

Workshop on Project "Tringa glareola 2000" and Seminar "Research on Wader Migration in Poland" – 21–22 November 1998, Gdynia, Poland.

Magdalena Remisiewicz & Mateusz Sciborski

Remisiewicz, M. & Sciborski, M. 1999. Workshop on Project "Tringa glareola 2000" and Seminar "Research on Wader Migration in Poland" – 21–22 November 1998, Gdynia, Poland. *Wader Study Group Bull.* 89: 30 – 31

Magdalena Remisiewicz & Mateusz Sciborski, Waterbird Research Group "KULING", c/o Dept. of Vertebrate Zoology and Ecology, Univ. of Gdansk, al. Legionów 9, 80–441 Gdańsk, Poland; E-mail: biomr@univ.gda.pl

The Wader Study Group programme "Tringa glareola 2000", co-ordinated by the Waterbird Research Group "KULING" has developed remarkably since its start in 1997. Its main purpose, to define the migration routes of Wood Sandpiper and investigate its migration strategy, seems to be met by the methods used. They include: colour ringing, dyeing, counts and observations (for more detailed description of the project – see *WSG Bull.* 84: 21–22). The network of sites contributing has been growing continuously and at this moment consists of 30 sites from 21 European and African countries. The program has been widely publicised amongst ornithologists and birdwatchers in many countries, thanks to the activities of the project participants and also the spontaneous help of other wader enthusiasts. The request to look out for colour-ringed Wood Sandpipers has already brought promising results. The recovery rate from Wood Sandpipers colour-marked at the Reda mouth (Gulf of Gdańsk) is more than twice that from traditional ringing. Combined with migration dynamics it has already given important new information on *Tringa glareola* flyways. While ringing, biometric data is collected (measurements of ca. 8,000 individuals will be available for the project) and regular counts are provided by most sites. It will allow comparison of migration patterns in different parts of Europe and Africa.

In order to establish common methodological standards of collecting data, as well as to discuss organisational issues, the first workshop on the Project "Tringa glareola 2000" was organised on 22nd November 1998 in Gdynia

(Poland) by the WRG "KULING". During the meeting, participants from Poland, Sweden, Romania, Estonia and Ukraine presented the results of past and present studies on the species in their countries. A common set of measurements to be taken from Wood Sandpipers was agreed, including new measures (primary wear, fat score) to be tested. Topic groups, expressing individual interests in analysing particular problems; migration dynamics, recoveries, biometrics, moult, refuelling strategy, were established. Furthermore, the strategy of fund-raising at the international and national level was discussed, bearing in mind not only the specific project demands, but also the everyday needs of running the fieldwork in unstable economic conditions. All the participants regarded sharing experience as an important element of the project, so exchange visits between ringing stations, dissemination of news on the project, further meetings and means of keeping close contact were agreed. Despite the project name, it will be necessary to prolong the research for one or two more seasons, as the project was still being set up in 1997 and 1998. After collecting sufficient data, final results will be published with contributions from all participants as a special issue dedicated to Wood Sandpiper migration. The intention of participants to establish a co-operative network of stations was expressed, with the objective of working together not only on Wood Sandpiper migration, but also on other species and topics.

During pauses in the intensive deliberations, the ornithological effort was continued at the nearby seashore, despite the harsh weather. A group of

keen "KULING" bird-ringers succeeded in catching a male Mallard, triumphantly giving it the name "Conference". Other attractions provided for the guests were two exhibitions prepared especially for the workshop. The "Museum of WRG KULING" presented historical pieces of equipment used during fieldwork or specimens referring to important moments in the history of the group (some of the exhibits were 15 years old). The other was a collection of beer-cups from all over the world by Cezary Wójcik (Attila Sandor, a Romanian colleague, revealed a wide knowledge of that subject and helped Cezary to identify some of the mysterious cups). The informal meetings lasting long into the night proved the establishment of good personal contacts.

The day before the workshop, the first Polish Seminar "Research on Wader Migration in Poland" was held at the same venue. It was a successful attempt to summarise knowledge on that topic. The meeting gathered representatives of all the most important Polish wader study centres, who presented both reports from their ringing or observation activities and original studies based on that material. All participants agreed that closer co-operation between wader specialists, in particular standardisation of methods and effective exchange of information, is needed. They have also expressed the wish to organise on an annual basis further seminars dedicated to the subject and to publish yearly reports from wader activities in Poland. Following the participants wishes, a second Polish seminar, this time dedicated to studies not only on wader migration but also on breeding, will be

organised by WRG KULING on 4 December 1999 in Gdańsk. All Polish-speaking wader specialists are welcome!

The talks given during both the Polish and the international meeting, summarised below, were published in English as a separate issue of journal "The Ring" (Vol. 18, 1998). The volume (20 USD + postage costs) can be ordered from the Editor (Przebendowo 3, 84-210 Choczewo, Poland; E-mail: ring@univ.gda.pl) and some copies will be available at the WSG Annual Meeting 1999 in France.

ABSTRACTS FROM THE 1ST POLISH SEMINAR "RESEARCH ON WADERS MIGRATION IN POLAND", 21ST NOVEMBER 1998, GDYNIA, POLAND

Wader ringing at the Vistula mouth (Baltic coast, Poland) – a summary of the long-term studies

Jadwiga Gromadzka, Gdańsk Ornithological Station, Institute of Ecology, Polish Academy of Sciences, ul. Nadwiślańska 108, 80-680 Gdańsk 40, Poland; E-mail:

jagagrom@stornit.gda.pl.

A summary of almost 40 years of autumn wader catching. The unquestionable dominant was *Calidris alpina*, which considerably outnumbered the other commonly caught species such as *Calidris minuta*, *Actitis hypoleucos* or *Calidris ferruginea*. The migration periods of adults and juveniles of observed species were repeatable from year to year, although the number of young birds varied depending on the breeding success. The turn-over in all species was rapid. The average (for all species) recovery rate was 3%, with recoveries from Siberia, through Europe, to southern Africa.

Wader studies of the Waterbird Research Group KULING in 1983 – 1998

Włodzimierz Meissner, Magdalena Remisiewicz, Dept. of Vertebrate Ecology and Zoology, Univ. of Gdańsk, al. Legionów 9, 80-441 Gdańsk, Poland; E-mail: biowm@univ.gda.pl.

A summary of spring and autumn ringing and counts conducted in the Gulf of Gdańsk region (Poland) by WRG KULING. Twenty-seven species of wader were caught, with *Calidris alba*, *Arenaria interpres*, *Calidris*

canutus and *Pluvialis squatarola* the most common at seashore sites, and *Gallinago gallinago* and *Tringa glareola* additionally falling in the group of dominants in mixed habitats. Distribution of recoveries (800 long-distance records, for *Gallinago gallinago* and *Tringa totanus* – maps of recoveries presented) clearly indicates that, in many ringed species, two inland routes, to the Mediterranean and to the Balkans and the Black Sea region respectively, are used as well as the coastal route. A list of all KULING papers on waders is given.

Spring assemblages of waders in flood plains of the lower Biebrza and the middle Narew river valleys

Andrzej Górski, Jacek J. Nowakowski, Department of Ecology and Environmental Protection, Pedagogical University, 10-561 Olsztyn, Żołnierska 14, Poland; E-mail: jacekn@tufi.wsp.olsztyn.pl.

An analysis of species composition, domination structure and ecological characteristics of wader assemblages observed in the springs of 1990 – 1992 in two vast wetland areas in eastern Poland. The species composition (17 species) was very similar in both sites, with *Philomachus pugnax*, *Vanellus vanellus* and *Limosa limosa* as dominants. Amongst the morpho-ecological groups only those which are characteristic of marshy meadows and swamp grassland were well represented while species which forage on the shore were extremely scarce. The observed wader concentrations were the highest noted on spring migration in Poland (up to over 91,000 individuals). The migration period was divided, using cluster analysis, into four phases differing in species richness, species diversity and domination structure.

Spring and autumn migration of waders in the Noteć river valley

Piotr Indykiewicz, Zoology Dept., University of Technology and Agriculture, ul. Kordeckiego 20, 85-225 Bydgoszcz, Poland; E-mail: passer@adm.atr.bydgoszcz.pl

Detailed accounts and phenology of 24 wader species occurring at four fishpond complexes in the Noteć river valley (central Poland), based on regular observations performed in years 1989 – 1996. The results are compared with literature evidence dating back to the 1970s. The number and species composition depended on the timing of changes in water level as the most

attractive habitat was the empty bottom of fishponds. Therefore, in spring the area was used mostly by the earliest migrants (*Vanellus vanellus*, *Philomachus pugnax* and *Limosa limosa*), which arrived before the ponds were filled, and in autumn by the latest ones (*Vanellus vanellus*, *Pluvialis squatarola*, *Pluvialis apricaria* and *Calidris alpina*) which came into the area after the ponds had been emptied.

Autumn migration of waders at the Sewage Treatment Plant in Fasty near Białystok (eastern Poland)

Michał Polakowski, Maciej Juniewicz, M. Juniewicz, ul. Rzemiełnicza 4 b, 15-773 Białystok, Poland; E-mail: ptasiek@sus.univ.szczecin.pl

Detailed analysis of occurrence and phenology of 23 wader species, made on the basis of regular autumn counts conducted in years 1994 – 1998. The dominating migrants were *Vanellus vanellus*, *Tringa glareola* and *Philomachus pugnax*. The passage through the area was initiated in July by *Limosa limosa* and *Tringa totanus*, then stints and sandpipers occurred with the peak concentrations in September, and the latest migrants noted till the end of October were *Charadrius hiaticula* and *Calidris alpina*.

Ringling of waders on the barrier-reservoirs of Silesia (south-western Poland) in years 1978 – 1990

Tadeusz Stawarczyk, Natural History Museum, ul. Sienkiewicza 21, 50-335 Wrocław, Poland; E-mail:

stawar@uni.wroc.pl

Ringling report from autumn catches performed on three close barrier-reservoirs in different years from the given period. The most numerous of the 19 wader species ringed were *Tringa glareola*, *Gallinago gallinago* and *Actitis hypoleucos* with all the other species giving a very low proportion in catches. Although *Calidris* were generally scarce, in 1989 they occurred in conspicuous abundance. The substantial majority of the 54 foreign recoveries referred to *Gallinago gallinago*. Several records of foreign-ringed birds and Polish ones gave some suggestions about the origin of caught waders.

Report on ringing and observations of waders at the Bug river (Central–Eastern Poland) in 1986 – 1990

Cezary Mitrus, Rafal Kuczborski, Jacek Slupek, Zoology Dept., Agricultural and Pedagogic University, Institute of Biology, ul. Prusa 12, 08–110 Siedlce, Poland; E–mail:

ficedula@wsrp.siedlce.pl

An overview of results of autumn trapping and counts, supported by spring observations. The most common of the 22 ringed wader species were *Actitis hypoleucos* and *Tringa glareola*, and the counts also showed *Vanellus vanellus* to be in the group of dominants. The majority of 19 long–distance recoveries referred to birds shot by hunters, thus *Gallinago gallinago* reached the highest recovery rate despite its low share in catches.

Catching waders at the Jeziorsko reservoir (western Poland)

Rafal Bargiel, Radoslaw Wlodarczyk, Dept. of Vertebrate Ecology and Zoology, University of Łódź, ul. Banacha 12/16, 90–237 Łódź, Poland; E–mail: wradek@hotmail.com

A report from ten years (1989 – 1998) of autumn catching of waders at the barrier–reservoir in the Warta river valley. Among the 23 species of waders ringed, the most frequent were *Gallinago gallinago*, *Tringa glareola* and *Actitis hypoleucos*. Among the 89 obtained recoveries, recaptures of *Gallinago gallinago* were by far the most numerous, with one record suggesting that they are Russian breeders, and numerous ones from the wintering ground (shot birds).

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1ST WORKSHOP ON PROJECT "TRINGA GLAREOLA 2000", 22ND NOVEMBER 1998, GDYNIA, POLAND

Development of the Project "Tringa glareola 2000"

Magdalena Remisiewicz, Dept. of Vertebrate Ecology and Zoology, Univ. of Gdańsk, al. Legionów 9, 80–441 Gdańsk, Poland; E–mail: biomr@univ.gda.pl

A report presenting the project activities in 1997 – 1998, its first results, current organisational status and prospects.

Recoveries of Swedish–ringed Wood Sandpipers *Tringa glareola*

Noel Holmgren, Jan Pettersson, Ottenby Bird Observatory, Pl 1500 380 65 Degerhamn, Sweden.

An analysis of 647 *Tringa glareola* recoveries obtained during 55 years of Swedish ringing scheme activity. The records (presented on the map), distributed similarly for adults and juveniles, come from Europe and western Africa. Survival rate in subsequent years and migration speed was analysed in both age classes.

Weight studies in Wood Sandpipers *Tringa glareola*, migrating over south–western Scania in late summer and spring, with notes on related species.

Christer Persson, Ljungsåtersvägen 43, S–236 41 Höllviken, Sweden; E–mail: cp.hollviken@swipnet.se.

An analysis of the fattening strategy of *Tringa glareola* and of other wader species in the changeable habitats and food supply of the Öresund area (Sweden). Although *Tringa glareola* has narrower habitat preferences than e.g. *Calidris alpina*, *Tringa totanus* and *T. nebularia*, over 20% of the birds reached high weights in the area. With this amount of fat they are able to reach the next staging areas (the Camargue, Gulf of Venice) in one flight. Spring birds weighed on average more than autumn adults; part of the extra weight may be invested in breeding.

The autumn passage of Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* in the Bug Valley – dynamics and biometry

Cezary Mitrus, Rafal Kuczborski, Jacek Slupek, Zoology Dept., Agricultural and Pedagogic University, Institute of Biology, ul. Prusa 12, 08–110 Siedlce, Poland; E–mail:

ficedula@wsrp.siedlce.pl

The study is based on the results from catching and counts in 1986–90. *Tringa glareola* migration started there in the first half of July, giving three distinctive migration peaks till mid–September. The proportions of adults and juveniles in the peaks are given. The age groups differed only in the wing length. The bimodal distribution of wing length (irrespective of age) suggested a sex–related difference. Only one recovery was obtained (France).

Preliminary data on autumn migration of Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* in the Western Ukraine

Ihor Szydłowski & Taras Lysaczuk, Zoological Museum of the Lviv State University, Hrushevsky str.4, Lviv 290005, Ukraine; E–mail: franko@

A preliminary analysis of the data from catching and regular counts performed during autumn migration in 1995 – 1998 by group "Avocetta" in the nature reserve "Cholgyinii". *Tringa glareola* is the most numerous species caught (393 individuals ringed) and the second most observed wader species in the area. Passage lasted between the end of June and the end of September, but the length of this period varied markedly in different years. Three migration peaks were observed. During the period of ringing (August) almost exclusively juvenile birds were caught. Some preliminary analyses of biometrics and stopover length are presented.

Remarks on the status of Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* in Romania

Attila D. Sandor & Andrea Virginas, Milvus Ornithological Group, RO–4300, Tg–Mures, Cp.39. Op. 3., Romania; E–mail: milvus@netsoft.ro

A review of the literature data on *Tringa glareola* spring and autumn migration, concentrated on the investigations in the Danube Delta region, one of the most important wader refuelling sites in Eastern Europe. Spring migration of the species lasts there from end of March till the end of May, while the autumn migration lasts from the beginning of August to the end of October. No recoveries were obtained from 276 individuals ringed in 1988 – 1997, but the few recaptures of foreign–ringed birds showed that they originate from Finland and migrate through the Gulf of Gdańsk.

Migration of Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* in Estonia

Jaanus Elts, Estonian Ornithological Society, P.O. Box 227, Tartu 50002, Estonia; E–mail: jaanus@linnu.tartu.ee

Data on spring and autumn migration in several localities in Estonia according to the literature since 1954. The spring migration lasts from mid–March to the end of May, with the bulk of species arriving in April; autumn passage and departures take place between the end of June and mid–September. In the period 1922 – 1995, 170 individuals were ringed and gave only one recovery – from France.