



Stone-curlew. Adult (08-IV).

**EURASIAN STONE-CURLEW** (*Burhinus oedicnemus*)

**IDENTIFICATION**

38-44 cm. Brown sandy plumage; yellow iris and legs; yellow bill with black tip; brown wings with two white bands.



Stone-curlew. Pattern of head and upperparts.



**SIMILAR SPECIES**

This species is unmistakable.

**PHENOLOGY**

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

- Summer visitor
- Wintering
- Resident
- On passage

**AGEING**

3 age groups can be recognized:

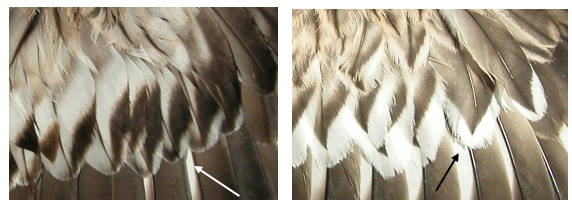
**Juvenile** with fresh plumage; till September with down at tip of tail feathers; longer lesser coverts sandy-white with a dark central streak; tip of greater coverts with broad white band.

**1st year autumn/2nd year spring** with moult limit between unmoulted outer **juvenile** greater coverts and the moulted fresh inner with **adult** pattern (**CAUTION:** some birds may moult all); all flight feathers **juvenile** with the same wear.

**Adult** usually with several ages and wear on flight feathers; longer lesser coverts white barred dark at tip; all greater coverts with a thin white edge on outer web and a dark band.



Stone-curlew. Ageing. Pattern of longer lesser coverts: left adult; right juvenile.



Stone-curlew. Ageing. Pattern of greater coverts: left adult; right juvenile.

**MOULT**

Complete **postbreeding** moult, with a large period between April and October; some birds retain unmoulted outer primaries over winter which are changed in March-April; moult of secondaries rather irregular spreading over two years; so till three ages of flight feathers can be found. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers, central pair of tail feathers and usually all or part of lesser and median wing coverts; some birds moult all or part of greater coverts and all tail feathers; usually finished in November. Both age classes may have a **prebreeding** moult reduced to body feathers.

**SEXING**

Plumage of both sexes alike.



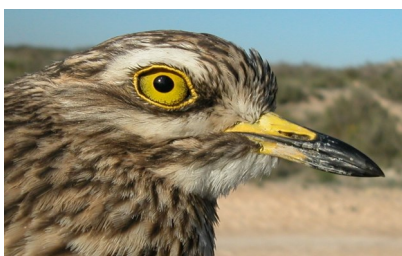
Stone-curlew. 2nd year spring (11-IV).



Stone-curlew. 1st year autumn (09-IX).



Stone-curlew. Juvenile (27-VII).



Stone-curlew. Head pattern: top adult (08-IV); bottom 2nd year spring (11-IV).



Stone-curlew. Head pattern: top 1st year autumn (09-IX); bottom juvenile (27-VII).



Stone-curlew. Breast pattern: left adult (08-IV); right 2nd year spring (11-IV).



Stone-curlew. Breast pattern: left 1st year autumn (09-IX); right juvenile (27-VII).



Stone-curlew. Upperpart pattern: left adult (08-IV); right 2nd year spring (11-IV).



Stone-curlew. Upperpart pattern: left 1st year autumn (09-IX); right juvenile (27-VII).



Stone-curlew. Tail pattern: left adult (08-IV); right 2nd year spring (11-IV).



Stone-curlew. Tail pattern: left 1st year autumn (09-IX); right juvenile (27-VII).



Stone-curlew. Adult: pattern of greater coverts (08-IV).



Stone-curlew. 2nd year spring: pattern of greater coverts (1 juvenile feathers) (08-IV).



Stone-curlew. 1st year autumn: pattern of greater coverts (09-IX).



Stone-curlew. Juvenile: pattern of greater coverts (27-VII).



Stone-curlew. Adult: pattern of secondaries (08-IV).



Stone-curlew. 2nd year spring: pattern of secondaries (11-IV).



Stone-curlew. 1st year autumn: pattern of secondaries (09-IX).



Stone-curlew. Juvenile: pattern of secondaries (27-VII).



Stone-curlew. Adult: pattern of primaries (08-IV).



Stone-curlew. 2nd year spring: pattern of primaries (11-IV).



Stone-curlew. 1st year autumn: pattern of primaries (09-IX).



Stone-curlew. Juvenile: pattern of primaries (27-VII).



Stone-curlew. Adult: pattern of wing (08-IV).



Stone-curlew. 2nd year spring: pattern of wing (11-IV).



Stone-curlew. 1st year autumn: pattern of wing (09-IX)



Stone-curlew. Juvenile: pattern of wing (27-VII).

