

12620 Dartford Warbler (*Curruca undata*)



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Adult. Male (05-IV).

DARTFORD WARBLER (*Curruca undata*)

IDENTIFICATION

13-14 cm; wing between 48-56 mm. Grey upperparts; reddish underparts; long tail with outer feathers with white edges; dark brown wings; legs brown-yellowish; red eye-ring; reddish throat with white spots. **Juveniles** with brown upperparts and brown-reddish underparts.



Dartford Warbler. Pattern of head and upperparts



SIMILAR SPECIES

This **Warbler** is unmitakable by dark plumage, reddish throat with white spots and long tail.

SEXING

Male with head and upperparts dark slate grey; underparts deep brown-pinkish; chin and throat vinous-red with well defined white dots. **Female** with head and upperparts grey-brown; underparts buff-pinkish; chin and throat dull red with small and indistinct white dots (**CAUTION:** differences very slight and sometime difficult to judge without direct comparison). **Juveniles** cannot be sexed using plumage pattern.



Dartford Warbler. Sexing. Pattern of head: top male; bottom female.



Dartford Warbler. Sexing. Pattern of upperparts: left male; right female.

12620 Dartford Warbler (*Curruca undata*)



Dartford Warbler. Sexing. Pattern of breast: left male; right female.

AGEING

3 age groups can be recognized:

Juvenile with fresh plumage; dull colours, without reddish tinge on underparts or throat; iris olive-brown.

1st year autumn/2nd year spring with moult limit on wing between darker moulted feathers and brownish **juvenile** retained; the never moulted **juvenile** primary coverts brownish with buff-brown edges.

Adult with wing with one age of feathers; primary coverts grey with grey-brown edges; iris reddish.

CAUTION: in **spring**, after **prebreeding** moult, both age classes may have moult limits on wing or tail.



Dartford Warbler. Ageing. Pattern of head: top adult female; bottom juvenile.



Dartford Warbler. Ageing. Pattern of breast: left adult female; right juvenile.

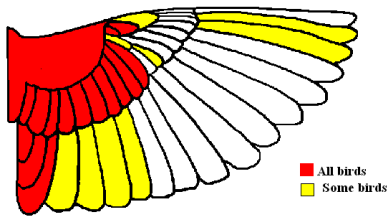


Dartford Warbler. Ageing. Mould limit on wing coverts: top adult; bottom 1st year.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in September. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers, lesser and median coverts, most or all greater coverts, alula, tertials and some tail feathers; some birds can moult some inner secondaries, outer primaries and all tail feathers; usually finished in October. Both age classes have, but not always, a **prebreeding** moult involving body feathers, some tertials and tail feathers.

12620 Dartford Warbler (*Curruca undata*)



Dartford Warbler.
Extent of postjuvenile moult.

PHENOLOGY

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

- Summer visitor ■ Resident
- Wintering ■ On passage



Dartford Warbler. Spring. 2nd year. Female (10-IV).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Juvenile (28-V).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Adult. Female (21-III).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Adult. Head pattern: top male (05-IV); bottom female (21-III).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. 2nd year. Male (13-IV).

12620 Dartford Warbler (*Curruca undata*)



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (05-IV); right female (21-III).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Breast pattern: top left 2nd year male (13-IV); top right 2nd year female (10-IV); left juvenile (28-V).

Dartford Warbler. Spring. Head pattern: top 2nd year male (13-IV); middle 2nd year female (10-IV); bottom juvenile (28-V).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (05-IV); right female (21-III).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Tail pattern: top left 2nd year male (13-IV); top right 2nd year female (10-IV); left juvenile (28-V).

12620 Dartford Warbler (*Curruca undata*)



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Adult. Upperpart pattern: left male (05-IV); right female (21-III).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Upperpart pattern: top left 2nd year male (13-IV); top right 2nd year female (10-IV); left juvenile (28-V).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (05-IV).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (21-III).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. 2nd year. Male: pattern of wing (13-IV).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. 2nd year. Female: pattern of wing (10-IV).



Dartford Warbler. Spring. Juvenile: pattern of wing (28-V).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Male (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Female (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Male (06-X).

12620 Dartford Warbler (*Curruca undata*)



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Female (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Head pattern: top male (06-X); bottom female (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Head pattern: top male (06-X); bottom female (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (06-X); right female (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Breast pattern: left male (06-X); right female (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Upperpart pattern: left male (06-X); right female (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Upperpart pattern: left male (06-X); right female (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. Adult/1st year. Tail pattern: left male (06-X); right female (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Tail pattern: left male (06-X); right female (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (06-X).



Dartford Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing (06-X).