454 Corn Bunting



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

STATUS IN ARAGÓN

Resident, with contribution of wintering European birds. Widely distributed throughout the Region, absent from the highest zones of the Pyrenees and the most deforested areas of the Ebro Basin.

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Corn Bunting. Juvenile (05-VII).





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



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





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







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



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

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