

DIET COMPOSITION OF FLEDGLINGS AND ADULTS SPANISH SPARROWS *PASSER HISPANIOLENSIS* IN ORAN AREA AT WESTERN OF ALGERIA

ISMAIL OULD RABAH¹, KARIM SOUTTOU², BILAL BERKET³ & SALAHEDDINE DOUMANDJI⁴

^{1,3}Department of Agronomy, Faculty of Agro-Veterinary and Biology, University Saâd Dahleb Blida, Blida, Algeria

²Faculty of Natural Science and Life, University Ziane Achour, Djelfa, Algeria

⁴Laboratory of Ornithology, Department of Zoology, Institute of Agronomy, Hacén Badi, El Harrach, Algiers, Algeria

ABSTRACT

The diet of fledglings and adults Spanish sparrow *Passer hispaniolensis* was realized in farmland area in Oran. Our study revealed the presence of both animal and plants parts with a dominance of animal part for all age categories and adults. The relative frequency of orders of arthropods was revealed the presence of 11 orders with a dominance of Orthoptera prey for fledglings with age from 1 to 3 days (51 preys, 50.5%) and fledglings with age from 4 to 6 days (89 preys, 40.5%). The Coleoptera and Hymenoptera made up the most consumed preys by the fledglings of with age from 7 to 9 days (62 preys, 34.1% each). The Coleoptera (36 preys, 34.3%) was most consumed by fledglings with age from 10 to 12 days. Adults prefer to feed much of Hymenoptera prey (63 preys, 54.8 %) and Coleoptera prey (24 preys, 20.9%). The dominant species in the diet of fledglings Spanish sparrows was *Pezotettix giornai* with 31.7 % (1 to 3 days), *Calliptamus* sp. With 16.8 % (4 to 6 days), *Messor barbara* with 33.5 % (7 to 9 days) and *Anisoplia* sp. with 16.2 % (10 to 12 days). For adults *Messor barbara* was the most dominant species with 48.7 %.

KEYWORDS: Diet, Spanish Sparrows, *Passer hispaniolensis*, Oran, Algeria