Ageing of females is possible when we catch incubating hens on their nest. It is very important to age females to monitor age-dependent nesting chronology and productivity.
What to monitor

- Age when the light stripe in front of and behind the eye disappear (see Figures 1 and 2 to compare).
- Age when iris become dark-brown from dark-yellow (see Figures 1 and 2 to compare).
- Please record presence/absence of black tips on the upper coverts of secondaries (compare tips on Figure 3 and 4). Record presence/absence of black tips on the secondaries. My guess is black tips disappear by the 4th year of the female’s life.
Figure 2. Adult female
Figure 2. After second year female
Figure 3. Adult female (after 4 year)