

391 European Crested Tit

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Crested Tit. Spring. Adult (3-V).

EUROPEAN CRESTED TIT (*Lophophanes cristatus*)

IDENTIFICATION

11-12 cm. Grey upperparts; pale underparts; black throat; head with pale cheeks and dark eye ring; crown with crest with black feathers edged white.



Crested Tit. Pattern of head.

SIMILAR SPECIES

This species is unmistakable.

SEXING

Both sexes alike in plumage. Size is useful in extreme birds: **male** with wing longer than 63 mm; **female** with wing shorter than 59 mm.

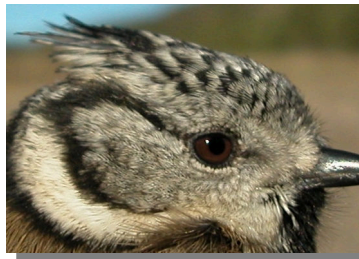
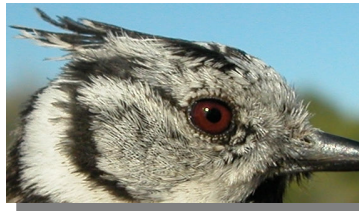
AGEING

3 age groups can be recognized:

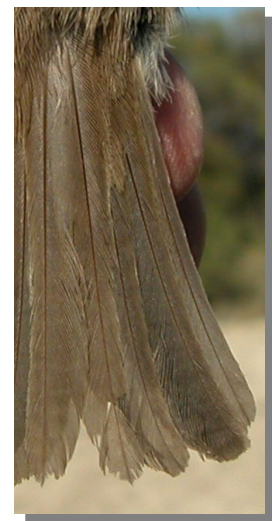
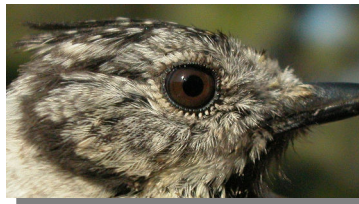
Juvenile with fresh plumage; tail feathers with pointed tips; brown-grey iris; short crest.

1st year autumn/2nd year spring with pointed **juvenile** tail feathers, usually worn from late **autumn**; if some greater coverts are changed, then with moult limit within buff-brown mottled inner and dull brown outer **juvenile** retained; usually brownish iris till February.

Adult with tail feathers with rounded tips; reddish iris; long crest.



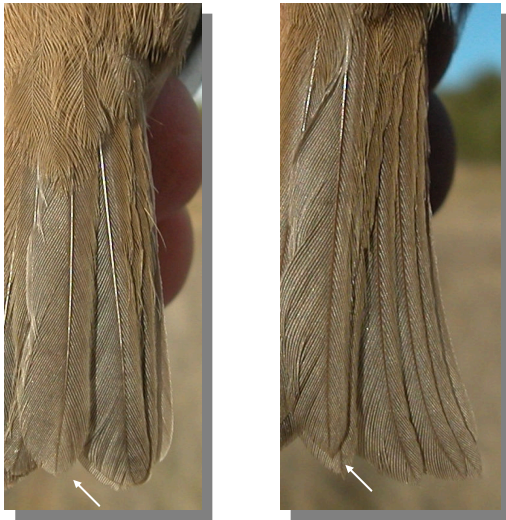
Crested Tit. Ageing. Colour of iris: top adult; middle 1st year; bottom juvenile.



Crested Tit. Spring. Ageing. Wear of tail feathers: left adult; right 2nd year.

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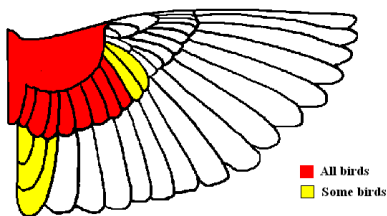
Crested Tit. Autumn. Ageing. Pattern of tips of tail feathers: left adult; right 1st year.



Crested Tit. Spring. 2nd year. Female (03-V)

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in September. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers, lesser and median coverts, all or some greater coverts and one or more tertials; tail feathers are rarely moulted; usually finished in September.



Crested Tit. Extent of postjuvenile moult.



Crested Tit. Spring. Juvenile (02-VII).

PHENOLOGY

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII

STATUS IN ARAGON

Resident. Widely distributed in pinus and juniper forests from the Region.



Crested Tit. Spring. Head pattern and iris colour: top adult (03-V); middle 2nd year (03-V); bottom juvenile (02-VII).

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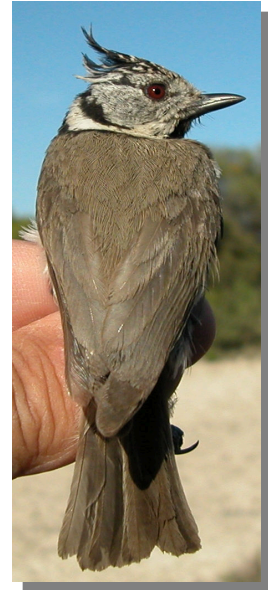
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Crested Tit. Spring. Crown pattern: top left adult (03-V); top right 2nd year (03-V); left juvenile (02-VII).



Crested Tit. Spring. Breast pattern: top left adult (03-V); top right 2nd year (03-V); left juvenile (02-VII).



Crested Tit. Spring. Upper-part pattern: top left adult (03-V); top right 2nd year (03-V); left juvenile (02-VII).



Crested Tit. Spring. Wear and pattern of tail: top left adult (03-V); top right 2nd year (03-V); left juvenile (02-VII).

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Crested Tit. Spring. Postbreeding moult: wing of adult (03-V).



Crested Tit. Autumn. Adult (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Spring. Postjuvenile moult: wing of 2nd year (03-V).



Crested Tit. Autumn. 1st year (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Spring. Wing of juvenile (02-VII).

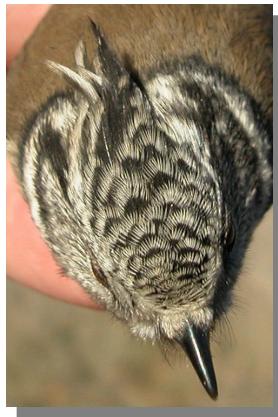


Crested Tit. Autumn. Head pattern and iris colour: top adult (26-XII); bottom 1st year (26-XII).

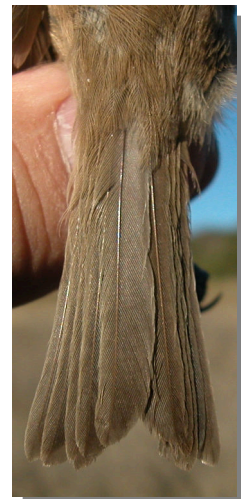


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Crested Tit. Autumn. Crown pattern: left adult (26-XII); right 1st year (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. Tail pattern: left adult (26-XII); right 1st year (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. Breast pattern: left adult (26-XII); right 1st year (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. Adult: pattern of wing (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. Upperparts pattern: left adult (26-XII); right 1st year (26-XII).



Crested Tit. Autumn. 1st year: pattern of wing (26-XII).