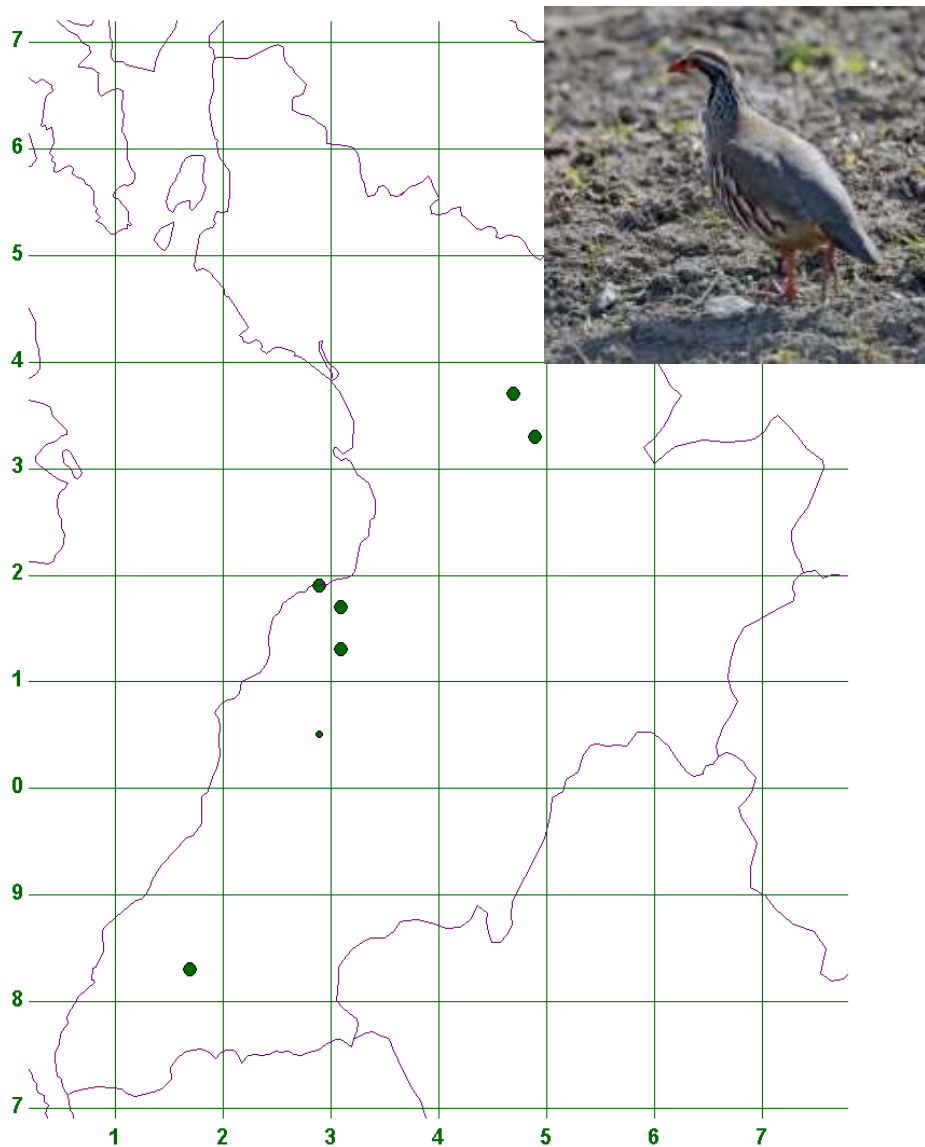


Red-legged Partridge (*Alectoris rufa*)



Status: Scarce breeder (in a natural state).

Current trend: The rearing and release of this bird in Ayrshire has meant that it is now reported from many areas, replacing the native Grey Partridge which has already faced severe problems from changing agricultural practices. In addition, recent research has linked a disease carried by Red-legged Partridge to the decline of Grey Partridge. Although large numbers are put down annually on shooting estates, it is unlikely that the few (feral) breeding records which exist in Ayrshire represent the potential for a self-sustaining population.

Follow up: More records will help follow the fortunes of this species within Ayrshire.