

Azores 3rd–16th September 2001

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We flew Sata Air (<http://www.sata.pt>) from Lisbon plus three inter-island flights for (roughly) >200 euros. They fly 4 times a day to the Azores from Lisbon. Inter-island ferry schedules were obtained through the Internet but no reservations were made beforehand (<http://www.transmacor.pt> or <http://www.acorline.pt>). Ferries between the islands varied between ca 30–40 euros one-way. September is not a very busy month what it comes to tourism on the Azores, so there was plenty of space on the ferries as well as buses and flights. Rental cars weren't booked beforehand either as you get a better price when you go and compare the prices on the airports as you arrive there. Both the fuel and rental cars were somewhat more expensive than on continental Portugal or Spain.

ITINERARY

3rd Sep São Miguel

Arrived at Ponta Delgada airport at 8:10 a.m. and rented a car from the airport. Route Ponta Delgada – Ponta dos Caetanós – Lagoa das Furnas – Serra de Tronqueira – Ponta da Albufeira (Ribeira Quente) – Vila Franca do Campo – Ponta da Lagoa. Slept in car at Mosteiros. 28 species.

4th Sep São Miguel

Morning sea-watch at Mosteiros, then route Sete Cidades (Lagoa Azul – Lagoa Verde) – Relva – Ponta Delgada – Ponta da Ferraira (Ginetes) – Vila Franca do Campo. Slept in a hostel in Ponta Delgada. 28 species.

5th Sep São Miguel–Santa Maria

Birding in Ponta Delgada harbour at 7:15–8:10 a.m. Took the São Miguel–Santa Maria ferry at 8:10–12:00. Sea-watching at Santa Maria harbour at 12:00–14:00. Took the Santa Maria–São Miguel ferry at 14:00–18:00. Slept in a hostel in Ponta Delgada. 23 species.

6th Sep Terceira

Took flight São Miguel–Terceira at 7:30–8:15 a.m. and rented a car for a day at the airport. Route Cabo da Praia – Pavl da Praia (a little puddle on the outskirts of Praia da Vitória) – Praia da Vitória harbour. Slept in car at the quarry (Pavl do Cabo da Praia). 31 species.

7th Sep Terceira–Pico

Took the car back and then took a bus to Angra do Heroísmo. Took a ferry at 9:00 a.m. from Terceira (via São Jorge) to Pico. Route Madalena – São Mateus – Lajes do Pico in the afternoon. Slept in a hostel at Lajes do Pico. 24 species.

8th Sep Pico

Route Lajes do Pico – Lagoa do Capitão – Pavl da Landroal – Lagoa do Caiado – Lagoa Seca – Lajes do Pico. Slept in a hostel at Lajes do Pico. 25 species.

9th Sep Pico

Route Lajes do Pico – Lagoa do Capitão – Pavl da Landroal – Lagoa do Caiado – Lagoa Seca – São Roque do Pico – Cais do Pico – Madalena. Slept in a windmill next to Madalena harbour. 24 species.

10th Sep Pico–Terceira

Took a bus from Madalena harbour to Cais do Pico in the morning. Took the ferry (via São Jorge and Graciosa) to Terceira at 10:00–18:15. Took a bus back to Praia da Vitória and rented a car. Visited Pavl da Praia between 19:00–20:00. Slept in car at the quarry. 18 species.

11th Sep Terceira

Route Pavl do Cabo da Praia (the quarry) – Lagoa do Ginjal – Lagoa do Junco – Praia da Vitória. Slept in tent at the quarry. 37 species.

12th Sep Terceira

Route Pavl do Cabo da Praia (the quarry) – Angra do Heroísmo – São Mateus da Calheta – Praia da Vitória. Slept in tent at the quarry. 35 species.

13th Sep Terceira–Flores

Birding at the quarry until 9:30 a.m. Took the car back and took flight Terceira – Flores at 11:45–13:00. Rented a car at the airport on Flores. Route Santa Cruz – Lagoa Seca – Lagoa Branca – Fajã Grande – Ribeira Grande – Lagoa Rasa – Lagoa Funda – Lagoa da Lomba – Lagoa Branca. Slept in car at Fajã Grande. 28 species.

14th Sep Flores

Had a morning sea-watch at Fajã Grande. Route Fajã Grande – Lagoa Funda – Lagoa Comprida – Lagoa Branca – Lagoa Seca – Lagoa Rasa – Lagoa Funda – Lagoa da Lomba – Santa Cruz. Had an evening sea-watch at Santa Cruz. Slept at Paulo Faria's place. 27 species.

15th Sep Flores–São Miguel

Spent the morning on sea-watch at Ponta Delgada until 12:30. Took flight Flores – São Miguel at 13:30–15:30. Rented a car in the airport. Route Lagoa das Furnas – Lagoa do Congro – Lagoa do Fogo – Ribeira Grande. Slept in tent near Sete Cidades. 23 species.

16th Sep São Miguel

Had a morning sea-watch at Mosteiros, and then went birding at Sete Cidades (Lagoa Verde – Lagoa Azul – Lagoa de Santiago). Drove to Ponta Delgada in the afternoon and took the car back. Spent the evening and night at the airport and flew back home (via Lisbon and Paris) in the morning. 31 species.

SPECIES LIST

63 species were recorded during the 14 days of birding. Many of the numbers are mostly estimates (f ex, c20 = *circa* 20 individuals) made in the evening rather than accurately counted sums. These are meant to give at least some idea of how common or rare a species is on the islands. Estimated or counted daily totals are summed up for some species. These are of course not absolute totals of recorded individuals, simply summed up totals of daily records.

BLACK DUCK *Anas rubripes*

13th–14th Sep Flores at least 2 males 1 female at Lagoa Seca. There was a flock of 10 Black Duck/Mallard – type ducks at Lagoa Seca, of which at least three (2 males and 1 female) were identified as pure Black Ducks. The remaining seven individuals showed variable amount of characters, such as whitish sides of tail, some white bordering the speculum, brownish ‘Mallard-type’ barring on the flanks or chest etc., that made us suspect some influence of Mallard in these birds. We don’t have experience on the plumage variation in Black Duck, but at least based on literature it seems more likely that some of the birds on Flores are hybrids rather than pure Black Ducks.

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula*

11th–12th Sep Terceira 1 adult male eclipse at the quarry.

POCHARD *Aythya ferina*

4th & 16th Sep São Miguel 1 male at Lagoa Azul (most likely the same individual).

QUAIL *Coturnix coturnix conturbans*

Very common on Terceira, where the area between Praia da Vitória and Pavl da Cabo da Praia was particularly good. Highest counts were 20 individuals on 6th and 11th Sep. All observations: **3rd Sep** São Miguel 1 calling near the airport; **4th Sep** São Miguel 1 calling at Relva; **6th Sep** Terceira c20 (seen and heard); **8th Sep** Pico 2; **11th Sep** Terceira c20 (seen and heard) and **12th Sep** Terceira c15.

BULWER’S PETREL *Bulweria bulwerii*

5th Sep São Miguel – Santa Maria ferries 7.

CORY’S SHEARWATER *Calonectris diomedea borealis*

The summed up daily estimates produce over 55 000 birds during the trip. These numbers are really rough estimates due to the great (uncountable!) abundance of the species on the Azorean seaboard. The numbers ten-

ded to decrease towards the end of the trip, however. The greatest count (or estimate), 12 000 birds, was on the 4th Sep on a morning-to-noon sea-watch at Mosteiros, São Miguel. On Terceira we recorded an amazing in-flight (from the sea to the breeding grounds in the mountains) at dusk and even later in the evening. The birds are calling frequently and they seem to fly inlands in huge noisy flocks. Daily estimates: **3rd Sep** São Miguel c4 000; **4th Sep** São Miguel c12 000; **5th Sep** São Miguel – Santa Maria ferries c6 600; **6th Sep** Terceira c3 000; **7th Sep** Terceira – Pico ferry c10 800; **8th Sep** Pico c500; **9th Sep** Pico c1 000; **10th Sep** Pico – Terceira ferry c5 000; **11th Sep** Terceira c1 000; **12th Sep** Terceira c2 000; **13th Sep** Flores c200; **14th Sep** Flores c4 000; **15th Sep** Flores c2 000 (+c100 on São Miguel) and **16th Sep** São Miguel c3 500.

GREAT SHEARWATER *Puffinus gravis*

Daily estimates sum up over 1 200 individuals. On the contrary to the preceding species the numbers increased towards the end of the trip. Only single individuals were seen in the beginning, but the greatest counts involve c400 birds on the 10th Sep on the ferry from Pico to Terceira and on the 16th Sep at Mosteiros on São Miguel. Daily counts/estimates: **3rd Sep** São Miguel 1 off Ponta da Albufeira; **4th Sep** São Miguel 28 (26 Mosteiros, 2 Ponta Delgada); **5th Sep** São Miguel – Santa Maria ferries 3; **7th Sep** Terceira – Pico ferry 2; **10th Sep** Pico – Terceira ferry c400; **11th Sep** Terceira c80; **12th Sep** Terceira 10; **14th Sep** Flores c300; **15th Sep** Flores c20 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c400 at Mosteiros.

SOOTY SHEARWATER *Puffinus griseus*

A total of 14 individuals were seen. All observations: **7th Sep** Terceira – Pico ferry 1; **10th Sep** Pico – Terceira ferry 12 and **14th Sep** Flores 1 at Santa Cruz.

MANX SHEARWATER *Puffinus puffinus*

A total of c130 individuals were seen. These include some tens of unidentified Manx/Balearic/Yelkouan Shearwaters *P. puffinus/mauretanicus/yelkouan* seen from a great distance or only very briefly. All observa-

tions: **4th Sep** São Miguel 8 at Mosteiros; **5th Sep** São Miguel – Santa Maria ferry 2; **6th Sep** Terceira 1; **10th Sep** Pico – Terceira ferry 13; **14th Sep** Flores c45; **15th Sep** Flores 3 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c60 at Mosteiros.

LITTLE SHEARWATER *Puffinus assimilis baroli*
14th Sep Flores 4 at Santa Cruz in the afternoon were the only observed ones.

LEACH'S/MADEIRAN STORM-PETREL
Oceanodroma leucorhoa/castro
5th Sep Santa Maria – São Miguel ferry 1 distant individual.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta*
Only two birds: **9th Sep** Pico 1 at Madalena and **12th Sep** Terceira 1 flying south at the quarry.

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea*
Common but not very numerous, daily counts total c40 individuals. All records: **3rd Sep** São Miguel 1 at Lagoa do Fogo; **4th Sep** São Miguel 1 at Mosteiros; **6th Sep** Terceira 5 + calls in the evening; **7th Sep** Pico 4 at Lajes de Pico; **8th Sep** Pico 6; **9th Sep** Pico 6; **11th Sep** Terceira 2 (1 Lagoa do Ginjal, 1 Lagoa do Junco); **12th Sep** Terceira 1 juvenile at Pavl da Praia; **13th Sep** Terceira 1; **14th Sep** Flores 1; **15th Sep** São Miguel 7 and **16th Sep** São Miguel 4.

COMMON BUZZARD *Buteo buteo rothschildi*
Relatively common with best daily counts totalling up to 30 individuals on São Miguel. All daily counts: **3rd Sep** São Miguel c30; **4th Sep** São Miguel c30; **5th Sep** Santa Maria harbour 7; **6th Sep** Terceira 5; **7th Sep** São Jorge 3 (seen from the Terceira–Pico ferry); **7th Sep** Pico c10; **8th Sep** Pico 6; **9th Sep** Pico 4; **11th Sep** Terceira 5; **12th Sep** Terceira 6; **15th Sep** São Miguel 7 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c10.

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus*
Only on Terceira: **10th Sep** Terceira 17 at Pavl da Praia; **11th Sep** Terceira 22 (15 Pavl da Praia, 7 Lagoa do Ginjal) and **12th Sep** Terceira c10.

COOT *Fulica atra*
15th–16th Sep São Miguel 1 adult at Sete Cidades.

RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula*
Six or seven individuals: **5th Sep** São Miguel 1 adult; **6th Sep** Terceira 1 adult at the quarry; **11th Sep** Terceira 1 juvenile at the quarry; **11th–13th Sep** Terceira 3 adults at the quarry and **14th Sep** Flores 1 adult.

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER *Charadrius semipalmatus*
6th & 11th–13th Sep Terceira adult winter-plumage at the quarry (likely the same bird).

KENTISH PLOVER *Charadrius alexandrinus*
Fairly numerous at the quarry on Terceira: **6th Sep** Terceira c80; **11th Sep** Terceira c100; **12th Sep** Terceira c100 and **13th Sep** Terceira c80.

RED KNOT *Calidris canutus*
A total five birds: **6th Sep** Terceira 3 juveniles (2 at the quarry, 1 Pavl da Praia); **7th–8th Sep** Pico 1 juvenile and **11th–13th Sep** Terceira 1 juvenile.

SANDERLING *Calidris alba*
Common at the quarry on Terceira (c70 being the highest count), but also recorded elsewhere in suitable places. All records: **3rd Sep** São Miguel 2; **4th Sep** São Miguel c15; **5th Sep** São Miguel 1; **6th Sep** Terceira c70; **10th Sep** Pico 1; **11th Sep** Terceira c50; **12th Sep** Terceira c35; **13th Sep** Terceira c50; **14th Sep** Flores 3; **15th Sep** Flores 1 and **16th Sep** São Miguel 7.

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta*
11th–13th Sep Terceira 2 adults at the quarry.

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*
Only records were: **6th Sep** Terceira 3 adults and **11th–13th Sep** Terceira 2 adults.

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER *Calidris pusilla*
6th Sep Terceira 1 juvenile at the quarry.

LEAST SANDPIPER *Calidris minutilla*
6th Sep Terceira 1 adult 1 juvenile at the quarry.

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER *Calidris bairdii*
6th Sep Terceira 1 juvenile at Pavl da Praia.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER *Calidris melanotos*
Four individuals were seen: **11th–13th Sep** Terceira 1 juvenile at the quarry, **11th Sep** Terceira 1 adult at Lagoa do Ginjal and **12th Sep** Terceira 2 juveniles at Pavl da Praia.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER *Tryngites subruficollis*
11th–12th Sep Terceira 1 juvenile at the quarry.

RUFF *Philomachus pugnax*
4 birds were recorded: **4th Sep** São Miguel 1 at Lagoa Azul; **5th Sep** São Miguel 2 and **11th Sep** Terceira 1.

SNIFE *Gallinago gallinago*
Up to 14 individuals: **8th Sep** Pico 4; **9th Sep** Pico 1; **11th Sep** Terceira 8 and **14th Sep** Flores 1.

WOODCOCK *Scolopax rusticola*
14th Sep Flores 1.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa*
A total of six individuals were seen, including three juveniles of the subspecies *islandica*. All records: **6th & 11th Sep** Terceira 1 adult 1 juvenile; **13th Sep** Terceira 1 adult and **16th Sep** São Miguel 3 juveniles of the subspecies *islandica* at Sete Cidades.

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus phaeopus*
Common but scarce, with 22 birds on the 11th Sep on Terceira being the best daily total. All daily records: **3rd Sep** São Miguel 2 (1 Ponta dos Caetanos, 1 Vila Franca do Campo); **4th Sep** São Miguel 6; **5th Sep** São Miguel 2; **5th Sep** Santa Maria harbour 3; **6th Sep** Terceira 5;

7th Sep Pico 4; **8th Sep** Pico 5; **9th Sep** Pico 6; **10th Sep** Pico 1; **11th Sep** Terceira 22 (incl. a migrating flock of 14 birds to south); **12th Sep** Terceira c12; **13th Sep** Terceira 5; **13th Sep** Flores 1; **14th Sep** Flores 2; **15th Sep** Flores 2 and **16th Sep** São Miguel 4.

REDSHANK *Tringa totanus*

13th Sep Flores 1 at Lagoa Branca.

GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia*

Three birds: **7th–9th Sep** Pico 1 adult winter-plumage; **9th Sep** Pico 1 juvenile and **11th–13th Sep** Terceira 1 juvenile.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS *Tringa flavipes*

8th Sep Pico 1 juvenile in a nameless puddle up in the mountains near Pavl da Landroal.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER *Actitis macularius*

8th–9th Sep Pico 1 (possibly adult) at Lajes do Pico.

COMMON/ SPOTTED SANDPIPER *Actitis hypoleucos/macularius*

6th Sep Terceira 1 seen briefly in flight.

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres*

Common on all kinds of shores. Highest daily count was c80 on the **6th Sep** on Terceira. Daily records: **3rd Sep** São Miguel 8; **4th Sep** São Miguel c35; **5th Sep** São Miguel 7; **5th Sep** Santa Maria harbour 12; **6th Sep** Terceira c80; **7th Sep** Pico c25; **8th Sep** Pico c40; **9th Sep** Pico c45; **11th Sep** Terceira c70; **12th Sep** Terceira c50; **13th Sep** Terceira c50; **13th Sep** Flores 3; **14th Sep** Flores c20; **15th Sep** Flores c15 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c30.

WILSON'S PHALAROPE *Phalaropus tricolor*

16th Sep São Miguel 1 juvenile at Sete Cidades.

ARCTIC SKUA *Stercorarius parasiticus*

11 individuals in total, all observations: **3rd Sep** São Miguel 1 off Ponta da Albufeira; **4th Sep** São Miguel 3 at Vila Franca do Campo; **5th Sep** Santa Maria harbour 1; **10th Sep** Pico – Terceira ferry 4 and **16th Sep** São Miguel 1 adult 1 juvenile at Mosteiros.

LONG-TAILED SKUA *Stercorarius longicaudus*

7th Sep Terceira – Pico ferry 2 adults.

POMARINE/ARCTIC/LONG-TAILED SKUA

Stercorarius pomarinus/parasiticus/longicaudus

10th Sep Pico – Terceira ferry 2 distant birds.

GREAT SKUA *Stercorarius skua*

5th Sep São Miguel – Santa Maria ferry 1 adult heading south.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus*

Three birds: **3rd Sep** São Miguel 1 at Lagoa das Furnas; **6th Sep** Terceira 1 adult and **12th Sep** Terceira 2nd cal-year.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus graellsii/intermedius*

Daily counts sum up c110 birds and the biggest concentration was c50 on the **11th Sep** on Terceira. All records: **3rd Sep** São Miguel 8 (1 adult Villa Franca do Campo and 7 Lagoa do Fogo); **5th Sep** São Miguel 2 adults; **7th Sep** Terceira 2 adults; **8th Sep** Pico 1 adult; **9th Sep** Pico 2 adults; **11th Sep** Terceira c50; **12th Sep** Terceira c10; **13th Sep** Flores 3 adults; **14th Sep** Flores 3 adults; **15th Sep** São Miguel 8 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c25.

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL *Larus michahellis atlantis*

Very common on all kind of shores and harbours. The greatest estimate was c5 000 on the **3rd Sep** on São Miguel. Otherwise some hundreds seen almost daily. All daily counts: **3rd Sep** São Miguel c5 000; **4th Sep** São Miguel c1 000; **5th Sep** Santa Maria harbour c40; **6th Sep** Terceira c400; **7th Sep** Pico c200; **8th Sep** Pico c100; **9th Sep** Pico c250; **11th Sep** Terceira c2 000; **12th Sep** Terceira c250; **13th Sep** Flores c50; **14th Sep** Flores c250; **15th Sep** Flores c50; **15th Sep** São Miguel c60 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c350.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus marinus*

Four birds were seen: **3rd Sep** São Miguel 2 2nd cal-year at Vila Franca do Campo; **14th Sep** Flores 1 adult and **16th Sep** São Miguel 1 juvenile.

ROSEATE TERN *Sterna dougallii*

Seen on eight days with the best count being c70 on the **12th Sep** on Terceira. The harbour of Praia da Vitória seemed to be the best location. All records: **4th Sep** São Miguel 2 adults 1 juvenile at Mosteiros; **6th Sep** Terceira c20 at Praia da Vitória harbour; **7th Sep** Terceira 8 at Angra do Heroísmo harbour; **7th Sep** Pico c20; **9th Sep** Pico 12; **11th Sep** Terceira c30; **12th Sep** Terceira c70; **14th Sep** Flores 3 and **16th Sep** São Miguel 6.

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo*

Very common and numerous. The highest numbers, c600 birds, were recorded both on the **4th Sep** on São Miguel and on the **6th Sep** on Terceira. All daily estimates: **3rd Sep** São Miguel c400; **4th Sep** São Miguel c600; **5th Sep** Santa Maria harbour c70; **6th Sep** Terceira c600; **7th Sep** Pico c500; **8th Sep** Pico c300; **9th Sep** Pico c400; **11th Sep** Terceira c300; **12th Sep** Terceira c500; **13th Sep** Flores c20; **14th Sep** Flores c70; **15th Sep** Flores c20; **15th Sep** São Miguel c15 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c150.

ROCK DOVE *Columba livia*

Abundant, recorded every day. The highest estimate was c200 on the **3rd Sep** on Terceira.

WOOD PIGEON *Columba palumbus azorica*

Common, with a total of >70 individuals recorded. All records: **3rd Sep** São Miguel c10; **4th Sep** São Miguel 1 at Lagoa Azul; **6th Sep** Terceira 2; **7th Sep** Pico 3; **8th Sep** Pico 5; **9th Sep** Pico 5; **11th Sep** Terceira 15; **12th Sep** Terceira c15; **15th Sep** São Miguel 10 and **16th Sep** São Miguel 7.

LONG-EARED OWL *Asio otus*

5th Sep São Miguel 1 at dawn near the airport.

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea patriciae*

A very common species that occurred throughout the islands. The highest daily estimate was c50 on the 3rd Sep on Terceira. Daily totals: **3rd Sep** São Miguel n50; **4th Sep** São Miguel c25; **5th Sep** Santa Maria harbour 4; **6th Sep** Terceira c30; **7th Sep** Pico c30; **8th Sep** Pico c40; **9th Sep** Pico c40; **11th Sep** Terceira c20; **12th Sep** Terceira c15; **13th Sep** Flores c20; **14th Sep** Flores c30; **15th Sep** Flores c15; **15th Sep** São Miguel c30 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c20.

ROBIN *Erithacus rubecula*

A common species all though not very numerous. All records: **3rd Sep** São Miguel 4; **4th Sep** São Miguel c12; **6th Sep** Terceira 4; **7th Sep** Pico 5; **8th Sep** Pico 4; **9th Sep** Pico 8; **11th Sep** Terceira 5; **12th Sep** Terceira 5; **15th Sep** São Miguel 12 and **16th Sep** São Miguel 8.

BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula azorensis*

A very common species in all kinds of habitats, with the best daily estimates being c40 on the 3rd Sep on São Miguel and on the 14th Sep on Flores. All daily sums: **3rd Sep** São Miguel c40; **4th Sep** São Miguel c25; **6th Sep** Terceira 5; **7th Sep** Pico 12; **8th Sep** Pico 20; **9th Sep** Pico c20; **11th Sep** Terceira c15; **12th Sep** Terceira 10; **13th Sep** Flores 10; **14th Sep** Flores c40; **15th Sep** Flores c30; **15th Sep** São Miguel c15 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c20.

BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla gularis*

Like Blackbird, but more confined to gardens and forests. Highest count was c70 on the 14th Sep on Flores. All daily totals: **3rd Sep** São Miguel c40; **4th Sep** São Miguel c30; **7th Sep** Pico 10; **8th Sep** Pico 10; **9th Sep** Pico 6; **11th Sep** Terceira 3; **12th Sep** Terceira 8; **13th Sep** Flores c20; **14th Sep** Flores c70; **15th Sep** Flores c10; **15th Sep** São Miguel 5 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c15.

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus inermis*

Common in right kind of forest habitats up on high elevations. All observations: **8th Sep** Pico c15; **9th Sep** Pico 6; **13th Sep** Flores c25; **14th Sep** Flores c20 and **15th Sep** Flores 5.

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus azoricus*

Common in suitable forest habitats on São Miguel (only). All daily totals: **3rd Sep** São Miguel c25; **4th Sep** São Miguel c15; **15th Sep** São Miguel 10 and **16th Sep** São Miguel 5.

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris granti*

An abundant species in the countryside. Highest estimates were c200 individuals on the 3rd Sep on São Miguel and on the 9th Sep on Pico. All daily estimates: **3rd Sep** São Miguel c200; **4th Sep** São Miguel c120; **5th Sep** Santa Maria harbour c25; **6th Sep** Terceira c70; **7th Sep** Terceira c150; **7th Sep** Pico c50; **8th Sep** Pico c50; **9th Sep** Pico c200; **10th Sep** Pico c100; **11th Sep** Terceira c150; **12th Sep** Terceira c70; **13th Sep** Flores c40; **14th Sep** Flores c60; **15th Sep** Flores c35; **15th Sep** São Miguel c50 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c80.

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus*

Abundant, recorded every day, mostly in urban areas. Highest estimate was c700 birds on the 3rd Sep on São Miguel.

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs moreletti*

Abundant in forest habitats and on high elevations, with the highest estimate being c300 birds on the 14th Sep on Pico. Daily estimates: **3rd Sep** São Miguel c80; **4th Sep** São Miguel c25; **6th Sep** Terceira c20; **7th Sep** Pico c200; **8th Sep** Pico c300; **9th Sep** Pico c200; **11th Sep** Terceira c10; **12th Sep** Terceira 5; **13th Sep** Flores c40; **14th Sep** Flores c40; **15th Sep** Flores c30; **15th Sep** São Miguel c30 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c60.

BULLFINCH *Pyrrhula pyrrhula murina*

3rd Sep São Miguel 14 at Serra da Tronqueira, most birds at the top, at the end of the road. Three 1st-years still in their post-juvenile moult were seen.

CANARY *Serinus canaria*

Like Chaffinch but mostly on rural areas and on lower elevations. Highest daily total was c300 on the 11th Sep on Terceira. Daily totals: **3rd Sep** São Miguel c15; **4th Sep** São Miguel 8; **5th Sep** Santa Maria harbour 4; **6th Sep** Terceira c15; **7th Sep** Terceira 5; **7th Sep** Pico c40; **8th Sep** Pico c70; **9th Sep** Pico c150; **10th Sep** Pico c20; **11th Sep** Terceira c300; **12th Sep** Terceira c200; **13th Sep** Terceira c50; **13th Sep** Flores c80; **14th Sep** Flores c200; **15th Sep** Flores c150; **15th Sep** São Miguel c30 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c150.

GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris vanmarli*

Recorded only twice: **4th Sep** São Miguel 2 and **16th Sep** São Miguel 10.

GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis parva*

Observed only on five days but with relatively good numbers: **3rd Sep** São Miguel c30; **4th Sep** São Miguel c40; **11th Sep** Terceira 1; **12th Sep** Terceira 1 and **16th Sep** São Miguel c40.