

**Table 3.** Estimates for the number of individual birds on different continents, together with the area of the continent, the mean density of birds calculated for a square kilometre of the continent from the previous two figures, and the source for the data

Continent	Number of individuals	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Individuals / km <sup>2</sup>	Source
Africa	72 500 000 000	30 300 000	2393	Brown <i>et al.</i> (1982)
Nearctic	10 000 000 000	21 250 000	471	Preston (1948)
		Mean	1432	

Brown, L.H., Urban, E.K. and Newman, K. (1982) *The Birds of Africa*, Vol. 1. London: Academic Press.

Preston, F.W. (1948) The commonness, and rarity, of species. *Ecology* **29**, 254–83.