

Morales, M.B., J.C. Alonso, E. Martín & J.A. Alonso. 1996. Mating system in the Great Bustard: a review of published work in light of recent radiotracking results. En: Fernández, J. & Sanz-Zuasti, J. (eds.) *Conservación de Aves Esteparias y sus Hábitats*, págs. 287-292, Junta de Castilla y León, Valladolid

**Abstract**

Published papers on Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*) mating strategies are critically reviewed in the light of new data obtained after a two year (1994-1995) radiotracking study of Great Bustard males, in the Reserve of Villafáfila. These results are still preliminary but provide valuable information on male seasonal movements and gregariousness, daily ranges and display rates during the breeding season, as well as on the main copulation period in the study area and female nesting areas. Such information suggests that the great bustard mating system is basically promiscuous, leaving no room for real polygyny, as proposed in earlier studies. This conclusion must still be supported by a deep analysis of the results preliminarily presented in this paper.