

lack of controls of Curlew Sandpipers from the W.Cape, where many thousands have been ringed, suggests fidelity to the different non-breeding quarters. The large number of Turnstones caught was gratifying since the total ringed in South Africa to date is only 79. The high proportion of first year Turnstone, 58%, and Sanderlings, 37%, was of interest and contrasts with the situation in the W. Cape where ratio of first year birds is lower. There were fewer first year Curlew Sandpipers, 13%, but a high proportion of second year birds (a minimum of 40%.

A full report is in preparation and will be advised later.

Table 1 Ringing Totals

White-fronted Plover	18
Chestnut-banded Plover	2
Avocet	4
Stilt	2
Turnstone	323
Ringed Plover	3
Grey Plover	8
Curlew Sandpiper	557
Little Stint	7
Knot	12
Sanderling	141
Bar-tailed Godwit	7
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TOTAL	1084
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Ron Summers

WADER RINGING IN CO. CORK

A little wader ringing has been carried out at Ballycotton each autumn for about five years but in 1976 Kieran O'Brien and Patrick Smiddy began a programme of regular netting at Ballycotton and at a site in Cork Harbour. Ballycotton affords an excellent opportunity to catch Curlew as they fly to roost in a small saltmarsh adjacent to the seashore. Some 300 were ringed in the autumn of 1976, virtually all of which were in primary moult. Lack of manpower prevented us from processing these birds as fully as we would have liked but this situation should be remedied in 1977.

Some 250 Dunlin were ringed this year, the measurements of which confirm the pattern noted at other British and Irish estuaries i.e. schinzii passage in early autumn (Ballycotton bird recovered in Morocco), the wintering population consisting mainly of alpina birds. Reasonable samples of Oystercatcher and Redshank have also been caught.

Plans for next autumn include intensified efforts at Ballycotton and trial sessions at some new sites in Cork Harbour.

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THE INLAND MIGRATION OF RINGED PLOVER (*Charadrius hiaticula*) IN AUTUMN

A paper summarising the data obtained from the Inland Wader Enquiry during 1971-1974 is in preparation. This analysis, intended as an interim report, summarises Ringed Plover data obtained from 21 selected inland sites in England and Wales. Ringed Plover was the fifth most abundant species recorded, being scarcer than Lapwing, Snipe, Dunlin and perhaps surprisingly, Ruff.