

Passer domesticus - House Sparrow

Houses Sparrows are small passerines of inconspicuous plumage quite compact, with a conical beak adapted to a granivorous diet (feed with seed). They have short, rounded wings related to the sedentary habits. The House Sparrow grouping up to 26 species different if one follows the International Ornithological Congress (IOC). Most species of the genus are between 11 and 16 cm long.

Most populations are sedentary. Only the Asian and parkini subspecies are migratory. It is probably the most homely species in Western Europe. A House Sparrow born in a village has every chance to spend his whole life there and he is visible in all seasons. In addition, he always seeks the company of other individuals of the species.

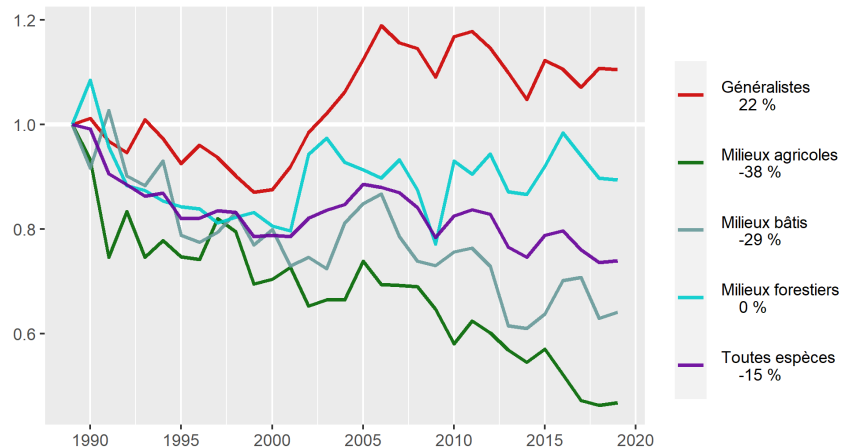
The House Sparrow is one of the most anthropophilic species (lives in places frequented by men). He lives almost everywhere where man is present and has built buildings, towns and villages. It needs a minimum of vegetated surfaces where it can find its food, nest materials, take refuge in case of danger, etc. It is absent from all closed forest environments as well as places that are too deserted.

Among sparrows, we cannot really speak of singing. Rather, they are Cree of territorial value, brief and repeated over their territory.

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Palais+Longchamp/@43.3053343,5.3961442,18.83z/data=!4m5!3m4!1sox12c9bf62559b4381:oxe8758c4ddd3ba377!8m2!3d43.3054783!4d5.3967995>



Variation de l'indicateur groupe de spécialisation



Birds are very important for the stability of our ecosystem. However the bird population is constantly falling in its last years and especially that of the house sparrows. This little birds especially lives by our side.

This graph represent the evolution of house sparrow population on 30 years depending on their habitats. Generally they are a fall of the population more or less powerful

In particular, there was a sharp fall in the number of domestic sparrows in the agricultural and built areas. A decline of 38% in agricultural areas since 1990 and a drop of 29% since 1990 in built areas. In agricultural areas the population of house sparrows was the double of the population actual. And we find this phenomenon again for houses sparrows in built areas.

In contrast we can notice that the percentage of house sparrow's loss in forested environments is zero. But also a increase of generally species.

The fall of almost 40% in agricultural environments can be explained by the intensification of agricultural practices in recent decades, especially since 2008-2009. This period corresponds among other things to the generalization of neonicotinoids, very persistent neurotoxic insecticides.

In the urban environment birds suffer a similar decline (-29%). The reasons certainly multiple: decrease of food resources, especially insects, pollution, decrease of sites conducive to nesting, green spaces etc...

Moreover, generalist species, after an increasing phase until the mid-2000s, when they took the place of declining species, now seem to stabilize. This recent stagnation reveals contrasting situations depending on the species.

Finally for the forest habitat birds are stable, having come down to an extremely low level. This result may be related to the increase in wooded cover throughout the territory.

