

79 Northern Pintail

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Pintail. Sexing. Breeding plumage. Pattern of head: top male; bottom female

Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Male (04-IV).

NORTHERN PINTAIL (*Anas acuta*)

IDENTIFICATION

51-66 cm. In **breeding** plumage, **male** dark brown head and throat; sides of head and neck white; white breast; upperparts with long feathers edged creamy; flanks vermiculated grey; pale underparts; black undertail coverts; very long tail feathers; grey-bluish bill. **Female** with brown plumage; pale underparts; grey-bluish bill.



SIMILAR SPECIES

This species is unmistakable.

SEXING

Male with dark brown head, throat and hind-neck; white sides of neck, breast and centre of underparts; long and elongated scapulars and tertials grey with black central stripes; central pair of tail feathers long and pointed; black undertail coverts; speculum blue and blue-grey; underwing coverts dark grey and white. **Female** with pale brown plumage, mottled and streaked blackish or brown; tertials sepia with olive tinge; speculum grey with less green gloss than **male**; undertail coverts white streaked dark brown; underwing coverts light brown with pale margins and barring.

It is not probable to find this species with **non breeding** plumage in Aragon.



Pintail. Sexing. Breeding plumage. Pattern of tertials: left male; right female

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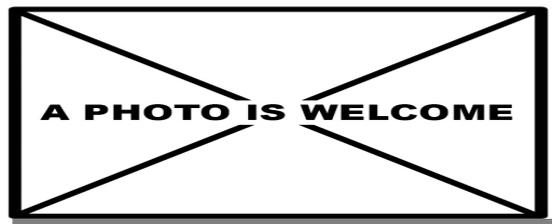
Pintail. Sexing. Breeding plumage. Pattern of tail: left male; right female.

AGEING

Since this species doesn't breed in Aragon only 2 types of age can be recognized:

1st year autumn/2nd year spring with a variable number of **juvenile** feathers retained on body, tail and wings; retained **juvenile** greater coverts with narrow tips; if **juvenile** tertials retained then narrow and pointed, brownish grey with dark centres; some of all **juvenile** tail feathers retained.

Adult with greater coverts with broad and squarish tips; tertials in **male** pearly-grey with black centres; in **female** grey-brown with dark centres.



Pintail. Male. Ageing. Pattern of wing coverts: top adult; bottom 2nd year.

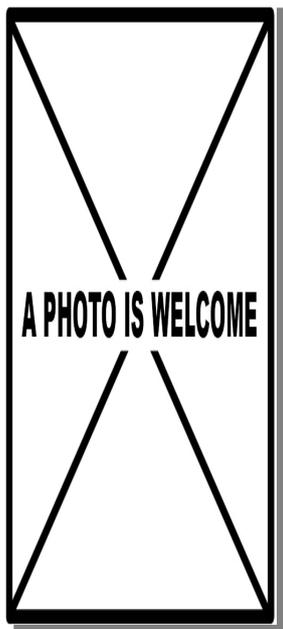


Diseño de la cola. Pattern of secondaries: top male; bottom female.

Pintail. Female. Ageing. Pattern of wing coverts: top adult; bottom 2nd year. (Photo: Reinhard Vohwinkel).

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Pintail. Male. Ageing. Pattern of tertials: left adult; right 2nd year.

PHENOLOGY

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

STATUS IN ARAGON

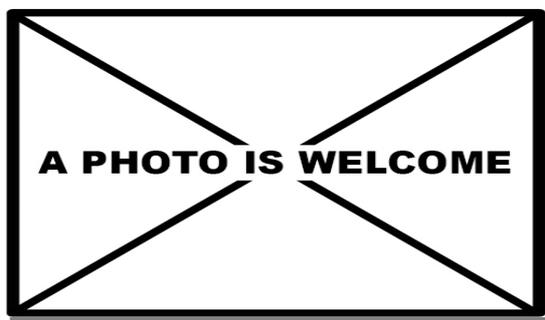
A winter visitor, being a very scarce species in any wet place of the Region.



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Female (14-IV).



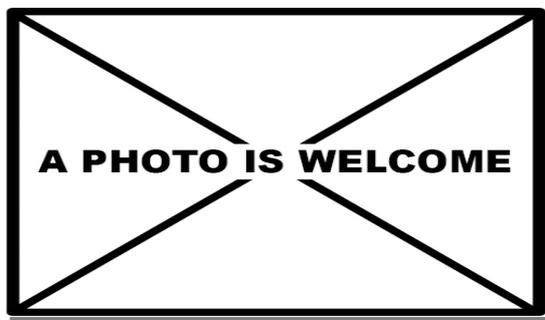
Pintail. Female. Ageing. Pattern of tertials: left adult; right 2nd year (Photo: Reinhard Vohwinkel).



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Male (04-IV).

MOULT

After October both types of age have a partial **prebreeding** moult acquiring breeding plumage; during the early **winter** some feathers on tertials, tail and body are in active moult.



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Female ().

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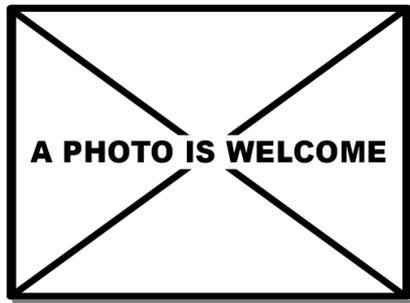
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Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Pattern of head and bill: top male (04-IV); bottom female (04-IV).



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Pattern of crown: left male (04-IV); right female (14-IV).



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Pattern of head and bill: top male (); bottom female (13-IV) (Photo: Reinhard Vohwinkel).



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Pattern of crown: left male (); right female (13-IV) (Photo: Reinhard Vohwinkel).

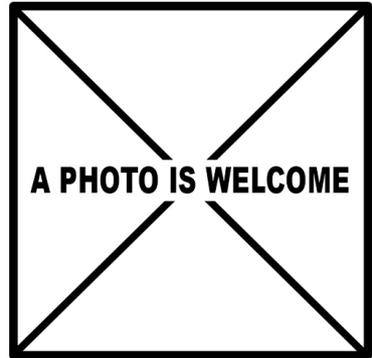
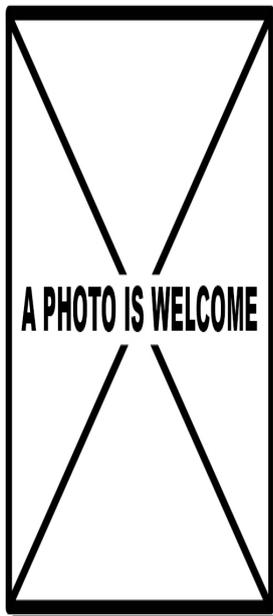
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Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Pattern of breast: top male (04-IV); bottom female (04-IV).

Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Pattern of nape: left male (04-IV); right female (14-IV).



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Pattern of breast: top male (); bottom female ().

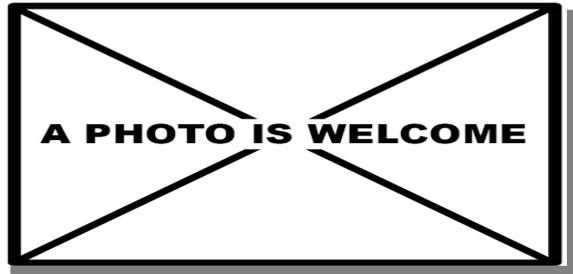
Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Pattern of nape: left male (); right female ().

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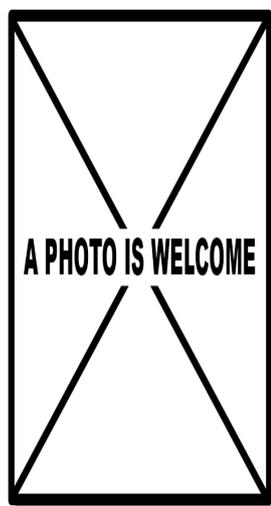
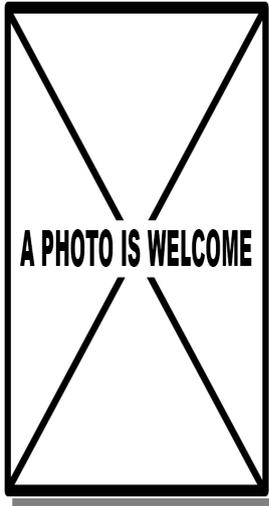
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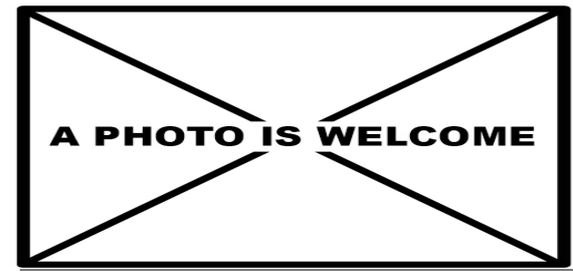
Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Female:



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Pattern of upperparts: left male (04-IV); right female (04-IV).



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Male: pattern of flank ()



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Pattern of upperparts: left male (); right female ().



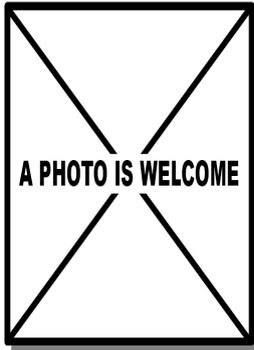
Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Male: pattern of flank (04-IV)



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Pattern of tail: left male (04-IV); right female (04-IV).

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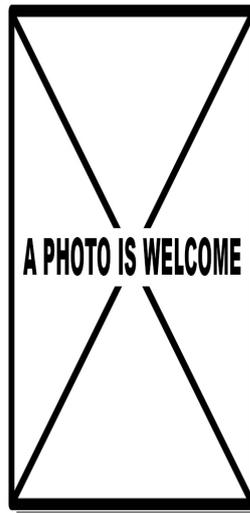
Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Pattern of tail: left male (); right female (13-IV) (Photo: Reinhard Vohwinkel).



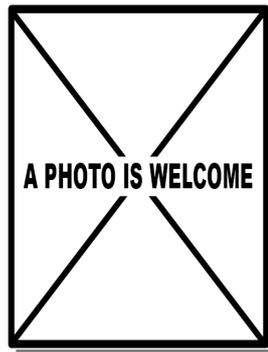
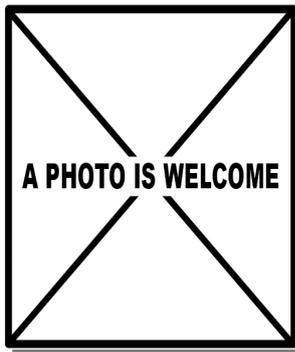
Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Pattern of tertials: left male (04-IV); right female (04-IV).



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Pattern of undertail coverts: left male (04-IV); right female (04-IV).



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Pattern of tertials: left male (); right female (13-IV) (Photo: Reinhard Vohwinkel).



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Pattern of undertail coverts: left male (); right female ().



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Male: pattern of wing coverts (04-IV).

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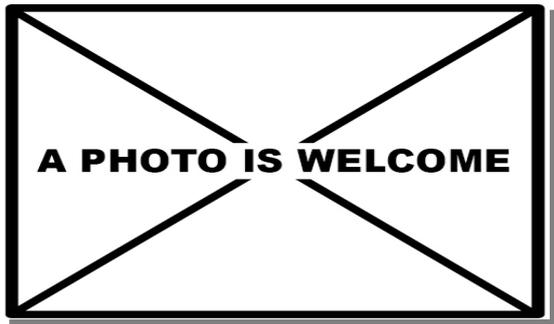
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Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Female: pattern of wing coverts (04-IV).



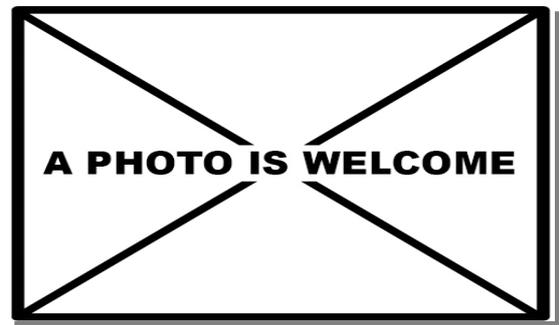
Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Male: pattern of primaries (04-IV)



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Male: pattern of wing coverts ().



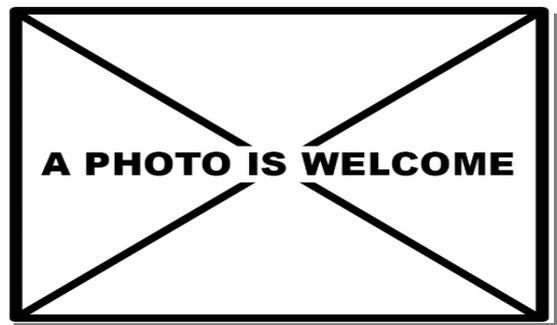
Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Female: pattern of primaries (04-IV)



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Male: pattern of primaries ()



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Female: pattern of wing coverts (13-IV) (Photo: Reinhard Vohwinkel).



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Female: pattern of primaries ()

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Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Male: pattern of secondaries (04-IV)



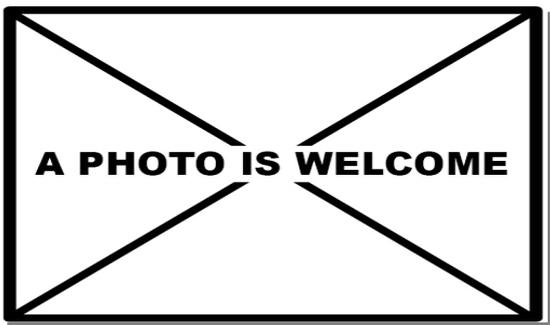
Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Female: pattern of secondaries (13-IV) (Photo: Reinhard Vohwinkel).



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Female: pattern of secondaries (04-IV)



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (04-IV).



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Male: pattern of secondaries ()



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (04-IV).

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Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Male:
pattern of wing ()



Pintail. Spring. Breeding plumage. 2nd year. Female:
pattern of wing ()