EURASIAN REED WARBLER
(*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*)

**IDENTIFICATION**
13-14 cm. Brown plumage, with rufous tinge on rump; whitish underparts with pale throat; brown tail; rusty underwing coverts; pale brown legs; with bristles near the base of bill.

**SEXING**
Plumage of both sexes alike.

**SIMILAR SPECIES**
Similar to **Great Reed Warbler**, which is bigger (16-20 mm). **Savi's Warbler** lacks bristles near the base of bill. **Melodious Warbler** has yellow underwing coverts.

**AGEING**
3 types of age can be recognized:
- **Juvenile** with fresh feathers (check flight feathers and tail); iris dark grey; legs grey bluish; black spots on tongue.
- **2nd year** only in some birds with brown-olive iris.
- **Adult** in **autumn** with worn plumage; iris brown or reddish-brown; pale brown legs; tongue without black spots.
  In **spring**, after the **prebreeding** moult, ageing is not possible using plumage pattern.
**PHENOLOGY**

**MOULT**

Partial *postbreeding* and *postjuvenile* moult, including body feathers and lesser and median wing coverts; sometimes some greater coverts and the central pair of tail feathers. Both types of age have a complete *prebreeding* moult in wintering quarters.

**STATUS IN ARAGON**

Summer visitor. Widely distributed throughout the Region in marshlands and irrigated fields.
Reed Warbler. Iris colour:
top adult (28-VIII); 
middle 2nd year (08-
VII); bottom juvenile (25-
VII).

Reed Warbler. Breast pattern: top left in spring (22-
IV); top right adult in autumn (28-VIII); left juvenile (25-
VII).

Reed Warbler. Upperpart wear: top left in spring (22-
IV); top right adult in autumn (28-VIII); left juvenile (25-
VII).

Reed Warbler. Tail wear: top left in spring (26-IV); top right adult in autumn (28-VIII); left juvenile (25-VII).

Reed Warbler. Autumn. Legs colour: left adult (28-
IV); right juvenile (21-VII).
Reed Warbler. Spring: pattern of wing (26-IV).
