

Olive-backed Pipit

Anthus hodgsoni

Category A

Very rare vagrant

1 record

Breeds throughout much of northern Asia, wintering in India and the Philippines.

There had been 349 records in Britain to the end of 2010. The early 1990s witnessed exceptional arrivals of this species, with the first half of that decade accounting for a third of all records to date. The years 1990 (43 records) and 1993 (35) were particularly remarkable.



Olive-backed Pipit at Capel-le-Ferne (Dale Gibson)

There have been six records in Kent, all of which occurred in October. The sole Folkestone and Hythe record was the county's fourth. There had been earlier records from Dungeness in 1986, Sandwich Bay in 1988 and an unknown locality in the north, probably the Hoo peninsular, in 1991 (this bird had been taken into care at the Wainscot bird hospital before it was identified, and remained there until it died in the summer of 1995). The subsequent records were at Minster (Sheppey) in 1997 and Sandwich Bay again in 2009.

The only area record is as follows:

1992 Capel-le-Ferne Orchid Field, one, 12th to 15th October, photographed (D. A. Gibson, J. P. Siddle *et al*)