

IDENTIFICATION OF ADULTS OF COMMON SWIFT AND PALLID SWIFT

IDENTIFICATION KEYS

Check the head pattern, pale patch on throat, flank pattern, plumage tone, tail pattern and wing formula.



Common Swift. Head pattern: dark head with poorly noticeably dark area around the eye.



Pallid Swift. Head pattern: pale head with noticeably dark area around the eye.



Common Swift. Throat pattern: small white patch.



Pallid Swift. Throat pattern: large white patch.



Common Swift. Pattern of flanks: feathers with white edge on tips poorly marked.



Pallid Swift. Pattern of flanks: feathers with white edge on tips well marked.



Common Swift. Plumage tone: quite dark feathers.



Pallid Swift. Plumage tone: quite pale feathers.



Common Swift. Tail pattern: with long fork.



Pallid Swift. Tail pattern: with short fork.



Common Swift. Wing formula: usually 9th primary longer than the 10th.



Pallid Swift. Wing formula: usually 9th primary of the same length as the 10th.