

Is talamh féarach, cothrom, le cósta é Machair, talamh nach bhfuil ach ar chósta thiar na hAlban agus na hÉireann agus tá Oileáin Árann ar an bpíosa is faide ó dheas den dáileadh seo. I gcás Machair ní theastaíonn ach beagán innilte agus bainistithe le luach ard caomhnaithe na gnáthóige a chothabháil. Is gnáthóg le stádas tosaíochta é Machair atá liostaithe in Iarscríbhinn 1 Threoir an AE maidir le Gnáthóga. Is gnáthóga tábhachtacha iad Machair na n-oileán freisin do speiceas éan goir ar nós Pilibíní agus Clochráin (Lysaght 2002). Tá neadú Pilibíní sna féara Machair coitianta in Oileáin Árann ach iad ag éirí an-ghann in áiteanna eile.

Is ábhar caomhantais in Éirinn iad roinnt de na héanacha a bhíonn ar Oileáin Árann. Is ábhar mór caomhantais iad na speicis ar an Liosta Dearg ●, ábhar meánach caomhantais iad speiceas an Liosta Ómra ● agus ábhar íseal caomhantais iad speiceas an Liosta Uaine ● (Colhoun & Cummins 2013) agus tá na speicis seo á dtaispeáint thíos.

Colhoun, K. and Cummins, S. (2013). Birds of Conservation Concern in Ireland 2014-2019. Irish Birds 9: 523-544.

Lysaght, L. (2002). An Atlas of breeding birds of the Burren and the Aran Islands. Bird Watch Ireland.

Machair is a flat, coastal grassland that only occurs on the west coast of Scotland and Ireland with the Aran Islands marking the most southern station of its distribution. Machair requires low intensity grazing and management to maintain the high conservation value of the habitat. Machair is a priority habitat listed in Annex 1 of the EU Habitats Directive. Machair on the islands are also important habitats for breeding bird species such as Lapwings and Wheatear (Lysaght 2002). Lapwing nesting in Machair grassland is a common occurrence on the Aran Islands that is becoming increasingly rare elsewhere.

Some of the birds on the Aran Islands are birds of conservation concern in Ireland. The Red List species ● are of high conservation concern, Amber List species ● are of medium conservation concern and Green List species ● are of low conservation concern (Colhoun & Cummins 2013) and these species are shown below.

Colhoun, K. and Cummins, S. (2013). Birds of Conservation Concern in Ireland 2014-2019. Irish Birds 9: 523-544.

Lysaght, L. (2002). An Atlas of breeding birds of the Burren and the Aran Islands. Bird Watch Ireland.

## Éanacha a lonnaíonn ar na feirmeacha agus sna bailte ar Oileáin Árann Birds of Farms & Villages

Is gnáthóga tábhachtacha foráiste agus neadaithe iad féara feirmite na n-oileán do réimse speiceas éan. Tá 53 speiceas ar fad d'éanacha goir taifeadta ar thrí Oileán Árann (Lysaght 2002).

Soláthraíonn féara cailcreacha speiceas-shaibhir agus móiníir féar tirim na n-oileán bia do na héanacha a itheann síolta, leithidí an Lasair Choille, agus is gnáthóg neadaithe iad d'éanacha a dhéanann a gcuid neadacha ar an talamh ar nós Pilibíní, Crotach agus Fuiseoga.

Braitheann speiceas éan ar nós an Cháig ar fhéara innilte a bhíonn bainistithe go traidisiúnta agus ina mbíonn cruimh agus feithidí mar go n-itheann siad cuid mhaith acu seo. Tá laghdú tagtha ar an gcág sna ceantair ina bhfuil laghdú ar innilt ([www.birdwatchireland.ie](http://www.birdwatchireland.ie)).

The farmed grasslands of the islands provide important foraging and nesting habitats for a range of bird species. In total 53 breeding bird species have been recorded on the three Aran Islands (Lysaght 2002).

The species-rich calcareous grasslands and hay meadows of the islands provide food for seed eating birds such as goldfinch, and nesting habitat for ground nesting birds such as Lapwings, Curlews and Skylarks.

Bird species such as the Chough rely on grazed grasslands that have been managed traditionally and support grubs and insects that are an important part of their diet. Numbers of Chough have declined in areas where grazing pressure has decreased ([www.birdwatchireland.ie](http://www.birdwatchireland.ie)).

### Éanacha a lonnaíonn i bhFeirmeacha Birds of Farms

*Accipiter nisus*  
Spioróg  
Sparrowhawk



Grianghraf/Photo © A. Kelly

### Éanacha a lonnaíonn i bhFeirmeacha Birds of Farms

*Falco tinnunculus*  
Pocaire gaoithe  
Kestrel



Grianghraf/Photo © J. Fields

### Éanacha a lonnaíonn i bhFeirmeacha Birds of Farms

*Phasianus colchicus*  
Piasún  
Pheasant



Grianghraf/Photo © A. Kelly

### Éanacha a lonnaíonn i bhFeirmeacha Birds of Farms

*Vanellus vanellus*  
Pilibín  
Lapwing



Grianghraf/Photo © A. Kelly

### Éanacha a lonnaíonn i bhFeirmeacha Birds of Farms

*Gallinago gallinago*  
Naosach,  
Gabhairín réo  
Snipe



Grianghraf/Photo © A. Kelly

### Éanacha a lonnaíonn i bhFeirmeacha Birds of Farms

*Numenius arquata*  
Crotach\*  
Curlew



Grianghraf/Photo © A. Kelly

\*Ní neadaíonn sé ar na hoileáin  
\*Does not breed on the islands

### Togra AranLIFE

### AranLIFE Project

Tá an togra AranLIFE ag obair le feirmeoirí ar thrí Oileán Árann, ag forbairt agus ag cur chun cinn cleachtais feirmeoireachta traidisiúnta agus inbhuanaithe, a rachaidh chun tairbhe do thimpeallacht nádúrtha na nOileán. Beidh an togra i bhfeidhm ó 2014 go 2017 agus tá sé á mhaoiniú trí Chiste LIFE Nature an AE (maoiniú 75% ó LIFE, 25% ó chomhpháirtithe an togra in Éirinn). Dírionn an togra ar na cleachtais feirmeoireachta a chruthaigh tírdhreach aitheanta Árann agus ar ar bunaidh suíomhanna Natura 2000 na n-oileán (suíomhanna a thugann cosaint do gnáthóga agus speicis a bhfuil tábhacht Eorpach leo). Bainfear leas as eolas agus as taithí feirmeoirí áitiúla thar na céadta bliain chomh maith le saineolas eolaíoch pháirtithe an togra chun na dúshláin a bhaineann le feirmeoireacht ar oileán a shárú agus freisin chun stádas caomhnaithe na suíomhanna Natura a fheabhsú.

The AranLIFE project is working with farmers on the three Aran Islands to develop and promote traditional and sustainable farming practices to benefit the Islands' natural environment. It will operate from 2014-2017 and is funded through the EU LIFE Nature Fund (75% LIFE funding; 25% Irish project partners). The project focuses on the farming practices that created the iconic Aran landscape and led to the designation of the islands' Natura 2000 sites (sites to protect habitats and species of European importance). It will harness centuries of local farming knowledge and experience with the scientific expertise of project partners to overcome the challenges of island farming and to improve the conservation status of the Natura sites.

### LIFE+ Nádúr & Bithéagsúlacht LIFE+ Nature & Biodiversity

Tá LIFE+ DÚLRA AGUS BITHÉAGSÚLACHT ar cheann de phríomhshnáithe chláir maoinithe an Aontais Eorpaigh don chomhshaol. Tacaíonn sé le tionscadail a chuidíonn le feidhmiú Threoracha an AE maidir le hÉin agus Gnáthóga, le líonra Natura 2000 agus le sprioc an AE maidir le stop a chur le cailleanas bithéagsúlachta.

LIFE+ NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY is one of the main strands of the European Union's funding programme for the environment. It supports projects that contribute to the implementation of the EU's Birds and Habitats Directives, the Natura 2000 network and that contribute to the EU's goal of halting the loss of biodiversity.

Tuilleadh sonraí faoin togra ar fáil ag:  
Further details of the project can be found at:

[www.aranlife.ie](http://www.aranlife.ie)

AranLIFE12/NAT/IE/000995



## Oileáin Árann ÉANACHA A LONNAÍONN AR NA FEIRMEACHA AGUS SNA BAILTE Aran Islands BIRDS OF FARMS AND VILLAGES



