

ni bila pretirano plašna, saj je dovolila opazovanje z vsega 10 metrov razdalje. Sicer so tega dne na Blatu kraljevale predvsem različne vrste čapelj, med katerimi je bilo 11 čopastih *Ardeola ralloides*. Na poplavljenem pašniku se je med njimi prehranjevala tudi svatovsko obarvana plevica *Plegadis falcinellus*. Rdečegrla cipa je na Hrvaškem redka vrsta, za katero je le nekaj starejših podatkov iz južne Dalmacije [KRALJ, J. (1997): Ornitofauna Hrvatske tijekom posljednjih dvjesto godina. – *Larus* 46: 1–112].

Luka Božič, Kamenskova 18, SI-2000 Maribor, Slovenija, e-mail: luka.bozic@dopps-drustvo.si

### ITALIJANSKI VRABEC *Passer X italiae*

**Italian Sparrow** – 1 individual in a group of House Sparrows *Passer domesticus* on one of the houses at Vela Luka on Korčula Island (UTM XH45, S Dalmatia) on 24 Apr 2004

Na hiši pri oljčnem nasadu v Veli Luki na otoku Korčula (južna Dalmacija) sem 24.4.2004 skupaj z Jernejem Polajnarjem in Boštjanom Potiskom opazoval skupino domačih vrabcev *Passer domesticus*. Na robu skupine je bil vrabec, ki je imel rjavo glavo in bela lica. Ob pomoči priročnika smo ugotovili, da gre nedvomno za italjanskega vrabca. Sicer so križanci med domačim in travniškim vrabcem pogosti, kjer koli se ti dve vrsti srečata [SVENSSON, L. & GRANT, P. (1999): Bird guide. – Harper Collins Publishers Ltd., London], vendar križanci iz Dalmacije niso poznani [RUCNER, D. (1998): Ptice hrvatske obale Jadrana. – Hrvatski prirodoslovni muzej, Ministrstvo razvitka i obnove, Zagreb].

Dejan Bordjan, Ulica 8. februarja 50, SI-2204 Milklavž, Slovenija, e-mail: dejanonih@email.si

### BRAMBLING *Fringilla montifringilla* & HAWFINCH *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

**Pinoža & dlesk** – invazija v zimi 2001/2002 v narodnem parku Plitvice (UTM WK46, osrednja Hrvaška). Dne 16.2.2002 zjutraj je avtor v bližini hotela Jezero v starejšem bukovem sestoju opazoval jato pinož, ocenjeno na 300.000 osebkov, ki so se hranili na gozdnih tleh. Jati pinož je bilo primešanih še vsaj 3000 dleskov.

In the winter 2001/2002, invasion of Brambling was registered in Central Europe. In this context, the observation of this species in Plitvice National Park is no doubt interesting. On 16 Feb 2002, during light

snow, intensive calls of finches were heard at 7.30 a.m. from Jezero Hotel. Immediately below the hotel, more than 10 flocks of Hawfinches, each numbering 30 – 60 birds, were seen on the top of Beech trees *Fagus sylvatica*. Following the National Park visitor road towards the northeast, the first large flock of Bramblings was observed feeding on the slopes. During a 20 minutes observation, the flock moved in a 100 m wide corridor with a rate of 3000 to 4000 birds per minute. The total size of the Brambling flock was estimated using the average density of feeding finches on the forest floor. A square meter was used by 5 to 20 birds searching for the beech seeds in the thick layer of leaves, which were here covered only with a thin layer of snow. The area covered by feeding Bramblings was at least 300 m long and 100 m wide. Calculating an average of 10 birds per square meter and an area of over 3 ha, the size of the Brambling flock consisted of at least 300,000 birds. In this huge flock, groups of Hawfinches with a total number of at least 3000 birds were also seen. The observation indicates great value of the preserved old forest stands on the northwestern slope below the main road in the park during severe winter conditions.

Martin Schneider-Jacoby, Euronatur, Konstanzer Str. 22, D-78315 Radolfzell, Germany, e-mail: martin.schneider-jacoby@euronatur.org

### SRBIJA (SRBIJA IN ČRNA GORA) / SERBIA (SERBIA & MONTENEGRO)

#### GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus*

**Čopasti ponirek** – gnezdenje med letoma 2001 in 2004 na ornitološko slabo poznanem umetnem mokrišču «Peskar» pri Mužlji v predmestju Zrenjanina (UTM DR52, Banat, Vojvodina): (1) 2001 – 1 par z mladiči, (2) 2002 – 2 para z mladiči, (3) 2003 – 3 pari z mladiči, (4) 2004 – 1 par in 5 odraslih

Between 2001 and 2004, I paid several regular visits to one of the man-made wetlands named «Peskar», a complex of five abandoned sand-pits near Mužlja in the suburb of Zrenjanin (UTM DR52, Banat, Voivodina). The pits are suitable breeding sites for a number of bird species, the most conspicuous among them being the Great Crested Grebe. Mating behaviour by a single pair was observed for the first time on 15 Apr 2001 on the largest pond. In that year, breeding was confirmed on 20 May, when a pair with chicks was observed. In 2002, two pairs bred within the complex, rearing two young each, which were eventually seen on 28 Aug. In 2003, a pair with 5 chicks was registered, while