201  Spotted Redshank

Spotted Redshank. Autumn. Adult (10-XI)

SPOTTED REDSHANK (*Tringa erythropus*)

IDENTIFICATION
30-31 cm. In spring with very dark plumage spotted white on upperparts; belly with some white barred; lower part of upperparts and rump white; greyish tail, with narrow dark barred; wing win white marks on feathers; bill dark with red base and dark red legs. In autumn greyish on upperparts, with neck and sides of breast greyish; head with white supercilium; white underparts; legs pale reddish.

SEXING
In breeding plumage, male with blackish undertail coverts, feathers on crown black on distal half, sides of head and neck black; female with white undertail coverts, feathers on crown with pale edges to blackish on distal half; sides of head and neck with white streaked. In non breeding plumage, both sexes similar. In both seasons size can be an useful character in extreme birds: male with wing shorter than 172 mm; female with wing longer than 179 mm.

SIMILAR SPECIES
Inmistakable in spring. In non breeding plumage recalls a Redshank, with shorter bill and a white patch on wing; Ruff has a wing band and two white bands on sides of uppertail.
AGEING

3 types of age can be recognized:

1st year with upperparts dark brown with white spotted; median coverts with a pale spotted at sides and a large central dark patch; white underparts with a brownish-grey barred; tail feathers narrow with pointed tips. **CAUTION:** by autumn barred on underparts and spotted on median covers is lost.

2nd year spring usually similar to adults; recognizable by heavy wear on primaries and central pair of tail feathers; usually with lesser and median coverts very worn. **CAUTION:** ageing using wear of feathers is very subjective since it depends of individual birds and mainly of larger or shorter distance from the wintering areas.

Adult in spring with primaries and central pair of tail feathers slightly worn; in autumn with median coverts grey-brown with large white fringes and subterminal brown bars.
MOULT
Complete postbreeding moult, starting in breeding areas and finished in wintering quarters. Partial postjuvenile moult including most of body feathers and part of wing coverts; starts in breeding areas and finished in wintering quarters. Both types of age have a prebreeding moult including body feathers, some tertials and several central pairs of tail feathers.

PHENOLOGY

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ESTATUS EN ARAGÓN
Mainly only on passage. Widely distributed throughout the Region in scarce number.

No image

Spotted Redshank. Autumn. Crown pattern: left adult (10-XI); right 1st year ()

No image

Spotted Redshank. Autumn. Breast pattern: top adult (10-XI); bottom 1st year ()

No image

Spotted Redshank. Autumn. 1st year ()

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Spotted Redshank. Autumn. Head pattern: top adult (10-XI); bottom 1st year ()

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Spotted Redshank. Autumn. Uppperpart pattern: left adult (10-XI); right 1st year ()
Spotted Redshank. Autumn. Pattern of head: top adult (10-XI); bottom 1st year ()

Spotted Redshank. Autumn. Pattern of tertials: left adult (10-XI); right 1st year (21-IX)

Spotted Redshank. Autumn. Tail pattern: left adult (10-XI); right 1st year (21-IX)

Spotted Redshank. Autumn. Pattern of undertail coverts: left adult (10-XI); right 1st year (21-IX)

Spotted Redshank. Autumn. 1st year: pattern of wing coverts (21-IX).

Spotted Redshank. Autumn. 1st year: pattern of primary coverts (21-IX).


Spotted Redshank. Autumn. 1st year: pattern of secondaries (21-IX).