

## **Project Update: August 2005**

Continuously bad weather slowed White Stork migration on the eastern flyway in spring. Due to heavy rains in March and April, many of individuals and pairs returned to their breeding sites much later than it is phenologically normal, and thus breeding started considerably later. However, we conducted monitoring of occupancy of installed nest-platforms in July.

Its aim was to establish percentage of occupied platforms (on which breeding occurred) and to examine stability of platforms. All 10 nests on installed platforms in village Taras are occupied, 8 of 10 in Neuzina, 7 of 10 in Orlovat, 6 of 8 in Botos, all 4 platforms in Perlez, 3 of 4 in Sutjeska, all three in Tomasevac and Belo Blato, respectively and both platforms we erected in Sakule. Since White Storks occupied nests on 46 of 54 platforms, and reared their chicks on them, 85% success make the project efforts and organization almost successful.

Many of unoccupied nests erected near existing breeding places were used as daily resting and roosting posts for adult storks. It to be expected that more nests will be occupied and used for breeding in following years