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STUDYING INTERSPECIFIC SYNCHRONY IN BIRD SURVIVAL USING CONSTANT EFFORT SITES MIST-NETTING SCHEME

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Study Description

The survival of different species and at different sites may vary independently or synchronously, with synchronous variation increasing the risk of local extinction and destabilized communities. We used a constant effort sites mist-netting scheme to investigate interspecific synchrony in annual adult survival for songbird species across France. The survival was largely synchronous among species despite species having different ecological niche, life-history and migratory strategies. However, the causes of this strong synchrony remain unclear. Continued monitoring of constant effort sites will allow researchers to investigate what factors drive synchronous interspecific survival at the scale of the country.



Photo 1. Each constant effort site has an average of 14 vertical nets, each 12 m long, which allow for capture of birds without harming them. This photo was taken at the Forêt de Sénart site, Ile de France, France. Photo credit: Pierre-Yves Henry.



Photo 2. Each bird is aged (young or adult) based on its plumage. Here, the wing feathers of a Cetti's Warbler (*Cettia cetti*) are examined to determine the progress of its molt. This photo was taken at the Forêt de Fontainebleau site, Ile de France. Photo credit: Bertille Mohring.



Photo 3. Biometric measurements are taken on each captured bird. For example, wing length is measured on this Eurasian Blue Tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*). This photo was taken at the Forêt de Fontainebleau site, Ile de France. Photo credit: Simon Bénateau.



Photo 4. This Juvenile Great Tit (*Parus major*) has just left the nest: the constant effort site scheme extends from the beginning to the end of the breeding period. This photo was taken at the Forêt de Fontainebleau, Ile de France. Photo credit: Bertille Mohring.



Photo 5. The Eurasian Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*) is one of the smallest birds captured in constant effort sites. After being ringed, aged, and sexed, it is ready to be released at its exact capture location. This photo was taken at the Forêt de Fontainebleau, Ile de France. Photo credit: Romain Lorrillière.

These photographs illustrate the article “Synchrony in adult survival is remarkably strong among common temperate songbirds across France.” by Manon Ghislain, Timothée Bonnet, Ugoline Godeau, Olivier Dehorter, Olivier Gimenez, and Pierre-Yves Henry published in Ecology. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecy.4305>