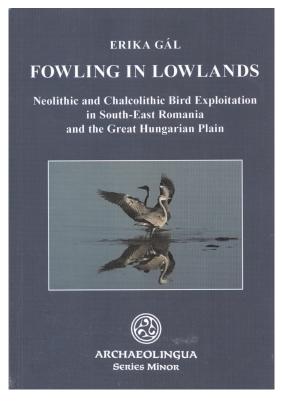
BOOKS RECEIVED:

Erika GÁL: Fowling in the lowlands. Neolithic and Chalcolithic Bird Exploitation in South-East Roumania and the Great Hungarian Plain. Archaeolingua, Series Minor 24, Budapest 2007, 152 pp.

www.archaeolingua.hu/publications.html



Studies of archaeological bird remains and prehistoric bird exploitation are something of a rarity.

Erika Gál focuses on birds from the floodplains of Tisza in Eastern Hungary and the lower Danube in Romania and from the Neolithic and Chalcolithic periods (c. 6,000-2,000 cal BC). In all the material comprises 42 sites and a large part of the book is taken up by a site-by-site review of avifaunas.

The cultural sequence in southeastern Europe is complex, and I strongly missed a table that shows the chronology and correlation between the various sites and cultures in the two basins. It would have greatly facilitated the use of the data in the book.

An interesting fact is that though the remains are from the warmest part of the Holocene, which in this area means 2-3 degrees warmer than the present, no obvious climatically induced differences can be discerned in the avifaunas.

Tommy Tyrberg