

209 Wood Sandpiper

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Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Adult (03-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory).

WOOD SANDPIPER (*Tringa glareola*)

IDENTIFICATION

19-20 cm. Brown greenish upperparts, with whitish spotted; prominent white supercilium; white underparts, with streaked breast; dark wings lacking white band; pale underwing coverts; white rump; white tail, narrowly barred; dark bill; greenish legs.



Wood Sandpiper. Pattern of rump, tail, wing and underwing coverts.



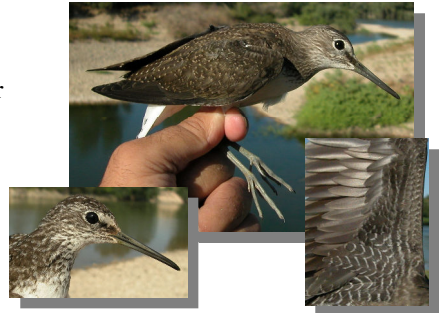
SIMILAR SPECIES

Recalls a **Common Sandpiper**, which is smaller, lacks white rump and has a white line on wing. **Green Sandpiper** is very similar but without a white supercilium and with dark underwing coverts.



Common Sandpiper

Green Sandpiper



SEXING

Plumage of both sexes alike.

AGEING

Since this species doesn't breed in Aragon only 3 age classes can be recognized:

1st year autumn with very fresh plumage; tertials and wing coverts dark brown, deeply spotted buff-brown with dark centre at tip; scapulars spotted with dark tips; flight feathers of single generation; outer primaries with pointed tips.

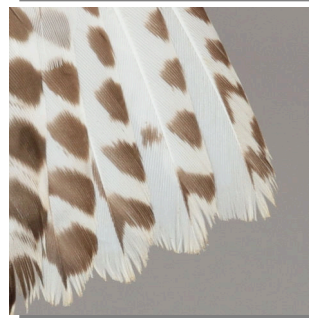
2nd year spring with retained **juvenile** outer tail feathers clearly worn; if moulted, with contrast between fresh outer and **juvenile** worn inner primaries; if all **juvenile** flight feathers unmoulted then with a single generation and with outer primaries with pointed tips.

Adult with wing coverts brown barred and spotted light brown and white, with uninterrupted pale tip; tertials more barred than spotted, with pale tip; scapulars spotted with pale tips; outer primaries with rounded tips. In **autumn** with flight feathers worn or in active moult. In **spring** with a slight contrast between fresh outer and slightly worn inner primaries or all flight feathers slightly worn; outer tail feathers fresh.



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Ageing. Adult: wear of outer tail feathers.

Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory

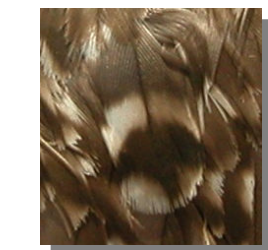
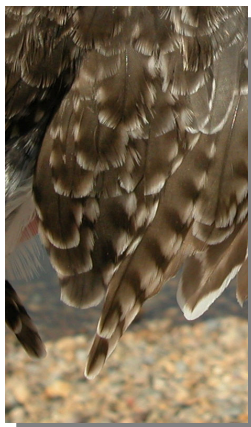


Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Ageing. 2nd year: wear of outer tail feathers.

Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory

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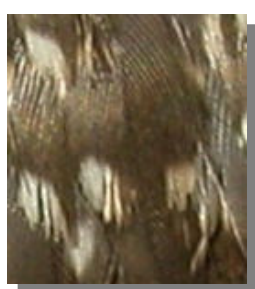
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Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Ageing. Adult: pattern of scapulars, tertials and wing coverts.



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. 2º año (07-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory).



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Ageing. 1st year: pattern of scapulars, tertials and wing coverts.



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Head pattern: top adult (03-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory); bottom 2nd year (07-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory).

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually starting during migration and finished in wintering sites. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers and scapulars during migration and continued in wintering sites with tertials, central tail feathers and some wing coverts (**CAUTION:** some birds, both **adult** and **1st year**, migrate directly to wintering sites with unmoulted plumage). Both age classes have a partial **prebreeding** moult involving body feathers, all or part of scapulars, some wing coverts and often tertials and central tail feathers.

PHENOLOGY

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

STATUS IN ARAGON

Only on passage. Widely distributed throughout the Region.



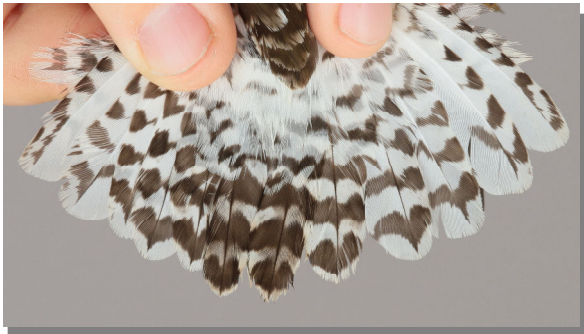
Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Breast pattern: top adult (03-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory); bottom 2nd year (07-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory).

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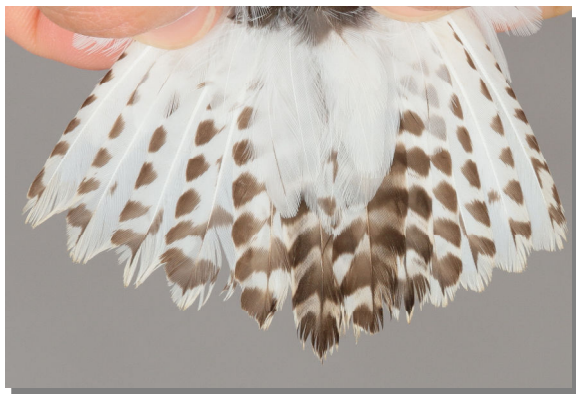
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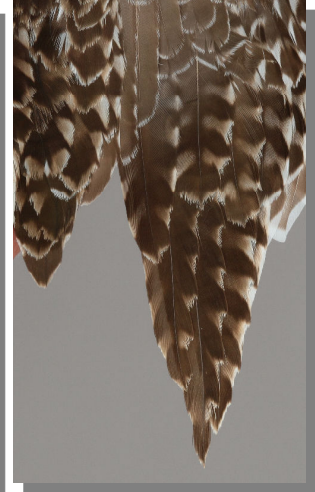
Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Upperpart pattern: left adult (03-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory); right 2nd year (07-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory).



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: tail pattern (03-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory).



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: tail pattern (07-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory).



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Pattern of tertials: left adult (03-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory); right 2nd year (07-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory).



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of wing coverts (03-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory)



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: pattern of wing coverts (07-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory)

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Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of primaries (03-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory)



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: pattern of secondaries (07-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory)



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: pattern of primaries (07-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory)



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of wing (03-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory)



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of secondaries (03-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory)



Wood Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: pattern of wing (07-V) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory)

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Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Adult (29-VII).



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Breast pattern: top adult (29-VII); bottom juvenile (26-VIII).



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Juvenile (26-VIII).



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Head pattern: top adult (29-VII); bottom juvenile (26-VIII).



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Upperparts pattern: left adult (29-VII); right juvenile (26-VIII).

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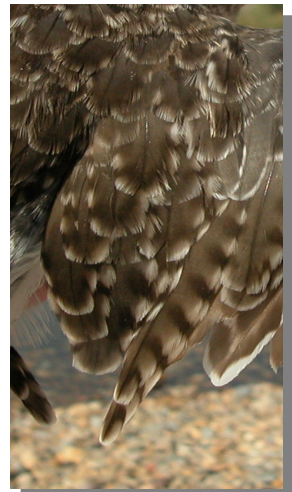
Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. No moulted adult: pattern of wing coverts (29-VII)



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Tail pattern: top left no moulted adult (29-VII); top right adult in active moult (18-VIII); left juvenile (26-VIII).



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Adult in active moult: pattern of wing coverts (18-VIII)



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Pattern of tertials and scapulars: top left no moulted adult (29-VII); top right adult in active moult (18-VIII); left juvenile (26-VIII).



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Juvenile: pattern of wing coverts (26-VIII)

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Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. No moulted adult: pattern of primaries (29-VII)



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. No moulted adult: pattern of secondaries (29-VII)



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Adult in active moult: pattern of primaries (18-VIII)



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Adult in active moult: pattern of secondaries (18-VIII)



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Juvenile: pattern of primaries (26-VIII)



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Juvenile: pattern of secondaries (26-VIII).

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Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. No moulted adult: pattern of wing (29-VII)



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Adult in active moult: pattern of wing (18-VIII)



Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Juvenile: pattern of wing (26-VIII)