SECOS GARDEN BIRDWATCH Winter 1995-6

16 members took part for some or all of the weeks, and for their dedication the Society is very grateful. We have attempted to analyse the results in two ways, firstly to try to get a measure of the abundance of the various species (Table 1) and secondly to attempt a measure of the presence or absence of the birds during the six month period. (Table 2).

Table 1 shows the highest count found in each garden over the winter period for each of the 47 species seen. Taking an average of all the gardens gives a very rough measure of the abundance of birds seen in a variety of gardens. Starlings and House Sparrows are by far the most abundant with a group of birds including Blue Tit, Chaffinch, Black Headed Gull and Greenfinch not far behind. Scrutiny of, for example, the results for the Black Headed Gull will show how this is greatly influenced by one or two high counts whereas many gardens never see them.

Table 2 shows as a percentage the presence of birds during the weeks on which a count was made. No single species was present for every counted week in every garden although one or two came very close. Also shown are the results found by BTO in more than 2000 gardens during the winter of 1995. The similarity of the results is quite striking. We have also compared the results with those produced by members in 1985 and the same 9 out of ten birds were again at the top of the list.

The evidence of a hard winter can easily be seen in the presence of many birds in gardens who would normally stay out in the fields, Fieldfares, Redwings and Reed Buntings being prime examples.

This work could not have been produced without the enthusiasm and time of our members and we would like to thank the following for their contributions:

Hilary Clowes, Brian Perkins, David and Elaine Meakin, Joan and Alan Soper, Vera Riggall, Ann Pym, Bob Smith, Arthur Fisher, D J Hambleton, John Barker, Helen Innes, Margaret and Brian Nightingale, Doreen Jones, Geoff Yarwood and Richard Hughes.

Forms for next winter will be issued during the September meeting. New watchers would be especially welcome. Please contact me at the meeting or on 01447-532485

Maureen Broad

Table 1

SECOS GARDEN BIRDWATCH 1995-96 All gardens - Max Count

	Species		•					• • •		• • •	•	•	• •						
		1	2	5	11	16	18	20	22	28	29	31	33	34	35	36	37	Mean	No garden
	Starling	52	61	60	60	1	7	50	50	99	50	40	20	4	35	80	12	42.6	16
	House Sparrow	14	28	40	36	4	15	15	12	18	32	25	20	16	12	27	12	19.1	15
			7	12		4	31		6	12	9	3	8	8	8	7	6		16
	Blue Tit	6		14	6		21	6					0	0	0			8.7	
	Black Headed Gu		1	-	1	28	0.0	8	30	5	8	20	-	-		7	6	7.9	11
	Chaffinch	15	4	5	6	14	22	2	3	6	10	2	7	5	4	9	4	7.4	16
	Greenfinch	15	10	6	2	2	25	2	4	4	3	1	7	3	4	4	6	6.1	16
	Blackbird	4	6	12	8	3	2	5	10	3	3	2	4	6	5	4	6	5.2	16
	Redwing	4	1	9		1		30	6	3			6		1	9		4.4	10
	Goldfinch		14	11	22		3	3	6					1	3	3	1	4.2	10
-	Wood Pigeon	4	2	3		3	2	4	3	1	2	2	26	2	2	3	5	4.0	15
	collared Dove	7	3	2	2	4	2	5	3	5	6	3	4	3	4	4	2	3.7	16
	Great Tit	3	3	2	2	6	8	4	2	4	3	2	6	2	5	2	5	3.7	16
	Magpie	4	1	2	3	4	2	2	5	2	2		2	5	4	2	3	2.7	15
	Fieldfare	1			2				15	3			16		2	1		2.5	7
	Long Tailed Tit	2			2	2	1	5	6		2		7	6	6	1		2.5	11
	Robin	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	4	3	2	2.4	16
	Dunnock	2	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	2	2	2.3	16
	Crow	4		2	2	4		2	8	2	2			5	1	2	2	2.3	12
	Pied Wagtail	2	2	1	1		1	2	3	1	1	1	2		1	5	2	1.6	14
	Siskin	1			1			2	4	11		1				3		1.4	7
	Jackdaw							Ī		4			7	2	2	7		1.4	5
	Song Thrush	1	2	2	4	2		1	1	1	1		1	2	2	1	1	1.4	14
	Wren	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1.3	16
	Rook	-	-	4		4	-	-	2	1	-	4	19	-	_	4	-	1.3	2
	Coal Tit	1			2	2	1	1	1	3	2		1	3	1	1	1	1.3	13
	Mistle Thrush	1			2	2	1	1	1	,	1		1)	2	1	1	0.8	9
	Nuthatch	1			4	2	1	1	1	2	1		2	2	1	1	1	0.6	6
	Tree Sparrow				1	4	3			4			4	4	2				4
	B. Ifinch			2	2		2		1				4	1	2			0.6	
	backcap	1		3	4				1 3	1	1			1	4	1		0.6	5
		1		1 1	1		1	1	1	1	1		1			1		0.5	
	Sparrowhawk			1	1		1 1	1	1	1	1		1 2	1	2	1		0.5	8
	Gt Spotted Wood						1			1			2	1	2	,		0.4	5
	Redpoll		0												•	6		0.4	1
	Reed Bunting		2	1		•				1					2			0.4	4
	Jay					2							1	1	2			0.4	4
	Pheasant						5											0.3	1
	Goldcrest			1	1											1		0.2	3
	Grey Wagtail	1				1			1									0.2	3
	Treecreeper	1															1	0.1	2
	Willow Tit														1	1		0.1	2
	Mute Swan													1				0.1	1
	Grey Heron									1								0.1	1
	Buzzard												1					0.1	1
	Tawny Owl													1				0.1	1
	Common Gull							1										0.1	. 1
	Brambling					1												0.1	1
	Yellowhammer																1	0.1	1

Table 2

SECOS GARDEN BIRDWATCH 1995-96
All gardens - % No of weeks present

Species																		BTO	A.F.
	1	2	5	11	16	18	20	22	28	29	31	33	34	35	36	37	Mean	Winter	95
												400	0.0	4.00	100	0.0	00 5	96	
Blue Tit	100	100	100	***	100		-		100					100		96	99.5	90	
Robin	84	88	100	100		100	96	96		100		100		100		85	96.6	83	
House Sparrow	100	100	100	100		100								100		85	92.2	97	
Blackbird	92	92	100		100	42	96	92	92	100		100	96	100		100	91.9		
F Great Tit	100	96	81	83	100		73	77	96	96	69	100	88		78	46	86.4	81	
+Collared Dove	96	38	100	74	-	100	100	73		100	92	41	100		100	54	85.2	70	
Dunnock	44	77	100	65		. 88	62	69	100	96	96	59	72		89	92	81.5	80	
Chaffinch	96	69	92	96	100	100	31	38	88	81	65	95	68		100	58	79.8	82	
- Starling	84		100	100	10	54	96	85	100	96	96	77	12			35	77.8	77	
Magpie	92	15	100	96	86	8	85	92	76	31		50	92		66	96	67.8	20	
Greenfinch	96	96	88	39	14	100	27	19	100	77	8	95	36		61	50	62.9	76	
en	20	50	100	48	19	27	12	81	24	31	46	19	20	38	83	88	44.1		
Wood Pigeon	80	58	46		52	8	69	54	20	38	31	95	16	15	56	19	41.1		
Crow	100		19	13	90		62	35	20	54			76	23	50	69	38.2		
Song Thrush	36	46	69	52	33		35	38	8	42		5	32	85	33	50	35.3		
Pied Wagtail	32	15	4	4		35	65	38	28	12	19	77		62	83	65	33.7		
Coal Tit	32			35	33	88	15	4	96	88		5	72	31	11	19	33.1		
Nuthatch					100	88			16			68	36	8			19.8		
Gt Spotted Wood						88			24			82	16	100			19.4		
Black Headed Gull	28	4		4	19		27	35	80	8	8				72	23	19.3		
Goldfinch		54	50			8	8	23					16	15	28	4	17.8		
Long Tailed Tit	24			4	10	8	8	38		12		5	36	69	11		14.1		
Jackdaw	4.								56			50	16	8	89		13.7		
Tree Sparrow				4		38						82		15			8.7		
Mistle Thrush	4			17	14		4	4		4				38	6	31	7.6		
	27.			-	33							14	4	69			7.5		
Jay Redwing	8	8	12		4		15	8	12			9		23	6		6.6		
Blackcap	24		12					46							11		6.3		
Fieldfare	16		14	13				8				32		8	6		5.7		
Sparrowhawk	10		15			23	4			23		5			6		5.6		
kin	8		13	17		23	4				4				33		4.9		
Willow Tit	0			11										38			4.8		
Reed Bunting		27	4						12					23			4.1		
Rook		21	-						4			59					3.9		
Bullfinch			A	17				8						15			3.8		
			7	11		-									56		3.5		
Redpoll						35											2.2		
Pheasant			A	13		33									6		1.4		
Goldcrest	A		4	13	4			4									0.8		
Grey Wagtail	4				7			•								8	0.8		
Treecreeper	4												8				0.5		
Tawny Owl												5					0.3		
Buzzard									4								0.3		
Grey Heron									4				4				0.3		
Mute Swan													,				0.3		
Common Gull							4										0.3		
Brambling					4											4			
Yellowhammer																4	0.5		