

Data Collection Forms

There has unfortunately been a slight delay in the production of this form but it will be available very shortly. They will be sent to all W.S.G. members for the extraction of processing data on the less commonly ringed species which will be kept in a central store (the data will of course not be used in a publication without prior agreement of the ringers concerned). Forms will also be available for the private use of members (at cost price yet to be determined), and for extraction of data for special studies.

Appeal for Wader Bodies

We have been asked by Dr. Peter Evans to circulate an appeal for whole bodies of freshly dead waders. He is engaged in a study of fat deposition and body constituent of them, work which should lead to an understanding of live weight changes. If anyone finds such a corpse would they please wrap it in a polythene bag and post it to him (postage will be refunded) at University Of Durham, Department of Biology, South Road, Durham.

2 Ringing in Autumn 1971

The autumn catching got off with a bang on Morecambe Bay with a catch of 1,100 Dunlin on July 25th, although poor weather reduced mist net catches at this time throughout the country. Also in late July and early August came the welcome news that the Ayr R.G. and the North Solway R.G. both had considerable success inland with the netting of Curlew, both catching over 50 in a single night. Catching continued well into August with a successful 'Wash week' netting some 5,000 waders, mostly Dunlin and Knot but also 260 Sanderling. Elsewhere the Merseyside R.G. with 169 Sanderling and 45 Ringed Plover, Farlington R.G. 20 Ringed Plover, Morecambe Bay W.G. with 160 Knot and 128 Curlew (probably the highest number ever cannon-netted), Cherry Cob group with Dunlin did well.

In general Septembers catches were poor and it was not until the second half of the month before they improved with 300 Turnstone (Morecambe Bay W.G.), a large mist-netted Knot catch on the Ribble by the Leigh R.G. (this catch included 2 Icelandic Knot, 9 British Knot, 2 Dunlin and 1 Ringed Plover controls) and continued success at Cherry Cob.

Initials not given before: PH = Philip Hall on Firth of Forth
AB = Alan Bromby on Poole Harbour