



Goldcrest. Adult. Male (04-XII).

GOLDCREST (*Regulus regulus*)

IDENTIFICATION

8-10 cm. **Adults** with green-yellowish plumage; head with crown yellow (**female**) or orange (**male**); grey face. **Juvenile** without crest on the crown.



Goldcrest. Adult. Pattern of head.



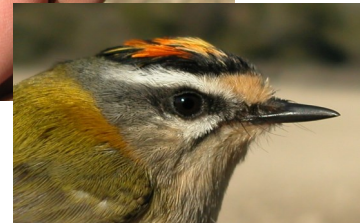
Goldcrest. Juvenile. Pattern of head.

SIMILAR SPECIES

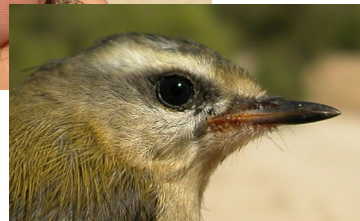
Firecrest has similar crown pattern, but head with white and black bands on the face; **Juvenile Firecrest** has a whitish supercilium.



Firecrest. Adult.



Firecrest. Juvenile.



SEXING

Male with crown patch bright orange with yellow at the edges; wing longer than 56 mm. **Female** with crown patch yellow, sometimes with some orange; wing shorter than 49 mm (**CAUTION: some females** can show limited hint of orange that is not very glossy). **Juveniles** cannot be sexed using plumage pattern.



Goldcrest. Adult. Sexing. Pattern of crown: left male; right female.

AGEING

3 age groups can be recognized:

Juvenile without crest on crown; fresh plumage.

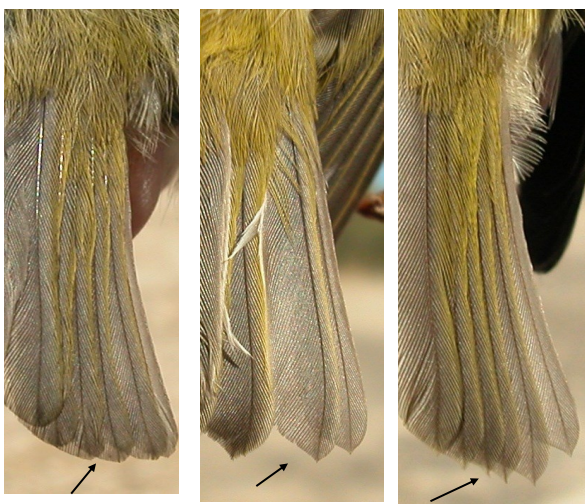
1st year autumn/2nd year spring with most of the wing feathers unmoulted; central alula feather, if unmoulted, lacks green edge; tail feathers with very pointed tips.

Adult with central alula feather with green edge; tail feathers with not very pointed tips or rounded.

CAUTION: shape of tail feathers is not always usable due to overlap.



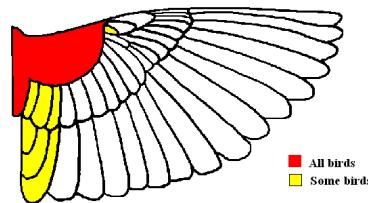
Goldcrest. Ageing. Pattern of crown: left adult; right juvenile.



Goldcrest. Ageing. Pattern of tips of the tail feathers: left adult with rounded tips; middle adult with pointed tips; right juvenile.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in October. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers, lesser and median coverts and some or all tertials, but usually not greater coverts; generally finished in October.



Goldcrest. Extent of postjuvenile moult.

PHENOLOGY

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

- Summer visitor
- Wintering
- Resident
- On passage



Goldcrest. Adult. Female (04-XI).

13140 Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*)



Goldcrest. 1st year. Male (04-XII).



Goldcrest. 1st year. Female (04-XII).



Goldcrest. Juvenile (23-VII).



Goldcrest. Adult. Head pattern: top male (04-XI); bottom female (04-XI).



Goldcrest. Head pattern: top 1st year male (04-XI); middle 1st year female (04-XI); bottom juvenile (23-VII).



Goldcrest. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (04-XI); right female (04-XI).

13140 Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*)



Goldcrest. Breast pattern: top left 1st year male (04-XI); top right 1st year female (04-XI); left juvenile (23-VII).



Goldcrest. Adult. Pattern of crown feathers: left male (04-XI); right female (04-XI).



Goldcrest. Pattern of crown feathers: top left 1st year male (04-XI); top right 1st year female (04-XI); left juvenile (23-VII).



Goldcrest. Adult. Upperpart pattern: left male (04-XI); right female (04-XI).



Goldcrest. Upperpart pattern: top left 1st year male (04-XI); top right 1st year female (04-XI); left juvenile (23-VII).



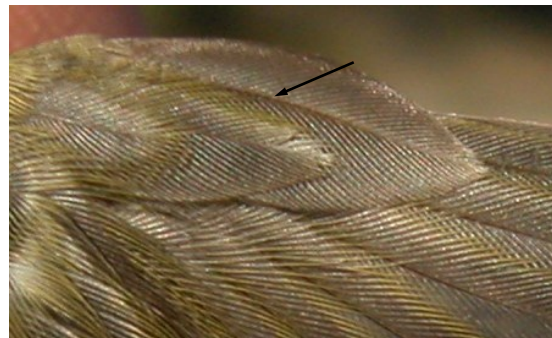
Goldcrest. Adult. Tail pattern: left male with rounded tip (04-XI); right female with pointed tip (04-XI).



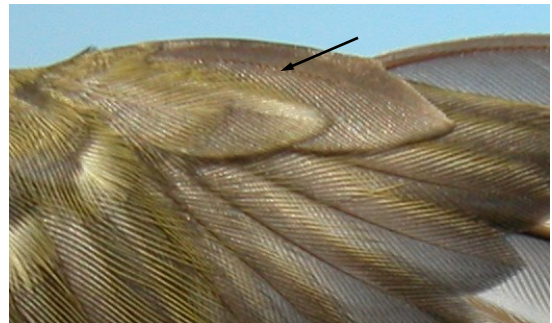
Goldcrest. Tail pattern: top left 1st year male (04-XI); top right 1st year female (04-XI); left juvenile (23-VII).



Goldcrest. Adult. Female: pattern of alula (04-XI)



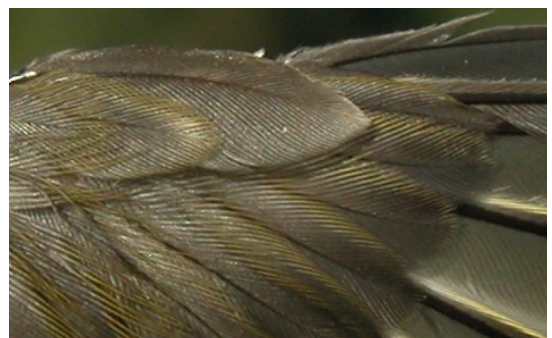
Goldcrest. 1st year. Male: pattern of alula (04-XI)



Goldcrest. 1st year. Female: pattern of alula (04-XI)



Goldcrest. Adult. Male: pattern of alula (04-XI)



Goldcrest. Juvenile: pattern of alula (23-VII)



Goldcrest. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (04-XI)



Goldcrest. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing (04-XI)



Goldcrest. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (04-XI)



Goldcrest. Juvenile: pattern of wing (23-VII)



Goldcrest. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (04-XI)