

KAUNAS (LITHUANIA) BIRD RINGING SCHEME (LIK)
National Report for the EURING General Assembly
(Helsinki, September 5-7, 2013)



Organisation

Officially, the Kaunas (Lithuania) Bird Ringing Centre is a department of the Zoological Museum in Kaunas. The Museum is a governmental authority (it is within a system of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania). The Ringing Centre is financed by the state budget. In Lithuania the systematic bird ringing was started and goes on since 1929.

Staff

1 full-time scientific
1 full-time technical
1 part time (50%) computer specialist.

Annual fee

There is no fee for the ringers.

Ringers

Number of active amateurs: 2011: 40; 2012: 41.
Number of active teams of ringers (stations): 2011: 3; 2012: 3.
Ringing permits are issued by the Bird Ringing Centre.

Rings

There are a total of 20 sizes/types of rings in use (10 sizes/types of aluminum rings and 10 sizes/types of steel rings). Since 1995 the rings are imported from “Aranea” (Poland) and (less) from “Mekaniska AB” (Sweden). The rings are supplied free of cost to ringers.

Ringing and recoveries

Year	Birds ringed	Recoveries, retraps, resightings	
		Kaunas rings*	Foreign rings
2011	89,100	2350	1050
2012	106,100	3300	1100
1929-2012	3.3 million	?	?

* Except short term recaptures or resightings at the ringing site.

Computerization

The ringing Scheme has developed and introduced completely new software for registration of bird ringing data. The software has been installed in 2008 and since then periodically improved. Up to September, 2013 ringing data of 1,476,400 ringed birds are computerized (of all birds ringed since 2007 and of some series' of rings used earlier).

Computerization of recoveries (retraps, resightings) of birds ringed in Lithuania as well as of foreign ringed birds recovered (retrapped, resighted) in Lithuania can be summed up as follows: all reported since 1979, but only a small part reported in period 1929-1978. In 2013 all data were converted to EURING 2000+ codes and a new ringing/recovery data form for data reporting have been created. These forms were started to use in the end of July.

Colour ringing projects

- *Great Cormorant*. Two rings on the same tarsus. Each ring with one letter code. Colours of rings are white (black code), green (white code) and red (white code).
- *Grey Heron*. Yellow rings with black code [Pxxx].
- *Black Stork*. White rings with black code [Vxxx].
- *White Stork*. Green rings with white code [Axxx].
- *Mute Swan*. Blue neck rings with white code [TMxx], [TPxx], [TTxx] and blue leg rings [TCxx], [TYxx], [TUxx].
- *Whooper Swan*. Blue neck rings with white code [7Cxx], [2Hxx], [3Hxx], [4Hxx].
- *Greylag Goose*. White neck rings with black code [Axx].
- *Mallard*. Blue rings with white code [Axx], [Kxx], [Pxx].
- *White-tailed Eagle*. Coloured metal rings on each tarsus. Right tarsus: blue over red. Left tarsus: numbered and different in colour in every year (according the North Europe White-tailed Eagle project) or black Lxxx (since 2012).
- *Lesser Spotted Eagle*. Green ring with white code [ax] or [aa].
- *Northern Lapwing*. Yellow flag with black code [xx] on a left tibia and blue, red or yellow uncoded ring on a right tibia.
- *Black-headed Gull & Common Gull*. Black ring with white code [Pxxx].
- *Black-headed Gull*. Yellow ring with black code [PAxx], [PExx].
- *Herring Gull group*. Yellow ring with black code [yLxa], [yLaa], [yLxx].
- *European Roller*. Yellow ring with black code [Da].

In all cases: x = digit 0 to 9, y = digit 0 or 2 to 9; a = letter.

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