

SUMMARY

Mortality of amphibians on a road in the Zielona Góra town region in the years 2003-2004

Migration corridors of amphibians have been observed in the region of Zielona Góra, a town located in the Lubuskie Province (western Poland). While crossing local roads amphibians suffer numerous losses since they are killed by passing cars. The article presents research carried out on a 6 km section of a road beginning on the south limits of Zielona Góra (51°55'N 15°30'E) and running in the direction of Ochla, a local village (51°53'N 15°28'E).

The research was carried out in two periods: 12.III.-22.X.2003 and 16.III.-31.X.2004. At that time 3017 dead amphibians were found, 323 individuals were caught while crossing the road and 1313 individuals were caught along a 100 m barrier preventing them from entering the road and fitted in March 2004.

Altogether 9 species of amphibians migrated cross the investigated section of the road: common toad *Bufo bufo* (L.), green toad *B. viridis* Laur., common frog *Rana temporaria* L., smooth newt *T. vulgaris* (L.), common spadefoot *Pelobates fuscus* Laur., alpine newt *T. alpestris* (Laur.), green frog R. kl. „*esculenta*” L., ex equo moor frog *R. arvalis* Nilss. and crested newt *Triturus cristatus* (Laur.) (these are enumerated according to their number) (table 1).

The authors suppose that despite have observed high mortality among the amphibians, the real number of killed animals can be significantly bigger which can be confirmed by the research carried out with the help of a video camera.