

402 Lesser Grey Shrike

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Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Female (11-VII).



Southern Grey Shrike



LESSER GREY SHRIKE (*Lanius minor*)

IDENTIFICATION

19-21 cm. Grey upperparts; underparts with pinkish tinge; grey head with dark band on forehead; dark wings with white patch on base of primaries.



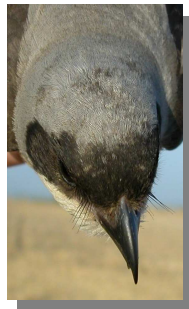
SEXING

In **breeding** plumage, **male** with band on forehead deep black; **female** with band on forehead black with some grey feathers. **Juveniles** cannot be sexed using plumage characters.

CAUTION: in **autumn**, after **postbreeding** moult, sexing is difficult since **males** can have grey feathers on forehead.

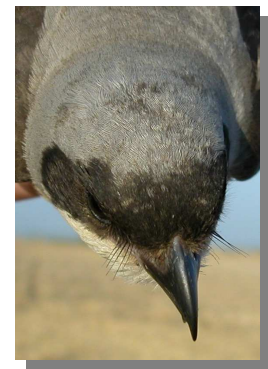
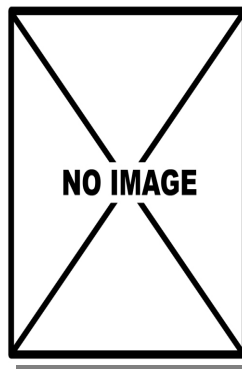


Lesser Grey Shrike. Pattern of wing, head and forehead.



SIMILAR SPECIES

Southern Grey Shrike is similar, but with bigger size; smaller white patch on wing; with white supercilium and without a black band on forehead.



Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Sexing. Pattern of forehead: left male; right female.

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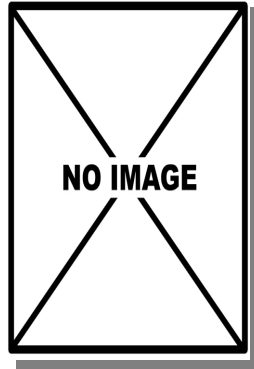
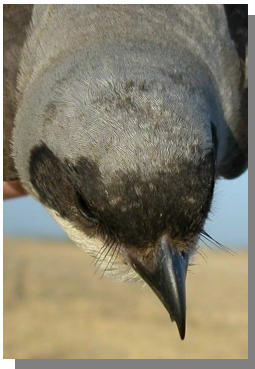
AGEING

3 types of age can be recognized:

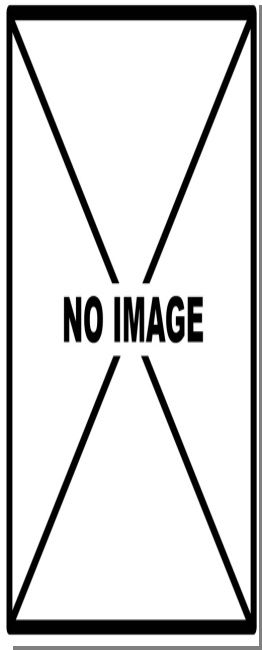
Juvenile with fresh plumage; upperparts barred dark grey; band on forehead grey.

1st year with fresh flight feathers; similar plumage than **juveniles** but lacking grey barred.

Adult with worn plumage; upperparts uniform grey; band on forehead black.



Lesser Grey Shrike. Ageing. Pattern of forehead: left adult female; right juvenile.



Lesser Grey Shrike. Ageing. Pattern of upperparts: left adult female; right juvenile.

MOULT

Partial **postbreeding** and **postjuvenile** moults, including body feathers and some wing coverts in breeding areas before migration. Both types of age have a complete **prebreeding** moult in wintering quarters.

PHENOLOGY

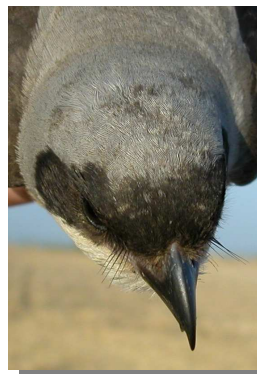
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII

STATUS IN ARAGON

Summer visitor. Very scarce breeder in Eastern Huesca.



Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Female: head pattern (11-VII).



Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Female: pattern of forehead (11-VII).

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Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Female: breast pattern (11-VII).



Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Female: upperparts pattern (11-VII).



Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Female: pattern of wing (11-VII).