

Report of the Latvia Ringing Centre

1. Organization

The Ringing Centre is a unit at the Institute of Biology of University of Latvia. Since 1992 the scheme is working under stable conditions and there have been no major changes. The scheme receives annual budget from Council of Science.

The systematic scientific bird ringing was started in 1925.

2. Staff

As before 2 persons full-time are employed

3. Ringers

There are about 70 ringers in Latvia. The number of ringers is increasing about 2-3 each year. Ringers joining training courses at ringing station. Ringers do not pay for the rings.

4. Rings

Rings are imported from Sweden and Poland. There are different 18 sizes of Latvia rings in use. Self-made rings are used for ringing one-day-old ducklings at Engure Lake.

5. Birds ringed

The 1999 total were 18.711 birds of 146 species and 400 new recoveries were added to files.

The 2000 total were 21810 birds of 142 species and 300 new recoveries were added.

About 30 % of the birds were ringed at bird trapping and ringing station Pape.

6. Computers

All recoveries computerized since 1986. Recoveries since 1925 are processed for all Anatidae and some Passerine birds and were sent to Euring Data Bank files. Also all foreign ringed birds found in Latvia since 1986 are computerized.

Ringing data, controls and recaptures are not computerized at all.

7. Projects

Latvia is participating in the EURING Swallow Project, 30 ringers are engaged in recording breeding pairs and ringing pulli.

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