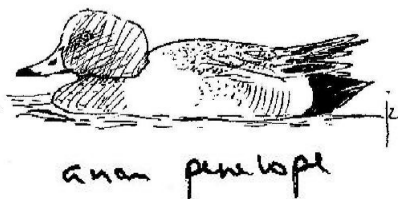
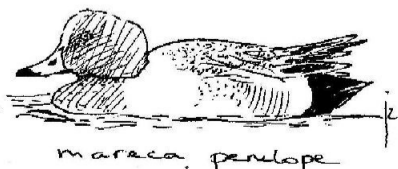


Report of the Committee for Avian Systematics

DUTCH AVIFAUNAL LIST: TAXONOMIC CHANGES IN 1999-2003

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This is the second update on the taxonomy of species and higher taxa on the Dutch List since Voous (1977). It summarizes decisions made by the Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (CSNA) between Jan 1999 and Okt 2003. Changes in this report fall into five categories: (1) eight species names are changed to make them grammatically correct (*Alopochen aegyptiaca*, *Pluvialis dominica*, *Actitis macularius*, *Phalaropus fulicarius*, *Chlidonias hybrida*, *Delichon urbicum*, *Saxicola maurus*, *Regulus ignicapilla*); (2) two species names are changed due to re-identification of type specimens (*Phylloscopus ibericus*, *Lanius isabellinus*); (3) six species become monotypic due to the recognition of extralimital taxa as species (*Milvus milvus*, *Aquila pomarina*, *Larus cachinnans*, *Sylvia nana*, *Sylvia hortensis*, *Ficedula parva*); (4) two species become polytypic due to the inclusion of taxa previously separated as species (*Larus fuscus*, *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*); (5) ten scientific names of species are changed due to generic revisions (*Anas strepera*, *A. falcata*, *A. penelope*, *A. americana*, *Phalacrocorax pygmeus*, *P. aristotelis*, *Grus virgo*, *Calidris himantopus*, *Bubo scandiacus*, *Emberiza calandra*).

Key words: systematics – taxonomy – phylogeny – species – higher taxa

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INTRODUCTION

This report includes taxonomic and nomenclatural changes adopted by the Dutch committee for avian systematics (Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna, CSNA) since Sangster *et al.* (1999). We review newly published evidence affecting the scientific names of taxa on the Dutch list. The committee consists of four members (year of election between parentheses): Arnoud B. van den Berg (1995), André J. van Loon (2002), C.S. Roselaar (1995) and George Sangster (Secretary, 1996). C.J. Hazevoet and Ronald Sluys were members of CSNA in 1996-2000 and

1998-2002, respectively, and participated in discussions on a number of changes. The committee's approach towards the recognition of species and higher taxa has been described by Sangster *et al.* (1999). Unless otherwise stated, the sequence of species on the Dutch list remains unchanged.

TAXONOMIC CHANGES

Alopochen aegyptiaca Egyptian Goose

Nijlgans

The name *Chen* is masculine as well as feminine (Liddell & Scott 1996 in David & Gosselin

2002b). Because the name *Alopochen* ends in a Greek noun (-*chen*), the gender of the name is determined by the author's action in the work where the name is originally established (ICZN 1999: Art. 30.1, 30.1.4.2). The name *Alopochen* was first established in combination with the feminine adjective *aegyptiaca* and therefore the name *Alopochen* is feminine (David & Gosselin 2002b). The scientific name of Egyptian Goose (currently *Alopochen aegyptiacus*) thus becomes *Alopochen aegyptiaca*.

***Anas strepera* Gadwall**

Krakeend

***Anas falcata* Falcated Duck**

Bronskopeend

***Anas penelope* Eurasian Wigeon**

Smient

***Anas americana* American Wigeon**

Amerikaanse Smient

Initial molecular and morphological studies (Kessler & Avise 1984, Livezey 1991, Omland 1994) provided congruent support for monophyly of the wigeons, Falcated Duck and Gadwall, and a sister-group relationship of this clade with remaining species of *Anas*. A recent mitochondrial DNA study using a larger number of species and longer DNA sequences corroborated the monophyly of *Mareca* but placed this clade among other dabbling ducks (Johnson & Sorenson 1999). Based on the incongruence between cladograms based on morphological and molecular data, recognition of *Mareca* is no longer justified. All dabbling ducks are therefore best placed in *Anas*.

***Phalacrocorax pygmeus* Pygmy Cormorant**

Dwergaalscholver

***Phalacrocorax aristotelis* European Shag**

Kuifaalscholver

An initial phylogenetic study of morphological characters (Siegel-Causey 1988) identified nine major clades of cormorants and shags. However, a recent study of mitochondrial DNA sequences (Kennedy *et al.* 2000) does not support monophyly of several of these groups. The incongruence of cladograms based on osteological characters and mitochondrial DNA sequences suggests that

recognition of *Microcarbo* and *Stictocarbo* is no longer justified. All cormorants are therefore best placed in *Phalacrocorax*.

***Milvus milvus* Red Kite**

Rode Wouw

Red Kite and Cape Verde Kite *M. fasciicauda* are best treated as separate species (cf Hazevoet 1995, Ferguson-Lees & Christie 2001) based on diagnostic differences in plumage (Hazevoet 1995). Red Kite is therefore recognized as a monotypic species.

***Aquila pomarina* Lesser Spotted Eagle**

Schreeuwarend

A recent study has documented diagnostic differences between Lesser Spotted Eagle and Indian Spotted Eagle *A. hastata* in external structure, osteology and juvenile and adult plumage (Parry *et al.* 2002). These taxa are therefore best recognized as monotypic species. The taxon on the Dutch list is *A. pomarina*.

***Grus virgo* Demoiselle Crane**

Jufferkraanvogel

Phylogenetic analyses based on DNA-DNA hybridization distances (Krajewski 1989), allozymes (Dessauer *et al.* 1992) and mitochondrial DNA sequences (Krajewski & Fetzner 1994, Krajewski & King 1996, Mooers *et al.* 1999) indicate that Demoiselle Crane is part of the *Grus* clade. Another molecular study (Ingold *et al.* 1989) could not reliably separate Demoiselle and Blue Crane *G. paradiseus* from species currently placed in *Grus*. A phylogenetic analysis of morphological characters (Livezey 1998) placed Demoiselle and Blue Crane as the sister-taxon of all remaining species of *Grus*. Demoiselle Crane (currently *Anthropoides virgo*) is therefore included in *Grus* and becomes *Grus virgo*.

***Pluvialis dominica* American Golden Plover**

Amerikaanse Goudplevier

The specific name of American Golden Plover was established in the combination *Charadrius Dominicus* Statius Müller, 1776. Subsequent authors have regarded the name *Dominicus* as an

adjective and have spelled the scientific name of American Golden Plover as *Pluvialis dominica*. AOU (1995) stated that the correct scientific name of American Golden Plover is *Pluvialis dominicus* (not *Pluvialis dominica*), because Müller spelled *Dominicus* with a capital letter and thus intended to regard *Dominicus* as a noun in apposition. This decision was overturned, without comment, by AOU (1997). David & Gosselin (2000) noted that the use of capital letters for species-group names in ornithological publications in the 18th and 19th centuries was uneven and that many adjectival species-group names were commonly spelled with an initial upper case. They argued that the use of a capitalized species-group name does not by itself indicate a noun in apposition. Based on the analysis of David & Gosselin (2000), the name *Dominicus* is treated as an adjective. The scientific name of American Golden Plover is therefore *Pluvialis dominica*.

***Calidris himantopus* Stilt Sandpiper** Steltstrandloper

Comparisons of behavioural, structural and plumage characters (Jehl 1973) and a phylogenetic study of mitochondrial DNA sequences (Borowik & McLennan 1999) indicate that Stilt Sandpiper is best regarded as a member of the genus *Calidris*. Stilt Sandpiper is therefore placed in *Calidris* and becomes *Calidris himantopus* (cf AOU 1998, Sangster et al. 2004). The phylogeny of Borowik & McLennan (1999) also indicated that several other taxa currently placed in monotypic genera are part of the *Calidris* clade (e.g. *Limicola*, *Tryngites*, *Philomachus*). However, for these taxa we prefer to maintain the status quo until their relationships are documented by a comprehensive phylogenetic analysis or supported by independent lines of evidence. On the Dutch list, Stilt Sandpiper is placed after Curlew Sandpiper *C. ferruginea*.

***Actitis macularius* Spotted Sandpiper** Amerikaanse Oeverloper

The name *Actitis* is derived from the Greek name Actites but with a changed ending. For the purposes of zoological nomenclature, such names

are not Greek words of fixed gender transliterated into Latin without other changes (David & Gosselin 2002b). These names must be treated as words of common gender (ICZN 1999: Art. 30.1.4.2) because the International Code for Zoological Nomenclature does not otherwise consider the gender of modified Greek endings. *Actitis* was not combined with a species-group name in the original publication, and is thus masculine. The scientific name of Spotted Sandpiper (currently *Actitis macularia*) therefore becomes *Actitis macularius*.

***Phalaropus fulicarius* Red Phalarope** Rosse Franjepoot

The specific name of Red Phalarope was established in the combination *Tringa Fulicaria* Linnaeus, 1758. Subsequent authors have regarded the name *Fulicaria* as an adjective and have spelled the scientific name of Red Phalarope as *Phalaropus fulicarius*. Parkes (1982) stated that the correct scientific name of Red Phalarope is *Phalaropus fulicaria* (not *Phalaropus fulicarius*), because Linnaeus spelled *Fulicaria* with a capital letter and thus intended to regard *Fulicaria* as a noun in apposition. David & Gosselin (2000) noted that the use of a capitalized species-group name does not by itself indicate a noun in apposition and that Linnaeus' use of the Latin adjectival suffix *-aria* indicates an adjectival species-name. The name *Fulicaria* should therefore be treated as an adjective. ICZN (1999: Art. 34.2) mandates that the correct scientific name of Red Phalarope is *Phalaropus fulicarius*.

***Larus fuscus* Lesser Black-backed Gull** Kleine Mantelmeeuw

Recent studies of mitochondrial DNA variation in gulls indicate that *fuscus*, *graellsii* and *intermedius* share the same main haplotype, with no significant differences in haplotype frequency (Crochet et al. 2002; Liebers & Helbig 2002). These studies, and increased awareness of plumage variation (Johnsson 1998; Yésou 2002), do not support a specific distinction between *fuscus* and *graellsii* (incl. *intermedius*). Therefore, the taxa *fuscus*, *graellsii* and *intermedius* are con-

sidered to comprise a single species (cf Crochet *et al.* 2002, Liebers & Helbig 2002, Yésou 2002).

***Larus cachinnans* Pontic Gull**

Pontische Meeuw

Phylogenetic study of mitochondrial DNA sequences indicates that the taxa *barabensis* and *mongolicus* are more closely related to *L. heuglini* and *L. vegae*, respectively, than to *L. cachinnans* (Liebers *et al.* 2001). *L. cachinnans* is therefore considered monotypic.

***Chlidonias hybrida* Whiskered Tern**

Witwangstern

The gender of the name *Chlidonias* is masculine and the word *hybrida* is a masculine noun, not a feminine adjective (David & Gosselin 2002a). Names, such as *hybrida*, that are classical or mediaeval nouns are always invariable (ICZN 1999: Art. 11.9.1.2; Art. 31.2.1). The scientific name of Whiskered Tern (currently *Chlidonias hybridus*) thus becomes *Chlidonias hybrida* (David & Gosselin 2002a).

***Bubo scandiacus* Snowy Owl**

Sneeuwuil

Molecular phylogenetic analysis (Wink & Heidrich 1999, 2000) groups the monotypic genus *Nyctea* among a clade of *Bubo* and *Ketupa* owls as the sister taxon of Great Horned Owl *Bubo virginianus* and Magellan Horned Owl *B. magellanicus*. Other studies indicate that there is no osteological basis for separating *Nyctea* and *Bubo* (Ford 1967; S.L. Olson in litt.). Differences between *Nyctea* and *Bubo*, such as the former's white plumage, small ear-tufts, dense plumage, short bill, eyes largely concealed by long and dense feathers and feathered claws, can be explained as adaptations to arctic environments and do not rule out a phylogenetic position within *Bubo*. Snowy Owl (currently *Nyctea scandiaca*) is therefore included in *Bubo* and becomes *Bubo scandiacus*.

***Delichon urbicum* Common House Martin**

Huiszwaluw

The name *Delichon* must be treated as neuter (David & Gosselin 2002b) because it was estab-

lished in combination with *nipalensis* (an adjective not indicative of a particular gender) and ends in *-on*. The correct name of Common House Martin (currently *Delichon urbica*) therefore is *Delichon urbicum* (David & Gosselin 2002b).

***Saxicola maurus* Siberian Stonechat**

Aziatische Roodborsttapuit

The name *Saxicola* is masculine because it ends in *-cola* and was established in combination with three nouns in apposition (*rubetra*, *rubicola* and *oenanthe*; David & Gosselin 2002b). The correct name of Siberian Stonechat (currently *Saxicola maura*) thus becomes *Saxicola maurus* (David & Gosselin 2002b).

***Acrocephalus scirpaceus* European Reed Warbler**

Kleine Karekiet

A recent molecular analysis of the genus *Acrocephalus* and related taxa (Helbig & Seibold 1999), does not support reciprocal monophyly of *fuscus* and *scirpaceus* and suggested a close relationship between these taxa. These results contrast with those of another molecular study of the same group (Leisler *et al.* 1997). A reappraisal of the plumage and structural characters of *fuscus* (Pearson *et al.* 2002) did not identify any diagnostic characters of *fuscus*. Based on these new results, the taxa *fuscus* and *scirpaceus* are considered to comprise a single species.

***Phylloscopus ibericus* Iberian Chiffchaff**

Iberische Tjiftjaf

Svensson (2001) and Salomon *et al.* (2003) have demonstrated that the holotype of *brehmii* is a Common Chiffchaff *P. collybita* and that the correct scientific name of Iberian Chiffchaff is *Phylloscopus ibericus*. It is unclear whether the Dutch records of Iberian Chiffchaff include the recently proposed form *Ph. i. biscayensis* (Salomon *et al.* 2003), nominate *ibericus* or both

***Sylvia nana* Desert Warbler**

Aziatische Woestijngrasmus

Descriptions of plumage and song of *deserti* and *nana* (Cramp 1992; Shirihai *et al.* 2001) have

documented diagnostic differences between these taxa. *S. n. theresae*, on the other hand, is poorly differentiated and this name is now considered to represent a synonym of *Sylvia nana* (Shirihai et al. 2001). These data suggest that African Desert Warbler *S. deserti* and Desert Warbler *S. nana* are best treated as two monotypic species. The taxon on the Dutch list is *S. nana*.

***Sylvia hortensis* Western Orphean Warbler**

Westelijke Orpheusgrasmus

A recent review of the taxonomy and differentiation in the *Sylvia hortensis* complex (Shirihai et al. 2001) has reported diagnostic differences in song and mitochondrial DNA sequences between Western and Eastern Orphean Warbler *S. crassirostris*. Western and Eastern Orphean Warbler are therefore best treated as species. A record of Western Orphean Warbler is currently under consideration by the Commissie Dwaalgasten Nederlandse Avifauna (CDNA)

***Regulus ignicapilla* Firecrest**

Vuurgoudhaan

The name *ignicapilla* and other original names ending in *-capilla* are to be treated as nouns in apposition (David & Gosselin 2002a). The original spelling of such names must be retained, with gender ending unchanged (ICZN 1999: Art. 31.2.1, Art. 32.3, Art. 34.2.1). Therefore, the scientific name of Firecrest (currently *Regulus ignicapillus*) becomes *Regulus ignicapilla* (David & Gosselin 2002a).

***Ficedula parva* Red-breasted Flycatcher**

Kleine Vliegenvanger

Recent studies have documented diagnostic differences between Taiga Flycatcher *F. albicilla* and Red-breasted Flycatcher in plumage, moult, song and call (Svensson 1984, Peklo 1987, Cramp & Perrins 1993, Cederroth et al. 1999, Jännes 2003). Both taxa appear to breed sympatrically in Siberia (Stresemann et al. 1967, Peklo 1987). Therefore, Taiga and Red-breasted Flycatcher are best treated as monotypic species (cf Cederroth et al. 1999, Sangster et al. 2004). The taxon on the Dutch list is *F. parva*.

***Lanius isabellinus* Daurian Shrike**

Daurische Klauwier

Hartert (1907), Stresemann & Stresemann (1971), Mauersberger (1982) and, recently, Pearson (2000) have pointed out that the name *isabellinus* refers to Daurian Shrike (currently *Lanius specularis*), not to Chinese Shrike (currently *Lanius isabellinus*). Therefore, the correct name of Daurian Shrike is *Lanius isabellinus*; the scientific name of Chinese Shrike becomes *Lanius arenarius* (Pearson 2000). The scientific name of Turkestan Shrike *Lanius phoenicuroides* is unaffected by these changes.

***Emberiza calandra* Corn Bunting**

Grauwe Gors

Phylogenetic analyses of mitochondrial DNA sequences (Lee et al. 2001; Grapputo et al. 2001) indicate that Corn Bunting is part of the group of *Emberiza* buntings and does not represent a separate lineage. On the basis of this evidence, Corn Bunting is placed in *Emberiza* and becomes *Emberiza calandra*. The sequence of *Emberiza* species on the Dutch List is left unchanged until their relationships are better resolved.

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SAMENVATTING

In dit tweede overzicht sinds de publicatie van Voous (1977) worden beslissingen besproken die de Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (CSNA) in de periode van januari 1999 tot oktober 2003 heeft genomen omtrent taxonomische wijzigingen van vogelsoorten die op de Nederlandse lijst staan. De wijzigingen kunnen worden onderverdeeld in vijf groepen: (1) van acht soorten is de wetenschappelijke naam veranderd, zodat deze grammaticaal juist wordt (*Alopochen aegyptiaca*, *Pluvialis dominica*, *Actitis macularius*, *Phalaropus fulicarius*, *Chlidonias hybrida*, *Delichon urbicum*, *Saxicola maurus*, *Regulus ignicapilla*); (2) van twee soorten is een andere wetenschappelijke naam noodzakelijk, omdat de oorspronkelijke naam gebaseerd was op een verkeerd geïdentificeerd type-exemplaar (*Phylloscopus ibericus*, *Lanius isabellinus*); (3) zes soorten worden monotypisch, omdat ondersoorten die niet in Nederland zijn vastgesteld, nu als aparte soort worden beschouwd (*Milvus milvus*, *Aquila pomarina*, *Larus cachinnans*, *Sylvia nana*, *Sylvia hortensis*, *Ficedula parva*); (4) twee soorten worden polytypisch, omdat daartoe nu taxa worden gerekend die voorheen als aparte soort werden beschouwd (*Larus fuscus*, *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*); (5) tien wetenschappelijke namen zijn gewijzigd als resultaat van revisies op het genusniveau (*Anas strepera*, *A. falcata*, *A. penelope*, *A. americana*, *Phalacrocorax pygmeus*, *P. aristotelis*, *Grus virgo*, *Calidris himantopus*, *Bubo scandiacus*, *Emberiza calandra*).

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