

# 300 Thekla Lark



Thekla Lark. Autumn (28-XI).

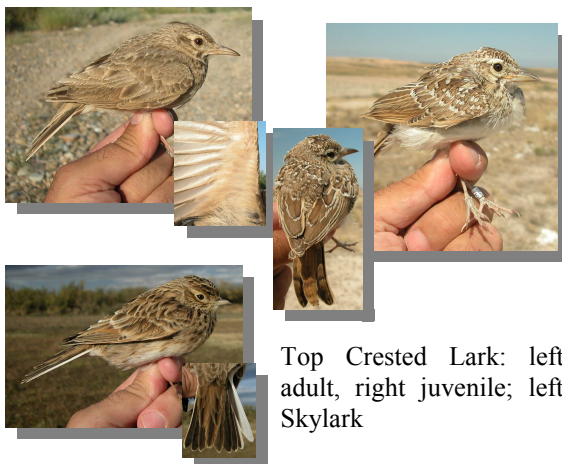
## THEKLA LARK (*Galerida theklae*)

### IDENTIFICATION

15-17 cm. Brown plumage; rusty outer tail feathers; head with crest; tip of bill convex; breast distinctly streaked; rust tinged uppertail coverts contrasting with rump; grey undertail coverts; 10th primary is shorter or longer than primary coverts; primaries 7th and 8th are the longest. **Juveniles** have white edges on feathers.

### SIMILAR SPECIES

Among larks with crest, **Skylark** has white outer tail feathers. **Crested Lark** is very similar but has grey uppertail coverts; rust tinged underwing coverts; breast with diffuse streaked; 10th primary always shorter than primary coverts; bill is longer and straight near the tip. **Juveniles** of both species are difficult to determine being useful characters bill pattern, wing formula and paler plumage of **Crested Lark**.



Top Crested Lark: left adult, right juvenile; left Skylark

### SEXING

Plumage of both sexes alike.

### AGEING

2 types of age can be recognized:

**Juvenile** with shorter crest; fresh plumage; feathers with pale edges.

**Adult** with longer crest than **juveniles**; without pale edges on feathers; worn feathers in **spring**.

After the **postbreeding/postjuvenile** moult, ageing is not possible using plumage characters.

### MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** and **postjuvenile** moults, finished in October.

### PHENOLOGY

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

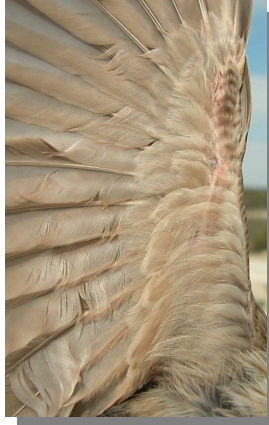
### STATUS IN ARAGON

Resident. Widely distributed throughout the Region, absent only from the Pyrenees.



Thekla Lark. Spring. Adult (09-V)

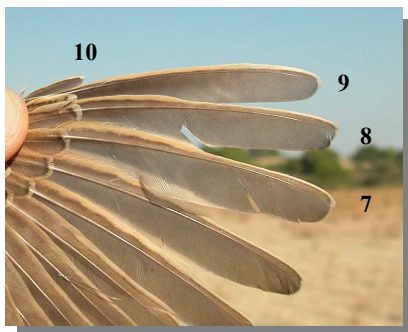
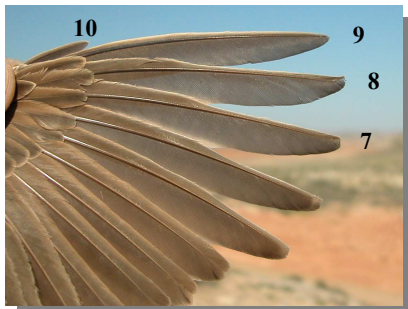
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Thekla Lark. Adult. Pattern of upperside and underwing coverts.



Thekla Lark. Pattern of head and bill: top in autumn (28-XI); middle adult in spring (09-V); bottom juvenile (11-VII).



Thekla Lark. Wing formula: top adult (04-V); bottom juvenile (27-VII)



Thekla Lark. Spring. Juvenile (11-VII)

Thekla Lark. Breast pattern: top in autumn (28-XI); middle adult in spring (09-V); bottom juvenile (11-VII).



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Thekla Lark. Upperpart pattern: top in autumn (28-XI); middle adult in spring (09-V); bottom juvenile (11-VII).



Thekla Lark. Tail pattern: top in autumn (28-XI); middle adult in spring (09-V); bottom juvenile (11-VII).



Thekla Lark. Pattern of legs: top adult (04-V); bottom juvenile (27-VII)



Thekla Lark. Autumn: pattern of wing (28-XI).



Thekla Lark. Spring. Adult: pattern of wing (09-V).

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Thekla Lark. Spring. Juvenile: pattern of wing (11-VII).