**AGEING**
3 types of age can be recognized: 
- **Juvenile** with dark grey mantle; lower upperparts and wing coverts dull violet blue; off-white chin; grey flanks; in early stages dull red bill, later bright red but dusky at sides; iris red brown; tarsus and toes dull ochre red.
- **1st year autumn/2nd year spring** similar to **adults**, but head and upperparts slightly duller violet blue; centre of breast and underparts mixed dark grey and white; **juvenile** retained flight feathers will be more eroded than in **adults**.
- **Adult** with violet blue mantle; lower upperparts and wing coverts pure violet blue; cobalt chin; deep red bill; iris red; tarsus and toes coral red.

**PURPLE SWAMPHEN** (*Porphyrio porphyrio*)

**IDENTIFICATION**
40-48 cm. **Adult** with purple blue plumage; white undertail coverts; frontal shield, bill and legs red. **Juvenile** with slate grey plumage with paler underparts; grey bluish bill; red legs.

**SIMILAR SPECIES**
Size and bluish plumage make this species unmistakable.

**SEXING**
Both sexes with similar plumage. Size can be an useful character with most of the specimens: 
- **male** with wing longer than 265 mm; 
- **female** with wing shorter than 250 mm (CAUTION: size of **juvenile** generally like **adult** but wing slightly shorter in some birds).

**MOULT**
Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished by September. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers; usually finished by October. Both types of age have a **prebreeding** moult changing body feathers.

**PHENOLOGY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>I</th>
<th>II</th>
<th>III</th>
<th>IV</th>
<th>V</th>
<th>VI</th>
<th>VII</th>
<th>VIII</th>
<th>IX</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>XI</th>
<th>XII</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STATUS IN ARAGON**
An extinct species in Aragon since long time ago, there are some breeding records in La Laguna de Sariñena.