

# 402 Lesser Grey Shrike



Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Female (11-VII).

## LESSER GREY SHRIKE (*Lanius minor*)

### IDENTIFICATION

19-21 cm. Grey upperparts; underparts with pinkish tinge; grey head with dark band on forehead; dark wings with white patch on base of primaries.

### SIMILAR SPECIES

**Southern Grey Shrike** is similar, but with bigger size; smaller white patch on wing; with white supercilium and without a black band on forehead.



Southern Grey Shrike

### SEXING

In **breeding** plumage, **male** with band on forehead deep black; **female** with band on forehead black with some grey feathers. **Juveniles** cannot be sexed using plumage characters.

**CAUTION:** in **autumn**, after **postbreeding** moult, sexing is difficult since **males** can have grey feathers on forehead.

### AGEING

3 types of age can be recognized:

**Juvenile** with fresh plumage; upperparts barred dark grey; band on forehead grey.

**1st year** with fresh flight feathers; similar plumage than **juveniles** but lacking grey barred.

**Adult** with worn plumage; upperparts uniform grey; band on forehead black.

### MOULT

Partial **postbreeding** and **postjuvenile** moults, including body feathers and some wing coverts in breeding areas before migration. Both types of age have a complete **prebreeding** moult in wintering quarters.

### PHENOLOGY

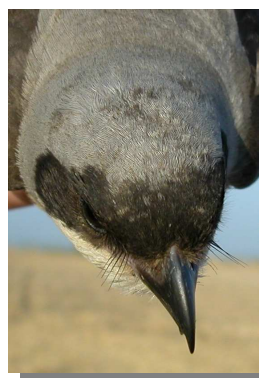
| I | II | III | IV | V | VI | VII | VIII | IX | X | XI | XII |
|---|----|-----|----|---|----|-----|------|----|---|----|-----|
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### STATUS IN ARAGON

Summer visitor. Very scarce breeder in Eastern Huesca.



Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Female: head pattern (11-VII).



Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Female: pattern of forehead (11-VII).

## 402 Lesser Grey Shrike



Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Female: breast pattern (11-VII).



Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Female: upperparts pattern (11-VII).



Lesser Grey Shrike. Summer. Female: pattern of wing (11-VII).