

# 18820 Corn Bunting (*Emberiza calandra*)



Corn Bunting. Adult (21-X).

## CORN BUNTING (*Emberiza calandra*)

### IDENTIFICATION

16-19 cm. Brown and streaked plumage, with lighter underparts; no white on wings and tail; robust head and thick bill.

### SIMILAR SPECIES

Recalls a **Cirl Bunting** and **Rock Bunting** juvenile which have smaller size, less thick bill and have pure white on the outermost tail feathers.



Juveniles of Cirl Bunting (right) and Rock Bunting (bottom).



### SEXING

Plumage of both sexes alike; size is an useful characteristic in extreme birds: **male** with wing longer than 100 mm; **female** with wing shorter than 95 mm.

### AGEING

2 types of age can be recognized:

**Juvenile** with scarcely streaked underparts; upperwing coverts and tertials with pale buff edges; narrow tail feathers; flight feathers fresh before moult.

**Adult** with very streaked underparts; upperwing coverts and tertials with dark buff edges; wide tail feathers; flight feathers worn before moult.

After the **postbreeding/postjuvenile** moult, ageing is not possible using plumage characteristics.



Corn Bunting. Ageing. Pattern of tertials: left adult; right juvenile.

### MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** and **postjuvenile** moults, usually finished in October.

### PHENOLOGY

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

- Summer visitor
- Wintering
- Resident
- On passage

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Corn Bunting. Juvenile (05-VII).



Corn Bunting. Head pattern: top adult (19-X); bottom juvenile (05-VII).



Corn Bunting. Breast pattern: left adult (19-X); right juvenile (11-VII).



Corn Bunting. Upperpart pattern: left adult (19-X); right juvenile (05-VII).



Corn Bunting. Tail pattern: left adult (13-I); right juvenile (05-VII).



Corn Bunting. Adult: pattern of wing (13-I).



Corn Bunting. Juvenile: pattern of wing (05-VII).