

# Summary of National Hunting Regulations: Cyprus



Updated in August 2014

## HUNTING AND TRAPPING LEGISLATION/ RESOURCES

**Name of main legislation:** Law 152(I)/2003 regarding 'Protection and Management of Wild Birds and Game Species'.

**Year of publication:** 2003

**Supporting legislation:** Law 153(I)/2003 regarding 'Protection and Management of Nature and Wildlife'. Law 2002 regarding 'Dogs'. Law 2004 regarding 'Shooting and non-shooting weapons'.

**Legislation updates:** Latest update on Law 152(I)/2003 was in 2012

**Hunting legislation (web link):** Law 152(I)/2003 and updates  
[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/wildlife/wildlife\\_new.nsf/web18\\_gr/web18\\_gr?OpenDocument](http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/wildlife/wildlife_new.nsf/web18_gr/web18_gr?OpenDocument)

**Authority in charge of controlling hunting (web link):** Cyprus Game and Fauna Service

**Major inconsistencies or loopholes detected (if yes please describe):** None.

**Derogations (on EU Birds Directive and/or Bern Convention):** Crow hunting (during summer, as a pest control measure).

## HUNTING AND TRAPPING: METHODS AND RESTRICTIONS

	Legal methods/restrictions	Notes
Hunting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Licensed hunting is permitted in certain seasons and for certain species (see below).</li><li>- Only rifles are permitted in Cyprus. All other hunting methods included in the Birds Directive are forbidden including use of calling devices or live decoys, shooting from a moving vehicle of any sort, falconry.</li><li>- Restrictions include: no hunting at night, no hunting out of season, no hunting in Wildlife Conservation Areas</li><li>- It is prohibited to hunt within 500 metres from built up / residential areas, 200 metres from isolated housing, 300 metres from military barracks / installations and 150 metres from fenced areas.</li></ul>	
Trapping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Trapping is completely illegal in Cyprus</li><li>- Possession of non-selective methods such as mist nets, limesticks and calling devices is illegal in Cyprus.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- It is illegal to possess, sell or eat trapped birds</li><li>- No establishment in Cyprus has to date been licensed to serve game – so even legally shot game such as chukar, partridges or hares cannot currently be served in a restaurant.</li></ul>

**Disclaimer:** The information found in these factsheets prepared by the BirdLife Partnership was updated in August 2014. Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that the information presented is current and accurate at this time, but recent legislative changes may not be reflected. The content of these factsheets is for information only and is not intended as legal advice. If official legal documentation of national legislation is required it should be sought from the relevant national government authority. If you would like to contribute any additional information to these factsheets, please contact: [science@birdlife.org](mailto:science@birdlife.org).

## HUNTING SEASONS AND SPECIES

Open Hunting Season	Legally huntable species	Notes
<b>Mid-August-Mid-October</b> (Different Sundays depending on area (4-6 in total per area) and daily in some areas)	Skylark, Rock Dove, Feral Pigeon, Woodpigeon, Collared Dove, Stock Dove, Turtle dove, Magpie, Hooded Crow, Quail, Jackdaw	
<b>November-December</b> (Every Wednesday and Sunday)	Chukar, Black Francolin, Quail, Snipe, Jack Snipe, Woodcock, Wigeon, Teal, Garganey, Mallard, Pintail, Gadwall, Shoveler, Pochard, Tufted Duck, Greater White-fronted Goose, Greylag Goose, Coot, Thrushes (all), Rock Dove, Feral pigeon, Woodpigeon, Collared dove, Starling, Magpie, Hooded Crow, Jackdaw, Turtle Dove (November only)	
<b>January - February</b> (Open season starts at the beginning of January. Every Wednesday and Sunday, daily in some areas and towards the end of the season)	Quail, Snipe, Jack Snipe, Woodcock, Wigeon, Teal, Garganey, Mallard, Pintail, Gadwall, Shoveler, Pochard, Tufted Duck, Greater White-fronted Goose, Greylag goose, Coot, Thrushes (all), Skylark, Rock Dove, Feral pigeon, Woodpigeon	

## TRAPPING SEASONS AND SPECIES

Open Trapping Season	Legally trapped species	Notes
N/A	N/A	

## TRADE AND PEST SPECIES

Legal trade	Notes
Only with a permit, but no permits have been issued to this date.	
Legislation on “pest species”	Notes
None but derogations used for Crows in June/July.	Derogations for crows are granted after discussion between stakeholders of the Scientific Committee (this committee is chaired by the Cyprus Environment Department).

BirdLife Partner: Birdlife Cyprus

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