

and advising on the co-ordination of urban animal and bird pests. One of the main areas of contact could be the increasing problem caused by feral pigeons. The Chief Warden of Fauna is the Department's representative on the committee.

COLLECTION OF FAUNA FOR NON-DEPARTMENTAL PURPOSES

The Department is approached quite frequently by study teams to assist in the collection of fauna used in their programmes. It is Departmental policy that officers of the Department should not be deployed to assist in this. It is not part of a warden's or inspector's, or any other departmental officer's duty and if assistance were given to one faculty to obtain material, assistance to others would have to be given too. Because of the numerous requests, far too much time would be spent on this activity. In any case, the Department must concern itself in authorizing and supervising such collections and to undertake collection work would be contrary to the spirit of the Department's duty.

Participation in official Departmental research programmes is quite different. Apart from these officially approved projects, Departmental officers should decline requests for assistance and explain that the Department does not approve because it is too time consuming and that it is contrary to the spirit of its duties.