

Wintering Warbler Survey 2005/06



Survey Aims - The main aims of this survey are to find out how many individuals spend the winter in Britain and Ireland and which habitats they occur in. This information will also be used to update the previous national BTO surveys (Blackcap only), which were undertaken in 1945-54 and 1978/79.

Methods - All records from any sites visited during the survey period are required. These may consist of daily observations from your garden or visits to local bird watching sites. However, regular counts, are particularly requested from the following types of location: **i)** gardens & parks, **ii)** sewage works, **iii)** wetlands/water bodies, **iv)** rivers/canals and **v)** coastal sites – please contact Greg Conway for details of sites to be surveyed in your area.

Access and Safety - All observations for this survey are to be made from public rights of way. **DO NOT ENTER** (under any circumstances), a private site unless you have current permission from all the landowners concerned.

How, when and what to record.

Survey period - 1st November 2004 to 31st March 2005 (15th April for Blackcap only).

Species to record - Blackcap, Chiffchaff, Firecrest and any other warbler species, including resident species eg. Dartford Warbler and Cetti's Warbler (Goldcrest optional).

Using the recording form - Please use a single line of the recording form for each species at a site on a single date (see example below).

Site details - Please provide the following if available: 1) site name (as appearing on an OS Map), 2) county name and 3) a four-figure grid reference (or postcode).

Counts details - Record the maximum number of each species, both seen and or heard, in the **Total column**. Enter the number of each sex, if known (mainly Blackcap), in the **Male** and **Female columns**. All individuals in song should be noted in the **Singing column**.

Habitat details - Describe the general habitat for the area where each bird or group is found. Some examples of the main types are listed below, include others if required:

- | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| ~ Garden | ~ Woodland (dry) | ~ Marshland | ~ Pond/Lake/Gravel Pit | ~ Beach |
| ~ Park | ~ Woodland (water-logged) | ~ Reed bed | ~ Stream/River/Canal | ~ Cliff |
| ~ Derelict ground | ~ Hedgerow | ~ Sewage Treatment works | ~ Estuary | ~ Quarry |

Notes

Food items - List the types of food consumed, if possible. Examples include: Berries/Fruits (name species if known), Fat, Bread, Peanuts, Apples, Insects, Nectar, etc.

Other information – Please include any of the following: additional habitat details, notes on behaviour, Chiffchaffs with grey plumage, details of birds with colour rings etc.

Recording Form - EXAMPLE

Site Name (From OS Map)	County	Grid Ref or Postcode	Date (1/2/06)	Species	Number of individuals				Habitat	Notes (Food items, grey plumage Chiffchaffs, additional habitat information, behaviour, etc.)
					Total	Male	Fem	Singing		
Thetford	Norfolk	TL8583	1/12/05	Chiffchaff	2	1		1	Sewage works	One grey individual. Both feeding on filterbeds.
“	“	TL8684	“	Blackcap	2	1	1		Garden	Feeding on fat at bird table.
Thorpeness	Suffolk	TM4659	5/12/05	Blackcap	1	1			Water-logged wood	Willow and Alder.

Please return completed survey forms by 30th April 2006 to: Greg Conway, BTO, The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk IP24 2PU. Email: greg.conway@bto.org Tel.: 01842 750050.