Black Stork

MOULT
Complete postbreeding moult, starting in breeding period and finished during winter. Complete postjuvenile moult, starting with body feathers in February of the 2nd year; flight feathers starts in May and last until winter.

PHENOLOGY

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STATUS IN ARAGON
On passage, with records throughout all the Region.

BLACK STORK (*Ciconia nigra*)

IDENTIFICATION
95-100 cm. Black plumage; white undertail coverts, axillaries and underparts; bill and legs red.

SIMILAR SPECIES
This species is unmistakable

SEXING
Plumage of both sexes alike.

AGEING
3 types of age can be recognized:
- **Juvenile** similar to **adult**, but with feathers on head, neck and chest dark grey-brown with pale tips; rest of upperparts dull coloured; upper wing coverts with narrow pale brown margins; bill olive green.
- **2nd year** with moult limit between black purple new feathers and duller juvenile.
- **Adult** with feathers on head, neck and chest with strong purple and green gloss; upper wing coverts without narrow pale brown margins; bill bright scarlet.

Black Stork. 2nd year: pattern of primary coverts (20-VII).
Black Stork. 2nd year: pattern of secondaries (20-VII).

Black Stork. 2nd year: pattern of wing (20-VII).