

of Curlew Sandpiper, feeding in a small bay (Figure 26). Based on plumage characteristics (dark reddish head and breast), we identified it as an adult bird. According to the available data, this is the first observation of this wader species on Lake Vlasina (VASTIĆ & ŠORI 1980). Other species recorded on shore include 36 Grey Herons *Ardea cinerea*, 313 Cormorants *Phalacrocorax carbo*, 4 Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*, 14 Green Sandpipers *Tringa ochropus*, 11 Wood Sandpipers *T. glareola*, 1 Snipe *Gallinago gallinago* and 3 Little Ringed Plovers *Charadrius dubius*.

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**Figure 26 / Slika 26:** Curlew Sandpiper / Srpokljuni prodnik *Calidris ferruginea*, Blato-Delnice-Bratanov Del, Lake Vlasina, 15. 7. 2012 (foto: D. Rajković)

### SAVI'S WARBLER *Locustella luscinioides*

**Trstni cvrčalec** – gnezdenje para na jezercu “Bager” (1,3 ha) v Somboru (UTM CR57 22, S Srbija), kjer so bili do 4 pojoči samci opazovani med 6. 4. in 10. 6. 2013, speljani mladiči pa prvič 8. 6. 2013; vrsta se med gnezdenjem navadno izogiba urbanih predelov in raje izbira večja trstišča

In the book “Birds of Sombor” we refer to two findings of Savi's Warbler during spring migration in 2010 on Bager Pond (UTM CR57 22, surface area: 1.3 ha, northern periphery of Sombor town) (MÉRŐ & ŽULJEVIĆ 2010). During the next three years the species was regularly recorded on the pond, with three observations (incl. singing male on 3 May) in 2011, one singing male on 11 Jul 2012 and 20 observations in 2013, including up to four singing males between 6 Apr and 10 Jun 2013. In 2013, we ringed altogether six adult individuals (three males, three unknown sexes) between 17 Apr and 9 May. On 8 Jun 2013, we found two adult birds leading and defending five fledglings.

With mist net we captured and ringed one fledgling and recovered the male ringed on 17 April 2013. The rest of the fledglings were captured on 23 Jun (three fledglings) and 29 Jun 2013 (one fledgling). We assume that the arrival of Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* in late April and early May and their strong territorial behaviour caused the disappearance of other 2–3 Savi's Warbler males, with only one successfully raising a brood. There were optimal reed patches containing new and old stems from years before and thick litter (BÁLDI & MOSKÁT 1995, NETO 2006, VADÁSZ *et al.* 2008) present at the site. However, the data about breeding on a small pond in urban area is quite remarkable given that Savi's Warbler usually avoids such small reed habitats for breeding, preferring large, closed and continuous reed stands (BIBBY & LUNN 1982, CRAMP 1998).

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### GREAT REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*

**Rakar** – dva primera gnezdenja v vegetaciji, ki je za vrsto neobičajna, v S Srbiji: 11. 7. 2011 gnezdo pripeto na stebela pelina *Artemisia vulgaris* v melioracijskem kanalu pri naselju Milčić v bližini Sombora (UTM CR57 96) in 1. 8. 2009 na trstu in navadnem slezu *Althaea officinalis* pri Severni Mostongi (UTM CR57 18)

The Great Reed Warbler builds its nest on tall, strong reed *Phragmites australis* stems adjacent to deeper water (DYRCZ 1981, LEISLER 1981, NILSSON & PERSSON 1986, VAN DER HUT 1986, GRAVELAND 1998, CSÖRGŐ 1998, PROKEŠOVÁ & KOCIAN 2004). During our regular fieldwork done on the Great Reed Warbler's breeding biology in Sombor Municipality, NW Vojvodina (N Serbia) on 11 Jul 2011, we found an active nest of this species fixed to three stalks of Mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris* (Figure 27). The nest was located on an embankment next to a melioration canal near the Milčić settlement (UTM CR57 96). The distance of the nest from the water was about 15 m. The nest contained two nestlings that later fledged successfully. On 1 Aug 2009 we found, at Severna Mostonga (UTM CR57 18), a Great Reed Warbler's nest built next to the water on reed and Marshmallow *Althaea officinalis*. According to the available information, Great Reed Warbler nests built on such type of vegetation has not been reported till now. In a German study, one Great Reed Warbler nest was discovered in willow shrub *Salix* sp. (BEIER 1981). BEIER (1981) found three Great Reed Warbler nests, while CSÖRGŐ (1998) discovered

one in Lesser Bulrush *Typha angustifolia*. DYRCZ (1981), on the other hand, found them in unspecified bulrush *Typha* sp., in reed and *Solanum* sp., as well as in reed mixed with willow.

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**Figure 27 / Slika 27:** Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* nest on Mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris* / Gnezdo rakarja na navadnem pelinu, Milčić, 11. 7. 2011 (foto: T.O. MÉRÓ)

### GREAT REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*

**Rakar** – dne 25. 5. 2012 je samec ubil samico kukavice *Cuculus canorus* med obrambo gnezda ob Velikem bačkem kanalu pri Somboru (UTM CR56 27), tako da jo je spravil v vodo in jo kljuval v glavo tako dolgo, da je nezavestna utonila; kljub temu je bilo podtikanje jajc uspešno, saj se je iz gnezda tega para rakarjev uspešno speljal mladič kukavice

It is known that one of the most common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* hosts in the Carpathian basin is the Great Reed Warbler (VARGA 1998). Reed habitats with good quality vantage points (trees, electric wires) are able to attract a larger number of Cuckoos. Vantage points are key factors in the parasitism success of Cuckoo (MOSKÁT & HONZA 2000). On 25 May 2012, during our regular check of Great Reed Warbler nests in Veliki Bački Canal (UTM CR56 27) in Sombor Municipality (NW Vojvodina, N Serbia), we spotted a male Great Reed Warbler attacking an adult female Cuckoo defending his nest from being parasitized. The Cuckoo was pushed into the water; the Great Reed Warbler stood on the top of the Cuckoo's head and attacked it continuously with his beak until the bird became unconscious and drowned in the water. The whole

incident lasted about 10 min. Meanwhile, the female Great Reed Warbler flew around the two fighting birds sounding alert. Nevertheless, the Cuckoo had managed to lay eggs, for the clutch examined contained two Great Reed Warblers' and one Cuckoo's egg. The Cuckoo's young later fledged successfully. The Veliki Bački Canal is very suitable breeding habitat for Cuckoo (46% of all Great Reed Warblers' nests were parasitized in 2012), since its banks are surrounded by trees and shrubs, with occasional electric wires that serve as excellent vantage points.

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### NUTHATCH *Sitta europaea*

**Brglez** – neobičajno veliko število osebkov opaženih septembra, oktobra in novembra 2012 na različnih lokacijah v Somboru (UTM CR56 & 57, S Srbija); skupaj zabeleženih 14–29 osebkov, v primerjalnem obdobju na istem območju pa le 3–5

**Table 1:** Number of Nuthatches *Sitta europaea* in autumn in the territory of Sombor

**Tabela 1:** Število brglezov *Sitta europaea* jeseni v območju Sombora

Locality	UTM CR	No. of individuals in Sep, Oct and Nov			
		2000–2011		2012	
		Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
Šikara Park-forest	57 00	1	2	1	2
Šumica Park-forest	56 38	-	-	2	7
Town hippodrome	56 49	-	-	4	4
Omladinski Park	56 28	1	2	1	5
Park Ivo Lola Ribar	57 31	-	-	1	4
Park Heroja	57 30	1	1	-	-
Veliki Bački Canal	56 27	-	-	1	1
Prvomajski Blv.	56 39	-	-	1	1
Milana Rakića St.	57 22	-	-	1	3
Pere Segedinca St.	56 29	-	-	2	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>29</b>

The Nuthatch is a regular breeding species in parks and park-forests of Sombor. In the autumn and winter periods, single individuals are also observed in these habitats, rarely