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THÈSE

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Thème

Structure et dynamique de l'avifaune nicheuse de la forêt domaniale de Boumezrane

(Ain Zana, Souk-Ahras)

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ABSTRACT

During the breeding period, we analysed bird habitat relationships in the forest of Boumezrane, north-eastern Algeria (cork oak stands, zeen oak stands). Species richness, diversity, and abundance of bird communities were analysed with respect to habitat variables, summarising habitat structure, tree and shrub layers.

A total of 260 visits of 74 bird species were recorded in the forest of Boumezrane where the most dominant order is Passeriformes in both oak stands. Insectivores being the most dominant diet category in both oak stands. Avian species richness at each point-count ranged between six and 17 species. The most dominant families in number of pairs are Muscicapidae, Sylviidae, Turdidae, Paridae and Picidae. They occupy more than 70% of the total abundance of the entire community.

Using multivariate analysis methods, we determined that two major patterns of relationships among bird and habitat were traced: the first involved changes in tree structure during their growth (height of tree layer and large timber), the second was related to characteristics associated with shrub layer. Bird diversity, abundance was related to diameter of the largest timber.

Keywords: Birds, habitat, cork oak stands, zeen oak stands, large timber, tree layer, shrub layer.