



Reed Warbler. Spring (26-IV).

EURASIAN REED WARBLER (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*)

IDENTIFICATION

13-14 cm. Brown plumage, with rufous tinge on rump; whitish underparts with pale throat; brown tail; rusty underwing coverts; pale brown legs; with bristles near the base of bill.



Reed Warbler. Pattern of underwing coverts and bristles near the base of bill.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Similar to **Great Reed Warbler**, which is bigger (16-20 mm). **Savi's Warbler** lacks bristles near the base of bill. **Melodious Warbler** has yellow underwing coverts.



Great Reed Warbler.



Savi's Warbler



Melodious Warbler



SEXING

Plumage of both sexes alike.

AGEING


3 age groups can be recognized:

Juvenile with fresh plumage (check flight and tail feathers); iris dark grey; legs grey bluish; black spots on tongue.

2nd year only in some birds with brown-olive iris.

Adult in **autumn** with worn plumage; iris brown or reddish-brown; pale brown legs; tongue without black spots.

In **spring**, after **prebreeding** moult, ageing is not possible using plumage pattern.

12510 Eurasian Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*)  **aranzadi**
zientzia elkartea



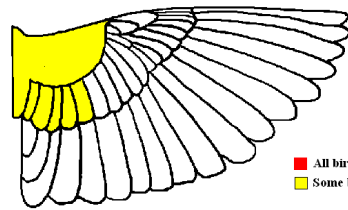
Reed Warbler. Ageing. Colour of iris: top adult; middle 2nd year; bottom juvenile.



Reed Warbler. Ageing. Wear of tertials: left adult; right juvenile.

MOULT

Partial **postbreeding** and **postjuvenile** moults, including body feathers and lesser and median wing coverts; sometimes also some greater coverts and the central pair of tail feathers. Both age classes have a complete **prebreeding** moult in wintering sites.



■ All birds
■ Some birds

Reed Warbler. Extent of postbreeding and postjuvenile moults.

PHENOLOGY

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

- Summer visitor
- Resident
- Wintering
- On passage



Reed Warbler. Autumn. Adult (28-VIII).



Reed Warbler. Autumn. Juvenile (25-VII).

12510 Eurasian Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*)



Reed Warbler. Iris colour: top adult (28-VIII); middle 2nd year (08-VII); bottom juvenile (25-VII).

Reed Warbler. Upper-part wear: top left in spring (22-IV); top right adult in autumn (28-VIII); left juvenile (25-VII).



Reed Warbler. Breast pattern: top left in spring (22-IV); top right adult in autumn (28-VIII); left juvenile (25-VII).



Reed Warbler. Tail wear: top left in spring (26-IV); top right adult in autumn (28-VIII); left juvenile (25-VII).



Reed Warbler. Autumn. Legs colour: left adult (28-IV); right juvenile (21-VII).



Reed Warbler. Spring: pattern of wing (26-IV).



Reed Warbler. Autumn. Adult: pattern of wing (28-VIII).



Reed Warbler. Autumn. Juvenile: pattern of wing (25-VII).