



Common Sandpiper. Spring. Adult (01-V).

COMMON SANDPIPER (*Actitis hypoleucos*)

IDENTIFICATION

19-22 cm. Upperparts brown olive, including rump and tail; white underparts, with streaked breast; wings with a white band; dark bill and greenish legs.



Common Sandpiper. Pattern of rump, tail and wing.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Recalls a **Green Sandpiper**, which is bigger, with white rump and lacks a white line on wing.



Green Sandpiper

SEXING

Plumage of both sexes alike.

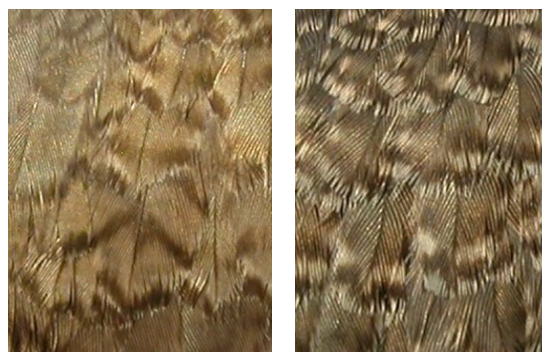
AGEING

3 age groups can be recognized:

Juvenile with feathers of upperparts brown with extensive buffish tips and dark subterminal bands; scapulars and tertials with a narrow and rounded subterminal bar bordered by buff tip, without bars; wing coverts with double dark brown bar and rufous-buff tip; central tail feathers without bars or spots at sides; flight feathers fresh and always with one age; some birds with legs tinged pink.

2nd year recognizable only if some **juvenile** median wing coverts, flight or tail feathers have been retained which will be very eroded contrasting with moulted feathers.

Adult with feathers of upperparts with dark streaking and irregular barring; scapulars and tertials barred; wing coverts with a single dark subterminal bar and light buff tip; central tail feathers with dark subterminal band and short bars or spots at sides; with grey-greenish legs. In **autumn** with flight feathers with two ages or, if only one, with worn feathers.



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Ageing. Pattern of wing coverts: left adult; right juvenile.



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Ageing. Pattern of scapulars and tertials: left adult; right juvenile.



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Ageing. Pattern of central tail feather: left adult; right juvenile.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, starting in breeding areas with some body feathers and finished in wintering sites. **Postjuvenile** moult complete or nearly complete since some birds can retain median wing coverts and flight and tail feathers; usually started in wintering sites. Both age classes have a **pre-breeding** moult involving most of the body feathers, wing coverts, scapulars and most of tertials and tail feathers.

PHENOLOGY

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

- Summer visitor
- Resident
- Wintering
- On passage



Common Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year (02-V)



Common Sandpiper. Spring. Head pattern and bill colour: top adult (01-V); bottom 2nd year (02-V).

05560 Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)



Common Sandpiper. Spring. Breast pattern: top adult (01-V); bottom 2nd year (02-V).

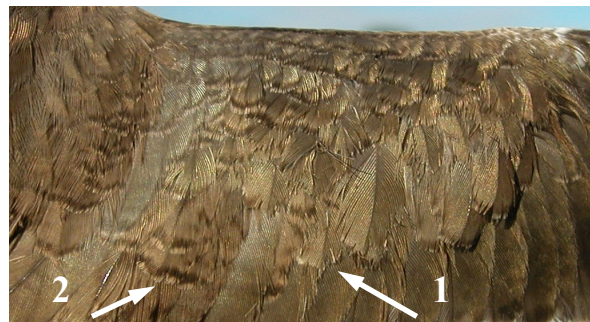


Common Sandpiper. Spring. Pattern of tertials: left adult (01-V); right 2nd year (02-V).



Common Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of wing covers (01-V).

Common Sandpiper. Spring. Upperpart pattern: left adult (01-V); right 2nd year (02-V).



Common Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: pattern of wing covers (1 juvenile feathers; 2 postjuvenile feathers) (02-V).

Common Sandpiper. Spring. Tail pattern: left adult (01-V); right 2nd year (02-V).



Common Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of secondaries (01-V).



Common Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: pattern of secondaries (02-V).



Common Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of primaries (01-V).



Common Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: pattern of primaries (02-V).



Common Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of wing (01-V).



Common Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: pattern of wing (02-V).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Adult with eroded plumage (31-VII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Juvenile (05-VIII)



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Adult with slightly eroded plumage (27-VII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Head pattern: top adult (27-VII); middle 2nd year (12-VIII); bottom juvenile (05-VIII).



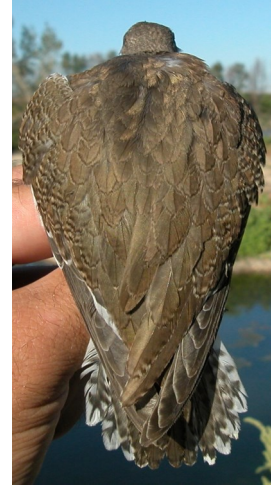
Common Sandpiper. Summer. 2nd year (12-VIII)



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Breast pattern: top adult (27-VII); middle 2nd year (12-VIII); bottom juvenile (05-VIII).



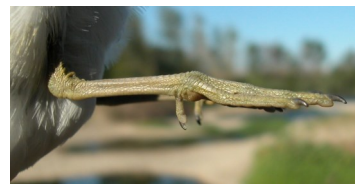
Common Sandpiper. Summer. Adult. Upperparts pattern: left with slightly eroded plumage (27-VII); right with eroded plumage (31-VII).



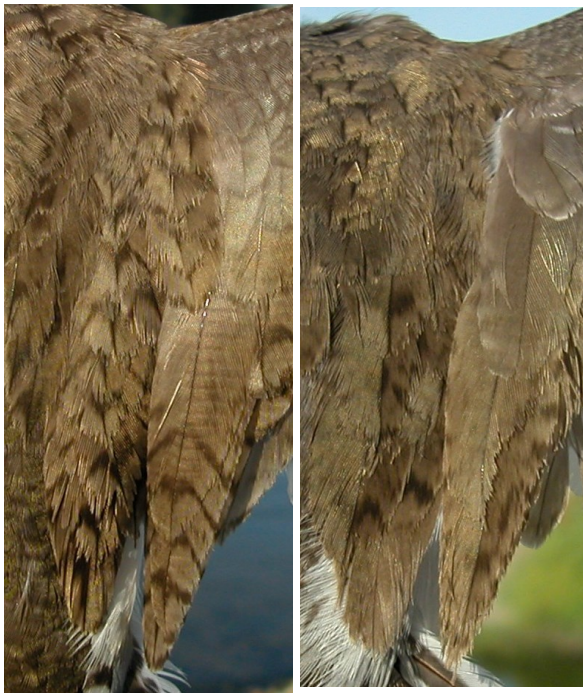
Common Sandpiper. Summer. Upperparts pattern: left 2nd year (12-VIII); right juvenile (05-VIII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Adult. Colour of legs: top adult (27-VII); bottom 2nd year (12-VIII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Juvenile. Colour of legs: top with greenish legs (05-VIII); bottom with pinkish legs (01-VIII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Pattern of scapulars and tertials: top left adult (27-VII); top right 2nd year (12-VIII); left juvenile (05-VIII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Tail pattern: top left adult (27-VII); top right 2nd year (12-VIII); left juvenile (05-VIII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Adult: pattern of wing coverts with eroded plumage (31-VII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Adult: pattern of wing coverts with slightly eroded plumage (27-VII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. 2nd year: pattern of wing coverts (12-VIII)



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Juvenile: pattern of wing coverts (05-VIII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Adult: pattern of primaries (27-VII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. 2nd year: pattern of primaries (12-VIII)



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Juvenile: pattern of primaries (05-VIII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Adult: pattern of secondaries with eroded plumage (31-VII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Adult: pattern of secondaries with slightly eroded plumage (27-VII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. 2nd year: pattern of secondaries (12-VIII)



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Adult: pattern of wing with slightly eroded plumage (27-VII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Juvenile: pattern of secondaries (05-VIII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. 2nd year: pattern of wing (12-VIII)



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Adult: pattern of wing with eroded plumage (31-VII).



Common Sandpiper. Summer. Juvenile: pattern of wing (05-VIII).