

IZ ORNITOLOŠKE BELEŽNICE

From the ornithological notebook

SLOVENIJA / SLOVENIA

PYGMY CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax pygmeus*

Pritiklavi kormoran – 1 osebek opažen na Cerknškem jezeru (UTM VL56, osrednja Slovenija) dne 30.5.2005

On 30 May 2005, whilst leading a group of 15 visiting British birdwatchers, I saw a Pygmy Cormorant at Cerknško jezero (UTM VL56, Central Slovenia) amongst the more common birds. The bird was seen from the east side close to the village of Žerovnica. It was sitting on a stick, apparently beside the river. It was in classic Cormorant pose with wings outstretched but with a long tail. The bird was extremely distant (>1 km) but seen in very good light with a telescope. This kind of news would not cause much of a stir in north – east Italy in this time of year where the bird is ever more common and breeding at many sites, one less than 90 kilometres from the Slovene border. The first record for the karst lake at Doberdob was in April 2005.

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PLEVICA *Plegadis falcinellus*

Glossy Ibis – one adult individual inhabiting Medvedce reservoir between 5 Aug and 28 Sep 2003 (UTM WM53, NE Slovenia), feeding mostly separately from other water birds and partly moulting

Dne 5.8.2003 sva se z očetom Ivanom odpravila na vodni zadrževalnik Medvedce jugovzhodno od Pragerskega, SV Slovenija. Tam sva med drugim štela rjave lunje *Circus aeruginosus*, ki jih je tega dne bilo dvanajst. Z večjim zanimanjem sem opazoval pobrežnike, ki so zaradi nizke vode, kot posledica suše, množičneje obiskovali ta kraj. Več pozornosti sem namenil velikim škurhom *Numenius arquata*. Bilo jih je dvajset, kar je bila ena večjih jat te vrste na zadrževalniku do tistega trenutka, in spreletavali so se od enega blatnega poloja do drugega. Ob jati sem opazil še en osebek plevice. Ob kasnejših obiskih zadrževalnika sem ob boljši svetlobi prepoznal odrasel osebek. Plevica se je v času, ko se je zadrževala na tem mestu, delno pregolila iz poletnega perja v zimsko.

Zanimivo se mi zdi, da je bila plevica v skupini z drugo vrsto ptic le ob prvem opazovanju. V vseh preostalih opazovanjih se je prehranjevala neodvisno od drugih vodnih ptic. Nazadnje sem jo opazoval 28.9.2003. Po pregledu Acrocephalusov 2000 – 2004 sem opazil, da ni zabeleženega poletnega opazovanja te vrste, prav tako ni podatka o daljšem zadrževanju. V mojem primeru se je osebek zadrževal skoraj dva meseca. Plevica je do leta 1998 veljala za redkost [Božič, L. (2001): Poročilo nacionalne komisije za redkosti o opazovanjih redkih vrst ptic za obdobje 1997 – 2000. – Acrocephalus 22 (106/107): 109 – 113].

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PLEVICA *Plegadis falcinellus*

Glossy Ibis – 3 individuals observed between 10 and 14 Apr 2005 near the church at Črna vas, Ljubljansko barje (UTM VL69, central Slovenia); Glossy Ibis is rare but regular spring and autumn guest in central Slovenia; see colour appendix

Dne 10.4.2005 sem iz avtomobila opazil 3 plevice, ki so se prehranjevale kakih 100 m vzhodno od Plečnikove cerkve Sv. Mihaela v Črni vasi na Ljubljanskem barju. Vreme je bilo slabo, rahlo je tudi rosilo. Kasneje sem se vrnil in si ptice podrobneje ogledal. Glede na obarvanost perja sem sklepal, da opazujem tri odrasle osebe, pri čemer se eden še ni popolnoma pregolil iz zimskega perja; lahko pa je seveda šlo tudi za drugoletni osebek, česar ne morem z gotovostjo izključiti. Plevice so se na tem mestu zadrževale še najmanj do 14.4.2005, ko so že nemirno dvigovale peruti in se pripravljale na odlet (D. ŠERE *pisno*). Plevica je v osrednji Sloveniji sicer redek, a reden gost, predvsem aprila, maja in septembra. Primerjaj npr.: [ŠERE, D. (1990): Plevica *Plegadis falcinellus*. – Acrocephalus 11 (43/44): 29; SOVINC, A. (1997): Redke vrste ptic v Sloveniji v letu 1995. – Acrocephalus 18 (84): 151 – 156; KEBE, L. (1999): Plevica *Plegadis falcinellus*. – Acrocephalus 20 (92): 31; SMOLE, J. (2002): Plevica *Plegadis falcinellus*. – Acrocephalus 23 (110/111): 50].

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VELIKI ŽAGAR *Mergus merganser*

Goosander – a male observed at Lake Ormož (UTM WM94, NE Slovenia) on 28 May 2005, which is quite a late date indicating possible breeding in the near vicinity

Pozimi je veliki žagar pri nas razmeroma številčen. SOVINC [SOVINC, A. (1994): Zimski ornitološki atlas. – Tehniška založba Slovenije, Ljubljana] ocenjuje prezimovajočo populacijo na 50 – 100 osebkov, kasnejša opazovanja pa so pokazala, da jih je danes toliko verjetno samo na Dravi [ŠTUMBERGER, B. (2002): Rezultati štetja vodnih ptic v januarju 2002 v Sloveniji. – *Acrocephalus* 23(110/111): 43 – 47]. V času gnezdenja je v Sloveniji le tu in tam kakšen par. V literaturi večkrat opisano je gnezdišče na Trbojskem in Zbiljskem jezeru, samica z mladiči pa je bila opazovana tudi v Šturmovcih [ŠTUMBERGER, B. (1996): Veliki žagar *Mergus merganser*. – *Acrocephalus* 17(77): 129]. Z Ormoškega jezera je poznano nekaj poznospomladanskih opazovanj odraslih osebkov [GEISTER, I. (1995): Ornitološki atlas Slovenije. – DZS, Ljubljana], ki namigujejo na možnost gnezdenja v bližini. Nekaj podobnega sem na Ormoškem jezeru opazoval dne 28.5.2005. Na deblu podrtega drevesa sredi vode je brezbržno počival samec.

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KAČAR *Circaetus gallicus*

Short-toed Eagle – 1 individual observed on 25 Jun 2005 above the Šmarje ridge (UTM UL93, SW Slovenia) holding prey (Western Whip Snake *Hierophis viridiflavus*) in its claws and eventually moving to a couple of other spots above Slovene Istria

Dne 25.6.2005 sem nad Šmarskim grebenom v Slovenski Istri ob 15.50 uri opazoval kačarja v letu s plenom. S pomočjo teleskopa sem ugotovil, da je bil plen črnica *Hierophis viridiflavus*. Kačar je s plenom najprej preletel Šmarski greben v predelu Zabreg – Kandelca z južne proti severni strani v smeri proti Kopru in v krožni liniji proti vzhodu zavil nazaj na južne, pretežno odprte kmetijske predele Šmarij. Po desetih minutah sem kačarja ponovno opazil nad južnimi predeli Črteže in Prelne skupaj z dvema kanjama *Buteo buteo*, kjer je krožil brez plena in se po približno dvajsetih minutah vnovič prestavil nad travišča v območje Rete pri Križišču Puče, kjer je znano lovišče ujed (T. MIHELIČ *ustno*). Po meni znanih podatkih [GEISTER, I. (1995): Ornitološki atlas

Slovenije. – DZS, Ljubljana] kačar ni prav pogosta vrsta na območju porečja reke Dragonje, zato je bilo opazovanje še toliko bolj zanimivo.

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RJAVI ŠKARNIK *Milvus milvus*

Red Kite – 1 individual observed on 19 Jun 2005, circling above the highway near Postojna in the Nanoštica river basin (UTM VL36, S Slovenia); possibly breeding in the vicinity

Rjavi škarnik velja v Sloveniji za zelo skrivnostno možno gnezdilko, saj kljub celi vrsti gnezditveno sumljivih opazovanj v SV Sloveniji gnezditvev ni bila nikoli potrjena [GEISTER, I. (1995): Ornitološki atlas Slovenije. – DZS, Ljubljana]. V sosednji Italiji gnezdi kar nekaj parov [BURFIELD, I. & VAN BOMMEL, F., eds. (2004): Birds in Europe: population estimates, trends and conservation status. – BirdLife Conservation Series No. 12, BirdLife International, Cambridge], na Hrvaškem pa velja za regionalno izumrlo vrsto [RADOVIĆ, D., KRALJ, J., TUTIŠ, V. & ČIKOVIĆ, D. (2003): Crvena knjiga ugroženih ptica Hrvatske. – Ministarstvo zaštite okoliša i prostornog uređenja, Zagreb]. V zadnjem času se je število opazovanj klateških ptic v Sloveniji znatno povečalo [za podrobnosti glej npr. BORDJAN, D. (2003): Rjavi škarnik *Milvus milvus*. – *Acrocephalus* 24 (116): 31]. Večina podatkov se nanaša na območje SV Slovenije, manj pa na južno Slovenijo. Sam sem opazoval odrasel osebek, ki je krožil nad avtocesto blizu izvoza za Postojno 19.6.2005 v dolini Nanoštica (UTM VL36). Ali je bil osebek gnezdilno ali zgolj klateško razporejen, bodo verjetno pokazale nadaljnje ornitološke raziskave na tem zanimivem mednarodno pomembnem območju za ptice (IBA).

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SRŠENAR *Pernis apivorus*

Honey Buzzard – late observation of a single individual on 24 Oct 2004 at Goričko near the village of Neradnovci (UTM WM99, NE Slovenia)

Dne 24.10.2004 smo na Goriškem v Neradnovcih opazovali sršenarja, ki je kakih 5 minut nizko krožil nad dolinico Male Krke. Podatek je zanimiv zaradi kasnega datuma opazovanja, saj je sršenar tipična selivka, ki se seli v ekvatorialno in južno Afriko. Iz srednje Evrope

se glavčina populacije odseli ob koncu avgusta, po 15. oktobru je moč v Evropi opazovati le zelo zapoznele ptice, opazovanja v novembru pa so že izjemno redka [GLUTZ VON BLOTZHEIM, U.N. & BAUER, K.M. (1989): Handbuch der Vögel Mitteleuropas. Band 4: Falconiformes. – Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft, Wiesbaden]. Sršenar je na Goriškem sicer razmeroma pogosta gnezdilka [DENAC, D. (2000): Goričko. pp. 173–182 In: POLAK, S. (ed.), Mednarodno pomembna območja za ptice v Sloveniji; Important Bird Areas (IBA) in Slovenia. – DOPPS, Ljubljana] in je za območje naravovarstveno pomembna vrsta, uvrščena na Prilogo I Direktive o pticah.

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KRAGULJ *Accipiter gentilis* & KOZAČA *Strix uralensis*

Goshawk & Ural Owl – observation of a female Goshawk feeding on carrion at the Menišija plateau feeding site on (UTM VL48, Central Slovenia) on 17 Dec 2004 and 25 Mar 2005. On 1 Apr 2005, one Ural Owl was observed at a Roedeer *Capreolus capreolus* cadaver on Menišija plateau, although no actual feeding was confirmed.

Prehranjevanje ujed z mrhovino ni ravno redkost, pa vendar o tem vsaj pri nas ni dosti objavljenih podatkov. Izjema so tipični mrhovinarji, kakršen je beloglavi jastreb *Gyps fulvus* [npr. ŠERE, D. (1998): Beloglavi jastreb *Gyps fulvus*. – Acrocephalus 19 (87/88): 67]. Med drugimi ujedami ob mrhovini najpogostejše opazimo kanjo *Buteo buteo* [BORDJAN, D. (2003): Kanja *Buteo buteo*. – Acrocephalus 24 (117): 75], kar gre verjetno predvsem na račun njene pogostosti in pojavljanja v kulturni krajini. Kot primer navajam kanjo, ki se je dne 10.3.2005 na Logaški planoti prehranjevala na truplu srne *Capreolus capreolus*, ki jo je pet dni prej uplenil ris *Lynx lynx*. Bolj zanimivo je opazovanje z dne 17.12.2004, ko je zvečer na mrhovišču na Menišiji priletela samica kragulja. Nekaj časa je brskala po mrhovini, potem pa odletela, verjetno zaradi giba moje roke proti fotoaparatu. Kasneje se je sicer vrnila, vendar v meso ni zagrizla. Nemara isto samico sem na mrhovišču opazoval tudi dne 25.3.2005. Tokrat je ostala dalj časa in se dodobra najedla, zatem pa si očistila kljun z drgnjenjem ob kos mokrega debla. Največje presenečenje pa sem doživel, ko se je prav tako na Menišiji dne 1.4.2005 ob ogledu risovega plena s srninega kadavra dvignila kozača. Ker sem sovo zagledal šele v zraku, ne morem zanesljivo trditi, da se je z mrhovino tudi dejansko prehranjevala.

Upamo, da bomo prehranjevanje sov z mrhovino lahko potrdili v prihodnje, ko bomo ob plenih nameščali kamere. Iz literature sta doslej o prehranjevanju sov z mrhovino znana podatka za lesno sovo *Strix aluco* [SELVA, N. (2004): Life after death – scavenging on ungulate carcasses. In: JEDRZEJEWSKA, B. & WOJCIK, J. M. (eds.): Essays on Mammals of Białowieża Forest. – Polish Academy of Sciences, Białowieża] in ribjo uharico *Bubo zeylonensis*, ki so jo opazovali pri hranjenju na kadavru krokodila [KÖNIG, C., WEICK, F. & BECKING, J. H. (1999): Owls. A Guide to the Owls of the World. – Pica Press, Sussex].

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NAVADNA ČIGRA *Sterna hirundo*

Common Tern – aggressive behaviour (mobbing) against Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus* and Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*, flying 300 and 1000 m respectively from the breeding colony, observed at Lake Ptuj on 3 Jul 2004 (UTM WM74, NE Slovenia)

Med popisovanjem prehranjevalne dinamike navadne čigre v koloniji na Ptujskem jezeru dne 3.7.2004 smo velik del pozornosti posvetili znotrajvrstnim interakcijam [DENAC, D. (2004): Prehranjevalna dinamika in pojav znotrajvrstnega kleptoparazitizma v koloniji navadne čigre na Ptujskem jezeru (SV Slovenija). – Acrocephalus 25(123): 201–205]. Medvrstne interakcije so bile redkejšje od znotrajvrstnih, mednje pa sodita dve opazovanji preganjanja ujed. Ob 5.58 zjutraj je skobec *Accipiter nisus* preletel Ptujsko jezero na razdalji 300 m od kolonije in ni kazal namena, da bi napadel čigre v koloniji. Kljub temu se je ena izmed čiger bliskovito pognala proti njemu in ga silovito napadla ter odgnala. Podoben pregon je doživela postovka *Falco tinnunculus*, ki je ob 8.20 »lebdela« pri Ranci, oddaljena 1000 m od kolonije. Približno 30 sekund kasneje se je čigra dvignila iz kolonije in jo napadla podobno kot skobca. V obeh primerih je bil napad tako silovit, da sta se ujeti nemudoma umaknili. Učinkovita obramba pred plenilci bi naj bila ena izmed prednosti kolonijskega gnezdenja, vendar je ta teorija že precej časa deležna kritikam [RODGERS, J.A. (1987): On the antipredator advantages of coloniality: a word of caution. – Wilson Bull. 99(2): 269–71], saj je po drugi strani ravno za kolonije značilno močno plenjenje, ki se neredko konča s popolnim neuspehom celotne kolonije.

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MALA UHARICA *Asio otus*

Long-eared Owl – eggshells, feathers and pellets found on 31 Jul 2004 in Pohorje Mts. along the trail leading from Osankarica to Črno jezero (1200 m a.s.l., UTM WM34, NE Slovenia); the highest altitude breeding record for Slovenia so far

Na poti od Osankarice proti Črnemu jezeru smo 31.7.2004 naleteli na jajčne lupine, večje število izbljuvkov in peresa male uharice. Našteto je ležalo pod bukvijo, ob kateri je rasla smreka v precej strnjenem smrekovem sestoju. Po stanju jajčne lupine smo sklepali, da se je iz jajca izvil mladič. Kljub pozornemu pregledu drevesa nismo našli gnezda ali njegovih ostankov, zato smo sklepali, da je že razpadlo. Za malo uharico je znano, da gnezdi tudi v opuščenih gnezdih, ki so v zelo slabem stanju. Potrjeno gnezdenje male uharice na nadmorski višini 1200 m je zanimivo, saj je, upoštevajoč dosedanje podatke [Božič, L. & VREZEC, A. (2000): Sove Pohorja. – *Acrocephalus* 21 (98/99): 47–53], to najvišje potrjeno gnezdenje pri nas, ki pa je bilo glede na posamezne prejšnje podatke s podobnih nadmorskih višin in podatke iz sosednjih držav [SACKL, P. & SAMWALD, O. (1997): *Atlas der Brutvogel der Steiermark*. – Austria medien service, Graz] pričakovano.

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BELOHRBTI DETEL *Dendrocopos leucotos*

White-backed Woodpecker – a male observed in Javorniki Mts. (1140 m a.s.l., UTM VL46, Notranjska, S Slovenia) on 3 Feb 2005; first record for the Notranjska region

Dne 3.2.2005 sem na Javornikih v snegu iskal sledi živali. Potem ko že nekaj časa nisem videl nobene ptice, sem na južnem pobočju, približno 500 m zahodno od vrha Velikega Javornika na nadmorski višini 1140 m opazil detla, ki se je prehranjeval ob bazi debla. K sreči se je tam zadrževal dovolj dolgo, da sem si ga lahko dobro ogledal z daljnogledom. Bil je samec belohrbtega detla balkanske podvrste *D. l. lilfordi*. Belohrbti detel spada med najredkejše vrste žoln pri nas. Za zimsko obdobje je v Zimskem ornitološkem atlasu Slovenije kot edina lokacija naveden Maribor [SOVINC, A. (1994): *Zimski ornitološki atlas Slovenije*. – Tehniška založba Slovenije, Ljubljana]. Nekoliko pogostejši so podatki za gnezditveno obdobje, ko so

ga našli okoli Laškega, na Goteniški gori [GEISTER, I. (1995): *Ornitološki atlas Slovenije*. – DZS, Ljubljana], v Kočevskem rogu [PERUŠEK, M. (1991): *Balkanski detel *Dendrocopos lilfordi* gnezdi tudi v Sloveniji*. – *Acrocephalus* 12 (47): 14–18], na Gorjancih [GREGORI, J. (1996): *Belohrbti detel *Dendrocopos leucotos* gnezdi na Gorjancih*. – *Acrocephalus* 17 (78/79): 153–155], Pohorju [ŠERE, D. (1985): *Belohrbti detel *Dendrocopos leucotos**. – *Acrocephalus* 6 (23): 11], Kozjaku [MLAKAR, G. (1996): *Belohrbti detel *Dendrocopos leucotos**. – *Acrocephalus* 18 (75/76): 85–86], Menini (H. POTOČNIK ustno) in ob Blejskem jezeru [RUBINIČ, B. (1993): *Belohrbti detel *Dendrocopos leucotos**. – *Acrocephalus* 14 (60): 168]. Opažanje na Javornikih je tako prvi podatek za Notranjsko. Glede na to, da se belohrbti detel vse leto zadržuje v okolici svojega gnezdilnega območja [PERUŠEK, M. (2004): *Žolne Slovenije*. – *Svet ptic* 10(1): 6–9], ni izključeno, da na Javornikih tudi gnezdi. Detla sem opazoval v razmeroma mladem bukovem sestoju, kar je nekoliko nenavadno za to vrsto, ki daje prednost gozdovom z obilico starega in trohnečega drevja (GEISTER 1995). Da to ni osamljen primer, kažejo podatki iz Švice, kjer je Bühler prav tako opazoval belohrbtega detla v mlajših bukovih gozdovih [BÜHLER, U. (2001): *Brutvorkommen des Weissrückenspechts *Dendrocopos leucotos* in Nordbünden*. – *Der Ornithologische Beobachter* 98 (1): 1–11].

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TRIPRSTI DETEL *Picoides tridactylus*

Three-toed Woodpecker – a female observed on 7 Feb 2005 on Menišija plateau (713 m a.s.l., UTM VL48, Central Slovenia)

Med sledenjem risa *Lynx lynx* dne 7.2.2005 sem na Tolstem vrhu na severozahodnem delu Menišije v mešanem gozdu zaslišal potrkavanje. Odpravil sem se za zvokom in kmalu opazil samico triprstega detla, ki se je prehranjevala na posušeni jelki *Abies alba* na nadmorski višini 713 m. Vnovič se je izkazal neboječi značaj te vrste, kar mi je omogočilo, da sem si jo dodobra ogledal. Glede na literaturo je to tretji podatek za pokrajino Krimskega hribovja in Menišije ter prvi zimski podatek za osrednjo Slovenijo. V gnezditvenem obdobju je bil opažen že na Ljubljanskem vrhu [VREZEC, A. (2001): *Triprsti detel *Picoides tridactylus**.

– Acrocephalus 22 (104/105): 60], v okolici Snežnika pa celo par s speljanim mladičem [KEBE, L. (2001): Triprsti detel *Picoides tridactylus*. – Acrocephalus 22 (104/105): 60].

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PLANINSKA PEVKA *Prunella collaris*

Alpine Accentor – a flock of 15 individuals feeding on 18 Dec 2004 on the peak of Mt. Kucelj (1237 m a.s.l., UTM VL08, W Slovenia); first winter observation for the forest complex of Trnovski gozd

Planinska pevka pri nas gnezdi nad drevesno mejo v Julijskih Alpah, Karavankah in Kamniško – Savinjskih Alpah [GEISTER, I. (1995): Ornitološki atlas Slovenije. – DZS, Ljubljana]. Pozimi lahko ostane v gnezditvenem okolišu ali pa se pomakne na nižja pobočja. Doslej so bila za to vrsto pri nas znana tri prezimovalna območja: skalnate stene kraškega roba z Matarskim podoljem in pečinami v dolini Zgornje Pivke, širše gnezditveno območje Alp in tretje v Zasavju [SOVINC, A. (1994): Zimski ornitološki atlas Slovenije. – Tehniška založba Slovenije, Ljubljana]. Zato je dokaj zanimivo moje opazovanje jate 15 planinskih pevk dne 18.12.2004 na vrhu Kucelja (1237 m n.v.). Kucelj sodi v kompleks Trnovskega gozda in doslej še nisem zasledil podatkov o pojavljanju planinske pevke na tem območju. Planinske pevke so intenzivno brskale med skalami in travno rušo ter iskale hrano, pri tem pa niso bile prav nič plašne. Kot se za ornitološki izlet na visoki dinarski Kras spodobi, sem malo naprej od koč na Čavnu uzrl kozačo *Strix uralensis*, v daljavi z vrha Kucelja pa še planinskega orla *Aquila chrysaetos*, oba tukajšnja znana gnezdilca.

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POGORELČEK *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

Redstart – probable breeding on 28 and 30 Jun 2005 approx. 250 m and 350 m outside the villages of Kamno (UTM UM92) and Kozaršče (UTM VM01) respectively in the Soča valley (W Slovenia), where breeding inside villages is common; orchards were used as a breeding ground

Na ornitološkem taboru Most na Soči smo z našo skupino pri popisovanju rjavega srakoperja *Lanius collurio* na dveh območjih potrdili gnezditvev pogorelčka zunaj vasi. Prvi primer je bil zabeležen

28.6.2005 v bližini vasi Kamno. Opazovali smo samca, ki je s hrano v kljunu sedel na enem izmed dreves visokodebelnega sadovnjaka, obdanega z omejkami in ekstenzivnimi travniki. Na podlagi tega sklepamo, da je krmil mladiče v gnezdu. Sadovnjak je bil od vasi oddaljen 250 m. Drugi primer gnezditve je bil potrjen 30.6.2005. Tudi tega dne smo opazovali samca s hrano v kljunu, in sicer v manjšem sadovnjaku kakih 350 m od vasi Kozaršče. V sadovnjaku se je pasla živina, ob njem pa je stal tudi manjši hlev. Drugih stavb v bližini ni bilo. Z navedenima podatkom dopolnjujemo navedbe A. Figlja [FIGELJ, A. (2004): Pogorelček *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*. – Acrocephalus 25 (120): 36–37] o razširjenosti in gnezditvenih navadah pogorelčka v Posočju. FIGELJ (2004) navaja, da pogorelček gnezdi v domala vsaki vasi v dolini Soče, očitno pa posamezni pari gnezdiijo tudi v sadovnjakih zunaj vasi.

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REPALJŠČICA *Saxicola rubetra*

Whinchat – probable breeding recorded on 29 Jun 2005 at Podljudinj in the Soča valley (1000 m a.s.l., UTM VM01, W Slovenia)

Na ornitološkem taboru v Mostu na Soči smo v kulturni krajini v dolini Soče popisovali rjave srakoperje *Lanius collurio*. Dne 29.6.2005 smo v Poljudbinju med pretežno intenzivnimi kmetijskimi površinami okoli 7. ure zjutraj na fižolovkah, na višini približno 1,5 metra od tal, opazili samca in samico repaljščice. Obe ptici sta se svarilno oglašali, samica pa je imela v kljunu hrano, zato domnevamo, da sta tam gnezdili. Travniki, na katerem se je zadrževal par repaljščic, je bil dokaj izoliran in edini takega tipa, razprostirajoč se sredi bolj intenzivnih travnikov in koruznih polj. Naše opazovanje potrjuje gnezdenje repaljščice v nižinah alpskega sveta. Repaljščica naj bi po dosedanjih podatkih v tem predelu Slovenije gnezdila le na visokogorskih travnikih in pašnikih na nadmorski višini nad 1000 m.

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ČOPASTA SINICA *Parus cristatus*

Crested Tit – a pair observed on 29 Mar 2004 in a lowland Oak–Hornbeam forest *Quercus–Carpinetum* (known as Orlovšček) near Dolnja Bistrica (UTM XM05, NE Slovenia), while building a nest in a Bird Cherry *Prunus padus* hollow, which was probably

enabled by approx. 0.2 ha large Norway Spruce *Picea abies* plantation in the middle of the forest. This is the second nesting record for this species in the lowland part of Prekmurje.

Med popisom ptic za Novi ornitološki atlas gnezdišč Slovenije sem 29.3.2004 v gozdu Orlovšček pri Dolnji Bistrici (Prekmurje, SV Slovenija) naletel na gnezdeči par čopastih sinic. Na naselitev te vrste v sicer tipičnem nižinskem, hrastovo-gabrovem gozdu *Quercus-Carpinetum* je verjetno odločilno vplival 0,2 ha velik gost nasad smreke *Picea abies*, ki leži sredi omenjenega gozda. Par si je v času mojega opazovanja vneto spletal gnezdo v duplu manjše čremse *Prunus padus*, od smrekovega sestoja oddaljene približno 50 metrov. Kljub dokaj kratkemu času opazovanja je bilo očitno, da sinici gnezditveni material zbirata le v smrekovem nasadu. Podatek je zanimiv zaradi netipičnega gnezditvenega habitata čopaste sinice in potrjenega gnezdenja vrste v Prekmurju. Iz ravninskega dela Prekmurja je bil doslej znan le en podatek iz gnezditvenega obdobja, in sicer iz Črnega loga [GEISTER, I. (1995): Ornitološki atlas Slovenije. – DZS, Ljubljana].

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ŠČINKAVEC *Fringilla coelebs*

Chaffinch – almost complete leucistic individual observed on 19 Apr 2005 on Mt. Krim near the village of Iška (UTM VL68, central Slovenia) in a Beech forest with Fir *Omphalodo-Fagetum* s.lat.; in Slovenia, albinistic and leucistic individuals have also been found in Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*, Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*, Coot *Fulica atra*, Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*, Scops Owl *Otus scops*, Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*, Blackbird *Turdus merula*, Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris*, Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*, Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*, Raven *Corvus corax*, and House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Med redkejšje pojave pri prostoživečih pticah gotovo sodi albinizem in leucizem, torej belo ali rumenkasto obarvani osebkki s pomanjkanjem melanina. Čeprav pojav v obliki delnega albinizma, kjer je belo le posamezno pero, ni tako redek, pa so osebkki s popolnim ali večinskim albinizmom oziroma leucizmom velika redkost. Eno takšnih redkosti sva opazovala 19.4.2005 na Krimu pri Ljubljani, nekoliko višje nad vasjo Iška (VL68) v dinarskem bukovem

gozdu z jelko *Omphalodo-Fagetum* s.lat., na primeru naše najpogostejše gozdne ptice, ščinkavca. Na gozdni cesti nama je pot prekrizal rumenkasto obarvan prtič, podoben kanarčku. Telo je imel rumenkasto, peruti so bile bele, le na glavi je imel nekaj rjavih peres. Po oglašanju in obliki telesa sva ugotovila, da gre za leucistični primerek ščinkavca. Ptica je bila v zelenih krošnjah dreves dobro opazna, a se po vedenju ni kaj dosti razlikovala od drugih istovrstnih osebkov, ki so v raztreseni skupini obirali liste. Tu in tam so se po ščinkavčje tudi malce preganjali, toda ni bilo opaziti, da bi bil bledični osebek kaj bolj preganjan od drugih. Avtorjema tega prispevka ni znano, da bi bil pri nas skoraj popolnoma leucistični ščinkavec že opazovan, bledični osebkki pa so bili v Sloveniji ugotovljeni denimo že pri kormoranu *Phalacrocorax carbo* [ŠORGO, A. (1997): Veliki kormoran *Phalacrocorax carbo*. – *Acrocephalus* 18(80/81): 40; A. VREZEC v SENEČAČNIK, K., SOVINČ, A. & ŠERE, D. (1998): Ornitološka kronika 1994, 1995. – *Acrocephalus* 19(87/88): 77–91], labodu grbcu *Cygnus olor* [VREZEC, A. & HÖNIGSFELD ADAMIČ, M. (2003): Labod grbec *Cygnus olor*. – *Acrocephalus* 24(119): 147–148], liski *Fulica atra* [LIPEJ, L. & MAKOVEC, T. (1997): Prezimovanje črnih lisk *Fulica atra* v Strunjanski laguni. – *Acrocephalus* 18(80/81): 23–26], turški grlici *Streptopelia decaocto* [VREZEC, A. (1999): Turška grlica *Streptopelia decaocto*. – *Acrocephalus* 20(93): 61], kmečki lastovki *Hirundo rustica* [LENARČIČ, L. (1981): Paberki (kmečka lastovka). – *Acrocephalus* 2(7): 15; GOBEC, M. (1996): Kmečka lastovka *Hirundo rustica*. – *Acrocephalus* 17(74): 36–37], kosu *Turdus merula* [KURILLO, A. (1986): Kos *Turdus merula*. – *Acrocephalus* 7(30): 62; L. OSTERMAN, M. BRATUŠ v SOVINČ, A. (1992): Ornitološka kronika 1990. – *Acrocephalus* 13(50): 29–32], dolgorepki *Aegithalos caudatus* [F. BRAČKO v SOVINČ, A. & ŠERE, D. (1993): Ornitološka kronika za leto 1991. – *Acrocephalus* 14(58/59): 140–144], kavki *Corvus monedula* (I.A. BOŽIČ v SOVINČ & ŠERE 1993), krokarju *Corvus corax* [GROŠELJ, P. (1991): Krokar *Corvus corax*. – *Acrocephalus* 12 (49): 165] in domačem vrabcu *Passer domesticus* [KLJUN, I. (2003): Domači vrabec *Passer domesticus*. – *Acrocephalus* 24(117): 78–79]. Poleg tega so nama iz Slovenije belični osebkki znani tudi pri velikem skoviku *Otus scops* in močvirski trstnici *Acrocephalus palustris* (lastni podatki). Sicer pa so denimo v Bolgariji beličnost ugotovili še pri mlakarici *Anas platyrhynchos*, mestni lastovki *Delichon urbica*, kupčarju *Oenanthe oenanthe*, srpični trstnici *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*, rjavoglavam srakoperju *Lanius senator*, poljskem vrabcu *Passer montanus* in velikem strnadu *Miliaria calandra*

[NIKOLOV, S.C., SPASOV, S.D. & MEEÛS, T. (2004): Northern Wheater *Oenanthe oenanthe*. – *Acrocephalus* 25 (122): 175–176].

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CROATIA / HRVAŠKA

ČRNA ŠTORKLJA *Ciconia nigra*

Black Stork – one individual seen soaring on 29 May 2004 in particularly strong winds over Bakarski Bay near Rijeka (UTM VL61, W Croatia)

Dne 29.5.2004 sem se mudil v majhnem naselju ob cesti v Bakarskem zalivu pri Reki, ko je pihala izredno močna burja. Med opazovanjem, kako se dviguje voda z morske gladine, sem zagledal jadrajočo črno štorljo, le da ta v nasprotju z mano ni imela težav z burjo. Podatki za to ptico so za Hrvaško primorje redki in vključujejo predvsem klateže zunaj gnezdilnega obdobja [RUCNER, D. (1998): Ptice hrvatske obale Jadrana. – Hrvatski prirodoslovni muzej, Ministarstvo razvitka i obnove, Zagreb]. Ker gre za podatek iz gnezdilnega obdobja, lahko domnevamo, da je ta osebek nekje v bližini tudi gnezdil.

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RED-FOOTED FALCON *Falco vespertinus*

Rdečenoga postovka – avtorja navajata podatke o opazovanju 3 osebkov na Vranskem jezeru (UTM WJ46) v dneh 2.5.2005 in 3.5.2005

Between 1 and 8 May 2005, several survey walks were made in the northern part of Lake Vransko (UTM WJ46). Our observations were focused particularly on areas with intensive horticultural activity, with vegetable gardens neighbouring hay meadows reaching out almost to the immediate waterside, i.e. down to the reedbed. Our observation of birds of prey included 3 Marsh Harriers *Circus aeruginosus* seen on 1 May. There were in fact a number of them (1 – 5) flying above the reeds almost during every survey walk. At about 11.00 h on 2 May, 1 female Red-footed Falcon was spotted hunting above the meadow. About 5 – 10 minutes, later a male also showed up above the reedbed, and at 11.20 h yet another male joined the birds already hunting there. At 11.20 h on 3 May, while surveying the same area, the two male and one female Red-footed Falcons were still there.

Red-footed Falcons in the Croatian seaside region are seen most commonly at the time of spring migration, i.e. around late April, early May [RUCNER, D. (1998): Ptice hrvatske obale Jadrana. – Hrvatski prirodoslovni muzej, Ministarstvo razvitka i obnove, Zagreb]. The Red-footed Falcon is listed in the avifauna of Lake Vransko as a migrating species [LUKAČ, G. (2002): Fauna ptica (Aves). pp. In: Prirodoslovne podloge za izradu prostornog plana Parka prirode Vransko jezero, Zagreb.]. However, no exact observation data are known to have been published so far. On 4 May, no birds of prey other than Marsh Harriers were seen. On 5 May, one female and one male Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* were seen. The female was hunting above a mown area, whereas the male was circling higher up in the air. On 8 May, another male Kestrel, and a male Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus* were observed.

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ZALIVSKI GALEB *Larus genei*

Slender-billed Gull – 2 adults resting on 18 May 2005 at Mlinica Bay (UTM WK11, Pag Island, N Dalmatia) after heavy rainfall

Dne 18.5.2005 sem s švicarskimi ornitologi v zalivu Mlinica nasproti Malega blata na J delu otoka Pag (S Dalmacija) opazoval dva (2) odrasla zalivska galeba. Ptici sta ob 18.30 h počivali tesno druga ob drugi v bibavičnem pasu kar tik ob cesti. Čeprav smo v tednu poprej prekrizarili Pag po dolgem in počez, zlasti vsa mokrišča, zalivskega galeba nismo opazili. Verjetno je, da sta ptici prileteli s ciklonom; še popoldan je močno deževalo, zvečer pa se je povsem zjasnilo. Pojavljanje zalivskega galeba na Hrvaškem je dokumentirano presenetljivo redko, primerjaj npr.: [RUBINIČ, B., BOŽIČ, L. & SACKL, P. (2002): The actual status of Slender-billed Gull *Larus genei* on the southern Dalmatian coast. – *Acrocephalus* 23 (110/111): 35–37].

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GULL-BILLED TERN *Gelochelidon nilotica*

Črnonoga čigra – dne 3.5.2005 opažen en osebek na Vranskem jezeru (UTM WJ46), kar je četrti podatek za to območje

Several observations were made at Lake Vransko (UTM WJ46) between 1 – 8 May 2005. Agricultural areas at the northern part of the lake adjoin wet meadows and reedbeds. The lower sections of agricultural fields were inundated. Almost each day, we could observe 3 – 6 individuals of Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*, 2 – 20 Little Egrets *Egretta garzetta*, 2 – 8 Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*, 2 – 4 Wigeons *Anas penelope*, 2 – 16 Mallards *Anas platyrhynchos*, 4 – 6 Garganeys *Anas querquedula*, 2 – 50 Coots *Fulica atra*, 1 – 4 Black-winged Stilts *Himantopus himantopus*, 1 – 3 Lapwings *Vanellus vanellus*, 3 – 7 Curlew Sandpipers *Calidris ferruginea*, 1 – 2 Black-tailed Godwits *Limosa limosa*, 1 – 2 Curlews *Numenius arquata*, 1 – 3 Spotted Redshanks *Tringa erythropus*, 1 – 2 Redshanks *Tringa totanus*, 1 – 5 Greenshanks *Tringa nebularia*, 1 – 3 Wood Sandpipers *Tringa glareola*, and 4 – 10 Common Sandpipers *Actitis hypoleucos*. Usually there were 4 – 12 Black-headed Gulls *Larus ridibundus* and 4 – 5 Yellow-legged Gulls *Larus cachinnans* resting in ploughed up areas. Some (1 – 5) Ringed Plovers *Charadrius hiaticula* often ran past them. On 2 May, four Whiskered Terns *Chlidonias hybridus* and one Black Tern *Chlidonias niger* were noticed in the same place. On 3 May, a Gull-billed Tern was seen sitting in the company of Black-headed Gulls and Yellow-legged Gulls. It took wing several times, but soon returned to the ploughland. However, it was no longer seen during the ensuing days. We have found three records on Gull-billed Tern sightings at Lake Vransko: on 10 July 1972 [KRALJ, J. (1997): Ornitofauna Hrvatske tijekom poslednjih dvjesto godina. – *Larus* 46: 1–112], on 27 April 1995, 3 individuals [RADOVIĆ, D., TUTIŠ, V. & KRALJ, J. (2004): Inventarizacija i valorizacija ornitofaune Parka prirode Vransko Jezero. – Zavod za Ornitologiju HAZU, Zagreb] and 6 May 1995, 1 specimen [STIPČEVIĆ, M. (1996): A contribution to the Croatian list of rare and scarce birds recorded from 1985 – 1995. – *Natura Croatica* 5 (1): 53–81].

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LONG-EARED OWL *Asio otus*

Mala uharica – 2 mladiča, stara nekaj manj kot mesec dni, najdena 16.1.2005 v vasi Novo Selo Palanječko v bližini Siska (UTM XL03, osrednja Hrvaška)

On 16 Jan 2005, a friend told me about two young Long-eared Owls he had just found at Novo Selo Palanječko near Sisak. I visited the area and found them along the road leading through the village. They were still fully covered with down. As the chicks' primaries were incomplete, I estimated the two young to be 3 to 4 weeks old. Considering that these owls incubate the eggs for about 25 to 30 days [MIKKOLA, H. (1983): Owls of Europe. – T & A D Poyser, Calton], I concluded that they had been laid at the end of November or in early December. In the gardens of the local houses (in a circle with about 100 m in diameter), ten high and thick spruce trees are standing in which the owl's nest was most probably built. This recovery seems interesting to me owing to the highly unusual date of nesting. In the town of Sisak and its vicinity, the Long-eared Owl is a fairly common and regular summer breeder (March – May), where it uses the abandoned magpies' and crows' nests. In the winter months, these owls gather in flocks at few places in the town itself, such as in the central park, on private plots along the town skating rink, and in a group of spruce trees at Badaševo.

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ČEBELAR *Merops apiaster*

Bee-eater – pair observed during its nesting between 27 Jul and 2 Aug 2005 on the east side of Pašman Island (UTM WJ36, N Dalmatia)

Od 27.7. do 2.8.2005 sem na hrvaškem otoku Pašmanu preživljala dopust. V kampu Sovinje na vzhodnem delu otoka se nad peščeno plažo dviguje približno 7 m visoka peščeno ilovnata stena, v kateri me je že prvi dan pritegnilo večje število lukenj, podobnih vhodom v ptičja gnezda. Naslednji dan (28.7.) sem res opazila par čebelarjev, ki se je spreletaval nad nanosom. Ptici sta izmenično pristajali pri eni izmed lukenj, izginili vanjo in se v času dveh minut vrnili ter spet poleteli na lov. Vsakič sta se tik pred vstopom oglasili s kratkim čivkom. Druge luknje so ostajale brez obiskovalcev, omenjena čebelarja pa smo lahko opazovali vsak dan v njuni skrbi za zarod. Čebelarje so na hrvaških otokih že opazovali, vendar so se pojavljali v večjih skupinah [BORDJAN, D. (2003): Čebelar *Merops apiaster*.

– Acrocephalus 24 (119): 154; BORDJAN, D. (2004): Čebelar *Merops apiaster*. – Acrocephalus 25 (120): 40].

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MESTNA LASTOVKA *Delichon urbica*

House Martin – three chicks observed in the same nest with substantial age difference of approx. 5 – 6 days at Stari grad on the island of Hvar between 1 and 5 Aug 2005

Letos sem prvi teden v avgustu preživel poletni dopust na otoku Hvaru v mestecu Stari grad. V starem mestnem jedru gnezdi več sto parov mestnih lastovk. Eno izmed gnezd je bilo pripeto pod kamnit balkon samo približno 3 m visoko, tako da je bilo opazovanje krmljenja mladičev zelo preprosto. Toda potem sem presenečen opazil, da se na vhodni odprtini gnezda izmenično pojavljajo trije mladiči različnih starosti! Najstarejši je bil le nekaj dni pred tem, da zapusti gnezdo. Drugi največji je bil 5 – 6 dni mlajši, tretji pa še 5 – 6 dni mlajši od drugega. Iz gnezda je večino časa zvedavo gledal najstarejši, druga dva mladiča pa sta se ob njem pojavljala izmenično. Kar nekajkrat sem mlajša mladiča opazil skupaj na vhodni odprtini; najstarejši je bil takrat v ozadju. Med njimi ni bilo videti rivalstva. Vhodna odprtina gnezda je bila dovolj velika, da sta se na vhodu lahko pojavljala dva mladiča. Nad tem svojim odkritjem sem bil tako presenečen in navdušen, da sem gnezdo hodil opazovat 5 dni zapored (1. – 5.8.2005). V meni dostopni literaturi [npr. TURNER, A. & ROSE, C. (1989): A Handbook to the Swallows and Martins of the World. – Christopher Helm, London] še nikoli nisem slišal ali prebral, da ima mestna lastovka mladiče tako velikih starostnih razlik. Starost mladičev sem ocenil glede na njihovo velikost in operjenost. Imam zelo veliko izkušenj s kmečkimi lastovkami *Hirundo rustica*. Veliko mladičev kmečkih lastovk sem obročkal na gnezdu, tako da lahko z gotovostjo podajam oceno o njihovi starosti. Po analogiji sem določil tudi starost mladičev mestne lastovke.

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ČRNOČELI SRAKOPER *Lanius minor*

Lesser Grey Shrike – 1 individual observed in mid July 2000 near the village of Gramače (44° 40' N, 14° 50' E; island Pag, N Dalmatia)

Med 15. in 22.7.2000 sem preživil dopust na hrvaškem otoku Pagu. Med enim izmed številnih izletov sem sredi dopusta obiskal tudi polotok Lun na severnem delu otoka. Tu sem ob glavni cesti pri vasi Gramače opazoval en osebek črnočelega srakoperja. Opazoval sem ga samo enkrat in še takrat čisto na kratko, morda kakšno minuto. To je bilo doslej moje edino opazovanje črnočelega srakoperja na hrvaškem Jadranu, čeprav tam preživljam dopust že desetletja, vsako leto po 1 – 4 tedne. Na samem Pagu sem dopustoval pet let, med letoma 2000 in 2004.

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SRBIJA (SRBIJA IN ČRNA GORA) / SERBIA (SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO)

SHORT-TOED EAGLE *Circus gallicus*

Kačar – opazovan na selitvi blizu vasi Rti (UTM DP44, Z Srbija); prvi podatek za Dragačevsko območje

On 14 Aug 2002, accompanied by Jovan Pantović, we visited Rti village (UTM DP44) in the Dragačevo region (W Serbia). The village is famous for its Rćanska cave, the cliffs above it, and the unique Plato (plateau) on top of the cliffs. As the entire area was ornithologically unknown, we decided to spend an afternoon researching birds around the cliffs. On that perfect summer day we observed, for several times, a family of Peregrine Falcons *Falco peregrinus* in flight around the cliffs, three Goshawks *Accipiter gentilis* and a Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* in territorial flight, several families of Red-backed Shrikes *Lanius collurio*, Common Swifts *Apus apus* on migration, and a Lesser-spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos minor*. We left the cliffs and proceeded to the main road, from where we had a splendid view of the huge limestone blocks. At about 17.10 h, a large raptor showed up gliding at the top of the cliffs and soon landed on a dead tree on the very edge of the cliffs. We clearly saw the brown head, back and wings and whitish belly of an adult Short-toed Eagle. The eagle gave us a wonderful opportunity to look at it for about 10 minutes when it disappeared in low flight over the Plato. This is the first record for the Dragačevo region. The same locality was again surveyed in 2003, 2004, and 2005, but as no data

about the presence of Short-toed Eagles during the breeding season were obtained, we believe that the observed bird was on migration.

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RED KITE *Milvus milvus*

Rjavi škarnik – opazovanje v gnezditvenem obdobju dne 26.6.2004 v vzhodnem Banatu (UTM DR58, V Banat, Vojvodina) ob reki Tamiš pri vasi Opovo

On 26 Jun 2004, I inspected riverside habitats along both banks of the river Tamiš between Opovo and Sefkerin (E Banat, Voivodina). I walked from Opovo through the alluvial forest towards the south, and after crossing the bridge over the river at Sefkerin I started my way back towards Opovo on the embankment. At this section river is canalized and indigenous forests in remaining narrow inundation area have been mainly replaced by fast-growing poplars. However, the stands are quite old with White Willows *Salix alba* in some places and patches of old White *Populus alba* and Black Poplars *P. nigra*, or just solitary trees. On the opposite side of the embankment, spacious and intensively managed agricultural landscape spreads, intersected by groups of trees or bushes and melioration canals. I did not observe many birds of prey on that day: a Hobby *Falco subbuteo* at Opovo, several Common Buzzards *Buteo buteo* throughout the day, a female Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis* near Opovo and one near Sefkerin, and an adult White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla* in its suspected breeding territory. The only unexpected raptor was an adult Red Kite standing very still on the branch of a large Black Poplar near the left bank of the river, but outside the inundation zone, near the Dunavac Canal, which connects the Tamiš with the Danube (UTM DR58). Immediately next to the bird I noticed an empty crow-type nest. I was able to observe the bird and the nest for almost 15 minutes, but noticed no movements or other Red Kites around the site. After it almost disappeared from the country in the second half of 20th century, observations of this species on migration, wintering and even in the breeding period in Serbia have become more frequent after 1997. It is interesting that all new observations within the breeding period in Voivodina originate from the forested wetlands along the Danube, Bosut and Begej rivers [PUZOVIĆ, S. (2002): Nova posmatranja crvene lunje *Milvus milvus* u Srbiji tokom reproduktivnog perioda. – Ciconia 11: 136–139]. My

observation may suggest that the species breeds there, although I have not visited this place again.

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PINTAIL *Anas acuta*

Dolgorepa raca – dne 9.3.2003 je bila opažena velika jata pribl. 100 osebkov na reki Tisi v bližini Bačkega Gradišta (UTM DR34, V Bačka, Vojvodina); v prvi polovici marca je višek preleta za raco dolgorepko v Vojvodini

On 9 Mar 2003, I observed a flock of around 100 very vocal Pintails flying upstream the Tisa river on Biserno ostrvo near Bačko Gradište (UTM DR34, E Bačka, Voivodina). Eventually, one part of the flock landed on the river surface, while a smaller part flew back downstream. The birds appeared at 11.38 h and were present on or above the river until 12.05 h, when they continued to fly upstream. In this particular locality only a few Pintails have been recorded several times in late winter during the 2000 – 2005 period. Although such numerous flocks are rare (and only present during spring migration) in Voivodina [ŠOTI, J. & DIMITRIJEVIĆ, S. (1974): Prilog poznavanju ornitofaune Vojvodine (Gaviiformes, Podicipediformes, Pelecaniformes, Ciconiformes i Anseriformes zapadnog dela Banata). – Zbornik Matice srpske za prirodne nauke 46: 127–160], a flock was observed on the nearby Bečej fishpond on 1 Mar 1991, when 99 birds were counted [LUKAČ, Š. & LUKAČ, A. (1992): Ornitofauna ribnjaka Bečej. – Ciconia 4: 4–17], and more recently on Lake Mezgarica near the village of Kruševlje, where 150 – 200 individuals were observed on 13 Mar 2004 [ĐAPIĆ, D. (2004): Pintail *Anas acuta*. – Acrocephalus 25 (122): 169]. This makes the first half of March the peak for Pintail migration in northern Serbia.

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FERRUGINOUS DUCK *Aythya nyroca*

Kostanjevka – dne 24.3.2003 opazovan par na jezeru Petnica pri Valjevu (UTM DQ11, Z Srbija), dva samca opažena tudi 20. in 21.3.2005; vrsta je redak preletnik v okolici Valjeva

On 24 Mar 2003, a pair of Ferruginous Ducks was observed on artificial Lake Petnica near Petnica Research Centre in the vicinity of Valjevo (UTM

DQ11, W Serbia). The birds were seen feeding and hiding in a small belt of reeds in the lake's western part, together with 3 pairs of Garganey *Anas querquedula*. On 20 and 21 Mar 2005, two males together with a male Wigeon *Anas penelope* were observed in the same part of the lake. In spite of the regular research throughout the years and seasons, the species has not been recorded in other months between 2001 and 2005, which so far makes March the only month for the occurrence of this species on Lake Petnica. Ferruginous Duck is a very rare migrant on the nearby Dokmir fishpond, which at the same time happens to be the only breeding place of the species in west Serbia [RAKOVIĆ, M. & NOVAKOVIĆ, B. (2003): Avifauna of Dokmir fishpond. – Ciconia 12: 121–129].

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LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*

Mali deževnik – potrjeno gnezdenje na reki Zapadna Morava, 20 km SZ od Kraljeva (UTM DP74, Z Srbija); prvo potrjeno gnezdenje za okolico Kraljeva

On 1 Jul 2005, the Little Ringed Plover's nest containing 3 eggs was found on the gravel bank of the Zapadna Morava river about 20 km NW from Kraljevo, near the village of Bapsko Polje (UTM DP74). On this particular occasion, the eggs were also photographed. On 15 Jul 2005, during our next visit to the Zapadna Morava river, we found 3 nestlings from the same nest running and feeding together with the adults on the same part of the sandbank. This is so far the first evidence of the Little Ringed Plover's successful breeding around Kraljevo. This species has been proved to breed upstream, in the vicinity of Čačak [ŠĆIBAN, M. & RUŽIĆ, M. (2002): Findings of Little Ringed Plover in breeding period in valley of Zapadna Morava. – Ciconia 11: 161 – 162].

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WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Stržek – dne 5.5.2005 v skladišču pri Baču (UTM CR53, SV Bačka, Vojvodina) najdeno gnezdo v starem gnezdu kmečke lastovke *Hirundo rustica*



On 25 May 2005, during my inspection of the "Ristovača" pheasant farm and hunting grounds with forest habitats surrounded by agricultural fields and saline meadows situated near Bač (UTM CR53, SE Bačka, Voivodina), I entered the room used as a storehouse for pheasant – transportation boxes. In previous years, I had already found active Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* nests in it. This time, three were active. I noticed a pair of Wrens bringing material inside an old Barn Swallow nest, which had been active in 2004. The nest was situated on a wall, supported by electricity cables, some 2.5 m high (see photo). Ten days later, on 6 Jun 2005, when I had a look at the nest for the last time, I found 7 Wren eggs in it.

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BLUETHROAT *Luscinia svecica*

Modra taščica – avtor je med 12.8. in 18.9.2004 opazoval jesensko selitev na evtrofne »Jezeru«, severno od vasi Stanišić (UTM CR59, SZ Bačka, Vojvodina)

In autumn 2004, during the intensive bird ringing at the eutrophic pond "Jezero" situated to the north of Stanišić (UTM CR59, NW Bačka, Voivodina), I was able to follow the intensive migration of Bluethroats. On 12 Aug, I ringed one young (1y) individual, on 17 Aug three (out of which two were adult males), on 18

Aug 1 ind., on 1 Sep 3 ind., on 2 Sep seven ind. (three young among them), on 6 Sep five ind. (including one adult male), on 11 Sep one and on 18 Sep two, including one 1y individual. This 20 ha large pond, overgrown by reed throughout the year (contrary to some previous years, when reedbed was dry) was filled with water. Since the area is the only site covered by reed in otherwise agricultural local landscape with just solitary trees or tree – lines, it is possible that “Jezero” is an important stopover site for this species during its migration in northern Serbia. Bluethroat is a breeder at the same site [ŽULJEVIĆ, A. & ĐAPIĆ, D. (2002): Prvi podaci o fauni ptica bare «Jezero» kod Stanišića. – Ciconia 11: 123–126], and has been observed during the spring migration as well.

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RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula parva*

Mali muhar – dne 27.9.2003 ujeta samica v okolici Valjeva (UTM DQ11, Z Srbija); drugi podatek za nižavje v okolici Valjeva



On 27 Sep 2003, a female Red-breasted Flycatcher was caught during the bird ringing camp held in Petnica Research Centre near Valjevo (UTM DQ11, W Serbia; see picture). The bird, which flew into our mist net set in hedges next to the corn field, was identified and photographed in the company of Nikola Stojnić, Vesna Obradović, Čaba Matović and Dimitrije Radišić. So far, this is only the second record of the species in the lowlands surrounding the town of Valjevo. Previously, three birds had been observed and video-taped (on 13 Aug 2001) near the swimming pool about 1 km north of the Centre. Red-breasted Flycatcher is a possible breeder of the neighbouring

Maljen Mt. [GRUBAČ, B. (2001): First recorded nest of Red-breasted Flycatcher in Serbia. – Ciconia 10: 150 – 152; NOVAKOVIĆ, B. & RAKOVIĆ, M. (2004): Status and analyse of the bird fauna of Mt. Maljen. – Ciconia 13: 99–104].

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ROCK BUNTING *Emberiza cia*

Skalni strnad – dva osebka opažena dne 16.11.2003 v predmestju Čačka (UTM DP55 Srbija); prvi podatek za dolino zahodne Morave

Rock Bunting is a rare breeder of the mountainous area surrounding the town of Čačak [GRUBAČ, B. (2003): Price područja Ovčarsko–Kablarske klisure. – Beležnik Ovčarsko–Kablarske klisure lit. 2: 81 – 95; *own data*]. There are few data on the local population's winter movements and habits. Around 7.00 on 16 Nov 2003, I stepped out of our family house in Atenica (UTM DP55) in the suburb of Čačak. The temperature was about 0°C and thick fog covered the entire town. I heard an unusual and quiet call from my neighbour's garden. Because of the fog I had to approach the site very close to see what bird was calling, and to my surprise there were two Rock Buntings sitting in a Cultivated Apple *Malus domestica* tree. They let me to approach them to about 3 m and showed no fear at all. One of them, probably 1st year male, was calling quietly virtually in front of me. The other bird was an adult female. I visited the same spot at 9.00 on the same day, but found no sign of them. This is the first record of this species in the Zapadna Morava valley. It is known that in Serbia Rock Buntings spent the winter or migrate through its lowlands [MATVEJEV, S. (1976): Pregled faune ptica Balkanskog poluostrva. I: detliči i ptice pevačice. – SANU, Beograd]. Rare records are also known even from Voivodina [PURGER, J.J. (1990): Pitanje statusa planinske strnadice, *Emberiza cia cia* L., 1766 u Vojvodini. – Glasnik Prirodnjačkog muzeja u Beogradu B45: 169–170].

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BOLGARIJA / BULGARIA

BOOTED EAGLE *Hieraaetus pennatus*

Mali orol – dva para opažena v primernem okolju med gnezditvenim obdobjem na zahodni Stari Planini (UTM FP32 in 14, Z Bolgarija), prvi 10.7.2005, drugi 28.7.2005

During the 2005 breeding season, Booted Eagles were recorded within two areas of Zapadna Stara Planina Mountain. On 10 Jul 2005, a pair (dark phase) was observed in UTM square FP32. On 28.07.2005, another pair of Booted Eagles (light phase) was observed in UTM square FP14. For the first region we have unconfirmed data that the pair had nested there for a period of about 10 years. The two regions, in which the Booted Eagles were recorded, are rather similar in their natural characteristics. Namely, these are deciduous forest massifs at the foot of Zapadna Stara Mountain, which are in immediate proximity of vast open grasslands. The slopes are mainly facing east, the altitude of the region is about 350 – 500 m a.s.l. For the described regions of Zapadna Stara Planina Mountain, there are some old data regarding the observation of the species during the breeding season [DONCHEV, S. (1970): The Birds of Zapadna Stara Planina Mountain. pp. 45–92 In: DONCHEV, S. (1970): The Birds of Zapadna Stara Planina Mountain. – Periodical of the Museum of Zoology, BAS 21: 45–92]. PUZOVIĆ [PUZOVIĆ, S. (2000): Atlas ptica grabljivica Srbije. – Zavod za zaštitu prirode Srbije, Beograd] also states that he observed single birds of this species during the breeding season, twice in two regions of the Serbian part of Stara Planina Mountain, one of which is adjacent to both Bulgarian zones, where the species was observed.

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ELEONORA'S FALCON *Falco eleonorae*

Sredozemski sokol – trije osebkli opaženi v gnezditvenem obdobju v vzhodnih Rodopih (UTM LF48, JV Bolgarija); opazovanja sredozemskega sokola so v Bolgariji v zadnjih letih redna, gnezdenje pa še ni potrjeno

On 25 Aug 2005, I observed three Eleonora's Falcons (dark morph) near Dobromirski village in the Eastern

Rhodopes (UTM LF48, SE Bulgaria). The observation took place between 16.00 and 17.00 hrs. The birds were seen flying over the rocky formations near (1 km) the Vurbitsa River. The landscape is an open country with separate rocks and fields. One of the birds made a successful attack, catching some prey and consuming it. In the Eastern Rhodopes, the species had been previously observed near the villages of Silen (UTM LG91) and Dolna Kula (UTM LF89) in 1984, Egrek (UTM LF87) and Strazhets (UTM MF08) in 1987 [IANKOV, P. (1991): The birds of the Eastern Rhodopes. Time of presence and dynamics of the ornithofauna. – Ecology, Sofia 24: 26 – 43]. It has still not been proved that the species actually breeds in Bulgaria. The observed birds are possibly vagrants, feeding in the area. In recent years, observations of this species have become more regular in Bulgaria.

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TEREK SANDPIPER *Xenus cinereus*

Sabljasti martinec – opažen dvakrat v SV Bolgariji: v Shabla Tuzli (UTM PJ22) dne 2.6.2001 in na jezeru Durankulak (UTM PJ23) dne 27.6.2002

During the census carried out at Shabla Tuzla, a small brackish to hypersaline wetland on the coast in northeastern Bulgaria (part of IBA BG049; UTM PJ22), an adult Terek Sandpiper was observed on 2 Jun 2001. The bird, which was in breeding plumage, was identified using a telescope. Other observers present there were the BSPB members Viktor Vassilev and Christo Gurdov. Another observation of the species took place on 27 Jun 2002 at the Eagle Marsh of the Lake Durankulak complex (IBA BG050; UTM PJ23; for the map of the area see [PETKOV, N. (2003): Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca* breeding population development and habitat selection at Durankulak lake, Bulgaria. – Acrocephalus 24 (118): 87–96]) on the west bank when I and Valentin Katrandgiev observed a bird in breeding plumage foraging along the shallow grassy bank of the marsh. The bird was observed with binoculars from a distance of 30 m through the car window. Subsequently we approached the bird by the car to a distance of 15 – 20m. The species had been recorded in the 1980s in both wetlands [NANKINOV, D., SIMEONOV, S. & IVANOV, B. (1997): Fauna of Bulgaria, Vol. 26 Aves – part II. – "Prof. M. Drinov" publishing house, Sofia]. In recent years, there have

been more regular observations of the species in Bulgaria mostly around the Burgas wetlands.

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RED-NECKED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus lobatus*
Ozkokljuni liskonožec – dne 15.5.2002 opažen 1 osebek v zimskem perju; gre za redek podatek za notranjost Bolgarije (UTM FN74)

On 15 May 2002, during the national breeding distribution mapping of Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca*, me and Boris Krustanov observed a Red-necked Phalarope in non-breeding plumage at Peturch fishponds (UTM FN74) to the northwest of Sofia. The species is known to migrate through Bulgaria, mostly along the Black Sea coast [NANKINOV, D., SIMEONOV, S. & IVANOV, B. (1997): Fauna of Bulgaria, Vol. 26 Aves – part II. – “Prof. M. Drinov” publishing house, Sofia]. However, records from inland areas are scarce, and till that day the species had not been recorded in this particular wetland.

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SYRIAN WOODPECKER *Dendrocopos syriacus*
Sirijski detel – dne 21.5.2001 opažen osebek v rezervatu Srebarna (UTM NJ08, SV Bolgarija) med nenavadnim prehranjevanjem z žuželkami, ki jih je nabiral s starega trstičja, le 50 – 60 cm nad vodo

Unusual foraging behaviour of Syrian Woodpecker was observed on 21 May 2001 in Srebarna Managed Reserve, northeastern Bulgaria (UTM NJ08). The bird was picking insects from the old and dead reed stems (50 – 60 cm above the water). Syrian Woodpecker is more mobile than the Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major* [CRAMP, S., ed. (1985): Birds of Europe the Middle East and North Africa. Vol. 4. – Oxford University Press, Oxford]. This perhaps enables it to search for food not only in trees but also in more unstable substrates such as old reed stems. This may be a single individual behaviour utilizing the new foraging microhabitat.

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BARN SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica*

Kmečka lastovka – opazovana med nenavadno igro lovljenja peresa, ki je sicer že opisano v literaturi, pri samostanu Lopušanski, dne 16. in 17.6.2005 (UTM FP60, SZ Bolgarija)

On 16 and 17 Jun 2005, an adult Barn Swallow was observed during its aerial play with feathers in the yard of Lopushanski monastery, Montana region, NW Bulgaria (UTM FP60). This unusual behaviour was recorded on two occasions, the second time involving a larger – sized white feather. The bird was continuously circling around, dropping the feather and catching it at lower height after making 1 or 2 circles around it. During the first observation, it was repeated 6 – 7 times (16 Jun), on the next day only 3 – 4 times. The second feather was finally carried away by a male House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*. This Barn Swallow was from a pair having a nest with six 7 – 9 days old young. Although some other Barn Swallow pairs also bred in the monastery, none of them was seen performing the above mentioned tricks. The behaviour of dropping and catching feathers is widely known for the Barn Swallow [BROWN, C.R. & BROWN, M.B. (1999): Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*). In: POOLE, A. & GILL, F. (eds.): The Birds of North America, No. 452. – The Birds of North America, Inc., Philadelphia, PA] and for the Tree Swallow *Tachycineta bicolor* [LINCOLN, C.W. (1956): Tree Swallows playing with a feather. – Wilson Bull. 68 (2): 156–57; ROBERTSON, R.J., STUTCHBURY, B.J. & COHEN, R. R. (1992): Tree Swallow. In: POOLE, A., STETTENHEIM, P. & GILL, F. (eds.): The Birds of North America, No. 11. – The Academy of Natural Sciences, The American Ornithologists' Union, Washington]. Observation of Brown-throated Sand Martin *Riparia paludicola*, which took place in South Africa on 3 Jul 2005, involved about 30 birds fighting for the possession of a relatively large (6 – 8 cm long) white feather, (A. WELZ unpubl.).

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WAXWING *Bombycilla garrulus*

Pegam – več opazovanj med februarjem in aprilom 2005 v Z Bolgariji (Vratza, UTM GN08; Sofia, FN82/92; Komshtitza, UTM FN67)

On 4 Feb 2005, two Waxwings were registered in a park of Vratza (UTM GN08), the town situated close to the north slopes of Vrachanska Mountain, feeding on seeds from the nuts of Oriental Plane *Platanus orientalis* (I. PETKOV pers. comm.). At about the same time, 5 birds were observed in Sofia near its Festival Hall (UTM FN 82/92), foraging on fruits of Guelder Rose *Viburnum opulus* (D. DIMITROV pers. comm.). On 4 Mar 2005, a flock of about 45 birds was registered 3 km north of Komshtitza town (UTM FN67). On 1 Apr 2005, a flock of 17 waxwings was observed in the park next to the National Palace of Culture in the very centre of Sofia (NDK; UTM FN 82/92). The birds stayed there till 26 Apr 2005. During this period, the maximum number of birds reached 28. The Waxwings in this park fed mainly on the Juniper *Juniperus sabina* fruits (D. DIMITROV pers. comm.). They also pecked blossoms in different decorative orchards, as well as fresh leaves of Canadian Poplar *Populus deltoides*, Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, and Lime *Tilia* sp. On separate days, the birds were also seen drinking sap from bark of the Common Silver Birch *Betula pendula*. The birds drank water and bathed in the park's small pool or in puddles formed by rain. A few times during the sunny days, 2 – 4 males were singing, and separate formed couples were observed with males feeding the females. The Waxwings were tame and ignored the huge number of pedestrians passing by. On 17 Apr 2005, an unsuccessful attack by a Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus* on a flock of Waxwings near NDK took place. On 17 Apr 2005, about 10 Waxwings were observed in the area of Sofia's "Vassil Levski" National Stadium (UTM FN 82/92) (T. LAZAROVA pers. comm.).

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WOODCHAT SHRIKE *Lanius senator*

Rjavoglavi srakoper – dne 15.5.2003 je bilo v rezervatu Tissata v soteski Kresna (UTM FM72, SZ Bolgarija) kakih 15 – 17 m visoko najdeno gnezdo v rogovili debela topola *Populus* sp.; gnezdišče je neobičajno, še posebno za sredozemsko regijo, ki ji območje pripada

On 15 May 2003, a female Woodchat Shrike was found lying in its nest situated in a Poplar *Populus* sp., in the trunk's fork near the top of the tree at a height of about 15 – 17 m, in the buffer zone of Tissata Nature Reserve in the Kresna Gorge (UTM FM72, SW Bulgaria). The tree was located near the riverbank and next to the highway. A week later we found that the nest was destroyed and abandoned. In Europe, this species breeds in trees, especially fruit and olive trees [SNOW, D. & PERRINS, C. (1998): The birds of the Western Palearctic. Vol. II. – Oxford Univ. Press, Oxford, New York], most often between 3 and 10 m above the ground [HAGEMEIJER, E.J.W. & BLAIR, M.J., eds. (1997): The EBCC Atlas of European breeding birds: their distribution and abundance. – T & AD Poyser, London; MAKATSCH, W. (1976): Die Eier der Vögel Europas. II. – Radebeul]. In Georgia, the nests are situated lower than at 2.,35 m, as 75% of them are made in Pistachio *Pistacia* sp. and Christ's Thorn *Paliurus spina – christi* [GUSEV, V. & BEDNYI, S. (1961): Trudy Inst. Zool. Akad. Nauk Gruzinskoy SSR, 18: 41–51]. In Europe, their nests are most often situated on thick horizontal branches and only 9% in the trunks' forks [ULRICH, B. (1971): Untersuchungen zur Ethologie und Ökologie des Rotkopfwurrs (*Lanius senator*) und Neuntoter (*L. collurio*). – Vogelwarte 26: 1–77]. The Woodchat Shrike's nest we found was not typical of the Mediterranean region to which the Tissata Reserve belongs [DIMITROV, D. (1966): Climatic division of Bulgaria. pp. 262–293 In: Geography of Bulgaria, Vol 1. – BAS, Sofia; STANEV, S. (1991): Climatic zones and areas in Bulgaria. pp. 53–89 In: The climate of Bulgaria. – BAS, Sofia; BONDEV, I. (1997): Geobotanical zoning. pp. 238–304 In: Geography of Bulgaria, Vol. 1. Physical geography. – BAS, Sofia]. Actually, it looked more like the Lesser Grey Shrike's *L. minor* nest that is often situated in fork and generally at good height above the ground (3 – 20 m) and not so rarely in Poplars *Populus* sp. [CRAMP, S. & PERRINS, C.M. eds. (1993): Handbook of the Birds of Europe the Middle East and North Africa. Vol. 7

– Oxford University Press, Oxford]. In the study area, all Woodchat Shrike's nests were in Christ's Thorn or in short Oaks *Quercus* sp. not higher than 7 m above the ground. So far, no similar Woodchat Shrike's nest site has been described in Bulgarian literature.

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