191

Put your logo here

Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Male (18-VIII)

**RUFF** (Calidris pugnax)

### **IDENTIFICATION**

21-29 cm. In **non breeding** plumage with brownish head and upperparts; pale underparts; tail with white uppercoverts on both sides; wing with a white band; orange legs.



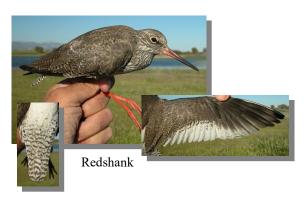


Ruff. Autumn. Pattern of tail, breast, legs and wing.



### SIMILAR SPECIES

Recalls a **Redshank**, with broader wing band and without two white bands on sides of uppertail



### **SEXING**

It is not likely to find **males** with display plumage in Aragon, so size is an useful characteristic for sexing: **male** with wing longer than 175 mm; **female** with wing shorter than 170 mm.

### **AGEING**

This species doesn't breed in Aragon so only 3 age groups are recognized:

**1st year autumn** similar to **adults**, but with very fresh flight feathers; if some **juvenile** feathers retained on rump are buff rather than grey; retained **juvenile** median coverts dark grey with broad swarm buff edge; pale tips of tail feathers with darker bands subterminally; tail feathers and primaries narrow and pointed; underparts white with plain buff breast; brownish green or orange green legs.

**2nd year spring** only in birds with retained **juvenile** buff fringed inner median wing coverts and/or outer tail feathers; primaries very worn; sometimes primaries with moult limit within the older inners and fresh outers.

Adult in autumn with worn unmoulted flight feathers; grey moulted wing coverts with thin pale edge; pale tips of tail feathers without dark subterminal bands; tail feathers and primaries broad and rounded; white underparts with breast streaked grey; pinkish or orange red legs. In spring, without buff fringed median coverts; wing coverts grey brown, paler at tips; breast and mantle mottled with blackish brown feathers; primaries slightly worn.





Ruff. Autumn. Ageing. Pattern of rump: left adult; right 1° year.



Ruff. Autumn. Ageing. Colour of legs: top adult; bottom 1° year.





Ruff. Autumn. Ageing. Pattern of tail feathers: left adult; right 1° year.



Complete **postbreeding** moult starting in breeding areas, usually suspended during migration and finished in wintering sites. Partial **postjuve-nile** moult involving body feathers, scapulars, many wing coverts, outer tail feathers and a few tertials; starts in breeding areas and fisnished in wintering sites. Both age classes have a **prebreeding** moult in wintering sites involving most of the body feathers, scapulars, tertials and some tail feathers; after arriving in breeding areas have another moult in which **adult males** acquire the display plumage; this second moult in **2nd year** birds is only restricted to a few feathers.





Ruff. Autumn. Ageing. Pattern of wing coverts: top adult; bottom 1° year.

## **PHENOLOGY**



## **STATUS IN ARAGON**

Very common on passage in wetlands throughout the Region, but this species can be found during all the year due to wintering and non breeder birds.



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Female (18-VIII)





Ruff.
Autumn.
Adult. Head
pattern: top
male (18VIII);
bottom
female (18VIII)



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Male (06-IX)



Autumn. 1st year. Head pattern: top male (06-IX); bottom female (18-VIII)

Ruff.



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Female (18-VIII)





Ruff.
Autumn.
Adult. Breast
pattern: top
male (18VIII);
bottom
female (18VIII)



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Breast pattern: top male (06-IX); bottom female (18-VIII)

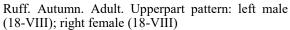


Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Legs pattern: top male (18-VIII); bottom female (18-VIII)





Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Legs pattern: top male (06-IX); bottom female (18-VIII)







Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Upperpart pattern: left male (06-IX); right female (18-VIII)







Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (18-VIII); right female (18-VIII)





Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Pattern of tertials: left male (06-IX); right female (18-VIII)





Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Tail pattern: left male (06-IX); right female (18-VIII)



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Male: pattern of wing coverts (18-VIII).





Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Pattern of tertials: left male (18-VIII); right female (18-VIII)



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Female: pattern of wing coverts (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing coverts (06-IX).



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of primaries (06-IX).



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing coverts (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Female: pattern of primaries (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Male: pattern of primaries in active moult (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Male: pattern of secondaries in active moult (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Female: pattern of primaries in active moult (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Female: pattern of secondaries in active moult (18-VIII).





Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Male: pattern of wing in active moult (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of secondaries (06-IX).





Ruff. Autumn. Adult. Female: pattern of wing in active moult (18-VIII).



Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Female: pattern of secondaries (18-VIII).





Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (06-IX).

191 Ruff Put your logo here





Ruff. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (18-VIII).