

LITERATURE REVIEW

Compiled by J. W. Hardy and D. Purchase.

This section is compiled mainly from articles which appear in overseas journals. The following criteria are used to select papers for review:

- the article relates to species which occur in the Australasian region;
- the article provides details of techniques which may be of use in Australian studies;
- the article provides details which may stimulate similar studies in Australia.

BANDING AND RECOVERY REPORTS

Lower juvenile survival rates estimated from ringing returns: reality or artefact? Aebischer, N. J. and Coulson J. C. (1987). *Ibis* 129: 116-117. (It is not always possible to separate a genuine lower juvenile survival rate from some artefact of banding data.)

ANALYTICAL STUDIES

Food segregation in three hole-nesting bird species during the breeding season. Torok, J. (1986). *Ardea* 74: 129-136. (Food samples were collected by placing neck-collars on nestlings.)

Ecological segregation of the Red-breasted Sparrowhawk *Accipiter rufiventris* and six coexisting Accipitrine raptors in Southern Africa. Simmons, R. (1986). *Ardea* 74: 137-149. (Comparison of diet, biome, hunting rhythm, hunting mode and foraged habitat showed minimal or no ecological similarity between species.)

Windhovering patterns of three African raptors in montane conditions. Barnard, P. (1986). *Ardea* 74: 151-158. (Analysis of flight-hunting methods.)

Role of sibling aggression in food distribution to nestling Cattle Egrets *Bubulcus ibis*. Ploger, B. J. and Mock, D. W. (1986). *Auk* 103: 768-776. (The main effect of sibling aggression lay in reducing food supplies to last-hatched chicks.)

Foraging behaviour of Gentoo and Chinstrap Penguins as determined by new radio telemetry techniques. Trivelpiece, W. Z., Bengtson, J. L., Trivelpiece, S. G. and Volkman, N. J. (1986). *Auk* 103: 777-781. (Different foraging behaviour revealed suggests these species may have different diving abilities and may forage at different depths.)

Density trends and range boundary constraints of forest birds along a latitudinal gradient. Emlen, J. T., Dejong, M. J., Jaeger, M. J., Moermond, T. C., Rusterholz, K. A. and White, R. P. (1986). *Auk* 103: 791-803. (Density distributions of 41 species along a 1200 km transect.)

Intersexual niche segregation among three bark-foraging birds of eucalypt forests. Noske, R. A. (1986). *Aust. J. Ecol.* 11: 255-267. (White-throated Treecreepers, Red-browed Treecreepers and Varied Stellas exhibited sexual differences in foraging behaviour.)

Seasonal changes in the abundance and body condition of honeyeaters (Meliphagidae) in response to inflorescence and nectar availability in the New England National Park, New South Wales. McFarland, D. C. (1986). *Aust. J. Ecol.* 11: 331-340. (Abundance of six common species significantly correlated with inflorescence density.)

Annual cycle of physiological stress and condition of the Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis* (Aves). Rooke, I. J., Bradshaw, S. D., Langworthy, R. A. and Tom, J. A. (1986). *Aust. J. Zool.* 34: 493-501. (Results indicated a natural population in SW Western Australia was stressed in March and in poor condition in March and June.)

Population size and breeding success of the Gentoo Penguin, *Pygoscelis papua*, at Macquarie Island. Robertson, G. (1986). *Aust. Wildl. Res.* 13: 583-587. (The 4700 pairs present in November 1984 averaged 0.98 chicks per pair.)

Blood constituents and their relation to diet in urban and rural House Sparrows. Gavett, A. P. and Wakeley, J. S. (1986). *Condor* 88: 279-284. (Urban sparrows had elevated levels of plasma cholesterol and blood urea nitrogen.)

Sooty Shearwaters off California: distribution, abundance and habitat use. Briggs, K. T. and Chu, E. W. (1986). *Condor* 88: 355-364. (Results from 60 aerial and 24 ship surveys in 1975-78 and 1980-83.)

Determinants of guild structure in forest bird communities: an intercontinental comparison. Holmes, R. T. and Recher, H. F. (1986). *Condor* 88: 427-439. (Compares communities in temperate forests of Australia and North America.)

Ecological aspects of wing moult in the European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*. Evans, P. G. H. (1986). *Ibis* 128: 558-561. (Discusses possible reasons for interrupted and eccentric moult.)

The effect of restricting the daily period of food availability on testicular growth of Starlings *Sturnus vulgaris*. Dawson, A. (1986). *Ibis* 128: 572-575. (Day length, not food availability, is the over-riding proximate factor initiating physiological changes necessary for breeding in male Starlings.)

The breeding biology of White-tailed Tropicbirds *Phaethon lepturus* at Cousin Island, Seychelles. Phillips, N. J. (1987). *Ibis* 129: 10-24. (Results of a 3 year study.)

Differences in the ages, sexes and physical condition of Starlings *Sturnus vulgaris* at the centre and periphery of roosts. Summers, R. W., Westlake, G. E. and Feare, C. J. (1987). *Ibis* 129: 96-102. (Centre is the preferred location and occupied mainly by dominant birds.)

Seasonal and diurnal time budgets and feeding intensity of the White-faced Heron in pasture. Lo, P. L. and Fordham, R. A. (1986). *Notornis* 33: 233-245. (Results of a twelve-month study near Palmerston North, New Zealand.)

Diet of the Barn Owl at a riverine roost in the central Orange Free State. Herholdt, J. J. (1986). *Ostrich* 57: 185-187. (Unlike other studies which have shown a significantly higher pro-

portion of mammals, reptiles and amphibians than birds in the diet of Barn Owls, the proportion in this study was 50% each.)

Differential habitat use of patagial-tagged female Mallards. Szymczak, M. R. and Ringelman, J. K. (1986). *J. Field Ornithol.* 57: 230-232. (Changed habitat use resulted in more tagged than untagged being shot by hunters.)

Banding Silvereyes in Western Australia. Brown, R. J. and Brown, M. N. (1985). *Safring* 14: 3-6. (Particular reference is given to homing experiments.)

Breeding ecology of the Mallard on a flooded area of the Warta river mouth, Poland. Majewski, P. (1986). *Wildfowl* 37: 88-103. (Mallards showed high adaptability to environmental changes.)

The display postures of the Musk Duck. Fullagar, P. J. and Carbonell, M. (1986). *Wildfowl* 37: 142-150. (No difference observed in postures of western and eastern populations.)

Habitat use by Coots nesting in a Mediterranean wetland. Salathé, T. (1986). *Wildfowl* 37: 163-171. (An investigation of the timing, distribution and success of nests.)

Bird collisions with transmission lines near a power plant cooling pond. Ruzs, P. J., Prince, H. H., Ruzs, R. D. and Dawson, G. A. (1986). *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 14: 441-444. (During five years, 86 waterbirds of 12 species were killed or injured.)

A survey of avian mortality at winter feeders. Brittingham, M. C. and Temple, S. A. (1986). *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 14: 445-450. (Discusses disease-related mortalities at feeders in Wisconsin, U.S.A.)

The courtship behaviour and mixed-species pairing of King Imperial Blue-eyed Shags (*Phalacrocorax albiventer* and *P. atriceps*). Siegel-Causey, D. (1986). *Wilson Bull.* 98: 571-580. (No differences in behavioural patterns between the two species were detected.)

TECHNIQUES

Reevaluation of cheek patterns of juvenal-plumaged Blue-eyed and King Shags. Rasmussen, P. C. (1986). *Condor* 88: 393-395. (Juveniles can be identified to species by their cheek patterns.)

Loss of nasal saddle on Mallard. Evrard, J. O. (1986). *J. Field Ornithol.* 57: 170-171. (Saddle caught in netting of trap and torn through bill.)

Techniques for capturing Common Barn-Owls. Colvin, B. A. and Hegdal, P. L. (1986). *J. Field Ornithol.* 57: 200-207. (Using hoop nets, mist nets, trap doors, noose carpets and hand.)

A technique to mark incubating birds. Paton, P. W. C. and Pank, L. (1986). *J. Field Ornithol.* 57: 232-233. (A gel-dye mixture applied to eggs transferred to incubating birds.)

A new technique for individually marking gull chicks. Willstead, P. M. and Fetterolf, P. M. (1986). *J. Field Ornithol.* 57: 310-313. (Uses leg bands made from "Velcro".)

Efficiency and bias in strip and line transect sampling. Burnham, K. P., Anderson, D. R. and Laake, J. L. (1985). *J. Wildl. Manage.* 49: 1012-1018. (Results generally indicated a preference for the line transect method.)

Estimating age of nestling and juvenile feral Rock Doves. Kautz, J. E. and Seamans, T. W. (1986). *J. Wildl. Manage.* 50: 544-547. (Uses plumage characteristics and weight.)

A new character for age determination in the Bar-tailed Godwit, *Limosa lapponica*. Cronau, J. P., de Goede, R. G. M. and Nieboer, E. (1986). *Ringling and Migration* 7: 135-138. (Measures width of white inner edge of fourth primary.)

Neckband retention in Canada Geese. Zicus, M. C. and Pace, R. M. (1986). *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 14: 388-391. (Effects of age at banding, sex, and time since banding were examined.)

MISCELLANEOUS

The Cattle Egret, *Ardeola ibis*, in south-east Queensland. Woodall, P. F. (1986). *Aust. Wildl. Res.* 13: 575-582. (Annual counts were made from 1972-1983.)

Gonadal development during autumn and winter in House Sparrows. Hegner, R. E. and Wingfield, J. C. (1986). *Condor* 88: 269-278. (In New York, gonadal development is initiated in autumn and continues throughout winter.)

Influence of prey distribution on aggression in Ruddy Turnstones. Sullivan, K. A. (1986). *Condor* 88: 376-378. (Aggression increased as prey became less evenly distributed.)

Speed of flapping flight of Merlins and Peregrine Falcons. Cochran, W. W. and Applegate, R. D. (1986). *Condor* 88: 397-398. (Mean airspeeds recorded by radiotelemetry during migration were: Merlins *Falco columbarius* 39.3 km/hr; and Peregrine Falcons *F. peregrinus* 43.7 km/hr.)

On the presence of a claw in the alula of the Gull-billed Tern *Gelocheidon nilotica*. Sanchez, J. M. and Cabo, J. M. (1987). *Ibis* 129: 86-87. (Probably an ancestral feature remaining in vestigial form in non-flying young.)

Observations on the mass migration of Bridled Terns *Sterna anaethetus* off the coast of Colombo. De Silva, R. I. (1987). *Ibis* 129: 88-92. (Each autumn an estimated 500 000 birds migrate southwards.)

Norfolk Island birds: a review 1985. Hermes, N., Evans, O. and Evans, B. (1986). *Notornis* 33: 141-149. (Provides up-to-date information on 79 of the island's 120 species.)

Identification of Soft-plumaged Petrel wings found on Macquarie Island. Fullagar, P. J., van Tets, G. F. and Bartle, J. A. (1986). *Notornis* 33: 167-170. (Describes characters to distinguish Soft-plumaged and Kerguelen Petrels with limited material.)

Breeding displays and calls of the Banded Dotterel *Charadrius bicinctus*. Bomford, M. (1986). *Notornis* 33: 219-232. (Most displays and calls were similar to other *Charadrius* spp.)

A Glossy Ibis in the Chatham Islands. Powlesland, R. and Crockett, D. (1986). *Notornis* 33: 232. (Seen on 31 December, 1984.)

Petrels off Ninety Mile Beach. Watola, G. (1986). *Notornis* 33: 258. (Including at least 4000 migrating Short-tailed Shearwaters on 31 May.)

Which sex leads in paired Mallards? Derrickson, K. C. (1986). *Wilson Bull.* 98: 608-609. (Females more frequently led during take-off, flight and landing.)

Green-backed Heron baits fish with insects. Preston, C. R., Moseley, H. and Moseley, C. (1986). *Wilson Bull.* 98: 613-614. (Apparently attempted to lure fish with live mayflies.)