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Editorial

Tim Osborne

Here we are starting the New Year with the first issue of the bird club journal out early. I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to make the *Lanioturdus* a success. I would like to specially thank Ellen Gudde for all the work she has done proofing the printer's drafts. Willie Peter and staff from Typoprint have been very understanding in trying to print the journal remotely from Outjo District.

There is a variety of articles in this issue, so there should be something for everyone. The editor would like to see a few more articles in German. None have appeared since Micki Ludwig published in Volume 35-1.

The country has finally had some rain over most parts so birding should be good for the remainder of the season. I have a nest of Carp's Black Tit in one of my nest boxes and the Chestnut Weavers are in breeding plumage. It looks as if the birds also like the rain.

at the Tour-du-Valat in the Camargue region of France. The rings were obtained from the British Museum and the records now reside with the British Trust for Ornithology.

When found, the bird was 40.7 years old, making it the longest-lived Lesser Flamingo known to date.

Submitted with the kind permission of Messrs. Ndetei and Githaiga.

Summary of the 2002 Ringing Year in Namibia

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The 2002 ringing year ended on 30 June 2003 and the following is a summary of ringing activities in Namibia. Eighteen ringers (12 of these are permanently based in Namibia) submitted data to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) comprising a total of 10490 newly ringed (code 1) birds of 244 species, and 820 retraps or controls. Larklike Bunting, Redbilled Quelea and Cape Gannet make up the top three of newly ringed birds. By far the greatest number of retraps / controls are African Penguins (558) followed by Cape Sparrow (43) and Cape Gannet (24). A total of 153 raptors (including owls) and 68 vultures were ringed. Pale Chanting Goshawks were the most commonly ringed raptors and Pearlspotted Owls were the top owl species ringed, Cape Gannet head the list of seabirds ringed.

Table 1: Number of new birds ringed per ringer.

RINGER	NO. RINGED
Ursula Franke (Germany)	2567
Tim Osborne	2450
Dirk Heinrich	2054
Marine and Coastal Management (SA)	984
Mark Boorman	886
Holger Kolberg	497
Sandra Dantu	243
Jessica Kemper	194
Mark Paxton	123
Peter Bridgeford	111
Rod Braby	106
Dries Nel (SA)	86
Dieter Oschadleus (SA)	67
Gordon Scholtz (SA)	47
Bernd Brell	45
Wilferd Versfeld	21
Rob Simmons	9
Total	10490

Table 2: Number of retraps or controls per ringer.

RINGER	NO. RETRAPPED
Jessica Kemper	558
Tim Osborne	81
Ursula Franke	73
Dirk Heinrich	48
Marine and Coastal Management	22
Holger Kolberg	22
Peter Bridgeford	6
Dieter Oschadleus	4
Bernd Brell	3
Mark Paxton	3
Total	820

Table 3: Top twenty species ringed.

SPECIES	NO. RINGED
Larklike Bunting	1560
Redbilled Quelea	1009
Cape Gannet	837
Redheaded Finch	721
Common Tern	585
Cape Sparrow	501
Laughing Dove	337
Rock Bunting	304
Redeyed Bulbul	257
Sociable Weaver	254
Black Tern	249
African Penguin	196
Masked Weaver	181
Namaqua Sandgrouse	130
Namaqua Dove	119
Stark's Lark	118
Greyheaded Sparrow	114
Violeteared Waxbill	113
Bank Cormorant	111
Damara Tern	109

Table 4: Species and numbers of raptors ringed.

SPECIES	NO. RINGED
Pale Chanting Goshawk	76
Pygmy Falcon	9
Rock Kestrel	9
Little Banded Goshawk	7
Tawny Eagle	6
Gabar Goshawk	4
African Hawk Eagle	3
Rednecked Falcon	3
Blackshouldered Kite	3
Lanner Falcon	2
Martial Eagle	1
Steppe Buzzard	1
Peregrine Falcon	1
Black Eagle	1
Blackchested Snake Eagle	1
Jackal Buzzard	1
Augur Buzzard	1

Table 5: Species and number of vultures ringed.

SPECIES	NO. RINGED
Lappetfaced Vulture	60
Whitebacked Vulture	7
Whiteheaded Vulture	1

Table 6: Species and number of owls ringed.

SPECIES	NO. RINGED
Pearlspotted Owl	12
African Scops Owl	5
Spotted Eagle Owl	4
Barn Owl	2
Whitefaced Owl	1

Table 7: Top ten species of seabirds ringed.

SPECIES	NO. RINGED
Cape Gannet	837
Common Tern	585
Black Tern	249
African Penguin	196
Bank Cormorant	111
Damara Tern	109
Cape Cormorant	71
Sandwich Tern	24
Kelp Gull	15
Swift Tern	8

Table 8: Top ten localities.

LOCALITY	NO. RINGED
Tandala Ridge	1689
Klein Windhoek	1178
Nelsville Farmhouse	805
Mile 4 Saltworks	671
Ichaboe Island	569
Mercury Island	544
Königsberg	467
Köcherbaumposten	397
Wiese	353
Salzposten	213

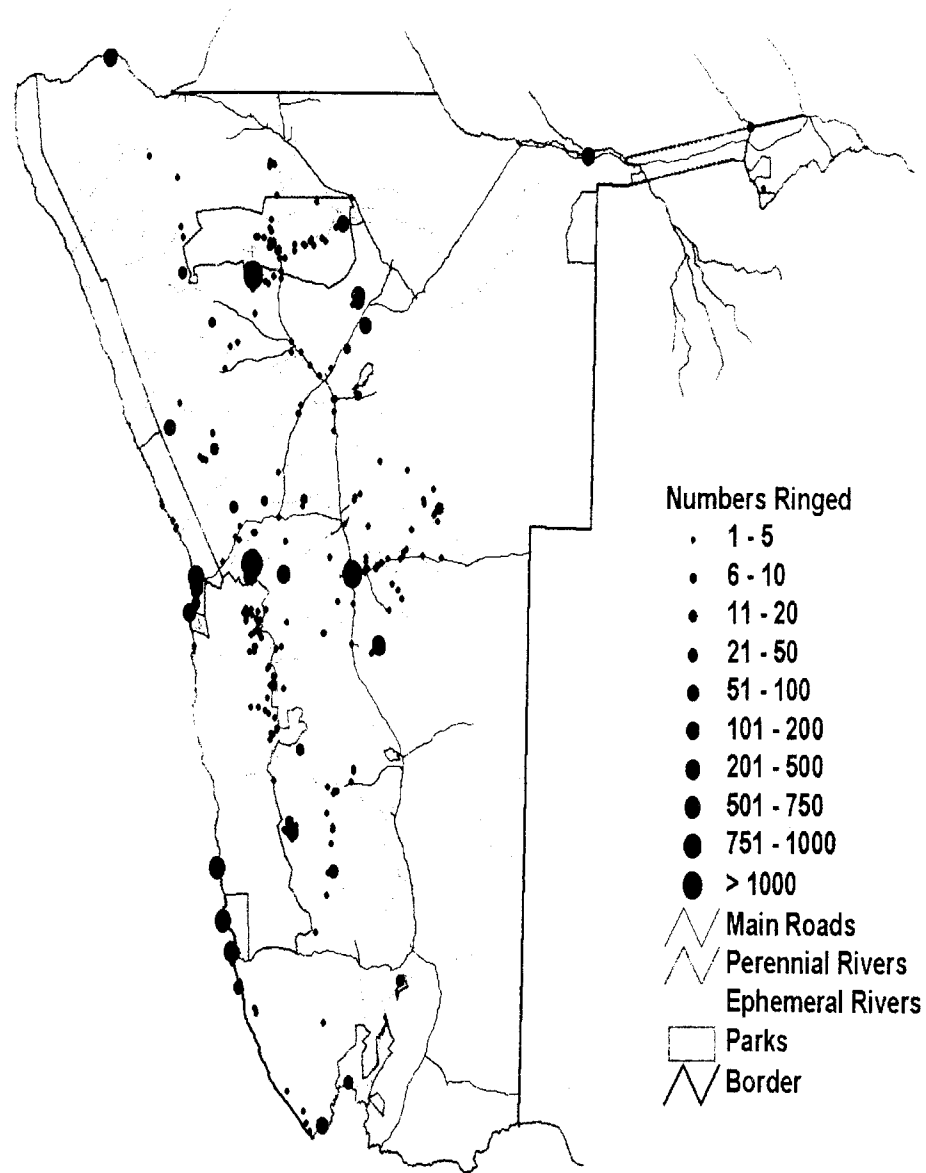


Figure 1. Ringing localities and number of birds ringed in Namibia, 2002.

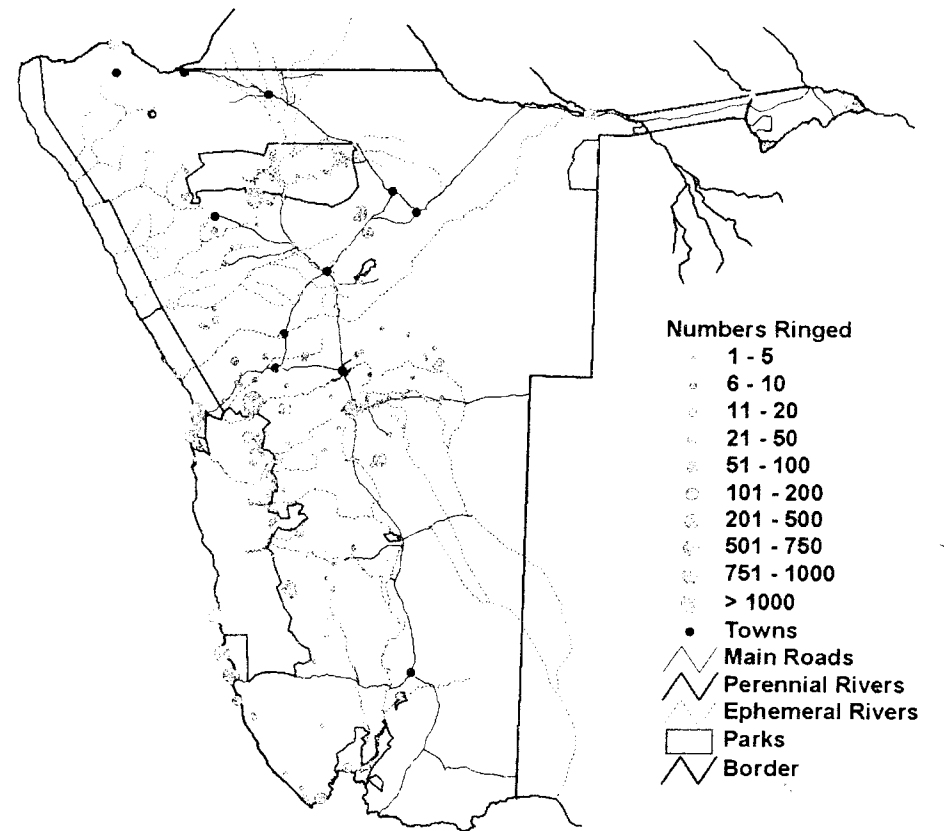


Figure 2. Ringing localities in Namibia indicated by shading with the size