

RINGING RECOVERIES RESULTING FROM THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE MAURITANIAN EXPEDITION 1973

By William Dick

This is a list of all waders already ringed when caught by the expedition in Mauritania, and all subsequent recoveries to date. Of the 4627 waders caught in Mauritania, 20 already carried rings (0.43%) and 22 have subsequently been recovered or controlled (0.47%).

There has only been one recovery during the winter period (a Redshank Tringa totanus in Senegal), the remainder being either on migration or on the breeding grounds and, in one case, on non-breeding summer quarters. This reflects the fact that we were ringing waders mainly on their wintering grounds in an uninhabited region with a small chance of recovery of onward migrants further south in Africa. The only recovery of an onward migrant has been a Knot Calidris canutus controlled in South Africa by the Cape Wader Group, probably the only group currently trapping coastal waders on the African continent! Interpretation of the position of the Mauritanian coast in the context of African wader migration patterns is made particularly difficult by the almost complete lack of knowledge of wader distribution on the West African coast between Mauritania and South Africa.

Copies of the Oxford and Cambridge Mauritanian Expedition 1973 Report are still available at the remarkably low Pre-inflation price of £1.00, plus 30p postage and packing (surface mail; + £1.00 air mail), and are obtainable from me at the address below. The report also covers studies of passerines, terns, invertebrates etc.

Ringed Plover Charadrius hiaticula (76 ringed)

Stockholm	3223243	Juv	25.8.73	Ottenby, Sweden	56°12'N, 16°24'E	V 16.9.73	Nouakchott
Paris	SA526022	Ad	21.10.73	Cap Timiris	+ 7.4.74		Casablanca, Morocco
							33°37'N, 7°35'W
Paris	SA526550	Ad	25.10.73	Cap Timiris	X 14.8.75		Vopnafjörður, Iceland
							65°45'N, 14°50'W

The Icelandic recovery confirms that Mauritanian wintering Ringed Plovers were drawn from breeding areas both in Scandinavia and Iceland (or Greenland), as is the case with the Moroccan recoveries.

Knot Calidris canutus (1000 ringed)

Varsovia	F550999	Juv	10.9.72	Ujscie Wisly, Poland	54°21'N, 18°57'E	V 22.10.73	Cap Timiris
Hiddensee	7090002	Juv	5.9.73	Warnemünde, E. Germany	54°11'N, 12°04'E	V 21.11.73	Cap Timiris
London	CV66659	Juv	21.9.73	Wexford, Ireland	52°22'N, 6°25'W	X 24.11.73	Ile Zira
Paris	GE 0612	Ad	17.11.73	Serinni	X 15.5.75	Gironde, France	45°35'N, 1°03'W
Paris	GD53282	Juv	28.9.73	Serinni	V 8.6.75	Langebaan Lagoon, South Africa	33°05'S, 18°02'E

The Knot wintering in West (and South) Africa are of Siberian origin, (Dick et al, 1976). The recovery pattern is a marked contrast to the well-studied Greenlandic/ North Canadian breeding population, which winters in the North Sea area. It is hoped that next Spring's Wader Study Group project will clarify the spring migration route of the African wintering populations (see elsewhere in this Bulletin).

Curlew Sandpiper Calidris ferruginea (725 ringed)

Paris	SA 475121	Juv	8.10.73	Rades, Tunisia	36°52'N, 10°18'E	V 23.10.73	Cap Timiris
Paris	JA 300100	Juv	5.9.73	Sidi Moussa, Morocco	33°12'N, 8°19'W	V 7.11.73	Serinni
London	BX 14525	Ad	10.9.72	Sidi Moussa, V 13.8.73			Sidi Moussa V 19.11.73
Stockholm	3174637	Juv	31.8.67	Ottenby, Sweden	56°12'N, 16°24'E	V 21.11.73	Cap Timiris
Paris	SA 543403	Ad	19.11.73	Cap Timiris	V 7.8.74	Salin-de-Girand, Bouches-du-Rhône, France	43°25'N, 4°44'E
Paris	SA 543657	Ad	20.11.73	Cap Timiris	+ 1.5.74	Salin-de-Syracuse, Sicily	37°04'N, 15°18'E

The migration of Curlew Sandpipers in Africa has been described by Elliott et al (1976).

Dunlin Calidris alpina (1971 ringed)

London	BX 03490	Ad	3.7.72	Barrow-in-Furness, England	54°04'N, 3°09'W	V 19.11.73	Cap Timiris
London	BX 15141	AD	28.7.73	Barrow-in-Furness, England	54°04'N, 3°09'W	V 11.11.73	Serini
London	BX 12268	Ad	19.5.73	Newport, Wales	51°34'N, 2°48'W	V 19.11.73	Cap Timiris
London	BB 72736	Juv	11.9.71	Liverpool, England	53°28'N, 3°02'W	V 11.11.73	Serini
London	BX 30971	Juv	4.8.73	Kings Lynn, England	52°49'N, 0°26'E	V 24.10.73	Cap Timiris
Stavanger	896435	FG	29.8.72	Revtangen, Norway	58°45'N, 5°30'E	V 4.10.73	Cap Timiris
Paris	SA 526225	Ad	22.10.73	Cap Timiris	V 5.5.74	Cardiff, Wales	51°39'N, 3°05'W
Paris	SA 542853	Ad	12.11.73	Serini	V 19.5.74	Ulverston, England	54°10'N, 3°03'W
Paris	SA 542966	Ad	17.11.73	Serini	V 21.7.74 & 27.8.76	Kings Lynn, England	52°48'N, 0°18'E
Paris	SA 542396	Juv	6.11.73	Serini	V 13.7.75	Kings Lynn, England	52°48'N, 0°18'E
Paris	SA 542159	Juv	2.11.73	Cap Timiris	V 9.9.75	Kings Lynn, England	52°48'N, 0°18'E
Paris	SA 542862	Ad	12.11.73	Serini	V 30.7.76	Kings Lynn, England	52°48'N, 0°18'E
Paris	SA 542320	Juv	5.10.73	Cap Timiris	X 14.2.77	Llanfairfechan, Caernarvon, Wales	53°15'N, 3°58'W
Paris	SA 542657	Juv	11.11.73	Serini	+ 5.3.77	Triaze, Vendée, France	46°23'N, 1°12'W

Dunlin (cont)

Paris SA 525109 Juv 23.9.73 Serini V 3.5.77 Newport, Monmouth, Wales 51°34'N, 2°48'W
 Paris SA 542990 Ad 18.11.73 Cap Timiris V 31.7.77 Friskney, Lincolnshire, England 53°03'N, 0°15'E
 Paris SA 525200 Juv 27.9.73 Serini + 8.8.78 Havre de Lessay, Manche, France 49°13'N, 1°32'W
 Paris SA 542878 Ad 12.11.73 Serini V 7.5.78 Biggar, Walney Island, England 54°05'N, 3°15'W

The recovery pattern is very similar to the one from Morocco. The recoveries support the conclusion that Mauritania is the principal wintering area for schinzii (see Pienkowski & Dick 1975). SA 542320 was found in a Peregrine's nest and was almost certainly a passage bird.

Redshank *Tringa totanus* (230 ringed)

Brussels 4251211 Ad 3.4.71 Zurin, Belgium 51°22'N, 3°22'E V 6.10.73 Cap Timiris
 Paris GD53501 Ad 8.10.73 Cap Timiris V 15.2.74 Djoudj, Senegal 16°15'N, 16°10'W
 Paris GE6648 Ad 18.11.73 Cap Timiris X 2.4.76 Hérault, France 43°22'N, 3°32'E
 Paris GD53840 Ad 23.10.73 Cap Timiris + 14.3.76 Chaillevette, Charante-Maritime, France 45°44'N, 1°03'W

The more limited data from Mauritania are consistent with the recovery pattern from Morocco.

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* (206 ringed)

Helsinki A 334966 Pull 28.6.73 Jussinkari, Finland 60°00'N, 25°25'E V 22.11.73
 Helsinki AT 13690 Pull 4.7.70 Raippaluoto, Finland 63°14'N, 20°37'E V 8.10.73
 Reykjavik 724630 Ad 28.5.72 Gardskagi, Iceland 64°04'N, 22°42'W V 18.11.73
 Paris GE 0218 Ad 7.11.73 Serini V 27.7.76 Säppi, Luvia, Turku & Pori, Finland 61°29'N, 21°21'E
 Paris GD 53914 Ad 23.10.73 Cap Timiris V 24.7.77 Insel Langenwerder, Kv. Wismar, Bez. Rostock, E.Germany 54°02'N, 11°30'E

Subsequent recoveries suggest that the principal breeding area for Turnstones wintering in Mauritania is in Scandinavia, although there is clearly less segregation between different populations than in some species, such as Knot and Dunlin. The preponderance of Scandinavian recoveries ties in well with the conclusions of Branson et al (1978) that the Canadian/Greenlandic population winters mainly in the North Sea area.

Sanderling *Calidris alba* (161 ringed)

London BB 64329 Ad 29.7.72 Point of Air, Wales 53°21'N, 3°18'W V 2.11.73 Cap Timiris
 London BB 55164 Ad 5.5.70 Morecambe, England 54°00'N, 2°54'W V 2.11.73 Cap Timiris
 London BX 15027 Ad 19.5.73 Morecambe, England 54°02'N, 2°54'W V 16.9.73 Nouakchott

Terns

47 terns amongst the 1315 caught were already ringed, from 9 countries. There have been 12 subsequent recoveries including Black Terns Chlidonias niger in Ghana (2), Poland and the République Populaire du Benin; Common Terns Sterna hirundo in the Netherlands, Norway and U.K. (2); and Sandwich Terns Sterna sandvicensis in Senegal, Denmark and Portugal (2). One Sandwich Tern ringed in Denmark as a pullus in 1961 was controlled in Mauritania in 1973 and subsequently controlled again in Denmark in June 1976 (aged 15 years) within a few miles of its hatching place! Full details of Terns controlled in Mauritania can be found in the expedition report.

References

As in above article by M.W.Pienkowski plus:

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