

134 Hobby

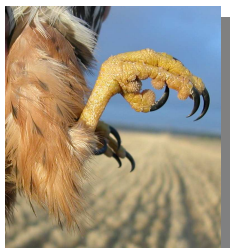
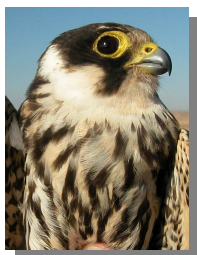


Hobby. 2nd year. Female (19-IX).

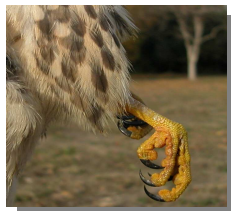
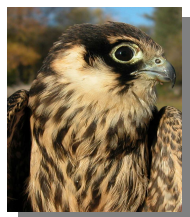
HOBBY (*Falco subbuteo*)

IDENTIFICATION

30-35 cm. **Adults** with slate grey upperparts; pale underparts; dark moustache; vent and thighs reddish; grey tail; pale underwing feathers. **Juveniles** dark brown and streaked: lacking red thighs.



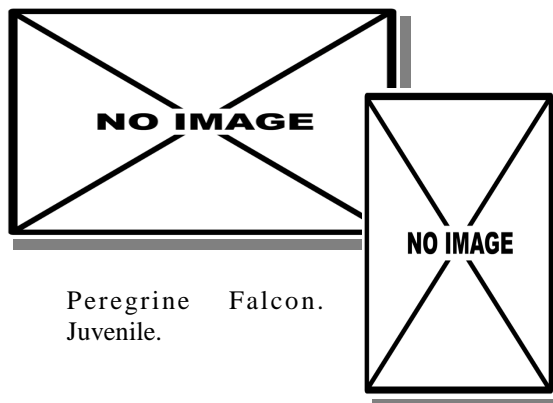
Hobby. Adult: pattern of breast, thighs and upperparts.



Hobby. Juvenile: pattern of breast, thighs and upperparts.

SIMILAR SPECIES

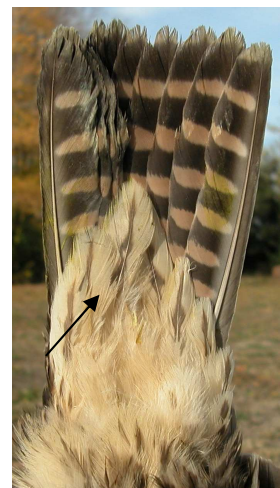
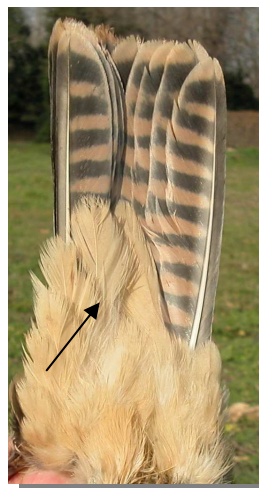
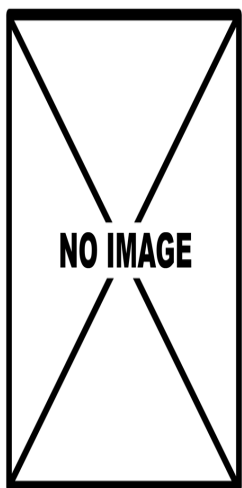
Adult can be separated from the other small falcons for its moustache and reddish underparts; **juvenile** recalls a **Peregrine Falcon** (38-45 cm) which is bigger and with greyer upperparts.



Peregrine Falcon.
Juvenile.

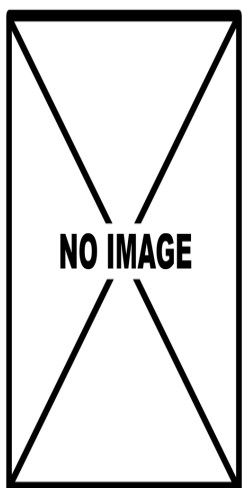
SEXING

It's possible to sex the smallest **males**, with a wing shorter than 245 mm. (**CAUTION:** birds with longer wings belong to both sexes). In **adults**, **male** usually with deep blue grey upperparts; thighs and undertail coverts unstreaked or with poorly marked streaks; deep reddish underparts. **Female** usually with dull blue grey upperparts; thighs and undertail coverts streaked; underparts with duller reddish. In **juveniles**, **male** usually with marks on undertail coverts small and unfrequent; the ochre on underparts with a pitch of orange; on 3rd-5th tail feathers the light band proximal to the subterminal band is usually interrupted at the shaft by a fine dark stripe. **Female** usually with marks on undertail coverts large and frequent; the ochre on underparts without orange tinge; on 3rd-5th tail feathers the light band proximal to the subterminal band is usually interrupted by a broad dark stripe. Pattern of the 3rd-5th tail feathers is useful to sex the **2nd year** birds if juvenile rectrices have been retained (**CAUTION:** sexing of **juveniles** and **2nd year** birds are not always possible due to overlap of characters, so only extreme birds must sexed and only when have all the described patterns).

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Hobby. Adult. Sexing. Pattern of upperparts: left male; right female.

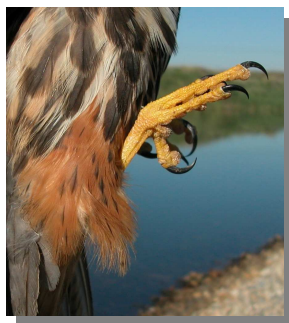
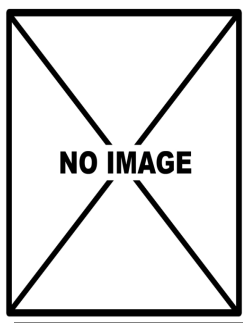
Hobby. Juvenile. Sexing. Pattern of undertail coverts: left male; right female.



Hobby. Adult. Sexing. Pattern of undertail coverts: left male; right female.



Hobby. Juvenile. Sexing. Pattern of the pale band next to the dark subterminal in the 3rd tail feather: left male; right female.



Hobby. Adult. Sexing. Pattern of thighs: left male; right female.

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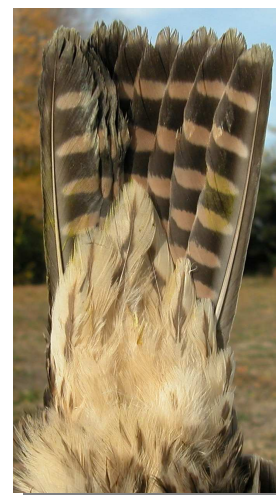
AGEING

3 types of age can be recognized:

Juvenile with feathers on upperparts black-brown with rufous edge; undertail coverts and thighs buffish yellow; central pair of tail feathers slate and with rufous tips; tail feathers barred and tipped rufous; greater covers and primary coverts tipped rufous.

2nd year with plumage similar to **adult** or with some mixed juvenile brown feathers; tail with both adult and juvenile feathers; greater coverts and flight feathers juvenile (in summer sometimes with some adult feathers just moulted).

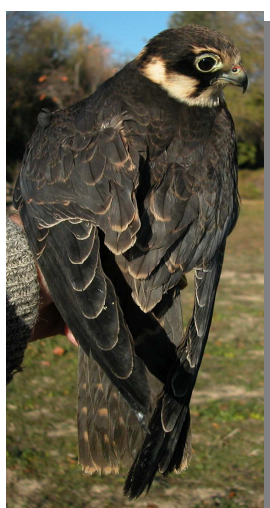
Adult with blue-grey upperparts; undertail coverts and thighs reddish; central pair of tail feathers without rufous tips; tail feathers tipped greyish; greater coverts and primary coverts without rufous tips.



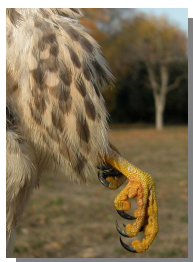
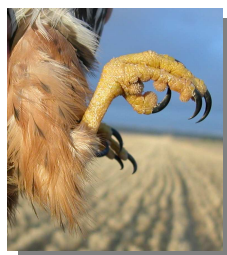
Hobby. Ageing. Pattern of undertail coverts: left adult; right juvenile.



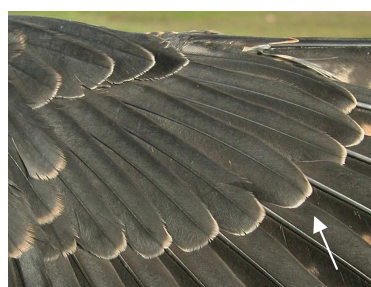
Hobby. Ageing. Pattern of tips of tail feathers: left adult; right juvenile.



Hobby. Ageing. Pattern of upperparts: left adult; right juvenile.



Hobby. Ageing. Pattern of thighs: left adult; right juvenile.



Hobby. Ageing. Pattern of tips of primary coverts: top adult; bottom juvenile.

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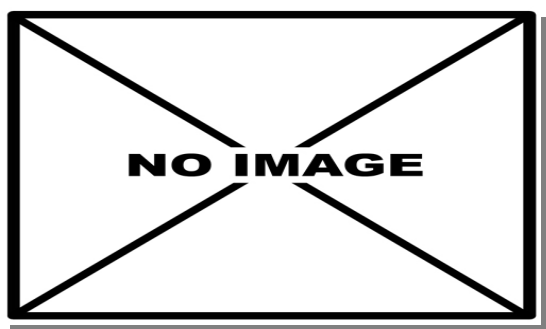
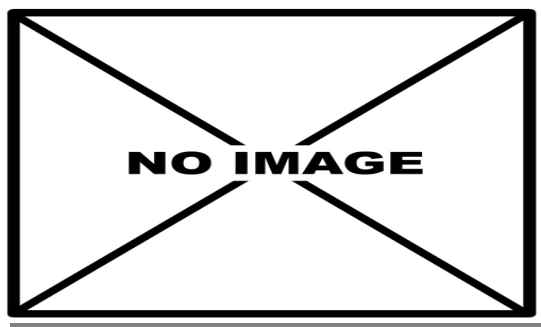
Complete **postbreeding** moult, starting usually by August and finished in winter quarters. Partial **postjuvenile** moult in winter, changing body feathers, some tail feathers and some wing coverts (never primary coverts).

PHENOLOGY

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

STATUS IN ARAGON

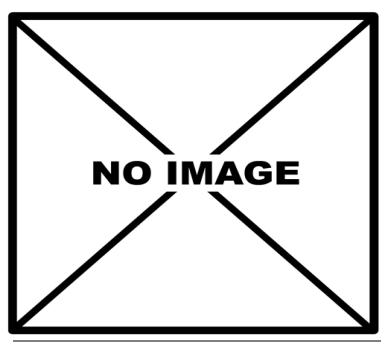
Summer visitor, breeds in plain areas with open trees in low areas of the Region.



Hobby. Adult. Male ().

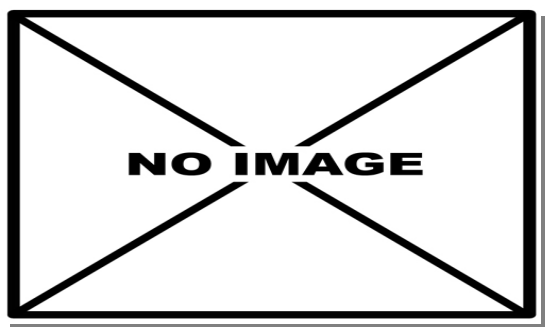
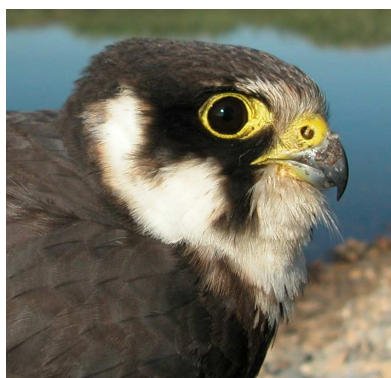


Hobby. Juvenile. Female (29-XI).

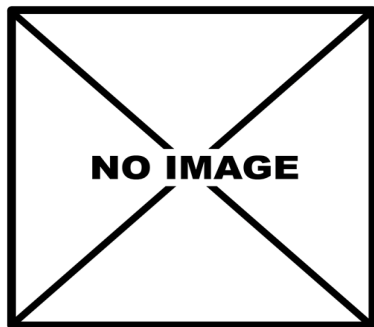


Hobby. Adult. Female (06-VIII).

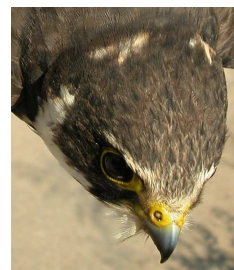
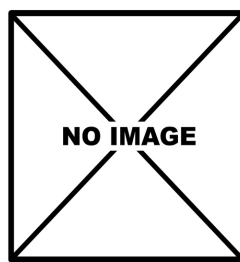
Hobby. Adult.
Head pattern:
top male ();
bottom female
(21-VIII).



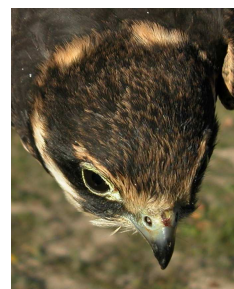
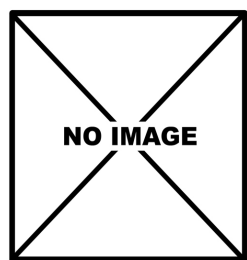
Hobby. 2nd year. Male ().

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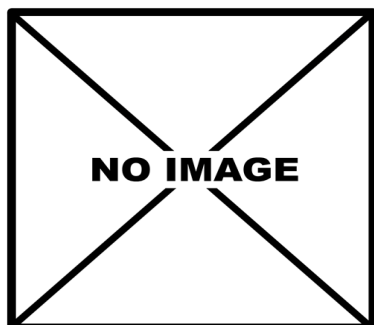
Hobby. 2nd
year. Head
pattern: top
male ();
bottom female
(19-IX).



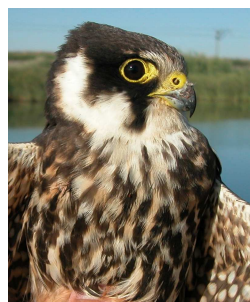
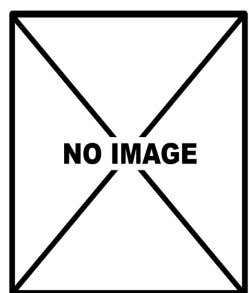
Hobby. 2nd year. Crown pattern: left male (); right female (19-IX).



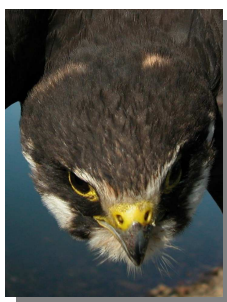
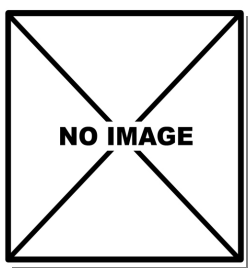
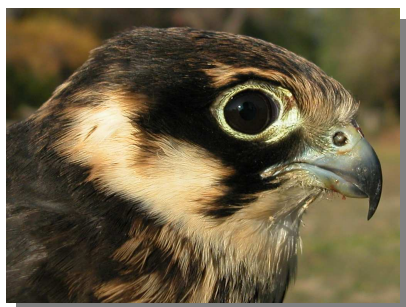
Hobby. Juvenile. Crown pattern: left male (); right female (29-XI).



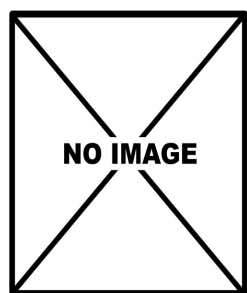
H o b b y .
Juvenile. Head
pattern: top
male ();
bottom female
(29-XI).



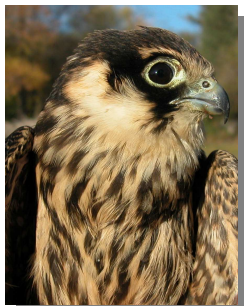
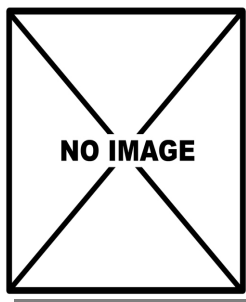
Hobby. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (); right female (21-VIII).



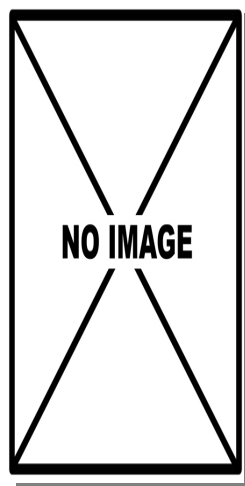
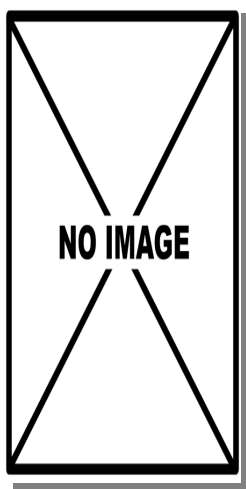
Hobby. 2nd year. Breast pattern: left male (); right female (19-IX).



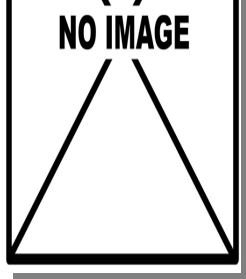
Hobby. Adult. Crown pattern: left male (); right female (21-VIII).

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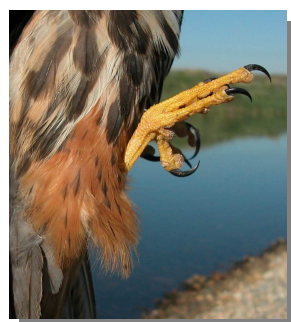
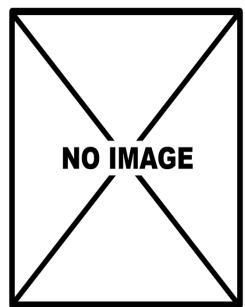
Hobby. Juvenile. Breast pattern: left male (); right female (29-XI).



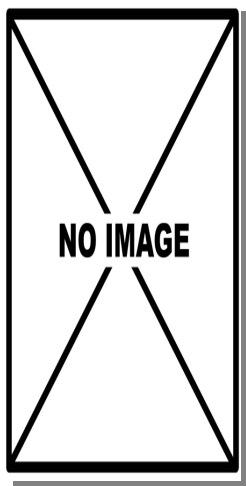
Hobby. Juvenile. Upperparts pattern: left male (); right female (29-XI).



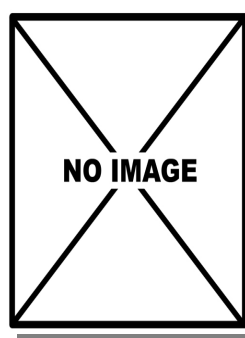
Hobby. Adult. Upperparts pattern: left male (); right female (06-VIII).



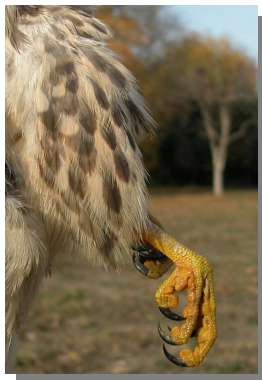
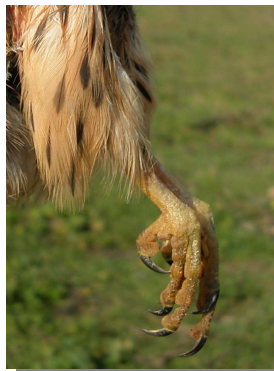
Hobby. Adult. Pattern of thighs: left male (); right female (21-VIII).



Hobby. 2nd year. Upperparts pattern: left male (); right female in autumn (19-IX).



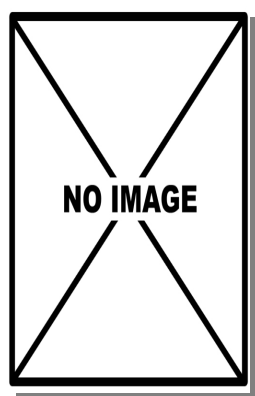
Hobby. 2nd year. Pattern of thighs: left male (); right female (19-IX).

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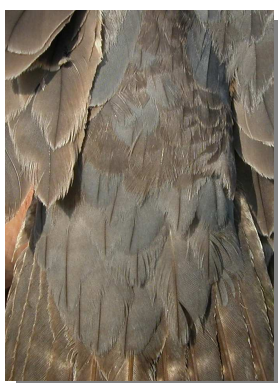
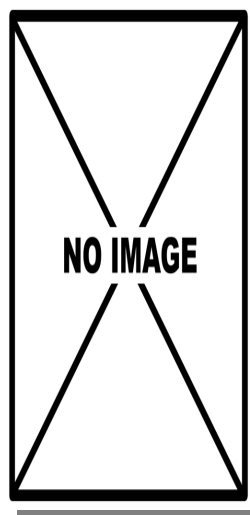
Hobby. Juvenile. Pattern of thighs: left male (10-IX); right female (15-X).



Hobby. Juvenile. Rump pattern: left male (29-XI); right female (15-X).

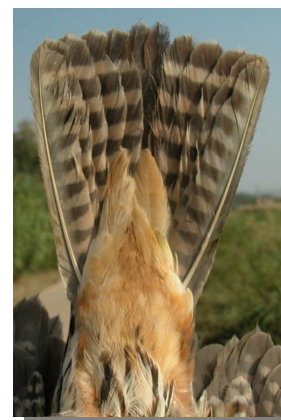


Hobby. Adult. Rump pattern: left male (); right female (06-VIII).



Hobby. 2nd year. Rump pattern: left male in spring (05-V); right female in autumn (19-IX).

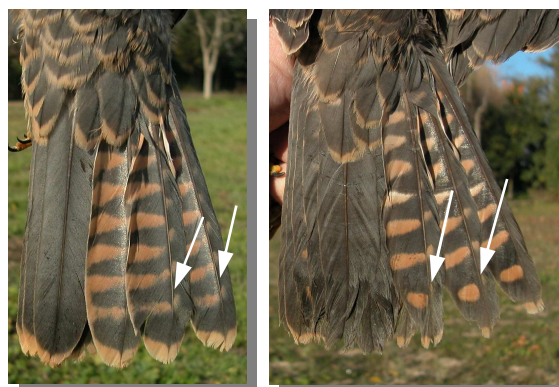
Hobby. Adult. Pattern of undertail coverts: left male (); right female (06-VIII).



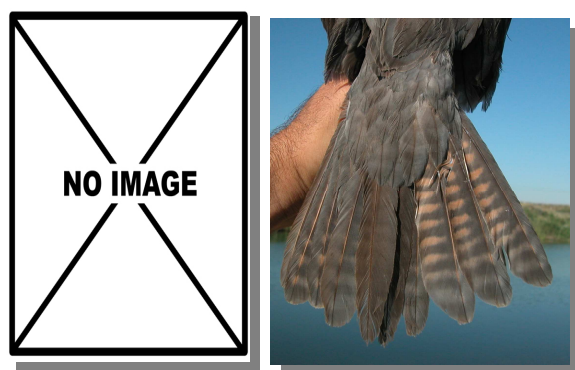
Hobby. 2nd year. Pattern of undertail coverts: left male in spring (05-V); right female in autumn (19-IX).

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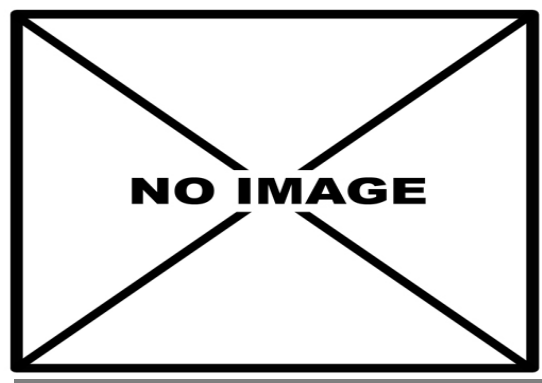
Hobby. Juvenile. Pattern of undertail coverts: left male (10-IX); right female (15-X).



Hobby. Juvenile. Pattern of 3rd to 5th tail feathers: left male (10-IX); right female (15-X).



Hobby. Adult. Pattern of 3rd to 5th tail feathers: left male (); right female (21-VIII).



Hobby. Adult. Male: pattern of primary coverts ().



Hobby. 2nd year. Pattern of 3rd to 5th tail feathers: left male in spring (05-V); right female in autumn (19-IX).



Hobby. Adult. Female: pattern of primary coverts (06-VIII).

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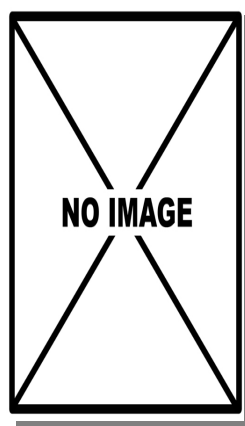
Hobby. 2nd year spring. Male: pattern of primary coverts (05-V).



Hobby. Juvenile. Female: pattern of primary coverts (29-XI).



Hobby. 2nd year autumn. Female: pattern of primary coverts (19-IX).



Hobby. Adult. Pattern of scapulars and tertials: left male (); right female (21-VIII).



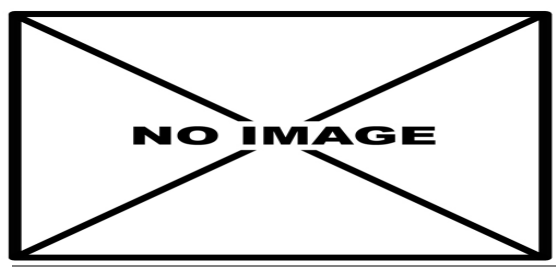
Hobby. Juvenile. Male: pattern of primary coverts (10-IX).



Hobby. 2nd year. Pattern of scapulars and tertials: left male in spring (05-V); right female in autumn (19-IX).



Hobby. Juvenile. Pattern of scapulars and tertials: left male (10-IX); right female (29-XI).



Hobby. Adult. Male: pattern of primaries ().



Hobby. Adult. Female: pattern of primaries (21-VIII).



Hobby. 2nd year spring. Male: pattern of primaries (05-V).



Hobby. 2nd year autumn. Female: pattern of primaries (19-IX).

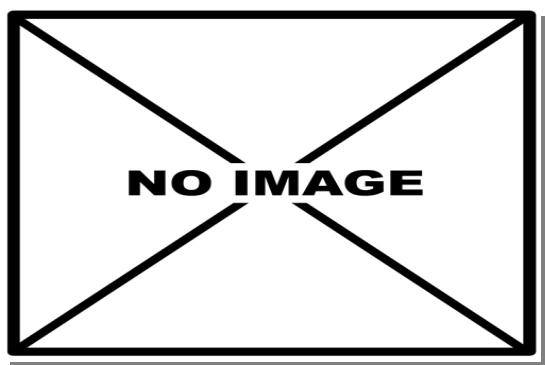
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Hobby. 2nd year autumn. Female: pattern of primaries (19-IX).



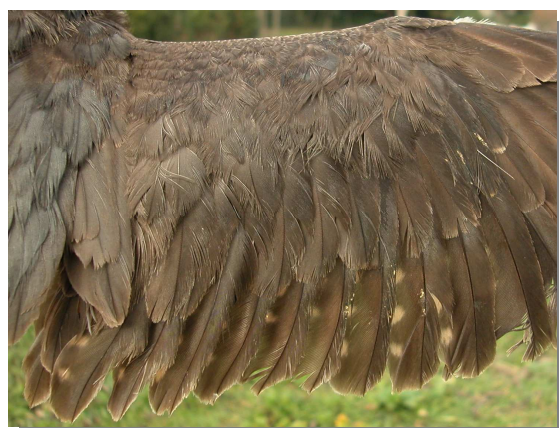
Hobby. Juvenile. Female: pattern of primaries (29-XI).



Hobby. Adult. Male: pattern of secondaries ().



Hobby. Adult. Female: pattern of secondaries (21-VIII).



Hobby. 2nd year spring. Male: pattern of secondaries (05-V).



Hobby. 2nd year autumn. Female: pattern of secondaries (19-IX).

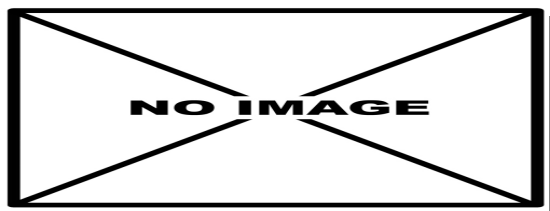
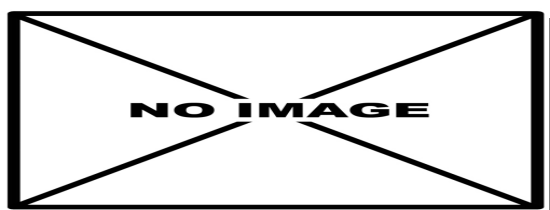


Hobby. Juvenile. Male: pattern of secondaries (10-IX).

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Hobby. Juvenile. Female: pattern of secondaries (29-XI).



Hobby. Adult. Male: pattern of wing ().



Hobby. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (21-VIII).



Hobby. 2nd year spring. Male: pattern of wing (05-V).



Hobby. 2nd year autumn. Female: pattern of wing (19-IX).



Hobby. Juvenile. Male: pattern of wing (10-IX).

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Hobby. Juvenile. Female: pattern of wing (29-XI).