

**12640 Spectacled Warbler** (*Curruca conspicillata*)



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Male. Adult (24-IV).

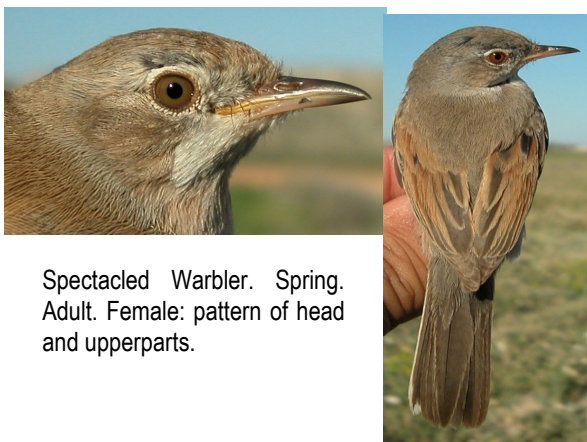
**SPECTACLED WARBLER** (*Curruca conspicillata*)

**IDENTIFICATION**

12-13 cm; wing between 50-60 mm. **Male** with grey head and dark patch near the eye; brown upperparts; pinkish underparts; white eye-ring. **Female** duller than **male**, without grey or with only a little on the head; whitish underparts. Both sexes have wing feathers with broad buff edges and pale legs. **Juveniles** are quite similar to **females**, without grey and with creamy underparts.



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Adult. Male: pattern of head.



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Adult. Female: pattern of head and upperparts.



Spectacled Warbler. Juvenile: pattern of head and upperparts.

**SIMILAR SPECIES**

**Whitethroat** has similar wing pattern, but is bigger (13-15 cm, wing 69-72 mm). **Subalpine Warbler** has reddish throat (**male**) and grey wings. **Juveniles** can be more difficult to determine: **Whitethroat** are bigger, **Subalpine Warbler** and **Sardinian Warbler** lack so deep buff on wing feathers.



Whitethroat. Female



Subalpine Warbler. Female



Whitethroat. Juvenile



Subalpine Warbler. Juvenile



Sardinian Warbler. Juvenile.

**SEXING**

In **spring**, **male** with grey head with dark mask on face; breast pinkish. **Female** with duller colours; without grey; breast and flanks buff, not pinkish (**CAUTION**: some **females** have grey on head although less extensive than in **male**).

In **autumn**, after moulting, **adults** as in **spring** but grey colour on head is hidden by chestnut tips of feathers; **1st year male** with greyer head than **1st year female** but very similar to **adult female**, so it is very important a correct ageing; chestnut fringes of wing coverts duller and thinner in **females** than in **males**.



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Sexing. Pattern of head: top male; middle and bottom females.



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



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Adult Sexing. Pattern of head: top male; middle and bottom females.



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Sexing. Pattern of head: top male; bottom female.



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Sexing. Colour of wing coverts: top male; bottom female.

### AGEING

4 age groups can be recognized:

**Juvenile** with fresh plumage; pale brownish head, without grey; dark iris.

**1st year autumn** with moult limit on wing between moulted fresh and broad rufous edged greater coverts and retained **juvenile** primary coverts, which are duller with pale rufous fringes; dark iris.

**2nd year spring** with retained **juvenile** flight feathers very worn; primary coverts worn; if some **juvenile** tail feather is retained then it is very worn. In **males** grey on head not so deep than in **adults**; eye dull red. **CAUTION:** in **females** the iris colour is very variable.

**Adult** in **autumn** without moult limits on wing. In **spring** with primary coverts and flight feathers slightly worn. In **males** grey on head deep grey; red-dish eye. Some **females** with greyish head and red-dish eyes. **CAUTION:** in **spring**, after **prebreeding** moult, both age classes have moult limits on wing.

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Spectacled Warbler. Ageing. Pattern of head and iris colour: top adult female; bottom juvenile.



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Male. Ageing. Pattern of head and iris colour: top adult; bottom 2nd year.



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Ageing. Wear of tail feathers: left adult; right juvenile.

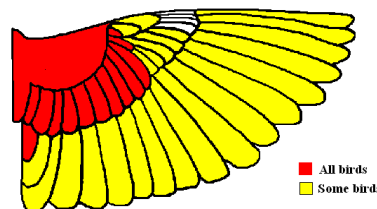


Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Ageing. Pattern of head and iris colour: top adult female; bottom 1st year.



**MOULT**

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in October. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers, lesser and median coverts, usually all greater coverts and some tertials and tail feathers; some birds can moult all wing feathers retaining only outer primary coverts; usually finished in September. Both age classes have a **prebreeding** moult including body feathers, some greater coverts, tertials and tail feathers; rarely some inner secondary also.



Spectacled Warbler. Extent of postjuvenile moult.

**PHENOLOGY**

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

- Summer visitor
- Resident
- Wintering
- On passage

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Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Adult. Female with brownish pattern (02-V).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Adult. Female with greyish pattern (02-V).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. 2nd year. Male (02-V).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. 2nd year. Female (02-V).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Juvenile (28-VI).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Adult. Head pattern and iris colour: top male (24-IV); middle female with brownish pattern (02-V); bottom female with greyish pattern (02-V).

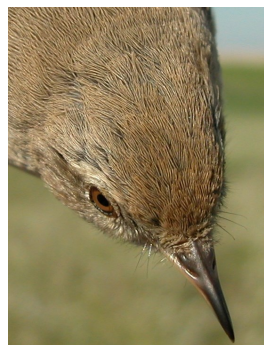
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Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Head pattern and iris colour: top 2nd year male (02-V); middle 2nd year female (02-V); bottom juvenile (28-VI).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Crown pattern: top left 2nd year male (02-V); top right 2nd year female (02-V); left juvenile (28-VI).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Adult. Crown pattern: top left male (24-IV); top right female with brownish pattern (02-V); left female with greyish pattern (02-V).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Adult. Breast pattern: top left male (24-IV); top right female with brownish pattern (02-V); left female with greyish pattern (02-V).

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Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Breast pattern: top left 2nd year male (02-V); top right 2nd year female (02-V); left juvenile (28-VI).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Adult. Upperpart pattern: top left male (24-IV); top right female with brownish pattern (02-V); left female with greyish pattern (02-V).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Upperpart pattern: top left 2nd year male (02-V); top right 2nd year female (02-V); left juvenile (28-VI).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Legs pattern: left adult (13-IV); right juvenile (28-VI).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (24-IV); right female (02-V).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Tail pattern: top left 2nd year male (02-V); top right 2nd year female (02-V); left juvenile (28-VI).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (24-IV).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (02-V).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. 2nd year. Male: pattern of wing (02-V).



Spectacled Warbler. Spring. 2nd year. Female: pattern of wing (02-V).





Spectacled Warbler. Spring. Juvenile: pattern of wing (28-VI).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Male (22-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Female with brownish pattern (22-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Female with greyish pattern (13-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Male (13-VIII).



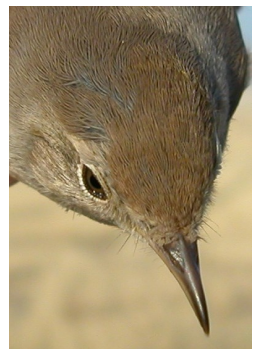
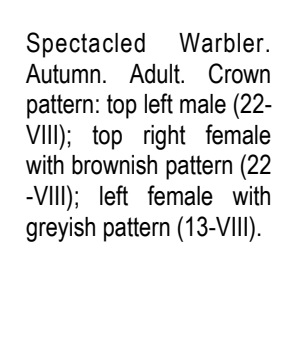
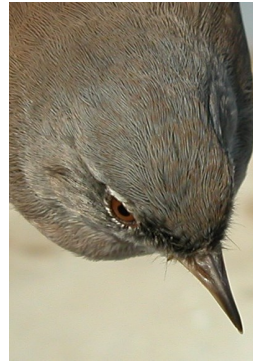
Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Female (13-VIII).

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Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Head pattern and iris colour: top male (22-VIII); middle female with brownish pattern (22-VIII); bottom female with greyish pattern (13-VIII).

Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Head pattern and iris colour: top male (13-VIII); bottom female (13-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Crown pattern: top left male (22-VIII); top right female with brownish pattern (22-VIII); left female with greyish pattern (13-VIII).

Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Crown pattern: left male (13-VIII); right female (13-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Breast pattern: top left male (22-VIII); top right female with brownish pattern (22-VIII); left female with greyish pattern (13-VIII).

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Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Breast pattern: left male (13-VIII); right female (13-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Upperpart pattern: left male (13-VIII); right female (13-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Upperpart pattern: top left male (22-VIII); top right female with brownish pattern (22-VIII); left female with greyish pattern (13-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (13-VIII); right female (13-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Tail pattern: left male (13-VIII); right female (13-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (13-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (13-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (13-VIII).



Spectacled Warbler. Autumn. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing (13-VIII).