

FOREIGN NEWS

COLOUR-MARKED GRIFFON VULTURES *GYPS FULVUS* IN THE
KVARNER ARCHIPELAGO (CROATIA - YUGOSLAVIA)

During May 1990, the Institute of Ornithology in Zagreb organized colour-marking of 16 Griffon Vulture nestlings. This marking forms part of a project "Conservation and Investigation of the Griffon Vulture Population in Croatia" which will continue for the next five or ten years. The aim of the project is to understand the factors which influence the status of the Griffon Vulture population (stable or decreasing), intraspecific relationships and, in particular, to identify timing and routes of migration of the subadult segment of the population which breeds on the Croatian Islands and which, every summer and autumn, migrate to the Austrian Alps.

A supplementary feeding programme has been organised to aid the survival of the subadult Griffon Vultures and the aim of the whole project is to protect the Griffon Vulture in Croatia where about one half of the Yugoslavian breeding population is found.

Regular observations will be made at the Island of Cres where there is a 'vulture restaurant' and in the Slovenian Alps where a further feeding place will be opened this autumn. We assume that our Italian and Austrian colleagues will be able to collect much observation data.

Every Griffon Vulture has a white wing (patagial) marker with a blue letter or number on it. On their leg(s) is a colour-ring combination.

Anyone observing a Griffon Vulture with a wing marker and/or colour ring combination is kindly requested to send details of the observation to:

Dr. Gorn Sušić
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Details should include: the date; time of day; locality; behaviour (flying, feeding, roosting, is it alone or with unmarked birds etc.), together with the name and address of the observer. Contributors will receive details of the observed species and will be acknowledged in future publications.