

390 Marsh Tit



MARSH TIT (*Parus palustris*)

IDENTIFICATION

11-12 cm. Grey-brown upperparts; whitish underparts; crown and bib black; brownish wing without bands.

ESPECIES SIMILARES

Some **Warblers** have black crown but anyone have black bib.



Blackcap

Sardinian Warbler



Orphean Warbler

AGEING

3 types of age can be recognized:

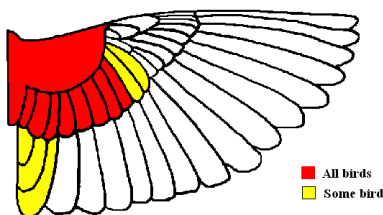
Juvenile with fresh plumage; tail feathers with pointed tips; dull crown.

1st year autumn/2nd year spring with pointed tail feathers which will be more eroded than in **adults**; some birds with moult limit between moulted greater coverts and juvenile retained.

Adult with rounded tail feathers; crown bright black; without moult limits on greater coverts.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in September. Partial **postjuvenile** moult including body feathers, lesser and median coverts, most of all greater coverts; and one more tertials; many birds change a variable number of tail feathers; usually finished between August and September.



Marsh Tit. Extent of postjuvenile moult.

PHENOLOGY

| I | II | III | IV | V | VI | VII | VIII | IX | X | XI | XII |
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STATUS IN ARAGON

Resident. Breeds on mountainous forests in Pyrenees.

SEXO

Both sexes alike; **male** with crown and bib brighter black than **female** but difficult to separate if pair is not together for comparison. Size is useful in extreme birds: **adult male** with wing longer than 66 mm; **adult female** with wing shorter than 64 mm.