

Collared Pratincole

Glareola pratincola

Category A

Very rare vagrant

1 record

In Europe breeds mainly around the Mediterranean Basin and the Black Sea where it is patchily distributed due to its fairly exacting habitat requirements. Winters in Africa along the southern edge of the Sahara from Senegal to Ethiopia.

There had been 101 accepted British records up to the end of 2010. The first two Kent records in 1976 and 1977 occurred in autumn but the 8 since have all been in spring (in May or June). Records have been fairly well spread from Dungeness (2), Walland Marsh, Worth, Pegwell Bay, Minster (Thanet), Grove Ferry, Swale and Cliffe. There have also been three occurrences of pratincoles in the county which could not be specifically identified (in October 1962, in May 1971 and in June 1983).

The only area record, which recently came to light through research for '*The Birds of Folkestone and Hythe*' project, is as follows:

1997 North Road (Hythe), one flew over, 2nd May (P. Howe)