

that are distinct from those of other pipits (Tree Pipit *A. trivialis*, Meadow Pipit *A. pratensis*, Water Pipit *A. spinoletta* or Tawny Pipit *A. campestris*) present in the area. The birds were hiding in the grass and were difficult to observe owing to their quick movements and “rodent” type behaviour. After some time, however, we were able to observe them long enough to establish that they were in the first winter plumage as depicted in Collins Field Guide [MULLARNEY, K., SVENSSON, L., ZETTERSTÖM, D & GRANT, P.J. (1999): The most complete field guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe. – Harper Collins, London]. Unfortunately, we were not in position to photograph them. Red-throated Pipits are considered accidental and rare species in Croatia [KRALJ, J. & RADOVIĆ, D. (2002): Rare birds in Croatia. 1st Report of the Croatian Rarities Committee. – Larus 48: 73–83; KRALJ, J. (2005): Rare birds in Croatia. 2nd Report of the Croatian Rarities Committee. – Larus 49: 37–51]. Until this observation, only 21 individuals had been observed or ringed on five occasions in the Mediterranean part of Croatia from Pag Island to the Neretva delta. They have never been recorded in the continental part of Croatia, including Kopački rit Nature Park. This observation is therefore the first of this species in this area, making the 294th species on the checklist. It is interesting that Red-throated Pipits have been regular migrants during spring and autumn in nearby Hungary and the Vojvodina region, Serbia, where the senior author (J. MIKUSKA) had a chance to observe them on several occasions at Lake Ludasko and Kapetanski rit.

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CITRONASTA PASTIRICA *Motacilla citreola*

Citrine Wagtail – one observed on 29 Apr 2004 initially in a bush and eventually in flight above a wet meadow at Donje blato (UTM XH75, Korčula Island, S Dalmatia); the record was confirmed by the National Rarities Committee

Dne 29.4.2004 sva obiskala močvirne travnike Donje blato pri mestu Korčula na otoku Korčula v južni Dalmaciji. Tam sva ob prvi mlaki nekje na sredini travnikov na grmovju opazila majhno ptico, ki je nisva takoj prepoznala, kljub uporabi teleskopa in daljnogleda. Ptica je bila delno zakrita z vejami, tako da nama je bila razkrita le prva polovica telesa. Bila je rumena po glavi in sedela je na grmu, zato sva takoj pomislila na rumenega *Emberiza citrinella* ali pa plotnega strnada *Emberiza cirius*. Zaradi posebnega vzorca rumene barve na glavi sva obe vrsti strnada izločila. Živo

rumeni podbradek se je nadaljeval v polkrožno rumeno črto, ki se je končala kot rumena nadočesna črta s koncem pri očesu. Preostali del glave je bil rumeno rjav. Ptica je najinega oprezanja imela očitno dovolj, in je odletela. V letu sva prepoznala značilni let pastirice, kar naju je v kombinaciji z rumeno glavno napeljalo na rumeno pastirico *Motacilla flava*, vendar sva potem opazila siv hrbet, kar naj bi govorilo o sivi pastirici *Motacilla cinerea*. Potem ko sva se “posvetovala” s Collinsovim priročnikom za opazovanje ptic, sva izločila vse podvrste rumenih pastiric, prav tako siva pastirica nima rumene glave. V opazovanem osebku sva tako prepoznala citronasto pastirico. Bila je bodisi samec ali samica v zimskem perju. Kljub intenzivnemu iskanju in večkratnim obiskom Donjega blata pa citronaste pastirice nisva več videla. Prav zlahka bi se skrila v grmovju ali med mnogimi rumenimi pastiricami, ki so ta kraj izkoriščale kot selitveno postojanko. Le-teh sva našela štiriinštirideset (44). Podatek je potrdila Nacionalna komisija za redkosti.

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ČRNOČELI SRAKOPER *Lanius minor*

Lesser Grey Shrike – on 10 Aug 2004, two young individuals were spotted in a tree on the edge of a stony pasture at Velo blato (UTM WK00, Pag Island, W Croatia); every few minutes an adult individual appeared

Dne 10.8.2004 sva se odpravila na Velo blato na otoku Pag. Tam sva opazovala dva mlada črnočela srakoperja, h katerima je vsakih nekaj minut priletel odrasel osebek. Mlada osebk sta sedela vrh nizkega drevesa na robu ograjenega kamnitega travnika na pobočju SV od Velega blata. Zanimivo je, da gnezdenje črnočelega srakoperja še ni bilo zabeleženo za hrvaške otoke – razen za otok Krk [RUCNER, D. (1998): Ptice hrvatske obale Jadrana. – Hrvatski prirodoslovni muzej, Ministrstvo razvitka i obnove, Zagreb]. Hranjenje mladih pa vsekakor kaže na možno gnezdenje, čeprav je datum nekoliko pozen.

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TRAVNIŠKI VRABEC *Passer hispaniolensis*

Spanish Sparrow – several observations of Spanish Sparrows during the Student Research Camp on Korčula Island (Dalmatia, W Croatia) in 2004; the first observation on 24 Apr 2004 concerned two