



**Slender-billed Curlew**  
*Numenius tenuirostris*

**Database**

**Update No. 3**  
**December 2002**

Prepared for the Slender billed Curlew Working Group  
by BirdLife International,  
with the support from the CMS

**BirdLife International**  
**Record database for**  
**Slender-billed Curlew *Numenius tenuirostris***

Update No. 3 December 2002

BirdLife International, via the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB, BirdLife in the UK), maintains a database of records of Slender-billed Curlew, in the framework of the Slender-billed Curlew Working Group which was established under the auspices of the Convention on Migratory Species and its Memorandum of Understanding on Slender-billed Curlew.

This document updates Gretton (1991, 1994) and the previous version that was sent to all Slender-billed Curlew Working Group members in January 2000.

Acceptance of records since 1994 is based upon description of birds provided by observers to national experts, rarities committees or BirdLife partners. Confirmed published records are also included and a reference is given. The BirdLife International Slender-billed Curlew Bibliography should be consulted to obtain full details of the reference. The majority of pre-1994 records also come from the same sources, although some records were submitted directly to BirdLife International Secretariat in Cambridge (UK).

Any comments on the records included in this database are welcome. New information may come to light on old records which alter their status. It is important that new records are included in the database. These can then be distributed to the Slender-billed Curlew Working Group. New records should be submitted to national rarities committees or BirdLife Partner organisations in relevant countries.

Tim Cleeves, the Slender-billed Curlew Database and Fieldwork Coordinator, who operates on behalf of the RSPB and the SBCWG, would be grateful to receive copies of any records.

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For further details of the SBCWG, contact its chairman: Nicola Crockford

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## **Rules used in the compilation of the database**

Verified Records (y in the verification column)

Records may be included as verified if:

- i. The record is authenticated by national organisations – rarities committees, BirdLife Partners etc.
- ii. BirdLife has received directly details of the sighting, with description, and after consultation with experts, preferably the national rarities committee is confident that the record is genuine.
- iii. Records regarded as ‘confirmed’ in Gretton 1991 & Gretton 1994 should not be altered except upon the advice of national organisations (rarities committees & BirdLife International Partners) or if the observer submits new evidence or withdraws the record.

Unverified Records (n in the verification column)

Records should be included as unverified if:

- i. Records are not substantiated by any details such as a description or photograph.
- ii. If a national organisation suggests that there is doubt about the record but that it should not be rejected.
- iii. Records being considered by national organisations should be included as unverified until a decision has been reached.
- iv. Records published in Gretton 1991, 1994 as unconfirmed should be included as unverified unless new information has become available.

Rejected Records

A new section for rejected records is now included in the database.

Records may be regarded as rejected if

- i. A national organisation rejects the record
- ii. If BirdLife receives record details directly and after consultation with experts, preferably a national rarities committee, it is decided to reject.