

Goldcrest. Adult. Male (04-XII).

## GOLDCREST (Regulus regulus)

#### **IDENTIFICATION**

8-10 cm. Adults with green-yellowish plumage; head with crown yellow (female) or orange (male); grey face. Juvenile without crest on the crown.



Goldcrest. Adult. Pattern of head.



Goldcrest.
Juvenile. Pattern of head.

## SIMILAR SPECIES

Firecrest has similar crown pattern, but head with white and black bands on the face; Juvenile Firecrest has a whitish supercilium.





#### **SEXING**

Male with crown patch bright orange with yellow at the edges; wing longer than 56 mm. Female with crown patch yellow, sometimes with some orange; wing shorter than 49 mm (CAUTION: some females can show limited hint of orange that is not very glossy). Juveniles cannot be sexed using plumage pattern.





Goldcrest. Adult. Sexing. Pattern of crown: left male; right female.

#### **AGEING**

3 age groups can be recognized:

Juvenile without crest on crown; fresh plumage.

**1st year autumn/2nd year spring** with most of the wing feathers unmoulted; central alula feather, if unmoulted, lacks green edge; tail feathers with very pointed tips.

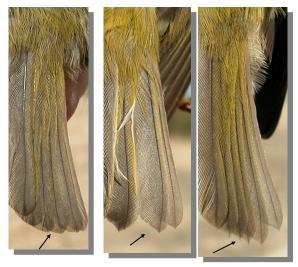
Adult with central alula feather with green edge; tail feathers with not very pointed tips or rounded.

**CAUTION:** shape of tail feathers is not always usable due to overlap.





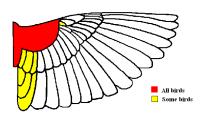
Goldcrest. Ageing. Pattern of crown: left adult; right juvenile.



Goldcrest. Ageing. Pattern of tips of the tail feathers: left adult with rounded tips; middle adult with pointed tips; right juvenile.

### **MOULT**

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in October. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers, lesser and median coverts and some or all tertials, but usually not greater coverts; generally finished in October.



Goldcrest. Extent of postjuvenile moult.

### **PHENOLOGY**



#### **STATUS IN ARAGON**

Resident. Breeds in forests from the Pyrenees and Sistema Iberico, wintering in lower areas.



Goldcrest. Adult. Female (04-XI).



Goldcrest. 1st year. Male (04-XII).



Goldcrest. Adult. Head pattern: top male (04-XI); bottom female (04-XI).



Goldcrest. 1st year. Female (04-XII).





Goldcrest.
Head pattern: top 1st
year male
(04-XI);
middle 1st
year female
(04-XI);
bottom juvenile (23VII).



Goldcrest. Juvenile (23-VII).







Goldcrest. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (04-XI); right female (04-XI).







Goldcrest. Breast pattern: top left 1st year male (04-XI); top right 1st year female (04-XI); left juvenile (23-VII).





Goldcrest. Adult. Upperpart pattern: left male (04-XI); right female (04-XI).

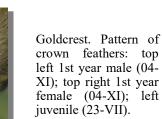




Goldcrest. Adult. Pattern of crown feathers: left male (04-XI); right female (04-XI).





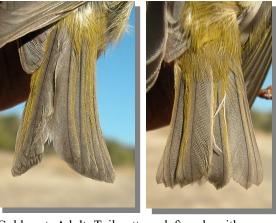








Goldcrest. Upperpart pattern: top left 1st year male (04-XI); top right 1st year female (04-XI); left juvenile (23-VII).



Goldcrest. Adult. Tail pattern: left male with rounded tip (04-XI); right female with pointed tip (04-XI).



Goldcrest. Adult. Female: pattern of alula (04-XI)

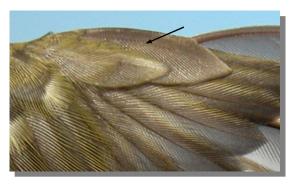




Goldcrest. 1st year. Male: pattern of alula (04-XI)



Goldcrest. Tail pattern: top left 1st year male (04-XI); top right 1st year female (04-XI); left juvenile (23-VII).



Goldcrest. 1st year. Female: pattern of alula (04-XI)



Goldcrest. Adult. Male: pattern of alula (04-XI)



Goldcrest. Juvenile: pattern of alula (23-VII)



Goldcrest. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (04-XI)



Goldcrest. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing (04-XI)



Goldcrest. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (04-XI)



Goldcrest. Juvenile: pattern of wing (23-VII)



Goldcrest. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (04-XI)