

## THE BLACK STORK IN THE KIEV REGION OF THE UKRAINE

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The Black Stork stopped nesting in the Kiev Region in the beginning of the 1950s. The first nests appeared only two decades later. In 1985-1992 28 nesting places were discovered. At present the number of the Black Stork in the region is at least 25-30 pairs. The southern border of its range corresponds to the boundary between the forest and forest-steppe zones.

77.8% of the examined nests were built on oaks, 16.7% on pines, 5.9% on alders (n=18); 69.2% of them were situated in furcations and 30.8% on massive branches near the trunk (n=13). The height of the nest fluctuates from 6 to 25 m; the average height is  $16.4 \pm 1.6$  m (n=14). There were 2-4 nestlings in broods, the average brood size is  $3.3 \pm 0.2$  (n=9).

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