

Common redstart – Highest density in allotment gardens

The common redstart is frequently used by scientists as a parameter to determine the official sustainability indicator for bio-diversity. As „bird of the year “ 2011 it also offered the opportunity to the Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU) to analyze its presence and living space more in detail, based on data from 162 areas.

Half of the territories were found in orchards and almost one fifth in allotment gardens. These biotopes also form the main part of the analyzed areas. The highest population density was determined in allotment gardens with 2.2 pairs per ten hectares. In orchards the average was 1.7 pairs per ten hectares. In some parts of allotment gardens more than ten pairs were counted per ten hectares.

Many allotment garden associations are nowadays committed to an environmentally respectful approach and use biological pest control. Thus, these areas become more attractive for the common redstart. NABU will also put the results of the national field mapping at the disposal of the Bundesverband Deutscher Gartenfreunde with which a cooperation had been agreed in the year of the common redstart. Joint actions should continue to benefit this bird and other endangered species beyond that specific year.

Link: further information regarding the field mapping of the common redstart
www.nabu.de

