

Cambridgeshire clutches? Possible answers include explanations based on the 160m difference in altitude (with associated differences in climate) or the incubation behaviour of the adults. On 7 occasions during February - late April 1984 air temperatures were recorded to the nearest 1.0°C within 20 minutes of each other at the arable and rough grazing sites. The rough grazing site was, on average, 2.1°C colder ( $sd=1.463$ ), and it is likely that wind-strengths and rainfall were higher. The possibility of ambient temperature and rainfall affecting egg weight loss was investigated for the Cambridgeshire and Stirlingshire arable sites, from which there were daily temperature and rainfall records. A model in which daily weight loss was a linear function of maximum day temperature and daily rainfall was fitted by least squares but indicated no significant effect of temperature ( $t^{39} = 0.20$ ) or rainfall ( $t^{39} = 0.46$ ). Neither was there any significant effect when these two variables were assumed to operate alone. This analysis does not, however, rule out the possible effects of micro-climatic differences in the immediate area of the nest.

Similar analyses for other sites and species would be useful in establishing the extent and causes of inter-population variation.

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## A BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTE ON WADER PUBLISHING

by Sven Blomqvist

Although the amount of scientific literature has increased considerably during the 20th century (Houghton 1975), there is little documentation on how this increase applies to ornithological literature. In this note, I report on the chronological development of scientific publications in two groups of waders (three genera): *Calidris limicola* and *Phalaropus*. I also report on a collation of main periodicals where the literature on these birds has been published. The sources of references are two bibliographies on waders recently published by the Ottenby Bird Observatory in Sweden (Blomqvist 1983a, 1983b). The listed references are up to and through 1980. Species covered are those included in the three genera by Voous (1973).

A marked increase during the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s in the number of publications in each group is obvious in Figure 1. The arithmetic means of overall publications per year for each decade have increased by factors of 2.4 between the 1950s and 1960s and by 2.6 between the 1960s and 1970s. Corresponding values for *Phalaropus* are 1.5 and 1.8. The relative increase in the number of *Phalaropus* publications is thus not as high as in *Calidris limicola*, but still considerable.

The collation of periodicals was compiled by first excluding 100 references to *Calidris limicola* and 19 to *Phalaropus* from non-periodical books, unpublished university theses and technical reports. The remaining references were listed and ranked in descending

order with respect to the total number of papers in each periodical. The 15 journals in which papers occurred most frequently are shown in Table 1. In this table, it can be seen that the majority of papers have appeared in European journals, with with journals from the United Kingdom responsible for more than from any other single nation. This occurs in both *Calidris limicola* and *Phalaropus*. The 15 journals comprise 45.6% of the total number of papers on *Calidris limicola* and 50.4% on *Phalaropus*. The rest of the papers are spread through a great number of journals; with no single periodical comprising more than 1.7% of the *Calidris limicola* papers and 1.1% of the *Phalaropus* articles.

Finally, I have two comments. Firstly, I do not believe that the lower number of publications in 1980 (Fig.1) reflects a representative decrease but rather the difficulty in tracing all new publications. Secondly the frequency of papers (Table 1) has not been weighted to compensate for the influence of differences in journal age, total number of published articles, total number of pages, or more appropriately total text mass, etc.. To do such weightings in a proper and relevant way is a tricky and extremely time consuming task.

I am grateful to Hanna Hill for linguistic corrections to this note.

Table 1. Ranking list of journals in descending numerical order of total number of papers concerning the wader genera *Calidris* and *Limicola* and *Phalaropus*, respectively. The counted percentage share of each journal to the overall number of papers is given in a separate column. (Sources: Blomqvist 1983a, 1983b).

Ranking order	<i>Calidris</i> and <i>Limicola</i>		<i>Phalaropus</i>	
	Journal	% share (n=1264) ality	Journal	% share (n=375) ality
1	British Birds	7.8	British Birds	7.7
2	Wader Study Group Bulletin	6.3	Ibis	5.3
3	Ibis	4.2	The Auk	4.8
4	The Auk	3.8	The Condor	3.7
5	Dansk Ornithologisk Forenings Tidsskrift	2.8	Dansk Ornithologisk Forenings Tidsskrift	3.5
6	The Condor	2.7	Ornithologische Mitteilungen	3.2
7	Ostrich	2.5	The Canadian Field-Naturalist	3.2
8	The Emu	2.5	Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club	2.9
9	Alauda	2.1	Ornithologische Mitteilungen	2.4
10	Ornithologische Mitteilungen	1.9	Beiträge zur Vogelkunde	2.4
11	Bird Study	1.8	The Wilson Bulletin	2.4
11	Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club	1.8	Ostrich	2.1
11	Notornis	1.8	National Museum of Canada Bulletin (Ottawa)	1.9
11	The Wilson Bulletin	1.8	Scottish Birds	1.6
15	Scottish Birds	1.7	The Murrelet	1.6
			Journal of Field Ornithology (formerly Bird-Banding)	1.3
			Sterna	1.3
			The Migrant	1.3

Aust. = Australia, Can. = Canada, DK = Denmark, F = France, F.R.G. = the Federal Republic of Germany, G.D.R. = the German Democratic Republic, U.K. = the United Kingdom, N = Norway, N.Z. = New Zealand, S.Afr. = South Africa, and U.S. = the United States.

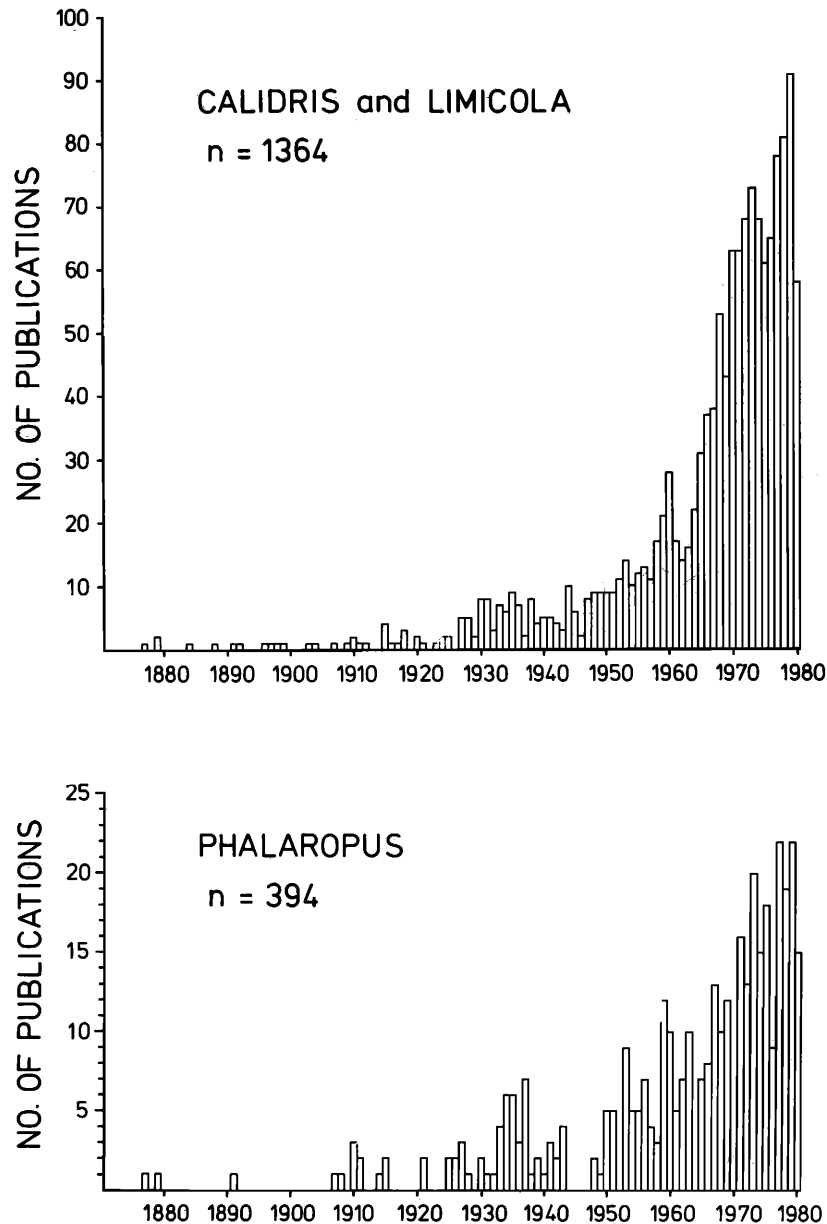


Figure 1. The chronological distribution of the overall number of publications (n), up to and through 1980, concerning the wader genera *Calidris* and *Limicola* and *Phalaropus*, respectively. (Sources: Blomqvist 1983a, b, 1983c). Note the different scales of the y-axes.

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(Reference to Table 1 reveals that *WSG Bulletin* has published few papers about Phalaropes - we encourage authors to remedy this situation by submitting such articles. Eds.)