

Avian Remains from an Early Neolithic Settlement of Slatina (Present Sofia City, Bulgaria)

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Abstract: Nineteen bird bone remains (MNI=10) of 6 orders, 7 families and 8 species (9 taxa), dated ca. 8000 BP have been identified: *Cygnus olor*, *Anser erythropus*, *Buteo lagopus*, *Grus grus*, *Otis tarda*, *Tetrax tetrax*, *Columba palumbus* and *Corvus cornix*. The site provides the 3rd Bulgarian record of *B. lagopus*, and 4th one of *A. erythropus*. The findings of *G. grus* are the oldest species' record in the country. Most of the findings originate from hunted wild birds, most of them inhabitants of openland grassy and wetland habitats.

Key words: Early Neolithic birds, Holocene avian remains, Bulgaria, Archaeozoology, game-fowl