

EURING GENERAL ASSEMBLY – Fertoújlak 2007
Report of the Zagreb Ringing Centre

Organization:

Zagreb Ringing Centre is situated at Institute of Ornithology, Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. The Croatian Academy covers salaries and office cost, but projects and rings are financed from sponsors and other sources.

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Staff:

3 full-time academic: Dragan Radović (Head of the Scheme), dr. Jelena Kralj and dr. Davor Ćiković.

Ringers:

At present, Zagreb Ringing Centre has 60 active ringers. New ringers must pass ringing exam, which includes practical work in spring or summer ringing camps before acquire ringing license. Licences are issued by the Institute of Ornithology, with permission of Croatian Ministry for Culture and Croatian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management. Special permissions are needed for ringing of colonial species and species listed in Croatian Red Data Book.

Rings:

Zagreb Ringing Centre use rings produced in Sweden and Poland. There are 15 different sizes of rings in use. Ringers don't have to pay for the rings. Finding the funds for rings is one of the greater problems of Zagreb Ringing Center.

Colour-ringing project:

There are several colour-ringing projects currently running in Croatia:

- wing-tagging of the Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*)
- colour-ringing of the Yellow-legged Gulls (*Larus cachinnans michahelis*), Audouin's Gull (*Larus audouinii*), Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*), White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*), Black Stork (*Ciconia nigra*), Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*), Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii*), Pygmy Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax pygmeus*),

Grey Heron, (*Ardea cinerea*), Purple Heron (*Ardea purpurea*) and Great White Egret (*Egretta alba*).

- marking of the Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) with neck-bands

Ringling camps:

Every year, two ringling camps are organized: spring ringling camp at Savica oxbow lake (near Zagreb) and summer/autumn ringling camp at Vransko lake, Dalmatia.

Data management:

Ringling data are computerised since 1996. All recovery data (since 1910) are computerised, but we are trying to improve our database which would, among other improvements, include coding with new EURING 2001 codes. The lack of adequate software is the greatest problem of Zagreb Ringling Scheme.

Ringling and recoveries:

The average number of birds ringed per year is 30.000 and the average number of recoveries is 900 (700 of them are recoveries of national rings and 200 from foreign rings).