

Trip to Sao Miguel, Azores 3-10 December 2001.

Participants: Hans Bister, Bosse Carlsson, Gunnar Granström and Svante Åberg. All of us from Sweden.

3.12 Landed on Ponta Delgada Airport at 13. Picked up a rental car, checked in at Hotel Canadiano and was soon on our way to the twin lakes at Sete Cidades. Birded there until it became dark just before 18.

4.12 After breakfast a full day roundtrip east towards the Bullfinches. Drove via Ribeira Grande against Furnas and Povoacao to the forest reserve Tronqueira. After a Bullfinchdip back through Povoacao to Lagoa das Furnas. Home after the southern coast with a few stops for seawatching to Ponta Delgada.

5.12 Seawatching from Mosteiros before noon, the twinlakes in the afternoon.

6.12 The harbour of Ponta Delgada in the morning, then Lagoa das Furnas for the most of the day. We had plans to go to the forest reserve again but it was raining too much so we skipped it. A few stops after the coast on the way back. We spent the last daylight in the harbour of Ponta Delgadas.

7.12 Thunder storms with sometimes heavy rain today. Birded at Mosteiros before noon and Lagoa Azul in the afternoon.

8.12 The same as yesterday but a little better weather.

9.12 Started this day in the little wood just west of the bridge between Lagoa Azul and Lagoa Verde. Gunnar Granström went to Mosteiros instead. In the middle of the day Gunnar picked us up and we spent the rest of the day at Mosteiros.

10.12 We started the last day in the harbour. Later we found a better place for seawatching close to the airport. Stopped birding at 11. Bought whisky and tobacco, checked out from the hotel and left the car at the airport. The plane started on time and made a turn over the twinlakes for a last look after a new american.

Cory's Shearwater / Gulnäbbad lira / *Calonectris diomedea*: After the shore everywhere. Daily totals up to 300+.

Manx Shearwater / Mindre lira / *Puffinus puffinus*: After the shore everywhere. Daily totals up to 80+.

Little Shearwater / Dvärglira / *Puffinus assimilis*: Only seen on 9.12. 4 was observed by Gunnar Granström out of Mosteiros.

Northern Gannet / Havssula / *Morus bassanus*: 3 young Mosteiros 7.12 and 1 young Ponta Delgada 10.12.

Great Cormorant / Storskarv / *Phalacrocorax carbo*: 1 adult in Lagoa das Furnas 6.12.

***Little Egret / Silkeshäger / *Egretta garzetta*:** 1 in the harbour of Ponta Delgada and at least 2 at Mosteiros the whole period.

Grey Heron / Gråhäger / *Ardea cinerea*: Easy to see in the lakes Azul and Furnas. Greatest number 15 in Lagoa das Furnas 6.12.

***Eurasian Wigeon / Bläsand / *Anas penelope*:** 1 male and 7 females in Lagoa Azul the whole period.

European Teal / Kricka / *Anas crecca*: 1 pair in Lagoa Azul 7.12.

***Northern Pintail / Stjärtand / *Anas acuta*:** 1 female in Lagoa Azul the whole period.

Northern Shoveler / Skedand / *Anas clypeata*: 1 pair in Lagoa das Furnas 4.12.

***Common Pochard / Brunand / *Aythya ferina*:** 1 adult male in Lagoa Azul the whole period.

***Ring-necked Duck / Ringand / Aythya collaris:** 1 1K male in Lagoa Azul the whole period.

***Greater Scaup / Bergand / Aythya marila:** 1 1K male in Lagoa Azul the whole period.

***Lesser Scaup / Mindre bergand / Aythya affinis:** 1 1K male in Lagoa Azul the whole period.

Common Buzzard / Ormvråk / Buteo buteo: Seen all days. Highest daily total 15.

Moorhen / Rörhöna / Gallinula chloropus: Singles west of the bridge between the twinlakes the whole period.

Coot / Sothöna / Fulica atra: 4 in Lagoa das Furnas, 16 in the twinlakes Azul and Verde.

***American Coot / Amerikansk sothöna / Fulica americana:** 1 1:a vinter in Lagoa Azul outside the picknickplace N om Sete Cidades. Seen everytime we tried for it.

***Eurasian Oystercatcher / Strandskata / Haematopus ostralegus:** 1 in Mosteiros harbour 7.12, 1 on the pier of Ponta Delgada 8 and 10.12.

Ringed Plover / Större strandpipare / Charadrius hiaticula: 1 in the harbour of Ponta Delgadas 4.12, 2 in Lagoa das Furnas 4 and 6.12.

Grey Plover / Kustpipare / Pluvialis squatarola: 1 in winterplumage at Mosteiros 7 and 9.12.

Sanderling / Sandlöpare / Calidris alba: 3 in the harbour of Ponta Delgada.

Purple Sandpiper / Skärnsnäppa / Calidris maritima: 1 at Mosteiros 9.12

Dunlin / Kärrsnäppa / Calidris alpina: 1 in Lagoa das Furnas 4.12, 2 in the harbour of Mosteiros the whole period.

Bar-tailed Godwit / Myrspov / Limosa lapponica: 1 at the picknick place of Lagoa Azul 3 and 8.12.

Whimbrel / Småspov / Numenius phaeopus: Seen all days except 3.12. Highest daily total. All of the European race phaeopus.

Greenshank / Gluttsnäppa / Tringa nebularia: 2 in Lagoa Azul the whole period.

***Spotted Sandpiper / Fläckdrillsnäppa / Actitis macularia:** 1 in Mosteiros hamn 5 and 9.12. 1 flying past 7.12 was probably the same bird.. One more was found in Lagoa das Furnas 6.12.

Turnstone / Roskarl / Arenaria interpres: Seen all days except for the first two. Highest daily total 25.

Pomarine Skua / Bredstjärtad labb / Stercorarius pomarinus: 1 at Mosteiros 6.12, 1 at Mosteiros 7.12 and 1 at the harbour of Ponta Delgada 9.12 was probably Pomarines..

Great Skua / Storlabb / Catharacta skua: Total of 9 during the week. All outside Ponta Delgada and Mosteiros.

Black-headed Gull / Skratmås / Larus ridibundus: 5-8.12 in the harbour of Ponta Delgadas. Highest number 500+ 6.12. The gulls came in to roost in late afternoon.

Ring-billed Gull / Ringnäbbad mås / Larus delawarensis: 1 1K resting on the sandy beach close to Aqua Alto 6.12.

Yellow-legged Gull / Gråtrut / Larus cachinnans atlantis: Common.

Great Black-backed Gull / Havstrut / Larus marinus: 1 1K in the harbour of Ponta Delgadas 6-8.12.

Black-legged Kittiwake / Tretåig mås / Rissa tridactyla: Singles observed when seawatching.

Common Tern / Fisktärna / Sterna hirundo: 1 juvenile in the harbour of Ponta Delgada 7-8.12.

Rock Dove / Tamduva / Columba livia: Common

Woodpigeon / Ringduva / Columba palumbus: Common, easily seen at the twinlakes.

Grey Wagtail / Forsärla / Motacilla cinerea: Common.

European Robin / Rödhake / Erithacus rubecula: Common.

Black Redstart / Svart rödstjärt / Phoenicurus ochruros: 1 1K hane? at the harbour of Mosteiros 7 and 8.12. New for Azores?

Common Redstart / Rödstjärt / Phoenicurus phoenicurus: 1 female at Mosteiros 5.12.

Blackbird / Koltrast / Turdus merula: Common.

Blackcap / Svarthätta Sylvia atricapilla: Common.

***Yellow-browed Warbler / Taigasångare / Phylloscopus inornatus:** 1 was found west of the bridge between the twinlakes 8.12. The day after (9.12) it was seen and heard several times in the little "wood." New for Azores?

***Chiffchaff / Gransångare / Phylloscopus collybita:** 1 was seen at the picknickplace north of Sete Cidades 3.12 and 3 at Lagoa das Furnas north of the churchruin 6.12. 2 at the little wood west of the bridge between the twinlakes 7.12. The 8 and 9.12 It exploded with at least 20 both days in the little wood. The species is as far as we know not recorded before from the Azores.

Willow Warbler / Lövsångare / Phylloscopus trochillus: 1 at the little wood west of the bridge between the twin lakes 7.12

Goldcrest / Kungsfågel / Regulus regulus: Common.

Starling / Stare / Sturnus vulgaris: Common.

House Sparrow / Gråsparv / Passer domesticus: Common.

Chaffinch / Bofink / Fringilla coelebs: Common.

Canary / Kanariefågel / Serinus canaria: Common.

Greenfinch / Grönfink / Carduelis chloris: Common.

Goldfinch / Steglits / Carduelis carduelis: Common.

Eurasian Siskin / Gränsiska / Carduelis spinus: 2 males and 1 female 8 and 9.12 at the little wood west of the bridge between the twin lakes.

Azores Bullfinch / Domherre / Pyrrhula pyrrhula murina: One attempt which failed 4.12.

***Yellow Warbler / Gul Skogssångare / Dendroica petechia aestiva:** The BIRD of the trip! 1 1K female was found by Svante Åberg at the picknick place north of Sete Cidades in the afternoon 5.12. We could see the bird until it was dark.

Species marked with a * do we have photographs of.