EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE
(Streptopelia decaocto)

IDENTIFICATION
26-29 cm. Pale buff grey upperparts; grey pinkish breast, grey bluish vent; pale wings with white tips and edges; grey tail, with white edges and tips; grey head; neck with a black collar edged white; black bill and reddish legs.

SEXING
Male with grey pinkish crown and nape; white tips (if any) on black feathers in collar. Female with grey brown crown and nape; drab grey tips (if any) on black feathers in collar. Juveniles cannot be sexed using plumage pattern. CAUTION: many birds cannot be sexed using plumage characteristics due to overlap and subjective judgement of colours.

SIMILAR SPECIES
Similar in size to Turtle Dove, which has different collar pattern and wing coverts with orange fringes.
AGEING

3 age groups can be recognized:

**Juvenile** with upperparts and wing coverts with pale cream fringes; without black collar or badly defined; grey or pinkish legs; brown iris.

**1st/2nd year** similar to **adults**; recognizable only some birds with retained **juvenile** flight feathers.

**Adult** with upperparts and wing coverts without pale cream fringes; well defined black collar; reddish legs; ruby red iris.

**CAUTION:** birds hatched in **autumn** complete their moult in the beginning of their **2nd year**, being then similar to **adults**.
MOULT
Complete postbreeding and postjuvenile mouls. Adults moult between March and October. In juveniles, timing highly variable depending on time of hatching (may be in winter), so it is possible to find moulting birds through all the year. Some birds, after their postjuvenile moult, retain a variable number of juvenile flight feathers till their first postbreeding moult.

PHENOLOGY

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STATUS IN ARAGON
Resident, breeds in the Region only since recent decades around farmyards, gardens and parks near towns and villages.
Collared Dove. Head pattern and iris colour: top adult male (02-V); middle adult female (02-V); bottom juvenile (02-V).

Collared Dove. Collar pattern: top left adult male (02-V); top right adult female (02-V); left juvenile (02-V).

Collared Dove. Legs colour: left adult (02-V); right juvenile (02-V).

Collared Dove. Crown pattern: top left adult male (02-V); top right adult female (02-V); left juvenile (02-V).

Collared Dove. Breast pattern: top left adult male (02-V); top right adult female (02-V); left juvenile (02-V).
Collared Dove. Upperparts pattern: left adult male (02-I); right juvenile (02-V).

Collared Dove. Adult. Male: pattern of lesser coverts (02-V).

Collared Dove. Adult. Female: pattern of lesser coverts (02-V).

Collared Dove. Adult. Female: pattern of primary coverts (02-V).

Collared Dove. Juvenile: pattern of lesser coverts (02-V).

Collared Dove. Adult. Male: pattern of primary coverts (02-V).
Collared Dove. Juvenile: pattern of primary coverts (02-V).

Collared Dove. 2nd year: pattern of primaries (01-II).

Collared Dove. Juvenile: pattern of primaries (02-V).


Collared Dove. Adult. Female: pattern of primaries (02-V).

Collared Dove. Adult. Female: pattern of secondaries (02-V).

Collared Dove. Juvenile: pattern of secondaries (02-V).


Collared Dove. 2nd year: pattern of secondaries (1 juvenile feathers) (01-II).

Collared Dove. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (02-V).
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Collared Dove. 2nd year: pattern of wing (01-II).

Collared Dove. Juvenile: pattern of wing (02-V).