Wood Pigeon. Adult (16-VI).

COMMON WOOD PIGEON (Columba palumbus)

IDENTIFICATION
41-45 cm. Adult with grey bluish plumage; wings with a white patch; grey blue tail with a broad dark terminal band; neck with a white patch. Juvenile duller and without white patch on neck.

SEXING
Male with breast more vinaceous and less grey than female. CAUTION: this characteristic is only useful when both sexes have the same age and in the same season, so sexing this species is very difficult.

SIMILAR SPECIES
Recalls a Feral Pigeon/Rock Dove which has white rump and underwing coverts. Stock Dove, with a smaller size, without the white patch on wings.
AGEING
3 types of age can be recognized:
**Juvenile** without white patch on neck; grey brown wing coverts with buff tips; grey iris; grey legs.
**1st year autumn/2nd year spring** only if there are unmoulted juvenile feathers on wings; retained juvenile secondaries browner and shorter than adult type.
**Adult** with white patch on neck; dark slate grey wing coverts lacking buff tips; if there are unmoulted secondaries have the same length than the neighbouring moulted feathers; yellow iris; reddish legs.

MOULT
Complete **postbreeding** and **postjuvenile** mouls, usually finished in December. **CAUTION:** both age classes can suspend their moult retaining unmoulted flight feathers throughout the winter.

PHENOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<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>
</table>

STATUS IN ARAGON
Resident, widely distributed and absent only from the highest zones of the Pyrenees and the most deforested areas of the Ebro Basin.
Wood Pigeon. Juvenile (04-VII)

Wood Pigeon. Head pattern and iris colour: top adult (16-VI); middle 2nd year (22-VI); bottom juvenile (04-VII).

Wood Pigeon. Upper-part pattern: top left adult (16-VI); top right 2nd year (22-VI); left juvenile (04-VII).

Wood Pigeon. Breast pattern and iris colour: top left adult (16-VI); top right 2nd year (22-VI); left juvenile (04-VII).

Wood Pigeon. 2nd year (22-VI).

Wood Pigeon. 2nd year (22-VI).

Wood Pigeon. 2nd year (22-VI).
Wood Pigeon. Legs pattern: top adult (22-VI); bottom juvenile (04-VII).

Wood Pigeon. 2nd year: pattern of primary coverts (22-VI).

Wood Pigeon. Pattern and wear of tail: top left adult (16-VI); top right 2nd year (22-VI); left juvenile (04-VII).

Wood Pigeon. Juvenile: pattern of primary coverts (04-VII).

Wood Pigeon. Adult: pattern of primary coverts (16-VI).

Wood Pigeon. Adult: pattern of primaries (16-VI).
Wood Pigeon. 2nd year spring: pattern of primaries (22-VI).


Wood Pigeon. Juvenile: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (04-VII).

Wood Pigeon. Adult: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (16-VI).

Wood Pigeon. 2nd year spring: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (1 juvenile feathers; 2 postjuvenile feathers) (22-VI).

Wood Pigeon. Adult: pattern of wing (16-VI).
Wood Pigeon. 2nd year spring: pattern of wing (22-VI).