

192 Jack Snipe



Jack Snipe. Adult (26-X)



Common Snipe

JACK SNIPE (*Lymnocryptes minimus*)

IDENTIFICATION

19-22 cm. Brown head, with dark bars; upper neck with small brown spots; dark upperparts, with metallic green bright and longitudinal pale bands; pale breast and strongly brown streaked; brown bill with dark tip.

Jack Snipe.
Pattern of crown

SIMILAR SPECIES

Recalls a **Common Snipe**, which is bigger (25-28 cm) and have a pale longitudinal streak on crown.

SEXING

Plumage of both sexes alike. Size can be useful for extreme birds: **male** with wing longer than 119 mm; **female** with wing shorter than 110 mm.

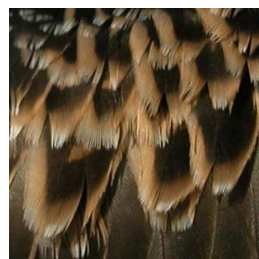
AGEING

This species doesn't breed in Aragon, so only 2 types of age can be recognized (information given by Iain Livingstone in personal communication):

1st year/2nd year winter only in birds with partial **postjuvenile** moult, with narrow outer tail feathers; the outermost primary with pointed tip; wing coverts with pale chestnut edges; undertail covers with indistinct dark streak on shafts (**CAUTION:** many birds moult all the undertail coverts or they change these feathers along the winter).

Adult with broad outer tail feathers; the outermost primary with rounded tip; wing coverts with deep chestnut edges; undertail covers with distinct dark streak on shafts.

CAUTION: **1st year** birds with a complete **postjuvenile** moult are indistinguishable from **adults**.

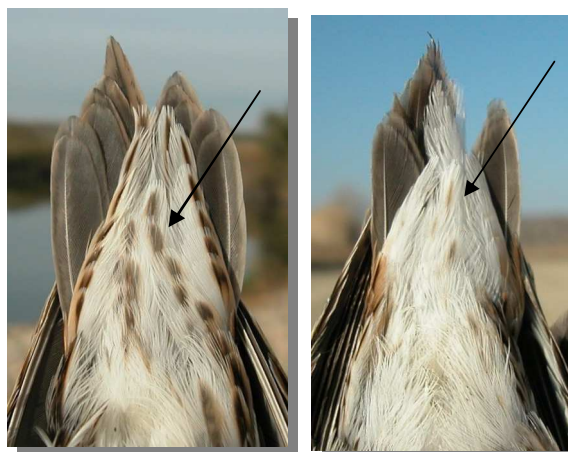


Jack Snipe. Ageing. Pattern of wing coverts: left adult; right 1st year.

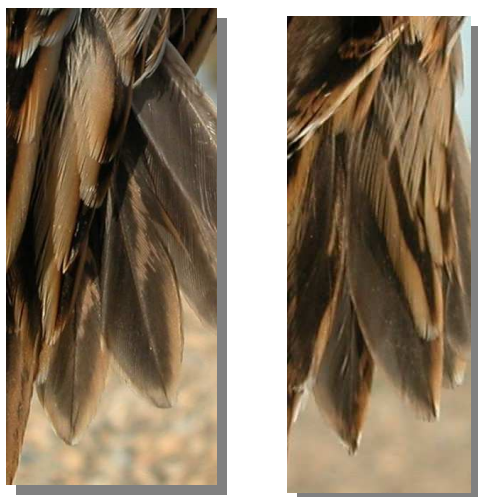
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Jack Snipe. Ageing. Pattern of the outermost primary: top adult; bottom 1st year.



Jack Snipe. Ageing. Pattern of undertail coverts: left adult; right 1st year.



Jack Snipe. Ageing. Pattern of 2nd and 3rd tail feathers: left adult; right 1st year.



Jack Snipe. Ageing. Pattern of the outermost tail feathers: left adult; right 1st year.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult. **Postjuvenile** moult can be complete or partial, being only these birds the ones which can be aged in autumn/winter. Both types of moult usually completed late August before migration.

PHENOLOGY

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

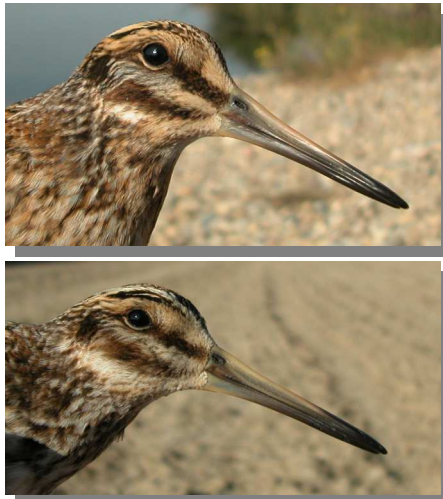
STATUS IN ARAGON

A very scarce wintering bird. Can be found in wetlands throughout all the Region.



Jack Snipe. 2nd year (18-II).

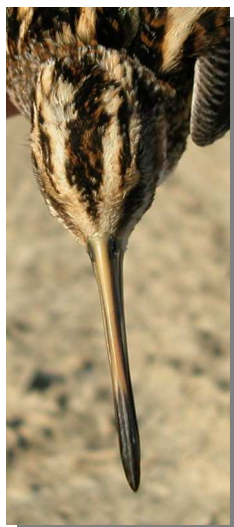
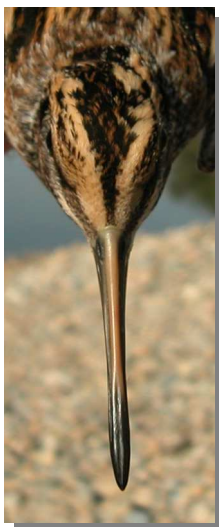
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Jack Snipe.
Head pattern:
top adult (26-X);
bottom 2nd year (18-II).



Jack Snipe. Upperpart pattern: left adult (26-X); right 2nd year (18-II).



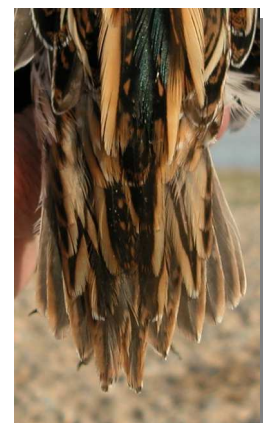
Jack Snipe. Crown pattern: left adult (26-X); right 2nd year (18-II).



Jack Snipe.
Pattern of
legs: top
adult (26-
X); bottom
1st year
(10-XI).



Jack Snipe.
Breast
pattern: top
adult (26-
X); bottom
2nd year
(18-II).

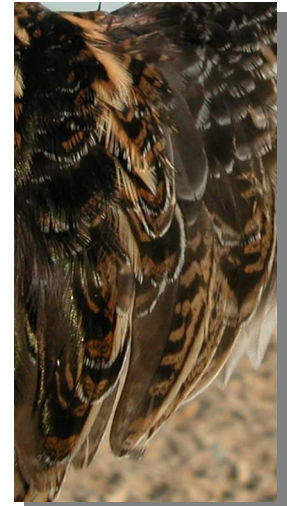


Jack Snipe. Tail pattern: left adult (26-X); right 1st year (10-XI).

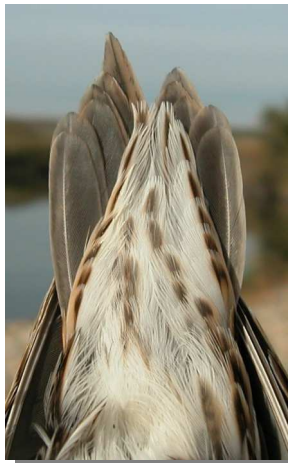
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Jack Snipe. Pattern of tail feathers: left adult (26-X); right 1st year (10-XI).



Jack Snipe. Pattern of tertials: left adult (26-X); right 1st year (10-XI).



Jack Snipe. Adult: pattern of wing coverts (26-X).



Jack Snipe. Pattern of undertail feathers: top left adult (26-X); top right 1st year with moulted feathers (10-XI); left 2nd year with unmoulted feathers (18-II).



Jack Snipe. 1st year: pattern of wing coverts (10-XI).

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Jack Snipe. Adult: pattern of primary coverts (26-X).



Jack Snipe. Adult: pattern of primaries (26-X).



Jack Snipe. 1st year: pattern of primary coverts (10-XI).



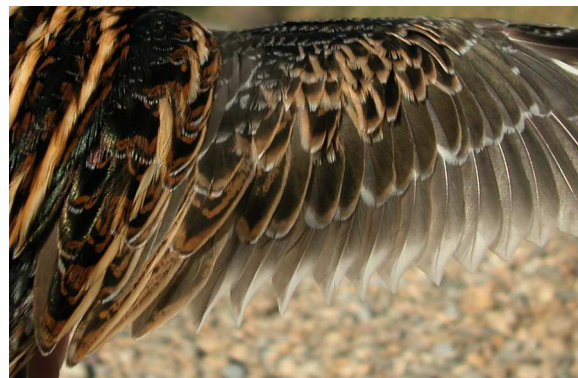
Jack Snipe. 1st year: pattern of primaries (10-XI).



Jack Snipe. Adult: pattern of the outermost primary (26-X).

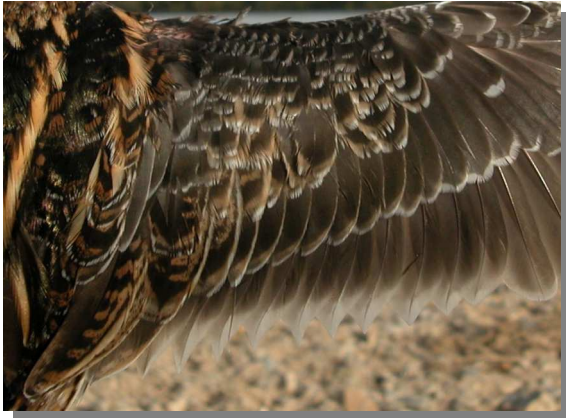


Jack Snipe. 1st year: pattern of the outermost primary (10-XI).



Jack Snipe. Adult: pattern of secondaries (26-X).

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Jack Snipe. 1st year: pattern of secondaries (10-XI).



Jack Snipe. Adult: pattern of wing (26-X).



Jack Snipe. 1st year: pattern of wing (10-XI).