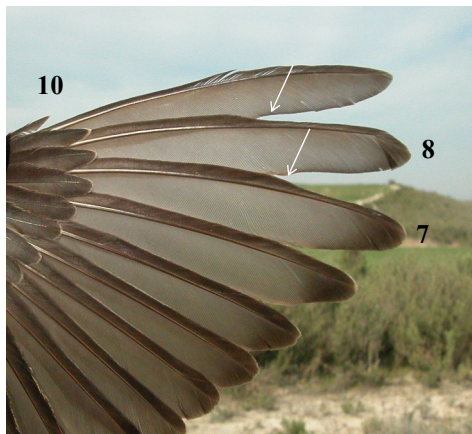


# 11589 Identification *Oenanthe*

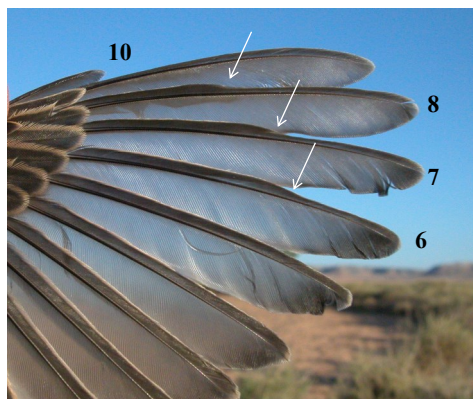
## IDENTIFICATION OF NORTHERN WHEATEAR (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) AND BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR (*Oenanthe hispanica*)

### ALL AGES AND SEXES

All ages and sexes can be separated by wing formula and pattern of tail.



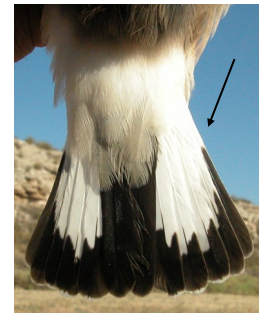
Northern Wheatear. Wing formula: 10th primary similar or shorter than primary coverts; 7th and 8th primaries emarginated.



Black-eared Wheatear. Wing formula: 10th primary similar or longer than primary coverts; 6th to 8th primaries emarginated.



Northern Wheatear. Pattern of tail: dark band on tail feathers broad in the middle and narrow on sides.



Black-eared Wheatear. Pattern of tail: dark band on tail feathers broader on sides.

### MALES

Males are easily distinguishable by pattern of plumage.



Northern Wheatear. Pattern of plumage. Male: with grey crown and back; white forehead; black bands on both sides of the head.



Black-eared Wheatear. Pattern of plumage. Male: with reddish brown back; throat and sides of head black or black only on sides of head.

**FEMALES**

**Females** can be separated by pattern of plumage but not always easy using only this character.



Northern Wheatear. Pattern of plumage. Female: with grey tinge on crown and back; pale bib; with small dark patches on both sides of the head.



Black-eared Wheatear. Pattern of plumage. Female: crown and back scarcely tinged grey; throat and sides of head dark or dark only on sides of head.

**JUVENILES**

**Juveniles** can be separated by pattern of plumage.



Northern Wheatear. Pattern of plumage. Juvenile: back and breast poorly spotted.



Black-eared Wheatear. Pattern of plumage. Juvenile: back and breast strongly spotted white.