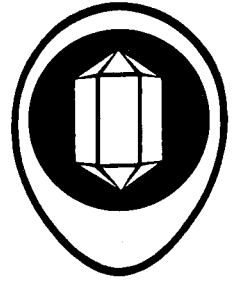


Lanioturdus torquatus
Drosselwürger

MITTEILUNGEN

ORNITHOLOGISCHE ARBEITSGRUPPE



SCHRIFTFLEITUNG: POSTFACH 67, WINDHOEK, S.W.A.

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BERICHT UEBER HALIFAX

Filmvortrag am 6.4.72
H. Kolberg, Windhoek

Herr C. Werhahn wird anschliessend an meine Einfuehrung den 2. Teil eines Filmes zeigen, den er ueber die Arbeit der ornithologischen Arbeitsgruppe auf Halifax und die dort lebenden Pinguine gedreht und zusammengestellt hat. Leider wird uns Herr Werhahn in Kuerze verlassen und wieder nach Deutschland zurueckkehren. Fuer unsere Gruppe bedeutet das einen schweren Verlust. Er war immer bereit, zu helfen und anzuregen. Unter seiner Leitung ist unser Dia-Archiv aufgebaut worden; fuer unsere Ausstellung hat er, mit ganz wenigen Ausnahmen, alle Beschriftungen angefertigt. Ganz besonders moechte ich jedoch darauf aufmerksam machen, dass der Entwurf des Lanioturdus torquatus auch aus der Zeichenfeder von Herrn Werhahn stammt. Wir, die wir ihn durch unsere Fahrten besonders naeher kennen und schaeetzen gelernt haben, werden ihn dankbar in Erinnerung behalten.

Erlauben Sie mir, meine Damen und Herren, dass ich etwas naeher und laenger auf diesen Punkt eingegangen bin, aber ich glaube, dass unser "Werhahn" es sich verdient hat, gerade hier mit seinen Leistungen erwaeht und hervorgehoben zu werden. Ihnen, Herr Werhahn, wuensche ich fuer Ihre berufliche Laufbahn in der Heimat allen Erfolg - woran ich sowieso nicht zweifele - auch glaube ich nicht, dass Sie uns ganz vergessen werden, da Sie ja genuegend Filmmaterial zur Verfuegung haben, um immer wieder an uns erinnert zu werden. - Vielen Dank fuer Ihre Mitarbeit.

Was wir uns im Film ansehen werden ist die bildliche Aufzeichnung unserer Untersuchung auf Halifax. Hauptaufgabe war, eine moeglichst genaue Zaehlung der Pinguin-Population durchzufuehren. Bei den auf der Insel Halifax vorkommenden Pinguinen handelt es sich um den Brillen Pinguin Spheniscus demersus, engl. Jackass Penguin.

Aus der Fachliteratur des vergangenen Jahrhunderts - Morrell 1828; Anderson; Schulze - Jena und andere, sowie nach fotografischen Aufnahmen muessen auf dieser und natuerlich auch auf den anderen Inseln an der Luederitzbuchter Kueste, enorme Mengen, in die Millionen zaehrend, heimisch gewesen sein. Wir konnten durch unsere Zaehlung ziemlich sicher feststellen, dass sich auf Halifax rund 4000 Brillenpinguine befinden. Meines Wissens ist dieses die erste korrekte Zaehlung, die zumindest fuer Halifax vorgenommen wurde. Diese Zahl benutzen wir als Basis, mit der wir in Zukunft arbeiten koennen. Alle

eggcollectors used to clean out a whole breedingplace and collected the following day the fresh eggs which they needed as food. If we consider that the incubationtime of our penguin takes 39 days we know that the eggs collected can only be the 39th part of those which were destroyed.

We should not look at the past, if we are not prepared to see what we are doing nowadays. The way we are poisoning our good old mother earth is what we should consider as our duty or in the future, not too far from today, the Jackass will be no more. Today it is the penguin, tomorrow some other living species. Maybe it is inbetween the human being. We should not be surprised.

THE FUNCTION OF NEW RINGING UNITS

C. Elliot, Acting Ringing Organiser, Percy Fitzpatrick Institute, University of Cape Town

About 60.000 birds are being ringed each year, about 500 or 600 are being recovered which proves a strong and increasing interest. Provincial and SWA administrations have stepped in to rescue us from being swamped by the poring in data. The National Bird Ringing Unit (NBRU) was set up more or less at the beginning of 1972 after one year of sorting out the facts properly. This is the beginning of possibly a new area of bird ringing in southern Africa and it could be a new orientation of what we hope to get out of bird ringing.

The setting up of the National Bird Ringing Unit which I am operating under the honored directorship of Dr. Siegfried will yet take some time to work out the exact system we are going to adopt and certain changes will occur. I just briefly would like to mention this. One of these is that we want to establish the clerical purpose of an individual contact between NBRU and the individual ringer and thereby we will operate a clerical system whereby we will send the individual ringers a supply of rings and hope to get back from him the information he acquired from using those rings. This has previously been done by the branch ringing organiser - in your case Mr. Kolberg who I want to say is one of the best organisers we have because he gives a very clear and precise report at the end of the season; we have very good cooperation from him -- but we feel that in order to speed up the clerical procedures involved in the bird ringing administration we must have individual contact to the ringers and relieve the branch ringing organiser, like Mr. Kolberg, of a lot of clerical data he has to handle. This I hope will relieve him of this task and the branch ringing organisers then will be able to spend much more time on what I figure the more important aspect of bird ringing by organising the local ringers to do something which is really going to give us the best results. To get more people working as a group is part of this effective way of cooperating and decide what problems he wants to attack and go into this with all the ringers you have available in the area. This I think will be one of the main functions of the branch ringing organiser, to help orientate people towards certain projects. At the same time he will of course be keeping an overseeing eye on the things since a copy of all the information which each individual ringer of a certain area hands in will go to him so he can see what the immediate local situation is, see what people are up to and advise them of what to do to tie in with other people for operations immediately in their area. So I think his function will be moved from the clerical and become more important if anything as the whole orientation of ringing changes from just - to some extent - haphazard ringing connected with people's ability to identify and to see

to educate them by handling the bird which I think is also quite important, and they can be combined with research ringing and see to get them orientated by this idea of using ringing as a research tool, even if the research is on a very small scale. That is one of the main changes that will happen with the NBRU, the establishment of individual contact between the ringers and the unit directory.

Another slightly unfortunate point involved with the NBRU is the fact that ringers will have to pay for their rings. This is sad in the sense of the people who do most the work will have to be the people who pay the most, but we hope to get around this by establishing a project register of a particular research project with the NBRU so that we may be able to provide you with free rings anyway. So that situation will not change very much. This condition of paying for the rings will be instituting a project system for two main reasons: One is that we want to know exactly what the ringer is able to hold up of what he is planning of doing, what research they are carrying out with their rings, whether they are just doing a study of the Cape Sparrow in their back garden - not that we want to know what they are doing there, but there might be 15 other people who are doing studies on the Cape Sparrow in their back garden and back gardens in South West are quite likely to be different from back gardens in Pretoria or Cape Town, and, therefore, different results will evolve and when they are all pulled together then you will get something out of it and we know what is going on. A certain thing that we hope to get out of this project registration system is the question of if people are carrying out their research they obviously do not want their work to be used by anyone else until they have had time to analyse it - if they want to analyse it - and so they will be able to be registering a project to say that is what I am doing and I think I am going to finish this in 5 years time and I will then try to work out with or without your assistance, or whatever system each individual wants to adopt. At the same time, when a person registers his ringing project he will be able to apply for free rings for the particular number and make an estimate; say, I am going to catch 200 Curlew Sandpipers at Goreangab Dam and this is what I want to do and that would cost so and so much, so please supply me with free rings if you can.

That is more or less the basic changes involved with the establishment of this National Unit, and I think that this will gradually mean that we will become more and more aware of what is going on in research in this country and I hope this will generally mean that results will start coming out. Despite the fact that the ringing scheme has been going on since 1948 very, very little has been produced in a way of really good results and published papers from that work. We have very nearly ringed half a million birds during that period and we would expect the results to be there. We hope that this new National Unit with the cooperation of the ringers will start seeing what is already there, and where it needs to be added to then we will add to it and then publish the results to get much more out of the way of an analysis and really make use of this large quantity of data which is at the moment seeking files in Cape Town. This I think will result in a fairly new and I hope dynamic era developing in ringing units throughout the world.

(Ab hier wurden Dias gezeigt)