

Saulius Švažas

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC DEGREE

1993 Dr. Sci. (Vilnius University & A. Seversov Institute of Animals Evolutionary morphology and Ecology of the Russian Acad. Sci.).
Ph. D. topic: “Nocturnal bird migration in Lithuania”.
1979 – 1984 Vilnius University, biology.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2007 – 2022 Senior Researcher, Nature Research Centre
1992– 2006 Researcher, Institute of Ecology of Vilnius University
1988 – 1991 Junior Researcher, Institute of Ecology
1985 - 1987 Senior assistant, Institute of Zoology & Parasitology

RESEARCH TOPICS

Waterbirds ecology; investigations of rare and vulnerable bird species. Ecological and population genetic research of bird species in conditions of the global change (population trends, changes of flyways in Europe). Combined ecological and parasitological research of certain bird species.

PUBLICATIONS

Scientific articles published in journals (books), indexed in „Clarivate Analytics Web of Science“ database (with citation index, published in 2018-2022):

Prakas, P., Butkauskas, D., Švažas, S., Stanevičius, V. 2018. Morphological and genetic characterisation of *Sarcocystis halioti* from the Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*. *Parasitology Research* 117: 3663-3667. ISSN: 0932-0113. DOI: 10.1007/s00436-018-6083-4.

Prakas, P., Butkauskas, D., Švažas, S., Juozaitytė-Ngugu, E., Stanevičius, V. 2018. Morphological and genetic identification of *Sarcocystis fulicae* N. Sp. (Apicomplexa: *Sarcocystidae*) from the Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*. *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* 54 (4): 765-771. ISSN: 0090-3558. DOI: 10.7589/2017-11-279.

Beekman J., Koffijberg K., Wahl J., Kowallik C., Hall C., Devos K., Clausen P., Hoenman M., Laubek B., Luigujoe L., Wieloch M., Boland H., Švažas S., Nilsson L., Stipnice A., Keller V., Gaudard C., Degen A., Shimmings P., Larsen B., Portolou D., Langendoen T., Wood K., Rees E. 2019. Long-term population trends and shifts in distribution of Bewick's Swans *Cygnus Columbianus bewickii* wintering in northwest Europe. *Wildfowl Special Issue* 5: 73–102.

Laubek B., Clausen P., Nilsson L., Wahl J., Wieloch M., Meissner W., Shimmings P., Larsen B., Hornman M., Lanhendoen T., Lehtikoinen A., Luigujoe L., Stipnice A., Švažas S., Keller V.,

Gaudard C., Devos K., Musilova Z., Teufelbauer N., Rees W., Fox. A. 2019. Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus* January population censuses for Northwest Mainland Europe, 1995–2015. *Wildfowl Special Issue* 5: 103–122.

Butkauskas, D., Švažas, S., Bea, A., Prakas P., Olano I., Grishanov G., Mischenko A., Kozulin A., Stanevičius V., Baldi A., Huysentruyt F., Vaitkuvienė D., Redkin Y. 2019. Designation of flyways and genetic structure of Woodpigeon *Columba palumbus* in Europe and Morocco. *European Journal of Wildlife Research* 65: 91. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10344-019-1336-9>.

Mischenko, A., Fox, A.D., Švažas, S., Sukhanova, O., Czajkowski, A., Kharitonov, S., Lokhman, Y., Ostrovsky, O., Vaitkuvienė, D. 2020. Recent changes in breeding abundance and distribution of the Common Pochard (*Aythya ferina*) in its eastern range. *Avian Research*, 11 (1): art. no. 23. doi.org/10.1186/s40657-020-00209-6

Butkauskas, D., Bea, A., Yanenko, V., Prakas, P., Švažas, S., Vaitkuvienė, D. 2020. MtDNA D-loop genetic diversity of common quail (*Coturnix coturnix*) migrating through Ukraine and Spain. *Turkish Journal of Zoology* 44: 477-480, [doi:10.3906/zoo-2004-47](https://doi.org/10.3906/zoo-2004-47)

Prakas, P., Butkauskas, D., Švažas, S., Bea, A., Yanenko, V., Ragauskas, A., Vaitkuvienė, D. 2021. The genetic divergence of the European Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia turtur*). *Animals* 11, doi.org/10.3390

Prakas, P., Bea, A., Juozaitytė-Ngugu, E., Olano, I., Villanua, D., Švažas, S., Butkauskas, D. 2021. Molecular identification of *Sarcocystis halioti* in the muscles of two species of birds of prey from Spain. *Parasites Vectors* 14:56. <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-491040/v1>

Van Toor, M., Kharitonov, S., Švažas, S., Dagys, M., Kleyheeg, E., Muskens, G., Ottosson, U., Žydelis, R., Waldenstrom, J. 2021. Migration distance affects how closely Eurasian wigeons follow spring phenology during migration. *Movement Ecology* 9:61. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40462-021-00296-0>

Juozaitytė-Ngugu, E., Švažas, S., Šneideris, D., Rudaitytė-Lukašienė, E., Butkauskas, D. 2021. The role of birds of the family Corvidae in transmitting *Sarcocystis* protozoan parasites. *Animals* 11, 3258. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani11113258>

Juozaitytė-Ngugu, E., Butkauskas, D., Švažas, S., Prakas, P. 2022. Investigation of *Sarcocystis* species in the leg muscles of the bird family Corvidae in Lithuania. *Parasitology Research* 121(2): 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00436-021-07409>

Mischenko, A., Sukhanova, O., Švažas, S., Meshcheriakova, N., Perkovskii, M., Strelkov, V., Czajkowski, A., Vaitkuvienė, D. 2022. Internationally important stopover area for the globally threatened Common Pochard *Aythya ferina* in the Volga River delta. *Wildfowl* 72: 164-173.

Monographs, books

Švažas S., Drobelis E., Balčiauskas L., Raudonikis L. 1999. *Important wetlands in Lithuania*. “OMPO Vilnius”, Vilnius, 192 p.

Švažas S., Meissner W., Serebryakov V., Kozulin A., Grishanov. 2001. *Changes of wintering sites of waterfowl in Central and Eastern Europe*. “OMPO Vilnius” & Institute of Ecology, Vilnius, 152 p.

Švažas S., Kozulin A. 2002. *Waterbirds of large fishponds of Belarus and Lithuania*. “OMPO Vilnius” & Institute of Ecology. Vilnius, 127 p.

Švažas S., Mongin E., Grishanov G., Kuresoo A., Meissner W. 2002. *Snipes of the Eastern Baltic region and Belarus*. “OMPO Vilnius”, Vilnius, 95 p.

Bolshakov C., Žalakevičius M., Švažas S. 2002. *Nocturnal migration of thrushes in the Eastern Baltic region. A monograph*. VUEI & “OMPO Vilnius” Publishers, Vilnius, 117 p.

Švažas S., Viksne J., Kuresoo A., Kozulin A. 2003. *The Garganey (Anas querquedula) and Shoveler (Anas clypeata) in the Baltic States and Belarus*. “OMPO Vilnius”, Vilnius, 90 p.

Švažas S., Kozulin A., Grishanov G., Rašomavičius V., Raudonikis L., Baichorov V., Skuratovich A., Balčiauskas L., Grishanov D. 2003. *Important transboundary Belarusian-Lithuanian and Lithuanian – Russian Wetlands*. VUEI & “OMPO Vilnius” Publishers, Vilnius, 96 p.

Viksne J., Švažas S., Czajkowski A., Mischenko A., Kozulin A., Kuresoo A., Serebryakov V., Janaus M. 2010. *Atlas of Duck Populations in Eastern Europe*. „Akstis“, Vilnius, 188 p.

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

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| 2020 – 2021 | project leader: “Population status of the globally threatened Common Pochard <i>Aythya ferina</i> in Eastern Europe”. |
| 2016 – 2017 | project leader: “Breeding ecology and population genetic structure of indicator terrestrial bird species in Europe”. |
| 2014 – 2015 | expert: Lithuanian Science Foundation project “Research of Sarcocystis species in wildfowl species”. |
| 2007 – 2010 | project leader: the Nemunas River delta – internationally important area for migratory waterbirds” (part of GEF/UNEP Program “Wings Over Wetlands”). |

INTERNSHIP AND TRAINING

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| 2009 | “Population limitations in birds“ (Groningen University, the Netherlands). |
| 1995-1997 | “Environmental impact assessment in bird populations“ (Central European University, Budapest). |
| 1993 | „Surveys and mapping of marine birds“ (Environmental Research Institute, Denmark). |

PARTICIPATION IN SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES

International scientific conferences (main conference in 2018-2022):

Švažas S., Mischenko A., Kozulin A., Czajkowski A. 2022. Population status of the globally threatened Common Pochard *Aythya ferina* in its eastern range. – *The 6th International Duck Study Conference*, Coimbra, Portugal.

Švažas S., Mischenko A., Kozulin A., Czajkowski A. 2019. The decline of the breeding population of Common Pochard in Eastern Europe and Siberia and its reasons. – *Congress of the International Union of Game Biologists*, Kaunas, Lithuania.

Švažas S., Pinchuk, P., Bea, A., Karlionova, N. Recent changes of the flyway of Ruff *Phylomachus pugnax* in Europe in conditions of the global change. 2018. - *International conference „Bird Migration and Global Change“*. Tarifa, Spain.

Švažas S. Rare waterbird species in Africa and Western Eurasia and their conservation priorities. 2018. - *7th AEWa Meeting of Parties*. Durban, South Africa.

PARTICIPATION IN THE STUDY PROCESS

2018 – 2022: member of the scientific committee of Vilnius University and Nature Research Centre of doctoral studies in the field of zoology; member of the scientific commission of Nature Research Centre of doctoral studies in the field of zoology; member of the committee of evaluation of two Ph. D. Studies.

OTHER

Environmental education papers/publications:

Švažas S., Prakas P., Butkauskas D., Vaitkuviene D. 2021. European Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur* – declining bird species in Europe. *Paukščiai* 50: 8-12. (in Lithuanian)

Švažas S. (ed.). 2009. The Nemunas River Delta Regional Park Akstis”, Vilnius, 72 p. (in Lithuanian).

Participation in the work of international organisations:

Chair of the Technical Committee of the African – Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), (2016-2018); member of the Technical Committee of AEWA (2014-2018).