

Body Weight - See Fig 3.

Birds were split into several groups with the following results:-

Group	n	\bar{x}	S.D.	S.E.	Range
(1) July birds (non moulting)	7	223.7(14)	21.00	7.9(36)	195 - 252
(2) August birds (non moulting)	46	214.4(70)	22.1(33)	3.3(63)	173 - 266
(3) September birds (non moulting)	40	228.8(50)	17.9(41)	2.8(37)	200 - 292
(4) October birds (non moulting)	76	236.4(39)	15.4(63)	1.9(91)	200 - 274
(5) November birds (non moulting)	39	260.9(23)	21.5(39)	3.4(49)	198 - 305*
(6) December birds (non moulting)	26	282.5(62)	34.4(86)	6.7(44)	211 - 380*
(7) Birds in primary moult July - Sept.	23	222.3(04)	15.7(32)	3.3(80)	178 - 243

* Birds whose weights were recorded as "300g +" had to be omitted as follows:- November (1), December (7).

There is here good evidence of a gradual autumn increase in weight; the difference between the August and December mean weights is highly significant ($p < .001$), with a 25% winter increase on the August weight. The present data on moulting weights does not suggest any differences from birds which have not started or have completed the moult, although more data are clearly required to test this.

Remarks

The wing length of the Lapwing is clearly very variable and more data are required for parts of the country other than Kent and Lancashire to discover:

- (a) if there are differences between local British populations,
- (b) if immigrants differ from British breeding birds in wing length.

The weight changes are fairly clear cut but more data is required for the months January - July to fit the autumn increase into the annual weight cycle. It is likely that some of the heavy winter birds are immigrants.

The tarsus was measured on only 5 birds, a situation which needs rectifying.

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