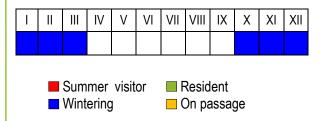
# **01610** Greylag Goose (Anser anser)



#### **MOULT**

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in August. Partial **postjuvenile** moult, changing body feathers, tail and some wing coverts; some birds have finished by November but others still moulting in February.

#### **PHENOLOGY**



# **GREYLAG GOOSE** (Anser anser)

#### **IDENTIFICATION**

75-90 cm. Brown-grey plumage; grey-ash head and neck; whitish vent; white tail coverts; pink or orange bill; pink legs.

#### SIMILAR SPECIES

Very similar to **Bean Goose** (*Anser fabalis*), with bill with black tip and orange legs, but this is a very rare species in Aragon.

### **SEXING**

Both sexes with similar plumage. Size can be useful for sexing only in extreme birds: **male** with wing longer than 467 mm. **Female** with wing shorter than 445 mm.

## **AGEING**

3 types of age can be recognized:

**1st year autumn/2nd year spring** with **juvenile** wing coverts, which are narrow and pale grey with buffish tips; belly bars absent; dull eye ring.

2nd year autumn/3rd year spring only in birds with juvenile worm median wing coverts retained.

**Adult** with wing coverts broad and rounded, pale blue grey with white tips; belly with small black bars; eye ring pink or yellow.