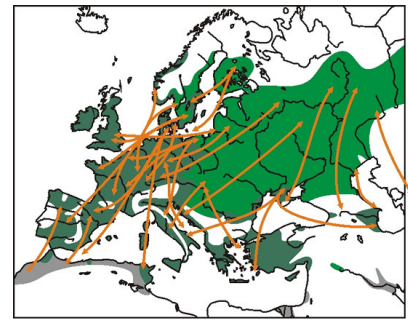


## Common Coot (*Fulica atra*) movements

This species breeds in a large part of Europe, except the northern part, and in a band across Asia to eastern China and Japan. The Common Coot also breeds in India and southeastern Asia as well as in most of Australia. Coots are residents or partial migrants in western Europe and in the southern part of the breeding range, while birds breeding inland in eastern and northern Europe and Asia are migratory.

Coot have been ringed in many countries and the largest numbers of recoveries are available from the Netherlands, Switzerland, Denmark and Britain & Ireland. Recoveries during the winter months (December – February) are spread out in western and southern Europe, with concentrations in Britain & Ireland, France, the Netherlands, Germany and Denmark. The return migration starts in February-March and continues until May in the northeastern part of Europe. Migratory movements during autumn are mainly directed W-S from breeding areas in Russia, Finland and Scandinavia. Most of those birds stay in western and central Europe, but some continue as far south as North Africa. Breeding birds in western and southwestern Europe are mainly resident but some movements can occur. Coots breeding in eastern Europe move S-SE to Italy, Balkan and Tunis. Birds breeding in the Ukraine, southeast Russia and southwest Siberia migrate SW-SE to the Black Sea, the eastern Mediterranean and the Caspian Sea and eastern birds also move to the Persian Gulf as well as Pakistan and northwestern India. The autumn migration takes place mainly during the period September-October. The winter distribution in the north depends on the severity of winter weather and ice cover, which can result in cold weather movements. Moulting migration is known to occur during summer and large concentrations of moulting Coots are found in Denmark, southern Germany and in the northern part of the Black Sea.



Coot *Fulica atra*  
Distribution Map: Bauer, Bezzel & Fiedler 2006, AULA-Verlag

**Figure 1:** Map depicting the movements of Common Coot (*Fulica atra*) based on published information and ring recoveries in the EURING Data Bank.

**Table 1.** Summary of the movements of Common Coot (*Fulica atra*) from the literature based on published information and ring recoveries in the EURING Data Bank.

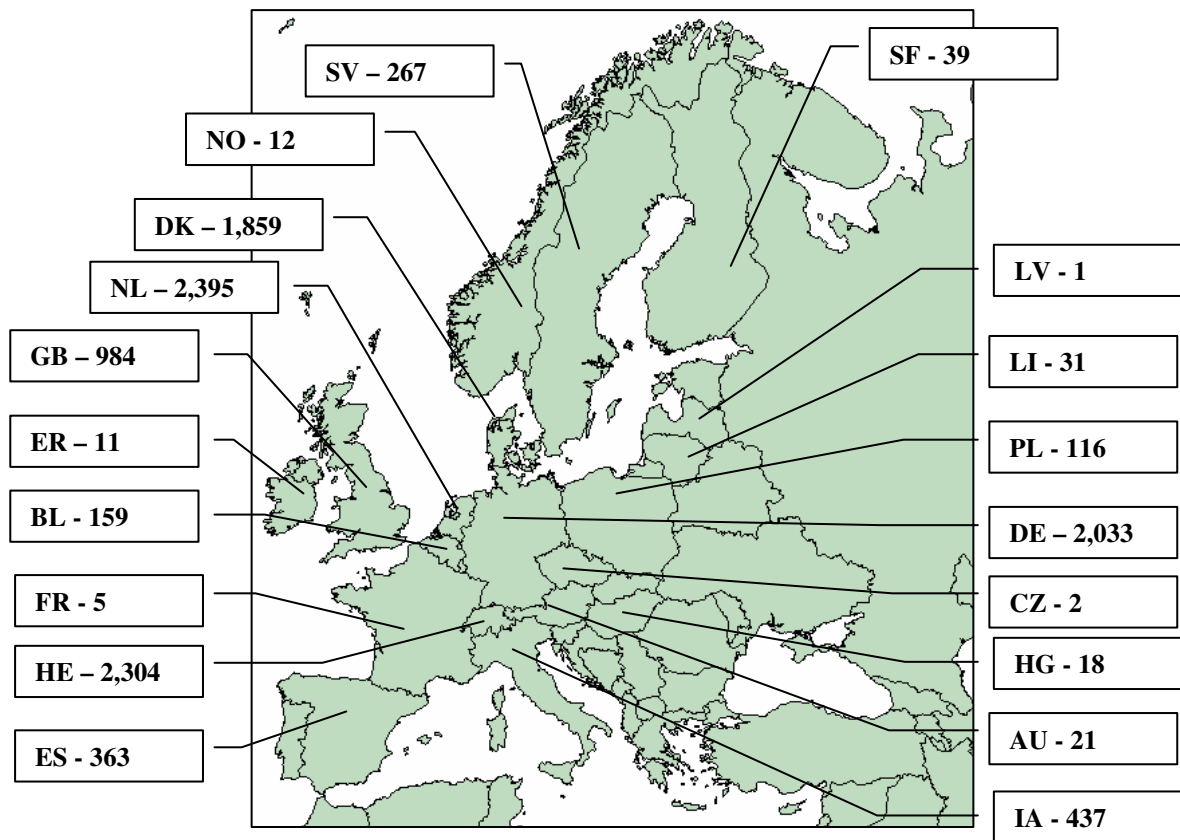
**Common Coot *Fulica atra***

**Distribution:** Whole Eurasia from Atlantic islands to Japan, also Northern Africa (southward to Senegal), Arabia.

**Moult:** Postnuptial moult of flight feathers June to October; moult migration in various directions possible in late Summer (concentrations e.g. Denmark, Southern Germany etc.)

Population or part of population	Autumn Migration		Wintering/Non-breeding Grounds		Spring Migration		References
	Direction/via	during	location	during	Direction/via	during	
Finland	Sweden, Baltic	Sept-Oct	UK, Germany, Switzerland				1
Sweden, southern Norway		Sept-Oct	Western Europe, southwards to Spain; partial migrant in southern Sweden				1, 9
Baltic		Sept-Oct	UK, Germany, Benelux, France, Spain, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Czech republic, Yugoslavia, Romania, Tunisia Spain; partial migrant in southern and western parts of the Baltic				1, 17
northern Russia	Baltic	Sept-Oct	central and western Europe				1, 3
Volga delta			western coast of Caspian Sea				16
southeast Russia / southwest Siberia	Caspian Sea / Aral lake region		area between Caspian Sea, easternmost Mediterranean and Persian Gulf.				16
upper Ob / Irtysh	area between Aral lake and Balshasch lake		Afghanistan, Pakistan, northwestern India				16
Ukraine			central to eastern Mediterranean, Caucasia, Caspian Sea				16
Denmark		Sept-Oct	UK, Ireland, Benelux, Switzerland, western Mediterranean incl. Tunisia; partial migrant.				1
Poland		Sept-Oct	Benelux, Switzerland, Germany, Italy; partial migrant at least in western part of Poland				1

Czech Republic, Slovakia		Oct-Nov	Germany, Austria, Switzerland, central and western Mediterranean south to Tunisia; partial migrant at least in the western part				1, 16
Hungary			central Mediterranean (Italy, Balkan, western Turkey)				16
UK			UK (mostly resident, moult migrations known)				3
Germany		Oct-Nov	Switzerland, Czech rep., UK, France, Spain, Italy, Turkey and Yugoslavia; partial migrant throughout the country				1
Benelux	NW France	Oct-Nov	UK, western and southern France, northern Spain; partial migrant				1, 2
Switzerland		Oct-Nov	France, Spain; partial migrant				1
France		Oct-Nov	Spain, Portugal, Italy; partial migrant				1
Spain		Oct-Nov	Portugal, Morocco; partial migrant				1



**Figure 2.** Country of ringing and numbers of recoveries of birds featured in maps of finding locations – Common Coot (*Fulica atra*).