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ABSTRACTS



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AKRIOTIS, T., ALBAYRAK, T., KIZIROGLU, İ., ERDOGAN, A. AND TURAN, L. (EDS.)

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INTERNATIONAL BIRDING & RESEARCH CENTER - EILAT, ISRAEL

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P-14 **Assessment of the Effect of Reed bed Reaping Model and Ratio on Natural Filtering Areas Considering the Bendimahi Delta Plain Case (Van-Turkey)**
Özdemir Adizel, Atilla Durmuş & İlhami Kiziroglou 52

P-15 **Bird monitoring in the area of oil and gas development in vicinity of Chaivo Bay (north-eastern Sakhalin, Russia)**
Valentina Andreeva & Olga Valchuk 53

P-16 **Illustrations of Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*)**
Yasemin Öztürk & Mehmet Ali Tabur 54

P-17 **Breeding ecology of Great Bittern *Botaurus stellaris* in eastern Poland**
Marcin Polak & Zbigniew Kasprzykowski 55

P-18 **Structure of Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*) colonies and nesting of other bird species in steppe forest belts**
M.A. Miklyaeva, N.V. Lebedeva, L.F. Skryleva & R.M. Savitsky 56

P-19 **Lead concentrations and lead poisoning in waterfowl in the Evros Delta (Greece)**
Maria Aloupi, Triantaphyllos Akriotis, Savvas Kazantzidis & Michalis Koulousaris 57

P-20 **The breeding ecology of the Yellow-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus xanthopygos* in an urban area of Antalya**
Aziz Aslan & Ali Erdoğan 58

P-21 **Breeding habitat and nest-site selection in birds of prey (Accipitriformes) and Black Stork (*Ciconia nigra*) in the Mediterranean pine woodland of Lesvos**
Yiannis Kontogiorgos, Eleftherios Kakalis & Triantaphyllos Akriotis 59

P-22 **Diet of the Kestrel (Falco tinnunculus) in urban and non-urban habitats in northern Greece**
Haralambos Alivizatos, Stavros Kalpakis, Savas Kazantzidis & Maria Noidou 60

P-23 **Determination of Avian Influenza A viruses in some avian species in Van Lake Basin by RT-PCR, their isolation and sub-typing (4th Presenting of Data)***
Banur Boynukara, Timur Gülhan, Özdemir Adızel, Erdal Öğün, Abdulbaki Aksakal, Fethiye Çöven, Atilla Durmuş, İsmail Hakkı Ekin, Hasan Solmaz & Ziya İlhan 61

P-24 **Migrations of partial migrants - Great and Blue Tits (*Parus major* and *P. caeruleus*) in Ukraine**
Anatoliy Poluda 62

P-25 **Morphometric peculiarities and allozyme variations of Bearded Tit *Panurus biarmicus* (Aves: Passeriformes) distributed in two wetlands in Central Anatolia**
Fulya Saygili, Nuri Yiğit & Pınar Çam 63

P-26 **Breeding success of the Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus* in the context of food changes and predator impact - three decades of observations**
Jaroslaw Wiacek 64

Poster: **P-23**

Determination of Avian Influenza A viruses in some avian species in Van Lake Basin by RT-PCR, their isolation and sub-typing (4th Presenting of Data)*

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In this study, fresh feces samples collected during 37 months, from February 2006 to March 2009, from 2013 animals consisting of 47 avian species covering random, transitory, winter visitor, migratory and native birds in the Van Lake Basin were tested by real-time PCR with respect to avian influenza (AI) type A virus M2 gene. Of them, 59 samples (2.9%) were found to be positive. RT-PCR positive samples were examined with the same method with respect to H5N1 and 4 samples (6.8%) were found to be positive. RT-PCR positive 59 samples were inoculated in embryonated chicken egg (ECE) and AI type A virus were isolated from 12 samples (20.3%). Of the isolates, 3 were typed as H1N7, 2 as H7N9, 2 as H11N9 and 1 as H8N4 with hemagglutination inhibition (HI) and neuraminidase inhibition (NI) tests. Four isolates typed as H5N1 in RT-PCR gave positive reaction in HI both with H1 and H5 antisera and all of them were typed as N1. These four isolates were determined in fecal samples collected in 2006 from winter visitor *Anas cylpeata* duck species. Feces samples found to be positive with RT-PCR belonged to avian species Anseriformes, Charadriiformes, Passeriformes, Gruiformes and Phoenicopteriformes families. The highest positivity was determined in winter visitor *Anas acuta* (37.1%) and *Anas penelope* (22.5%) ducks. Of the RT-PCR positive 59 samples, 43 (72.9%) were determined in the samples collected during winter and spring of 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009. With this study, the presence of AI type A viruses in various wild birds in the Van Lake Basin were determined for the first time in Turkey.

Keywords: Avian influenza, wild birds, RT-PCR, isolation, typing

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