



Short-toed Eagle. Adult (14-VIII).

SHORT-TOED SNAKE EAGLE

(Circaetus gallicus)

IDENTIFICATION

63-68 cm. Buff upperparts; tail with four transversal dark bands; dark throat and breast; white underparts buff streaked; bluish scaly legs; yellow iris.



Short-toed Eagle. Pattern of legs, breast and colour of iris.



SIMILAR SPECIES

This species is unmistakable.

SEXING

Plumage of both sexes alike.

AGEING

4 age groups can be recognized:

Juvenile with fresh plumage, without moult limits; wing without grey subterminal band; secondaries with ill-defined bands; all bands of central tail feathers with similar width.

2nd year with all **juvenile** plumage in **spring** before moult; in **autumn** with two ages of feathers with brownish and worn **juvenile** feathers contrasting with darker and fresh moulted ones.

3rd year as long as they retain some unmoulted **juvenile** flight feathers; retained **juvenile** secondaries are paler and with bands ill-defined.

Adult with several generations of feathers, all with adult pattern; broad and contrasted bands on secondaries with broader subterminal band; bands of central tail feathers with different width, the last one wider (CAUTION: the number of tail bars varies individually).





Short-toed E a g l e . Ageing. Pattern of central tail feather: left adult; right juvenile.





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Short-toed Eagle. Ageing. Pattern of upperside of inner primaries: left adult; right juvenile.







Short-toed Eagle. Ageing. Pattern of underside of inner primaries: left adult; right juvenile.





Short-toed Eagle. Ageing. Pattern of upperside of secondaries: left adult; right juvenile.



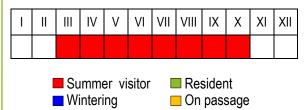


Short-toed Eagle. Ageing. Pattern of underside of secondaries: left adult; right juvenile.

MOULT

Incomplete **postbreeding** moult, between May and October, since all tail and flight feathers are not changed in one year. **Postjuvenile** moult starts in spring of **2nd year** retaining some unmoulted outer primaries and central secondaries.

PHENOLOGY





Short-toed Eagle. 3th year (06-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. 2nd year (14-VIII).

PICTURE NOT AVAILABLE

2

Short-toed Eagle. Juvenile ().

Short-toed

colour:









PICTURE NOT AVAILABLE



Short-toed Eagle. Breast pattern: left 2nd year (14-VIII); right juvenile ().



Short-toed Eagle. Head pattern and iris colour: top 2nd year (14-VIII); bottom juvenile ().





PICTURE NOT AVAILABLE

Short-toed Eagle. Upperparts pattern: left adult (14-VIII); right 3rd year (06-VIII).





Short-toed Eagle. Breast pattern: left adult (14-VIII); right 3rd year (06-VIII).



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Short-toed Eagle. Upperparts pattern: left 2nd year (14-VIII); right juvenile ().





Short-toed Eagle. Adult: pattern of tail (14-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. Juvenile: pattern of tail (08-IX).



Short-toed Eagle. 3rd year: pattern of tail (06-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. Pattern if primary coverts: top adult (14-VIII); bottom 3rd year (06-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. 2nd year: pattern of tail (1 juvenile feathers; 2 adult feathers) (14-VIII).



Eagle. Pattern of primary coverts: top 2nd year (14-VIII); bottom juvenile ().

Short-toed

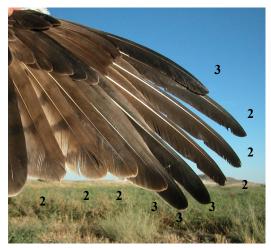
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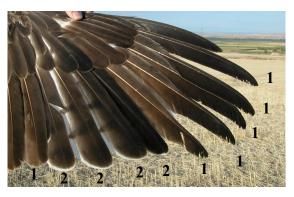


Short-toed Eagle. Adult: pattern of primaries (20-VIII).





Short-toed Eagle. 3rd year: pattern of primaries (2 2nd year feathers; 3 3rd year feathers) (06-VIII).





Short-toed Eagle. 2nd year: pattern of primaries (1 juvenile feathers; 2 2nd year feathers) (14-VIII).





Short-toed Eagle. Juvenile: pattern of primaries (08-IX).







Short-toed Eagle. Adult: pattern of secondaries (14-VIII).





Short-toed Eagle. 3rd year: pattern of secondaries (1 juvenile feathers; 2 2nd year feathers; 3 3rd year feathers) (06-VIII).





Short-toed Eagle. 2nd year: pattern of secondaries (1 juvenile feathers; 2 2nd year feathers) (14-VIII).





Short-toed Eagle. Juvenile: pattern of secondaries (08-IX).







Short-toed Eagle. Adult: pattern of wing (14-VIII).





Short-toed Eagle. Juvenile: pattern of wing (08-IX).





Short-toed Eagle. 3rd year: pattern of wing (1 juvenile feather; 2 2nd year feather; 3 3rd year feather) (06-VIII).





Short-toed Eagle. 2nd year: pattern of wing (15-VIII).