

KAUNAS (LITHUANIA) BIRD RINGING SCHEME (LIK)
National Report for the EURING General Assembly
(Italy, September 21-23, 2009)



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). 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: 2007: 48; 2008: 50.

Number of active teams of ringers: 2007: 2; 2008: 2.

Ringing permits are issued by the Bird Ringing Centre.

Rings

There are a total of 19 ring sizes/types of rings in use (9 sizes/types of aluminum rings and 11 sizes/types of steel rings). Since 1995 the rings are bought from Aranea (Poland) and (less) from Mekaniska AB (Sweden). The rings are given for free to the ringers.

Ringing and recoveries

Year	Birds ringed	Recoveries	
		Kaunas rings	Foreign ring
2007	~65,000	~1300	~800
2008	~102,000	~1500	~1200

Computerization

All recoveries since 1979 and part of recoveries from period 1929-1978 (43,000 recoveries of birds with KAUNAS/LITHUANIA rings and 14,500 recoveries of birds with rings of other schemes recovered in the country) are coded in New EURING (1979) codes and are computerized.

Ringing data of 700,000 ringed birds are already computerized, too.

Colour ringing projects

- *Great Cormorant*. Two rings on the same tarsus. Each ring with one letter code. Colours of rings are white (with black code), green (with white code) and red (with white code).
- *Black Stork*. White ring with black code [Vxxx] (x = digits 0 or 9).
- *Whooper Swan*. Blue neck and leg rings with white code [7Cxx] (x = digits 0 to 9).
- *White-tailed Eagle*. Coloured metal ring 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).
- *Lesser Spotted Eagle*. Green ring with white code [zx] or [zz] (z = letters, x = digits 0 to 9).

- *Black-headed Gull & Common Gull*. Black ring with white code Pxxx (x = digits 0 to 9).
- *Herring Gull group*. Yellow ring with black code xLyz (x = digits 0 or 2 to 9; y = digits 0 to 9; z = letters).

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