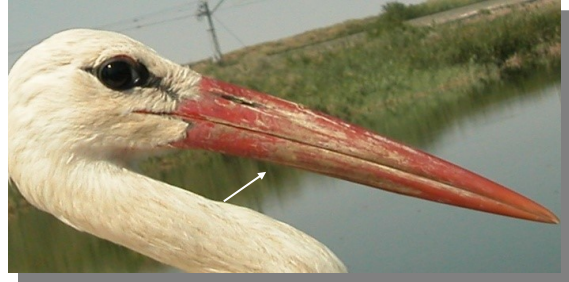


46 White Stork

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White Stork. Spring. Adult (08-V)

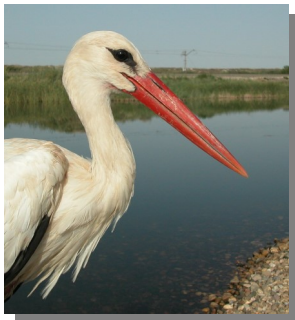


White Stork. Sexing. Pattern of bill: top male; bottom female.

WHITE STORK (*Ciconia ciconia*)

IDENTIFICATION

100-115 cm. White plumage with black wings; red bill; long and red legs. **Juveniles** with duller bill, legs and dark areas.



White Stork. Pattern of head, bill and legs.



SIMILAR SPECIES

This species is unmistakable

SEXING

Both sexes with similar plumage. In **adults**, **male** with lower mandible of bill slightly curved; gular patch with a large posterior orange area mottled black; in **breeding** season, with colourfull bare skins. **Female** with lower mandible of bill straight; gular patch without or with a small orange area; in **breeding** season, with dull bare skins. In **adult** birds, **male** with wing longer than 590 mm (**CAUTION:** birds with wing shorter than 590 mm can belong to both sexes).



White Stork. Sexing. Pattern of bill: left male; right female.

46 White Stork

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AGEING

4 types of age can be recognized:

Juvenile with brown tinge on black scapulars and wing coverts; grey brown bill, sometimes with reddish base; dull red legs.

2nd year autumn/3rd year spring with two ages of flight feathers; the shorter and brown **juvenile** retained contrasting with the **adult** moulted, longer and black.

3rd year autumn easily recognizable while maintaining some **juvenile** flight feathers; then with three ages of flight feathers, the brown **juvenile** still retained and two ages of black feathers with **adult** pattern.

Adult with green or purple gloss on black flight feathers; bill and legs bright red; with one or several ages of flight feathers, but all glossy black with **adult** pattern.



White Stork. Ageing. Colour of bill: left adult; right juvenile.



White Stork. Ageing. Colour of legs: left adult; right juvenile.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, starting in breeding season and finished during winter. Usually complete **postjuvenile** moult but some birds can retain **juvenile** flight feathers; wing feathers moulted from spring to winter of their 2nd year.

PHENOLOGY

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

STATUS IN ARAGON

Summer visitor in origin, but now resident. A common species in the Ebro Valley near



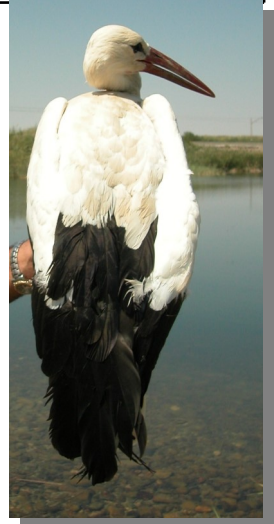
White Stork. 3rd year (17-VIII)



White Stork. Juvenile (20-VI)

46 White Stork

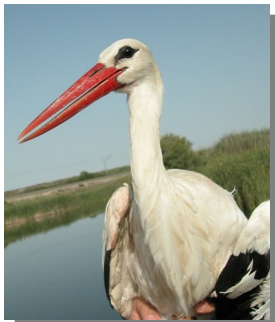
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White Stork. Head pattern and bill colour: top left adult (09-VIII); top right 3rd year (17-VIII); left juvenile (20-VI).



White Stork. Upperparts pattern: top left adult (09-VIII); top right 3rd year (17-VIII); left juvenile (20-VI).



White Stork. Breast pattern and bill colour: top left adult (09-VIII); top right 3rd year (17-VIII); left juvenile (20-VI).



White Stork. Tail pattern: top left adult (09-VIII); top right 3rd year (17-VIII); left juvenile (20-VI).

46 White Stork

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White Stork. 3rd year autumn: pattern of primary coverts (17-VIII)



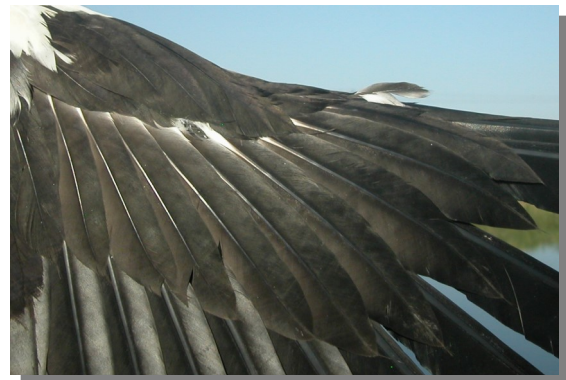
White Stork. Legs pattern: top left adult (09-VIII); top right 3rd year (17-VIII); left juvenile (20-VI).



White Stork. 3rd year spring: pattern of primary coverts (04-I)



White Stork. Adult spring: pattern of primary coverts (08-V)



White Stork. Juvenile: pattern of primary coverts (20-VI)



White Stork. Adult autumn: pattern of primary coverts (09-VIII)

46 White Stork

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White Stork. Adult spring: pattern of primaries (08-V)



White Stork. 3rd year autumn: pattern of primaries (17-VIII)



White Stork. Adult autumn: pattern of primaries (09-VIII)



White Stork. 3rd year spring: pattern of primaries (04-I)

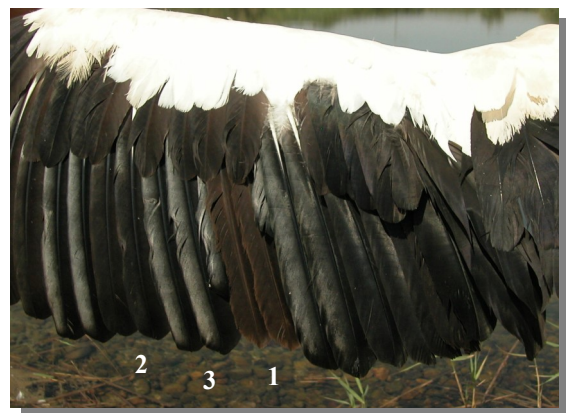
46 White Stork

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White Stork. Juvenile: pattern of primaries (20-VI)

White Stork. Adult autumn: pattern of secondaries (09-VIII)



White Stork. Adult spring: pattern of secondaries (08-V)

White Stork. 3rd year autumn: pattern of secondaries (1 juvenile feathers; 2 and 3 generations of adult feathers) (17-VIII)

46 White Stork

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White Stork. Adult spring: pattern of wing (08-V)



White Stork. 3rd year spring: pattern of secondaries (04-I)



White Stork. Adult autumn: pattern of wing (09-VIII)



White Stork. 3rd year autumn: pattern of wing (17-VIII)

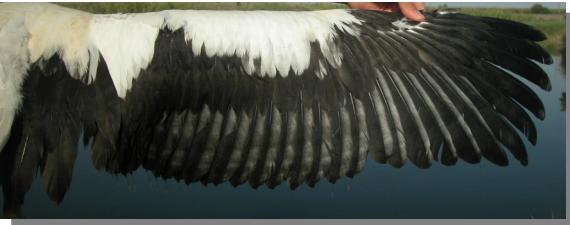
White Stork. Juvenile: pattern of secondaries (20-VI)

46 White Stork

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White Stork. 3rd year spring: patttrn of wing (04-I).



White Stork. Juvenile: pattern of wing (20-VI)