



Golden Plover

Pluvialis apricaria

Other names:

- Euarasian Golden Plover
- Hill Plover

Conservation status:

- World: Least Concern
- European: Least Concern
- UK: **Green**

Population: decreasing

- World: over 2,000,000 birds
- UK breeding: 38-59,000 pairs
- UK winter: 420,000 birds

Status:

Summer breeder (uplands), passage migrant and winter visitor (lowlands).

Identification features:

- Slim body
- Small head
- Delicate bill
- White axillaries in all plumages
- Forms large flocks in winter often with Lapwings
- Call a plaintive single note 'püü'

Something to appreciate

Fast flying Golden Plovers caused the question to be asked; 'Which is faster in flight? Grouse or Plover?' This sparked the creation of the Guinness book of records.

