

191 Ruff



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Male (18-VIII)

RUFF (*Philomachus pugnax*)

IDENTIFICATION

21-29 cm. In **non breeding** plumage with brownish head and upperparts; pale underparts; tail with white uppercoverts on both sides; wing with a white band; orange legs.

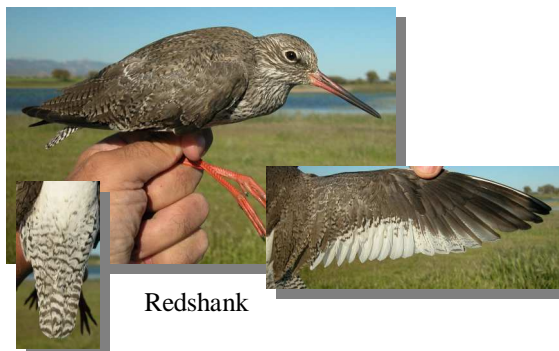


Ruff. Autumn. Pattern of tail, breast, legs and wing.



SIMILAR SPECIES

Recalls a **Redshank**, with broader wing band and without two white bands on sides of uppertail



Redshank

SEXING

Male with **display** plumage (mid April to June) unmistakable, but not found in Aragon. Plumage of both sexes similar in other season. Size can be useful for sexing: **male** with wing longer than 175 mm; **female** with wing shorter than 170 mm.

AGEING

3 types of age can be recognized:
1st year autumn similar to **adults**, but with **juvenile** retained feathers on rump which are buff rather than grey; pale fringes of tail feathers with darker borders subterminally; retained **juvenile** wing coverts with bright buff fringes; tail feathers and primaries narrow and pointed; brownish green or orange green legs.
2nd year spring only in birds with retained **juvenile** buff fringed inner median wing coverts; primaries very worn; sometimes primaries with moult limit between the older inners and fresh outers.
Adult in autumn with grey brown upperparts; grey brown wing coverts with paler edges; inner median coverts fringed whitish; white underparts; breast streaked grey; tail feathers and primaries broad and rounded; pinkish or orange red legs. In **spring**, without buff fringed inner median coverts; wing coverts grey brown, paler at tips; breast and mantle mottled with blackish brown feathers; primaries slightly worn.

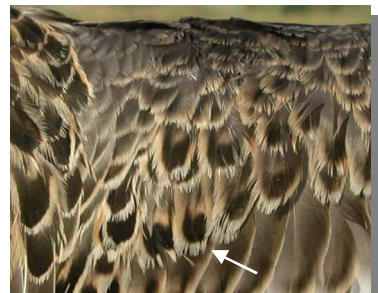
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Ruff. Autumn. Ageing. Pattern of rump: left adult; right 1° year.



Ruff. Autumn. Ageing. Pattern of tail feathers: left adult; right 1° year.



Ruff. Autumn. Ageing. Pattern of wing coverts: top adult; bottom 1° year.



Ruff. Autumn. Ageing. Colour of legs: top adult; bottom 1° year.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, starting in breeding areas and finished in wintering quarters. Partial **postjuvenile** moult including body feathers and most of the wing coverts; starts in breeding areas and finished in wintering quarters. Both types of age have a **prebreeding** moult including body feathers, some tertials and tail feathers; some **2nd year** birds can change outer primaries.

PHENOLOGY

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII

STATUS IN ARAGON

Very common on passage in wetlands throughout the Region, but this species can be found during all the year due to wintering and non breeder birds.

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Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Female (18-VIII)



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Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Male (06-IX)



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Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Female (18-VIII)



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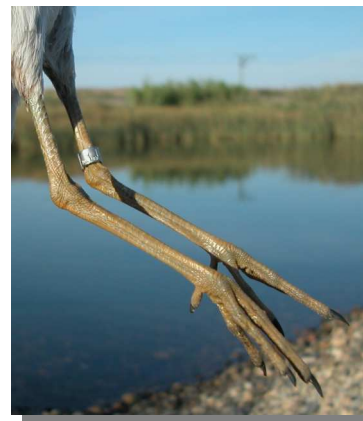
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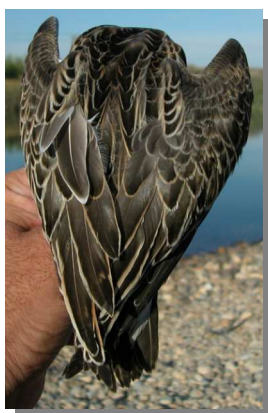
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Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Upperpart pattern: left male (18-VIII); right female (18-VIII)



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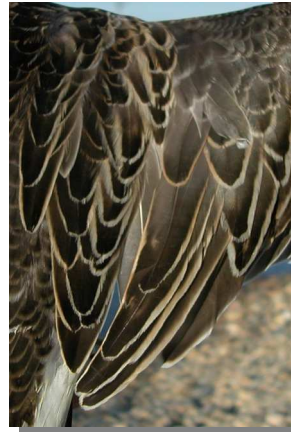
Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Upperpart pattern: left male (06-IX); right female (18-VIII)



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Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (18-VIII); right female (18-VIII)



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Pattern of tertials: left male (06-IX); right female (18-VIII)



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Tail pattern: left male (06-IX); right female (18-VIII)



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Male: pattern of wing coverts (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Pattern of tertials: left male (18-VIII); right female (18-VIII)



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Female: pattern of wing coverts (18-VIII).

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Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing coverts (06-IX).



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of primaries (06-IX).



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing coverts (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Female: pattern of primaries (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Male: pattern of primaries in active moult (18-VIII).

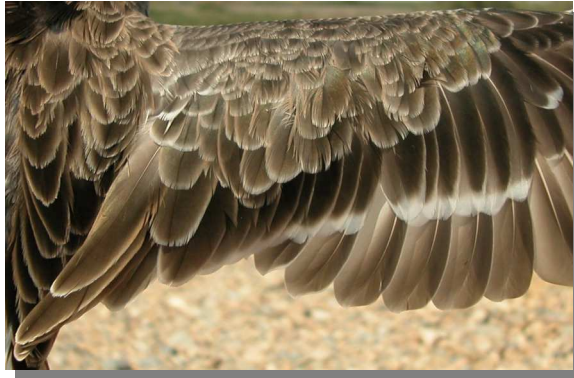


Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Male: pattern of secondaries in active moult (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Female: pattern of primaries in active moult (18-VIII).

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Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Female: pattern of secondaries in active moult (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Male: pattern of wing in active moult (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of secondaries (06-IX).



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Female: pattern of wing in active moult (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Female: pattern of secondaries (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (06-IX).

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Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (18-VIII).