

SUMMARY

Tomalka-Sadownik A., Kopij G. Amphibians of the vicinity of Kobierzyce in Lower Silesia (SW Poland).

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During the years 2003–2006 a survey of amphibians was conducted in the gmina (a basic unit of Polish administrative division) of Kobierzyce (50°58'20" N, 16°55'50" E) which covers an area of 149 km² with landscape dominated by farmland (the share of arable fields amounts to 82.8% of the whole area). A total of 7 species at 34 breeding sites were recorded. The most common were: *Bufo bufo* (L., 1758) (24 sites), *Rana esculenta* complex (18 sites) and *Rana temporaria* (L., 1758) (16 sites). All other species were scarce: *Bufo viridis* (Laurenti, 1768) (5 sites), *Rana arvalis* (Nilsson, 1842) (5 sites), *Pelobates fuscus* (Laurenti, 1768) (3 sites), and *Triturus vulgaris* (L., 1758) (4 sites). Two other species, *Bombina bombina* (L., 1761) and *Hyla arborea* (L., 1758) occurring in the neighbouring municipal area of Wrocław were not recorded within Kobierzyce gmina, probably because of the lack of suitable habitats. The main threats to the local amphibian populations are habitat degradation, water pollution and road traffic. Creation of protected areas (i.e. designation of some water bodies as sites of ecological interest) and educational projects addressed to the school children are regarded as main methods of their protection in the studied area.