



Brood patch codes

Code State of brood patch

- 0** absent
- 1** starting
- 2** well defined, breast muscle and gut still visible through the skin
- 3** the skin of the belly is opaque, thickened or engorged, veined and red with broad, undulating wrinkles
- 4** skin of belly has thin wrinkles, engorgement of skin has gone, but the skin is still stretched, and the breast muscle and gut are visible again through the skin
- 5** feathering over
- P** present

Moult codes

Code Stage of moult

- J** = wholly Juvenile plumage
- P** = undergoing Post-juvenile body moult (see codes M, A if in full post-juvenile moult)
- B** = undergoing active Body moult - not a post-juvenile moult and not part of a full moult of wings and tail
- O** = Old plumage, no body or main moult (includes birds that have completed partial post-juvenile moult)
- S** = Starting body moult: main moult yet to start - wings and tail old
- E** = Ending body moult: main moult finished - wings and tail new
- N** = New plumage following main moult, no body or main moult (used for birds that have recently completed moult, not used after 31 December)
- M¹** = active Moult of wings and tail (main moult)
- A** = Arrested wing moult (primaries or secondaries)
- T** = Partial post-juvenile moult involving Tail or Tertials

If a moult code of M is entered, then computer variables ACT1\$ or ACT2\$ should be set to M if these are not already in use for other higher priority activity codes.

Primary moult scores

Score Stage of growth

- 0** an old feather
- 1** old feather missing or new feather completely in pin
- 2** new feather just emerging from the sheath, up to one third grown
- 3** new feather between one and two thirds grown
- 4** new feather more than two thirds grown, but waxy sheath still at its base
- 5** new feather fully grown with no trace of sheath at its base

Post-juvenile moult in the alula

Code Moult stage

- 0** both old
- 1** largest old, other new
- 2** largest new, other old
- 3** both new

Sexing method codes

Code Description

- D** = DNA
- E** = internal cloacal Examination when used to confirm sexing eg in wildfowl
- C** = Cloacal protuberance (males only)
- B** = Brood patch present (females only)
- A** = Activity - bird sexed by observing activity or behaviour
- S** = Size difference ie a measurement such as wing length is the only criterion of sexing

Note: Use only the codes given above and no others.

Activity Codes

Code Activity

- A** = Artificial bait - provided intentionally or unintentionally (including rubbish tips, agricultural products eg grain and carrion)¹
- T** = Tape-lured
- L** = at Lighthouse - as a result of night-time attraction
- S** = at Sea - on board ship or other man-made structure
- N** = Nesting - adult bird currently known to be breeding
- C** = at Colony (not necessarily breeding) - record for full-grown only, **not** for pulli
- M** = undergoing Moult of wing or tail feathers (normal moult, not just odd feathers)
- R** = at or joining Roost
- P** = on Passage - species which is not regular as resident, winter or summer, **certainly** not a local breeding or wintering bird

Note: Code A is not available in B-RING. Use only the codes given above and no others.