

Sorin Geacu - *Dropia în România. Studiu biogeografic* (The Great Bustard in Romania. A Biogeographical Study), Editura Academiei Române, Bucureşti, 2016, 217 pages, 55 figs., 32 colour plates, 39 tables, 485 references, summary in English.

The first part presents morphological and biometric data and gives information on the species' reproduction and ecology. Climatic influences, especially the negative effects of glazed frost that immobilises the wings, making the birds highly vulnerable in frosty winters, are discussed at large.

A vast chapter, based on statistical data, deals with the dynamics of the species' population in Romania. The fluctuation of effectives is followed until 1997, when the Great Bustard started being a stable species in the fauna of this country. The complex causes that generated this situation are analysed and the efforts made to protect the species by setting up nature reserves, are recorded.

The second part of the work makes a very detailed time-and-space analysis at regional, county and local levels, of the presence of the species in each landform unit and county, beginning with the first available information on numerical fluctuations and exact places in which flocks, or isolated specimens, were observed.

The work is illustrated with numerous maps and graphs, highly suggestive being those on the dynamics of various territorial units. The 67 colour photos (grouped by 32 plates) complete successfully this volume, enabling the reader to appreciate the aesthetic value of this species, which is almost totally lost from Romania's faunistic heritage.