

The autumn migration at Akraberg, Faroe Islands, 1982

Dorete Bloch & Søren Sørensen

Introduction.

As early as 1949, in one year, Kenneth Williamson and Niels á Botni compared the bird migration on Nólsoy and Fair Isle (Williamson & á Botni, 1951). On page 124 they write, »...and it is to be hoped that a bird station (on the Faroe Islands) can be founded in a few years.«

These last years have seen a growing ornithological activity on the Faroe Islands (Bloch 1981, Bloch & Bengtson 1983, Bloch & Sørensen 1984, Sørensen & Skeldahl 1983). Consequently it was obvious to follow up the quantitative bird census of 1981 by another preliminary study for the establishing of a bird station. European experiences were the basis that made Akraberg the choice (figure 1), as we assumed, owing to its situation alone, the southernmost point of the country would be a place where migrating birds would gather.

The Danish-Faroese Cultural Foundation kindly granted one month of observation for one person, The Royal Danish Administration of Navigation and Hydrography most kindly placed lighthouse quarters at Akraberg at the experiment's disposal. In this connection we wish to thank Leon Heinesen,

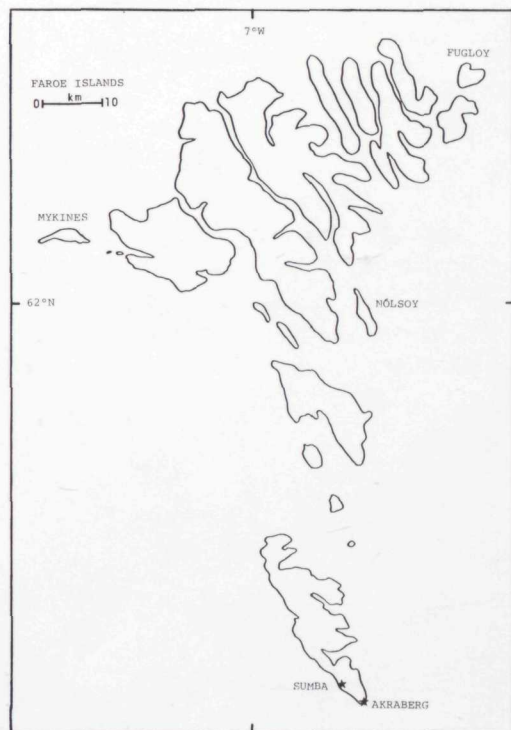


Fig. 1. The Faroe Islands with the names of the places mentioned in the paper.

lighthouse keeper, for his most valuable assistance.

We want to thank all these, and especially



Fig. 2. Akraberg with the lighthouse. Photo Matrikulstovan, Tórshavn.



Fig. 3. The area at Sumba and Akraberg with districts.

the staff at Akraberg for their help and for the interest they took in the bird migration.

Also we thank Dr. Jon Fjeldsø of The Zoological Museum of Copenhagen who placed the collection of feathered skins at disposal previous to the observations. In this way, Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* and Redwing *Turdus iliacus* were examined with a view to the identification of subspecies in the field. The Meteorological Office in Copenhagen also helped to establish a survey of the weather conditions during the period.

We thank lecturer Jørgen Rabøl, Copenhagen, for his critical reading of the manuscript.

A detailed report in English of the period of observation is to be found in the bird department of Føroya Náttúrugripasavn, Tórshavn.

In connection with the drawing out of the report and the manuscript, especially cand. mag. Jørn Skeldahl has been of inestimable help.



Fig. 4. South end of Suðuroy with Akraberg and Sumba. Photo Matrikulstovan, Tórshavn.

Description of the territory.

The lighthouse at Akraberg is situated at an altitude of 80 metres above the sea on a small cape with a steep rock face to the sea (figure 2 and 3). Behind it, there is an even slope towards Knúkur (330 metres above sea level), 2 km to the NNW. The whole territory consists of grass-heaths grazed by sheep with remnants of old peat bogs. There are no small lakes.

1 km towards the NW the village of Sumba is situated (figure 4), covering 500 metres with many gardens containing low bushes and a coastline offering opportunities of foraging. The west- and southcoast between

Sumba and Akraberg has been divided into fields for sheep-grazing and hay harvest. The vegetation there is a little richer than behind Sumba and Akraberg.

Method. Observations.

The period of observation was from September 17th to October 11th, 1982 — consequently there were 25 days of observation.

During the period there were unusually many days of easterly winds (table 1). Already Salomonsen (1935) and Williamson & á Botni (1951) have called attention to easterly wind

Table 1.

Survey of the weather at 9.00 a.m. at Akraberg.

Date	Dir. of Wind	Force in knots	Precipitation	Temp °C	Cloud Cover	Visibility
17/9	SW	25	÷	9	6/8	good
18/9	SW	12	÷	9	2/8	good
19/9	SW	12	÷	8	2/8	good
20/9	NE	8	rain	8	8/8	moderate
21/9	NNW	28	rain	7	8/8	moderate
22/9	NNW	8	÷	6	6/8	good
23/9	ESE	30	÷	7	8/8	good
24/9	SE	9	÷	8	2/8	good
25/9	E	33	÷	8	8/8	fog
26/9	ENE	12	÷	8	8/8	poor
27/9	WNW	12	drizzle	7	8/8	poor
28/9	W	12	rain	7	8/8	moderate
29/9	SSW	20	÷	8	5/8	good
30/9	S	14	÷	7	3/8	good
1/10	SSW	32	÷	8	8/8	good
2/10	SW	24	÷	8	3/8	moderate
3/10	SW	12	÷	10	2/8	moderate
4/10	SE	6	÷	9	8/8	fog
5/10	E	30	rain	10	8/8	poor
6/10	NNE	20	showers	6	8/8	moderate
7/10	NE	24	÷	7	8/8	good
8/10	NE	28	÷	6	8/8	good
9/10	NE	12	÷	6	8/8	good
10/10	E	8	÷	7	6/8	good
11/10	SE	8	÷	8	3/8	good

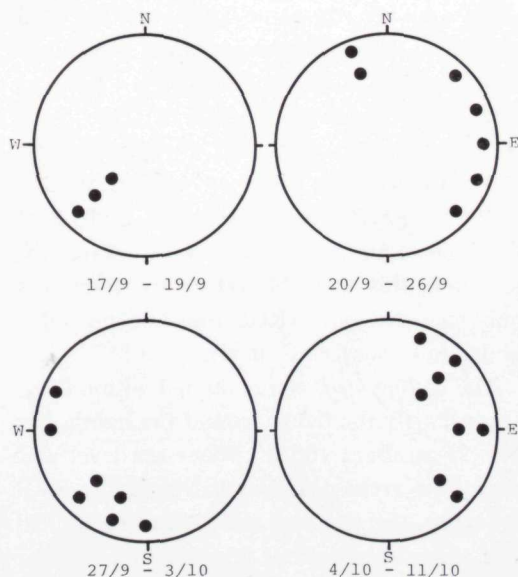


Fig. 5. The distribution of wind-directions during the observation period.

directions, which make migration from the Scandinavian mainland possible. Table 2 has been made on the basis of weather maps from The Meteorological Institute. Table 1 and figure 5 show the weather situation at the weather station at Akraberg at 9.00 a.m. not considering possible changes later in the day.

The work had to have a very experimenting character based on confident prospects of Akraberg as a permanent place of observing migrating birds. The daily activity was determined by the intention of recording 1) migrating birds above sea and land, 2) resting birds on land primarily.

The weather conditions and the number of birds seen in the morning determined where the observations took place later in the day.

Table 2.

Days with wind conditions above Scandinavia and the Baltic area favourable for wind assisted migration to the Faroes.

Winds	NE	E and SE	SE to S
Date	Sep. 19th		
	- 20th	Sep. 20th	
		- 23th	
	- 24th	- 24th	Sep. 24th
	- 25th	- 25th	- 25th
	- 26th	- 26th	- 26th
		Oct. 2nd	
		- 3rd	
		- 4th	
	Oct. 6th		
	- 7th		
	- 8th		
	- 9th		
	- 10th		

Table 3.

An outline of the division of the observation time.

	3 hours	land observations only
	25 -	sea observations only
	15 -	combined land/sea observations
In all	43 -	migration observations
+	124 -	resting observations
In all	167 hours	spread over 25 days of observation.

During all observations a 20x60 telescope and 10x40 binoculars were used.

The observations of sea bird were best done just below the lighthouse, 40 m. above sea level, with a good view towards the east and the south and with shelter. Móannes (figure 3), however, was the best place in case of high onshore winds from the SW and in case of strong backlight on the afore-mentioned place. Ideally both places ought to be manned during observations of sea birds.

When sea birds and migrating land birds were observed at the same time, the lighthouse, itself, was the best place for observations.

Number and flight direction were recorded for all sea birds, but as to the numerous species, Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis* and Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*, counts were carried out once every hour during a period of 5 minutes.

The activity of migrating land birds was most marked during the first hours after sunrise — and, to a smaller extent, late in the day, but all in all migration was modest. Presumably, this reflects reality, but add to this that, owing to the topography of Akraberg, birds might cross above the observer's range of vision and hearing.

The best wind conditions for recording the migrating passerines were fresh or moderate breezes about the SW. In these conditions the birds obviously had to fly lower before they tried to cross the sea (Sep. 18th with 200 Meadow and Rock Pipits *Anthus pratensis* and *A. spinoletta* in one hour).

Other migration movements took place when small birds came from the sea and continued along the coast heading NW. Both species partly migrating by day — such as Sky Lark *Alauda arvensis* and Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis* — as well as species typically migrating by night — such as Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* and Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca* — were observed in this way. Migration by night was only recorded once (Redwing) and no lighthouse fall was found at all.

The resting birds were counted within fixed areas. Partly the fields around the lighthouse (fig. 2) at about 100 m. above sea level and partly the areas near Sumba, including both the coast, the gardens, and part of the fields. The areas were walked through by the same route each time in order to ensure the relative value of the censuses. At the same time the

routes were placed in a way that made it possible to study more closely stone fences, sheds, small wet areas in the fields, coastlines rich in nutritious matter, and certain gardens. Besides, the outlying fields north of Akraberg were searched by telescope for larger birds, especially geese. High winds made the recording of passerines problematic, and in case of wind forces of more than 25 to 30 knots census was given up.

With a view to future ringing, the importance of the few possibilities of finding shelter in these extremely wind-swept areas without higher growth cannot be emphasized too often. In this connection it is characteristic that some of the small birds could be caught by hand, because they sought shelter in the houses.

The grass field round Akraberg held several species, which, normally, »ought« not to occur in this habitat. Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus* and Sanderling *Calidris alba*, for instance, were registered here within the same few square metres!

Consequently, and surprisingly, as many as 58 species were recorded round Akraberg's unvaried habitat without plantation for shelter and with no real water holes. (Fig. 3, A-C).

In appendix 1 you will find a systematical survey of all the 101 species which were recorded within the total area of observation during the given period. (Fig. 3, A-F). It deserves notice that they have all been included in the latest check-list (Bloch & Sørensen 1984). In comparison with the previous checklist (Williamson 1970) there are 2 first records (Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* and Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*), and another 15 species which had been recorded 5 times or less till 1970. No less than 29 of the recorded species were considered to be

rare in 1970, i.e. of no annual occurrence. But in comparison with the observations from the Fair Isle Observatory on the Shetland Isles, for instance, the list cannot be said to show any big surprises.

Results.

Grossly, two components can be found in bird migration on the Faroes: 1) normal migration and 2) other kinds of migration (Salomonsen 1935, Williamson 1953).

Normal migration is performed besides the sea birds by the birds passing the Faroes on their way to and from the breeding grounds in Iceland and Greenland. This applies to Anseriformes, waders, and certain birds of prey and small birds.

Other kinds of migration mainly include wind-assisted migration performed by Scandinavian birds, but also migrants of a far more distant origin occur regularly. Williamson, for instance, called attention to several species, the occurrence of which is to be explained as reverse migration today (Rabøl 1969, 1976, Sharrock 1974).

Both types of migration occurred at Akraberg, and they will be treated separately.

Normal migrants.

Sea birds. The most numerous sea birds were Fulmar, Kittiwake, and Gannet *Sula bassana*.

The Fulmar occurred to the number of maximum 18.000 per hour. 90% of the birds were following the coast round Akraberg from the north and the east to the west and the northwest.

About 15.000 migrating *Kittiwakes* were observed, the maximum being about 2.000 in one hour. The migrating movements of the Kittiwake were similar to those of the Fulmar. The large movements of Fulmar and Kittiwake took place early in the day in high southerly and southwesterly winds. Their movements are interpreted as mainly foraging movements, during which onshore winds carry the birds particularly close to the coast. The presence of at least partly local populations applies to both species.

It is difficult to ascertain the extent of true migration of Fulmar and Kittiwake, but an increasing number of »double dark morph« Fulmars indicates that also foreign populations were present in the waters.

About 500 *Gannets* were seen, the maximum being 50 per hour. Without exception, migration culminated during the earliest hours of the day. Both along the eastern and the southwestern coast, birds were flying towards the south and the southeast. It is likely that, besides foraging movements, many birds were really migrating. At the end of the period of observation, the number of Gannets decreased abruptly, as the last 3 days had no

records at all. This surely shows that migration from the area has finished before the middle of October. Evidently, the younger birds migrate first as 99% of all the observed Gannets were adults, and no birds were younger than 3rd C. (in all, four birds were 4th C. and one 3rd C.). In comparison with the observations at Blåvandshuk (Meltote & Overlund 1974), you will find that the migration at Akraberg has finished 2 or 3 weeks before the migration in the southern part of the North Sea and at both places the younger birds migrate first.

All European species of *Skuas* were observed, but in small numbers (table 4). Typically, the Skuas were seen on days of high onshore winds, as was the case at Blåvandshuk (Meltote 1979).

Apart from most of the Great Skuas *Stercorarius skua*, all the other Skuas were observed flying actively towards the south, evidently migrating.

Among other sea birds Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus* is worth mentioning. Five days had a record of this species with the only large occurrence of 184 birds in 3½ hours on Oct. 1st (table 4). All birds followed the

Table 4.

The observed number of Shearwaters, Skuas, Merlins and Geese.

Species	Date	September										October										
		17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sooty Shearwater						1						11	184						1	3		
Pomarine Skua								2					1									
Arctic Skua		1		1				7	4				1									
Pom./Arc. Skua								2	1													
Long-tailed Skua								1														
Great Skua				1				1	1				2							1		
Merlin		2	1		1		2			1	2		2		1	1		1	1			1
Pink-footed Goose											50	41	16	46								
Greylag Goose														8					15		8	
Barnacle Goose												5	7	7								
Goose sp.																	5		7			

Table 5.

Observations of all the waders.

Species	Date	17	18	19	20	21	22	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	3	4	7	8	9	10	11
Oystercatcher		17	10	2	3	15	5	7	1	6	5	2		1	1		1	1	7	3	5	8
Ringed Plover		6	2	1																		
Golden Plover									4				20									
Lapwing					1			7	7	8		5	1									
Knot						1				1			1									
Sanderling		1																				
Purple Sandpiper		1	1	1		2		2	1		4						1			2	1	
Dunlin		6	6																			
Ruff				1	1						1			1	1	1	1					
Snipe		1	1	3		3	6	8	11			2			2	5	5	4	1	8	13	2
Whimbrel		9	7	6	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	2		1	2	1					1	
Curlew										1		1					1		3			
Redshank		6				1	1	1	1	2	1	2		2				1	1	1		
Common Sandpiper						1		3	2	1	2	1		2	2							
Turnstone		150	143	13		44	14	75	60	96	85	70		25	45	31	40	1	34	70	24	37

eastern coast towards the south in winds of 20 to 35 knots from the SSW, which is almost offshore winds.

Auks (Alcidae sp.) other than Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle* were only seen in small numbers during high onshore winds.

Land birds. Three species of *Geese* were recorded, both resting and migrating, Greylag *Anser anser*, Pink-footed *A. brachyrhynchus* and Barnacle Goose *Branta bernicla*. Typically, smaller flocks were seen, resting briefly or migrating, most often late in the afternoon (table 4).

The passage of Pink-footed Geese took place during one of the rare periods of westerly winds. It stands to reason that during autumns with prolonged periods of westerly winds the migration of geese from Greenland and Iceland will involve Akraberg to a greater extent. However, small flocks of Greylag Goose were also seen on days of high easterly winds — (Norwegian birds?).

At least 10 different Merlins *Falco columbarius* were seen, one being an ad. ♂ and the rest ♀ or juv (table 4). The observation of one

Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* on Oct. 8th and 9th indicates that also some of the Merlins might come from Scandinavia, besides the Faroese and Icelandic migrants.

Waders occurred in decreasing numbers during the period (table 5), and apart from Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*, numbers were small. Several species came from the east (Ruff, *Philomachus pugnax* and Common Sandpiper, *Actitis hypoleucos*), just as the occurrence of Snipes *Gallinago gallinago* culminated in connection with easterly winds.

Rock and Meadow Pipit were the most numerous passerines migrating by day (fig. 6). The local population of both species is numerous, but whereas Meadow Pipit also breeds in Iceland, the Faroe Islands represent the northwesternmost palearctic population of the Rock Pipit. So far, this population was considered to be completely resident. None of the species are long-range migrants, but they occur in Scandinavia as migrants or partly migrants. However, nothing during the present period indicated any large appearances from the east. Clearly, the largest num-

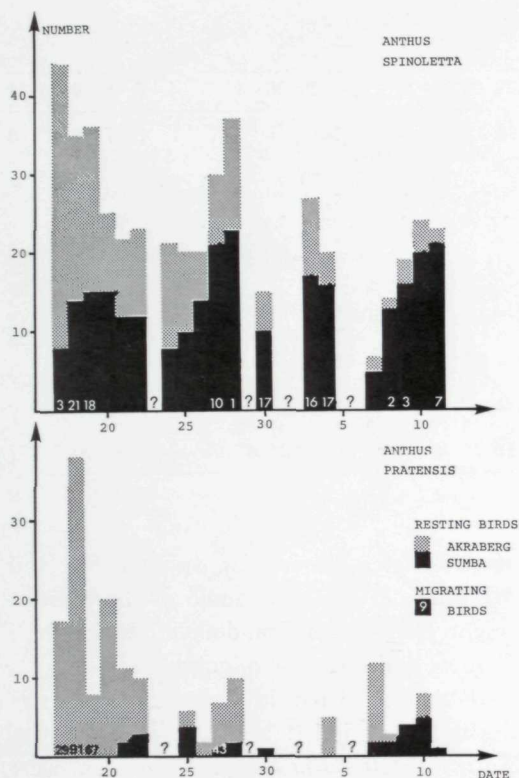


Fig. 6. Occurrence of Anthus-species.

ber of migrating birds of both species occurred in southwesterly winds, and whereas the Meadow Pipits migrated in smaller flocks, the Rock Pipits migrated one by one mainly, or perhaps two or three together, often in connection with flocks of Meadow Pipits. Also, the Rock Pipits showed greater hesitancy concerning migration.

The occurrence of *Wheatear* was decreasing during the period, and the daily number fluctuated considerably, thus indicating a rapid change of the resting birds (Figure 7). The species is a breeding migrant in all the North Atlantic area. As to typical individuals it is possible to distinguish Greenland birds

Oe. oe. leuchorrhoa from Scandinavian (nominate subspecies), whereas the Faroese and Icelandic birds constitute an intermediate stage (Svensson 1975 and our own studies). From the identification in the field it was observed that from Sep. 20th. Scandinavian types were in excess after a period of mainly »Atlantic« types. During the following period a mixture of subspecies occurred until Oct. 7th, from which date the few birds present looked completely Scandinavian, apart from a possible Greenland bird on Oct. 10th. Both on Sep. 20th and Oct. 7th also other Scandinavian birds arrived, in accordance with the wind conditions (table 2 and appendix 2).

The occurrence of eastern Wheatears has not even been mentioned as a possibility by previous authors (Salomonsen 1963, Williamson 1970).

Also a passage of Icelandic *Redwings* *T. i. coburni* took place. This subspecies can also be distinguished in the field from Scandinavian birds (nominate subspecies). The nominate subspecies has been considered rare and/or not very numerous so far (Salomonsen 1963), but it occurred regularly during the last fortnight and totalled a majority compared to the Faroese/Icelandic subspecies which was only observed with certainty from Oct. 1st.

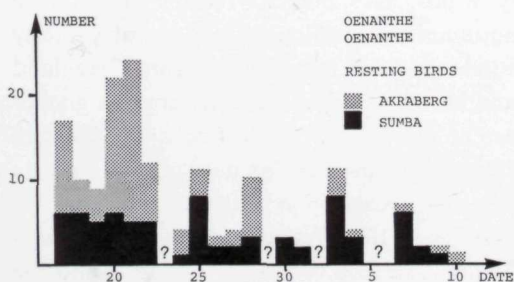


Fig. 7. Occurrence of Wheatear.

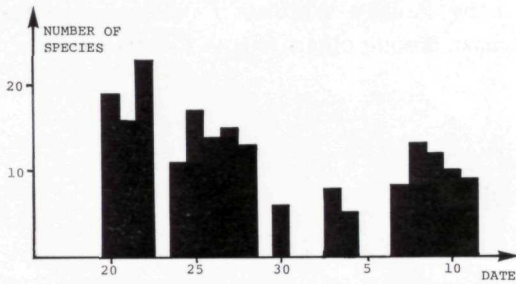


Fig. 8. The diversity of species through the observation period.

Thus, in accordance with the prevailing wind conditions, it turned out that »irregular« migration from Scandinavia exceeded »normal« migration of both Wheatear and Redwing.

Migrants from the NE to the S.

Almost half of the recorded species can only be considered as migrants from Scandinavia, Great Britain, or the Continent (appendix 2). The diversity of species (fig. 8) and the figures of the single species (fig. 9) show a large occurrence, previously unknown, of these Continental migrants. Several waves of arrival occurred, such as Sep. 20th to 22nd (Tree Pipit, Robin *Erithacus rubecula*, Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*, Willow Warbler), 25th to 28th (Willow Warbler, Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*, Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*), and Oct. 9th to 11th (Goldcrest, Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*). The smaller birds, migrating by night, showed a tendency of arriving at Akraberg, itself (fig. 3, A—D) and after that they scattered to the best habitats, most species to Sumba (fig. 3, F). Arrival of birds, normally migrating by night, took place in full daylight (Sep. 20 th,

for instance) and continued during the following night.

Whinchat, *Robin*, and *Willow Warbler* showed the same pattern of occurrence (fig. 9) with a wave of arrival from Sep. 20th. During the following weeks the number of birds was gradually decreasing, either because of migration or because of exhaustion.

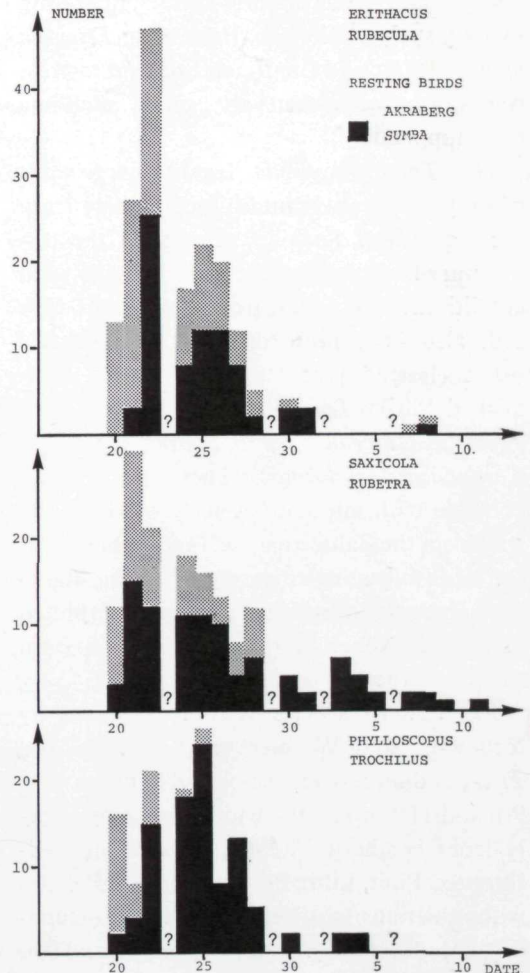


Fig. 9. Occurrence of Robin, Whinchat and Willow Warbler in the observation period.

It was obvious that the condition of the remaining birds, individuals of Robins especially, became worse and worse.

The *Sylviae*, Blackcap especially, had another pattern of arrival (appendix 2), as the number was gradually increasing to a culmination on Sep. 28th and after that new arrivals on Oct. 3rd and 7th.

The migration of Continental smaller birds was completely dominated by species migrating by night. Even common species, migrating by day, such as Skylark, Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*, and Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*, were only seen in very small numbers (appendix 2).

The origin of the birds. The first large wave of »night migrants« undoubtedly came from Northern Scandinavia, considering the dispersion of species and the Scandinavian wind conditions. The period from Sep. 24th to Oct. 3rd. also brought birds of a southeasterly origin (Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria*, Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*, Red-breasted Flycatcher *Ficedula parva*, Scarlet Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*). These occurrences coincide with fair southeasterly winds all the way from the Baltic area, i.e. favourable winds for birds migrating reversely. Also the Blackcaps from the same days are best interpreted as a consequence of reverse migration from the SE or the E.

Far eastern species were represented by Yellow-browed Warbler on Sep. 20th and 27th, and moreover, the period between Oct. 9th and 11th, when the wind was northeasterly from northern Finland, resulted in Red-throated Pipit, Little Bunting, and Chiffchaffs with abietinus/tristis-characters. Unfortunately the observations stopped on Oct. 11th, the same day as the Fair Isle had unusually

many Pallas's Warblers *Phylloscopus proregulus*, among others (FIBO Report 1982).

Discussion.

Residents. Some of the birds, which have been considered as residents up to now, were seen migrating or intending to migrate (appendix 1): House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*, Rock Pipit, and Raven *Corvus corax*. In the case of Rock Pipit, straying immatures do not explain the extent of migration. On the Fair Isle movement of the Rock Pipit has also been observed recently (FIBO Report 1982).

The conditions of the isolated islands in the North Atlantic have established some resident populations, often resulting in local subspecies. This tendency must not be overestimated and the observations indicate that the enforced passage of a seadistance of at least 300 km is of less importance than assumed by Salomonsen (1935, 1963).

Local migrants. Most Faroese migrants are migrating by day, but only a few were observed during the period of observation (appendix 1). Compared to previous observations (Potts 1961), this indicates that a large part of the local migration has finished before the middle of September. The observations during the present period contain more information about the final performance of migration, which, as far as for instance Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* is concerned, turned out to last even to the middle of October. However, concerning the studies of local migration, it is a great problem that, without ringing, the Faroese populations cannot be distinguished from corresponding Icelandic

populations — nor, in most cases, from Scandinavian ones.

Migrants from the NW. For migrants, the distance between Iceland and Scotland is so short that it can be managed in one day or one night. Consequently, many of these birds will only rest on the Faroes in case of an easterly drift in westerly winds (such as Pink-footed Goose, p 83). Easterly winds were common during these autumn observations (Table 2), and therefore no large occurrences of northwesterly species were seen. Altogether, it was typical for the period that not a single bird of American origin was seen, a type of occurrence which will not be specially rare under other conditions (Bloch & Sørensen 1984).

Migrants from the East. Comparison with Fair Isle. The occurrence of birds from the east, including both far eastern, northeastern, and southeastern species, was of an extent which was in every respect new to what was known from the Faroes so far (Williamson 1943, 1945, 1947, 1970). In comparison, the migration of eastern species to the Fair Isle is of a greater extent, both quantitatively and qualitatively. Both because of a shorter distance to Norway and Scotland and because of a permanent manning and a continuous sequence of years of observations at the Fair Isle Bird Observatory. A comparison between Nólsoy (Fig. 1) and the Fair Isle was made for the spring and the autumn migration of 1949, but no unambiguous conclusions could be drawn (Williamson & á Botni 1951). However, during the spring migration of 1953, the two stations made concordant observations (Williamson 1954). This period of observation at Akraberg shows the same concordance. Especially concerning the unusually large arrival of small eastern

birds on the Fair Isle on Sep. 20th and at Akraberg on Sep. 21th and concerning a very exciting period on the Fair Isle from Oct. 6th and at Akraberg from Oct. 7th. Most of the intervening period about the turn of the month had surprising occurrences of a southeasterly origin at both places (FIBO Report 1982).

Conclusion.

We hope that the conclusion of this experiment of observation will encourage continuous observations of migrants at Akraberg. The combination of the southernmost point of Akraberg and the fine resting possibilities at Sumba offers brilliant opportunities for the study of the migration of small birds. Studies of windassisted and reverse migration, especially, at Akraberg are bound to yield valuable results. If possible, these should be linked together with observations on Nólsoy/Fugloy (eastern islands) and Mykines (western outpost). But moreover, for studies of foraging movements of sea birds Akraberg is an obvious place, besides giving fine possibilities for the observations of real migration of sea birds. Altogether, the establishing of a permanent bird station would be valuable regarding detailed studies of the migration, both as to time and as to the influence of the weather conditions. Especially now, when, apart from the bird stations towards the southeast, Øræfum (Iceland), towards the northwest, will also offer opportunities of comparison. Consequently, we hope that this will arouse such an interest in the establishing of a bird station that the necessary capital and manning can be procured for the work.

Appendix 1.

Species of birds from Sept. 15th to Oct. 11th at Akraberg/Sumba.

- 1) Occurrence in the Akraberg/Sumba area:
 R: *Resident*. The local population suggested to be completely resident and there are no observations in support of foreign birds in the area.
 B: *Breeding*: In the Akraberg/Sumba area.
 M: *Migrating*. Passing migrants, also including observed dispersal from the area.
 (-): The occurrence uncertain.
- 2) Highest day-total of the species including both migrating and resting birds.
- 3) Number of days of registration (total 25).
- 4) !: Less than 6 records according to the checklist in 1970 (Williamson). All in the latest checklist (Bloch & Sørensen 1984).

	1)	2)	3)	4)
Diver sp. <i>Gavia arctica/stellata</i>	M	1	1	
Great Northern Diver <i>Gavia immer</i>	M	1	1	
Fulmar <i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	BM	28000	26	
Sooty Shearwater <i>Puffinus griseus</i>	M	184	5	
Manx Shearwater <i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	M	2	2	
Gannet <i>Sula bassana</i>	M	160	24	
Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	M	1	1	
Shag <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	R	120	26	
Pink-footed Goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	M	50	4	
Greylag Goose <i>Anser anser</i>	M	15	3	
Barnacle Goose <i>Branta leucopsis</i>	M	7	3	
Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	(B)M	4	3	
Tufted Duck <i>Aythya fuligula</i>	M	3	1	
Eider <i>Somateria mollissima</i>	R	350	26	
Red-breasted Merganser <i>Mergus serrator</i>	(B)M	4	2	
Kestrel <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	M	1	2	
Merlin <i>Falco columbarius</i>	M	2	12	
Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	BM	15	20	
Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	M	6	3	
Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	BM	20	3	
Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	M	8	6	
Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i>	M	1	3	
Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i>	M	1	1	
Purple Sandpiper <i>Calidris maritima</i>	M	4	10	
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i>	M	6	3	
Ruff <i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	M	1	7	
Snipe <i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	BM	11	18	
Wimbrel <i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	BM	9	16	
Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>	M	3	4	
Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i>	M	6	12	
Common Sandpiper <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	M	3	8	!
Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i>	M	150	20	
Pomarine Skua <i>Stercorarius pomarius</i>	M	2	2	
Arctic Skua <i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	BM	7	5	
Long-tailed Skua <i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	M	1	1	
Great Skua <i>Stercorarius skua</i>	M	2	6	

	1)	2)	3)	4)
Little Gull <i>Larus minutus</i>	M	1	1	
Black-headed Gull <i>Larus ridibundus</i>	M	1	1	
Common Gull <i>Larus canus</i>	(B)M	8	6	
Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus</i>	BM	2	4	
Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i>	BM	80	25	
Great Black-backed Gull <i>Larus marinus</i>	BM	300	26	
Kittiwake <i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	BM	6000	26	
Arctic Tern <i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	BM	11	1	
Guillemot <i>Uria aalge</i>	M	2	2	
Black Guillemot <i>Ceppus grylle</i>	R	50	24	
Puffin <i>Fratercula arctica</i>	BM	2	2	
Stock Dove <i>Columba livia</i>	R	30	25	
Wood Pigeon <i>Columba palumbus</i>	M	1	1	
Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	M	2	4	
Wryneck <i>Jynx torquilla</i>	M	1	1	
Skylark <i>Alauda arvensis</i>	M	2	2	
House Martin <i>Delicon urbica</i>	M	1	1	
Tree Pipit <i>Anthus trivialis</i>	M	11	8	!
Meadow Pipit <i>Anthus pratensis</i>	BM	111	19	
Red-throated Pipit <i>Anthus cervinus</i>	M	1	1	!
Rock Pipit <i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	BM	56	25	
Yellow Wagtail <i>Motacilla flava</i>	M	1	1	
White Wagtail <i>Motacilla alba</i>	M	2	16	
Wren <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	R	3	13	
Dunnock <i>Prunella modularis</i>	M	1	1	!
Robin <i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	M	47	12	
Bluethroat <i>Luscinia svecica</i>	M	2	3	!
Redstart <i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	M	5	11	
Whinchat <i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	M	30	16	!
Wheatear <i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	BM	24	20	
Ring Ouzel <i>Turdus torquatus</i>	M	2	2	
Fieldfare <i>Turdus pilaris</i>	M	2	6	
Song Thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	M	3	6	
Redwing <i>Turdus iliacus</i>	M	46	14	
Reed/Marsh Warbler <i>Acrocephalus sp.</i>	M	1	5	!
Barred Warbler <i>Sylvia nisoria</i>	M	1	2	
Lesser Whitethroat <i>Sylvia curruca</i>	M	3	4	
Whitethroat <i>Sylvia communis</i>	M	2	6	
Garden Warbler <i>Sylvia borin</i>	M	3	9	
Blackcap <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	M	15	15	
Yellow-browed Warbler <i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>	M	1	2	!
Wood Warbler <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	M	1	2	
Chiffchaff <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	M	11	9	
Willow Warbler <i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	M	26	11	
Goldcrest <i>Regulus regulus</i>	M	19	12	
Spotted Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa striata</i>	M	1	2	!
Red-breasted Flycatcher <i>Ficedula parva</i>	M	2	1	
Pied Flycatcher <i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	M	7	6	

Red-backed Shrike <i>Lanius collurio</i>	M	1	2	!
Hooded Crow <i>Corvus corone</i>	R	25	24	
Raven <i>Corvus corax</i>	BM	9	24	
Starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	BM	200	26	
House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	BM	60	21	
Tree Sparrow <i>Passer montanus</i>	M	2	2	
Chaffinch <i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	M	4	11	
Brambling <i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	M	4	7	
Siskin <i>Carduelis spinus</i>	M	2	2	!
Linnet <i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	M	1	1	!
Redpoll <i>Carduelis flammea</i>	M	1	1	
Scarlet Rosefinch <i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	M	1	2	!
Lapland Bunting <i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>	M	1	3	
Snow Bunting <i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	M	1	4	
Ortolan Bunting <i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	M	1	1	!
Little Bunting <i>Emberiza pusilla</i>	M	1	2	!
Reed Bunting <i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	M	5	6	!

Appendix 2.

Migrants of primarily Continental or eventually British origin.

Species	Date	18	20	21	22	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	3	4	6	7	8	9	10	11
Kestrel Wood Pigeon Turtle Dove Wryneck		1	2	2	2													1	1		
Skylark House Martin Tree Pipit Red-throated Pipit		4	11	4	1	1		2	7	3				1						1	
Yellow Wagtail Dunnock Robin Bluethroat					1												1	2			
Redstart Whinchat Ring Ouzel Fieldfare		3	3	5		2	2	3	3	3		1		6	4		2	2	1	1	1
Song Trush Reed/Marsh Warbler Barred Warbler Lesser Whitethroat		1		1	3	1			1	1				1				1	1	1	1
Whitethroat Garden Warbler Blackcap Yellow-Browed Warbler		1		2	3	1	1	1	1	2				2	1		1				

Species	Date	18	20	21	22	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	3	4	6	7	8	9	10	11
Wood Warbler									1	1											
Chiffchaff			2	1			2	3	2									2	3	3	11
Willow Warbler		16	8	24		19	26	8	13	5		2		1	1						
Phylloscopus sp.		3	3	5			3	1	2					1				1	1		
Goldcrest		1		1		19	8	9		1		1				2		2	12	3	2
Spotted Flycatcher				1								1									
Red-breasted Flycatcher							2														
Pied Flycatcher		7	5	6		2	5		2												
Red-Backed Shrike						1				1											
Tree Sparrow							2											1			
Chaffinch		1	4			1								2	2		2	1	2	2	1
Brambling		1	1			4	3									1		1			1
Siskin											1				2						
Linnet																				1	
Redpoll				1																	
Scarlet Rosefinch						1						1									
Ortolan Bunting		1																			
Little Bunting																			1	1	
Reed Bunting		2	5	2			3	2										1			
Fair conditions for drift arrivals from:																					
NE		=====				=====												=====			
E		=====				=====								=====							
SE						=====				=====											
Fair conditions for the recording of Passerines					=====	=====			=====											=====	

NB: Sep. 29th counts only in the areas A+B (Fig. 3).

Oct. 1st counts only in the area F.

Oct. 6th counts only in the areas A-D.

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Úrtak

Í tíðarskeiðinum 17/9 - 11/10 1982 varð roynd gjörd at hava fuglakanningarstöð á vitanum á Akrabergi (Mynd 1-4) við 1 eygleiðara.

Í hesum tíðarbili vórðu sædd 101 sløg (App. 1). Eygleiddir vórðu fuglar, ið ferðaðust um hav og land, og eisini fuglar, sum stöðgaðu á.

Av sjófugli, ið regluliga flytur um okkara leiðir, var mest til av havhesti (í mesta lagi sæddir 18.000/tíma), næst var rita (2000/tíma) og súla (50/tíma), App. 1).

Allir kjógvarnir og serstakliga nakað av dimmum havskrápi sóust á havætt.

Smáflokkar av ymiskum gásasløgum og somuleiðis smyrl vórðu sæddir (Talva 4).

Av vaðfugli var bara tjaldursgrælingur í meingi (Talva 5). Av smáfugli vóru titlingur og grátitlingur teir, ið mest var til av (Mynd 6), meðan talið av steinstólpu minkaði, sum frá leið (Mynd 7).

Helmingurin av teimum sæddu sløgum verður hildin at vera fuglar, ið bendir eru av leið úr Skandinavia, Stóra Bretlandi, og sløg, ið búleika eystari á (Mynd 8-9). Av eystur-

lendskum slögum sóust m.o. reyðtítlingur (nýtt slag), dvørgspurvur (nýtt slag), ural-ljómari (App. 2).

Tað, ið rakt varð við av fugli á Akrabergi,

samsvaraði væl við tað, ið sást á Fair Isle sama tíðarskeið.

Av hesum sæst, at Akraberg er eitt sera væl hóskaði stað at hava fuglastøð á.