

heads, but in Great Britain and in two widely separated parts of Asia breeding yellow-headed populations seem to be overlapped in part by dark-headed populations. Apparent hybrids and birds similar in appearance to those usual in other areas occur in Britain and elsewhere. The prevailing view has been that most aberrant specimens were "mutants" of the local populations, merely "convergent" in appearance with other subspecies. Williamson believes that the yellow-headed birds should be regarded as a species, *M. lutea*, that the birds resembling extra-limital forms are not mutants but actually members of those subspecies, which have been carried off their course by prevailing winds ("migrational drift"). The propensity of wagtails to form multi-racial flocks, especially when they have drifted outside their racially-specific migration routes, causes them to be carried along with the migrants appropriate to the area ("migrational drag"), and even to breed outside their normal range.—M. T. M.

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