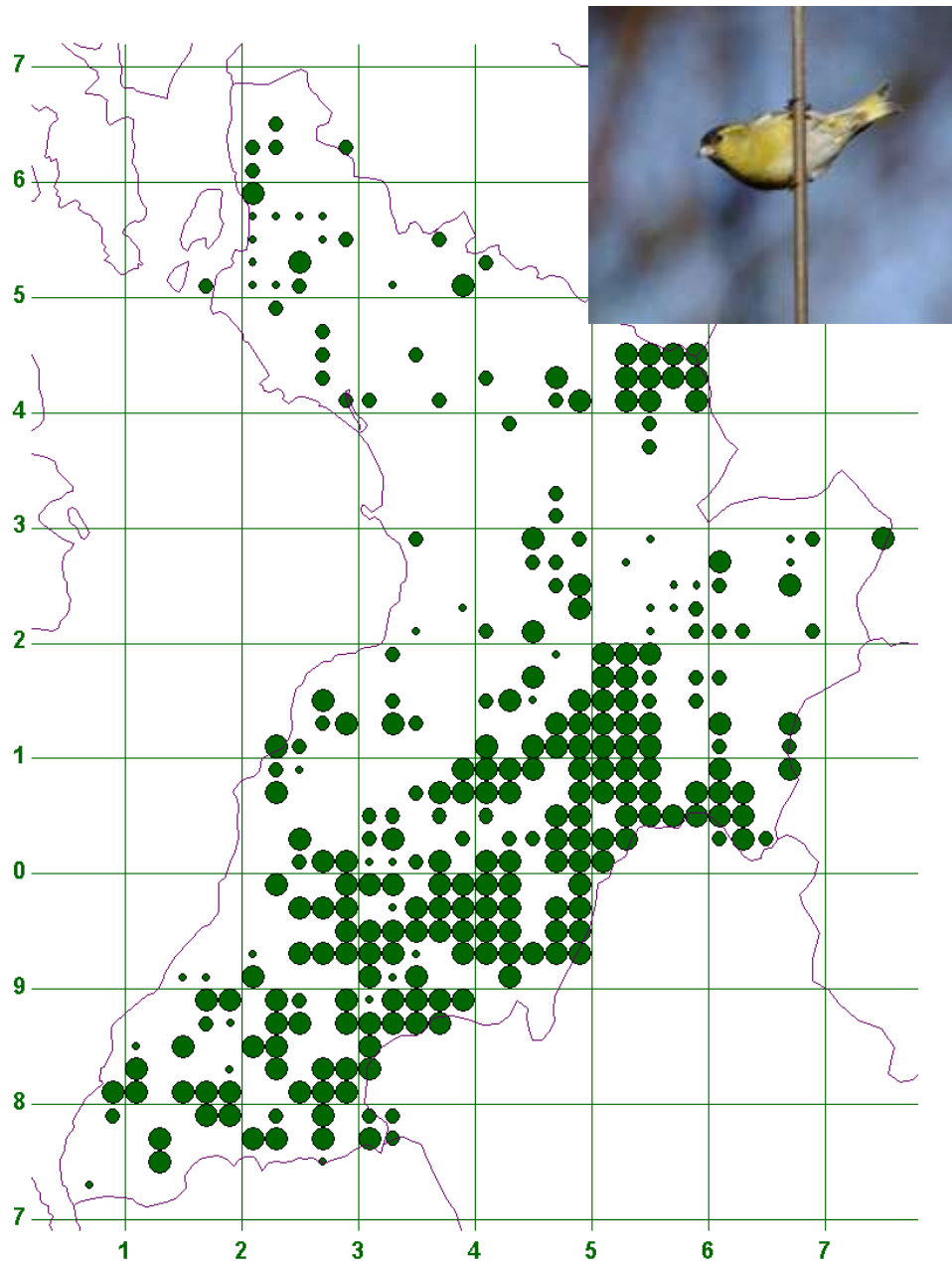


Siskin (*Carduelis spinus*)



Status: Common breeder

Current Trend: Siskins have benefitted from both the expansion of commercial forestry in upland Ayrshire, and from the increased garden feeding. Now a common bird in much of South and East Ayrshire, our breeding population moves out in winter towards the Southern counties of England. Breeding success can occasionally be seriously affected by food shortage, as a result of a poor cone crop.

Follow up: Regular recording of breeding numbers in conifer plantations will offer a better idea how big population fluctuations can be.