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Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest
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Turdus torquatus ON EL HIERRO (CANARY ISLANDS) - The Ring Ouzel (Turdus torquatus) is widely distributed in the Palearctic Region wintering mainly in the Mediterranean region and North Africa (Morocco, Algeria & Tunisia) (Voous, K.H. (1960). Atlas of European Birds. Nelson, London; Heinzel, H., Fitter, H. & Parslow, J. (1975). Manual de las aves de España y Europa, Norte de Africa y próximo Oriente. Omega, Barcelona. No published records of the species exist for the Macaronesian Region although R.J. Johns (pers. comm.) observed a female on 23 August 1975 in Las Cañadas on Tenerife at 2200 m a.s.l. During the second week of February 1987, a 2nd year female was picked up dead in the neighbourhood of Cruz de Los Reyes (Coord. U.T.M. 28RBR0170) on the island of El Hierro and was deposited in the collection of the Natural History Museum of Santa Cruz de Tenerife (TFMC Ornithologia N° 334).

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LAPWING Vanellus vanellus. NEW TO THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS - On 23 and 24 December 1987, at the Salinas de Pedra de Luma on the island of Sal, Cape Verde Islands, I observed two Lapwings Vanellus vanellus in winter plumage. The birds stayed together and were seen foraging and resting as well as flying. They kept to the small vegetated edges of the salinas, which are situated in an old crater c. 1 km in diameter. A description of this habitat can be found in De Naurois and Bonnaffoux (1969). The Salinas de Pedra de Luma represent the only location in the Cape Verde Islands where larger concentrations of wintering Palearctic waders can be found. For instance, at the above dates the species present included Ringed Plover Charadrius hiaticula (5), Grey Plover Pluvialis squatarola (2), Sanderling Calidris alba (150+), Little Stint C. minuta (2), Curlew Sandpiper C. ferruginea (100+), Whimbrel Himantopus phaeopus (1), Redshank Tringa totanus (4), Greenshank T. nebularia (6), Common Sandpiper Actitis hypoleucos (1), and Turnstone Arenaria interpres (75). Furthermore, Black-winged Stilt Himantopus himantopus (75) and Kentish Plover C. alexandrinus (50), both local breeding species, were observed. Part of these may have been Palearctic visitors as well (cf De Naurois 1986). This appears to be the first record of Lapwing for the Cape Verde Islands. Neither Bannerman and Bannerman (1968) nor Cramp and Simmons (1983) mention the species for the archipelago. On the African mainland it occurs irregularly south to the Senegal delta (Urban et al. 1986).

REFERENCES

BANNERMAN, D.A. & BANNERMAN, W.H. (1968) History of the Birds of the Cape Verde Islands. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh.