

Botswana Bird List: Category A Rarities

The Category A rarities list comprises species that have been recorded ten or less times in recent years. All accepted records on the Category A rarities lists have been substantiated by a description or a photograph.

The last Category A rarities list was published in 2009 (Brewster, C.A. *Babbler* 52: 49-52). This list updates that list. Since 2009 a number of species have been added to the list as they were recorded in Botswana for the first time. Currently 598 species have been recorded in Botswana. Since 2009 a number of species have been removed from the Category A list to the Category B rarities list because ten or more records have been accepted by the Records Subcommittee.

On the list below, for species where it is noted 'except for Kasane area' (because the species is well-known from this area), a description or photograph is only required for records of birds outside of that area. Records of these species from the Kasane area can be summarised under Category B sightings.

In column 3, A = fewer than 3 substantiated records, B = 3-6 records, C = 7-10 records

Species	Latin name	No. records / remarks
Crested Guineafowl	<i>Guttera pucherani</i>	A
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	1 specimen
Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	B
Green-backed Honeybird	<i>Prodotiscus zambesiae</i>	B
Olive Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos griseocephalus</i>	A
Crowned Hornbill	<i>Tockus alboterminatus</i>	A
Half-collared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo semitorquate</i>	Except for Kasane area
Madagascar Bee-eater	<i>Merops superciliosus</i>	B
Grey-headed Parrot	<i>Poicephalus suahelicus</i>	C
Rosy-faced Lovebird	<i>Agapornis roseicollis</i>	A
Böhm's Spinetail	<i>Neafrapus boehmi</i>	B
Bradfield's Swift	<i>Apus bradfieldi</i>	A
Schalow's Turaco	<i>Tauraco schalowi</i>	Except for Kasane area
Ross's Turaco	<i>Musophaga rossae</i>	A
Purple-crested Turaco	<i>Musophaga porphyreolopha</i>	A
African Grass Owl	<i>Tyto capensis</i>	B
European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	B
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	B
Ludwig's Bustard	<i>Neotis ludwigii</i>	B

White-bellied Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis senegalensis</i>	A
Blue Crane	<i>Anthropoides paradisea</i>	C
Buff-spotted Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura elegans</i>	A
Corn Crane	<i>Crex crex</i>	C
Baillon's Crane	<i>Porzana pusilla</i>	B
Great Snipe	<i>Gallinago media</i>	C
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	B
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	B
Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	A
Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	A
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	A
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	A
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	A
Red Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicaria</i>	B
Greater Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius leshenaultii</i>	A
Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	A
Burchell's Courser	<i>Cursorius rufus</i>	B
Rock Pratincole	<i>Glaereola nuchalis</i>	Except for Kasane area
Long-tailed Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	A
Common Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	B
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Sterna nilotica</i>	A
Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>	A (one old record)
Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	B
Black Harrier	<i>Circus maurus</i>	B
African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>	Except for Kasane area
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>	A
Augur Buzzard	<i>Buteo augur</i>	B
Red-necked Buzzard	<i>Buteo auguralis</i>	A
African Crowned Eagle	<i>Stephanoaetus coronatus</i>	A
Sooty Falcon	<i>Falco concolor</i>	A
Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	B
Greater Frigatebird	<i>Fregata minor</i>	A
African Pitta	<i>Pitta angolensis</i>	A
African Broadbill	<i>Smithornis capensis</i>	A
Cape Batis	<i>Batis capensis</i>	A
White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>	A
Souza's Shrike	<i>Lanius souzae</i>	A
Rufous-bellied Tit	<i>Parus rufiventris</i>	A
Angola Swallow	<i>Hirundo angolensis</i>	A

Black Saw-wing	<i>Psalidoprocne pristoptera</i>	B
Eastern Nicator	<i>Nicator gularis</i>	A
Basra Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus griseldis</i>	A
Dark-capped Yellow Warbler	<i>Chloropeta natalensis</i>	A
Orange River White-eye	<i>Zosterops pallidus</i>	A
Levaillant's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>	B
Croaking Cisticola	<i>Cisticola natalensis</i>	B
Cloud Cisticola	<i>Cisticola textrix</i>	A
Pale-crowned Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cinnamomeus</i>	A
Melodious Lark	<i>Mirafra cheniana</i>	B
Black-eared Sparrow-lark	<i>Eremopterix verticallis</i>	A
Spotted Creeper	<i>Salpornis salvadori</i>	A
Miombo Rock-Thrush	<i>Monticola angolensis</i>	Except for Kasane area
Cape Robin-chat	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>	B
Red-capped Robin-chat	<i>Cossypha natalensis</i>	A
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	A
Mountain Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe monticola</i>	B
Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	A
Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pieschlanka</i>	A
Sickle-winged Chat	<i>Cercomela sinuata</i>	A
Pale-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus naboroupp</i>	A
Miombo Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis elisabeth</i>	B
Rose-coloured Starling	<i>Sturnus roseus</i>	A
Copper Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris cuprea</i>	Except for Kasane area
Shelley's Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris shelleyi</i>	A
Red-headed Quelea	<i>Quelea erythrops</i>	Except for Kasane area
Red-collared Widowbird	<i>Euplectes ardens</i>	A
Locustfinch	<i>Ortygospiza locustella</i>	A
Magpie Mannikin	<i>Lonchura fringilloides</i>	B
Northern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>	Except for Kasane area
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	B
Mountain Wagtail	<i>Motacilla clara</i>	B
Mountain Pipit	<i>Anthus hoeschi</i>	C
Wood Pipit	<i>Anthus nyassae</i>	B
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	C
Black-headed Canary	<i>Alario alario</i>	A
Black-eared Seed-eater	<i>Serinus mennelli</i>	B
Cape Bunting	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>	A