

**363 Melodious Warbler**

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Melodious Warbler. Spring (06-VI).

**MELODIOUS WARBLER** (*Hippolais polyglotta*)**IDENTIFICATION**

12-13 cm. Brown olive upperparts; yellowish underparts; yellow supercilium; brown bill and legs; yellowish underwing coverts; with bristles near the base of bill.



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

**SIMILAR SPECIES**

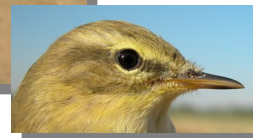
Similar to **Reed Warbler**, which is brown and has rufous underwing coverts. **Willow Warbler** is yellow, but is smaller, with more distinct supercilium and narrow bill.



Reed Warbler



Willow Warbler

**SEXING**

Plumage of both sexes alike.

**AGEING**

2 types of age can be recognized:

**Juvenile** with fresh feathers; iris dark grey; tongue with two black spots.

**Adult** in **autumn** with worn plumage; iris reddish; tongue without black spots.

In **spring**, after **postbreeding/postjuvenile** moults, ageing is not possible using plumage pattern. Some authors indicate that **2nd year** birds sometimes have traces of tongue spots.



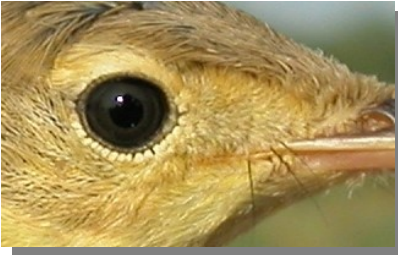
Melodious Warbler. Autumn. Ageing. Wear of tertials: left adult; right juvenile

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Melodious Warbler. Ageing. Colour of iris: top adult; bottom juvenile.



Melodious Warbler. Autumn. Juvenile (04-VII).

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** and **postjuvenile** moults taking place in wintering quarters. Both types of age have a **prebreeding** moult involving body feathers and, sometimes, inner greater coverts, tertials and inner secondaries.

PHENOLOGY

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

STATUS IN ARAGON

Summer visitor, widely distributed throughout the Region, absent from the Pyrenees, the most deforested zones of the Ebro Basin and some areas from Teruel.



Melodious Warbler. Autumn. Adult (20-VII).



Melodious Warbler. Head pattern and iris colour: top in spring (04-VI); middle adult in autumn (20-VII); bottom juvenile (20-VII).



Melodious Warbler. Breast pattern: top left in spring (04-VI); top right adult in autumn (20-VII); left juvenile (30-VI).



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Melodious Warbler.  
Legs colour:  
top adult  
(04-VI);  
bottom juvenile  
(07-VII).



Melodious Warbler. Tail pattern: top left in spring (04-VI); top right adult in autumn (14-VI); left juvenile (20-VII).



Melodious Warbler. Spring: pattern of wing (06-VI).



Melodious Warbler. Upper-part pattern: top left in spring (05-VI); top right adult in autumn (20-VII); left juvenile (20-VII).



Melodious Warbler. Autumn. Adult: pattern of wing (20-VII).

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Melodious Warbler. Autumn. Juvenile: pattern of wing (20-VI)