



Brambling. Adult. Male (16-XII).

BRAMBLING (Fringilla montifringilla)

IDENTIFICATION

14-16 cm. **Male** in **winter** with head and mantle feathers with black base and rusty tips. **Female** with head and mantle feathes with grey bases. **Both sexes** have white rump and rusty-yellow lesser coverts and breast.





Brambling. Pattern of head: top male; bottom female.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Female recalls a female Chaffinch, without rusty-yellow patches on wing and breast.



SEXING

In autumn-winter, male with crown feathers with black base and rusty tip; yellow lesser coverts without dark tips or with just a little. Female with crown feathers with grey base; lesser coverts yellowish with dark fringes.



Brambling.
Sexing. Pattern of head:
top male;
bottom female.





Brambling. Sexing. Pattern of crown feathers: left male; right female.







Brambling. Sexing. Pattern of lesser coverts: top male; bottom female.



Only 2 types of age can be recognized since this species doesn't breed in Aragon:

1st year autumn/2nd year winter in males with moult limit between moulted black greater coverts and grey juvenile retained; primary coverts grey contrasting with the black moulted greater coverts; feathers of mantle with black wedge-shaped spots; most of the birds have black spots on lesser coverts; if tail feathers unmoulted, then with pointed tips. In females it is sometimes difficult to see the moult limit between the darker inner moulted greater coverts and the rest of retained juvenile feathers; if tail feathers unmoulted, then with pointed tips.

Adult in males with wing coverts uniformly dark; feathers of mantle with rounded black spots; most of the birds without black spots on lesser coverts; tail feathers with rounded tips. In females without moult limit on wing feathes; tail feathers with rounded tips.





Brambling.
Male. Ageing.
Pattern of
mantle feathers: top adult;
bottom 1st
year.





Brambling. Ageing. Wear of tail feathers: left adult; right 1st year.





Brambling. Ageing. Male. Moult limit on wing coverts: top adult; bottom 1st year.



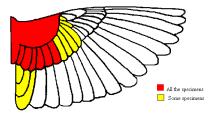




Brambling. Ageing. Female. Moult limit on wing coverts: top adult; bottom 1st year.

MOULT

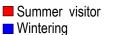
Complete **postbreeding** moult, finished early September. Partial **postjuvenile** moult including body feathers, lesser and median coverts and a variable number of greater covers (sometimes all), tertials and tail feathers (usually the central pair but some birds moult all the tail); usually finished in September.



Brambling. Extent of postjuveni le moult.

PHENOLOGY

I	П	III	IV	٧	VI	VII	VIII	IX	Χ	XI	XII







Brambling. Adult. Female (16-XII).



Brambling. 1st year. Male (16-XII).



Brambling. 1st year. Female (16-XII).







Brambling. Head pattern: top male with no worn plumage (16-XII); middle male with worn plumage (16-XII), bottom female (16-XII).







Brambling. Pattern of crown feathers: left male (16-XII); right female (16-XII).







Brambling. Breast pattern: top left male with no worn plumage (16-XII); top right male with worn plumage (16-XII), left female (16-XII).





Brambling. Adult. Upperparts pattern: left male (16-XII); right female (16-XII).





Brambling. 1st year. Upperparts pattern: left male (16-XII); right female (16-XII).





Brambling. Pattern of flank and underwing coverts: left male (16-XII); right female (16-XII).







Brambling.
Pattern of
mantle feathers: top adult
male (16-XII);
middle 1st
year male (16XII); bottom
female (16XII).







Brambling. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (16-XII); right female (16-XII).





Brambling. 1st year. Tail pattern: left male (16-XII); right female (16-XII).





Brambling. Pattern of lesser coverts: top adult male (16-XII); middle 1st year male (16-XII); bottom female (16-XII).





Brambling. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (16-XII)



Brambling. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (16-XII)





Brambling. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (16-XII)



Brambling. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing (16-XII)