

in different parts of the world. There are few accurate data on wader chick growth rates and running chicks should be weighed and measured - especially retraps of known age. Some fledging periods are not accurately known. Besides collecting the usual measurements adults should be checked for brood patches, both wing and body moult, perhaps photographed and of course ringed.

To avoid prolonged disturbance, chilling or other damage it is obvious that quick careful work is required. So much information becomes available at short notice that anyone undertaking detailed study of breeding waders should plan their recording system with care, and have all the necessary tools (pliers, calipers, balances etc) ready for instant use. In the rush at the nest it is very easy to forget to record some items. In Greenland we used pre-printed record cards (150 x 100 mm) which were very satisfactory as they collected all the data relating to one nest into one place and also provided memory cues in the field. Full details of the system will be given in the report of The Joint Biological Expedition to north-east Greenland 1974, which will be available in 1976.

References

- Green, G.H. and Greenwood, J.J.D. eds (1976 - in prep). Report of the Joint Biological Expedition to north-east Greenland 1974.
 Harris, M.P. (1967). The Biology of Oystercatchers *Haematopus ostralegus* on Skokholm Island, S. Wales. *Ibis* 109 : 180-193
 Methersole-Thompson, D. (1951). *The Greenshank*. Collins, London.
 Methersole-Thompson, D. (1973). *The Dotterel*. Collins, London.

REPORT OF WADER STUDIES IN MOROCCO 1972

The long-awaited joint report of the University of East Anglia Expedition to Tarfaya Province, Morocco 1972 and the Cambridge Sidi Boussa Expedition 1972 is now at the printers. Entitled "Studies on coastal birds and wetlands in Morocco 1972", it should be available by the time this bulletin is circulated.

The report of 100 pages falls into four main sections, the first briefly describing the Atlantic coast and activities of the expedition with descriptions of the main sites for waders, those in the remote south - Oued Chebeika and Puerto Cansado - being discussed in some detail. These are followed, in the second part, by a systematic list of birds observed, particular attention being given to Tarfaya Province, a previously neglected area, and to the autumn migration of Palaearctic species. Also included in this section are notes on the identification of some fairly common species, not fully treated by field guides. This, as other sections, is illustrated by figures and photographs.

The third and largest section is devoted initially to reports and discussion of counts of waders along the Atlantic coast of Morocco and subsequently to an analysis of results from catching. Moulting patterns and weight changes are discussed for each species as well as geographical origins and migrations. The final, short section is devoted mainly to organisational information and includes a list of publications, and detailed analyses in progress, resulting from these expeditions and the earlier UEA Expedition in Morocco 1971.

Copies of the report are available, price £1.00, from Mike Rienkowski (address on page 1).