

144 Quail



Quail. Adult. Male dark morph (04-V).

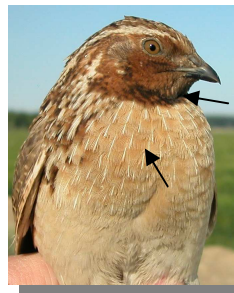
QUAIL (*Coturnix coturnix*)

IDENTIFICATION

16-19 cm. Buff brown upperparts, with dark marks; paler underparts and mottled on flanks; white line on eye and neck; **male** with dark throat; **female** with white throat.

SEXING

Male with black on centre of throat with a variable extent since just a narrow band till whole black throats; buff breast with white streaks; flank feathers with chestnut streaks, without dark spots (**CAUTION**: some **juvenile males** lack black on throat). **Female** with throat always whitish; breast very spotted with dark points; flank feathers with dark spots.



Quail. Adult. Sexing. Pattern of throat and breast: left male; right female.



Quail. Female. Pattern of breast, head and upperparts.



Quail. Juvenile. Sexing. Pattern of throat and breast: left male; right female.

SIMILAR SPECIES

This species is unmistakable.

144 Quail

AGEING

3 types of age can be recognized (**CAUTION:** since quails breed in winter, all kind of ages can be found during all the year):

Juvenile similar to **female**; fresh plumage; wing without moult limit; **males** have some flank feathers with **female** pattern; pale buff iris.

2nd year with moult limit between changed dark flight feathers and retained juvenile 3-5 outermost primaries, with their primary coverts, which are worn and ochre (**CAUTION:** late hatching birds have poor wear on outermost primaries but limit in colour can be found); **males** can have some flank feathers with **female** pattern.

Adult without moult limits on the wing; flight feathers more worn and paler than **juvenile** feathers; reddish iris.



Q u a i l .
F e m a l e .
A g e i n g .
C o l o u r o f i r i s :
t o p a d u l t ;
b o t t o m
j u v e n i l e .



Quail. Ageing. Pattern of breast: left adult female; right juvenile male.

Quail. Ageing. Mould in primaries: top adult; middle 2nd year; bottom juvenile.

144 Quail



Quail. Male. Ageing. Pattern of flank: top adult; bottom 2nd year.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in October. Partial **postjuvenile** moult changing body feathers in 6 weeks after hatching being then similar to adults; between august and september all flight feathers are moulted except the 3-5 outermost primaries. A **prebreeding** moult can be found in **adults** and **juveniles** including body feathers only so the outermost **juvenile** primaries are moulted after **postbreeding** moult.

PHENOLOGY

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

STATUS EN ARAGON

Summer visitor. Widely distributed throughout the Region, absent only from the most arid areas of the Ebro Basin.



Quail. Adult. Male pale morph (04-V)



Quail. Adult. Female (29-VII)



Quail. 2nd year. Male (04-V)

144 Quail



Quail. 2nd year. Female (08-IV)



Q u a i l .
Adult. Head
pattern and
iris colour:
top male
dark morph
(0 4 - V) ;
m i d d l e
male pale
morph (04-
V); bottom
female (29-
VII).



Quail. Juvenile. Male (09-VII).



Quail. 2nd
year. Head
pattern and
iris colour:
top male
(0 4 - V) ;
b o t t o m
female (08-
IV).



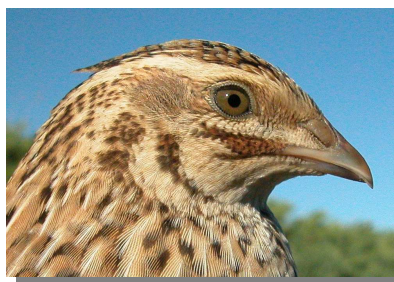
Quail. Juvenile. Female (20-VIII).



144 Quail



Quail. Juvenile. Head pattern and iris colour: top male (09-VII); bottom female (20-VIII)



Quail. Juvenile. Breast pattern: left male (09-VII); right female (20-VIII)



Quail. Adult. Male: flank pattern (04-V).



Quail. Adult. Breast pattern: top left male dark morph (04-V); top right male pale morph (04-V); left female (29-VII)



Quail. Adult. Female: flank pattern (29-VII).



Quail. 2nd year. Breast pattern: left male (04-V); right female (08-IV).



Quail. 2nd year. Male: flank pattern (04-V).

144 Quail



Quail. 2nd year. Female: flank pattern (08-IV).



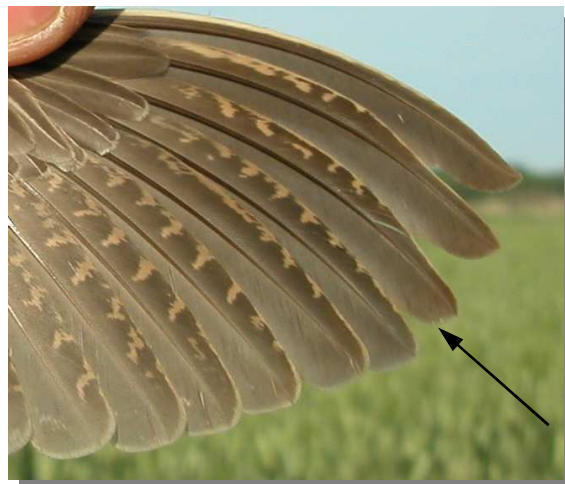
Quail. Juvenile. Male: flank pattern (09-VII).



Codorniz común. Juvenil. Hembra. Diseño de las plumas del flanco (27-IV).



Quail. 2nd year: pattern of primaries in early hatching birds (26-IV).



Quail. 2nd year: pattern of primaries in late hatching birds (04-V).



Quail. Adult: pattern of primaries (04-V).



Quail. Juvenile: pattern of primaries in early hatching birds (09-VII).

144 Quail



Quail. Juvenile: pattern of primaries in late hatching birds (09-VII).



Quail. Juvenile: pattern of wing in early hatching birds (09-VII).



Quail. Juvenile: pattern of wing in late hatching birds (09-VII).



Quail. Adult: pattern of wing (04-V).



Quail. 2nd year: pattern of wing in early hatching birds (26-IV).



Quail. 2nd year: pattern of wing in late hatching birds (04-V).