

(2003): Crvena knjiga ugroženih ptica Hrvatske. – MZOPU, Zagreb].

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

### BAILLON'S CRAKE *Porzana pusilla*

**Pritlikava tukalica** – tri vrste tukalica, verjetno na selitvi, opazovane v mrtvici Tišina v Budaševem pri Sisku (UTM XL13, Lonjsko polje, V Hrvatska): (1) 1 osebek grahaste tukalice *Porzana porzana* 16.8.2002, (2) 1 osebek male tukalice *Porzana parva* 15.8., 16.8., 1.9. in 8.9.2002 in (3) 1 osebek pritlikave tukalice 11., 15. in 16.8.2002. Gre za prva opazovanja pritlikave tukalice na Lonjskem polju.

In August and September 2002, I frequently visited the Tišina oxbow at Budaševo near Sisak. I was paying special attention to crakes, which during my visits fed on water lilies and dried-up mud along the reed belt. I was able to observe them particularly well from the angling platforms, in some places even less than 2 metres away from the observed birds. I managed to identify all three *Porzana* species. I saw one (1) specimen of Spotted Crane *Porzana porzana* on 16 Aug 2002. Little Crane *Porzana parva* was recorded on 15 Aug 2002 (1), 16 Aug 2002 (2), 1 Sep 2002 (1), and 8 Sep 2002 (1). Baillon's Crane, on the other hand, was seen on 11 Aug 2002 (3), 15 Aug 2002 (1), and 16 Aug 2002 (1). Let me underline that I was dealing strictly with individuals, mainly males. Apart from the above stated birds, I saw a few more individuals which, however, could not be identify with utmost certainty. I presume that the recorded birds were on migration and that these unusually frequent observations were due to the extremely dry summer and, consequently, the very low water level in the oxbow. Namely, the birds searching for food moved to more open spaces, out of the reed and willow shelter, and were therefore much easier to observe. The observation of Baillon's Crane was no doubt of the greatest interest. The occurrence of crakes in the area of Lonjsko polje has been so far reported only by M. Schneider-Jacoby [SCHNEIDER-JACOBY, M. (1988): Endangered and rare birds in the alluvial wetlands of the Sava river on the Posavina/Croatia. – *Larus* 40: 167–178], who registered, on 23 Apr 1986 at Krapji Dol, a male Little Crane during its display calling, and at least 10 pairs of Spotted Crane at four different localities. In the same work, he reported on his observations of four small crakes at Poganovo polje on 15 Aug 1986, which he was apparently unable

to identify with certainty (Little or Baillon's Crane). However, according to his dissertation [SCHNEIDER-JACOBY, M. (1993): Vögel als Indikatoren für das ökologische Potential der Saveue und Möglichkeiten für deren Erhaltung. – Dissertation zur Erlangung des Doktorgrades der Biologische Fakultät der Universität Konstanz, Konstanz], he observed only Little and Spotted Crakes. Upon my enquiry he confirmed that that the disputable observation probably concerned Little Crane (M. SCHNEIDER-JACOBY *pers. comm.*). Consequently, this is the first confirmed record of the Baillon's Crane for the area of Lonjsko polje. Baillon's Crane is a rare breeder in Croatia, both in the interior and in the coastal parts of the country. It has been known to breed at Jelas polje and Slavonska Podravina [KRALJ, J. (1997): Ornitofauna Hrvatske tijekom posljednjih dvjesto godina. – *Larus* 46: 1–112] and in the Neretva valley [SACKL, P., BOŽIČ, L. & ŠTUMBERGER, B. (2003): Baillon's Crane *Porzana pusilla* on the lower Neretva river: notes on a possible breeding location in southern Dalmatia. – *Acrocephalus* 24 (116): 21–27], whereas in the area of Baranja it has been registered only as a rare passage migrant [MIKUSKA, J., MIKUSKA, T. & ROMULIĆ, M. (2002): Vodič kroz biološku raznolikost Kopačkog rita, Knjiga I: Ptice. – Matica hrvatska Osijek i Javna ustanova Park prirode "Kopački Rit", Osijek].

Željko Vasilik, S.Bereka 11, HR-44202 Topolovac, Croatia, e-mail: zeljko.vasilik@ina.hr

### ČOKETA *Gallinago media*

**Great Snipe** – 1 individual observed on 30 Apr 2004 in a wet meadow at Donje Blato near the town of Korčula (UTM XH75, Korčula Island, S Dalmatia)

Na biološkem taboru na Korčuli v južni Dalmaciji sem 30.4.2004 obiskal Donje Blato pri mestu Korčula. Takoj ob prihodu na delno poplavljeni del kompleksa travnikov sem splašil srednje veliko ptico. Bila je čoketa. Ptica me je večkrat obkrožila in se kakih sto metrov stran spustila v travo. Čoketa je dopolnila bogato avifavno, na katero smo do tistega trenutka naleteli na Donjem Blatu. Gre za opazovanje redke ptice v Dalmaciji [RUCNER, D.(1998): Ptice hrvatske obale Jadrana. – Hrvatski prirodoslovni muzej, Ministarstvo razvitka i obnove, Zagreb].

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