



THE EURING SWALLOW PROJECT

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The Euring Swallow Project has been running since 1997. Fernando Spina, the Project Coordinator, was happy to report that significant success had been achieved during the 'pilot year'. The first newsletter shows that a total of 17 countries participated that year (see Table) and an estimated 300 ringers were involved in the ringing effort. This intensive activity was spread across western and central Europe in a broad geographical scatter, offering a fairly complete 'transect' over the sub-continent. The result was a grand total of 115 855 European Swallows ringed in one year. Fernando states:

"Given the fact that such an intense effort in swallow ringing had never been produced, we will surely get significant numbers of recoveries from the winter quarters, which will contribute in better describing the distribution of the main roosts in Africa, as a key issue also for swallow conservation."

SAFRING RINGERS !

The chances of a swallow retrap from Europe are now higher than ever before – as is the chance that one of your swallows will be retrapped by a Euring ringer at its nest.

This is an important project to get involved in !

Table 1. No. swallows ringed by the 17 participating countries in the first year.

Country	Chicks	Adults	Total
Belgium	5 000	0	10 000
Estonia	500	200	800
Finland	2 839	295	10 505
Germany/Austria	2 206	277	4 996
Holland	5 000	1 000	6 000
Italy	4 063	740	33 711
Latvia	230	0	230
Lithuania	278	0	2 278
Malta	–	1 416	1 416
Norway	3 000	0	10 000
Slovenia	–	21 042	21 042
Spain	–	8 168	8 168
Switzerland	1 580	314	3 905
Ukraine	677	129	806
Britain	–	498	498
former Yugoslavia	2 000	500	3 500
Total			115 855

