**West African Ornithological Society**
**Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest Africain**

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February / février 2010

INTERNATIONAL WILDFOWL RESEARCH BUREAU
DUCK WORKING GROUP

The following brief Report is summarised from the Progress
Report issued by the Duck Working Group of the International
Wildfowl Research Bureau (whose permission is gratefully
acknowledged ).

The main object of the Group is to provide the data on
which to base a sound international policy of Wildfowl
Conservation .

Winter counts were organised during the period 8/23 rd.
January 1967 and records were received from 3500 localities
in 25 countries , and the total count now stands at 2,685,000
ducks and 61,500 swans . Further records from another four
or five countries are expected to arrive shortly – amongst
them the counts from the Soviet Union , which are said to
total 3½ million .

The area was divided into three zones each of which is
believed to contain a separate population of the species
under review . Zone I comprises Scandinavia , the British
Isles , and the full length of the North European Plain ,
from the Baltic to the Pyrenees . Zone 2 extends from the
Ukraine across Central Europe to the Mediterranean and
continues south –westwards to Tchad and Senegal . Zone 3
includes the whole of South West Asia , eastwards to the
borders of Burma .

In Zone I records were obtained from nearly all the more
important wildfowl centres . Comprehensive counts were
also made in several regions of Zone 2 , notably in
Central Europe , France and parts of Turkey , Tunisia and
Nigeria . In Zone 3 the counts are still at the exploratory
stage , except perhaps in one or two districts .

The counts are summarised below :

| Zone I. | No. of Counts. | Mallard | Teal | Garganey | Gadwall |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2785 | 813588 | 68603 | 6 | 657 |
| | | Wigeon | | Pintail | Shoveller |
| | | 297937 | | 29774 | 4381 |

| Zone 2. Nigeria | 32 | Mallard | Teal | Garganey | Gadwall |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | – | I | I7I8 | – |
| | | Wigeon | | Pintail | Shoveller |
| | | 3 | | 6972 | I03 |

Rest of Zone 2. 59I     Mall. I90I36 Teal. 61833 Garg. 26

Gad. 2464 Wig. 49077 Pin. I040I

Shov. I0908

Zone 3 .     I00     Mall. 30283 Teal 40591 Garg. 2I262

Gad. 35969 Wig. I6937 Pin. 45923

Shov. 32468

|  | Red-Cr. Pochard | Scaup | Tufted Duck | Pochard |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Zone I | II | 49421 | 237616 | II5980 |

|  | Ferruginous D. | Golden Eye | Long-Tailed D. & Scoter |
|---|---|---|---|
|  | 2 | 68900 | 50340 |

Zone 2
Nigeria    R.-Cr. Poch. 0 ; Scaup 0 ; Tuft. I2 ; Poch. 0 ;

Ferr. ¯504 ; Gold.-E. 0 ; Long-T. and Scot. 0 ;

Rest    R.-Cr. Poch. I0I60; Scaup I2I; Tuft. 49786 ;

Poch. 6I5I3 ; Ferr. 2I ; Gold.-E. I0530 ;

L.-Tail & Scot. 65 .

Zone 3    R.-Cr. Poch. 3902; Scaup 50 ; Tufted . I560 ;

Poch. 2269I ; Ferrug. 5923 ; Gold.-E. 0 ;

L.-Tail & Scot. 0 .

|  | Eider | Red-Br. Merganser | Goosander | Smew | Shelduck |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Zone I | 73407 | 6706 | I9832 | 3440 | 92727 |

|  | Ruddy Shelduck | Mute Swan | Whooper Swan | Bewicks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  | 40386 | I0709 | 582I |

Zone 2
Nigeria .Nil    .    .    .    .    .    .    .

Rest    Eid. 45 ; R.-Br. Merg. I8I ; Goos. I252 ;

Smew 554 ; Sheld. I250 ; Rud.-Sheld. 464 ;

Mute Sw. 4580 ; Whooper 66 ; B wicks nil .

Zone 3 .    Eid. nil ; R.-Br. Merg. I3 ; Goos. I5 ; Smew 265;

Shelduck I8I ; Rud.-Sheld. 2786 ; Swans nil .

R.E. Sharland