

## SUMMARY

### **Degu, *Octodon degus* (Molina, 1782), *Octodontidae* (Rodentia) – a species new to the fauna of mammals in Poland**

In July 12<sup>th</sup> 1997 close to a brood of Baarn Owl with 3 nestlings a food storage consisting of three rodents was discovered. Young owls stayed in a provisional „nest” on a church spire floor covered with the owl pellets. They were still covered with white down. The temple was located at the town of Będzin – UTM position CA 67. One of three preys was a young specimen of degu. After the dissection of skulls by means of insects of beetle species called *Dermestes lardarius* L. it turned out that one of them is considerably different in terms of morphological features from all known species of rodents living in Europe. The authors discuss the hypotheses that degu could have come from a local population existing in natural conditions or that the owl could have found it as a carrion while penetrating the dumping site in search for food.