



WADER STUDY GROUP ANNUAL MEETING 1989 AND 8TH INTERNATIONAL WATERFOWL FEEDING ECOLOGY SYMPOSIUM - FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT

As announced in *WSG Bulletin* 54:4, the 1989 Wader Study Group Annual Meeting will be held jointly with the 8th International Waterfowl Feeding Ecology Symposium, at Ribe in Denmark between 18-24 September 1989. The meetings will take place in the Youth Hostel, situated a short walk from the historical centre of Ribe and only 15 km from the Wadden Sea.

The week's meetings will include also a workshop on Knot migrations. A booking form is enclosed with this *Bulletin*. This booking form should be used by all those attending one or more parts of the week's meetings. Please complete and return the form to K. Laursen and J. Madsen, Game Biology Station, Kalo, DK-8410 Ronde, Denmark as soon as possible, since the number of participants is restricted.

The programme is as follows:

	Waterfowl Feeding Ecology Symposium
Sun 17 Sept.	Arrival and Registration
Mon 18 Sept.	Sessions I, II and III
Tues 19 Sept.	Sessions IV, V, round-table discussions
Wed 20 Sept.	Excursions
Thur 21 Sept.	Sessions VI, VII
	Knot Workshop (Part I)
Fri 22 Sept.	Knot Workshop (Part II) and round-table discussions
Sat 23 Sept.	WSG Annual Meeting
Sun 24 Sept.	WSG Annual Meeting

8TH INTERNATIONAL WATERFOWL FEEDING ECOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

The symposium is the 8th in the series which aims to bring together specialists working on the feeding ecology of wildfowl and waders. The meeting will provide a forum to discuss methods, to present recent work done since the last meetings on Texel and in Sweden, and to inspire new studies.

The main theme of the Symposium will be relationships between waders and wildfowl and their habitats. Talks will be arranged in sessions, and each session will be introduced by a review presentation by an invited speaker. There will also be a poster session. To maintain the atmosphere of open forum discussion there will be no formally published proceedings. As for previous meetings, however, abstracts of all talks will be published in *WSG Bulletin*, and full papers may be submitted to the Editor for consideration for publication.

Offers of talks and posters should be made on the booking form, and should include an abstract of not more than 200 words.

A final programme will be circulated in August 1989. The sessions and review talks are currently planned as follows:

Session I. Carrying capacity of waterfowl habitats

Reviews: Exploitation of food stocks by waterfowl (Mennobart van Eerden); Geese and vegetation: an evolutionary view on carrying capacity (Rudi Drent)

Session II. Imitative and exploitative foraging tactics

Review: to be decided

Session III. Night-time feeding of waterfowl

Reviews: Nocturnality in waders (Raymond McNeil); Evolutionary aspects of night-time feeding in wildfowl (Alain Tamisier)

Session IV. Habitat use and breeding performance

Review: Wader breeding performance in difference habitats (Peter Evans)

Session V. Habitat effects on population regulation in waterfowl

Review: An approach to understanding how increased mortality rates in winter might affect year-round population dynamics in waders (John Goss-Custard)

Session VI. Habitat loss

Review: Consequences of habitat loss on waders in NW Europe (Rob Lambeck)

Session VII. Effects of disturbance

Review: Disturbance effects of recreational activities on wildfowl (Jesper Madsen and Karsten Laursen)

Round-table Discussion: An integrated study of the ecology of the European greylag goose - a research project proposal (Rudi Drent, Mennobart van Eerden, Jesper Madsen)

Excursions. A choice of excursions on Wednesday 20 September will be to either important waterfowl sites in the Danish Wadden Sea, or the nature reserve Tipperne at Ringkøbing Fjord. Please mark the booking form accordingly.

There will be an evening banquet on Wednesday 20 September, after the excursions.

RECENT ADVANCES IN UNDERSTANDING KNOT MIGRATIONS

A full announcement of this workshop was made in *WSG Bulletin* 54:5, and potential participants have been contacted individually. A more detailed programme is being put together at the moment and will be circulated to all those who have expressed an interest. The workshop is being arranged by Nick Davidson, Theunis Piersma and Brian Harrington.

All participants should note that the Knot workshop will now start on the evening of Thursday 21 September and will continue on Friday 22 September. This is earlier than was previously announced.

The workshop aims to summarise current knowledge and draw together common threads. Participants will have the opportunity to report on their recent relevant research findings. Anyone wishing to do so, but who has not yet contacted the workshop organisers, should do so immediately.

WSG ANNUAL MEETING 1989

The timetable for the WSG meeting will be similar to the pattern established in recent years. It will start on Saturday 23 September at 0900 with the WSG Annual General Meeting.

Most of the proceedings on Saturday will then be devoted to a **Workshop on Waders Breeding in Wet Meadows**, organised by Paul Eric Jonsson and Hermann Hotker. This workshop will focus on the problems (mostly man-induced) relating to the breeding of waders in wet meadows. The provisional programme begins with review by Albert Beintema on what is a wet meadow, which waders breed in wet meadows, and the historical and agricultural aspects of wet meadows. This will be followed by reports on the current situation of waders in wet meadows in different European countries, with speakers including Ken Smith, Brigitte Klinner and Eckhard Reinke. After lunch, the afternoon sessions will concentrate on case studies contributed by workshop participants. The workshop will be rounded off by a discussion on the reasons for the current population trends, and on what can be done to protect the waders breeding on wet meadows.

Offers of talks are still welcome. Talks are generally limited to 15 minutes (plus 5 minutes for questions).

The morning of Sunday 24 September gives the opportunity for members to give general talks about any aspect of waders. Offers of talks should be made on the booking form, and marked "WSG-meeting". Talks should be 15 minutes (plus 5 minutes for questions), and an abstract of up to 200 words should be provided in advance.

On the afternoon of Sunday 24 September there will be an excursion, finishing at 1800 hours. This excursion will be to Hojer, close to the Wadden Sea. In this area a new saltwater lagoon was created in 1984 to compensate for the building of a new sea-wall. The excursion will visit also a marsh between Hojer and Tonder. This is the largest and oldest marsh area in Denmark, and was protected by a special Act in 1988. It supports a large concentration of breeding waders and several pairs of Bitterns and Montague's Harriers. To cover transport costs there will be a charge of 50 Dkr (about £4) for each participant.

ACCOMODATION AND MEALS

Accommodation is available in the Youth Hostel, in rooms with 2, 4 or 6 beds. Costs, including all meals and refreshments, range from 280 Dkr (c. £23) per person per day in a 6-bed room to 375 Dkr (c. £31) per person per day in a 2-bed room.

Alternatively, there is some hotel accommodation available, in hotels about 15 minutes walk away from the Youth Hostel. Hotel charges do not include meals, and are:

Without *en suite* bathroom, 190 Dkr (c. £16) per day for a single room, and 390 Dkr (c. £32) per day for a double room;

With *en suite* bathroom, 420 Dkr (c. £34) per day for a single room, and 620 Dkr (c. £51) per day for a double room.

In addition, meals are 250 Dkr (c. £20) per day.

TRAVEL

Esbjerg (about 30 km north of Ribe) is easy to reach by ferry (from Great Britain) and by train and plane (from Copenhagen). Arrangements can be made for transport from Esbjerg (railway station, airport and harbour ferry terminal) to Ribe. If you need transport from Esbjerg to Ribe please mark the booking form accordingly.

We look forward to seeing everyone in Ribe in September.

All forms and correspondence should be addressed to:

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