

16540 Eurasian Siskin (*Spinus spinus*)



Siskin. Adult. Male (12-l).

EURASIAN SISKIN (*Spinus spinus*)

IDENTIFICATION

11-12 cm. **Male** with green-yellowish upperparts, streaked dark; yellow underparts, with streaked flanks; yellow rump; crown and bib black. **Female** brownish, yellow-greenish rump; without black on crown and throat.



Siskin. Pattern of wing, tail and head: top male; bottom female.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Among yellow and green **Finches**, **Greenfinch** is bigger (14-15 cm). **Citril Finch** and **Serin** without yellow patches on tail feathers.



Greenfinch.



Serin.



Citril Finch.



SEXING

Male with crown (and usually bib) black (in **autumn** with feathers tipped grey); breast and rump yellow unstreaked; outer tail feathers with extensive yellow bases tipped black; **Female** with green-greyish crown streaked dark; without black bib; breast and rump yellowish-white streaked brown; outer tail feathers extensively dark with small yellow patches.



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



Siskin. Sexing. Pattern of crown: left male; right female.



Siskin. Sexing. Pattern of rump and tail: left male; right female.

AGEING

It is unlikely to find **juveniles** in Aragon, so only 2 age groups can be recognized:

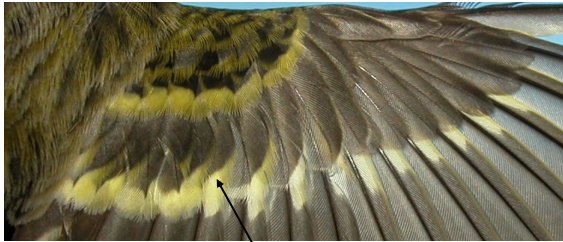
1st year autumn/2nd year spring with moult limit on wing between moulted inner darker greater coverts and outer **juvenile** retained, shorter, paler and with white-yellowish edges; if all greater coverts moulted, then limit is within tertials (**juvenile** with whitish edge, **postjuvenile** with green-yellowish edges), between tertials and secondaries, within alula feathers or between old and fresh primaries and secondaries; if all greater coverts are unmoulted, then limit is between lesser and median coverts; base of inner primaries white-yellowish; unmoulted **juvenile** tail feathers (mainly the outermost) worn and pointed.

Adult/some postjuveniles with complete moult without moult limits on wing (**CAUTION:** if moult is suspended, then the retained flight feathers are very worn); greater coverts with greenish edges, except the two outermost which have them whitish); base of inner primaries deep yellow; tail feathers with rounded tips and only one generation.

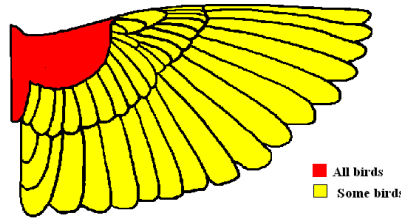


Siskin. Ageing. Pattern of tips of tail feathers: left adult; right 1st year.

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Siskin. Ageing. Molt limit on wing covers: top adult; bottom 1st year.



Siskin. Extent of postjuvenile moult.

■ All birds
■ Some birds



Siskin. Adult. Female (12-I).



Siskin. 1st year. Male (12-X).



Siskin. 1st year. Female (19-XII).

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, although a few birds may suspend their moult retaining alula and some flight feathers; usually finished in October. Often a partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers, lesser and median coverts, a variable number of inner greater coverts and sometimes all or some alula feathers, all or some tertials and some or all tail feathers (**CAUTION: postjuvenile** moult can be very variable with birds moulting all greater coverts or, on the contrary, others do not moult any greater covert; a few birds may have a complete moult); usually finished in November.

PHENOLOGY

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

■ Summer visitor ■ Resident
■ Wintering ■ On passage

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Siskin. Adult. Head pattern: top male (12-I); bottom female (12-I).



Siskin. 1st year. Head pattern: top male (12-X); bottom female (19-XII).



Siskin. Adult. Crown pattern: left male (12-I); right female (12-I).



Siskin. 1st year. Crown pattern: left male (12-X); right female (19-XII).



Siskin. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (12-I); right female (12-I).

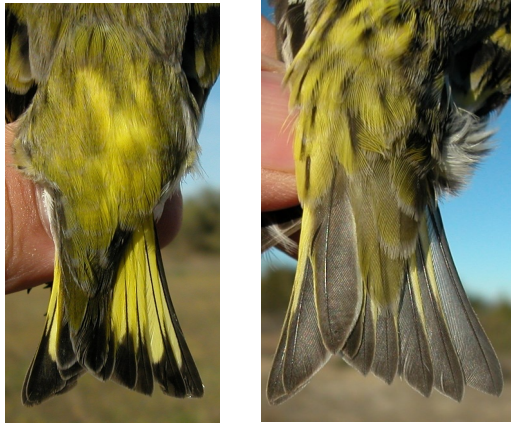


Siskin. 1st year. Breast pattern: left male (12-X); right female (19-XII).



Siskin. Adult. Pattern of rump and wear of tail: left male (12-I); right female (12-I).

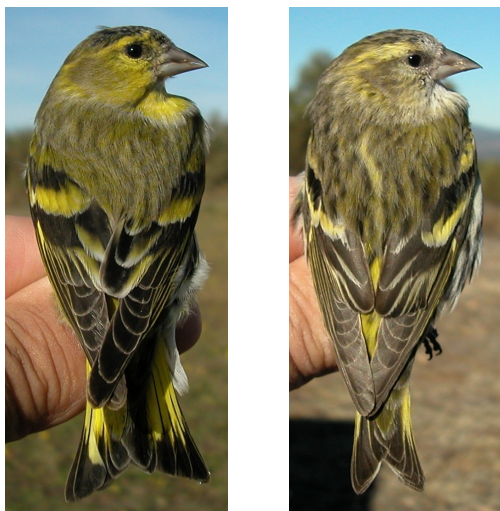
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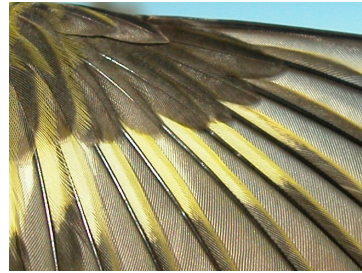
Siskin. 1st year. Pattern of rump and wear of tail: left male (12-X); right female (19-XII).



Siskin. Adult. Upperparts pattern: left male (12-I); right female (12-I).



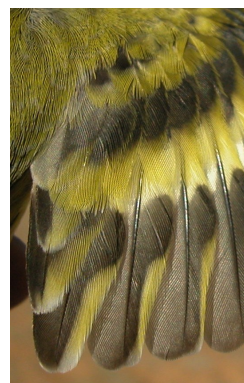
Siskin. 1st year. Upperparts pattern: left male (12-X); right female (19-XII).



Siskin. Adult. Extent of yellow patch on inner primaries: top male (12-I); bottom female (12-I).

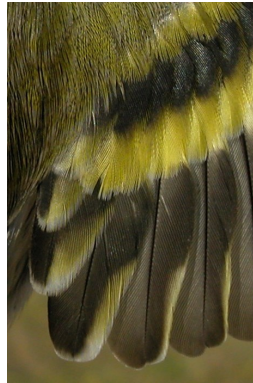


Siskin. 1st year. Extent of yellow patch on inner primaries: top male (12-X); bottom female (19-XII).



Siskin. Adult. Pattern and wear of tertials: left male (12-I); right female (12-I).

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Siskin. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (19-XII).



Siskin. 1st year. Pattern and wear of tertials: top left male with unmoulted tertials (19-XI); top right male with moulted tertials (12-X); left female with unmoulted tertials (19-XII).



Siskin. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing (19-XII).



Siskin. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (12-I).



Siskin. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (12-I).