



BirdWatchIreland



# Garden Bird Survey 2011/2012

## Instructions for filling out survey form

**Starting Date: Monday, 28th November 2011**

### First, please read these notes

- You may count birds that come into your garden even if they are not feeding on the food you put out for them.
- Please **don't** count birds that you see **outside the garden**, such as flocks of Whooper Swans or Lapwings on nearby lakes and fields, or those flying overhead.
- If you see some birds almost every day, remember that we only want your highest count for a species in a given week.

### Your name and address

Please provide your forename, surname and full address. It is important to provide these details even if you have taken part in the survey before!

Please use **BLOCK CAPITALS**

Forename

Surname

Address

Email

For office use only

### Details of your garden

State whether your garden is:  
(tick appropriate box)

- Urban** (in a city centre)
- Suburban** (on the edge of a town or city)
- Rural** (in or beside open country or farmland)

Has the garden been counted previously? Yes  No

How large is your garden?

Half tennis court-size or smaller

Approximately tennis court-size

Larger than a tennis court

Greater than one acre

Are berries present in your garden? Yes  No

Do you provide food for birds in your garden? Yes  No

If 'yes', please state whether you provide:

- Peanut feeders Yes  No
- Bird seed Yes  No
- Nyjer seed in feeders Yes  No
- Scraps on bird table/ground Yes  No
- Fruit (e.g., apples for Blackcaps) Yes  No
- Fat/suet/"bird cake" Yes  No

### Weekly counts

- Count and record birds that come into your garden.
- Each week, enter the highest number (peak count) of birds of each species you observed at any one time during that week. For example, if five was the highest number of Blue Tits you saw at one time during the week, enter '5' on the record sheet.
- Count as accurately as possible. Please do not use plus signs as we do not know whether it means as little as 1 or as much as 500!
- Feral pigeons and racing pigeons should be counted.
- Birds of prey seen hunting in your survey area should be counted (e.g., a hovering Kestrel).
- If observations are not made during any week, please leave the **appropriate column blank**.
- **When a species is not recorded in a particular week, leave the space blank.**
- Only count the species which you can positively identify.

### Additional species

Species identified which are not on the list (on the other side of this sheet) should be entered in the spaces provided.

### You can submit your results online

If you can, please submit your results online; it will save us time. You can do this via [www.birdwatchireland.ie](http://www.birdwatchireland.ie), our website; simply click on 'Online Surveys.' The instructions are easy to follow. However, if you prefer, simply pop your form in the post. But do not post it if you have filled in the online form. We need one or the other – but not both! Thank you very much.

### Please make a donation

The Garden Bird Survey is free because we like to encourage as many as possible to take part. However, updating the database every year and crunching the numbers takes time and money. We would be grateful for any help in defraying the costs. Please send a donation to BirdWatch Ireland. It will be invaluable to the survey.

# Table for recording birds (weekly counts)

Week starting Monday:

28 Nov	5 Dec	12 Dec	19 Dec	26 Dec	2 Jan	9 Jan	16 Jan	23 Jan	30 Jan	6 Feb	13 Feb	20 Feb
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1	Sparrowhawk ▶											
2	Feral Pigeon ▶											
3	Woodpigeon ▶											
4	Collared Dove ▶											
5	Grey Wagtail ▶											
6	Pied Wagtail ▶											
7	Wren ▶											
8	Dunnock ▶											
9	Robin ▶											
10	Blackbird ▶											
11	Fieldfare ▶											
12	Song Thrush ▶											
13	Redwing ▶											
14	Mistle Thrush ▶											
15	Blackcap ▶											
16	Goldcrest ▶											
17	Long-tailed Tit ▶											
18	Coal Tit ▶											
19	Blue Tit ▶											
20	Great Tit ▶											
21	Magpie ▶											
22	Jackdaw ▶											
23	Rook ▶											
24	Hooded Crow ▶											
25	Starling ▶											
26	House Sparrow ▶											
27	Chaffinch ▶											
28	Greenfinch ▶											
29	Goldfinch ▶											
30	Siskin ▶											
31	Bullfinch ▶											
32	Redpoll ▶											
33	other ▶											
34	other ▶											
35	other ▶											
36	other ▶											
37	other ▶											



Please return completed form not later than 1st April 2012 to  
**Garden BirdWatch, BirdWatch Ireland, Unit 20, Block D, Bullford Business Campus, Kilcoole, Co Wicklow**

