

Distribución del Pico Menor *Dendrocopos minor* en Cataluña (NE de España)

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Breeding distribution of the Lesser Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos minor* in Catalonia (NE Spain)

The breeding distribution of the Lesser Spotted Woodpecker in Catalonia is updated. During 1987-2000, surveys were carried out in 50 (out of 385) UTM 10 x 10 km squares, and the species was found in 31 of these (amounting to 8% of Catalonia). During the study period 765 forest patches were surveyed and the species was detected in 344 (45%) of these. This species inhabits deciduous broad-leaved forest in Atlantic areas, whereas it is restricted to riverine gallery forests (mainly along the Rivers Tordera, Ter and Fluvià) and poplar *Populus* plantations in Mediterranean areas. The highest degree of presence of the species was detected in poplar plantations (51,5%), followed by Atlantic deciduous forest (48,2%), riverine forest (37%) and submediterranean deciduous forest (8%). The results extend the known distribution of the species in Catalonia, the expansion being attributable to more accurate surveys and to a presumed upgrading in the quality of lowland riverine forests, where the greatest densities were found, e.g. up to 0,011 territories per 10 ha along the River Fluvià.

Key words: Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos minor*, distribution, riverine forest, Catalonia, NE Spain.

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INTRODUCCIÓN

El Pico Menor *Dendrocopos minor* es una especie discreta y de difícil detección, lo cual dificulta el conocimiento de

su área de distribución. En la península Ibérica los principales núcleos de reproducción se sitúan en el norte y oeste (Román *et al.* 1996, Jubete 1997, Prieta & Molina 1999, Serradilla & Calvo