

May 25 Mayo Corncrake Update

Numbers are building in Mayo and beginning to approach the 27 we had here last year. It seems that as well as at least five around Carne Hill, three in Belmullet and three at Glebe, there are at least two at Corclogh West and perhaps a different one at Termoncarragh stripes. There is at least one each at Drum and between the football pitch and the tower at Glos. Ones are also reported at Binghamstown creamery, west of Sauleen quay, Fallmore and at Doohoma Head on the other side of Blacksod Bay.

Outside Erris, one was heard by Mary Munnelly at Muingelly, near Ballycastle, calling from a field but also from a chimney-top (it sometimes happens!) on 20 May. One was last heard in exactly the same field about six years ago.

There are at least seven, and probably eight, in the South Mayo coastal strip between Roonagh and Killadoon. Seven were confirmed on 20 May, the first day of the national Corncrake census, with six between the quay car park and Accony crossroads, plus one in John Tiernan's garden at Doughmakeon.

Nationally, there are three Corncrakes in the Shannon Callows and at least two have been heard at Valentia, Co Kerry.

Please email or phone Corncrake reports on 095 44941.