

Krupa M., Krupa R. 2002. *Biometrics and primary moult of the Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola) caught during autumn migration through the Puck Bay*. Ring 24, 1: 91-103.

Abstract

Biometrics and primary moult of the Grey Plover were studied at the Gulf of Gdańsk coast (Poland) in years 1983-1995, from mid-July to the end of September. A total of 402 birds was caught, including 273 adults, within which 95 females and 95 males were identified. All measurements of adults were significantly larger than measurements of juveniles. Females had significantly longer wing and bill and lower total head length than males. On average, adults were significantly heavier than juveniles, and females were heavier than males. Adult Grey Plovers migrating from the end of July to mid-August had significantly longer wings and bills than those migrating from the second half of August to mid-September. This fact was a result of the earlier females migration. 17.9% of migrating adults had already started moult of first to third (in one case fourth) primaries. 25.3% males and 14.7% females started moult, but this difference was not significant.

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