

KNOW YOUR LAPWING



Lapwing

Vanellus vanellus

Summer: 97,500 pairs

Winter: 635,000

UK conservation status: **Red**

Protected by The Wildlife and
Countryside Act 1981.

Movements and Migration

97,500 pairs of Lapwing breed in the UK and wintering number are boosted by migrants from Russia, arriving between June and November. Birds will react to cold weather by moving further south if needed.

Voice

Call, from which it gets its alternative name of Peewit, is a rather wheezy, drawn-out 'pee-wit'. The song that accompanies its display is 'pee-wit, wit, wit-eeze wit'.

Food

Eats a variety of invertebrates living on or in the ground, including earthworms, leatherjackets, beetles, flies, moth caterpillars and ants. Also spiders, small frogs, snails and some plant matter.

Threats

Agricultural changes are the Lapwings biggest threat. Lapwings rely on damp grasslands as well as coastal sites for survival. Disturbance from human along coastal sites is also a threat.

Migration:
3,000 miles

**Flight Initiation
Distance:**
32 metres

Wingspan:
82-87 cm

Oldest Bird:
24 years

