

Short Article

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Important Winter Vagrant Record of Purple Sandpiper (Juvenile) *Ceaidris Maritima* from Vadla Wetland, North-West Range of Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary, Gujarat, India

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Abstract: This study reports an important winter vagrant record of a juvenile Purple Sandpiper (*Calidris maritima*) from Vadla Wetland, located in the north-western range of Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary, Gujarat, India. Observed on 29 October 2013, the species was identified through distinct morphological features differentiating it from similar waders such as Dunlin. This rare occurrence significantly extends its known distribution range and highlights the ecological importance of wetland habitats in supporting migratory and vagrant bird species.

Keyword: Purple Sandpiper, *Calidris maritima*, Nal Sarovar, Vadla Wetland, winter vagrant, avifauna, wetland ecology

Species authority: - *Maritima* Brunnich, 1784

Domain: Eukaryote

Genus: - *Calidris*

Family: - Scolopacidae

Order: - Charadriiformes

Class: - Aves

Phylum: - Chordata

Kingdom: - Animalia

Scientific name: - *Calidris maritima*

Common name: - Purple Sandpiper

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INTRODUCTION

The purple Sandpiper *C. maritima* is small-sized West world Sandpiper. Accures in North Temperata of Fennoscandia, North Central Siberia, Taymar peninsula to Sever maya, Noya Zemlya, Franz Josep land, Svalbard, Greenland through North-East Canada. It is found during winter migration, coast of East of North America – **del hoyo 14**, Western Europe – **Svensson**, vagrant birds were recorded in North-West Africa – **Mauritania, 1985 - Borrow & Demey**.

On 29-10-13, at 4:45 PM, birding at Vadla Wetland (22.93° N, 71.98° E), dist. Surendranagar, North-West range of Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary, 55 km North-East from Surendranagar city, Sites are spectacular natural lake with muddy lagoon, open waterbody, known for remarkable waterfoul habitation, also known for significant at conservation value, lies in its longer congregation of important birds. I sighted and photographed small sized Wader like bird resembling of Dunlin *C. alpina*, but it has yellow legs, yellowish black tipped bill, distinguished from Dunlin, has black bill and black legs. Diagnostic differences disconnect it and consider as a different and separate species from Dunlin. Then after checking on authentic literature on Waders, identified as a juvenile Purple Sandpiper *Ceaidris maritima*.

Bird has yellowish broad-based black tipped shorter bill, pale blackish-brown crown, ear coverts, broken white eye ring, white throat, brownish upper breast, belly, vent white, greenish yellow legs, blackish-brown wing coverts, primary black, square-ended brownish tail and lower tail white.



Present records are very important for its distribution range. It occurs in only North America and Canada – **del hoyo 14**, winter vagrant in Europe –

Svensson 2010, only single winter vagrant record is available from West Africa, 1980 – **Borrow and Demey, 2001**. Recent record from Nal Sarovar birds Sanctuary, Western India. It is showed that birds are might migrate elsewhere also, more observation is required.

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