Four Seasons and the Natural Environment of Kyoto Gyoen National Garden

Common grass yellow (eurema hecabe)

Japanese tit (parus minor)

Old world swallowtail (papilio machaon)

Varied tit (parus varius)

Birdsong fills the garden in spring.

Japanese wagtail (motacilla grandis)

Long-tailed tit (aegithalos caudatus)

Gray heron (ardea cinerea)

Japanese white-eye (zosterops japonicus)

Four kinds of turtle

Wasp spider (Argiope amoena)

Siren butterfly (hestina persimilis japonica)

Forest Green Tree Frog （Rhacophorus arboreus）

Wandering glider (pantala flavescens)

In summer, many kinds of frogs and dragonflies can be seen at the Dragonfly Pond.

Japanese pygmy woodpecker (dendrocopos kizuki)

Blue-tailed forest hawk (orthetrum triangulare melania)

Common bluetail (ischnura senegalensis)

Grey wagtail (motacilla cinerea)

Dragonfly (Sympetrum darwinianum)

Grasshopper (oxya yezoensis)

Grasshopper (atractomorpha lata)

Cricket (teleogryllus emma)

Blue-and-white flycatcher (cyanoptila cyanomelana)

In autumn, the gardens are home to locusts, grasshoppers (caelifera) and crickets; the air resounds with their beautiful sounds.

Japanese green woodpecker (picus awokera)

Olive-backed pipit (anthus hodgsoni)

Blue admiral (kaniska canace)

Red-flanked bluetail (tarsiger cyanurus)

Bull-headed shrike (lanius bucephalus)

Some say the cry of the scaly thrush (zoothera dauma) is the origin of the tales of the*nue*, the strange legendary animal of Japanese folklore that is said to haunt the Kyoto Imperial Palace grounds. The song of this bird is a plaintive and spooky “hi-hyo!”

Scaly thrush (zoothera dauma)

Northern goshawk(*Accipiter gentilis*)

In the dead of winter, when there is little to eat in the mountains, goshawks and sparrow hawks can be observed in Kyoto.

Mallard (anas platyrhynchos)

Common kingfisher (alcedo atthis)

White-bellied green pigeon (treron sieboldii)

Black-crowned night heron (nycticorax nycticorax)

Dusky thrush (turdus eunomus)

Brambling (fringilla montifringilla)

Japanese grosbeak (eophona personata)

Daurian redstart (phoenicurus auroreus)

Black-faced bunting (emberiza spodocephala)