Bird Conservation and Agriculture



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Writing for researchers, professionals and graduate students, the authors summarize the collapse of populations of many farmland bird species in the 20th century, one of the biggest conservation problems of the day. They firstly set the historical context of

change in agriculture and bird communities since the 18th century, and introduce the bird communities of agricultural land today. They then provide an overview of this very active area of applied conservation science, including in-depth case studies of 16 species that, taken together, illustrate the many ways that agricultural intensification has affected bird populations. Moreover, they show how this evidence base, coupled with recent greening of agriculture policy, has provided opportunities to manage agricultural land to better integrate the needs of food production and bird conservation. They conclude by looking forward to challenges that the conservation of bird populations on agricultural land is likely to face in the near future.

作者介绍:

Jeremy D. Wilson is Head of Research for RSPB Scotland. He has worked as a Royal 1851 Commission Fellow on the role of dispersal in population dynamics of Dippers, and led a research study of the consequences of organic farming for bird populations for the British Trust for Ornithology. He is an Editor for the British Ornithologists' Union journal, Ibis, and an Associate Editor of the British Ecological Society's Journal of Applied Ecology.

Andrew D. Evans joined the RSPB as a field biologist in 1988, studying the reasons behind the near extinction of the cirl bunting in the UK. This put him at the forefront of the unfolding story of bird population declines as a result of agricultural intensification. He is currently Head of Species Recovery at the RSPB.

Philip V. Grice has worked professionally as an ornithologist in the government's nature conservation bodies since 1991, and is now a Senior Specialist in ornithology at Natural England. He has worked on a broad range of bird conservation issues but has become increasingly concerned with addressing the declines in farmland birds since the mid-1990s.

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