

Abstract

Bird abundance, it means the number of individuals at a specific site relates to the number of species in the area. It is common that species-richer habitats contain more individuals. Bird abundance which detected most frequently during the breeding period is influenced by the vertical structure of the vegetation so that habitats with low vegetation (e.g. grasslands) occupy smaller numbers of birds than the cover of higher vegetation (e.g. shrublands and forests). Most often total bird abundance positively correlates with increasing vegetation height determined by successional stages. Based at the stated studies, it is evident that bird species respond to vegetation height and its changes in a specific way, therefore it is difficult to make general conclusions. Negative correlation between vegetation height and bird abundance observed in some studies can be caused by various methods of data collection on vegetation height in different areas. In my opinion, bird abundance relates more to vegetation density and vegetation stratification than to vegetation height. The reason is that bird occurrence in forest habitats is impacted by well-developed undergrowth not just by forest canopy height. To further clarify how vegetation height affects bird abundance, we need more research that would compare bird abundance at different sites that have the same vegetation type (e.g. forest with lower and higher tree canopy).

Key words: bird abundance, bird population density, vegetation density, vegetation structure, height of vegetation, forest, succession