

Alpine Swift *Apus melba* (1, 9, 6). **RV**

(Breeds southern Europe to the Himalayas. Winters southern Africa).

Published records:

1866

One: Found dead. Lough Neagh [no county] "May". Was identified by English ornithologist Howard Saunders, at Sheals taxidermy premises in Belfast. *Deane* 1954.

1970

One: Drumbeg, near Belfast, County Down, 8th September (E. Dunlop). *Ruttledge* 1971.

1974

One: Castlerock, County Londonderry, 8th June (W. Hilditch). *Brazier, Dowdall, Fitzharris & Grace* 1986.

1981

One: Torr Head, County Antrim, 7th June, seen flying past in a southerly direction (S. Craig, George Gordon). *NIBRC* 1982.

1988

One: Mountstewart, County Down, 24th July (R.W. Milliken). *Irish Birds* 4:102.

1995

One: Minerstown (grid reference J498 359), County Down, 2nd April (Dermot Hughes). *Milne & O'Sullivan* 1998.

Up to two: Newcastle, County Down. One bird observed on 18th to 21st July, with two birds present on one day only, the 22nd July, with a single bird remaining to 23rd July (Leonard Charles *et al.*). *NIBA* 1997.

1997

One: St. John's Point, Killough, County Down, 4th May (Christopher Veale). *Milne & O'Sullivan* 1999.

1998

One: Orlock Point, Groomsport, County Down, 23rd June (Colin Guy). *NIBA* 2000.

2002

Two: Murlough Bay / Portadoo, County Antrim, 25th to 27th June (Matthew Tickner *et al.*). *NIBA* 2004.

2003

One: Fair Head, Ballycastle, County Antrim, 13th June (David Mitchell). *NIBA* 2006.

2005

One: Cranfield Point, Cranfield Bay, Carlingford Lough, County Down, 20th May (Dave Allen). *Milne & McAdams* 2009.

2006

One: Whitehouse Lagoon, Belfast, County Antrim, 2nd April (Stuart McKee). *Milne & McAdams* 2009.

One: Crossgar, County Down, 18th July (S. Marshall). *Milne & McAdams* 2009.