

276 Red-necked Nightjar



Red-necked Nightjar. Male. Adult (20-VIII).

RED-NECKED NIGHTJAR (*Caprimulgus ruficollis*)

IDENTIFICATION

30-34 cm.; wing 60-65 cm. Brown reddish plumage; brown wings and tail, with transversal brown bars and white patches; whitish throat with a red rusty band on neck.



Red-necked Nightjar. Pattern of head and nape.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Very similar to **Nightjar**, which is smaller (23-27 cm, wing length 52-59 cm) and lacks a red band on neck.



Nightjar

SEXING

In **adults**, **male** has pure white patches on three (sometimes four) outer primaries and square shaped; the two outermost reach the shaft and cross to the other web; white patches on tips of the two (sometimes three) outermost tail feathers are pure white and big. **Female** has pure white patches on three outer primaries but pale tinged on the extreme and oval shaped; only the outermost feather reaches the shaft and cross to the other web; white patches on tips of the two outermost tail feathers are white with pale buff tinge on tips and median size.

In **juvenile** and **2nd year** birds (if those feathers have been retained), **male** has white patches on three outer primaries and square shaped; the two outermost reach the shaft; patches on tips of the two outermost tail feathers are white and big. **Female** has pale patches on three outer primaries (sometimes only two) tinged pale brown and darker on tips, oval or rounded shaped; usually the two outer don't reach the shaft; patches on tips of the two outermost tail feathers are pale brown and small (sometimes only a narrow band).



Red-necked Nightjar. Sexing. Adult: pattern of the white patch on outer primaries: top male; bottom female.

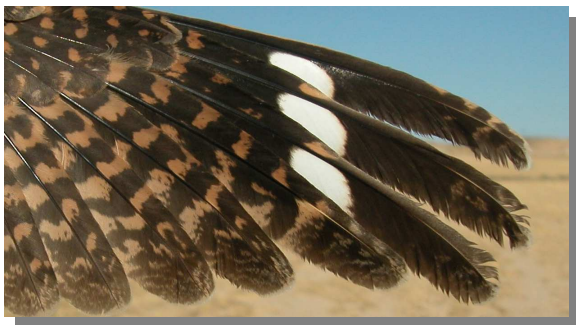
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Red-necked Nightjar. Sexing. Adult: pattern of the three outermost tail feathers: left male; right female.



Red-necked Nightjar. Sexing. Juvenile: pattern of the three outermost tail feathers: left male; right female.



Red-necked Nightjar. Sexing. Juvenile: pattern of the white patch on outer primaries: top male; bottom female.

AGEING

3 types of age can be recognized:

Juvenile with fresh plumage and one generation of feathers (**CAUTION:** some birds can change some inner primaries before migration); lesser and median coverts with pale tips which are moulted into **adult** pattern in breeding places; primaries with pale tip; pointed tail feathers and central primaries.

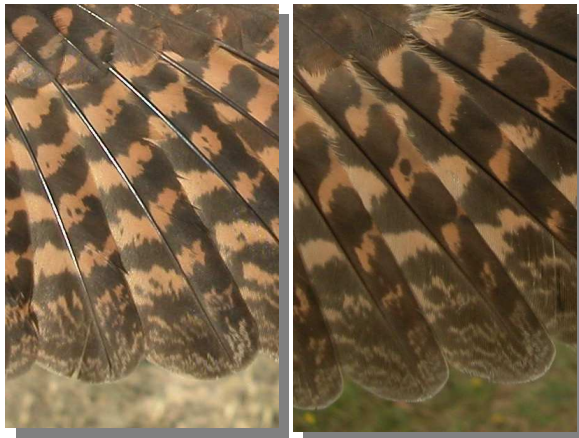
2nd year only in birds with retained **juvenile** feathers on wings with strong limit between fresh (**adult** pattern) and worn (**juvenile** pattern) feathers; on tail the outermost and central tail feathers can be moulted.

Adult with lesser and median coverts without pale tips; all wing and tail feathers with **adult** pattern: tip of primaries dark and rounded tip of tail feathers and central primaries. **CAUTION:** two generations of flight feathers can be found since ones are changed in the breeding place and the others in wintering quarters.

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Red-necked Nightjar. Ageing. Pattern of lesser wing coverts: left adult; right juvenile.



Red-necked Nightjar. Ageing. Pattern of central primaries: left adult; right juvenile.



Red-necked Nightjar. Ageing. Pattern of tip of central tail feather: left adult; right juvenile.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult starting in July in breeding areas (including body feathers, wing coverts and some flight and tail feathers), suspended before migration and finished in wintering quarters. Partial **postjuvenile** moult changing in breeding areas body feathers and part of wing coverts; in winter quarters change the central tail feathers and a variable number of primaries and secondaries. **CAUTION:** some birds have a complete **postjuvenile** moult.

PHENOLOGY

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

STATUS IN ARAGON

Summer visitor, breeding in *Pinus* and *Quercus* forests of the Ebro Valley and Cordillera Iberica.



Red-necked Nightjar. Female. Adult (23-V).

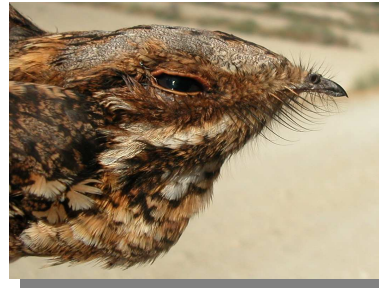


Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Male (20-VI).

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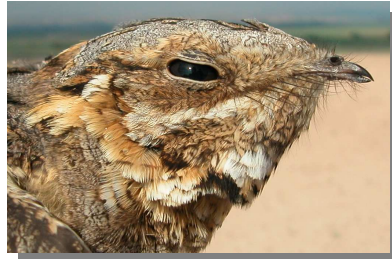
Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Female (14-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Head pattern: top male (20-VI); bottom female (14-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Male (26-VIII).



Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Head pattern: top male (26-VIII); bottom female (04-IX).



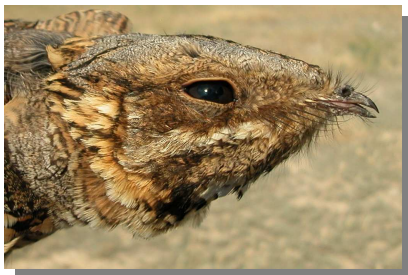
Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Female (04-IX).



Red-necked Nightjar. Adult. Head pattern: top male (20-VIII); bottom female (23-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (20-VIII); right female (23-V).



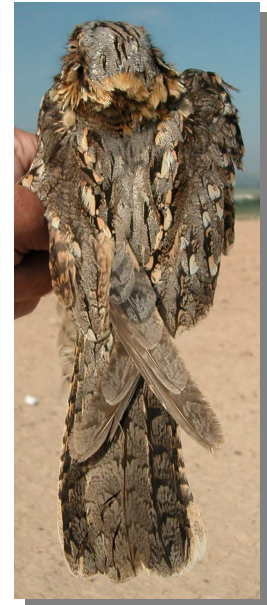
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Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Breast pattern: left male (20-VI); right female (14-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Breast pattern: left male (26-VIII); right female (04-IX).



Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Upperpart pattern: left male (20-VI); right female (14-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. Adult. Upperpart pattern: left male (20-VIII); right female (23-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Upperpart pattern: left male (26-VIII); right female (04-IX).

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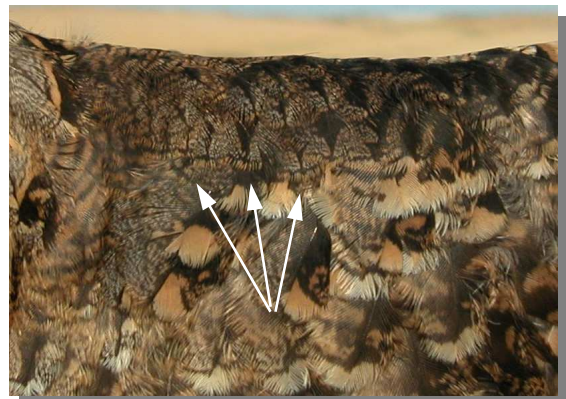
Red-necked Nightjar. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (20-VIII); right female (23-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. Adult: pattern of tips of lesser coverts (26-VIII).



Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Tail pattern: left male (20-VI); right female (14-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile: pattern of tips of lesser coverts (26-VII).



Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Tail pattern: left male (26-VIII); right female (04-IX).



Red-necked Nightjar. Adult. Male: pattern of alula (26-VIII).

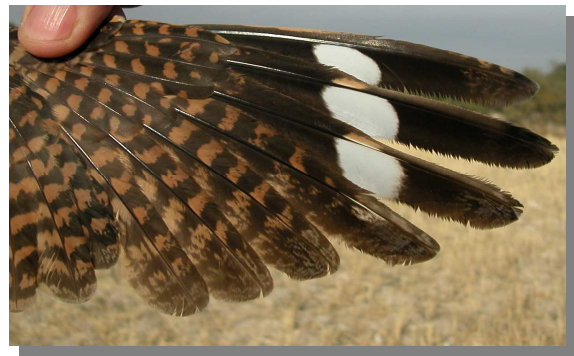


Red-necked Nightjar. Adult. Female: pattern of alula (23-V).

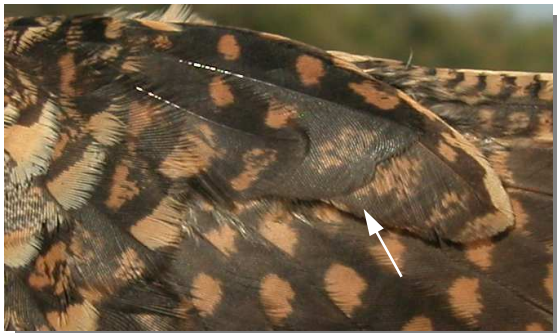
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Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Male: pattern of alula (20-VI).



Red-necked Nightjar. Adult. Male: pattern of primaries (20-VIII).



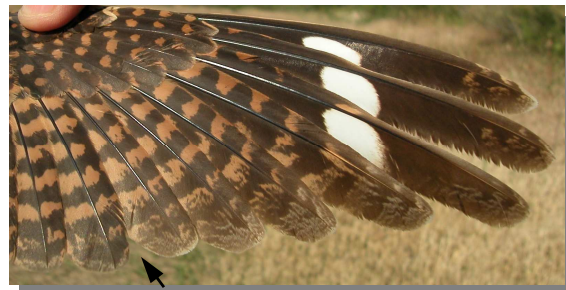
Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Female: pattern of alula (22-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. Adult. Female: pattern of primaries (23-V).



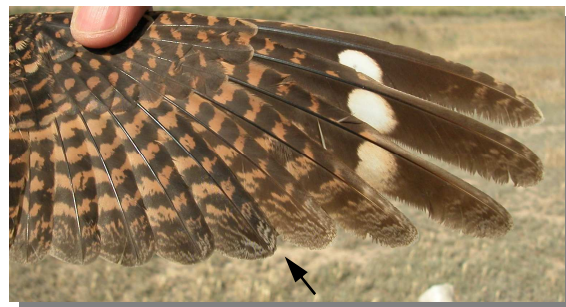
Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Male: pattern of alula (26-VIII).



Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Male: pattern of primaries (22-V).

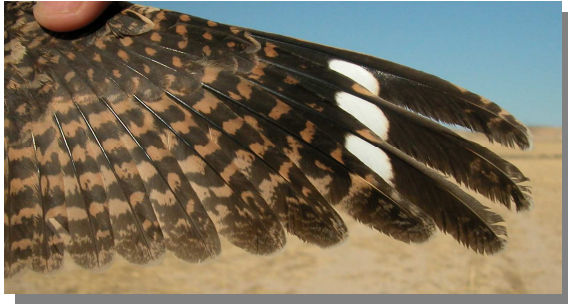


Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Female: pattern of alula (04-IX).



Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Female: pattern of primaries (22-V).

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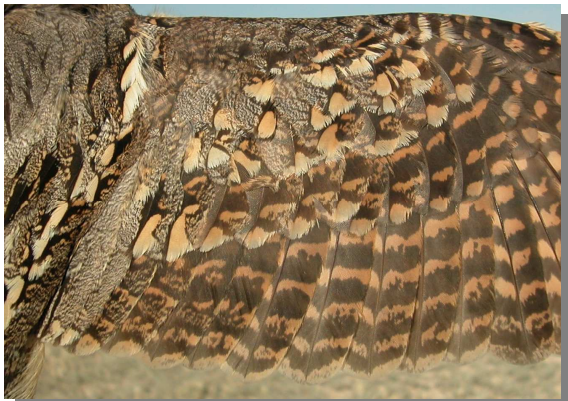
Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Male: pattern of primaries (26-VIII).



Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Female: pattern of primaries (04-IX).



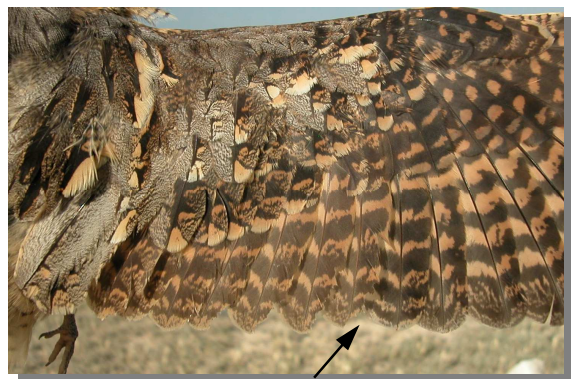
Red-necked Nightjar. Adult. Male: pattern of secondaries (20-VIII).



Red-necked Nightjar. Adult. Female: pattern of secondaries (23-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Male: pattern of secondaries (22-V).

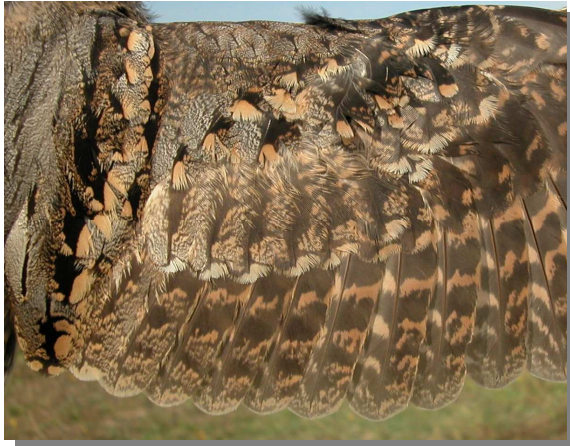


Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Female: pattern of secondaries (22-V).

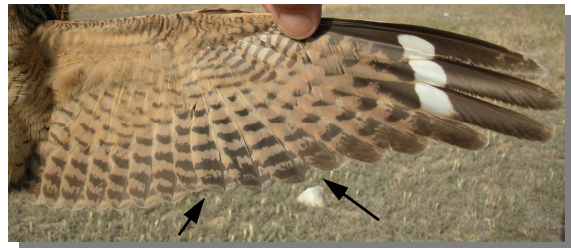
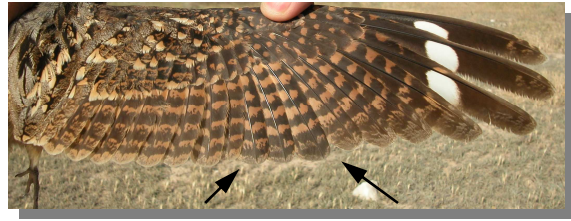


Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Male: pattern of secondaries (26-VIII).

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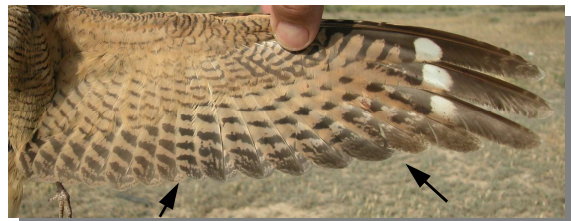
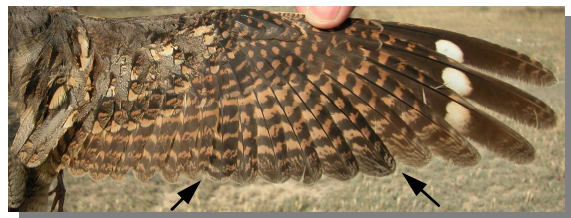
Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Female: pattern of secondaries (04-IX).



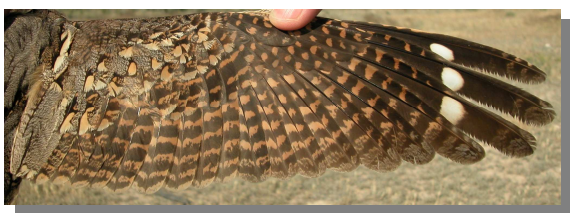
Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Male: pattern of wing (22-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (20-VIII).



Red-necked Nightjar. 2nd year. Female: pattern of wing (22-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (23-V).



Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Male: pattern of wing (26-VIII).



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Red-necked Nightjar. Juvenile. Female: pattern of wing (04-IX).