

Synopsis on Applied and Economic Ornithology

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DESCRIPTION

Ornithology, the scientific study of birds, encompasses a wide range of disciplines aimed at understanding avian biology, behaviour, and conservation. Two branches that have gained significant importance in recent years are applied ornithology and economic ornithology. These fields focus on utilizing scientific knowledge and economic principles to address and mitigate the ill effects of various avian problems. This article will explore the significance of applied and economic ornithology in reducing the adverse impacts of avian issues within our ecosystems.

Applied ornithology

Applied ornithology plays a crucial role in translating scientific knowledge into actionable conservation strategies. By understanding avian behaviour, ecology, and their interactions with the environment, researchers and practitioners can develop effective solutions to address specific avian problems. This branch of ornithology aims to identify and implement measures to mitigate threats such as habitat loss, climate change, pollution, and invasive species that negatively impact bird populations.

One of the primary objectives of applied ornithology is to develop conservation strategies that promote the recovery and sustainability of endangered bird species. By studying population dynamics, breeding patterns, and migratory routes, scientists can identify critical areas for habitat protection and restoration. The use of advanced tracking technologies, such as satellite telemetry, enables researchers to gather valuable data on bird movements, helping to inform conservation efforts on a global scale.

Applied ornithology also focuses on reducing human-wildlife conflicts. Birds, especially certain species like gulls and pigeons, can pose challenges in urban areas, airports, and agricultural landscapes. Through research and innovative techniques, ornithologists can devise humane and effective strategies to manage these conflicts. For instance, the implementation of bird deterrent systems at airports has significantly reduced the risk of bird strikes, enhancing aviation safety.

Economic ornithology

Economic ornithology examines the economic value and benefits derived from avian ecosystems and their services. Birds play essential roles in pollination, seed dispersal, insect control, and nutrient cycling, making them vital for the functioning of ecosystems. By quantifying the economic value of these services, policymakers and stakeholders gain a better understanding of the importance of conserving avian populations and their habitats.

For example, insectivorous birds provide pest control services by consuming large quantities of insects, reducing the need for pesticide use in agricultural systems. This not only benefits farmers economically but also contributes to sustainable farming practices. Economic ornithology helps in evaluating the cost-effectiveness of maintaining bird populations compared to alternative methods of pest control.

Furthermore, birdwatching and ecotourism contribute significantly to local economies. Many bird species attract tourists and nature enthusiasts, who spend money on accommodations, transportation, and other services. Economic studies that quantify the monetary value generated by birdwatching help to emphasize the importance of habitat conservation for both ecological and economic reasons. This knowledge aids in the development of policies that support sustainable tourism and promote avian conservation.

CONCLUSION

Applied and economic ornithology are invaluable branches of the broader field of ornithology. By combining scientific knowledge with economic principles, these disciplines provide practical solutions to mitigate the ill effects of avian issues. Applied ornithology focuses on understanding bird behaviour, population dynamics, and habitat requirements to develop effective conservation strategies and manage human-wildlife conflicts. Economic ornithology, on the other hand, helps in valuing avian ecosystem services and quantifying the economic benefits of bird conservation.

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