

adults when originally ringed in 1987. This means that they must then have all been in their second year of life (at least) and certainly not less than 15 months old (the age at which forest passerines such as these complete their first full moult). Not one of these seven individuals was therefore less than 14 years of age when retrapped.

It is noteworthy that the number of 1987-ringed birds of each species at risk of retrap in Minziro Forest was comparatively small (Table 1). The statistical probability of recapture of even one bird after a lapse of 13 years from such small sample of ringed individuals would be infinitesimal if the relevant species were not naturally long-lived. In Britain, for example, it was necessary to ring 777 074 Great Tits *Parus major* before an individual of similar age (13.9 years) was recovered (Mead & Clark 1991). These Minziro retraps, in addition to establishing new longevities for six species, further supplement the growing body of evidence for superior survival rates in many African passerines (Peach *et al.* 2001).

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Stop Press: Garden Warbler retrap in Tanzania¹

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin* K20936 was first ringed by Liz Baker on 12 January 1997. It was controlled on 21 March 1999 and held captive during Max-Planck experiments until released on 10 April 1999. It arrived back on Kifufu (our home on the edge of the lowland forest, south-west Kilimanjaro) this morning 12 October 2001. Wintering site fidelity is of course well known for many Palearctic migrants but it's always great fun to catch one's own birds again, especially twice!!

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¹ Taken from: AfricanBirding@yahoo.com