



## Short Article

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# Some important wintering records of Lanceolated Warbler *Locustella lanceolata* from surrounding Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary, Central Gujarat, India

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**Abstract:** There are two species, Grasshopper and Rusty-rumped warbler, belong to *Lenceolata lenceolata* Genus are recorded in Gujarat. The Grasshopper is winter visitor and Rusty-rumped Warbler *L. certhiola* is winter vagrant recorded in Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary by Yoav Perlman – Robson 1999. In this article, going to introduce wintering status of Lanceolated warbler *L. lanceolata* in Nal Sarovar sanctuary and surrounding wetlands, located 65 km West from Ahmedabad city (23.0225° N, 72.5714° E) and 55 km East from Surendranagar city (22.7251° N, 71.6370° E). Highest abundance and diversity were recorded predominantly in November. Most of the birds were found at Vekaria and Kayla wetland.

### Classification:

**Species authority:** Temminck, 1840

**Domain:** Eukaryote

**Genus:** *Lenceolata lenceolata*

**Family:** Muscicapidae

**Sub-family:** Sylviinae

**Kingdom:** Animalia

**Class:** Aves

**Phylum:** Chordata

**Order:** Passiformes

**Binomial name:** *L. L. lanceolata*

**Keyword:** Important Wintering, *Locustella Lanceolata*, Records Of Lanceolated, Surrounding, Nal Sarovar, Birds Sanctuary

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## INTRODUCTION

The Lanceolate Warbler is *L. l. lanceolata* is resembling of Grasshopper warbler *Locustella naevia*. It is small in size, differing some plumage than Grasshopper, has a clear broad black streak on entire upper parts, breast and flank. Distinguished from Grasshopper Warbler. It is detached in two different race – (1) race *L. l. hender sonni*, found in Asian, Japan and North-East Russia, (2) race *L. l. lanceolata* found in South Finland, West Russia, Karelia to East, North-East China, Ussuriland, Amurland, North Oakhotskc, South Kamchatka, lower Kolyma river, Siberian Mount of Altai, North to Mountain of Uraland, Russia. It is found during winter migration in East India – **Poter & David**. Some important records are available going to introduce in this article, from North, North-East India – **Oates**, has observed in 1889 at Etavas, Uttar Pradesh. Record was confirmed by Rasmussen, 2012. One record from East Nepal, Terai Shanpakwa, Murang district, species was collected by F. m. Bailey on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb, 1938. One species was collected by Rupchand Thakor on 6<sup>th</sup> Oct, 1953, at Cherrapunji, Khasi hills, Meghalaya. 3 unconfirmed records from Gujarat, Kachchh by Donahue, 1968. It was rejected. Another 2 records from Saldi village, Amreli district, Viral Joshi has photographed and call recorded on 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2103 and 20<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2014, but both are

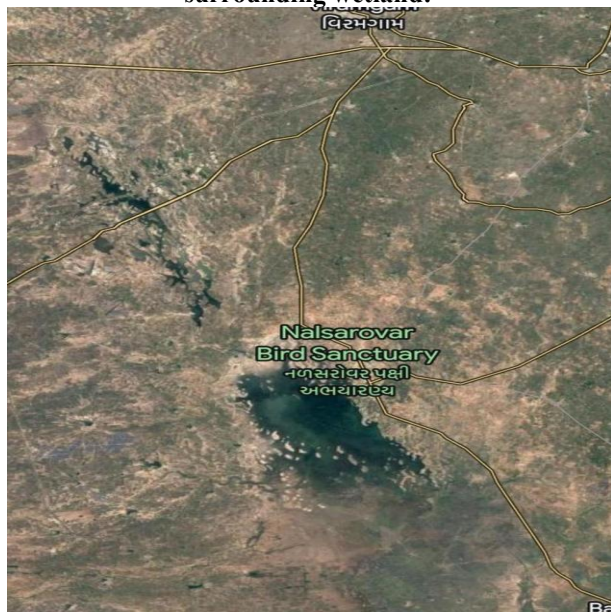
rejected. Record from New Delhi on 7<sup>th</sup> August, 1962, by Donahuecs, but it was not confirmed. Record from West Bengal, Chauphari, Bribhum sited in March 2021. 3 important records from South 24 parganas district. Bird was observed on 07, 13, 20 and 24 March, 2010 at Joka wetland, 24 parganas district by Chottopadhyay. It was accepted and mentioned by Grimmett et. el. 2011. One unconfirmed record by Manna was sited at Baruiipur lake, Jelasadar, South 24 parganas district on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2019. Single bird was observed again by Chottopadhyay, 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb to 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2022, it was accepted, found at Baruiipur lake, Lelasadar, South 24 parganas district. Another some records by Author going to introduce in this article.

### Observation area:

Extensive observation was carried out from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2017 to 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 in Durghi, Vekaria, Sharad, Kayla, Kamijala wetland adjusted with 1 km South-East, North-East, East, North-West of Sanctuary, on Bagodara-Viramgam and Viramgam – Surendranagar road. It is muddy lagoon with fresh water body, spreaded over more than c. 4000 m<sup>2</sup> and around 30-70 m deep with *I. carnea*, *Typha angustata*, *I. aquatica* and *Cyperus* sp. Comprised with interspreaded *Acicia*, *Arabia* and *Prosopis juliflora*. The bird sanctuary is surrounded by adjusted wetland is shallow depression forming a natural

habitation (Rathod & Parasharya 2018). Thorny scrubs made it more difficult to enter in wetland for observation.

#### Observation site of Nal Sarovar Sanctuary and surrounding wetland:



(Source – Google Maps)

#### Observation



Figure1: 1-1-17

Black streaked crown, nape, upper parts, broad based shorter and pointed bill, upper mandible black, lower pale, brownish dark ear coverts, black moustachial and malar strips, white sub-moustachial strips, throat white, black streaked upper breasts.



Fig. 2 (a):

Black streaked crown, nape & mentle strips, black spotted shorter tail, black streaked pale brown flank extend upto tail.



Fig. 2 (b)

Very similar to fig. 2 (a). White throat, black streaked breast.





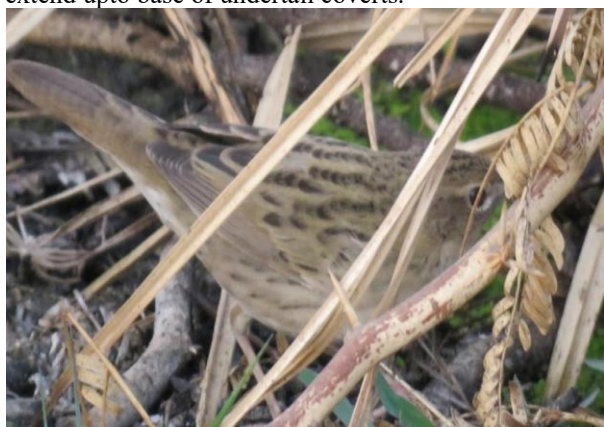
**Fig. 2 (c)**

Very similar to fig. 2 (b). Heavily black spotted flank



**Fig. 2 (d)**

Black streaked dark brown crown, nape, mentle, flank extend upto base of undertail coverts.



**Fig. 2 (e): 22-1-19**

Dark brown ear coverts, pale supercilium black streaked crown, nape & mentle, shorter blackish brown tail, black streaks on flank.



**Fig. 3: 3-1-20**

Broad based black bill, lower bill pale, buff supercilium, black streaked crown, nape & mentle, shorter tail, heavily spotted flank.



**Fig. 4 (a)**

Very similar to fig. 2 & 3. But cooked white undertail with black spots.



**Fig. 4 (b): 7-12-20**

Very similar with upper fig. 1, 2, 3, 4 (a). Black streaked upper breast, pink legs, black spotted flanks.





**Fig. 5 (a)**

Probably juvenile. Very similar to fig. 2, 3, 4. Black spotted shorter tail is brownish, buff heavily black streaked flank.



**Fig. 5 (b): 18-1-20**

Very similar to fig. 5 (a).



**Fig. 6: 21-12-21**

Shorter tail, black streaked flank. Very similar to fig. 5.



**Fig. 7 (a)**

Very similar to fig. 1 to 6. Both birds are juvenile. Black spotted brownish cooked tail.



**Fig. 7 (b): 7-1-23**

Brownish black shorter tail with on spot.



Fig. 8 to 12 are Grasshopper Warbler sited and photographed during observation surrounding Nal Sarovar Sanctuary and areas.



**Fig. 8:** 9-11-21



**Fig. 9**



**Fig. 10**



**Fig. 11**



**Fig. 12:**30-1-20

Fig.	Date	Site	District	Sex	Lat./Long.
1	1-1-17	Vekaria	Ahmedabad	Adult	21.3151° N, 70.9131° E
2	22-1-19	Vekaria	Ahmedabad	Adult	21.3151° N, 70.9131° E
3	3-1-20	Kayla	Ahmedabad	Adult	22.8441° N, 72.0604° E
4	7-12-20	Sharad	Surendranagar	Adult	22.4330° N, 71.2954° E
5	18-1-20	Kamijala	Ahmedabad	Adult	22.9356° N, 72.0172° E
6	21-12-21	Vekaria	Ahmedabad	Adult	21.3151° N, 70.9131° E
7	7-1-23	Kumarkhan	Ahmedabad	Juvenile	22.9067° N, 72.0224° E
8	9-11-19	Kayla	Ahmedabad	Juvenile (Grasshopper)	22.8441° N, 72.0604° E
9	1-12-20	Vekaria	Ahmedabad	Juvenile (Grasshopper)	21.3151° N, 70.9131° E
10	16-11-21	Vekaria	Ahmedabad	Adult (Grasshopper)	21.3151° N, 70.9131° E
11	12-1-21	Vekaria	Ahmedabad	Adult (Grasshopper)	21.3151° N, 70.9131° E
12	30-1-23	Vekaria	Ahmedabad	Adult (Grasshopper)	21.3151° N, 70.9131° E

## DISCUSSION

All the birds were found in grassy habitation of the mashes, lakes and wetlands. Current sightings were actually matches the description of Baker, 1997, Peter & David, 2009. But images were not clear due to all the sites were heavily affected by inter-spreaded Thorny scrubs, made the entrance more difficult. Also jerky, unstable movement of the birds make it more difficult to shoot clear images.

All the records were very important for wintering distribution range of the birds. Ali doesn't mention in Birds of Eastern Himalayas, Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan, Ali & Reply, 2012. Vagrant, Grimmett, 2011, Rasmussen, 2012, also birds were not mention in Checklist of Birds of Gujarat, 2004, 2014, 2020.

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