



### European Turtle-dove (*Streptopelia turtur*)

**Size:** Body length, 27 - 29 cm; wing length, 17.5 - 18.2 cm **Weight:** 99 - 170 g **Habitat:** Agricultural landscapes and oak forests **Surviving number:** Unknown



Photographed by Dietmar Nill

# WILDLIFE AS CANON SEES IT

Mammal, no. Milk, yes. The European turtle-dove is one of the very few birds that produce "crop milk" to nourish their young. Subsisting entirely on grains, the turtle-dove feasts on farm fields as well as seeds growing in the wild. It winters in the southern parts of its range and summers in the north, taking different routes between each on its annual migrations. But

with fewer birds completing the trip each year due to hunting, disease and rapidly declining habitat, they could use some more of the milk of human kindness.

As Canon sees it, images have the power to raise awareness of the threats facing endangered species and the natural environment, helping us make the world a better place.



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