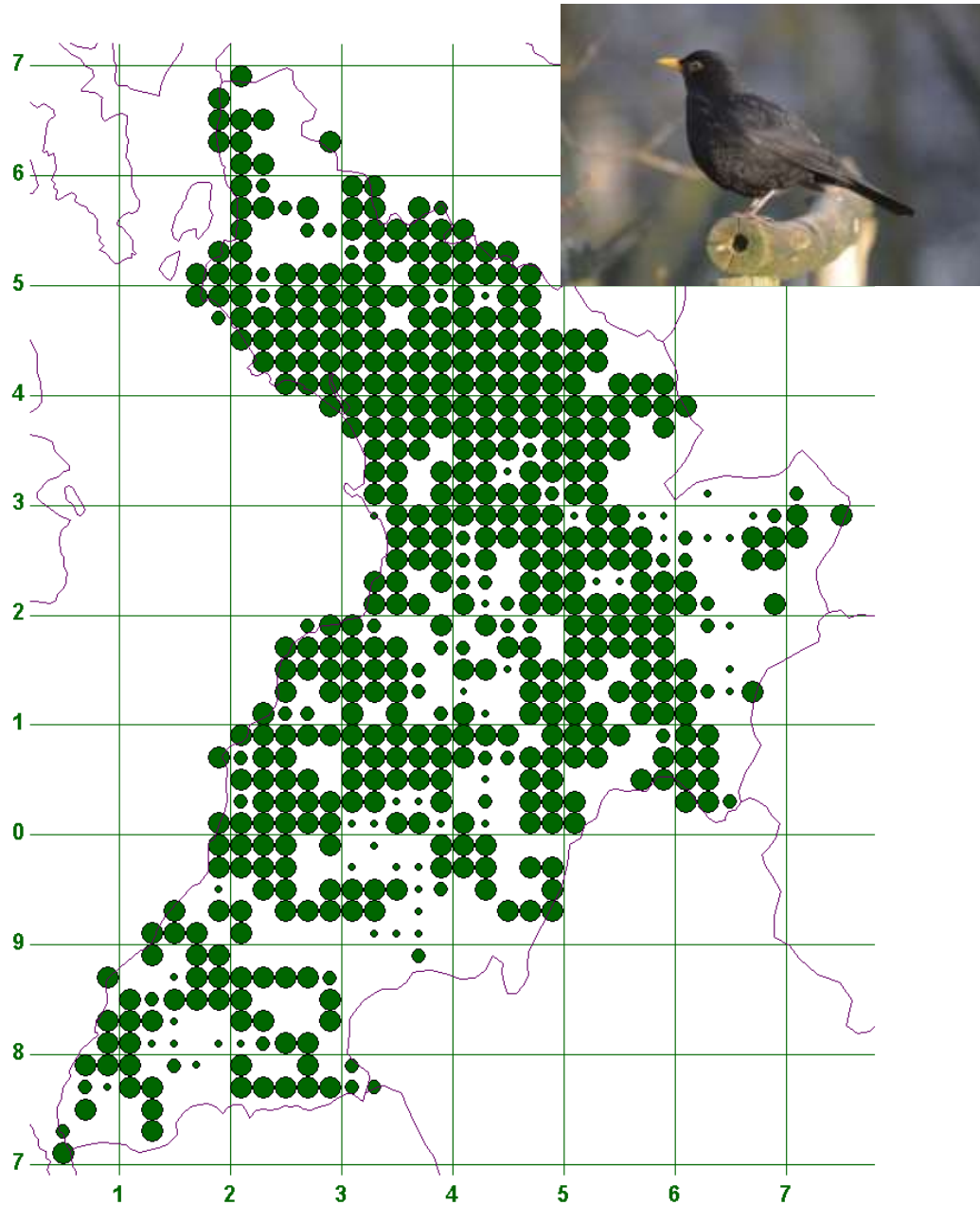


Blackbird (*Turdus merula*)



Status: Common breeder

Current trend: Blackbirds have been quick to exploit habitats formerly unavailable to them in upland Ayrshire. The spread into forestry plantations has given this, and other, species a strong presence in these areas. Lowland populations appear strong with the advent of garden feeding perhaps even strengthening their position. At present, this is a widespread and numerous bird in Ayrshire.

Follow up: Local census work may provide a more accurate picture of population trends.