

143 Grey Partridge

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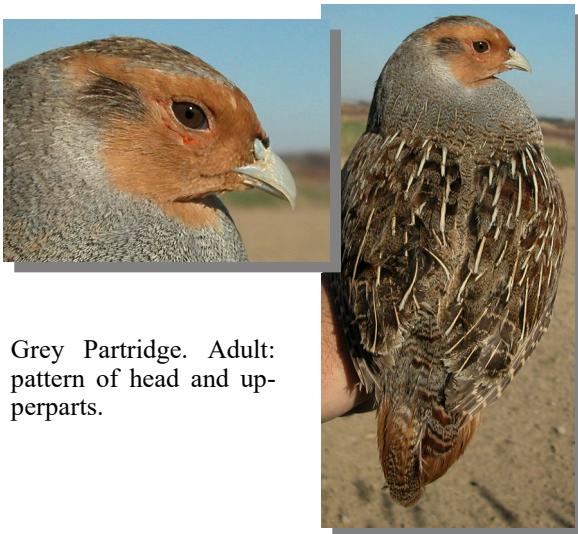


Grey Partridge. Adult. Male (21-II).

GREY PATRIDGE (*Perdix perdix*)

IDENTIFICATION

28-30 cm. Grey upperparts, spotted white and brown; orange-brown face; grey flanks, with chestnut bars; grey breast; velly with a large horseshoe-shaped patch in **male**, small or without patch in **female**.



Grey Partridge. Adult: pattern of head and up-perparts.

SIMILAR SPECIES

This species is unmistakable

SEXING

Male with bright orange face; belly with a broad and dark horseshoe-shaped patch; scapulars and median coverts often with broad and rufous markings on the inner web. **Female** with dull orange face; belly with a small or absent horseshoe-shaped patch; scapulars and median coverts dark brown, without chestnut, with distinct and buff bars, edged black. **Juveniles** cannot be sexed using plumage pattern.



Grey Partridge. Adult. Sexing. Pattern of underparts: left male; right female.



Grey Partridge. Adult. Sexing. Pattern of flank: top male; bottom female.

AGEING

3 age groups can be recognized:

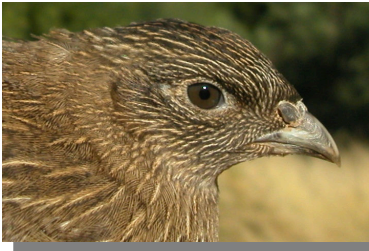
Juvenile without orange face; underparts brown-yellowish with pale streaks; flanks pale streaked; dark bill.

1st year autumn/2nd year spring similar to **adults**, but with moult limit between the 2 outermost unmoulted **juvenile** primaries and their primary coverts, more eroded and ochre than the neighboring feathers.

Adult with orange face; grey underparts; flanks with chestnut bars; pale bill; all primaries and primary coverts with the same generation, without moult limits.

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Grey Partridge. Ageing. Pattern of head and bill: top adult; bottom juvenile.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in October. Partial **postjuvenile** moult including all feathers except the two outermost primaries and their primary coverts, which are retained. Both age classes have a **prebreeding** moult involving only body feathers.

PHENOLOGY

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



Grey Partridge. Ageing. Pattern of underparts: left adult female; right juvenile.

STATUS IN ARAGON

Resident, widely distributed in the Pyrenees and scarce in Sistema Iberico.



Grey Partridge. Adult. Female (21-II).



Grey Partridge. Ageing. Pattern of flank: top adult; bottom juvenile.



Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Male (21-II)

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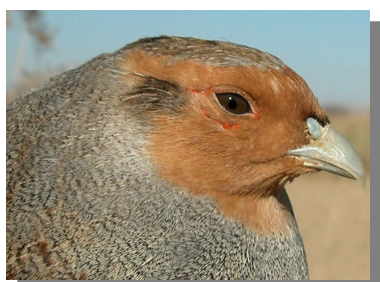
Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Female (21-II).



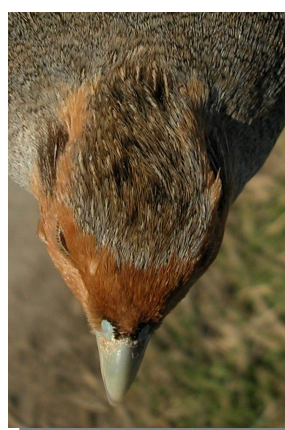
Grey Partridge. Head pattern: top 2nd year male (21-II); middle 2nd year female (21-II); bottom juvenile (25-VII)



Grey Partridge. Juvenile (25-VII).



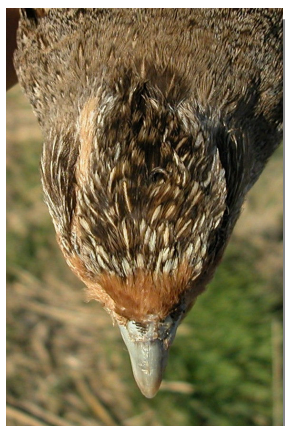
Grey Partridge. Adult. Head pattern: top male (21-II); bottom female (21-II).



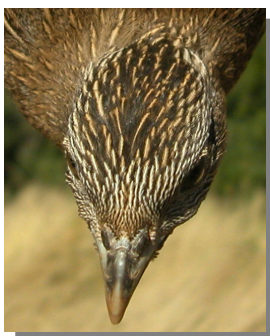
Grey Partridge. Adult. Crown pattern: left male (21-II); right female (21-II).

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Grey Partridge. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (21-II); right female (21-II).



Grey Partridge. Crown pattern: top left 2nd year male (21-II); top right 2nd year female (21-II); left juvenile (25-VII)



Grey Partridge. Adult. Male: pattern of flank (21-II)



Grey Partridge. Adult. Female: pattern of flank (21-II)



Grey Partridge. Breast pattern: top left 2nd year male (21-II); top right 2nd year female (21-II); left juvenile (25-VII)



Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Male: pattern of flank (21-II)

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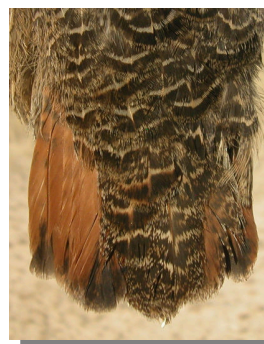
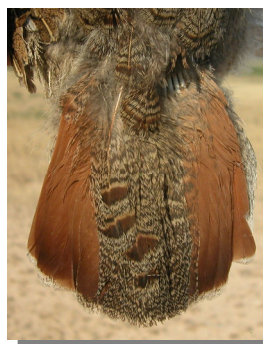
Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Female: pattern of flank (21-II)



Grey Partridge. Juvenile: pattern of flank (25-VII)



Grey Partridge. Adult. Pattern of upperparts: left male (21-II); right female (21-II).



Grey Partridge. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (21-II); right female (21-II).



Grey Partridge. Pattern of upperparts: top left 2nd year male (21-II); top right 2nd year female (21-II); left juvenile (25-VII)



Grey Partridge. Tail pattern: left 2nd year male (21-II); right 1st year female (28-VIII)

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Grey Partridge. Adult. Male: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (21-II)



Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Female: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (21-II)



Grey Partridge. Adult. Female: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (21-II)



Grey Partridge. Juvenile: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (25-VII)



Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Male: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (25-VII)



Grey Partridge. Adult. Male: pattern of primaries (21-II)

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Grey Partridge. Adult. Female: pattern of primaries (21-II)



Grey Partridge. Juvenile: pattern of primaries (25-VII).



Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Male: pattern of primaries (25-VII)



Grey Partridge. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (21-II)



Grey Partridge. 1st year. Female: pattern of primaries (07-IX) (Foto: Ottenby Bird Observatory)



Grey Partridge. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (21-II)



Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Male: pattern of wing (25-VII)

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Grey Partridge. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing (07-IX) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory)



Grey Partridge. Juvenile: pattern of wing (25-VII).

The photographs have been made with the collaboration of the Centre de Fauna d'Esterri d'Àneu (Generalitat de Catalunya)