

WADER RINGING AT THE VISTULA MOUTH IN YEARS 1999-2000

Jadwiga Gromadzka and Piotr Zieliński

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J. Gromadzka, P. Zieliński, Institute for Ornithology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Nadwiślańska 108, PL-80-680 Gdańsk 40, Poland,
E-mail: jagagrom@stornit.gda.pl., piotr@stornit.gda.pl

INTRODUCTION

Wader ringing at the Vistula mouth (Gulf of Gdańsk, Poland) in years 1999-2000 was continued in the same way, period and place as in previous years (Gromadzka 1998). The results of wader trapping in this place depends much on the size of the area attractive for waders. Generally, the topography of the trapping site has been changing distinctly in last years and every year the area loses a considerable part of land attractive for waders in the past.

RESULTS

Table 1 includes totals of 21 wader species trapped during autumn migration in 1999 and 2000. In 1999, the general pattern of the Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) migration (the dominant species) was similar as on average (Gromadzka 1998), *i.e.* in July and the first half of August adults migrated most intensively ($N_{ad.} = 965$), and in September juveniles predominated ($N_{juv.} = 676$). In 2000, most adults migrated also in similar period ($N_{ad.} = 2829$) and juveniles migrated with similar intensity during August and September ($N_{juv.} = 518$). It seems that one of the reasons of relatively low ringing results in 1999 were feeding conditions worse than usually in the area of the Vistula mouth. In 2000, feeding conditions for waders were much better as there was more flat, muddy surface. But the situation has got worse after a heavy storm at the beginning of August. G. M. Arroyo (pers. comm.), who was studying food resources available for waders at the Vistula mouth, after the August storm found that supply of invertebrates in littoral zone disappeared almost completely. During some weeks after the storm feeding conditions did not improve and waders did not appear in great numbers.

Table 1
Numbers of waders caught (trapped) for ringing at the Vistula mouth during
autumn migration in period 13 Jul.-27 Aug. in years 1999 and 2000

	1999	2000	Total
<i>Calidris alpina</i>	1644	3426	5070
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	121	328	449
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	157	107	264
<i>Calidris minuta</i>	121	133	254
<i>Calidris canutus</i>	54	86	140
<i>Tringa totanus</i>	62	75	137
<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	24	106	130
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	60	67	127
<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	26	36	62
<i>Tringa glareola</i>	12	25	37
<i>Calidris alba</i>	13	20	33
<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	14	17	31
<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	11	15	26
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	3	23	26
<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>	3	14	17
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	7	9	16
<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	9	3	12
<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	1	6	7
<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	1	3	4
<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	1	2	3
<i>Calidris pusilla</i>	-	1	1
Total	2344	4502	6846

A faunistic attraction in 2000 ringing season was catching of the adult Semipalmated Sandpiper – *Calidris pusilla* (Zieliński *et al.* 2001).

During wader trapping in both described years there were controlled almost 50 waders of 9 species wearing rings of 16 European ringing schemes and 32 birds with Polish rings, ringed elsewhere or at the Vistula mouth in earlier years (Table 2).

Table 2
Numbers of waders caught (trapped) at the Vistula mouth with foreign or Polish rings in years 1999 and 2000 (data for 1962-1998 are published in Gromadzka 1998). Species abbreviations: CALPIN – *Calidris alpina*, CALFER – *Calidris ferruginea*, CALUTA – *Calidris minuta*, AREINT *Arenaria interpres*, CALLBA – *Calidris alba*, PLUSQU – *Pluvialis squatarola*, CALCAN – *Calidris canutus*, CHADUB – *Charadrius dubius*, CHAHIA – *Charadrius hiaticula*.

[illegible]

Ringling country	CAL PIN	CAL FER	CAL UTA	ARE INT	CAL LBA	PLU SQU	CAL CAN	CHA DUB	CHA HIA	Total
GREAT BRITAIN	4					1				5
SWEDEN	4									4
HUNGARY	3									3
FINLAND	1	2								3
LITHUANIA	2									2
NETHERLANDS	1	1								2
BELGIUM	1									1
SPAIN	1									1
CZECH REP.	1									1
CHANEL ISL.	1									1
GREECE		1								1
PORTUGAL				1						1
Total foreign	41	4		1	1	1				48
POLAND	24	2	2	1			1	1	1	32
Grand total	65	6	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	80

During almost 40 years of bird ringing at the Vistula mouth nearly 100 000 waders of 34 species (Table 3) were ringed.

Table 3

Numbers of waders trapped for ringing at the Vistula mouth during autumn migration in years 1962-1980 (right side of the mouth near Mikoszewo, 54°21'N, 18°57'E) and in years 1983-2000 (left side of the mouth, near Świbno, 54°22'N, 18°56'E); data partly published by Gromadzka (1998).

	1962-1980	1983-2000	Total
<i>Calidris alpina</i>	18118	46849	64967
<i>Calidris minuta</i>	1680	4923	6603
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	2955	2020	4975
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	1139	3204	4343
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	1075	1577	2652
<i>Calidris canutus</i>	1061	1117	2178
<i>Tringa totanus</i>	769	1005	1774
<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	483	610	1093
<i>Tringa glareola</i>	441	372	813
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	542	258	800
<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	149	627	776
<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	410	350	760
<i>Calidris alba</i>	59	695	754
<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	135	175	310
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	63	219	282

	1962-1980	1983-2000	Total
<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>	60	170	230
<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	51	162	213
<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	43	142	185
<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	31	59	90
<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	31	14	45
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	13	9	22
<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	18	4	22
<i>Limosa limosa</i>	-	19	19
<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	3	8	11
<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	6	2	8
<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	1	4	5
<i>Calidris maritima</i>	-	4	4
<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>	2	2	4
<i>Numenius arquata</i>	1	3	4
<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	-	2	2
<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	-	2	2
<i>Calidris pusilla</i>	-	1	1
<i>Gallinago media</i>	-	1	1
<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	-	1	1
Total	29361	64588	93949

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