. This is a difficult species in Turkey.

218 COMMON ROSEFINCH – *carpodacus erythrinus*

(roodmus)

30+31-05 a total of 12 birds seen at Sivrikaya, both adult and first year males singing.

219 ROCK BUNTING – emberiza cia

(grijze gors)

25-05 2 ex. near Demirkazik, nice views sitting quite high up.

220 EASTERN CINEREOUS BUNTING – emberiza cineracea ssp: semenowi

17-05 8 ex. at Dunalik, all singing.

19-05 3 ex. at Islike.

20-05 2 ex. at Islike.

Very yellow from beneath. I now know I have seen cineracea in Yemen..



Eastern Cinereous Bunting at Dunalik

221 ORTOLAN BUNTING – emberiza hortulana

(ortolaan)

A total of 7 birds seen on the trip in hillsites (sometimes quite high up (Demirkazik)).

222 CRETZCHMAR'S BUNTING – emberiza caesia

(bruinkeelortolaan)

A total of 8 birds seen in the south-eastern part of the trip, all singing males.

223 COMMON REED BUNTING – emberiza schoeniclus ssp: *caspia*

(rietgors)

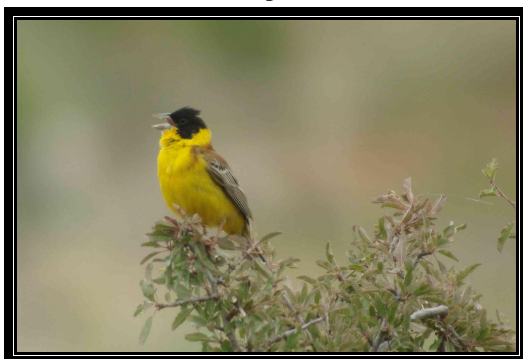
26-05 3 males together feeding in the scrub at the Sultan Marshes.

The bill looked slightly bigger.

224 BLACK-HEADED BUNTING – emberiza melanocephala

(zwartkopgors)

Quite common on the trip at variable habitat, in hills but also in agricultural area's. Also females seen well.



Black-Headed Bunting at Dunalik

225 CORN BUNTING – emberiza calandra

(grauwe gors)

24-05 10 ex. seen along the way in agricultural area's

27-05 1 ex. along the way.

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THE HAIRY LIST

1 EUROPEAN BROWN HARE - *Lepus europaeus* – 24-05 3 ex.

2 EUROPEAN SOUSLIK – *spermophilus citellus* - 25+26-05 common at Demirkazik

3 **WOLF – CANIS LUPUS** – 31-05 2 ex. seen for half an hour. One was watching us sitting on a slope the other (a more white individual) was more hidden. “Bird” of the trip!!



Wolfs, Sivrikaya

4 WILD GOAT – *capra aegagrus* – 25-05 2 ex at Demikazik

5 COMMON BOTTLE-NOSED DOLPHIN – *tursiops truncatus*?? – 29-05 2 ex. near Trabson in the Black Sea.