Organization
Ringing in Latvia started in 1925. Since the 1992 bird Ringing Centre is a unit of the Institute of Biology, University of Latvia, financed by the state budget.

Staff
Two persons are employed in ringing centre – Juris Kazubiernis (Head of Scheme) and Mara Kazubierne, both in full-time positions.

Ringers
About 50 ringers and one ringing group are active in the last years. Bird and bat ringing station operating 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. There is no fee for the ringers.

Rings
Rings are imported from Poland (Aranea). There are 17 different aluminum and steel sizes of LATVIA RIGA rings in use. We have special aluminum rings with plasticine lining for ringing one-day old ducklings. Additionally we have two different ring sizes for bats. Ringers do not pay for rings.

Ringing projects
Wooper Swan (108), Mute Swan (255) (neck-collars) - ringed in 2008
Black Stork (cr-project) – 86 nestlings ringed in 2008
White-tailed Eagle (23), Osprey (115) (cr-project) – nestling ringed in 2008
Common Roller (cr-project) – 17 nestlings ringed in 2008

Ringing & Recoveries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ringed</th>
<th>recoveries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual totals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>14134</td>
<td>455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>17326</td>
<td>523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand total 1925 – 2008</td>
<td>1,5 millions</td>
<td>29000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Computerization
Recovery data of all Latvia ringed birds (except short term retraps at the ringing site) and all foreign ringed birds since 1986 have been computerized. Computerization of older data of Latvia rings is still on the way. FoxPro data base holds 26397 recoveries. Approximately 2500 recoveries are still on paper files. Ringing data are not computerized. It is a high priority to improve a computer programme for handling ringing and recovery data electronically.

Address
Latvian Ringing Centre
Institute of Biology
Salaspils Miera str.3 LATVIA LV21-69
Tel. +37167945393
ring@latnet.lv