

England to study onward movement from this estuary (P.J.Dugan, Department of Zoology, University of Durham, South Road, Durham DH1 3LE, England). Also Grey Plovers dyed yellow.

Curlews are being dyed yellow on the rump in Cheshire, England by the South Manchester R.G. (D.Elphick, 28 Coniston Drive, Holmes Chapel, Crewe, Cheshire CW4 7AL, Engl)

#### Breeding plumage and wings 1979

Knot in South Africa and France as part of WSG co-operative project (Co-ordinator W.J.A.Dick; see elsewhere in the Bulletin)

Ringed Plover and Dunlin on the Severn Estuary, Wales/England as part of WSG co-operative project (Co-ordinator Dr. P.N.Ferns; see elsewhere in this Bulletin)

#### ? Continuing

Common Sandpipers, Wood Sandpipers, Green Sandpipers, Greenshanks and Little Ringed Plovers in Lower Saxony, W.Germany (see colour-ringed Little Ringed Plover for address)

#### CONTINUING REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION OR MATERIAL

We repeat below requests which have previously appeared in WSG Bulletin but which continue to be active.

#### Sightings of colour-marked birds (see above)

#### Weights of retrapped Ringed Plover Charadrius hiaticula chicks

Information is requested on the growth rates of Ringed Plover chicks from any area in any year. Any data on individual chicks weighed at least twice would be welcome. Please include dates of weighing (and hatching, if known), locality and any other relevant information. Records from single birds would be appreciated as well as more abundant data.

M.W.Pienkowski, 1 West Fenton Cottages, North Berwick, East Lothian, EH39 5AL, Scotland.

#### Whole bodies of freshly dead waders

Many WSG members know of the difficulties in interpreting the weight data gathered during ringing activities, and may have seen the paper by P.R.Evans and P.C.Smith (1975. Studies of shorebirds at Lindisfarne, Northumberland. 2. Fat and pectoral muscle as indicators of body composition in the Bar-tailed Godwit. Wildfowl 26: 64-76) which provided information on changes in body composition, thereby helping in such interpretations. It would be valuable if such studies could be extended, particularly to other species, and maximum use should be made of any casualties of catching operations.

Peter Evans requests that whole bodies of any casualties or birds found recently dead be wrapped in a polythene bag and sent to:

Dr.P.R.Evans, Department of Zoology, University of Durham, South Road, Durham, DH1 3LE, Mark the package: "Pathological specimens - URGENT". Please include a note of details of how obtained and of weight at the time of capture/death. Postage can be refunded if desired; please indicate on the note.

#### Curlew measurements

Ian P. Bainbridge (Department of Biology, Liverpool Polytechnic, Byrom Street, Liverpool, England) is analysing geographical variation in wing- and bill-lengths and weights of Curlew in Europe and would welcome further data from anywhere in Europe. Sources of data would, of course, be acknowledged.

#### Weights of worn rings

A.J.Prater (British Trust for Ornithology, Beech Grove, Tring, Herts, HP23 5NR, England) is analysing the wear of rings on waders. He requests that any rings taken off waders be sent to him (with a note of the date of removal) for weighing. Alternatively a note of the ring weight may be sent, together with ring number and date of removal, but please note that an accurate weight (in milligrams) using a laboratory balance is required.

#### Wader Ageing Guide - comments to be incorporated for reprinting

The "Guide to the Identification and Ageing of Holarctic Waders" by A.J.Prater, J.H.Marchant and J.Vuorinen (see WSG Bulls. 21,22) is to be reprinted shortly. If anyone has any additions or correction, please sent them to Tony Prater (address in previous item) as soon as possible.