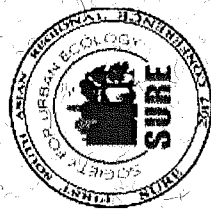


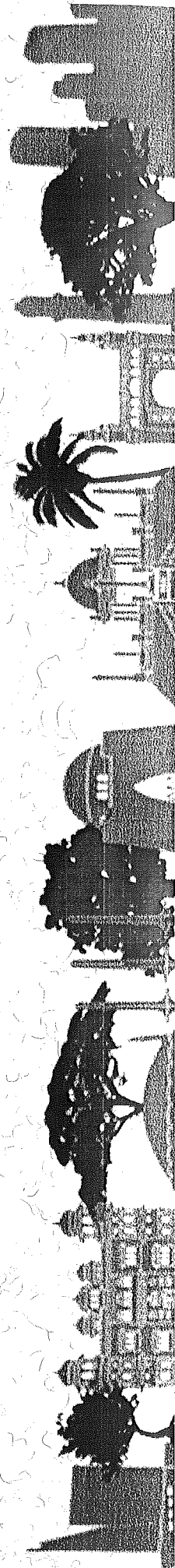
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METHOD FOR REDUCING THE URBAN POPULATION OF CORVIDS — A TRAPPING EXPERIMENT

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Abstract—Hooded Crows (*Corvus corone cornix* L.) have colonised and spread in many European cities in recent decades. They are often considered a pest due to their noise, spilling litter, aggression to humans and domestic animals, and predation on birds of urban environments. Consequently, the control and/or management of crow populations may become necessary in the future in many cities. The aim of this study was to compare the effectiveness of different trap types in catching crows and other corvids in an urban environment. We experimentally tested four types of traps at the campus of the University of Debrecen in 2014: bow net, Larsen trap, Swedish trap, and ladder entrance trap. As bait, we used bread, meat products, fish, and live and decoy birds. In 269 trap-days, we captured 23 Hooded Crows (with three birds recaptured 10 times), 34 Rooks (three recaptured 11 times), and 3 Magpies. The side-opening Larsen trap (0.46 captures/trap-day) and the ladder entrance trap (0.37) were the most effective. We caught only juvenile Hooded Crows, and both juvenile and adult Rooks, likely related to the wariness of adult crows. If a bird was captured in one type of trap, it was not recaptured in that type of trap. Our study suggests that trapping may be an effective way to catch crows and that some trap types may be more efficient than others. We present detailed guidelines for the construction and operation of these traps, which experience will be important in urban environmental management, and in nature conservation and wildlife management.

Keywords: reducing, trapping, Corvids, Hooded Crow, *Corvus corone cornix*, urban environment

MONITORING SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF SALVADORA PERSICA IN KARACHI UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

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Salvadora persica (Miswak) is very important shrub of arid areas in Pakistan. This plant is under tremendous pressure because of many anthropogenic interventions, especially its utility as traditional medicine and tooth brush. It is, therefore, treated as the endangered species by the sustainable land use management programme (SLMP). In this paper an attempt has been made to map the distribution of *Salvadora persica* at University of Karachi Campus, which is a fragmented ecosystem and have preserved many plants and animal species, which are totally wiped off from the city. High resolution satellite imageries will be utilized for the species mapping.