

261 Common Wood Pigeon

Put your logo here



Wood Pigeon. Adult (16-VI).

COMMON WOOD PIGEON (*Columba palumbus*)

IDENTIFICATION

41-45 cm. **Adult** with grey bluish plumage; wings with a white patch; grey blue tail with a broad dark terminal band; neck with a white patch. **Juvenile** duller and without white patch on neck.



Wood Pigeon. Pattern of head and wing.



SIMILAR SPECIES

Recalls a **Feral Pigeon/Rock Dove** which has white rump and underwing coverts. **Stock Dove**, with a smaller size, without the white patch on wings.



Feral Pigeon



Stock Dove

SEXING

Male with breast more vinaceous and less grey than **female**. **CAUTION:** this characteristic is only useful when both sexes have the same age and in the same season, so sexing this species is very difficult.

261 Common Wood Pigeon

Put your logo here

AGEING

3 types of age can be recognized:

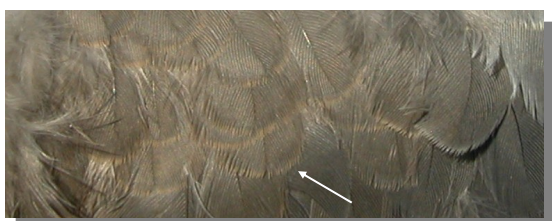
Juvenile without white patch on neck; grey brown wing coverts with buff tips; grey iris; grey legs.

1st year autumn/2nd year spring only if there are unmoulted **juvenile** feathers on wings; retained **juvenile** secondaries browner and shorter than **adult** type.

Adult with white patch on neck; dark slate grey wing coverts lacking buff tips; if there are unmoulted secondaries have the same length than the neighbouring moulted feathers; yellow iris; reddish legs.



Wood Pigeon. Ageing. Pattern of head and neck: top adult; bottom juvenile.



Wood Pigeon. Ageing. Pattern of wing coverts: top adult; bottom juvenile.



Wood Pigeon. Ageing. Pattern of secondaries: top adult, middle 2nd year; bottom juvenile.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** and **postjuvenile** moults, usually finished in December. **CAUTION:** both age classes can arrest their moult retaining unmoulted flight feathers throughout the winter.

PHENOLOGY

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

STATUS IN ARAGON

Resident, widely distributed and absent only from the highest zones of the Pyrenees and the most deforested areas of the Ebro Basin.

261 Common Wood Pigeon

Put your logo here



Wood Pigeon. 2nd year (22-VI).



Wood Pigeon. Breast pattern and iris colour: top left adult (16-VI); top right 2nd year (22-VI); left juvenile (04-VII).



Wood Pigeon. Juvenile (04-VII)



Wood Pigeon. Head pattern and iris colour: top adult (16-VI); middle 2nd year (22-VI); bottom juvenile (04-VII).



Wood Pigeon. Upper-part pattern: top left adult (16-VI); top right 2nd year (22-VI); left juvenile (04-VII).

261 Common Wood Pigeon

[Put your logo here](#)



Wood Pigeon. Legs pattern: top adult (22-VI); bottom juvenile (04-VII).



Wood Pigeon. 2nd year: pattern of primary coverts (22-VI).



Wood Pigeon. Pattern and wear of tail: top left adult (16-VI); top right 2nd year (22-VI); left juvenile (04-VII).



Wood Pigeon. Juvenile: pattern of primary coverts (04-VII).



Wood Pigeon. Adult: pattern of primary coverts (16-VI).



Wood Pigeon. Adult: pattern of primaries (16-VI).

261 Common Wood Pigeon

Put your logo here



Wood Pigeon. 2nd year spring: pattern of primaries (22-VI).



Wood Pigeon. 2nd year spring: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (1 juvenile feathers; 2 postjuvenile feathers) (22-VI).



Wood Pigeon. Juvenile: pattern of primaries (04-VII).



Wood Pigeon. Juvenile: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (04-VII).



Wood Pigeon. Adult: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (16-VI).



Wood Pigeon. Adult: pattern of wing (16-VI).

261 Common Wood Pigeon

Put your logo here



Wood Pigeon. 2nd year spring: pattern of wing (22-VI).



Wood Pigeon. Juvenile: pattern of wing (04-VII).