

**MINISTERU GHAL GHAWDEX**

*Taqsimta tar-Regolamentazzjoni għall-  
Għasafar Selvaggi*



**MINISTRY FOR GOZO**

*Wild Birds Regulation Unit*

# **Game Reporting Data**

## 2019 Report

Wild Birds Regulation Unit

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# Introduction

In February 2016, the Government enacted Legal Notice 69 of 2016 (Conservation of Wild Birds (Amendment) Regulations), which paved the way for reform of the system of general hunting licences. Instead of the previous *Carnet de Chasse* reporting system, hunting and live-capturing reports were submitted through a telephonic game reporting system. The data in this report was collated from the game reporting system.

For autumn–winter bird hunting and rabbit hunting/ferreting seasons, licensees were legally required to report their bags before leaving the location where their activity was taking place. For seasons opened under derogation (Spring Hunting and Autumn Live-Capturing) licensees were required to report their bags immediately upon making a catch, thus allowing for real-time data to be gathered. The reports were aggregated in a central database which allows the Wild Birds Regulation Unit to monitor the data at any point in time for both scientific and enforcement purposes.

Live-capturing data for song thrush and golden plover pertains to reports made under derogation. Detailed reports on the outcome of these derogations can be found in the official derogations report available at: <http://msdec.gov.mt/en/Pages/WBRU/livecapturingder.aspx>. Spring hunting derogation reports are also available at: <https://msdec.gov.mt/en/Pages/WBRU/springhuntingderogations.aspx>.

The table below outlines the number of licences active for each general licence category in 2019. Individual licensees could have one or a combination of multiple categories of these licences. Licensees could only report game caught pertaining to their respective licence categories.

Licence Category	Nº of licences
General Licence for Hunting birds on land	10,615
Special Spring Hunting licence – <i>Quail</i>	7,555
General Licence for Hunting birds at sea	287
General Licence for Hunting of wild rabbit	2,801
General Licence for Capture of wild rabbit with nets	60
General licence for Live-Capturing of birds	4,527
Special Autumn Live-Capturing Licence – <i>Song Thrush and Golden Plover</i>	1,582

In order to practice hunting during the reporting period, in addition to their general hunting licences, licensees were required to have a valid weapons permit issued by the Police, a valid insurance cover, and a membership in a recognised hunting organisation.

During the reporting period, a total of 3,863 specimens belonging to huntable species were reported hunted and a total of 1,422 specimens were reported captured under live-capturing derogations. The system received a total of 2,596 telephonic reports (SMS reports) from 956 individuals.

The following table lists the reports submitted by licensees within each licence category and the corresponding total number of specimens reported. The number of licensees submitting a report as a percentage of the total number of licences within each category is also provided.

Licence Category	Total licences	Nº of licensees participating in game reporting	Percentage of total licences within category	Nº of SMS reports received	Specimens reported
General Licence for Hunting birds on land	10,615	294	2.77%	987	2,736
Special Spring Hunting licence – <i>Quail</i>	7,555	401	5.31%	752	1,070
General Licence for Hunting birds at sea	287	0	0	0	0
General Licence for Hunting of wild rabbit	2,801	14	0.5%	25	38
General Licence for Capture of wild rabbit with nets	60	4	6.67%	5	19
General licence for Live-Capturing of birds	4,527	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Special Autumn Live-Capturing Licence – <i>Song Thrush and Golden Plover</i>	1,582	379	23.96%	827	1,422

# **Hunting Data**

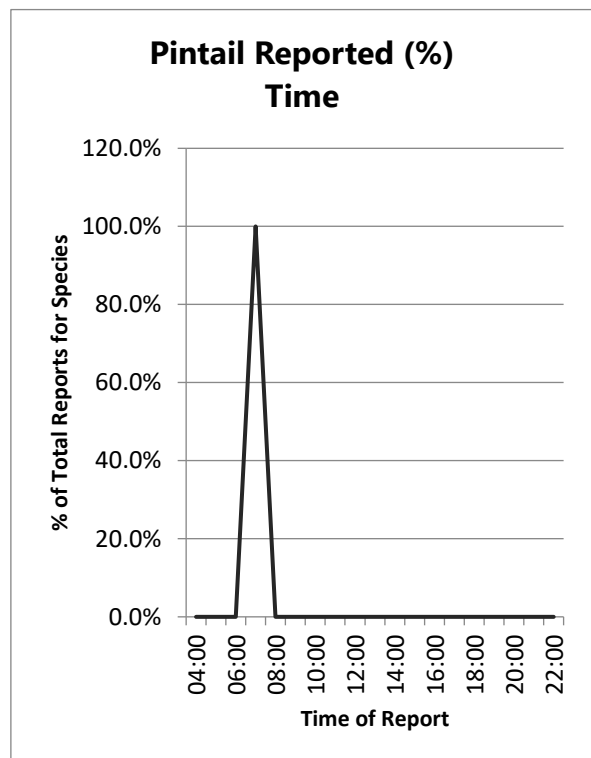
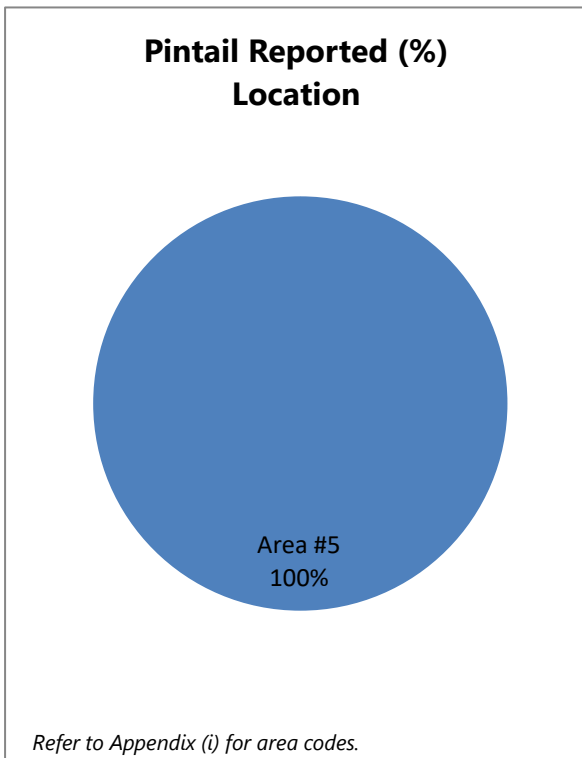
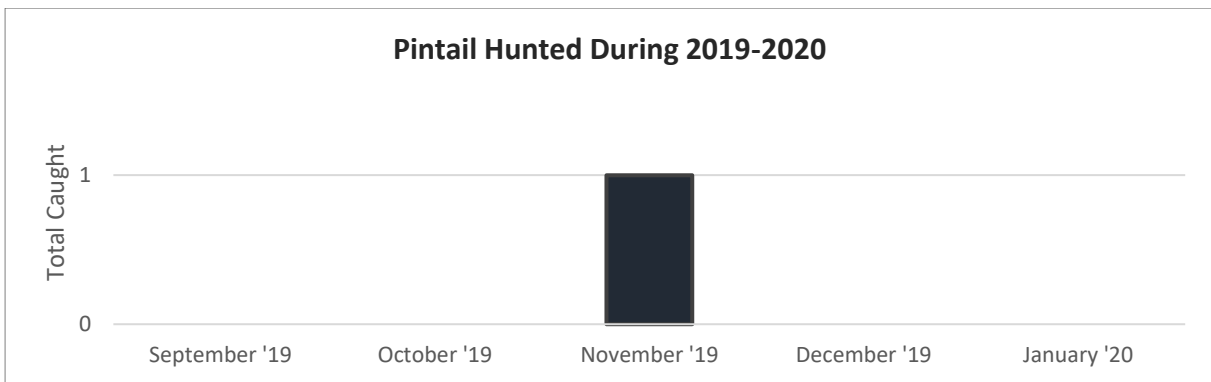
2019 Report

*Anas acuta*

**Pintail**

Silfjun

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '19	0
October '19	0
November '19	1
December '19	0
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>



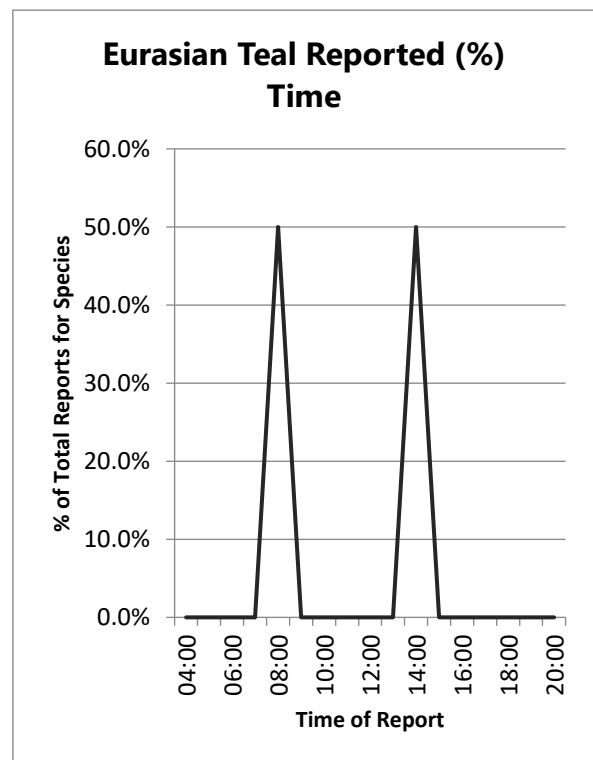
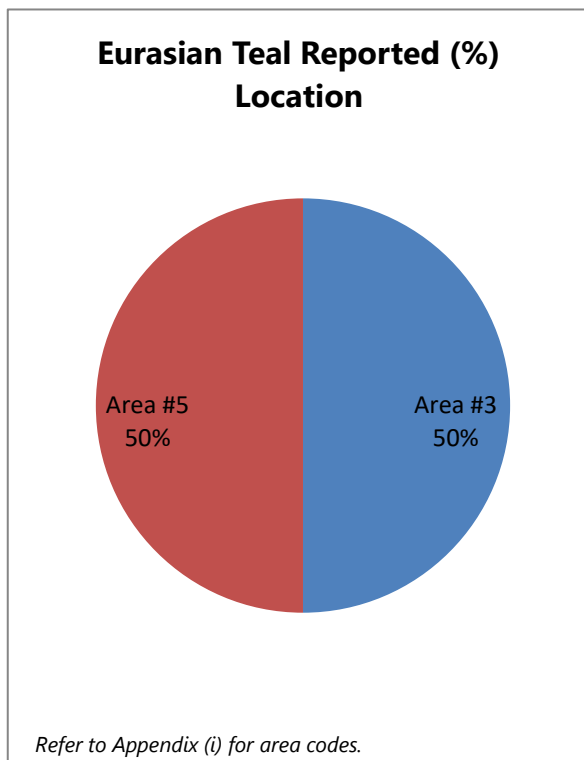
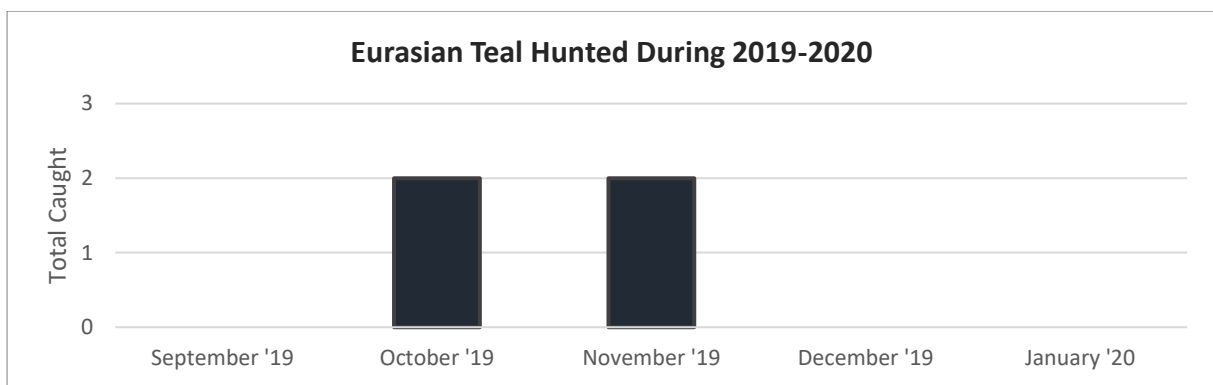
Anseriformes	- Anatidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Anas clypeata</i>			
<b>Shoveler</b>			
Palettuna			
		September '19	0
		October '19	0
		November '19	0
		December '19	0
		January '20	0
		<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

*Anas crecca*

**Eurasian Teal**

Sarsella

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '19	0
October '19	2
November '19	2
December '19	0
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

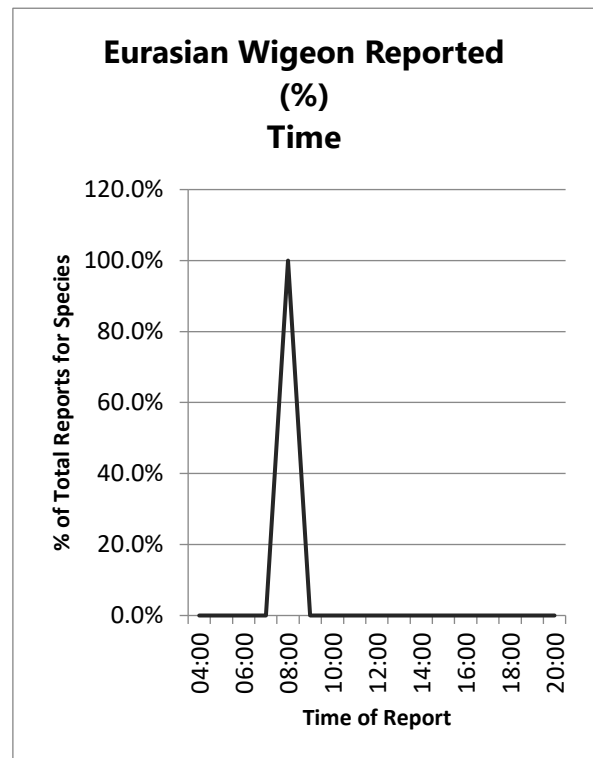
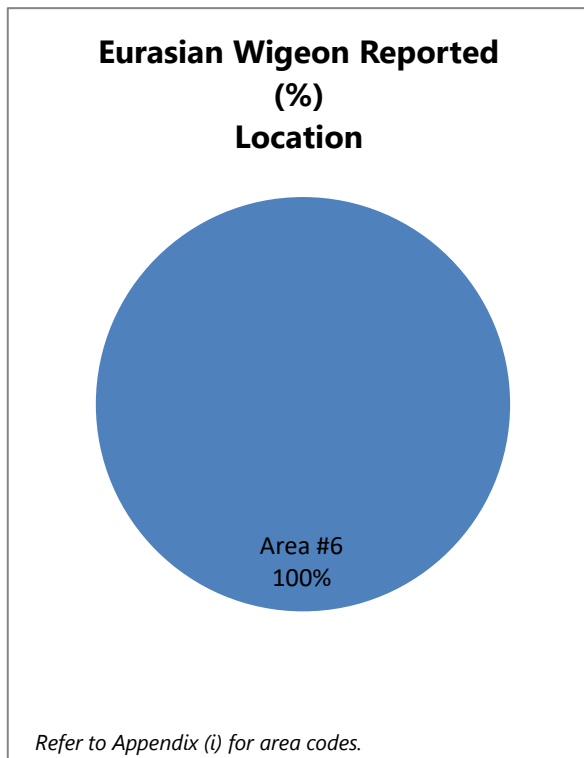
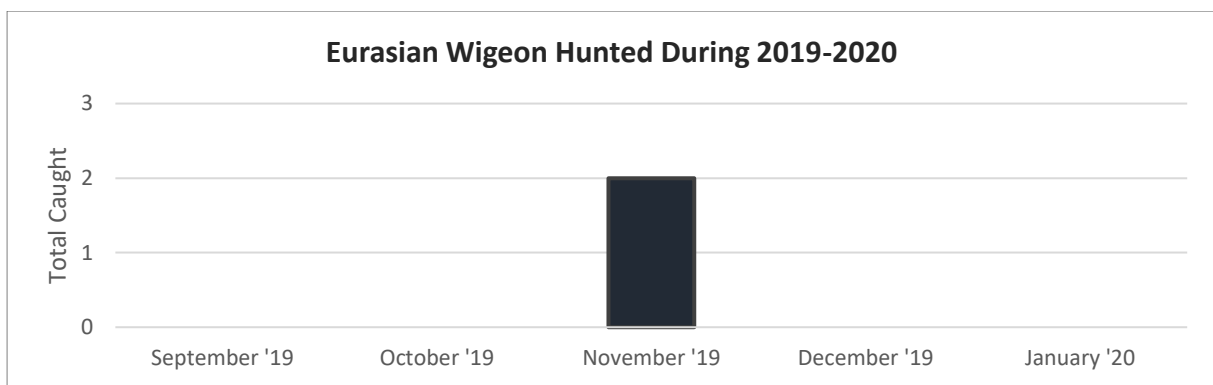


*Anas penelope*

**Eurasian Wigeon**

Silfjun Ewropew

September '19	0
October '19	0
November '19	2
December '19	0
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>



Anseriformes - Anatidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		
<b>Mallard</b>		
Kuluvert		
	September '19	0
	October '19	0
	November '19	0
	December '19	0
	January '20	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

Anseriformes

- Anatidae

Month

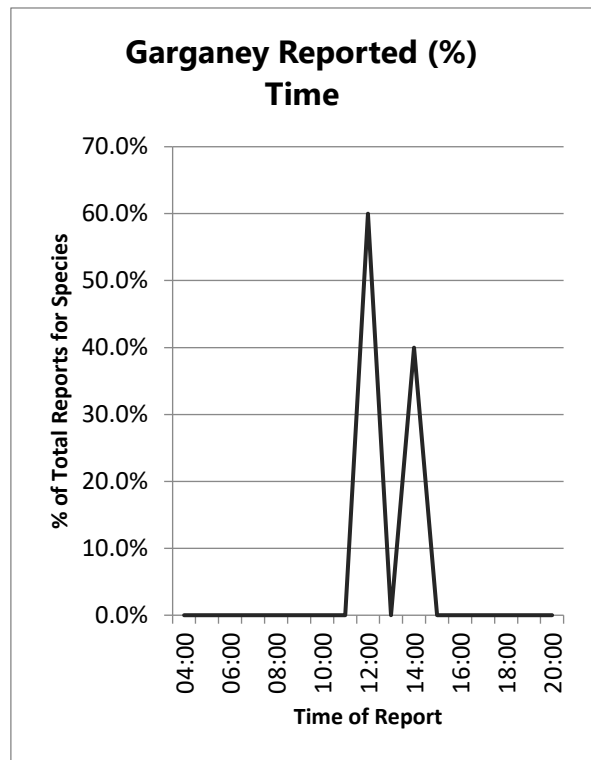
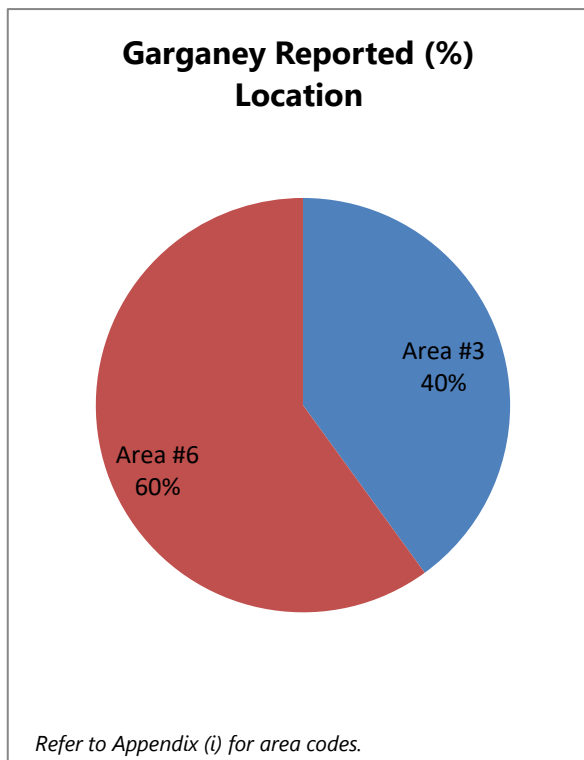
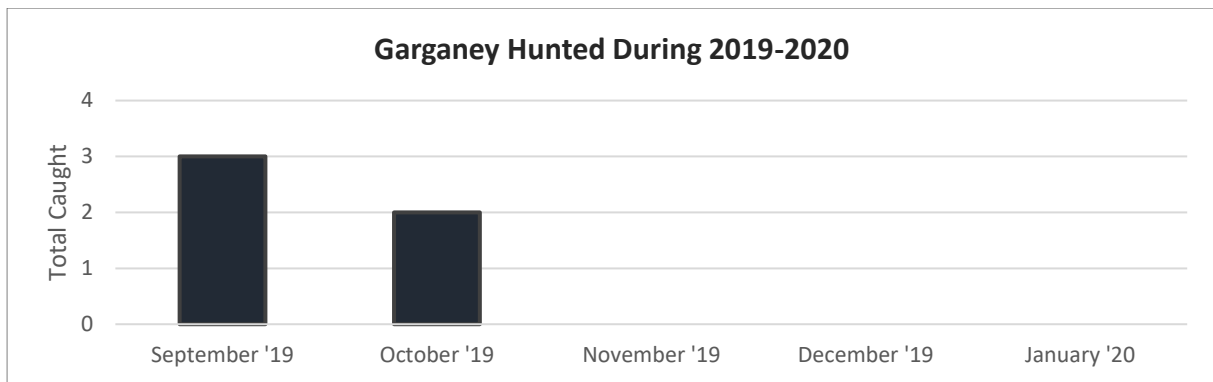
Specimens Hunted

*Anas querquedula*

**Garganey**

Sarsella Hamra

September '19	3
October '19	2
November '19	0
December '19	0
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>



Anseriformes - Anatidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Anas strepera</i>		
<b>Gadwall</b>		
Kuluvert Griž		
	September '19	0
	October '19	0
	November '19	0
	December '19	0
	January '20	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

Anseriformes - Anatidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Anser anser</i>		
<b>Greylag Goose</b>		
<i>Wizza Griza</i>		
	September '19	0
	October '19	0
	November '19	0
	December '19	0
	January '20	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

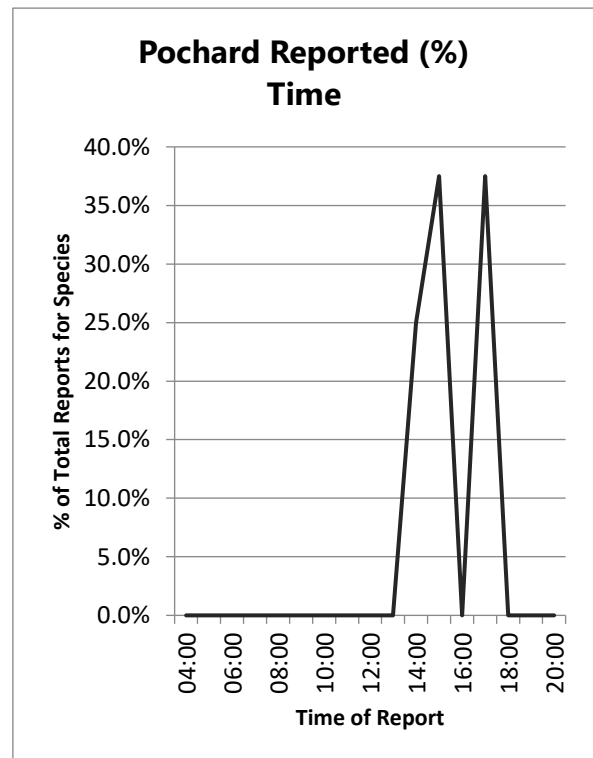
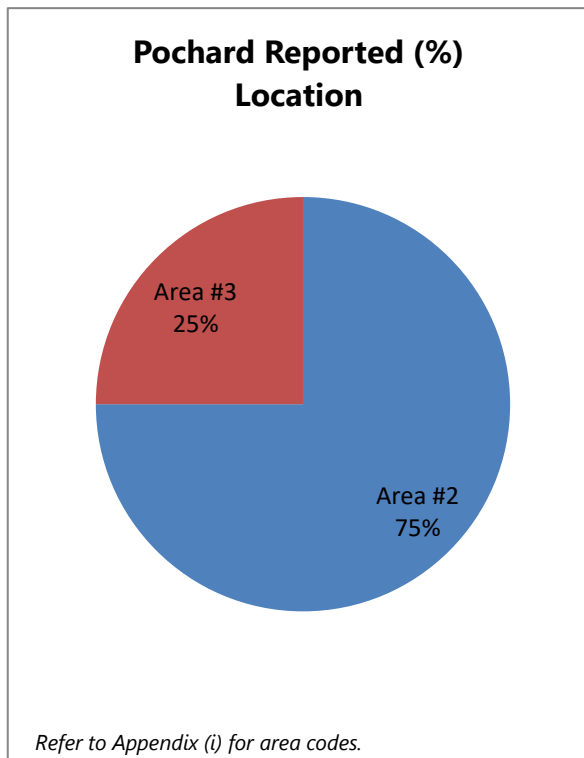
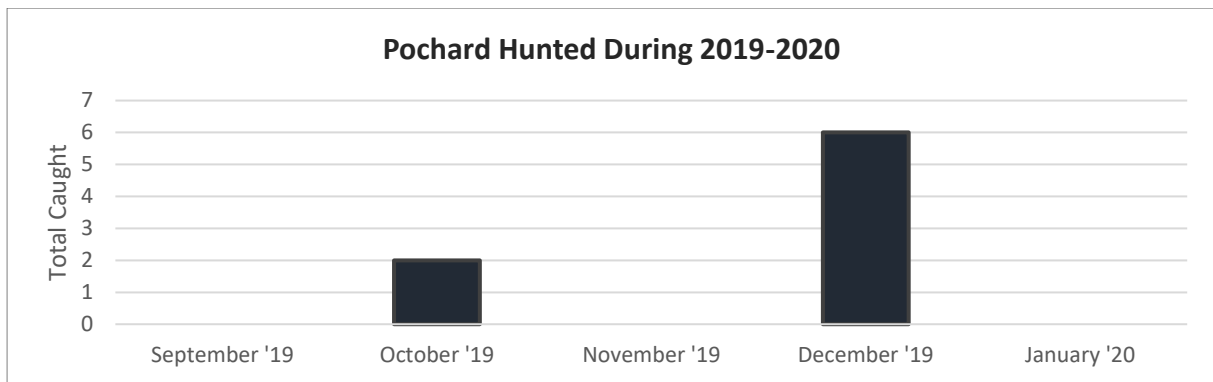
Anseriformes	- Anatidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Anser fabalis</i>			
<b>Taiga Bean Goose</b>			
Wizza tal-Ful			
		September '19	0
		October '19	0
		November '19	0
		December '19	0
		January '20	0
		<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

*Aythya ferina*

**Pochard**

Brajmla

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '19	0
October '19	2
November '19	0
December '19	6
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>



Anseriformes

- Anatidae

Month

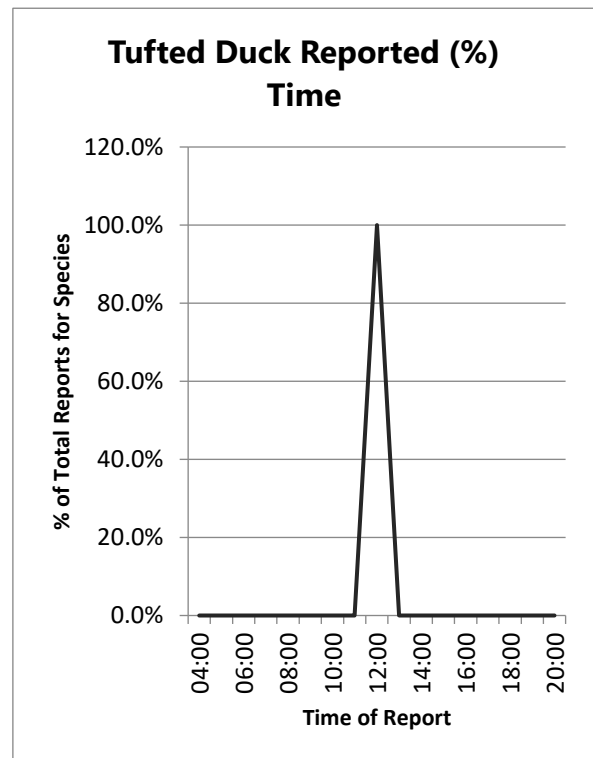
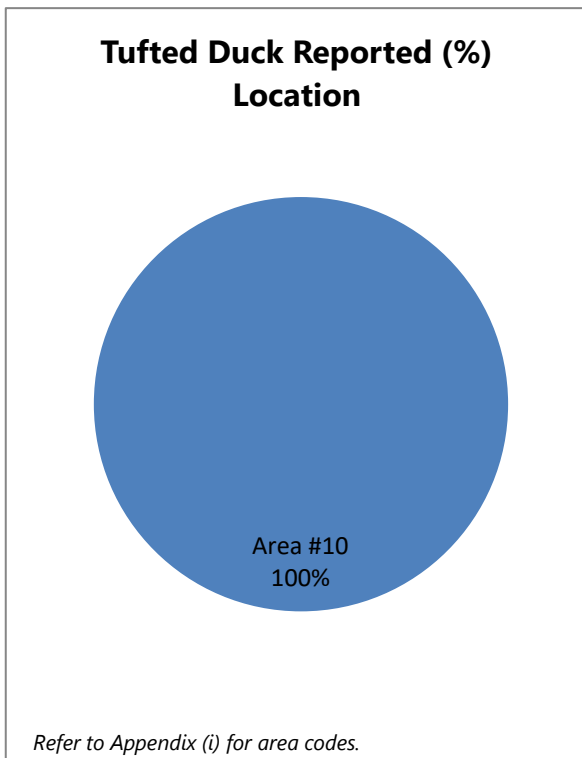
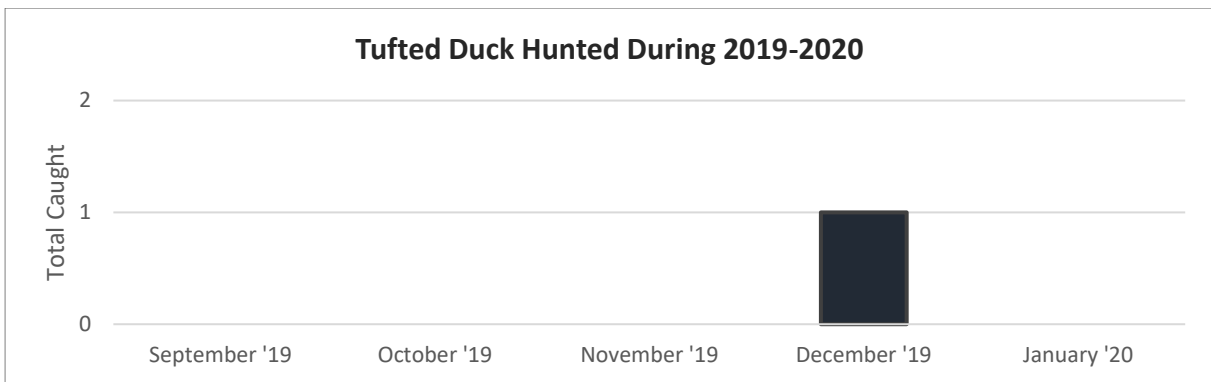
Specimens Hunted

*Aythya fuligula*

**Tufted Duck**

Brajmla tat-Toppu

September '19	0
October '19	0
November '19	0
December '19	1
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>



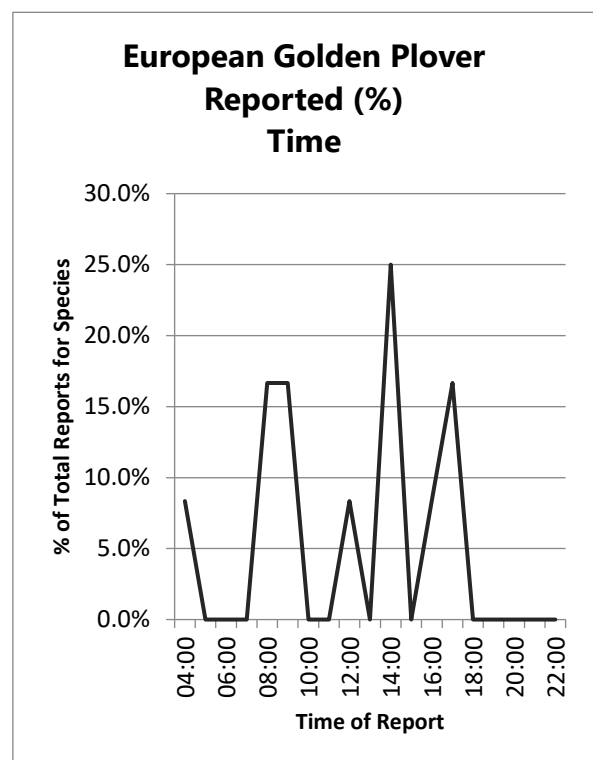
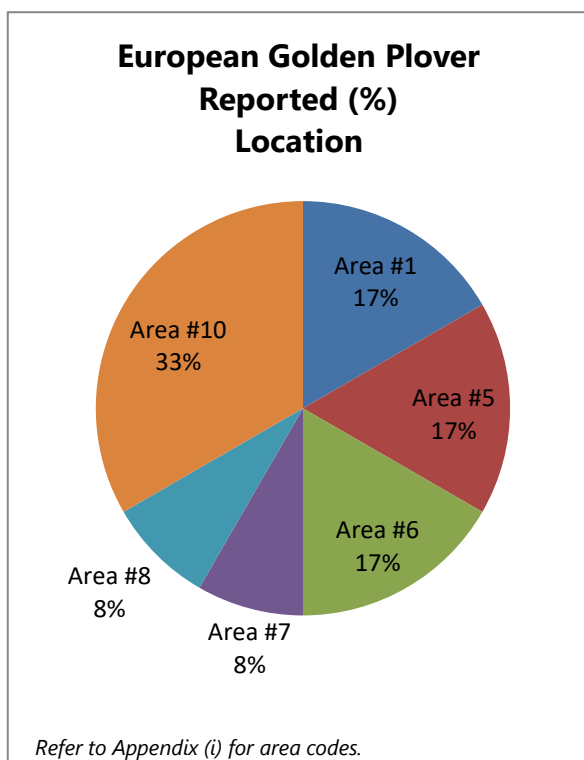
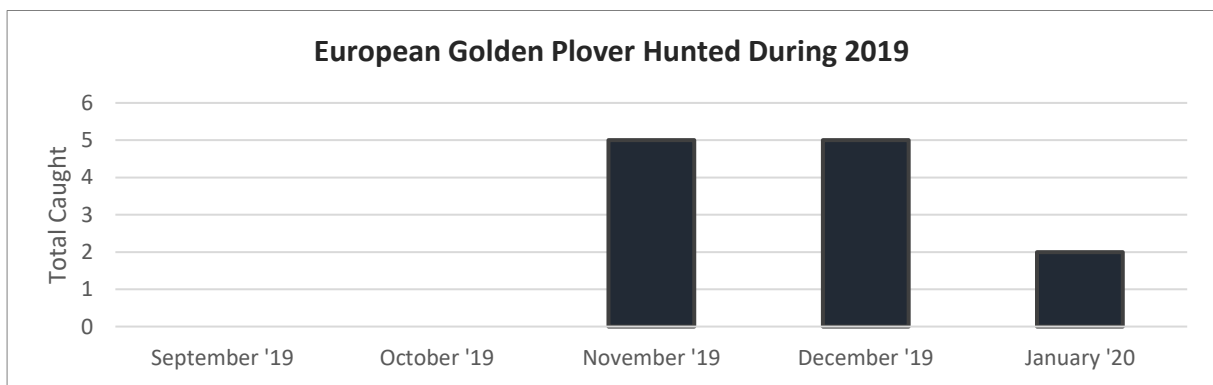
*Pluvialis apricaria*

**European Golden Plover**

Pluviera

(Hunting Data)

September '19	0
October '19	0
November '19	5
December '19	5
January '20	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>

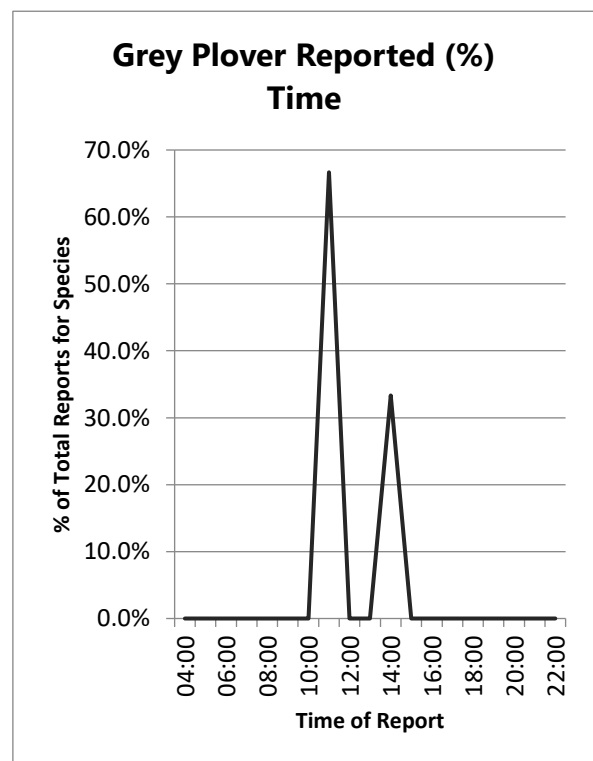
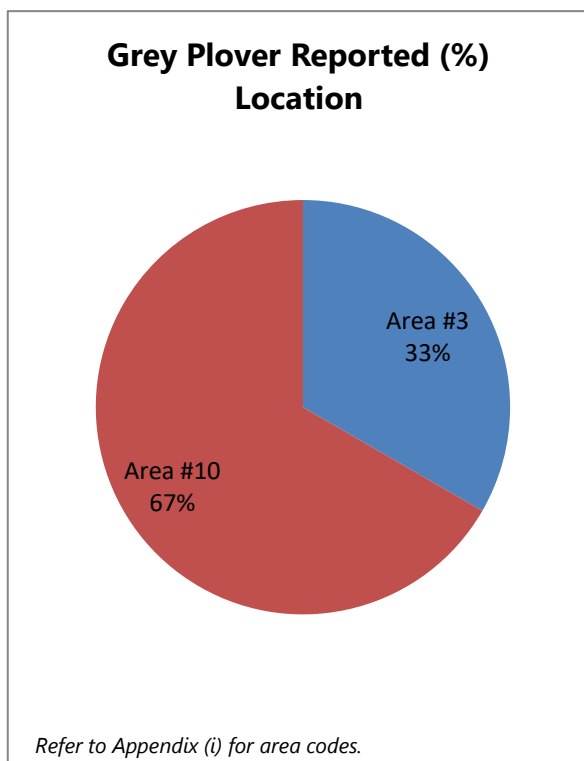
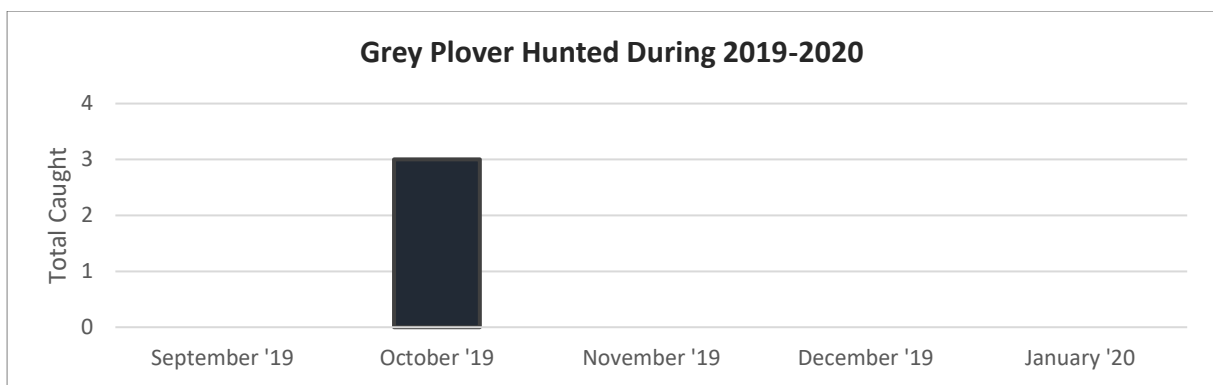


*Pluvialis squatarola*

**Grey Plover**

*Pluviera Pastarda*

September '19	0
October '19	3
November '19	0
December '19	0
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>

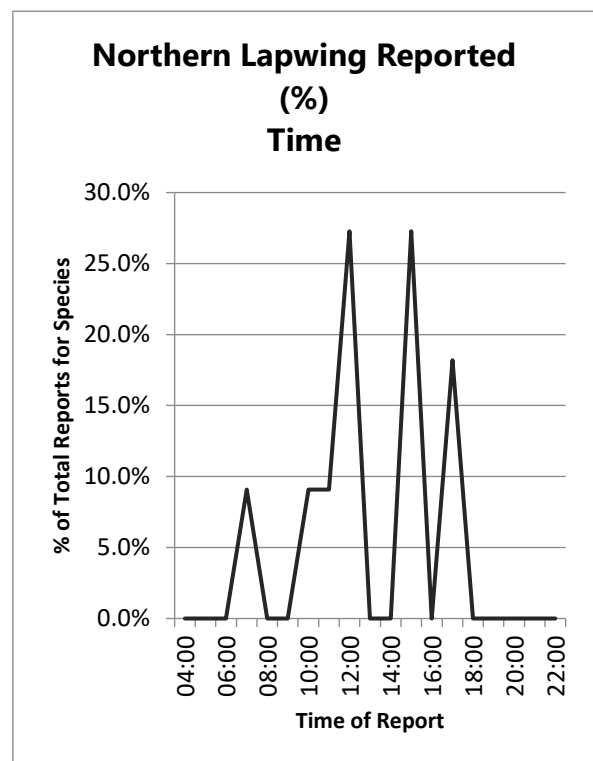
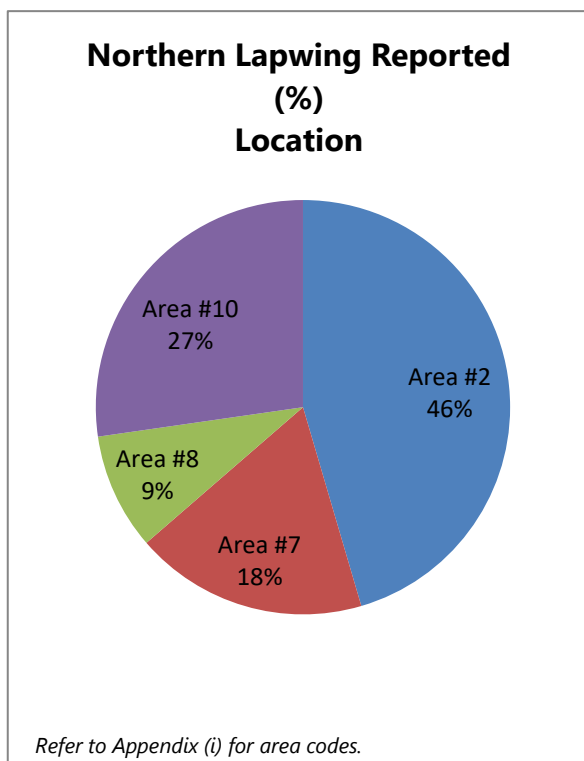
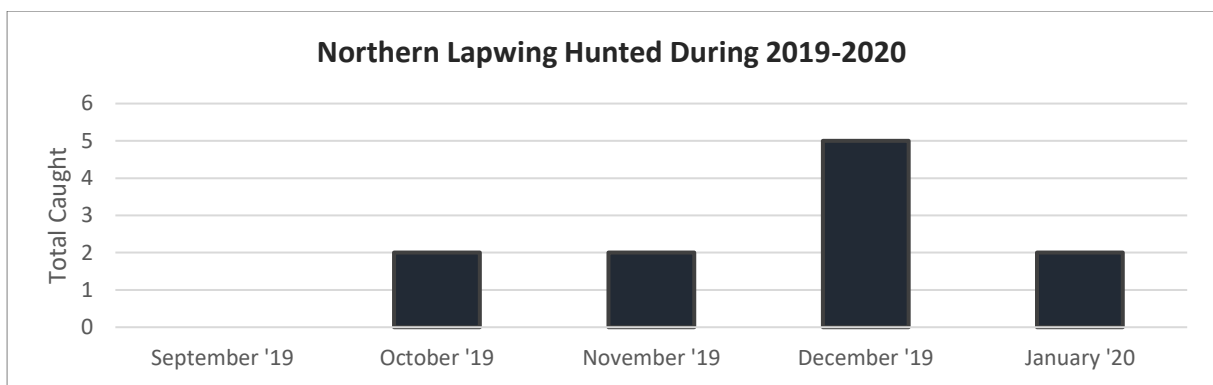


*Vanellus vanellus*

**Northern Lapwing**

Venewwa

September '19	0
October '19	2
November '19	2
December '19	5
January '20	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>

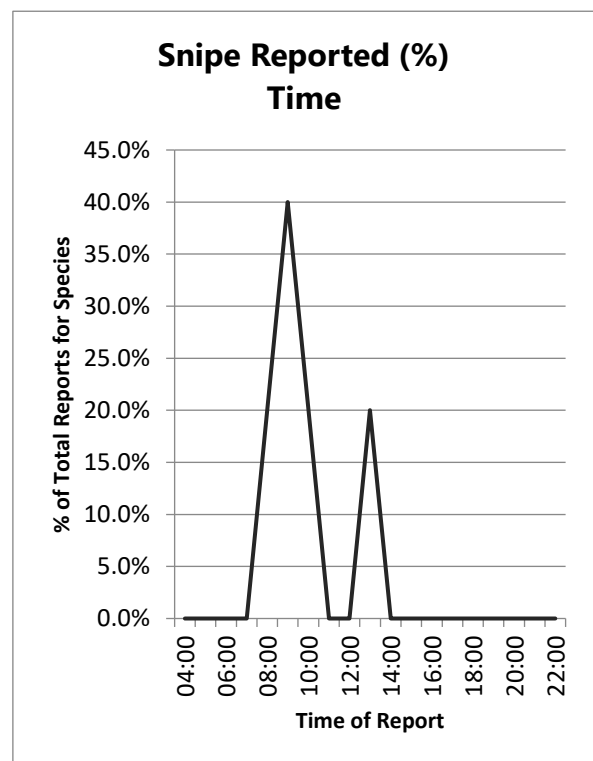
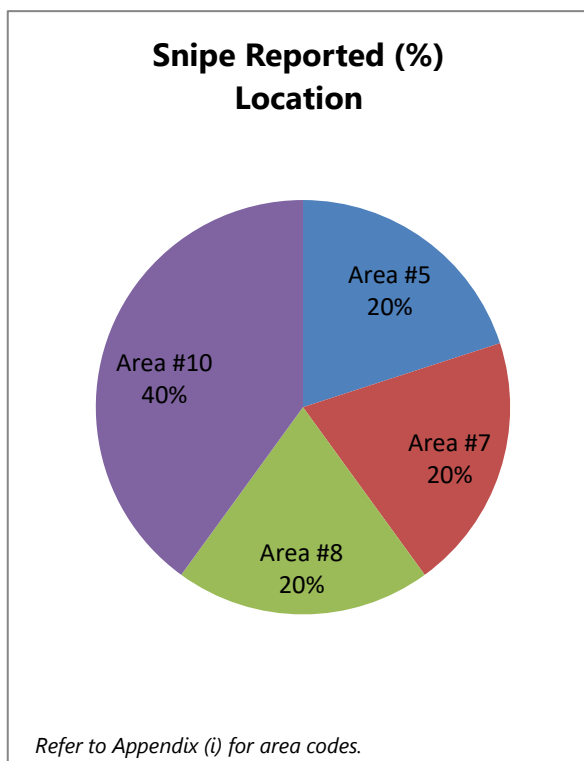
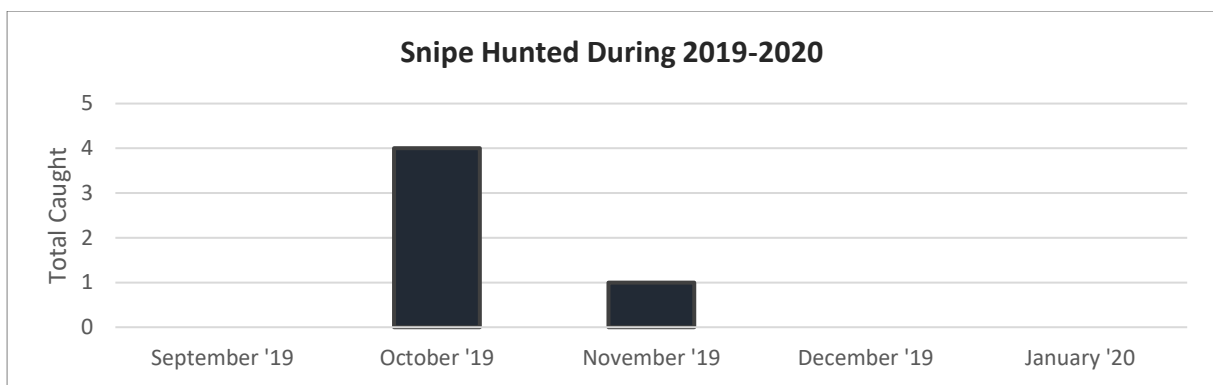


*Gallinago gallinago*

**Snipe**

Bekkaçç

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '19	0
October '19	4
November '19	1
December '19	0
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>

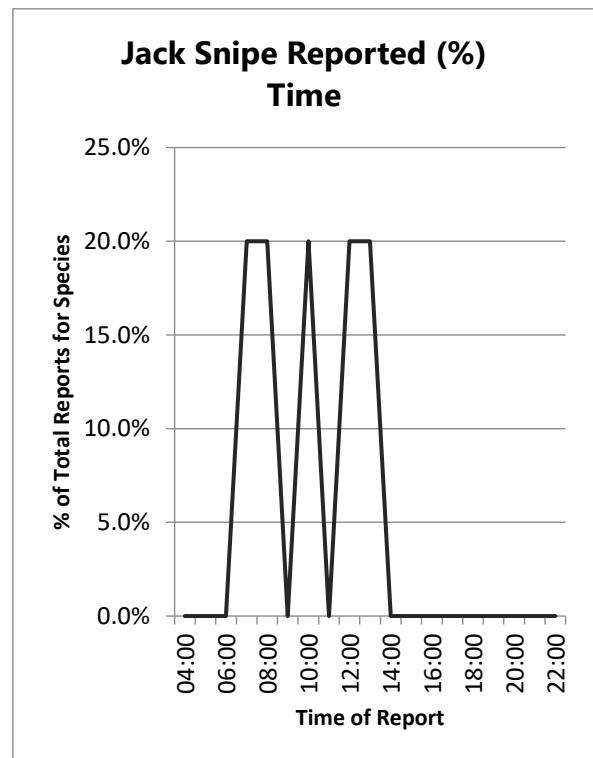
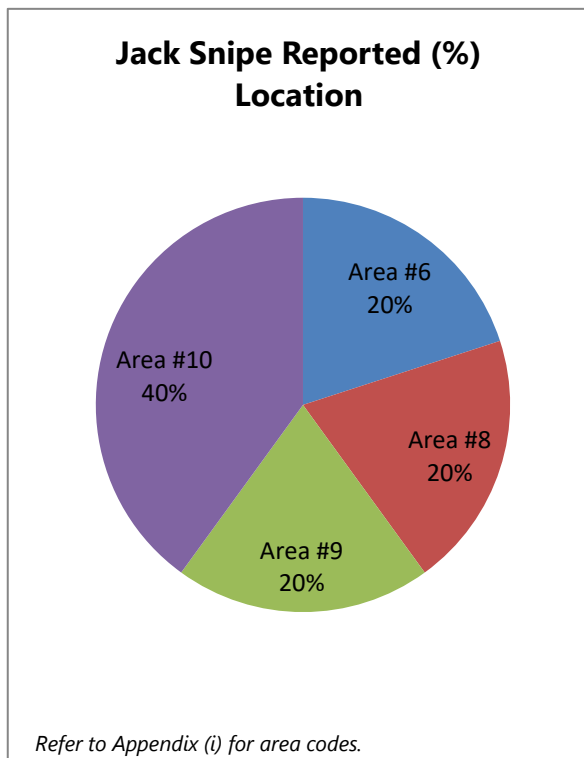
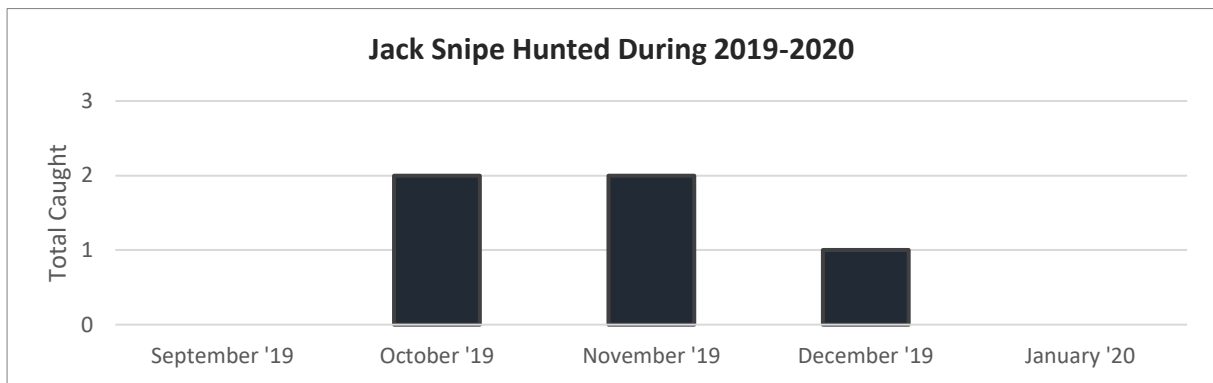


*Lymnocyptes minimus*

**Jack Snipe**

Činkonja

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '19	0
October '19	2
November '19	2
December '19	1
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>

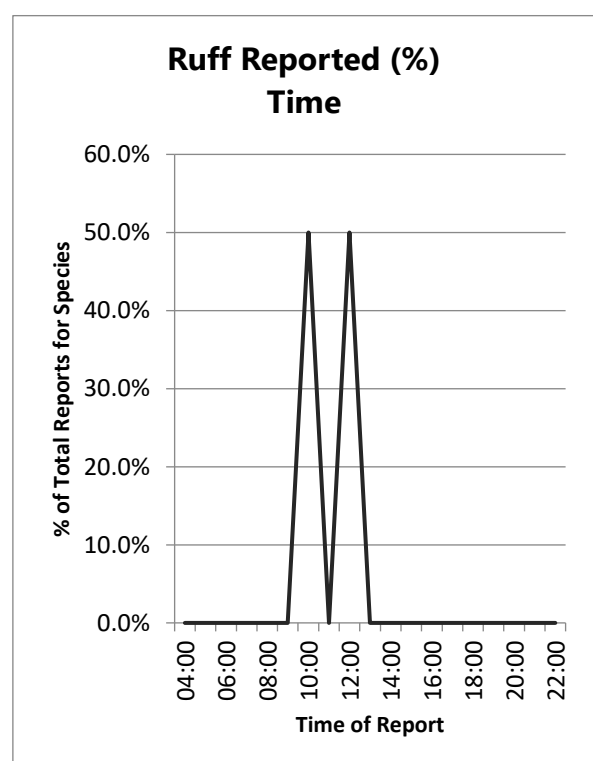
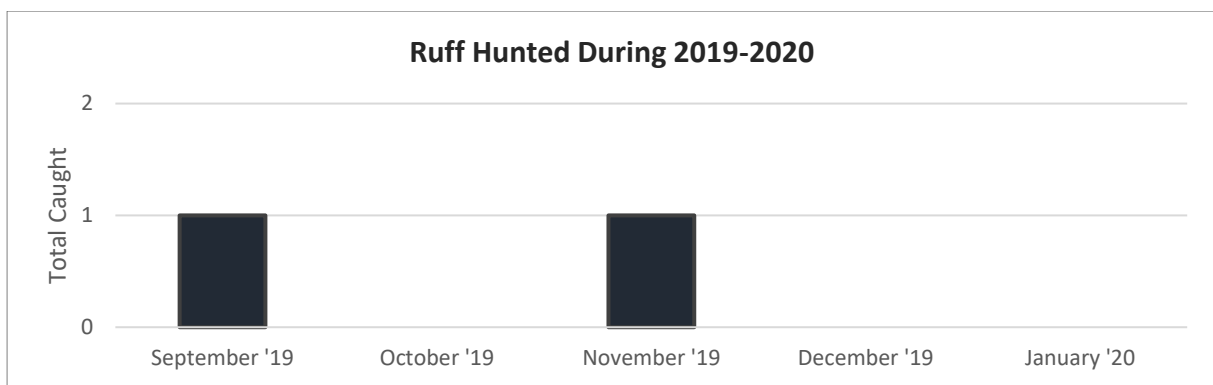


*Philomachus pugnax*

**Ruff**

Girviel

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '19	1
October '19	0
November '19	1
December '19	0
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>

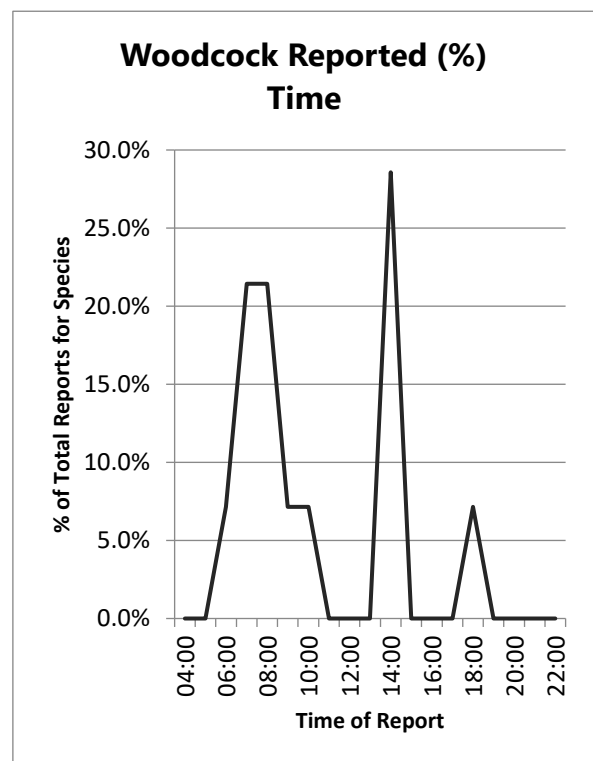
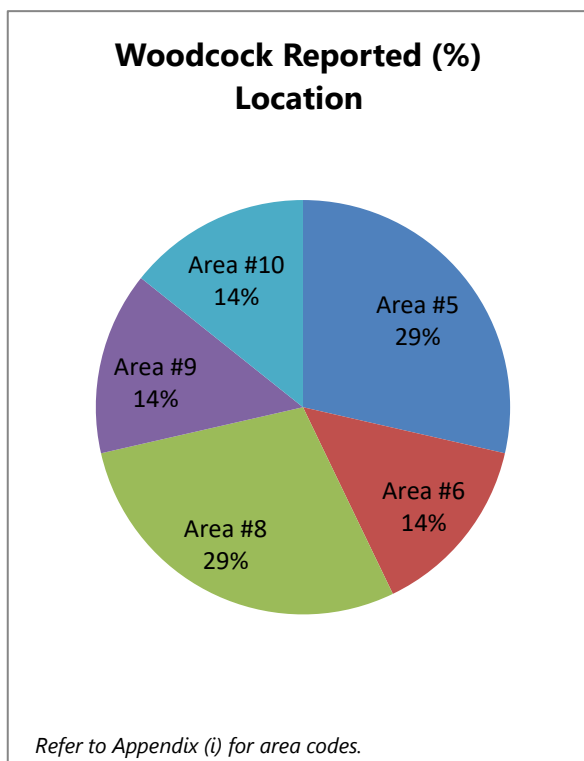
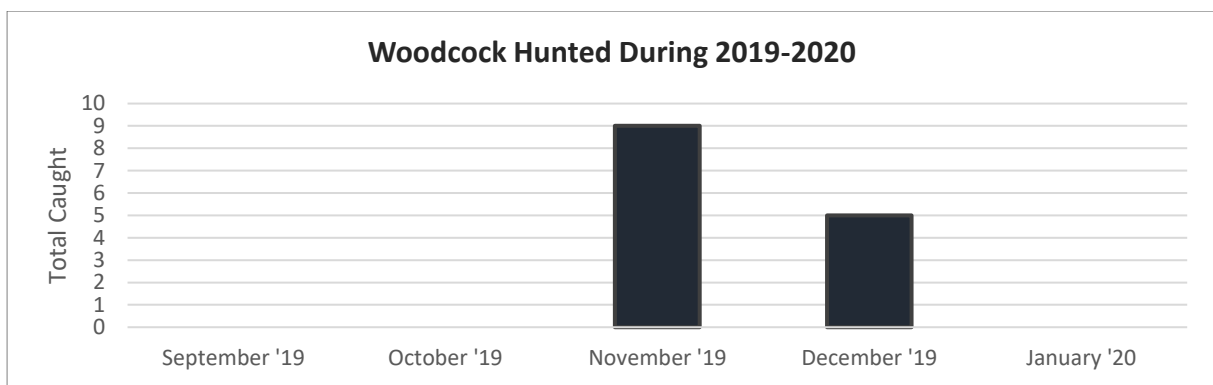


*Scolopax rusticola*

**Woodcock**

Gallina

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '19	0
October '19	0
November '19	9
December '19	5
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>



Columbiformes - Columbidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Columba livia</i>		
<b>Rock Dove</b>		
Tudun Tal-Gebel		
	September '19	0
	October '19	0
	November '19	0
	December '19	0
	January '20	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

Columbiformes - Columbidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Columba palumbus</i>		
<b>Wood Pigeon</b>		
Tudun		
	September '19	0
	October '19	0
	November '19	0
	December '19	0
	January '20	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

*Streptopelia turtur*

**European Turtle-dove**

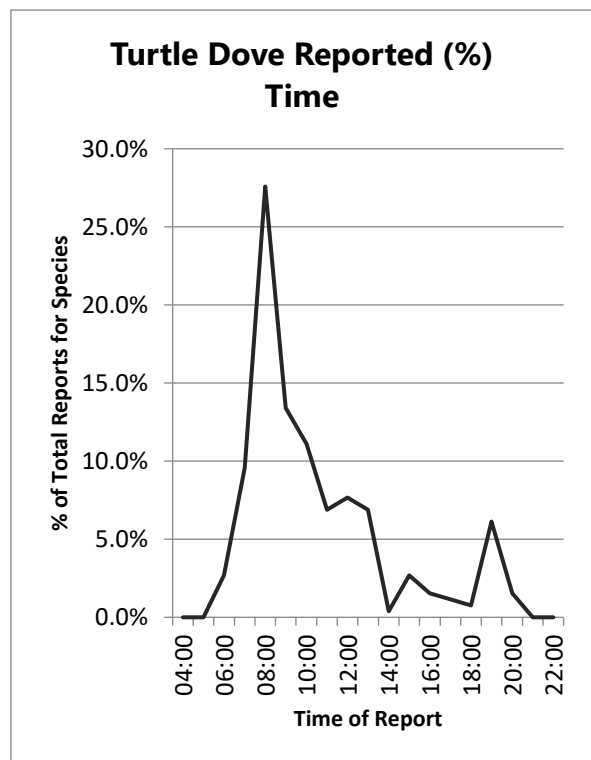
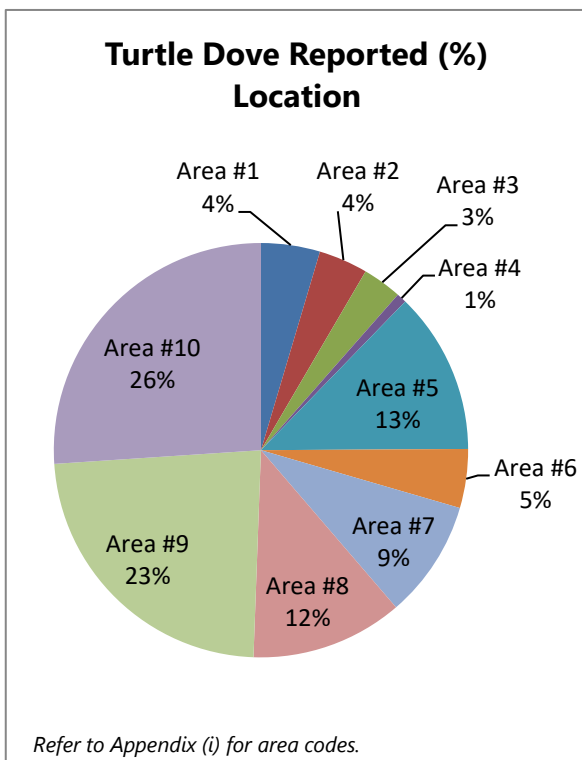
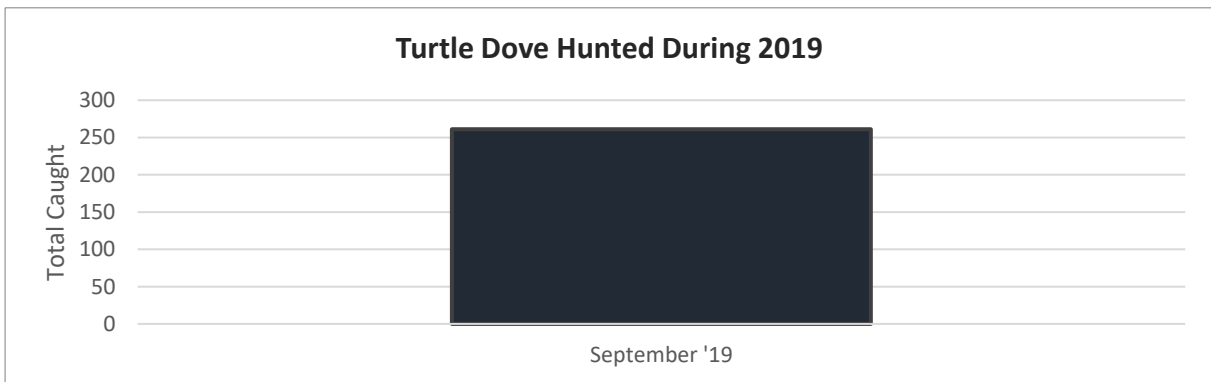
Gamiema

September '19

261

**Total**

**261**

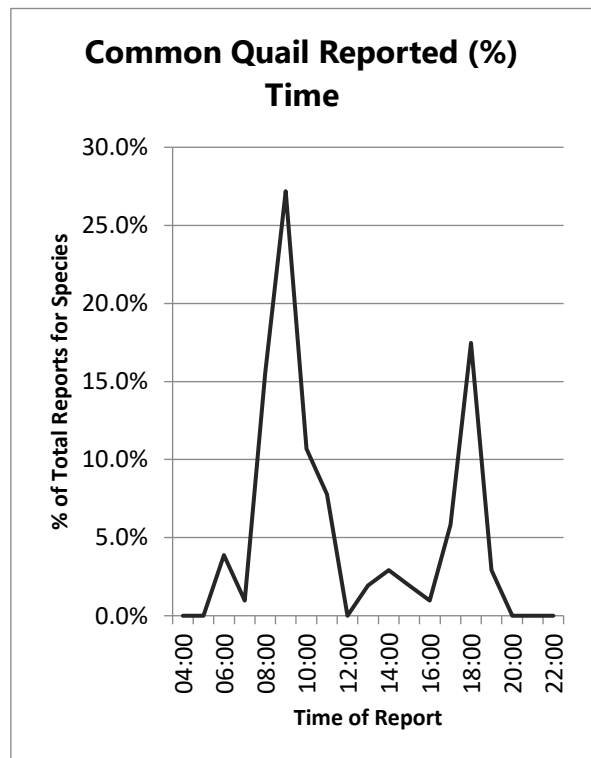
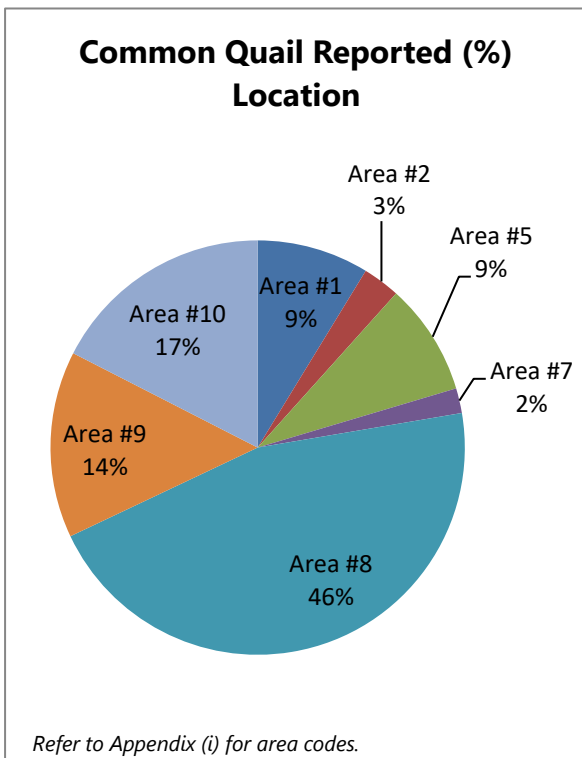
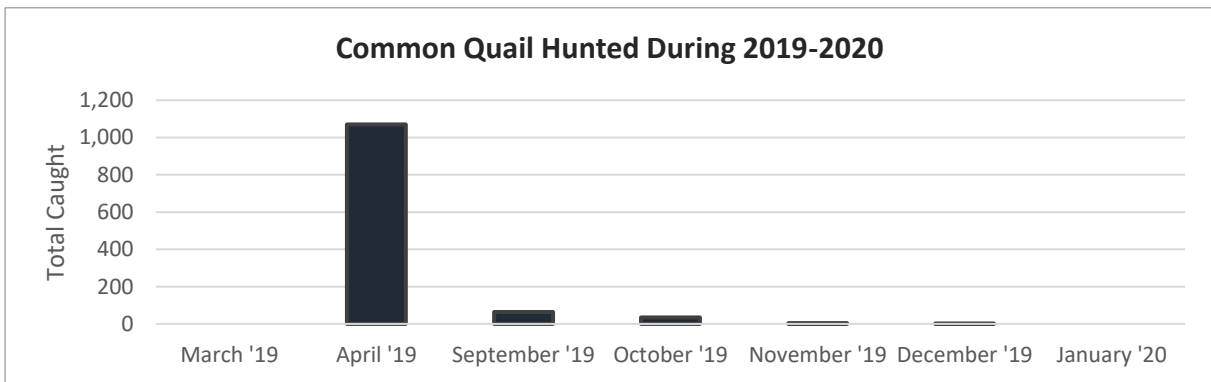


*Coturnix coturnix*

**Common Quail**

Summiena

April '19	1,070
September '19	64
October '19	35
November '19	3
December '19	1
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,173</b>



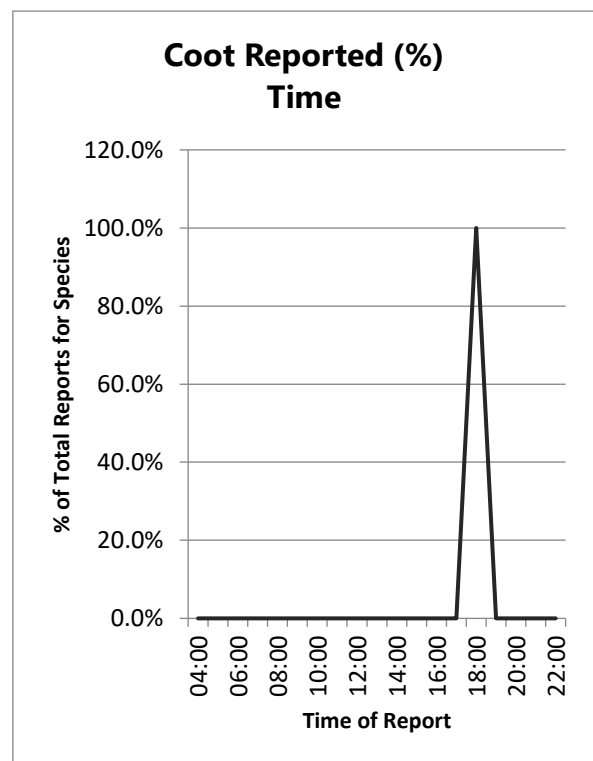
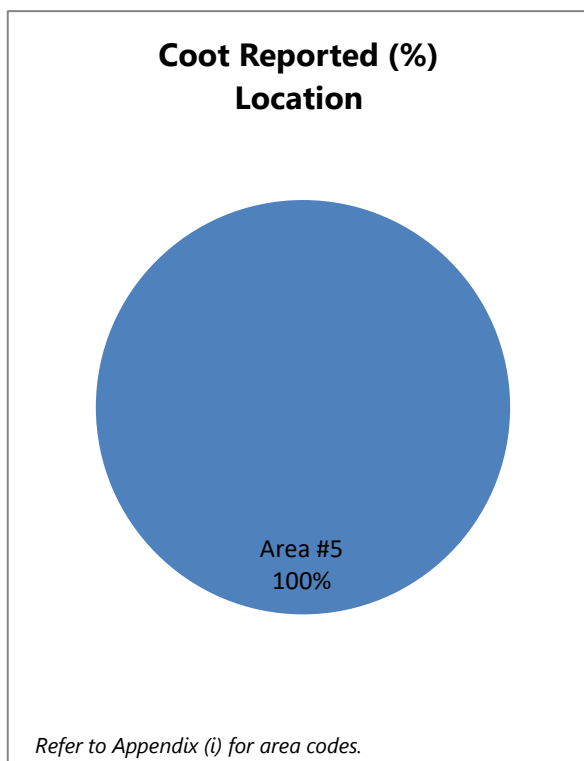
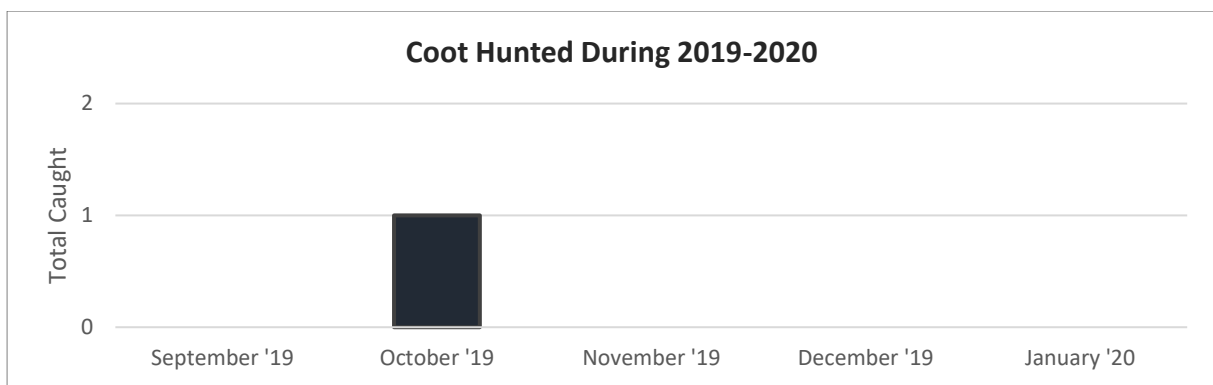
**Note:** Hunting of this species in spring was authorised through derogation. Full details on the application of this derogation are available at <http://msdec.gov.mt/en/Pages/WBRU/springhuntingderogations.aspx>

*Fulica atra*

**Coot**

Tigiega tal-Baħar

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '19	0
October '19	1
November '19	0
December '19	0
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>

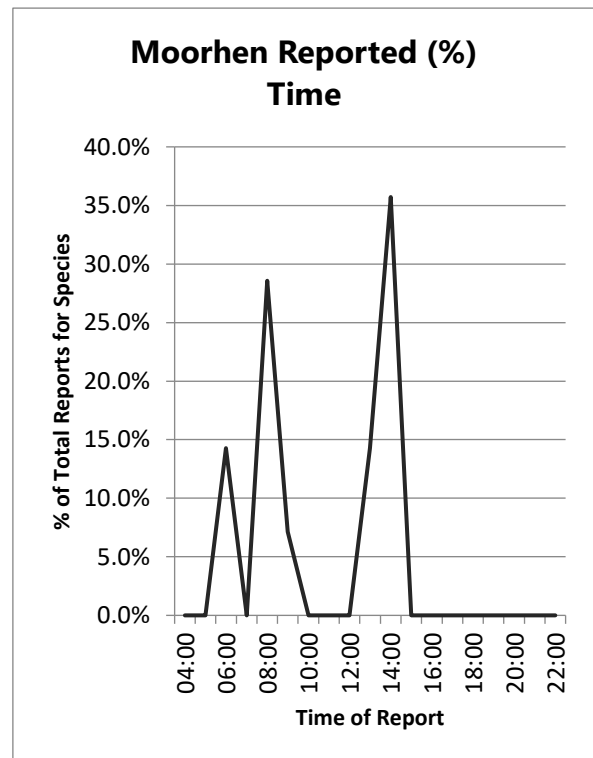
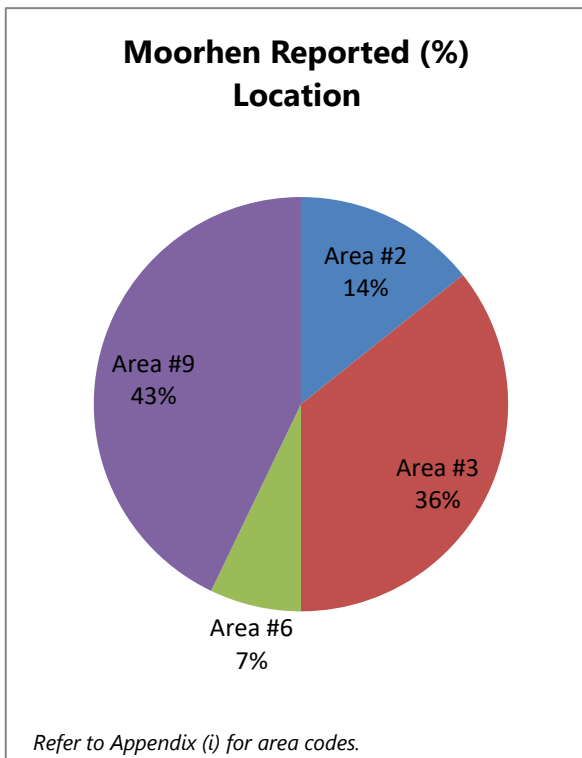
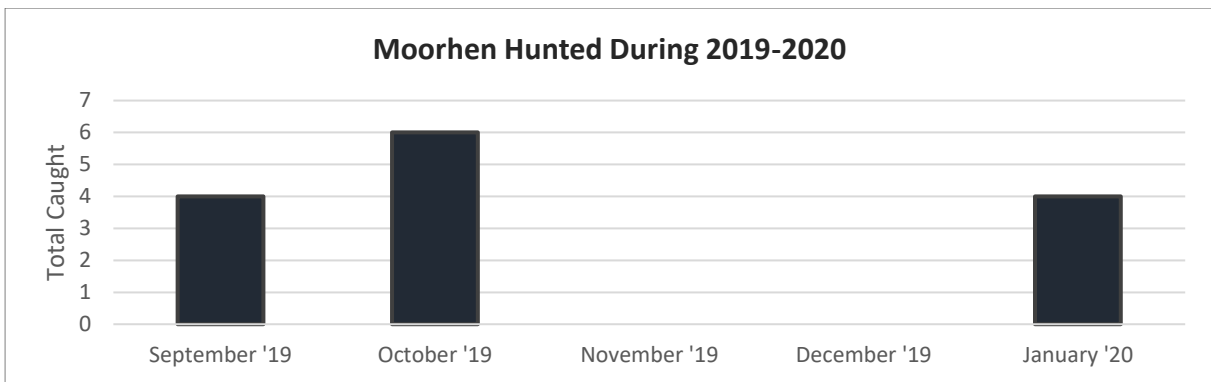


*Gallinula chloropus*

**Moorhen**

Gallozz Iswed

September '19	4
October '19	6
November '19	0
December '19	0
January '20	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>



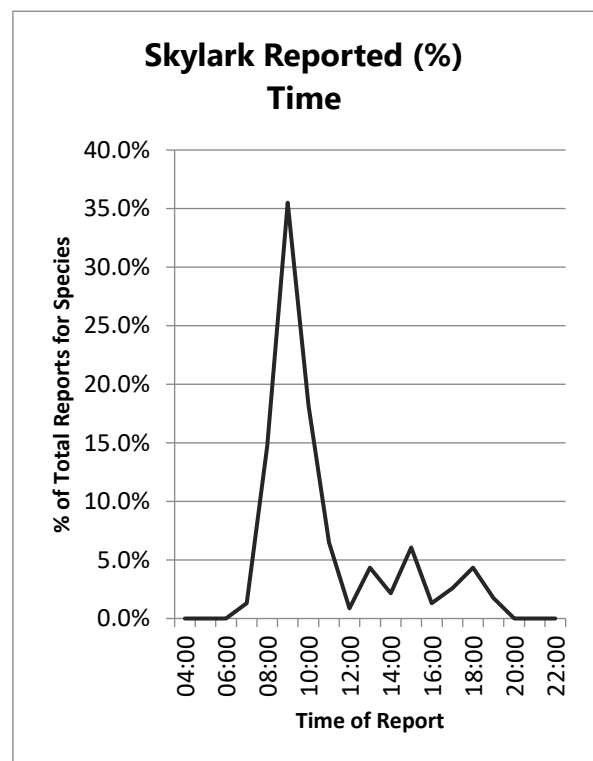
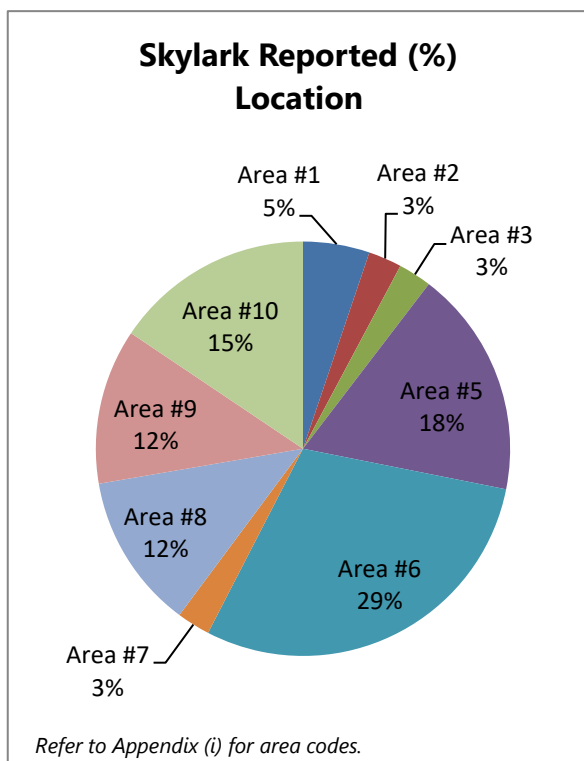
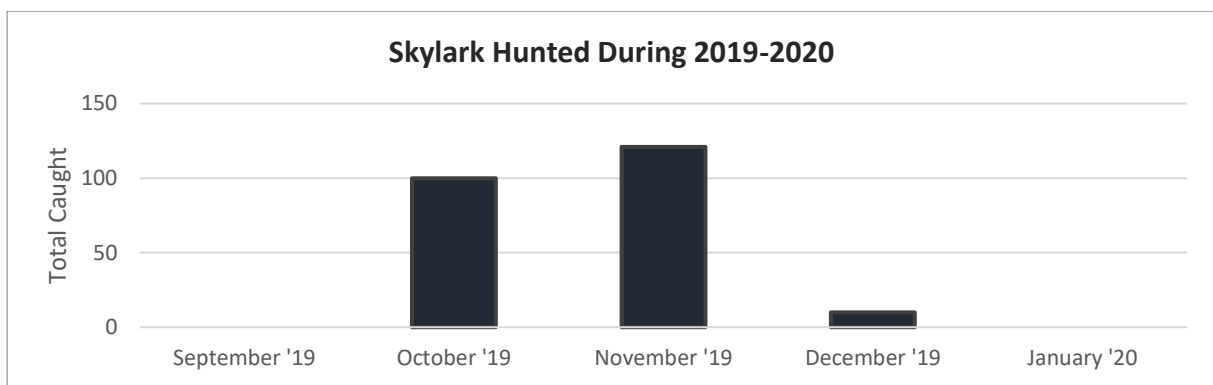
Gruiformes	- Rallidae	Month	Specimens Hunted
<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>			
<b>Water Rail</b>			
Gallozz tax-Xitwa			
		September '19	0
		October '19	0
		November '19	0
		December '19	0
		January '20	0
		<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

*Alauda arvensis*

**Skylark**

Alwetta

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '19	0
October '19	100
November '19	121
December '19	10
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>231</b>

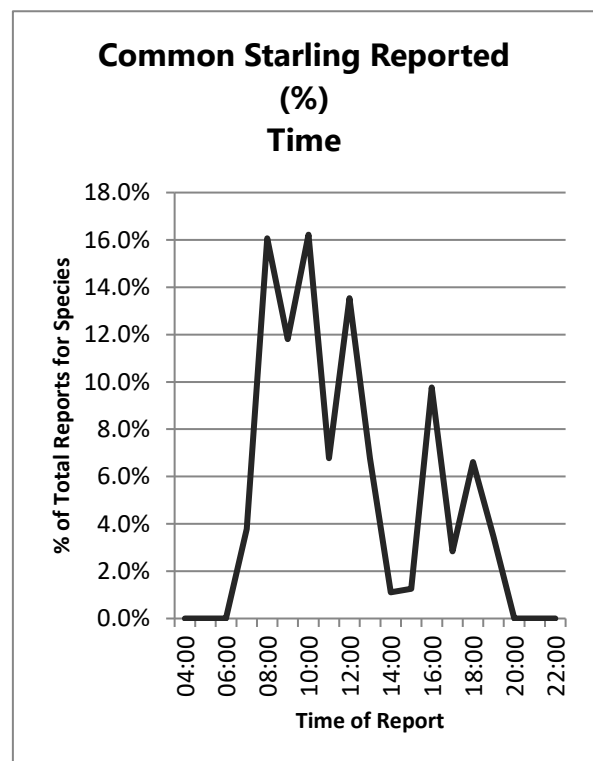
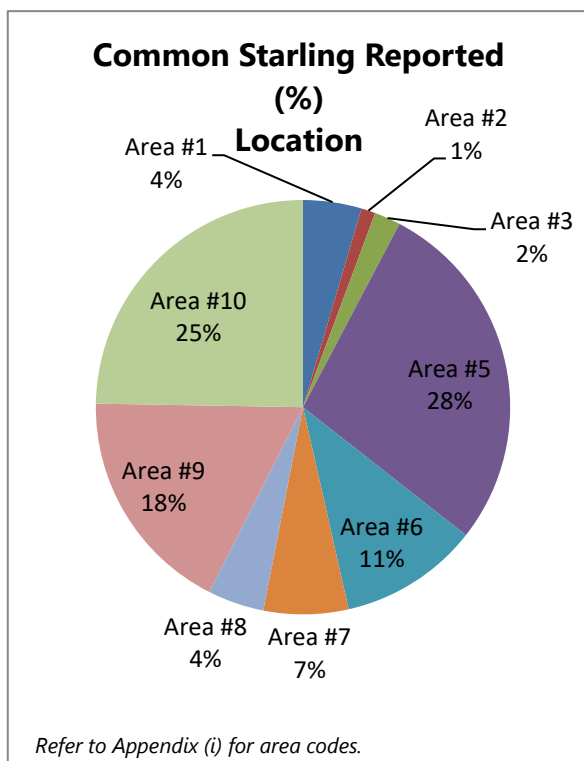
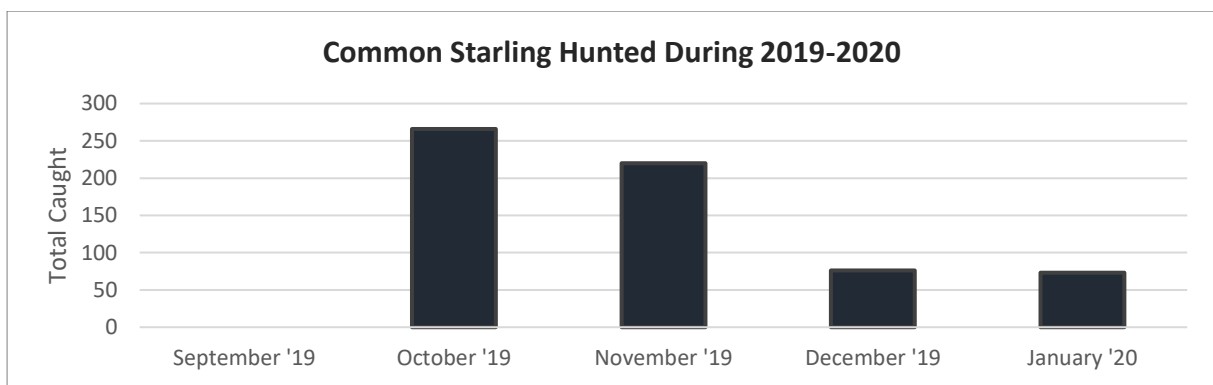


*Sturnus vulgaris*

**Common Starling**

Sturnell

September '19	0
October '19	266
November '19	220
December '19	76
January '20	73
<b>Total</b>	<b>635</b>

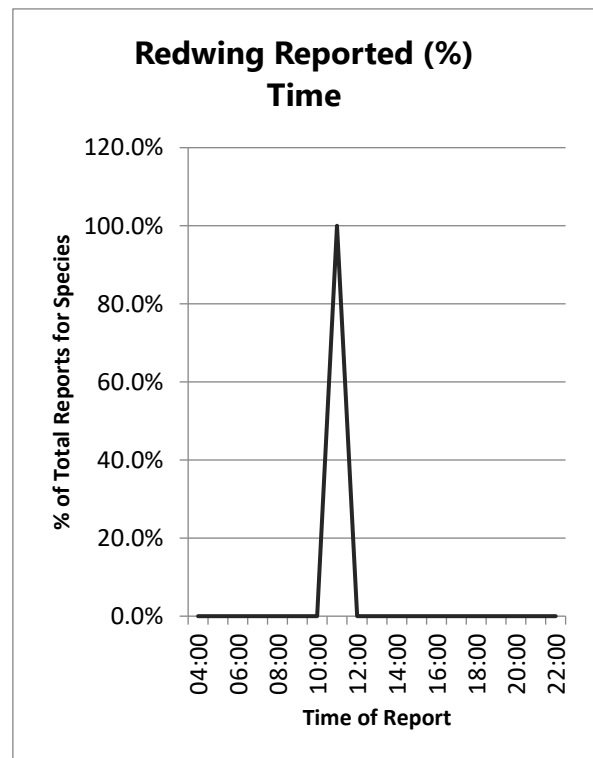
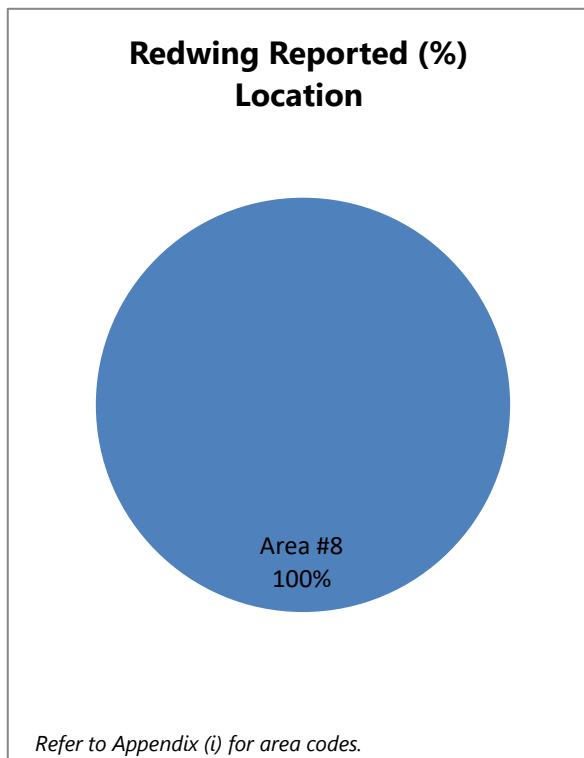
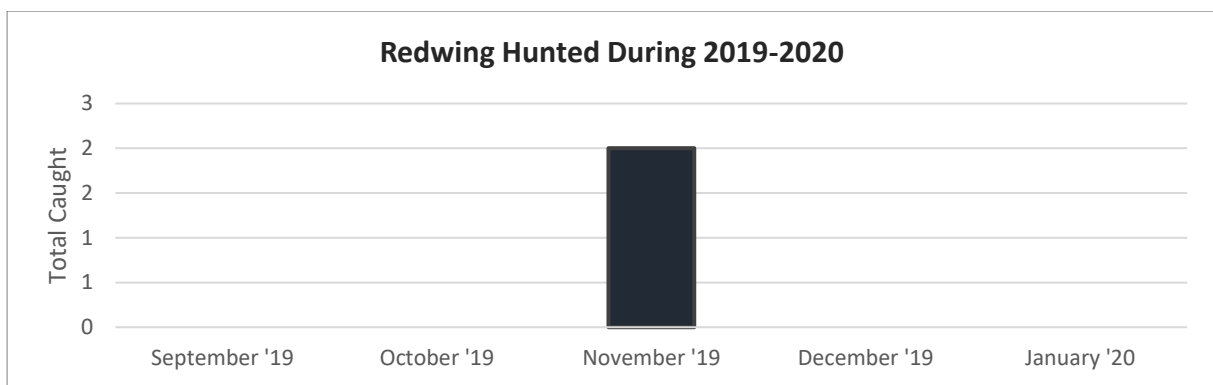


*Turdus iliacus*

**Redwing**

Malvizz Aħmar

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '19	0
October '19	0
November '19	2
December '19	0
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>

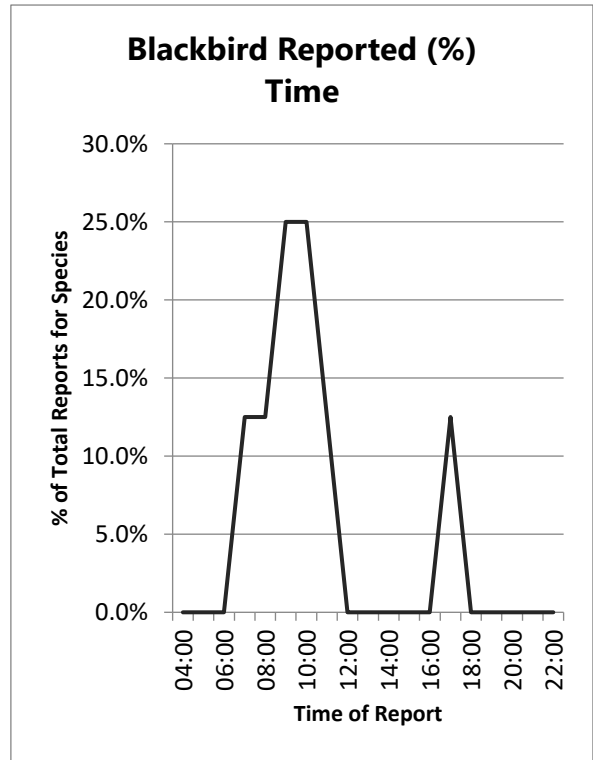
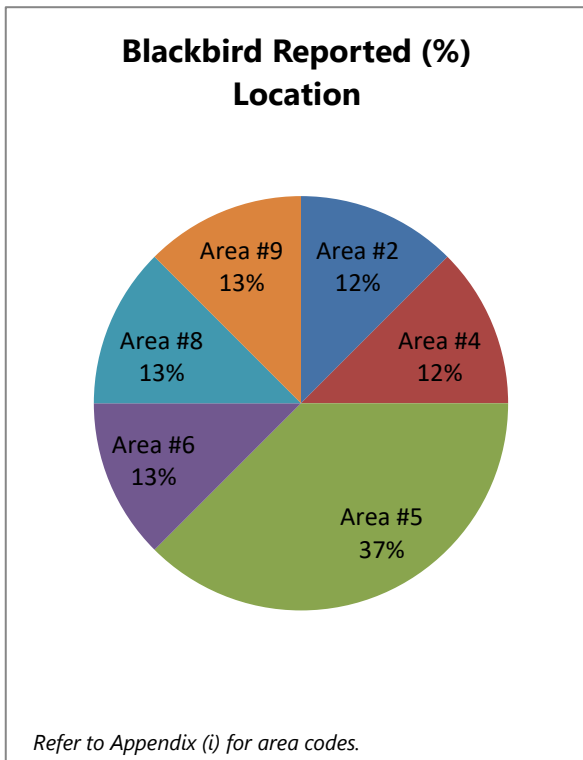
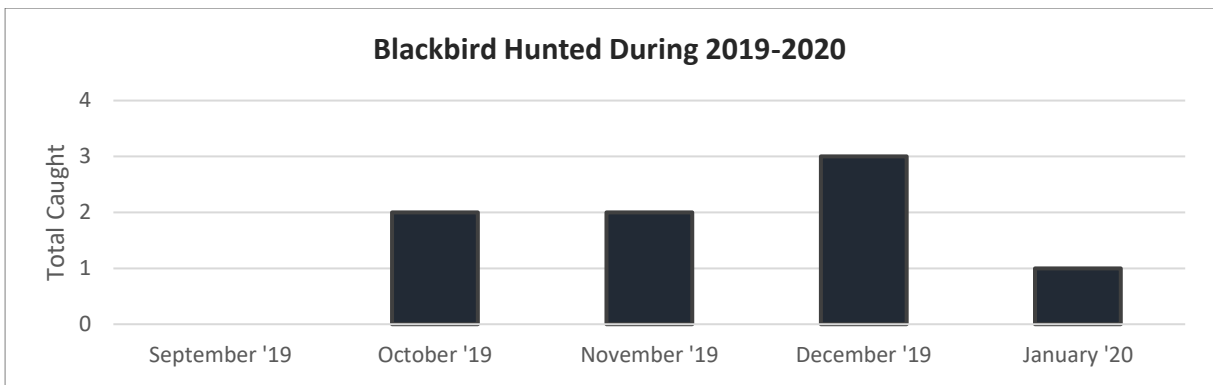


*Turdus merula*

**Blackbird**

Malvizz Iswed

September '19	0
October '19	2
November '19	2
December '19	3
January '20	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>



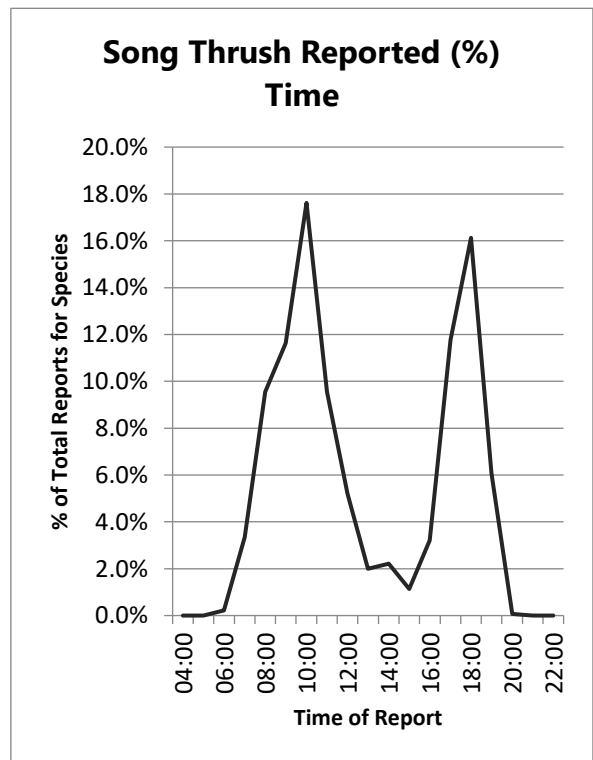
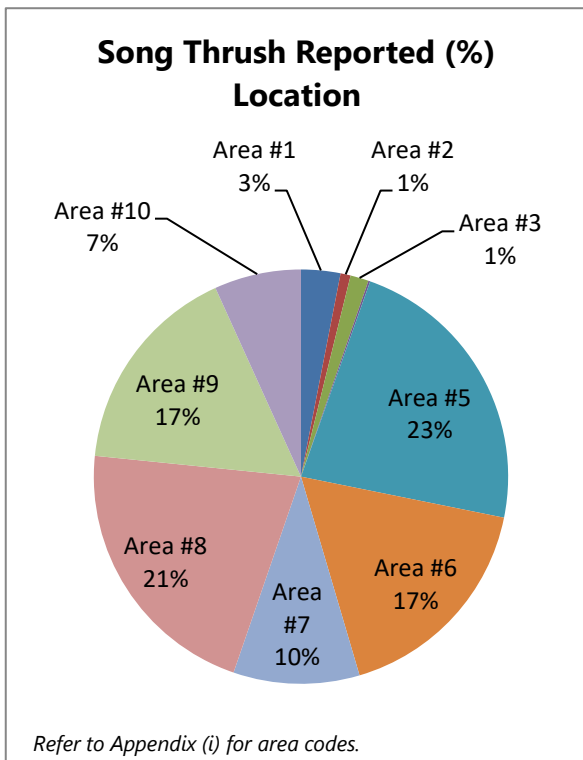
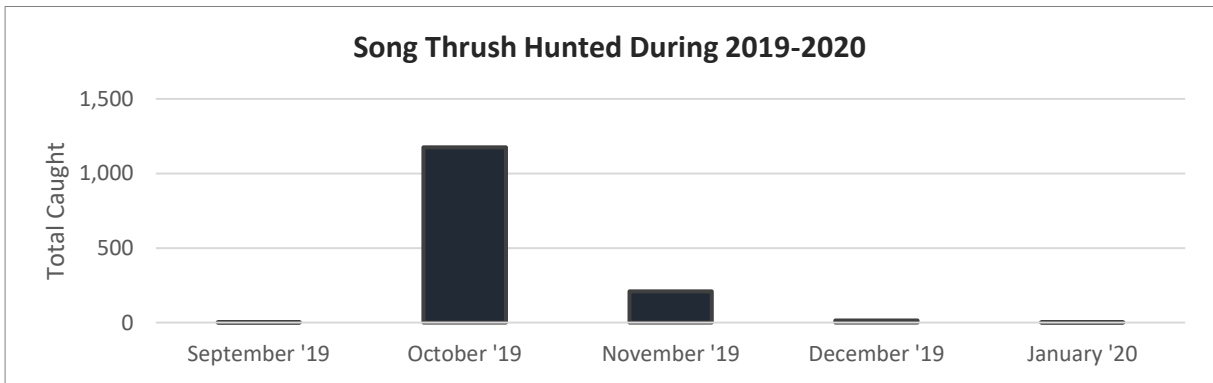
*Turdus philomelos*

**Song Thrush**

Malvizz

(Hunting Data)

September '19	1
October '19	1,176
November '19	210
December '19	13
January '20	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,402</b>

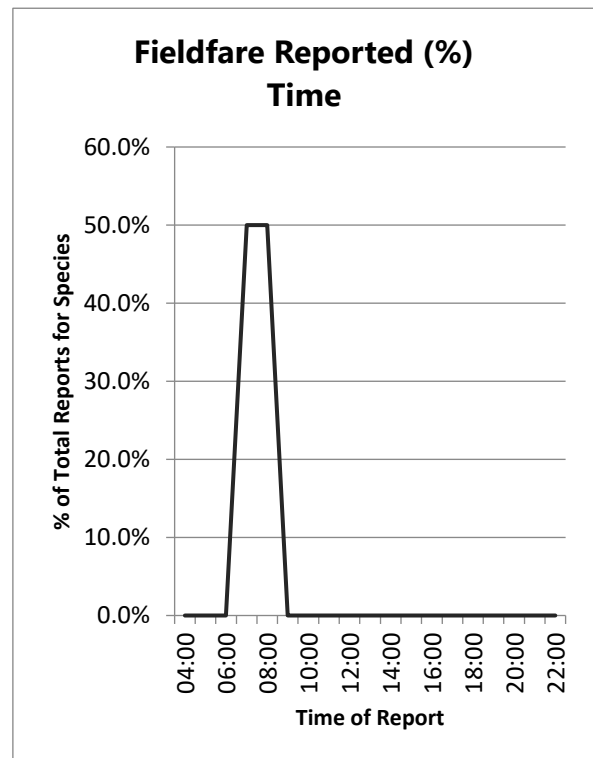
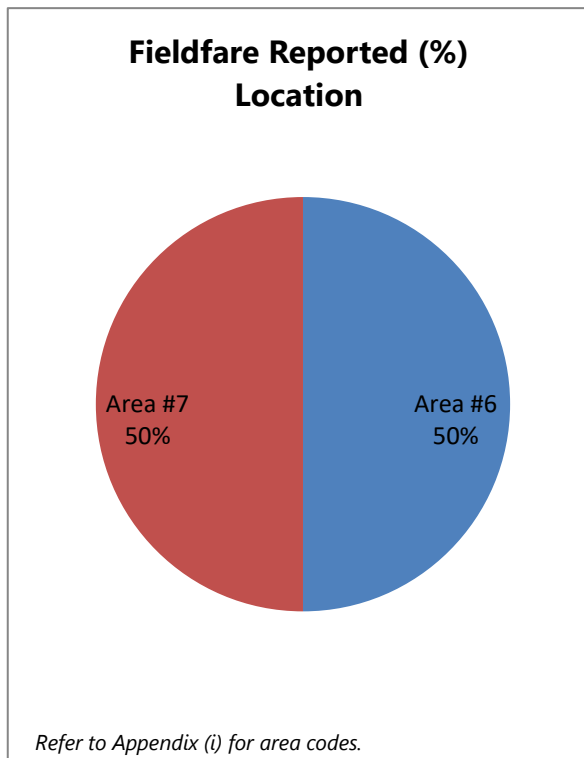
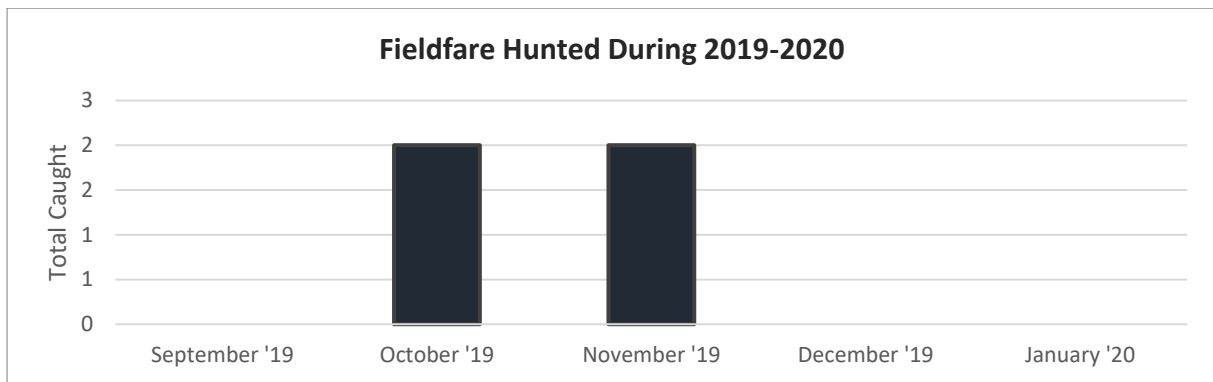


*Turdus pilaris*

**Fieldfare**

Malvizz tal-Qtajja'

Month	Specimens Hunted
September '19	0
October '19	2
November '19	2
December '19	0
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

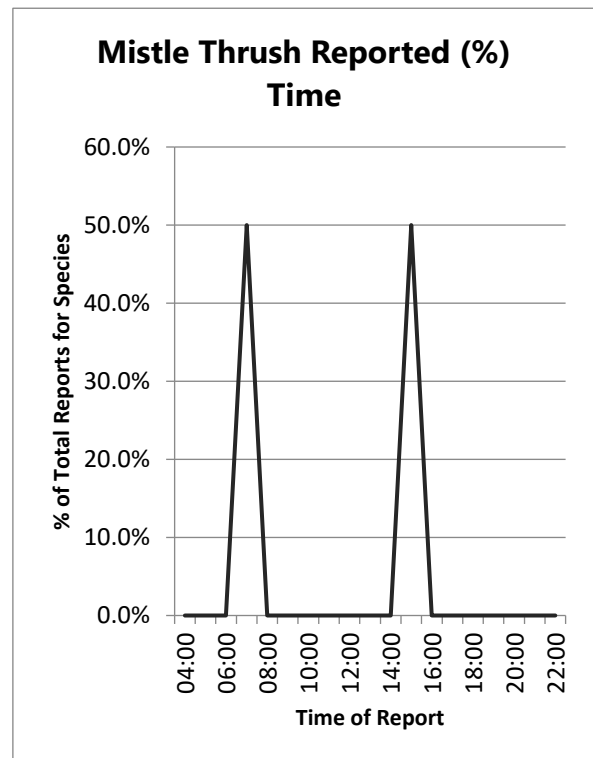
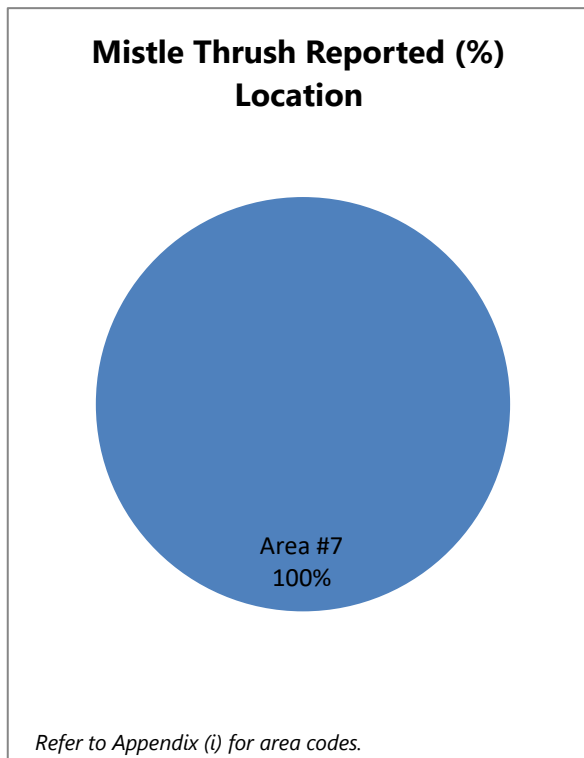
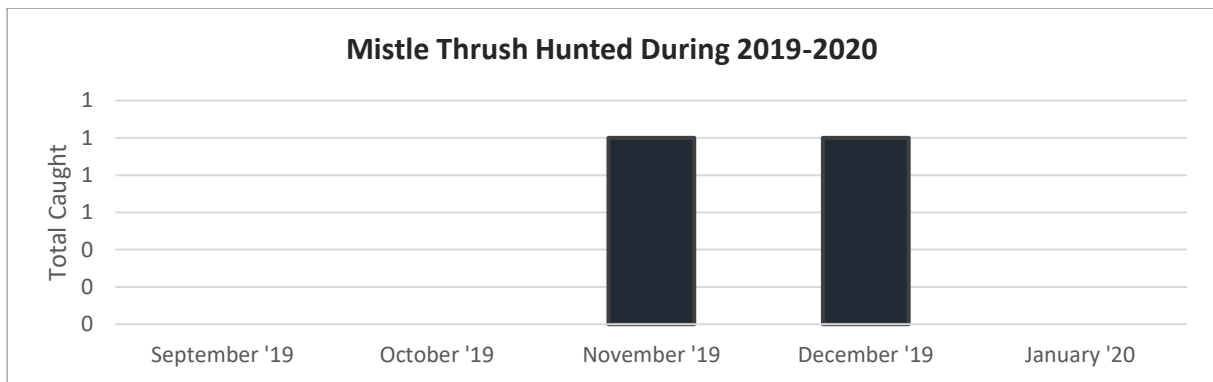


*Turdus viscivorus*

**Mistle Thrush**

Malvizzun Prim

September '19	0
October '19	0
November '19	1
December '19	1
January '20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>



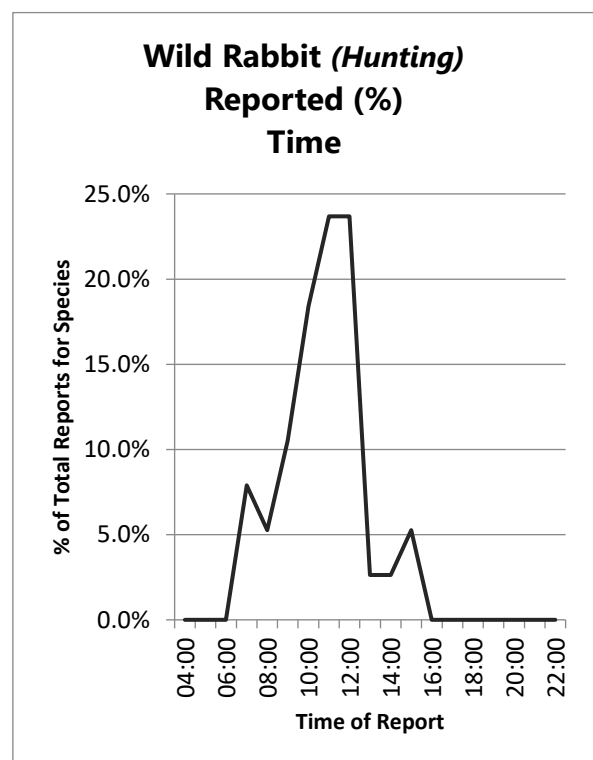
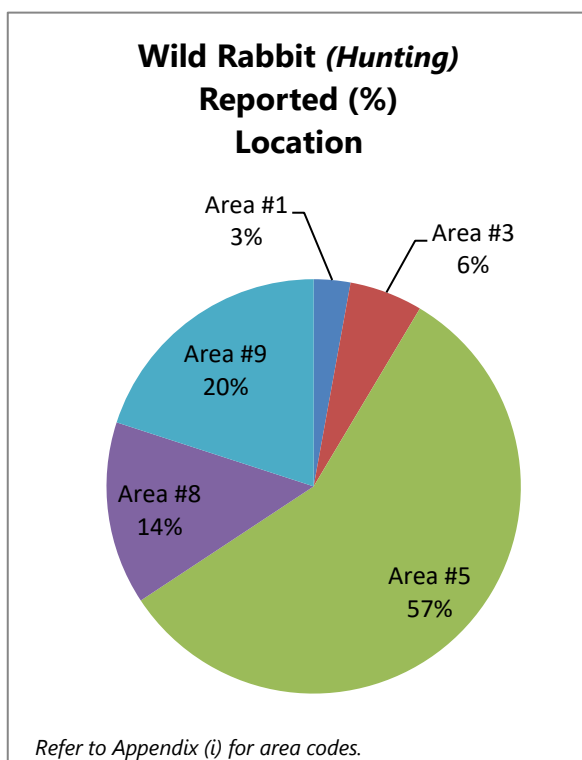
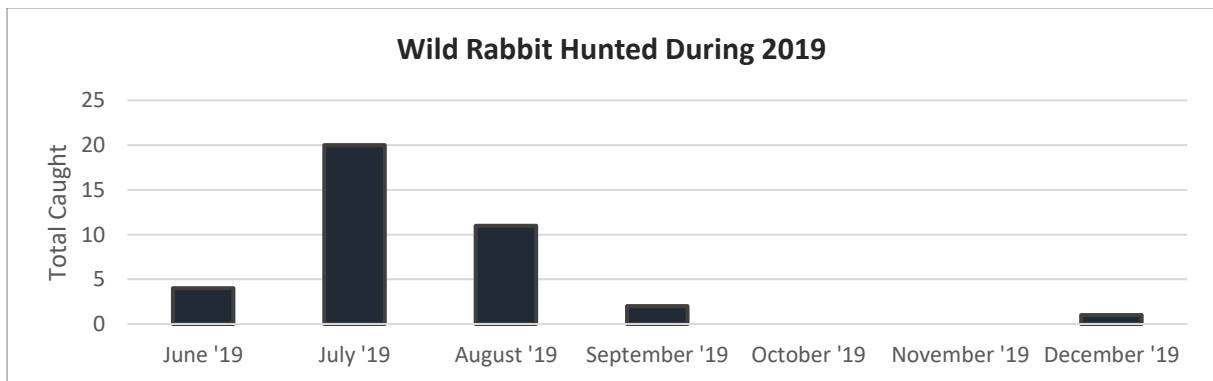
*Oryctolagus cuniculus*

**Wild Rabbit**

Fenek Selvağg

(Hunting for Wild Rabbit)

June '19	4
July '19	20
August '19	11
September '19	2
October '19	0
November '19	0
December '19	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>



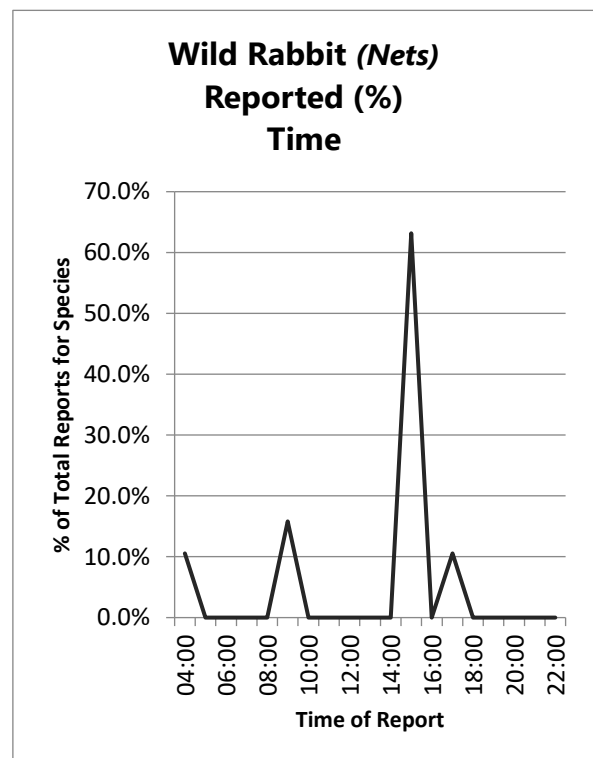
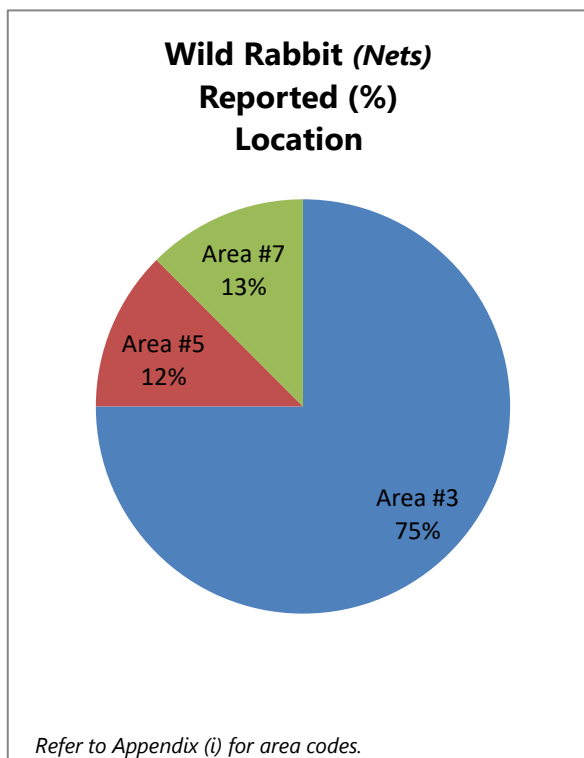
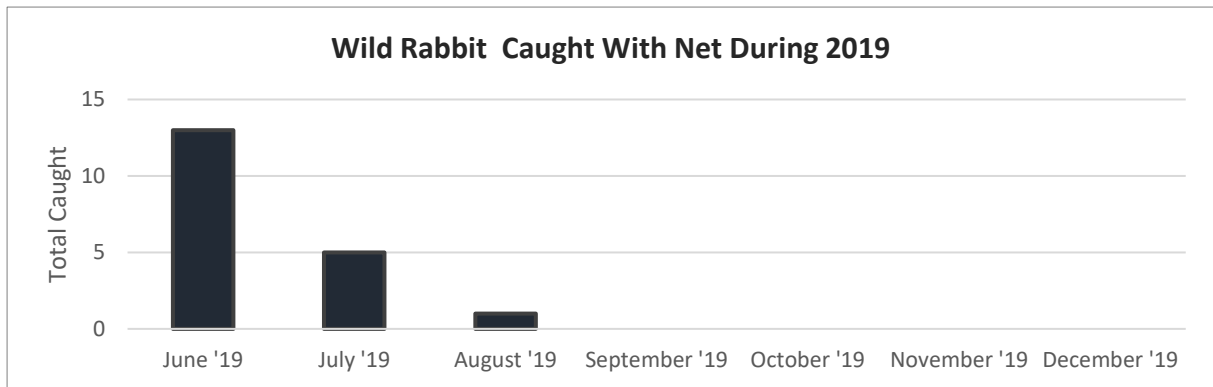
*Oryctolagus cuniculus*

**Wild Rabbit**

Fenek Selvağğ

(Capture of Wild Rabbit with nets [ferreting])

June '19	13
July '19	5
August '19	1
September '19	0
October '19	0
November '19	0
December '19	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>



# **Live-Capturing Data**

## 2019 Report

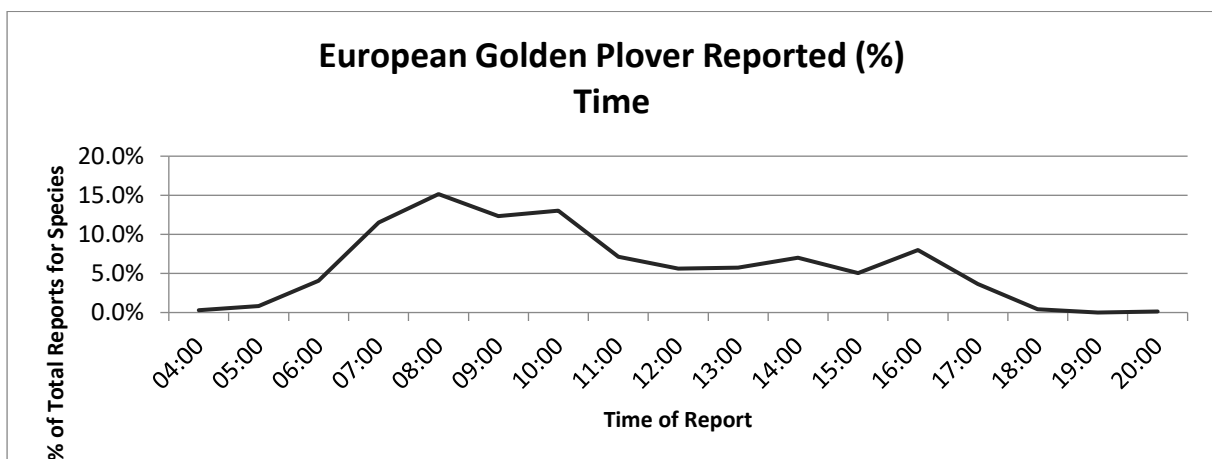
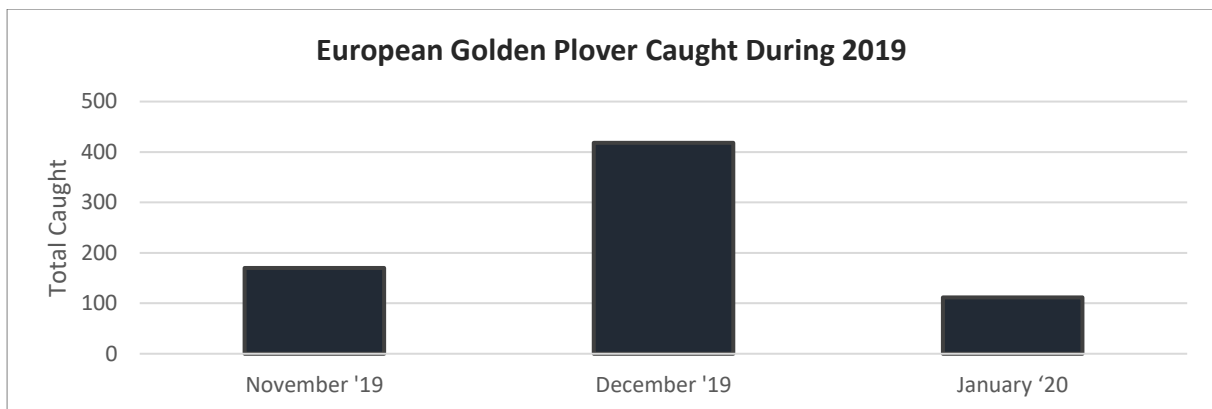
Note: Since live-capturing applications are submitted alongside registered site-plans, individuals were not required to report location on the game reporting system.

*Pluvialis apricaria***European Golden Plover**

Pluviera

*(Live-Capturing Data)*

November '19	170
December '19	418
January '20	112
<b>Total</b>	<b>700</b>



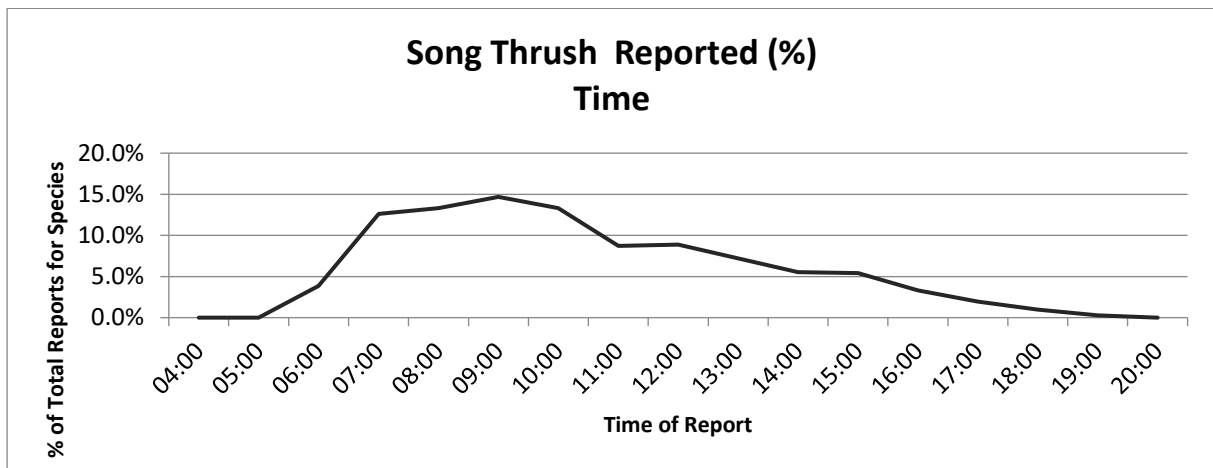
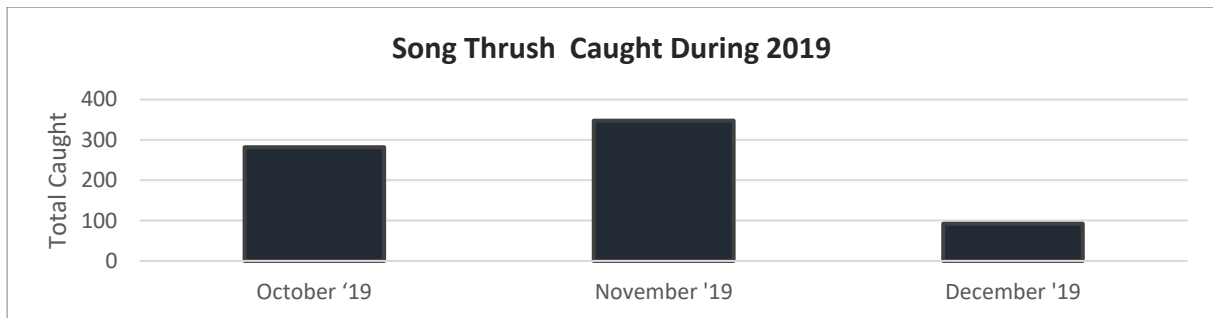
*Turdus philomelos*

**Song Thrush**

Malvizz

(Live-Capturing Data)

October '19	282
November '19	348
December '19	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>722</b>



# Appendix (i)

**Note:** Birds hunted under the 'Hunting birds at sea' licence are marked as **Location #0**

