



Yellow-browed Warbler – Stanford Reservoir – 7th October 2010

The first sighting and ringing record of this species at Stanford Reservoir is described below.

Background & discovery

Members of the Stanford Ringing Group arrived at 0530 hrs on 7/10/10 in order to erect nets for the morning's ringing session.

During a round of the nets at about 0740 hrs MDH was extracting birds from a net adjacent to where JGC was also extracting birds from another net. MDH exclaimed that he had a bird we'd be pleased with. He said that it was a Yellow-browed Warbler or so he thought - never having seen one before. The bird was duly brought back to our nearby ringing base where the initial identification was confirmed.

MDH ringed the bird and JGC took the biometric measurements and then photographs. The bird was released, whereupon to the surprise of us all, it flew to the nearest bushes and started feeding. It remained feeding in front of us for 40 minutes before it started to move along the railtrack bushes (towards Daventry).

The last photograph of the bird in the hand was timed at 0753 hrs; the last one of it feeding further down the railtrack was timed at 0843 hrs.

Biometrics

JGC took the bird's biometrics and these are listed below, alongside those given in Svensson's *Identification Guide to European Passerines* (1992). The bird was adjudged to be probable male on wing length (♂ 55 to 60 mm; ♀ 51 to 56 mm)

Biometric	Svensson	Stanford Bird
Wing length	51 – 60 mm	58 mm (male)
1st Primary > Primary Coverts by	3– 7 mm	4 mm
2nd Primary equals/falls	6th to 8th Primary	between 7th & 8 th
Emarginated	3rd to 6th Primaries	3rd to 6th Primaries
Weight		5.9 gms
Fat score		Nil fat

Images taken on 7/10/10

