Pallid Swift. Adult (01-VII).

SEXING
Plumage of both sexes alike.

PALLID SWIFT (*Apus pallidus*)

IDENTIFICATION
14-16 cm. Plumage brown-greyish; whitish throat; feathers on flanks with diffuse pale edges; secondaries lighter above than the rest of the wing; long and arched wings; forked tail.

AGEING
4 age groups can be recognized:
- **Juvenile** with feathers on body, wing and tail edged white; outermost tail feather with both webs rounded and curved. **CAUTION:** in late summer some birds have lost much of their white edging by wear.
- **2nd year** similar to **adult**, but recognizable by retained **juvenile** flight feathers and wing coverts, which will be very worn; outermost tail feather more rounded than in **adults** but less than in **juveniles** (**CAUTION:** this characteristic is not always useful due to overlap).
- **3rd year** only in birds which have retained **juvenile** 10th primary, which is very strongly worn and reduced to the shaft.
- **Adult** with plumage without white edges; flight feathers and wing coverts less worn than in **2nd year**; if outer primaries retained, then brownish and worn contrasting with the neighbouring moulted feathers; outermost tail feather with both webs straight.

SIMILAR SPECIES
Very similar to **Common Swift**, with smaller pale patch on throat, flanks with only a little pale streaked, darker plumage and more forked tail.
Pallid Swift

**MOULT**
Complete postbreeding moult but some birds can retain 10th primary and, sometimes, two or three outermost primaries; usually started in wintering sites but some birds begin moulting in breeding areas. Partial postjuvenile moult involving body feathers, tail and only lesser wing coverts; always started in winter quarters.

**PHENOLOGY**

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**STATUS IN ARAGON**
Summer visitor, breeding only in the city of Zaragoza.
Pallid Swift. Crown pattern: top left adult (01-VII); top right 2nd year (01-VII); left juvenile (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Throat pattern: top left adult (01-VII); top right 2nd year (01-VII); left juvenile (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Breast pattern: top left adult (01-VII); top right 2nd year (01-VII); left juvenile (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Upper-part pattern: top left adult (01-VII); top right 2nd year (01-VII); left juvenile (01-VII)
Pallid Swift. Adult: pattern of tail and the outermost feather (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Adult with complete moult: pattern of primary coverts (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Adult with retained feathers: pattern of primary coverts (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Flank pattern: top adult (01-VII); middle 2nd year (01-VII); bottom juvenile (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Juvenile: pattern of tail and the outermost feather (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Flank pattern: top adult (01-VII); middle 2nd year (01-VII); bottom juvenile (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Flank pattern: top adult (01-VII); middle 2nd year (01-VII); bottom juvenile (01-VII)
Pallid Swift. 2nd year: pattern of primary coverts (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Juvenile: pattern of primary coverts (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Adult: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Adult with complete moult: pattern of primaries (01-VII)
Pallid Swift. Adult with retained feathers: pattern of primaries (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Juvenile: pattern of primaries (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. 2nd year: pattern of primaries (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Adult with complete moult: pattern of wing (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. Juvenile: pattern of wing (01-VII)

Pallid Swift. 2nd year: pattern of wing (01-VII)