

# Recent Literature

## BANDING HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHIES

**The Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society presents "Bridges" outstanding members and their contributions to Audubon.** J. Fletcher and P. Fletcher. 2004. CD presentation. 730 3 Crabs Rd., Sequim, WA 98382-7851 (Well-illustrated biographical account of the life to date, career and post-retirement activities of 1963 WBBA President Eugene Kridler. Kridler obtained a banding permit during his term as Refuge Manager at Sacramento, California, from 1956-1960, banding 4,970 birds of 63 species by 1958 and about 100,000 birds by the time of his being honored by the Olympic Audubon Society in 2004. Although initially banding waterfowl to aid in management, Kridler's banding soon expanded to mist-netting passerines. Research projects included color-dyeing Tundra Swans wintering in California. Sightings of these birds showed that some nested in the Kuskokwim area of Alaska, others in the Mackenzie River delta of the Northwest Territories. After moving to Hawaii as the first full-time employee of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, responsible for both the Hawaiian Islands and central and south Pacific U.S. islands, he continued to use banding in routine management efforts, then used banding and other marking techniques on turtles, birds and seals as Endangered Species Coordinator 1973-1979, including color dyeing Hawaiian Stilts, a study that confirmed that they migrated among islands, and banding Laysan Teal, Marianas Mallards and Laysan Finches to monitor transplanting efforts. Since retirement to Washington's Olympic Peninsula, Kridler has banded passerines, raptors and waterfowl extensively there, using mist-nets and various traps.) MKM

## BANDING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

**Playback tapes as an aid for mist-netting Regent Honeyeaters.** D. J. Geering. 1998. *Corella* 22:61-63. Dept. Nat. Resources & Environ., Box 500, East Melbourne, Victoria 3002, Australia (Playbacks of calls of neighbor-

ing pairs of honeyeaters increased capture rate, decreased time required for capture, and reduced incidental capture of other species in a color-banding project. As Regent Honeyeaters are usually quiet after nesting has begun, this technique reduced time required to locate pairs. Mounted specimens of Australian Raven or Pied Currawong near the net in conjunction with the playback did not elicit a stronger response from the honeyeaters and resulted in captures of mobbing Willie Wagtails and Dusky Woodswallows.) MKM

**Elevated nets for catching high foraging species.** G. Richards. 1998. *Corella* 22:92-93. "Touchwood," Tullymorgan, New South Wales 2463, Australia (Well illustrated method of erecting net by canopy of a "food tree" by using nearby taller trees as anchors, bow and arrow, fishing line, and ropes so that the net can be lowered easily to remove birds from the net. With practice, the system can probably be operated by a single bander, but help from one or more assistant[s] is preferable.) MKM

**A spreadsheet simulation of a mark-recapture programme.** B. T. Bonnevie. 2003. *Afring News* 32:42-45. IT Div., Rhodes Univ., Grahamstown 6140, South Africa (A model was developed to test influences on recapture rates. Recapture rate generally increases with survival rate, probability of capture [capture effort, "trap" shyness, etc.] and banding effort, but is also influenced in breeding populations by the proportion of breeders vs. floaters and by the behavior of the banders [such as frequency of visits to study area.] ) MKM

**Effective subcutaneous radiotransmitter implantation into the furcular cavity of Chukars.** P. P. O'Hearn, L. M. Romero, R. Carlson, and D. J. Delahanty. 2005. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 33:1033-1046. Dept. Biol. Sci., Box 8007, Idaho State Univ., Pocatella, ID 83209 (Surgical implantation of radio-transmitters into the furcular cavities of Chukars [*Alectoris chukar*] did not affect multiple measures of behavior, body condition or reproductive condition after 11 weeks of captivity

when compared to birds without implantations. This technique appears to be a safe alternative to other types of transmitter attachment.) SG

**Physiological effects of radiotransmitters on Mourning Doves.** J. H. Schulz, J. J. Millsbaugh, B. E. Washburn, A. J. Bermudez, J. L. Tomlinson, T. W. Mong, and Z. He. 2005. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 33:1092-1100. Missouri Dept. Conserv., Resource Sci. Cent., 1100 South College Ave., Columbia, MO 65201 (Stress hormone levels in Mourning Doves [*Zenaida macroura*] with radio-transmitters did not differ from levels in control doves without transmitters.) SG

**Effects of subcutaneous transmitter implants on Mourning Doves.** J. B. Berdeen and D. L. Otis. 2006. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 34:93-103. Dept. Aquaculture, Fish. & Wildl., Clemson Univ., Clemson, SC 29634-0362. (Captive Mourning Doves [*Zenaida macroura*] with surgically implanted transmitters had lost weight, while doves with sham surgery or with no surgery had gained weight at three weeks post-implantation. In a companion field study, the non-hunting mortality rate for doves with transmitters decreased markedly after three days post-release, indicating a significant initial impact on marked doves. However, harvest rates for doves with transmitters were similar to that of doves with bands only, suggesting that doves with transmitters are not more susceptible to harvest than doves without transmitters.) SG

**Effects of radiomarking on Prairie Falcons: attachment failures provide insights about survival.** K. Steenhof, K. K. Bates, M. R. Fuller, M. N. Kochert, J. O. McKinley, and P. M. Lukacs. 2006. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 34:116-126. U.S.G.S., Forest & Rangeland Ecosystem Sci. Cent., Snake River Field Stn., Boise, ID 83706 (Forty female Prairie Falcons [*Falco mexicanus*] were fitted with backpack satellite radio-transmitters; they were also marked uniquely with colored leg bands. Several falcons removed their radios shortly after attachment; thus, the study compared nesting and survival of those falcons that shed their transmitters with those of falcons that retained their transmitters. Transmitters had no short-term effects on falcons or on their nesting success in the year during which they

were marked. However, annual survival rate for falcons with transmitters was about half that of falcons who had shed their transmitters, possibly due to transmitter effects during falcon migration.) SG

**Effects of trapping period on female Wild Turkey survival and mortality patterns.** M. N. Conner, D. A. Swanson, G. W. Norman, and J. C. Pack. 2006. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 34:159-166. Dept. Forest, Range & Wildl. Sci., Utah State Univ., Logan, UT 84322 (More than 1500 Wild Turkeys [*Meleagris gallopavo*] were captured and radio-marked in Virginia and West Virginia over a five-year period. Survival rates of turkeys captured in autumn [before the start of the hunting season] were significantly lower than those of adults and juveniles captured in winter [after the start of the hunting season.] Legal harvest, the major cause of mortality for autumn-captured juveniles, was five times greater for this group than for winter-captured juveniles or autumn- or winter-captured adults. Autumn-captured juveniles' age and inexperience, compounded by flock disruption and trapping stress, increased their susceptibility to autumn harvest.) SG

**Comparison of the effects and performance of four types of radiotransmitters for use with scoters.** S. A. Iverson, W. S. Boyd, D. Esler, D. M. Mulcahy, and T. D. Bowman. 2006. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 34:656-663. Centre for Wildl. Ecol., Simon Fraser Univ., Burnaby, BC V4K 3N2 (This study evaluated retention of four types of radio-transmitters [body cavity implants with internal or external antennas, subcutaneous implants with external antennas and external mounts with external antennas] and their effects on survival of Surf and White-winged scoters [*Melanitta perspicillata* and *M. fusca*]. Survival of scoters to 14 days post-release was not affected by transmitter type. Retention did not differ among the four types for 30- and 60-day intervals; however, externally mounted and subcutaneous transmitters were shed at a higher rate than the other types after 100 days. The authors recommend body-cavity implants with external antennas for long-term studies and suggest that externally mounted and subcutaneous transmitters are cost-effective alternates for shorter-term studies.) SG

**Radiotelemetry survival estimates of Lesser Prairie-Chickens in Kansas: are there transmitter biases?** C. A. Hagen, B. K. Sandercock, J. C. Pitman, R. J. Robel, and R. D. Applegate. 2006. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 34:1064-1069. Dept. Biol., Kansas State Univ., Manhattan, KS 66502 (Survival of Lesser Prairie-Chickens [*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*] fitted with leg bands and radio-transmitters was compared with that of prairie-chickens with leg bands only. Radio-marked birds survived at rates greater than or equal to birds with leg bands only.) SG

#### **IDENTIFICATION, MOLTS, PLUMAGES, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS**

**The downy young and juvenile of the Chestnut Rail, with notes on development.** D. C. Franklin and T. A. Barnes. 1998. *Corella* 22:64-66. Bioregional Assessment Unit, Parks & Wildl. Commission of the Northern Territory, Box 496, Palmerston, Northern Territory 0831, Australia (Details of plumage and bare parts are described for downy and juvenile stages of four birds hatched in the wild and taken into captivity. Progress and timing of molt and development of bare parts and behavior are also described. A table summarizes differences between juveniles and adults in colors of eye, base and tip of bills, legs and claws.) MKM

**Post-juvenile moult strategies of co-existing Gouldian, Long-tailed and Masked finches.** D. C. Franklin, P. L. Dostine, and S. C. Tidemann. 1998. *Corella* 22:73-79. Parks & Wildl. Comm. of the Northern Territory, Box 496, Palmerston, Northern Territory 0831, Australia (A study based on numerous captures and recaptures of numerous finches in mist nets or clap traps, primarily in the dry season at two sites in Northern Territory. In monsoonal northern Australia, juvenile Gouldian Finches tend to all molt at the same time of year regardless of age, but commencement of molt in Long-tailed and Masked finches is progressive through the year, possibly related more to individual age. Rapidity of primary molt, length of time juvenile characters are retained, thoroughness of post-juvenile primary molt and degree of synchronicity of molts of juveniles and adults all vary among species, possibly at least partially in relation to timing of wet season dispersal.) MKM

**A possible Common Guillemot *Uria aalge* x Razorbill *Alca torda* hybrid.** S. I. Wilhem, C. Walsh, I. J. Stenhouse, and A. E. Storey. 2001. *Atlantic Seabirds* 3:85-88. Biopsychol. Progr., Memorial Univ. Newfoundland, St. John's, NF (Description and photograph of Common Murre-sized bird with darker upperparts, Razorbill-like narrowly white-tipped secondaries, white chin or throat patch and shorter, thicker neck than Common Murre. This bird was observed annually for at least five years in the same portion of a major seabird colony on Great Island, Witless Bay, NF. A similar bird was also seen once at a colony about 100 km away at Cape St. Mary's, NF.) MKM

**Skeletal remains of the Northern Flicker with a gross bill deformity discovered in a poplar tree cavity.** S. L. Lidstone. 2006. *Wildlife Afield* 3:29-31. 248 McLure-Ferry Rd., McLure, B.C. V0E 2H0 (After male flicker with deformed bill disappeared in late Oct 2004 [S. L. Lidstone. 2004. *Wildlife Afield* 1:29-31, abstracted in *NABB* 31:29, 2006], its corpse was discovered in wind-felled poplar in April 2006, allowing author to obtain actual measurements of both mandibles.) MKM

**Beak deformities at Rietvlei.** G. Grieve. 2003. *Afring News* 32:46. 344 Delphinus St., Waterkloof Ridge 0181, South Africa (Photographs of Masked Weaver and Red Bishop with deformed bills caught during a banding outing near Pretoria to a nature reserve with effluent from a sewage works running through it.) MKM

**The Grey Sunbird in the Eastern Cape.** A. J. Tree. 2003. *Afring News* 32:58-59. "Chirawanoo," Box 211, Bathurst, 6166, South Africa (Although the red pectoral tuft of males tends to be longer than in females in this species and males are more likely to have a couple of yellow feathers in these tufts, gender cannot be determined reliably by plumage. Measurements of maximum wing chord, tail [underneath] and mass allow gender to be determined for most individuals in the Eastern Cape area of South Africa, although overlap precludes gender determination in some individuals. These measurements and those of tarsus and culmen are summarized in a table and the text includes notes on molt chronology and recaptures.) MKM



**Notes on the moult of some Columbidae species in Malawi.** B. Medland. 2003. *Afring News* 32:60-64. Angidy Cottage, Tintem, Chepstow NP66TH, Wales, UK (Based primarily on molt and plumage data on 83 doves of eight species caught and banded in mist-nets from 1990-1994 in an area where these species breed essentially year-round. Sixteen birds of four species were re-trapped, one four times in four different months in four different years.) MKM

## **NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS**

**Ontario Bird Records Committee report for 2005.** W. J. Crins. 2006. *Ont. Birds* 24:54-74. 170 Middlefield Rd., Petersborough, ON K9J 8G1 (Capture and banding of a Kentucky Warbler and three Grasshopper Sparrows at Thunder Cape are mentioned as helping to document these extralimital records. A photograph of a hand-held extralimital Swainson's Warbler at Long Point must also have been taken during banding activities.) MKM

**Long-eared Owls, *Asio otus*: a review of North American banding.** C. S. Houston. 2005. *Can. Field-Nat.* 119:395-402. 863 University Dr., Saskatoon, SK S7N 0J8 (Prior to 1955, 802 [text] or 803 [abstract] Long-eared Owls were banded in North America, with 33 of these [4.1%] encountered subsequently. Between 1955 and 1998, another 10,250 were banded by 426 banders, with 86 [0.8%] encountered subsequently. Of 3,499 locals banded during this period, highest numbers were banded in ID [706], SK [699], AB [361] and MT [317]. A table lists pre-1955 totals, total locals, and total banded in each of 34 US states, eight Canadian provinces and the Atlantic Ocean. A graph indicates total bandings each year 1955-1999. Another table lists banding and recovery details of each recovered bird, as illustrated on a map. Further details, including how bands were recovered and notable distances moved are summarized in the text. The oldest confirmed North American bird was 11 years, one month, but another possibly lived to 15 years, eight or nine months, and a European bird lived to 27 years, nine months. Encounter data suggest, but do not prove, nomadism, with some evidence for ten- and three-year cycles, as well as a long-term overall decline.) MKM

**Monitoring fall migration on the Sunshine Coast of British Columbia.** A. Rousseau. 2006. *B.C. Birds* 14:12-20. R.R. 25, 2102 Porter Rd., Roberts Creek, BC V0N 2W5 (Mist-netting near Wilson Creek, BC, from 9 Jul to 5 Oct 2003 yielded 1,940 birds of 55 species, while 2,004 birds of 55 species were caught at the same site from 19 Jul to 15 Oct 2004. A table lists totals captured each year for each of 62 species. Numbers of Black-throated Gray Warblers caught were higher than those caught at other BC banding sites. Details of 20 species, including two races each of Yellow-rumped Warbler and White-crowned Sparrow, discussed in more detail in the text include differential timing of different age classes, peak dates of migrants and indications of previously undetected breeding on or near the Sunshine coast. Netting produced nine records of six extralimital species, including the first two records of Dusky Flycatcher on the Sunshine coast. The Sunshine coast's apparent first record of the western race of Palm Warbler was also netted as was BC's apparent first record of the eastern race of Wilson's Warbler. Three banded birds were recovered elsewhere: a Yellow Warbler in California, a MacGillivray's Warbler in Greater Vancouver, BC, and a House Finch in Washington.) MKM

**Pre-incubation movements of female Wild Turkeys relative to nest initiation in South Dakota.** C. P. Lehman, L. D. Flake, M. A. Rumble, R. D. Shields, and S. J. Thompson. 2005. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 33:1062-1070. Dept. Wildl. & Fish. Sci., South Dakota State Univ., Brookings, SD 57007-1696. (Studies of nesting behavior and reproductive success in Wild Turkeys [*Meleagris galapavo*] are often biased because of the difficulty in finding nests prior to incubation. Nests that are abandoned or destroyed during the pre-laying period typically are not detected by investigators; consequently, estimates of numbers of nesting attempts are biased low, whereas estimates of nest success are biased high. Radio-telemetry was used to document movements of female Wild Turkeys before and after egg laying to incubation behaviors. Post-hoc analyses of telemetry locations were used to estimate the number of hens that initiated a nest but failed to reach the incubation stage.) SG

**Lesser Prairie-Chicken brood habitat in sand sagebrush: invertebrate biomass and vegetation.** C. A. Hagen, G. C. Salter, J. C. Pitman, R. J. Robel, and R. D. Applegate. 2005. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 33:1088-1091. Div. Biol., Kansas State Univ., Manhattan, KS 66506 (Radio-telemetry was used to investigate habitat characteristics important for female Lesser Prairie-Chickens [*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*] in southwestern Kansas. Sites used by females with broods had higher densities of invertebrates than did non-use sites; invertebrate density was related inversely to sand sagebrush density. Sites used by hens also had greater vegetation structure, measured as vertical obstruction, regardless of plant species present than did non-use sites.) SG

**Home range and survival of breeding Painted Buntings on Sapelo Island, Georgia.** E. G. Springhorn and J. M. Meyers. 2005. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 33:1432-1439. Warnell School For. & Nat. Resources, Univ. Georgia, Athens, GA 30602 (Radio-telemetry was used to compare survival, reproductive success and movement patterns of Painted Buntings [*Passerina ciris*] breeding in unmanaged maritime shrub and managed oak-pine habitats. Home ranges were smaller and travel distances shorter in the maritime shrub habitat may be of high quality. However, such habitat is rare and localized in distribution; consequently, maritime shrub management should receive greater emphasis where it is present.) SG

**Saskatchewan Turkey Vulture nests, 1896-2002.** C. S. Houston. 2006. *Blue Jay* 64:209-211. 863 University Dr., Saskatoon, SK S7N 0J8 (Young were banded at two nests [in 1974 and 1976] as part of the documentation of 30 nests additional to 13 reported by Houston in a 1969 compilation of known Saskatchewan breeding records.) MKM

**An assessment of raptor hacking during a reintroduction.** M. R. Dzialak, M. J. Lacki, K. M. Carter, K. Huie, and J. J. Cox. 2006. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 35:542-547. Dept. Forest., Univ. Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40546 (Dispersal of 28 Peregrine Falcons (*Falco peregrinus*) was monitored via

radio-telemetry over three years in Kentucky. Younger male falcons were more likely to disperse successively [surviving at least 14 days post-release] than older males; whereas the reverse was true for females, presumably because males mature more quickly than females. Also, males were more likely to disperse successfully if released into an area that was not already occupied by other falcons; again, the reverse was true for females. Fledgling peregrines that were provided food on alternate days at twice the typical daily quantity tended to be more successful than peregrines fed daily.) SG

**Survival of juvenile Lesser Prairie-Chickens in Kansas.** J. C. Pitman, C. A. Hagen, B. E. Jamison, R. J. Robel, T. M. Loughlin, and R. D. Applegate. 2006. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 34:675-681. Div. Biol., Kansas State Univ., Manhattan, KS 66506 (Over-winter survival [August-March] of juvenile Lesser Prairie-Chickens [*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*] fitted with radio-transmitters did not differ from that of adult prairie-chickens with similar transmitters. Timing of mortality differed between the two age classes, with juvenile mortality highest in October following brood break up, but prior to autumn dispersal. Adult mortality was highest in February and March.) SG

**Plants and breeding bird response on a managed conservation reserve program grassland in Maryland.** D. E. Gill and eight others. 2006. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 34:944-956. Dept. Biol., Univ. Maryland, College Park, MD 20742 (As part of a much larger study investigating plant and bird response to grassland management, nearly 2,000 Grasshopper Sparrows [*Ammodramus savannarum*] were banded over seven years in conservation reserve program fields in Maryland. Annual return rates were 57% for adult males, 41% for adult females, and 12% for juveniles. Grasshopper Sparrows were absent from fields left unburned for two to three years, although other shrubland bird species moved in. Vegetation structure had more influence on habitat and territory selection than did plant species composition. The authors

recommend spatial and temporal variation of prescribed fire and herbicide applications to maintain physical structure of vegetation in managing conservation reserve program lands for grassland birds.) SG

**Gunnison Sage-Grouse use of conservation reserve program fields in Utah and response to emergency grazing: a preliminary evaluation.** S. G. Lupis, T. A. Messmer, and T. Black. 2006. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 34:957-962. Jack H. Berryman Inst., Dept. Wildl. Resources, Utah State Univ., Logan, UT 84322-5230. (Gunnison Sage-Grouse [*Centrocercus minimus*] fitted with radio-transmitters used conservation reserve program land in Utah for nesting, brood-rearing and summer habitat, but not in greater proportion than its availability. Most sage-grouse avoided conservation reserve program fields when livestock were present. The authors recommend short-term, high-intensity deferred-grazing rotations to manage conservation reserve program lands for sage-grouse.) SG

**Movements and survival of juvenile Greater Sage-Grouse in southeastern Idaho.** J. L. Beck, K. P. Reese, J. W. Connelly, and M. B. Lucia. 2006. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 34:1070-1078. Dept. Fish & Wildl. Resources, Univ. Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844 (Juvenile Greater Sage-Grouse [*Centrocercus urophasianus*] in two habitat types [lowland and mountain valley] were fitted with radio-transmitters to compare their movements and survival. Mountain valley sage-grouse moved longer distances from autumn to winter range than did sage-grouse from lowlands. All mortality of mountain valley sage-grouse was attributed to mammalian or avian predators. Half of the deaths of lowland sage-grouse were attributed to powerline collisions or legal harvest; the remainder were attributed to mammalian predation or unknown causes. Overall, survival of juvenile sage-grouse was relatively high—86% for lowland birds and 64% for mountain valley birds. Sage-grouse that moved greater distances were less likely to survive than more sedentary birds.) SG

## NON-NORTH AMERICAN BANDING RESULTS

**Movement patterns of Great, Intermediate and Little egrets from Australian breeding colonies.** D. J. Geering, M. Maddock, G. R. Cam, C. Ireland, S. A. Halse, and G. B. Pearson. 1998. *Corella* 22:37-46. Nat. Resources & Environ., Box 500, East Melbourne, Victoria 3002, Australia. (Summary of post-nesting dispersal and migratory movements within Australia and between Australia and New Guinea, and Australia and New Zealand, based on published literature and recoveries and sightings of banded and patagial-tagged egrets, with tables of recovery details of individual birds and maps showing movement patterns between colonies where banded and subsequent recovery details.) MKM

**Results from a banding study of Peregrine Falcon chicks in Victoria, 1972-1997.** W. B. Emison, V. G. Hurley, C. M. White, and D. J. Brimm. 1998. *Corella* 22:87-91. Invert. Zool., Mus. of Victoria, Box 666E, Melbourne, Australia 3001 (Of 807 Peregrine chicks banded in Victoria since 1972, gender was determined on 776, of which 53.7% were female, 46.3% male. By October 1997, 66 [8.2%] had been recovered or resighted. Sixty of these were either found dead or injured, primarily from collisions with vehicles or wires. Twenty were at or near the banding site, 46 more than 4 km away. Of the 20 recovered at nest-sites, 11 were females, seven males and two undetermined. Dispersal distances from banding sites averaged farther for females, but with considerable overlap. Most [72.7%] of recoveries/resightings were within a year of banding. Mean recovery age of females was 27 months [median 10 months], while that of males was 16 months [median six months], with one bird still alive and breeding at 59 months. Of four color-banded birds sighted at their own nests, two females were 26 and 30 km from their hatch sites; two males, 7 and 14 km from their hatch sites.) MKM

**Home range and habitat use by the Long-eared Owl in northwestern Switzerland.** F. Henrioux. 2000. *J. Raptor Res.* 34:93-101. Inst. de Zool., Universite' de Neuchatel, Emile-Argand 11, 2007 Neuchatel, Switzerland (Twenty-three owls were lured by live mice into bow nets in Switzerland, banded and radio-tagged. The radios of 14 functioned long enough to help determine home range size, demonstrated proportionally greater use of wooded areas bordering fields than treeless fields and differential activity patterns with different weather conditions. One owl recaptured a year after being fitted with a transmitter showed no sign of feather abrasion or skin wear.) MKM

**Habitat selection by Tawny Fish-Owls (*Ketupa flavipes*) in Taiwan.** Y.-H. Sun, Y. Wang, and C.-F. Lee. 2000. *J. Raptor Res.* 34:102-107. Dept. Wildl. Conservation, Natl. Pingtung Univ. Sci. & Technol., Pingtung, Taiwan 912 (Tracking of four owls fitted with radio-tags provided data on home range and size, 51 roost sites and foraging habitat in relation to spring flooding.) MKM

**African Reed Warblers *Acrocephalus baeticatus* in Botswana.** S. J. Tyler. 2004. *Afring News* 33:2-9. Yew Tree Cottage, PENALT, Monmouthshire NP25 4AJ, England (Netting at several sites in a marsh area at various intervals from Jul 1996 to Nov 2000 or Mar 2001 resulted in the capture of 1,765 *Acrocephalus* and *Bradypterus* resident and migrant warblers, of which 863 were African Reed Warblers. Data on this species are presented on seasonality of capture, wing length, weight, timing of molt, site fidelity and longevity. Recaptures provided one example of prolonged molt and showed that some wintering birds were also local breeders. Remarks are also included on ticks on this species and feather lice on both it and Lesser Swamp Warblers.) MKM

**Daily and seasonal activity of Moorhens studied by motion-sensitive transmitters.** C. Acquarone, M. Cucco, and G. Malarne. 2001. *Waterbirds* 24:1-7. Univ. East. Piedmont, Via Cavour 84, 1-15100 Alesandria, Italy (Radio-tracking of Common Moorhens captured in

funnel traps along a river in northwestern Italy indicated that home ranges of Common Moorhens were about an order of magnitude larger than believed previously, provided data on habitat use and showed that proportion of time spent active vs restive remained essentially constant over the year, but was distributed differently during the day in different seasons. Fat depletion between fall and spring resulted in progressive mass loss.) MKM

**Observations on Larklike Buntings, Stark's Larks and other birds in the desert – eight months' ringing on a farm in Namibia.** U. Franke. 2003. *Afring News* 32:47-50. Tal 34, 80331, Munich, Germany (During four visits to a guest farm in Namibia, the author banded nearly 3,800 birds of 39 native species, tabulated by visit. The text includes notes on catching some of them, comments on behavior, habitat and other natural history features of some of them and comments on retraps of eight species, injuries and ectoparasites. A brief section is also included on a small, apparently breeding population of introduced Australian Budgerigars, an unspecified number of which were trapped and banded.) MKM

**Report of European Swallows *Hirundo rustica* ringing in Botswana in 2003.** B. van den Brink. 2003. *Afring News* 32:51-53. Zomerdijk 86, 8079 TL Noordeind, The Netherlands (4,503 swallows were netted and banded during 11 consecutive days in Jan.-Feb. 2003, nine days at a marsh roost, two at a tree roost. Four of the newly banded birds were retrapped, one at the other study site, 114 km from the banding site. Of 18 recaptured from other areas, 15 were banded in seven European countries, one in Israel and one in South Africa.) MKM

**Summary of the 2002 ringing year in Namibia.** H. Kolberg. 2003. *Afring News* 32:52-56. Environ. & Tourism: Scientific Serv., Bag 13306, Windhoek, Namibia. (10,490 birds of 242 species were newly banded and 820 previously banded birds retrapped by 12 banders from Namibia, four from South Africa and one from Germany. Tables list the numbers banded and retrapped by each bander, totals of the top 20