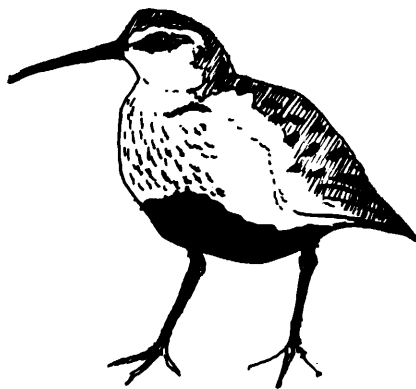


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CURLEW GIZZARD LININGS

As part of a study into the feeding ecology of Curlews Numenius arquata in the Severn Estuary, we are trying to establish a relationship between the dimensions of cast gizzard linings and bill length. We would, therefore, be very grateful to receive any of the following - complete gizzards (e.g. after the contents have been removed for dietary studies) or gizzard linings from birds of known bill length; cast gizzard linings from birds of known bill length in captivity; partly decomposed bodies which include the head and gizzard. Freshly dead Curlews should still be sent to Dr. N.C. Davidson at the University of Durham, for the WSG Project on the effects of severe weather on waders. The address for the former material is - Dr. P.N. Ferns, Zoology Department, University College, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF1 1XL, Wales (postage will be refunded on receipt).