

# Rules of the EURING Databank

1. The European Union for Bird Ringing (EURING) operates a EURING DATA BANK (EDB). This bank consists of a database of ringing and recovery data for wild birds ringed by member centres of EURING. The purpose of the bank is to facilitate international research on bird ringing results.
2. The EDB will be operated on behalf of EURING by one of its member schemes. The Board will be responsible for overseeing the arrangements for the operation and funding of the EDB. EURING will make a financial contribution towards the costs of running the EDB taken from the annual subscriptions paid by member schemes. The Board and the member scheme operating the EDB will each appoint a Nominated Officer who will be responsible for supervising the operation of the EDB by the member scheme, for making decisions about operational matters and for referring significant policy issues to the Board.
3. The EDB guarantees that no request for the use of ringing or recovery data submitted to the bank will be granted without the full agreement of the ringing centre or centres supplying those data. Schemes will be notified of all data requests by email and are asked to respond within two weeks of receiving a request. If schemes do not respond within one month of being sent a request for data they will be taken as having given permission for their data to be released.
4. Only schemes can request a copy of data referring to their territory/jurisdiction without prior circulation to schemes involved. For all other requests for data, including those pertaining to local or other avifaunal lists, full information will be circulated to the relevant schemes to obtain their approval.
5. A person wishing to analyse ringing or recovery data from the EDB must apply using a form available on the EURING website. This application form will include a requirement that prospective analysts must agree to abide by the rules of the EDB. Applicants will be told that their application will be submitted to the ringing centre in their own country and will only be approved with the support of that centre. If they are not known to their country's ringing centre, or where there is no such centre, they will also be asked to provide the contact details and email address of a referee from an appropriate academic or research institution who will support their application. The EDB will then obtain these references before releasing the data.
6. When requesting use of recoveries an applicant must indicate the kind(s) of analysis they wish to make. If, after making that analysis, they then wish to make additional studies of a different kind, they must first obtain a new permission through the EDB.
7. A person obtaining permission to analyse data from the EDB may use an assistant or assistants if they wish. The data provided must not be handed to other persons for other studies, without the written permission of the centres supplying those data from the bank.
8. Users of data supplied by the bank are obliged to supply an electronic copy of the published results of their studies to the EDB, to be distributed to all EURING members. If an electronic copy is not readily available, they must supply three paper copies of the published results of their studies to the EDB, plus one additional paper copy for each scheme whose data have been used.
9. All publications that use data from the EDB must include an acknowledgement that the data were supplied by EURING. Depending on the circumstances it may also be appropriate to acknowledge the main schemes and ringers involved.
10. Users of data supplied by the EDB will normally be asked to pay fees for the provision of data. These fees will cover at least some of the costs of supplying data via the EDB. The Nominated Officers of EURING and the scheme operating the EDB will agree the scale of fees.

11. Ringing centres are requested to send to the bank:

- a. Electronic copies of their annual ringing and recovery totals (from rings originating from their schemes), listed by species. These data should be supplied using the standard data format currently in use, as defined by the EDB.
- b. Electronic copies of ringing and recovery data using the current version of the EURING coding scheme.

The EDB will develop software to help member schemes to translate and validate their data. Data submitted to the EDB in the wrong format will normally be returned to the member scheme with a request that they should be corrected and resubmitted.

12. Each ringing centre can ask the bank for a free copy of their recoveries

13. The EDB will publish information on ringing totals and on the numbers of recoveries held in the databank on the EURING website, together with other summary information (the EDB index). A publications list will also be maintained on the website. The basic information on ringing and recovery totals and the list of publications will be updated at least annually.

14. The EDB will provide the Board and EURING member schemes with an annual report on the operation and use of the EDB, including a list of publications, a summary of new data received and a financial statement. This information will be published on the members section of the EURING website.

Agreed by EURING General Meeting  
Strasbourg, 24-25 August 2005.