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KAUNAS (LITHUANIA) BIRD RINGING SCHEME

Report for the EURING General Assembly (Strasbourg, August 24-25, 2005)

Compiled by Ričardas PATAPAVIČIUS (Head of the scheme)

Scheme

The Kaunas (Lithuania) Bird Ringing Centre is a unit of the Zoological Museum in Kaunas and is not economically separate from the Museum. The Museum is a governmental authority (it is within a system of the Ministry of Environment of Lithuanian Republic). In Lithuania the systematic bird ringing was started and goes on since 1929.

Staff

1 full-time scientific: Ričardas Patapavičius. 1 full-time technical: Danguolė Kvedarienė.

1 half-time computer specialist: Vaida Ališauskaitė.

Rings

Aluminum rings of 13 sizes and stainless steel rings of 5 sizes (total 13 sizes) are used. Since 1995 all rings are produced in Poland ("ARANEA"). Ringers do not pay for the rings.

Other equipment

The Bird Ringing Centre has not financial possibility to supply ringers with mist nets, balances, pliers, etc. Ringers himself also have no possibility to purchase equipments due to a low living standards in the country. This situation has a large negative impact on the results of bird ringing in the country.

Ringers

Number of active amateurs: 2003: 53; 2004: 51. Number of active teams of ringers: 2003: 5; 2004: 4. Ringing permits are issued by the Bird Ringing Centre.

Computerization

All recoveries since 1979 are coded in New EURING (1979) codes and are computerized. A computerization of the ringing data is not started yet. A FoxPro-database is used in the Centre.

EURING Swallow project

Year	2003	2004
Number of chicks/adults (during a breeding season) ringed	265/34	331/42
Number of full-grown birds ringed during pre-migratory &		3,185
migratory seasons		
A number of ringers/teams involved	12/2	11/2

Ringings & recoveries

The annual totals are given in the table.

Year	Ringed	Recoveries (finally elaborated) / species)		
	Birds / species	Own rings	Foreign rings	
2004	97,996 / 158	1,511 / 72	355 / 37	
2003	135,585 / 156	1,453 / 69	486 / 48	
2002	122,991 / 170	1,133 / 69	208 / 42	
2001	120,638 / 170	1,139 / 74	354 / 50	
2000	94,270 / 168	1,082 / 59	377 / 41	
1999	110,615 / 166	1,349 / 75	302 / 46	
1998	74,963 / 148	858 / 61	280 / 38	
1997	64,390 / 149	938 / 56	231 / 39	
1996	74,650 / 141	1,308 / 57	337 / 40	
1995	83,063 / 139	1,097 / 57	303 / 37	
1929-2004	~2,765,000 / 259	? / ?	? / ?	

Dynamics of the number of birds and bird species ringed in Lithuania during 20 last years period (1985-2004)

