

Surrey Docks Farm Natural History Survey March – June 2012

## BIRDS

Just a small sample of the farm's resident and visiting birds:

### GREENFINCH

*Carduelis chloris*

Seen at birdfeeders in Wildlife Garden in March and thereafter.



### GOLDFINCH

*Carduelis carduelis*

Flocks visiting farm and Wildlife Garden, seemingly daily.

Photo shows two adults, and on the right, a juvenile, which doesn't yet have the red, white and black head colouring (photographed mid-July).



### BLACKBIRD

*Turdus merula*

Both males and females seen regularly, especially in orchard and around riverside plant beds.



### PIED WAGTAIL

*Motacilla alba*

Seen in paddock collecting nesting material in May.



**BLUE TIT**

*Parus caeruleus*

Two pairs seen to be nesting in bird boxes on River Room, in early May and early June.

(Bird pictured is returning to nest with food in beak).

**GREAT TIT**

*Parus major*

Nesting in bird box in Wildlife Garden in June, and regularly seen at birdfeeders.

**WREN**

*Troglodytes troglodytes*

Regularly heard around farm; here seen on vegetation-covered fence in May.

**STARLING**

*Sturnus vulgaris*

Small flocks regularly seen foraging in paddocks; in this photo seen bathing in pools of rain water in early July.



## **MAGPIE**

*Pica pica*

Regularly seen around farm, including in Wildlife Garden by birdfeeders.



## **HOUSE SPARROW**

*Passer domesticus*

Flocks regularly seen at farm – in Wildlife Garden, at birdfeeders, and in ivy on trees and farm walls.

Photos show a male, and two females or juveniles.



## **DUNNOCK**

*Prunella modularis*

1-2 seen regularly in Wildlife Garden throughout the survey.

A very subtle bird, usually seen on or close to the ground, and often mistaken for a sparrow. However, unlike sparrows, the dunnock has a grey-blue head and breast and slender beak, has a warbling song and is usually seen singly or in pairs rather than in flocks.



(not photographed – hence illustration used)

## **GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER**

*Dendrocopos major*

Several sightings (mid-July and August\*), at birdfeeders and in trees in Wildlife Garden.

\* *this survey officially covers just March until the end of June, but a couple of interesting sightings shortly afterwards have also been included.*

