



Crested Tit. Spring. Adult (3-V).

**EUROPEAN CRESTED TIT** (*Lophophanes cristatus*)

**IDENTIFICATION**

11-12 cm. Grey upperparts; pale underparts; black throat; head with pale cheeks and dark eye ring; crown with crest with black feathers edged white.



Crested Tit. Pattern of head.

**SIMILAR SPECIES**

This species is unmistakable.

**SEXING**

Both sexes alike in plumage. Size is useful in extreme birds: **male** with wing longer than 63 mm; **female** with wing shorter than 59 mm.

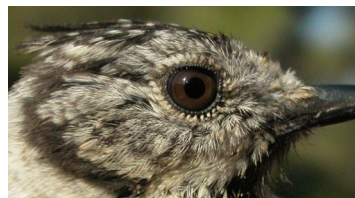
**AGEING**

3 age groups can be recognized:

**Juvenile** with fresh plumage; tail feathers with pointed tips; brown-grey iris; short crest.

**1st year autumn/2nd year spring** with pointed **juvenile** tail feathers, usually worn from late **autumn**; if some greater coverts are changed, then with moult limit within buff-brown moulted inner and dull brown outer **juvenile** retained; usually brownish iris till February.

**Adult** with tail feathers with rounded tips; reddish iris; long crest.

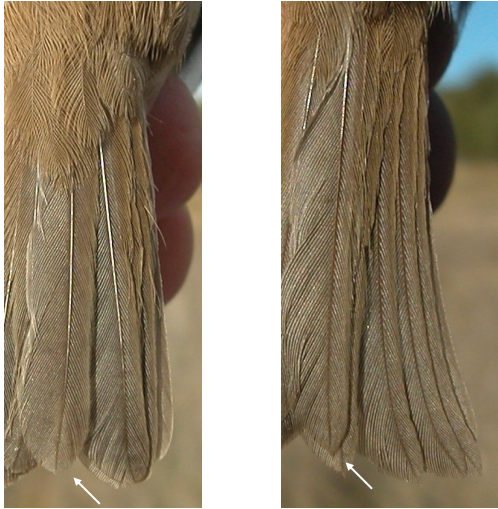


Crested Tit. Ageing. Colour of iris: top adult; middle 1st year; bottom juvenile.



Crested Tit. Spring. Ageing. Wear of tail feathers: left adult; right 2nd year.

**14540** European Crested Tit (*Lophophanes cristatus*)



Crested Tit. Autumn. Ageing. Pattern of tips of tail feathers: left adult; right 1st year.



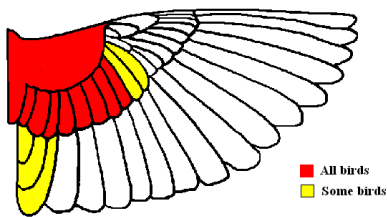
Crested Tit. Spring. 2nd year. Female (03-V)



Crested Tit. Spring. Juvenile (02-VII).

**MOULT**

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in September. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers, lesser and median coverts, all or some greater coverts and one or more tertials; tail feathers are rarely moulted; usually finished in September.



Crested Tit. Extent of postjuvenile moult.



Crested Tit. Spring. Head pattern and iris colour: top adult (03-V); middle 2nd year (03-V); bottom juvenile (02-VII).

**PHENOLOGY**

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

- Summer visitor
- Wintering
- Resident
- On passage

**14540** European Crested Tit (*Lophophanes cristatus*)



Crested Tit. Spring. Crown pattern: top left adult (03-V); top right 2nd year (03-V); left juvenile (02-VII).



Crested Tit. Spring. Breast pattern: top left adult (03-V); top right 2nd year (03-V); left juvenile (02-VII).



Crested Tit. Spring. Upperpart pattern: top left adult (03-V); top right 2nd year (03-V); left juvenile (02-VII).



Crested Tit. Spring. Wear and pattern of tail: top left adult (03-V); top right 2nd year (03-V); left juvenile (02-VII).



Crested Tit. Spring. Postbreeding moult: wing of adult (03-V).



Crested Tit. Spring. Postjuvenile moult: wing of 2nd year (03-V).



Crested Tit. Spring. Wing of juvenile (02-VII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. Adult (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. 1st year (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. Head pattern and iris colour: top adult (26-XII); bottom 1st year (26-XII).





Crested Tit. Autumn. Crown pattern: left adult (26-XII); right 1st year (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. Breast pattern: left adult (26-XII); right 1st year (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. Upperparts pattern: left adult (26-XII); right 1st year (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. Tail pattern: left adult (26-XII); right 1st year (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. Adult: pattern of wing (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. 1st year: pattern of wing (26-XII).