

Information about the distance, in which the birds flee from predators, may help us to better understand avian escape behavior and stress responses. These distances are influenced by many life-history traits and related factors, both on intraspecific and interspecific levels. This bachelor's thesis is trying to summarize the current knowledge of agents influencing flight initiation distances (FID) of birds, in the form of a literary research. The first section deals with antipredator behavior in birds, and explains methods that are used for measuring critical distances. In the second part of thesis, factors affecting flight initiation distances on intraspecific level are described. The main emphasis is on impact of age characteristics, body sizes, reproductive investments and geographical distribution. The last chapter summarizes the information about relationships between FID and life-history traits on interspecific level. The age of the individual, levels of stress hormones, the effect of the season and biotop are described in detail.