

Nest Visit Status Codes



Nest Building Stage

N0 = Not yet built

N1 = Quarter built

N2 = Half built

N3 = Three-quarters built

N4 = Complete and unlined

NL = Complete and lined

NU = Appears old and currently unused

NR = Appears old but recently replenished

Eggs

FR = Fresh

CO = Cold

WA = Warm

CV = Covered

UN = Uncovered

DE = Developing embryo present

PE = Pipping/calling from egg

HA = Hatching

HS = Hatched shell fragments in
gamebird/wader/waterbird nest

Young

NA = Naked

TO = Egg tooth present

DO = Downy

BL = Blind

EY = Eyes just open

IP = Primary feathers in pin

FS = Primary feathers less than third
emerged from sheath

FM = Primary feathers one-to-two-
thirds emerged from sheath

FL = Primary feathers more than
two-thirds emerged from sheath

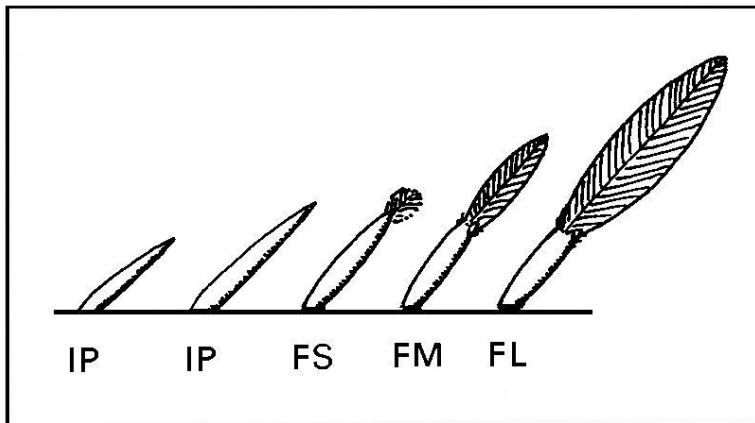
RF = Ready to fledge

LB = Young left nest naturally before
fledging; still nearby

YR = Young ringed

AY = Audible young in nest

Wing feather emergence



Young that grow in the nest before fledging are usually naked and blind when they hatch. They then develop down, after which feather tracts appear as dark patches along the spine and wings and from these emerge needle-like 'pins' that in turn sprout feathers. Recording this feather growth using the codes below is the best way to document the development of such a brood. Focus on the wings, not the whole body, and if the nestlings vary in size look at just the largest.

See codes above for definitions

Adult Activity

Combine (e.g. AN, PD etc)

1st letter

A = Adult

M = Male

F = Female

P = Pair

2nd letter

D = Dead

F = Feeding young at nest

I = Identified by artificial tag at nest

N = On or at nest

T = Trapped at or near nest

V = In vicinity of nest

B = Building nest or carrying material

More adult activity

AO = Adult(s) displaying

AK = Adult(s) territorial behaviour

PA = Food pass between pair

PS = Copulation activity

AG = Adult(s) aggression/agitated
behaviour

AX = Adult(s) alarm calling

AR = Adult roosting

Outcome: Success

Use these when some/all young have successfully left the nest

AC	=	Adult carrying food near nest, indicating fledged young
EX	=	Young 'exploded' from nest
NE	=	Nest empty, undisturbed with well-trodden lining, containing feather scale and/or droppings
NN	=	Fledged young near nest
SY	=	Some young fledged, other live young still in nest
SL	=	Last young seen leaving
VA	=	Adult visibly agitated or alarms near nest, indicating fledged young
YC	=	Young capable of leaving nest on the previous visit
MR	=	Marked young retrapped/resighted

Outcome: Failure

Use these codes on any visit to describe the fate of individual eggs and/or young. Combine (e.g. EP, XF etc)

1st letter		2nd letter	
E	=	At egg stage	A = Eggs not hatched, infertile, or addled
J	=	At young stage	B = Injured/broken
X	=	At egg or young	C = Killed or thrown out by Cuckoo
			D = Deserted/starved/dead
			E = Empty, damaged nest
			F = Flooded
			I = Destroyed by man intentionally
			L = Destroyed by Livestock
			M = Destroyed by man unintentionally
			O = Other/unknown cause
			P = Predated
			T = Thrown/fallen out
			U = Usurped from nest by another species
			W = Wind Damage

Outcome: Failure before egg stage

Use 'BD' when a nesting attempt has failed before eggs were laid or 'BE' when it has failed before eggs were seen, e.g. it's not known whether any were laid.

BD = Nesting attempt ceased before laying, e.g. during building

BE = Nesting attempt ceased; not known whether eggs laid

Outcome: No breeding

Use when a nest site or territory has been monitored for all or part of a breeding season and no evidence of nesting has been found. Choose one code and record with it the final visit or observation date. Note these codes exist mainly to support Schedule 1 permit reporting and normally it is not necessary to complete a nest record when there hasn't been an active nest.

SN = Site not occupied or territory vacant

SS = Bird(s) present at nest site/territory but no breeding

SC = Site unavailable for nesting

SR = Nest site/territory vacant and target species breeding within 500m

SU = Other species preventing target species use of site

SO = Site unused for other reason

Outcome: Unknown

Use 'OU' when one or more young could have fledged but you do not know whether any did. Use 'SX' when a territory or nest site has not been monitored all season.

OU = Outcome of nesting attempt unknown

SX = Site/territory was not visited all breeding season