

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Comment to “Birds of Lake Acarlar and Environmental Problems”

Romanuke. R R

Faculty of Science and Technology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, 43600 UKM Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia

Email: Romanukerr@yahoo.com

This article provides detailed data resources. We are encouraged to see that people mostly pay attention to the “Birds of Lake Acarlar and Environmental Problems”. In their article, we found that the lake was a rich ornithological area facing various problems due to increasing population. Some of these problems were unauthorized hunting, damage to the forest ecosystem, attempt to create agricultural fields. The environmental problem has attracted attentions as one of the most important problems. This problem is a phenomenon threatening to sustainable life. Effective solution of this problem depends on conscious and awareness of people about environmental matters.

Firstly, we should know that the lake Acarlar is located between towns of Karasu and Kaynarca, both counties of Sakarya, lies 60 km northwards Adapazarý. Lake Acarlar, whose coordinates are 41° 05' N - 30° 30' E, has surface elevation 5 m above the sea level.

Secondly, their research was sampled from June 2001-2003 as 3 week- periods among 9.00-18.00 as daily studies on land. The observations were carried out in 3 stations which vary in ecological features and are favorable to observe and to characterize the lake. The observations were also carried out by hiding or not hiding when necessary and in a boat on the lake. They try to collect all kind of data. We can see that at Lake Acarlar, 178 bird species from 39 families belonging to 17 orders were defined. Numerical distribution of the species according to the order; Podicipediformes 5, Pelecaniformes 1, Ciconiiformes 10, Anseriformes 16, Accipitriformes 12, Falconiformes 2, Galliformes 2, Gruiformes 3, Charadriiformes 21, Columbiformes 4, Cuculiformes 1, Strigiformes 4, Caprimulgiformes 1, Apodiformes 2, Coraciiformes 3, Piciformes 3 and Passeriformes 88. According to the frequency analysis, we find that in 24 species are rare (1%-20%), 52 species are scarce (21%-40%), 69 species are usually observed (41%-60%), 19 species are frequently observed, (61%-80%) and 14 species are constantly observed (81%-100%). We find that the data recorded in their articles are very comprehensive and detailed, which deserves our reference.

Thirdly, the lake Acarlar has not been researched in terms of ornithology extensively. The purpose of their article is to determine the species in the lake and the status on the migration, and research some of their ecological demands, the factors endangering the species, solution suggestions to the problems and the effects of species protection studies have been amongst the aim of the study.

Finally, their article considered that protection of the lake in terms of ecology and fauna, prevention of hunting, decontamination from pollutant elements and including the lake in the status of National Park should be given priority. We consider that this research will increase the richness of the lake. Meanwhile, the lake will have the criteria to be among the internationally important wetlands. The problem of ecological environment is a problem that needs to be tracked for a long time. In the future research, we hope to continue to track the data of this area and make a comparative analysis of the data, so as to continuously understand the ecological environment and bird situation in this area.