

## PREFACE

Vertebrate animals including birds are important components of freshwater systems. This well-known fact is often overlooked and seldom quantified. Aquatic birds are good indicators of water quality and trophic state of water. Birds may influence many characters of water as well as the adjacent watersheds by importing nutrients when feeding and moving between different aquatic and terrestrial habitats. These basic but complicated conditions are seldom investigated because of the high mobility of birds and the separate investigations of limnologists and ornithologists. The paradox result was obvious: the limnologists ignored the effects of birds on the freshwaters and ornithologists did not deal properly with the freshwater ecosystem. Apart from, the ornithofaunistic results, more than 70 years ago, PONTUS PALMGREN (1936), succesfully related the trophic state of lakes to bird species composition. From the limnologist side, a pioneering study was reported by MANNY *et al.* (1975) who worked on the annual contribution of carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus by migrant Canada geese to a hardwater lake. These pioneering studies were not followed up by the ornithologists and limnologists.

This situation changed from the end of the 1980's, when during the Congress of the International Limnological Society (SIL) in München, Germany in 1989 it became apparent to a small group of limnologists interested in aquatic birds that the time had come that waterbirds could be treated in a limnological context.

This led to an *ad hoc* Symposium, "Aquatic Birds in the Trophic Web of Lakes" held in Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada in August 1991. The success of this meeting led to the formation of the Working Group on Aquatic Birds of SIL during the XXVth SIL Congress in Barcelona Spain, in 1992. The first official conference of the SIL Working Group on Aquatic Birds was held in Sopron, Hungary in 1994. These conferences are held every three years between SIL Congresses.

The main objective of the Working Group on Aquatic Birds is to integrate water birds into the limnology and take the waterbird studies in a limnological context. To achieve this goal, the Working Group organizes conferences to facilitate communications among limnologists interested in aquatic birds and ornithologists interested in the aquatic habitat. These Proceedings of "Limnology and Aquatic Birds 2006, Eger, Hungary" contains selected papers from this Conference as a separate volume of *Acta Zoologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae*. All papers have been reviewed, and the Editors wish to record their thanks to the reviewers.

SÁNDOR ANDRIKOVICS<sup>†</sup>, LÁSZLÓ FORRÓ and JÓZSEF KERÉKES  
Guest Editors

## REFERENCES

- MANNY, B. A., WETZEL, R. G. & JOHNSON, W. C. (1975) Annual contribution of carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus by migrant Canada geese to a hardwater lake. *Verh. Internat. Verein. Limnol.* **19**: 949–951.
- PALMGREN, P. (1936) Über die Vogelfauna der Binnengewässer Ålands. *Acta Zoologica Fennica* **17**: 1–59.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Working Group on Aquatic Birds Societas Internationalis Limnologiae (SIL)

- KEREKES, J. J. & POLLARD, B. (eds) (1994) Symposium Proceedings. Aquatic Birds in the Trophic Web of Lakes. Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada. August 19–22, 1991. Developments in Hydrobiology, vol 96, 524 pp. Reprinted from Hydrobiologia, vol. 279–280.
- FARAGÓ, S. & KEREKES, J. (eds) (1997) Workshop Proceedings. Limnology and Waterfowl. Monitoring, modelling and management. Working Group on Aquatic Birds, Societas Internationalis Limnologiae and Internat. Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau. Sarród/Sopron, Hungary, 21–23 November, 1994 Wetlands Internat. Publ. 43. & Hungarian Waterfowl Publ. 3. 362 pp.

### Proceedings references

- COMÍN, F., HERRERA-SILVERA, J. A. & RAMIREZ, J. (eds) (2000) Proc. Limnology and Aquatic Birds. Monitoring, Modelling and Management. Working Group, Soc. Internat. Limnol. Mérida, México, November 24–27, 1997. Universidad Autonoma de Yucatan. Merida, Mexico. 305 pp.
- MUSIL, P. J. & ALBRECHT, T. (2000) Abstracts of the Third Conference of Aquatic Birds Working Group of Societas Internationalis Limnologiae (SIL). *Sylvia* **36**(Suppl.): 1–68.
- HANSON, A. & KEREKES, J. (eds) (2006) Proceedings. “Limnology and Aquatic Birds” The 4th Conference of the Working Group on Aquatic Birds of the International Society of Limnology (SIL) Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada, August 3–7, 2003. Developments in Hydrobiology, vol.189. 349p. Reprinted from Hydrobiologia vol. 567.
- HANSON, A., KEREKES, J. & PAQUET, J. (2006) Limnology and Aquatic Birds: Abstracts and Selected Papers from the Fourth Conference of the Societas Internationalis Limnologiae (SIL) Aquatic Birds Working Group. Canadian Wildlife Service Technical Report Series No. 474 Atlantic Region. xii + 203 pp.
- ANDRIKOVICS, S.†, FORRÓ, L. & KEREKES, J. (eds) (2008) “Limnology and Aquatic Birds 2006”, Selected papers from the Fifth Conference of Societas Internationalis Limnologiae (SIL) Aquatic Birds Working Group Eger, Hungary, August 26–30, 2006. *Acta Zoologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae* **54**(Suppl. 1): 1–269.