

This study focused on analysing the diet composition of nestlings of different age during two breeding seasons in rural environment of agricultural farm near Veselí nad Lužnicí, South Bohemia. Feeding behaviour and habitat selection by parents was also monitored. Population decline of the species as a consequence of low invertebrates rate in nestlings diet and disappearing of important habitats are discussed. Most of studies on feeding behaviour in the Czech Republic focused only on feeding frequency. Two commonly used methods for diet determination, neck-collars and faecal analysis, were compared. The feeding frequency of male and female were also determined. Coleoptera (Scarabaeidae) were the most often determined group in samples of faecals, while Diptera (Tipulidae) were the most often determined group in samples from ligatures. The differences between diet of younger and older nestling were assessed. While diet of young nestlings contained Diptera, Coleoptera dominated in diet of older nestlings. The vegetable food, mainly seeds of Poaceae, dominated in diet of older nestlings. Amount of food increased along age gradient (samples of older nestlings were heavier). Different effect of animal proportion in the nestling diet was determined. Increase in animal proportion in the diet of young nestlings caused longer tarsus, while in older nestlings it caused shorter tarsus. This result indicates different diet needs during the nestling development. The effect of animal diet on nestlings quality (assessed by condition index) was not found. The nestling quality during second year was higher. In this year an experiment was carried out. The larvae of *Tenebrio molitor* were offered. But enormous increase of nestling condition due to this experiment was not found. Higher male feeding frequency caused increased weight of older nestlings. This result points out necessity of male parental care and female mate selection. The females fed the young more often than males. Parental habitat selection was also determined. Grass habitat was used most often. The use of shrubs was higher than was their offer. Relatively high use of deciduous trees was unexpected.