

**PLANINSKI VRABEC** *Montifringilla nivalis*  
**Snowfinch** – one individual observed feeding on  
 24 Dec 2017 on Mt Krvavec (UTM VM62, N  
 Slovenia); a rare record for the Kamnik-Savinja Alps

Že od leta 1996 se redno prek celega leta zadržujem na območju Krvavca (1600 m n. v.) v Kamniško-Savinjskih Alpah, od leta 2005 pa ptice tam tudi redno obročkam. Dne 24. 12. 2017 popoldan sem prišel do svoje počitniške hišice na 1600 m n. v. med Kriško planino in Krvavcem, po domače se temu delu reče "Blek". Ob prihodu sem opazil, da se v krmilnici prehranjuje planinski vrabec, in ni mi ga bilo težko ujeti in obročkati (slika 11). Domnevam, da se je verjetno zadrževal pri omenjeni krmilnici že nekaj časa, saj me tri ali štiri dni ni bilo v hiši. Ob tem dogodku sem izmeril njegovo dolžino peruti (120 mm) ter maso (36,3 g). Določevanje starosti v jesensko zimskem času je težavno, saj tako odrasli kot prvoletni primerki popolnoma zamenjajo vsa peresa (SVENSSON 1992). Tudi na sliki je lepo videti, da ima slikani planinski vrabec rjavo-rdečkasto šarenico, kar bi mogoče dalo misliti, da gre za odrasel osebek moškega spola. Z obročkom LJUBLJANA SLOVENIJA CL 21417 sem ga po slikanju v roki tudi izpustil. Ob tem bi dodal, da sem doslej od leta 1996 na tej lokaliteti opazoval planinskega vrabca samo enkrat, in sicer 1. 2. 2003, ko se je prehranjeval na tleh pod krmilnico. Podatki iz Kamniško-Savinjskih Alp so redki, gnezditve pa, v nasprotju z drugima dvema slovenskima alpskima verigama, tu še ni bila potrjena (ATLAS PTIC 2018a).

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**Slika 11 / Figure 11:** Planinski vrabec / Snowfinch *Montifringilla nivalis*, Kriška planina, Krvavec (1600 m n. v.), 24. 12. 2017 (foto: D. Dimnik)

**ŠČINKAVEC** *Fringilla coelebs*

**Chaffinch** – a leucistic or albinistic individual (eye colouration not noted) was observed in winter and spring 2017 in Rodine (UTM WL14, NW Slovenia)

Pozno pozimi leta 2017 se je na območju Rodin pri Begunjah na Gorenjskem pojavil ščinkavec, ki je bil z izjemo posameznih rumenkastih peres povsem bel. Barva oči ni bila natančno zabeležena. Opazovalo ga je več mojih znancev, saj je obiskoval krmilnice na nekaj vrtovih. Zadnjega majskega dne ga je Štefan Stanko na svojem vrtu tudi fotografiral (slika 12). Ni znano, da bi ga kasneje še kdo opazil. To je bilo pričakovano, saj je tako opazen ptič lahek plen številnih plenilcev. Poizvedel sem tudi pri okoliških rejcih ptic, ki pa takšnih ščinkavcev niso vzgajali. Lahko bi šlo bodisi za albina ali pa za levcistični osebek, ki bi se med seboj razlikovala po barvi oči. Rumeno obarvana peresa so nespremenjena, saj albinizem in levcizem prizadeneta le melaninske pigmente, ne pa karotenoidnih.

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**Slika 12 / Figure 12:** Ščinkavec / Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*, Rodine, 31. 5. 2017 (foto: Š. Stanko)

**REED BUNTING** *Emberiza schoeniclus*

**Trstni strnad** – oktobra 2017 je na zadrževalniku Medvedce (UTM WM53, SV Slovenija) prenočevalo 2500 osebkov te vrste, kar je doslej najvišje število, ugotovljeno v Sloveniji

Reed Bunting is a rare local breeder (GEISTER 1995) and a wintering bird with a population of 1,000–2,000

individuals (SOVINC 1994). It also occurs during spring and autumn migration (e.g. TOME *et al.* 2005), but there are no size estimates of the migratory population. The northern populations are entirely migratory (BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL 2018b) and they migrate over Slovenia in February and March (TOME *et al.* 2005, ŠKORNIK 2012) with the end of migration in April (ŠERE 1982). In autumn, the first birds are present already in September (ŠERE 1982), but the main migration occurs in October and November (TOME *et al.* 2005, ŠKORNIK 2012). Although it can occur in a wide variety of open habitats (SOVINC 1994), it is only recorded in the lowlands and in small numbers (SOVINC 1994, TOME *et al.* 2005, 2013, ŠKORNIK 2012, ATLAS PTIC 2018b). In the online database there are many entered records from the migration and wintering periods, with the highest number in a single entry of 40 individuals on Ljubljansko barje and 30 in Sečovelje Salina (ATLAS PTIC 2018b). The species is a breeder of Medvedce water reservoir with up to five breeding pairs (KERČEK 2009). During the month-long monitoring of migration at the site, 1,183 individuals were counted (BORDJAN 2013) with the majority (>80%) of individuals registered between 29 Feb and 4 Mar 2012 with daily counts of 77 to 400 individuals (*own data*). Apart from this migration study, I gathered some random observations in the past few years, suggesting that it is a regular migratory and winter visitor. During spring migration, I counted 100, 279 and 300 individuals on 9 Mar 2015, 8 Mar 2016 and 14 Mar 2015, respectively. The only time I counted over 100 individuals during the winter was on 14 Jan 2017, when I counted 157 individuals. The highest number counted in autumn before 2017 was 121 individuals on 16 Oct 2016. On 20 Oct 2017, I was about to count roosting waterbirds and birds of prey at the reservoir as part of the regular ten-day monitoring. Upon arrival I noticed that small birds were flying from fields to the roost site in reed beds within the levees of the reservoir. Although there were several species, most were Reed Buntings. I started counting them and did little else in the following 50 minutes. Until nightfall I estimated that at least 1,800 individuals flew to roost inside the reservoir. Taking into account that I covered around 100 m of air space between fields and the reservoir and that some of the birds also flew to the roost before I started counting, I estimated that at least 2,000–2,500 Reed Buntings roosted that day at Medvedce reservoir. The next morning, I was prepared to count birds flying from the roost and to confirm that they were indeed Reed Buntings. On 21 Oct 2017, I counted

1,456 individuals flying from the roost to the fields in a northerly direction. In addition, there were Reed Buntings in almost all areas in and around the reservoir. It is worth mentioning that most of them were feeding in maize fields that were being harvested on that day. I could see birds concentrating in ever smaller areas of standing corn. It would be interesting to evaluate the importance of corn fields for Reed Bunting during autumn migration, as well as for other species. A few weeks earlier, there were many *Phylloscopus* warblers within the same maize fields, as well as Starlings, Tits and Sedge Warblers *Acrocephalus schoenobaenos*. The observed number of Reed Buntings is by far the highest observed in Slovenia (SOVINC 1994, TOME *et al.* 2005, 2013, ŠKORNIK 2012, ATLAS PTIC 2018b). The number represents around 0.01–0.03% of the European population (BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL 2018b). Assuming that most birds migrating through Slovenia are from northern and eastern Europe, this accounts for 0.02–0.05 % of migratory population potentially flying over Slovenia.

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**Slika 13 / Figure 13:** Beloglavi strnad / Pine Bunting *Emberiza leucocephala*, Lesce, 23. 10. 2017 (foto: B. Blažič)

### BELOGLAVI STRNAD *Emberiza leucocephalos*

**Pine Bunting** – one adult male in winter plumage observed at Lesce Airport (UTM VM33, NW Slovenia) on 23 Oct 2017; first record for Gorenjska region and 19<sup>th</sup> record for Slovenia as accepted by the Slovenian Rarities Committee – KRED