

Ciach M. 2009. *Leaf warblers (Phylloscopus spp.) as a model group in migration ecology studies*. Ring 31, 2: 3-13.

The aim of this paper is to review information on systematic position, distribution ranges, habitat requirements, morphology, and ecology of the leaf warblers (*Phylloscopus spp.*). Closely related species of this group present different migration strategies. Exhibiting many inter-specific similarities in morphology and ecological requirements, leaf warblers reveal high intra-specific variability. The morphological differentiation of individual species, subspecies, populations, and age-sex groups, affords considerable possibilities for migration studies, especially those concerning the basis of migration strategy. Leaf warblers make a group of model species, being a good subject for ecological studies. The knowledge of their migration strategies may be a good reference point for understanding a general pattern of the migration of European passerines.

M. Ciach, Department of Nature-Cultural Heritage, Animal Ecology and Wildlife Management, Faculty of Forestry, University of Agriculture, 29 Listopada 46, PL-31-425 Kraków, Poland,
E-mail: mciach@ar.krakow.pl
Bird Migration Research Station, University of Gdansk, Przebendowo, PL-84-210 Choczewo, Poland

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