

Short Article

Volume-06|Issue-05|2026

Important winter vagrant record of Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin* from Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary, Gujarat, India

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Article History

Received: 24.08.2026

Accepted: 05.09.2026

Published: 14.09.2026

Citation

Trivedi, R. (2026). Important winter vagrant record of Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin* from Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary, Gujarat, India. *Indiana Journal of Agriculture and Life Sciences*, 6(5), 5-7.

Abstract: This article documents important winter records of the Garden Warbler (*Sylvia borin*) at Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary, Gujarat, India. Observations were made during birding visits between 2021 and 2025, with individuals identified based on plumage, wing patterns, and morphological features. The records are significant because the species is considered a vagrant in India, with previous records mainly from Ladakh. These observations highlight the conservation importance of Nal Sarovar as a wintering site for avian diversity.

Keyword: Garden Warbler; *Sylvia borin*; winter vagrant; Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary; Gujarat; avian migration.

Species authority: Boddaert, 1783

Domain: Eukaryote

Genus: - *Sylvia*

Family: - Sylviidae

Order: - Passeriformes

Class: - Aves

Phylum: - Chordata

Kingdom: - Animalia

Scientific name: - *Sylvia borin*

English name: - Garden Warbler

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INTRODUCTION

The Garden warbler *S. borin* are the medium sized, quiet robust – **Baker**, solidly built, greyish, reserved warbler – **Baker 1997 & Rasmussen 2012**. Belongs to Sylvi Genus, family – sylviidae. Detached in 2 different race – 1. *S. B. borin* – from west Balkans, Finland, West and Central Europe, during winter migration – Africa (Central sub-Saharan Africa). 2. *S. B. wood vardi* – From Caucasus, North Turkey, Bulgaria, Balkans to North, Central Siberia, Central Poland, Finland. During winter migration – Found in East and South Africa. Vagrant birds were sighted in Ladakh, North-West India. 3 juvenile birds were ringed in end of monsoon, 26th September. On, all birds were identified by wing pattern, site, plumage combination. Three vagrant birds were sighted and ringed in Ladakh on 9th October, 1980, 10th September, 1981 – IB Vol. 9/1.

Sanctuary () is very important for high conservation value. Has a Cappiris decidua, *S. bisspinosa*, *C. decidua*, *triumfetta rotundifolia*, *C. arborea salvadora persica*, *P. spicigera*, *C. procepra*, *leusca cephalotas*, *I. carnea*, *C. soppiaria*, *Acacia arabica*, *I. aquatica*, *Cyperus* sp. and *T. angustata*, with main immigrant vegetation. *P. juliflora* make it difficult to enter in thorny area to shoot the images. Elongated

North-west, North-East range of Sanctuary, adjusted center of Sanctuary. One bird was sighted behind interpretation center, 2 birds were found in green park and last bird was found near main gate of Sanctuary. Declared sanctuary in 1969 and Ramsar site in 2012.

I was birding in Nal Sarovar birds Sanctuary, behind interpretation center of Sanctuary.



11-01-21

Upper mendible bluish-grey, lower mendible pale, pale grey crown and nape, white supercilium and eye ring, pale lores, white throat, dark grey mentle, blackish-brown wing coverts with primary, dark grey tail, vent and undertail white, pale breast and belly, grey legs.



12-12-22

Shorter supercilium, pale grey crown and nape, white eye ring, blackish-brown wing coverts with primary, dark grey tail, pale lores, white throat, dark grey mentle, pale breast and belly, grey legs.



1-11-24

Upper mendible bluish-grey, lower mendible pale, pale lores, white throat, dark grey mentle, blackish-brown wing coverts with primary, pale grey crown and nape, white supercilium and eye ring, dark grey tail, vent and undertail white, pale breast and belly, grey legs.



19-1-25

Brownish grey crown and mentle, broken eye ring, supercilium extend upto eye, upper mendible bluish-grey, lower mendible pale, pale lores, dark grey tail, pale breast and belly, white throat, grey legs.

Present wintering site is very interesting and important for its distribution range. Some previous record available from North-West India, Ladakh. 3 juvenile birds were ringed on 26th September, 1980 and on 9th October, 1981, by C. Williams & Delany, 1986.

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