

# 12000 Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*)



Song Thrush. Adult (12-X).

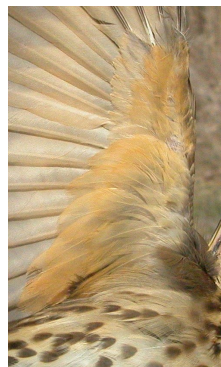
## SONG THRUSH (*Turdus philomelos*)

### IDENTIFICATION

20-22 cm. Brownish upperparts; rusty breast strongly streaked brown; white belly; rusty-buff underwing coverts.



Song Thrush. Pattern of breast and underwing coverts.



### SIMILAR SPECIES

**Mistle Thrush** and **Fieldfare** are bigger and have white underwing coverts. **Redwing** has a white supercilium and reddish underwing coverts. **Female Blackbird** has dark underparts.



Mistle Thrush



Fieldfare



Redwing



Blackbird. Female.



**SEXING**

Plumage of both sexes alike.

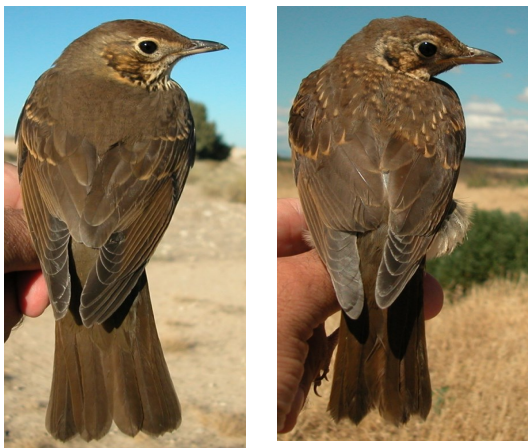
**AGEING**

3 age groups can be recognized:

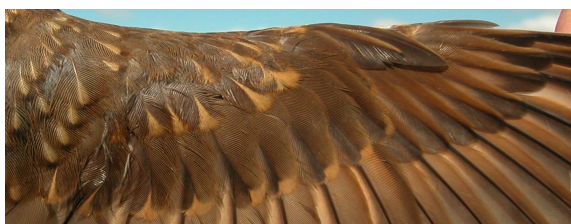
**Juvenile** more yellowish than **adults**; mantle and lesser and median wing coverts streaked pale along shaft; with fresh plumage.

**1st year autumn/2nd year spring** with moult limit between inner moulted greater covers (with rounded pale marks on tips) and **juvenile** retained (usually with triangular marks on tips); **juvenile** tail feathers with very pointed tips

**Adult** without moult limit on wing coverts; mantle and lesser wing coverts unstreaked; tips of all greater coverts with rounded pale marks; tail feathers with slightly pointed tips.



Song Thrush. Ageing. Pattern of upperparts: left adult; right juvenile.



Song Thrush. Ageing. Pattern of wing coverts: top adult; bottom juvenile.



Song Thrush. Ageing. Pattern of tips of tail feathers: left adult; right 1st year.

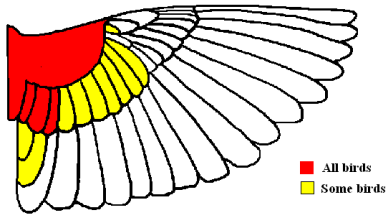


Song Thrush. Ageing. Mould limit on wing coverts: top adult; bottom 1st year.

**MOULT**

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in early October. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers, lesser and median wing coverts and inner greater coverts; some birds extend their moult to all greater coverts and some tertials; usually finished in October.

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Song Thrush. Extent of postjuvenile moult.

■ All birds  
■ Some birds

**PHENOLOGY**

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

■ Summer visitor    ■ Resident  
■ Wintering        ■ On passage



Song Thrush. 2nd year (30-X).



Song Thrush. Juvenile (15-VI).



Song Thrush. Head pattern: top adult (12-X); middle 2nd year (30-X); bottom juvenile (15-VI).



Song Thrush. Breast pattern: top left adult (12-X); top right 2nd year (30-X); left juvenile (15-VI).



**12000** Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*)



Song Thrush. 1st year: pattern of tail (30-X).



Song Thrush. Upper parts pattern: top left adult (12-X); top right 2nd year (30-X); left juvenile (15-VI).



Song Thrush. Juvenile: pattern of tail (15-VI).



Song Thrush. Adult: pattern of tail (12-X).



Song Thrush. Adult: pattern of wing coverts (12-X).



Song Thrush. 1st year: pattern of wing coverts (30-X).



Song Thrush. Juvenile: pattern of wing coverts (15-VI).



Song Thrush. Adult: pattern of wing (12-X).



Song Thrush. 1st year: pattern of wing (30-X).



Song Thrush. Juvenile: pattern of wing (15-VI).