



**EURING General Assembly
5 – 8 September 2013
HELSINKI**

Report of the LATVIA RINGING CENTRE

Organization

Ringing in Latvia started in 1925. Since 1992 Ringing Centre is a unit of the Institute of Biology, University of Latvia, financed by the state budget and partly by the grants of the Laboratory of Ornithology and ringers.

Staff

Two persons are employed in Ringing Centre – Head of Scheme (full time) Juris Kazubiernis and Sc.asistent (part time) Mara Kazubierne.

Ringers

About 50 ringers and one ringing group are active in the last years. Bird and bat ringing station „Pape” operating in autumn period since 1962.

Beginners must have a recommendation of an experienced ringer or have to join training at a ringing station. The Ringing Centre issues ringing licenses and Nature Conservation Agency – licenses for obtaining non-game animal and bird individuals. There is no annual fee for the ringers.

Rings

Rings are imported from Aranea Poland. There are 17 different aluminium and steel sizes of LATVIA RIGA rings in use. In use special steel rings with plasticine lining for ringing one-day old ducklings. Additionally in use two different ring sizes for bats. Ringers do not pay for rings (except for colour marks). Rings are paid from the ringing projects and some sponsors.

Ringling projects

Mallard - ringing one-day old ducklings in artificial nests (in the period ringed 1.421 pullus and 101 females.).

Actual colour ringing projects are Whooper Swan, Mute Swan (neck collars). Black Stork (cr and satellite-tracking), White-tailed Eagle, Osprey (cr and satellite-tracking), Common Roller (cr-project).

Ringling & Recoveries

	ringed	recoveries
Annual totals 2011	17 839	658 *
2012	21 657	582 *
Grand total 1925 – 2012	1.649 277	approx. 32000

* all the recoveries are not processed yet.

Computerization

Recovery data of all Latvia ringed birds (except short term recapture at the ringing site) and all foreign ringed birds since 1986 are coded in EURING (1979) and have been computerized. Computerization of older data of Latvia rings is still in the process. FoxPro data base holds 29 276 recoveries. Approximately 2500 recoveries are still on paper files. Ringing data are not computerized yet. It is a highest priority to improve a computer program for handling ringing and all recovery data electronically.

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