

of old primaries. By using a simple notation (e.g. N⁵410³) it takes very little longer to deal with the birds and gives a moult score (in this case = 30). If everyone does this for sample of 15-20 per catch per species then we will obtain enough information to make a very good analysis of moult. The data can be recorded either on the W.S.G. data forms or on moult cards.

Expeditions

This year several expeditions are planned. The progress report of the Iceland expedition is included here. A brief mention of the Greenland expedition is also made in the section on colour marking. Two groups are going to Morocco, under Derek Stanyard and Mike Liebhörsing, to continue with the work started there (see the article in this bulletin) and last but not least two groups hope to visit the Baltic and Atlantic coasts of Europe to observe, catch etc.

Data Forms

All group members are reminded that it is essential that their ringing data be placed on these forms, which Tony Prater can supply. The winter 1972 meeting agreed (1) that all past records for species of which there are less than 100 individuals processed should be put on them; (2) that all records, if at all possible, should also be included and (3) that all birds ringed and processed from January 1st 1972 should be entered on them.

So far we have received 266 forms back from several groups and we would like to thank those who have already sent them in, especially Keith Anderson, Harry Green, B. Murray and David Steventon for transcribing large numbers. However there are still many outstanding forms with the major groups and we would hope that this information will be transcribed as soon as possible so that current ringing data can be included for 1972 and onwards.

Ringings in Spring 1972

Not all the groups returned the details of their catches but the ringing totals of those who did are set out below.

	FRG	GHG	NBWG	MRG	WVRG
Oystercatcher	181	15	8	-	35
Lapwing	5	-	-	-	-
Ringed Plover	8	18	334	136	1
Grey Plover	-	2	-	-	33
Turnstone	-	21	7	-	19
Curlew	-	-	4	-	2
Whimbrel	-	-	-	-	1
Bar-tailed Godwit	-	-	-	-	3
Redshank	16	1	15	-	4
Greenshank	1	-	-	-	-
Knot	-	-	83	-	1178
Dunlin	182	90	948	360	80
Sanderling	-	-	3	256	58
Purple Sandpiper	-	-	44	-	-
Total	<u>393</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>1446</u>	<u>752</u>	<u>1414</u>

Unfortunately due to very poor mist netting weather in April and May, the catches are well below normal. In fact almost all birds were caught with cannon nets.