European Serin

EUROPEAN SERIN (Serinus serinus)

IDENTIFICATION
11-12 cm. Yellowish upperparts, with dark streaks; white and straked underparts; yellow rump; tiny little bill; yellow throat and forehead unstreaked in males, streaked in females.

SIMILAR SPECIES
Among the yellow and green Finches, Greenfinch has a bigger size (14-15 cm). Female Siskin has a broader wing band and yellow patches on tail feathers. Citril Finch has unstreaked flanks or, in juveniles, streaks are very fine.
SEXING

Male in spring with yellow and unstreaked forehead, throat and breast; in winter with tipped grey-green feathers. Female with dark brown streaked forehead and breast; greenish yellow throat. (CAUTION: there are some intermediate specimens (streaked forehead and yellow throat and breast) which cannot be sexed). Juveniles cannot be sexed using plumage pattern.
AGEING
3 age groups can be recognized:
**Juvenile** resembles female but is more buffish-white; with streaked rump; fresh plumage.
**1st year autumn/2nd year spring** usually with moult limit within greater coverts; if none is renewed moult limit is within lesser and median coverts; if all greater coverts moulted then moult limit is between greater and primary coverts, within alula feathers, within primary coverts, within tertials or between tertials and secondaries. If none tail feathers renewed then all feathers with pointed tips; if some changed (usually the central pair) then with moult limit between retained **juvenile** (pointed and worn) and moulted (rounded and fresh) (CAUTION: some birds with extensive moult can change all tail feathers). (CAUTION: some birds have a complete **postjuvenile** moult).
**Adult/some postjuveniles with complete moult** without moult limits in tail (all feathers rounded) and wing.

MOULT
Complete **postbreeding** moult, habitually finished in November. Usually partial **postjuvenile** moult, which includes body feathers, lesser and median coverts and usually most of the greater coverts; some specimens moult all the greater coverts and tertials, being a complete moult in a few number; often the central pair of tail feathers can be moulted and sometimes all the tail; usually finished in October.

PHENOLOGY

**STATUS IN ARAGÓN**
Resident, with contribution of wintering European birds. Widely distributed throughout the Region, absent from the highest zones of the Pyrenees and the most deforested areas of the Ebro Basin.
Serin. Summer. Adult. Female (10-VI).


Serin. Summer. Adult. Head pattern: left male (16-V); right female (10-VI).

Serin. Summer. Head pattern: top left 2nd year male (16-V); top right 2nd year female (16-V); left juvenile (06-VI).

Serin. Summer. 2nd year. Male (16-V).

Serin. Summer. 2nd year. Female (16-V).

Serin. Summer. Adult. Crown pattern: left male (16-V); right female (10-VI).
European Serin

Serin. Summer. Crown pattern: top left 2nd year male (16-V); top right 2nd year female (16-V); left juvenile (06-VI).

Serin. Summer. Adult. Upperpart pattern: left male (16-V); right female (10-VI).

Serin. Summer. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (16-V); right female (10-VI).

Serin. Summer. Breast pattern: top left 2nd year male (16-V); top right 2nd year female (16-V); left juvenile (06-VI).

Serin. Summer. Upperpart pattern: top left 2nd year male (16-V); top right 2nd year female (16-V); left juvenile (06-VI).
Serin. Summer. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (16-V); right female (10-VI).

Serin. Summer. Tail pattern: top left 2nd year male (16-V); top right 2nd year female (16-V); left juvenile (06-VI).

Serin. Summer. Pattern of primary coverts: top male (16-V); bottom female (10-VI).

Serin. Summer. Pattern of primary coverts: top 2nd year male (16-V); middle 2nd year female (16-V); bottom juvenile (03-VII).


Serin. Summer. 2nd year. Female: pattern of wing (06-VI).


Serin. Winter. 1st year. Female (10-X).

Serin. Winter. Adult. Head pattern: left male (10-X); right female (30-IX).

Serin. Winter. 1st year. Head pattern: left male (10-X); right female (10-X).


Serin. Winter. 1st year. Breast pattern: left male (10-X); right female (10-X).

Serin. Winter. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (10-X); right female (30-IX).
European Serin


Serin. Winter. Adult. Upperpart pattern: left male (10-X); right female (30-IX).

Serin. Winter. 1st year. Pattern of primary coverts: top male (10-X); bottom female (10-X).

Serin. Winter. 1st year. Tail pattern: top left male (10-X); top right female (10-X); left female with large moult (30-IX).
European Serin

Serin. Winter. 1st year. Upperpart pattern: left male (10-X); right female (10-X).


Serin. Winter. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing with reduced moult (30-IX).


