

**381 Willow Warbler**

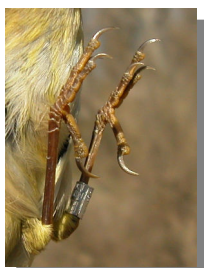
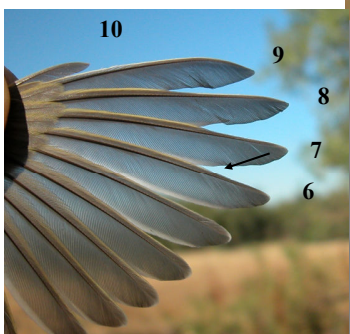
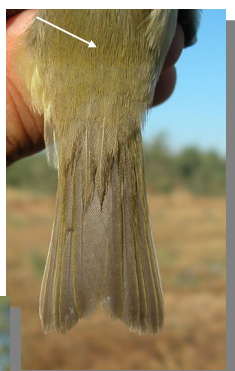
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Willow Warbler. Spring (05-IV).

**WILLOW WARBLER** (*Phylloscopus trochilus*)**IDENTIFICATION**

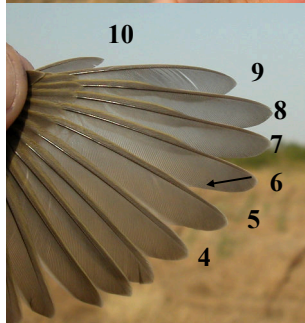
10-12 cm. Green olive upperparts, with some brownish tinge; white underparts, with yellow throat and breast; pale legs; on wing, 7th and 8th primaries have the same length; emarginated from 6th primary.



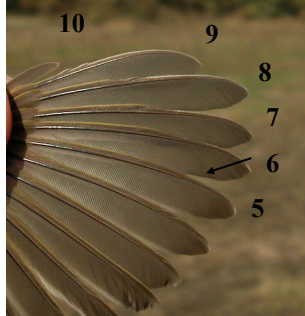
Willow Warbler. Pattern of breast, rump, wing formula and colour of legs.

**SIMILAR SPECIES**

**Iberian Chiffchaff** is similar but has emarginated only five primaries. **Chiffchaff** is not so yellow, has dark legs and emarginated from 5th primary. **Bonelli's Warbler** has white underparts and yellow rump. **Wood Warbler** has 10th primary shorter than primary coverts and with contrast between the yellow head and upper breast and pure white underparts. **Melodious Warbler** is bigger, with uniform yellow underparts and broad bill on the base.



Iberian Chiffchaff

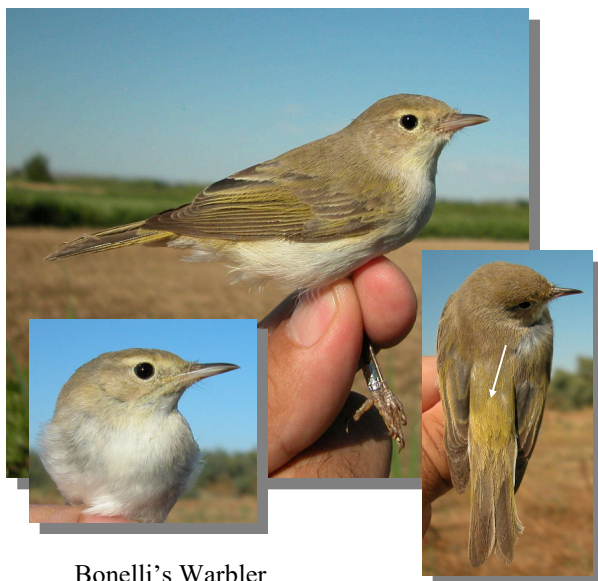


Chiffchaff



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Bonelli's Warbler

**SEXING**

Plumage of both sexes alike.

**AGEING**

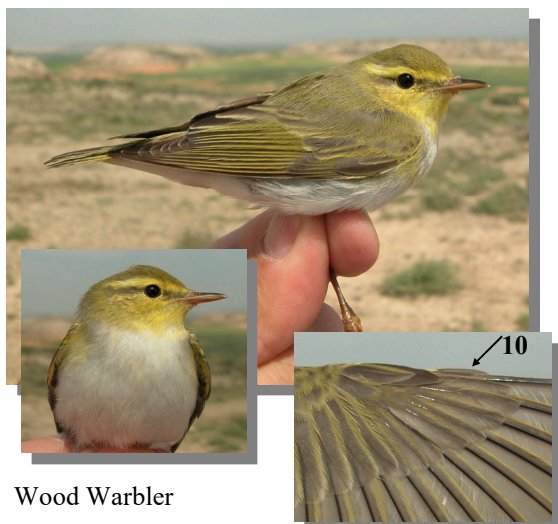
This species doesn't breed in Aragon, so only 2 age groups can be recognized:

**1st year autumn** with throat, breast and belly uniform yellow (not streaked yellow on white ground); yellow undertail coverts; if feathers on wings have been moulted, then with moult limit on lesser or median coverts, rarely on greater coverts or tertials; central tail feathers narrow.

**Adult** with white underparts, with some yellow streaks; belly white without yellow or with only a very slight yellowish tinge; white or pale yellowish undertail coverts; always without moult limits on wings; central tail feathers broad.

**CAUTION:** ageing using only body colour is not always possible due to overlap.

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



Wood Warbler



Willow Warbler. Autumn. Ageing. Pattern of breast: left adult; right 1st year.



Melodious Warbler

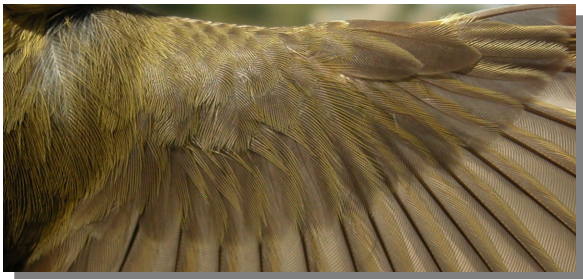
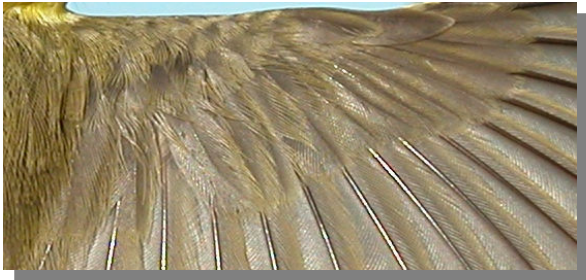


Willow Warbler. Autumn. Ageing. Pattern of underparts: left adult; right 1st year.

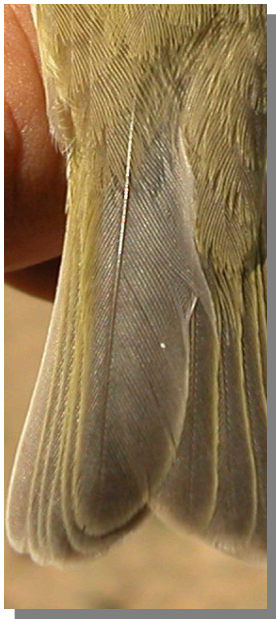


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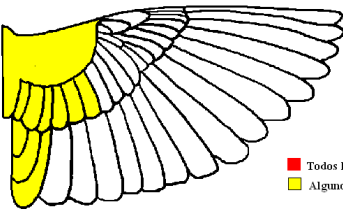
Willow Warbler. Autumn. Ageing. Moulting limit on wing coverts: top adult; middle 1st year no moulted; bottom 1st year with only lesser coverts moulted



Willow Warbler. Autumn. Ageing. Width of tail feathers: left adult; right 1st year

MOULT

September. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers; some specimens may include some lesser and median coverts, some inner greater coverts and tertials, although a large number of birds don't moult any wing feather. Both age groups have a complete **prebreeding** moult in wintering quarters.



Willow Warbler. Extent of postjuvenile moult.

PHENOLOGY

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

STATUS IN ARAGON

Only on passage, widely distributed throughout the Region.



Willow Warbler. Autumn. Adult (I-VIII)

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Willow Warbler. Autumn. 1st year (10-VIII)



Willow Warbler. Breast pattern: top in spring (05-IV); middle adult in autumn (11-VIII); bottom 1st year (10-VIII).



Willow Warbler. Head pattern: top in spring (05-IV); middle adult in autumn (11-VIII); bottom 1st year (10-VIII).

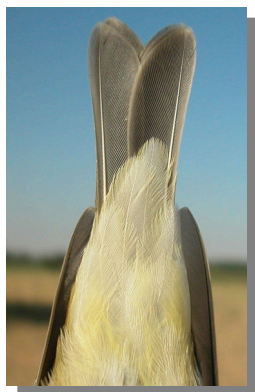


Willow Warbler. Tail pattern: top left in spring (21-III); top right adult in autumn (11-VIII); left 1st year (10-VIII).

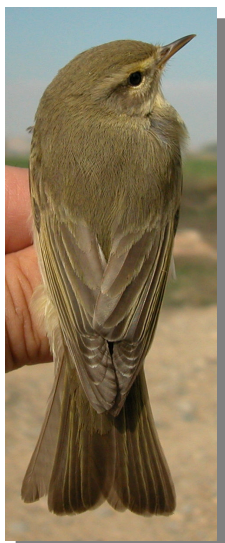


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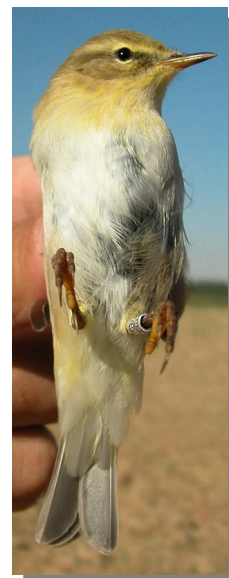
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Willow Warbler.  
Pattern of undertail  
coverts: top left in  
spring (05-IV); top  
right adult in au-  
tumn (11-VIII); left  
1st year (10-VIII).



Willow Warbler.  
Upperpart pattern:  
top left in spring (05-IV); top right adult  
in autumn (11-VIII);  
left 1st year (10-VIII).



Willow Warbler.  
Underpart pattern:  
top left in spring (05-IV); top right adult  
in autumn (11-VIII);  
left 1st year (10-VIII).



Willow Warbler. Autumn. Adult: pattern of wing  
coverts (11-VIII).



Willow Warbler. Autumn. 1st year no moulted: pat-  
tern of wing coverts (22-VIII).



## 381 Willow Warbler

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Willow Warbler. Autumn. 1st year with only lesser coverts moulted: pattern of wing coverts (22-VIII)



Willow Warbler. Autumn. 1st year with only lesser coverts moulted: pattern of wing (22-VIII)



Willow Warbler. Spring: pattern of wing (05-IV).



Willow Warbler. Autumn. Adult: pattern of wing (11-VIII).



Willow Warbler. Autumn. 1st year no moulted: pattern of wing (22-VIII).