

SUMMARY

Results of the inventory investigation of White Stork *Ciconia ciconia* nests in Grodków Land, Opole Silesia, during the years 2001-2004

The study area (584 km²), inhabited by 42 400 people, comprises arable fields (442 km²), meadows and pastures (71 km²) and forests (70 km²). During the years 2001-2004, 26-27 pairs nested there, i.e. 4.5-4.6 pairs/100 km². The number of pairs which raised fledglings varied however from 18 to 25, i.e. 3.1-4.3/100 km². The mean number of fledglings per successful pair was strikingly constant in this period. The proportion of pairs which did not raise fledglings varied from 7.4 to 30.8%. Most nests were located on electric poles and on chimneys (together 74.0%), the remainder on trees, buildings and other man-made structures. In 1907 and 1922 only three nests were recorded in the study area. During the years 1928-34 only one pair nested, in 1975 r. – 19, in 1984 r. – 27 and in 1994-95 – 24-26 breeding pairs were recorded.