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## REGISTRATION OF VAGRANT LITTLE BUSTARD (*TETRAX TETRAX*) IN NORTHERN UKRAINE

Ресстрація залітної хохітви (*Tetrax tetrax*) у Північній Україні. - А.В. Міськов, С.А. Іноземцев. - Беркут. 27 (1). 2018. - Хохітва на півночі України зараз є рідкісним залітним видом. Пролітний птах був випадково застрелений мисливцями на луках між селами Стрельники та В'язенка Путивльського району Сумської області (51,415° N, 33,892° E) на початку жовтня 2015 р. Це друга відома ресстрація виду в північних районах області протягом останніх десятиліть.

Little Bustard (*Tetrax tetrax*) is now a rare breeding species of birds in Ukraine. It is listed in Red Book of the country as disappearing. In the Red List of IUCN the species has category Near Threatened.\* The number in breeding period in Ukraine was estimated in 30–50 individuals. Nesting localities are known only on Kerch peninsula in the Crimea. Here, the Little Bustard is a resident species. During migrations birds were observed also in the Steppe Crimea, around Syvash and in the North-Western Azov region (Andriushchenko, 2009). Thus, up to 20 individuals irregularly migrate and winter in Donetsk region (Visochyn, 2017). In central and northern regions of Ukraine the Little Bustard was occurred only as a rare vagrant species (Kistiakivskiy, 1957; Knysh et al., 2006; Nastachenko, Bredbier, 2012; Peklo, 2014).

On the territory of Sumy region, one migrating bird was accidentally shot by hunters in early October, 2015 on the meadow between the villages Strelnik and Vyazenka (Putivl district; 51.415° N, 33.892° E). This is the second known record of the Little Bustard in northern districts of Sumy region during the last decades. A young vagrant bird was bagged on

a stubble-field near the town of Glukhiv in autumn of 1994 (Knysh et al., 2006). In neighbouring Kursk region of Russia, a vagrant bird was shot near the village of Lukashevka in Lgov district in August 1976 (Vlasov, Mironov, 2008). It is not far from our study area.

These three points of records are situated much more northerly from the main migration routes of the species. Little Bustards pass from the breeding grounds in Russia in south-western direction to northern coast of the Black Sea and through Lower Volga region to steppes of the North Caucasus (Isakov, Flint, 1987).

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\* <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/22691896/129913710>