

330 Bluethroat

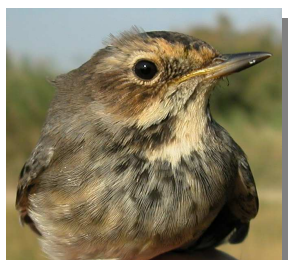
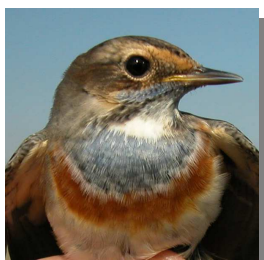
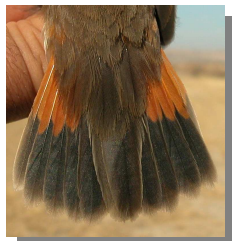


Bluethroat. Spring. Adult. Male (16-III)

BLUETHROAT (*Luscinia svecica*)

IDENTIFICATION

13-14 cm. Brown upperparts and central tail feathers; reddish tail with a terminal dark band on the tip; pale supercilium; pale belly; blue throat in **breeding male** and lacking blue (or with little) on **non breeding males** and **females**.



SIMILAR SPECIES

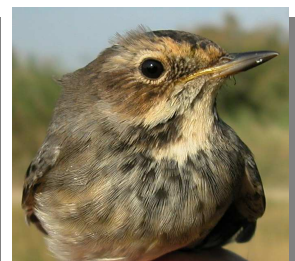
This species is unmistakable.

SEXING

In **breeding** plumage, **adult male** with deep blue chin and throat with a reddish or white patch. **Female** with whitish chin and throat, lacking blue colour or with a little on underbreast; two blackish bands around the breast with some reddish tinge on underbreast. In **autumn**, **adult male** with whitish throat and blue tinge on both sides of the breast; **1st year male** with a little blue on both sides of throat and breast. **Females** without blue and sometimes, with a little reddish.



Bluethroat. Spring. Sexing. Pattern of breast: left male; right female.



Bluethroat. Autumn. Sexing. Pattern of breast: left male; right female.

AGEING

It's difficult to find **juveniles** in Aragon, so only 2 types of age can be recognized:

1st year autumn/2nd year spring with moult limit between moulted greater coverts and juvenile retained, with a buff spot on tips, and between moulted tertials and retained juvenile flight feathers.

Adult without moult limits on the wing and lacking pale spots on tips.

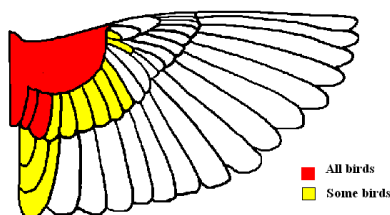
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Bluethroat. Ageing. Moulting limit on greater coverts: top adult; bottom 1st year.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished late August; some birds start their moult in wintering quarters. Partial **postjuvenile** moult including body feathers, lesser and median coverts and the two inner greater coverts; some birds can moult several greater coverts and tertials; usually finished in September. Both types of age have a **prebreeding** moult including head and breast feathers to acquire the **breeding** plumage, but usually only in **males**.



Bluethroat.
Extent of
postjuvenile
moult.

PHENOLOGY

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

STATUS IN ARAGON

On passage, sometimes wintering in the Ebro Valley. Some records breeding in Montes Universales.



Bluethroat. Spring. Adult. Female (27-III)



Bluethroat. Spring. 2nd year. Male (20-III).



Bluethroat. Spring. 2nd year. Female (27-III)

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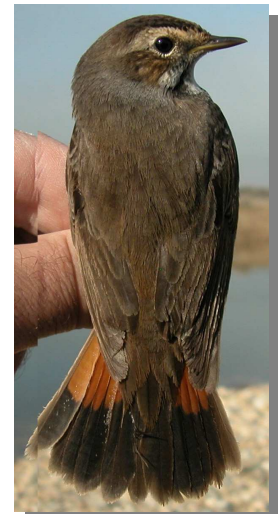
Bluethroat. Spring. Adult. Head pattern: top male (16-III); bottom female (27-III).



Bluethroat. Spring. Adult. Upperpart pattern: left male (16-III); right female (27-III).



Bluethroat. Spring. 2nd year. Head pattern: top male (20-III); bottom female (27-III).



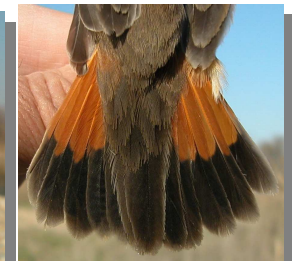
Bluethroat. Spring. 2nd year. Upperpart pattern: left male (20-III); right female (27-III).



Bluethroat. Spring. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (16-III); right female (27-III).



Bluethroat. Spring. 2nd year. Breast pattern: left male (20-III); right female



Bluethroat. Spring. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (16-III); right female (27-III).

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Bluethroat. Spring. 2nd year. Tail pattern: left male (20-III); right female (27-III).



Bluethroat. Spring. 2nd year. Female: pattern of wing (27-III.)



Bluethroat. Spring. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (16-III)



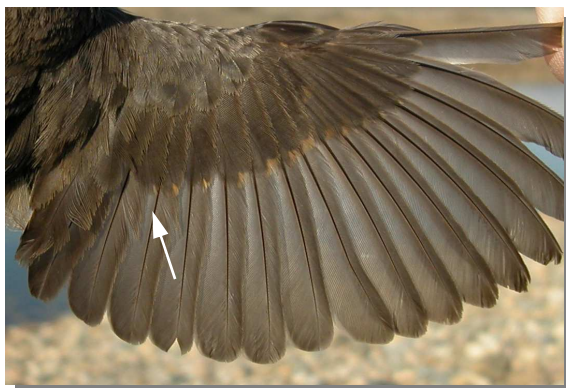
Bluethroat. Autumn. Adult. Male (17-IX)



Bluethroat. Spring. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (27-III.)



Bluethroat. Autumn. Adult. Female (17-IX)



Bluethroat. Spring. 2nd year. Male: pattern of wing (20-III.)

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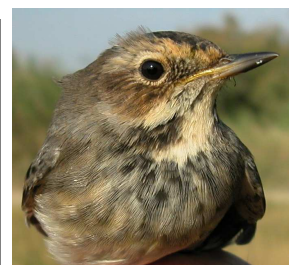
Bluethroat. Autumn. 1st year. Male (17-IX)



Bluethroat. Autumn. 1st year. Head pattern: top male (17-IX); bottom female (17-IX).



Bluethroat. Autumn. 1st year. Female (17-IX)



Bluethroat. Autumn. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (17-IX); right female (17-IX).

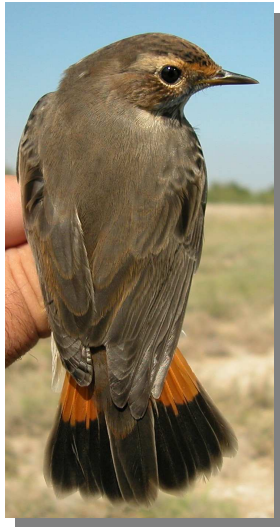


Bluethroat. Autumn. Adult. Head pattern: top male (17-IX); bottom female (17-IX).



Bluethroat. Autumn. 1st year. Breast pattern: left male (17-IX); right female (17-IX).

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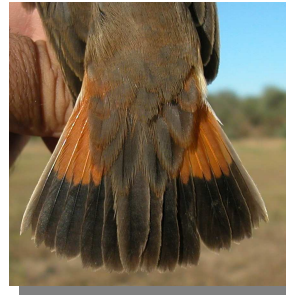
Bluethroat. Autumn. Adult. Upperpart pattern: left male (17-IX); right female (17-IX).



Bluethroat. Autumn. 1st year. Upperpart pattern: left male (17-IX); right female (17-IX).



Bluethroat. Autumn. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (17-IX); right female (17-IX).



Bluethroat. Autumn. 1st year. Tail pattern: left male (17-IX); right female (17-IX).



Bluethroat. Autumn. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (17-IX)



Bluethroat. Autumn. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (17-IX)



Bluethroat. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (17-IX)

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Bluethroat. Autumn. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing (17-IX)