

Eurasian reed warbler

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The **Eurasian reed warbler**, or just **reed warbler** (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*) is an Old World warbler in the genus *Acrocephalus*. It breeds across Europe into temperate western Asia. It is migratory, wintering in sub-Saharan Africa.

This small passerine bird is a species found almost exclusively in reed beds, usually with some bushes. The 3–5 eggs are laid in a basket nest in reeds. The chicks fledge after 10 or 11 days. This species is usually monogamous.^[2]

The Eurasian reed warbler looks similar to the great reed warbler, but the great reed warbler is larger in size and has a stronger supercilium.

The Eurasian reed warbler is one of the species that are brood parasitised by the common cuckoo.

This is a medium-sized warbler, 12.5–14 cm in length. The adult has an unstreaked brown back and buff underparts. The forehead is flattened, and the bill is strong and pointed. The sexes are identical, as with most warblers, but young birds are richer buff below. Like most warblers, it is insectivorous, but will take other small food items, including berries.

The song is a slow, chattering *jit-jit-jit* with typically acrocephaline whistles and mimicry added.



Common cuckoo chick in a reed warbler nest.



Eggs of *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* MHNT

Eurasian reed warbler



Conservation status



Least Concern (IUCN 3.1)^[1]

Scientific classification

Kingdom:	Animalia
Phylum:	Chordata
Class:	Aves
Order:	Passeriformes
Superfamily:	Sylvioidea
Family:	Acrocephalidae
Genus:	<i>Acrocephalus</i>
Species:	<i>A. scirpaceus</i>

Binomial name

Acrocephalus scirpaceus

(Hermann, 1804)

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Song Diaccia Botrona Marsh, Italy

References

- BirdLife International (2014). "*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*" (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/22714722>). *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2014.2*. International Union for Conservation of Nature. Retrieved 28 August 2014.
- Leisler, B. & Wink, Michael (2000): Frequencies of multiple paternity in three *Acrocephalus* species (Aves: Sylviidae) with different mating systems (*A. palustris*, *A. arundinaceus*, *A. paludicola*). *Ethology, Ecology & Evolution* **12**: 237–249. PDF fulltext (<http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/institute/fak14/ipmb/phazb/pubwink/2000/14.%202000.pdf>)

External links

- Eurasian reed warbler videos, photos & sounds (http://ibc.lynxeds.com/species/eurasian-reed-warbler-acrocephalus-scirpaceus) on the Internet Bird Collection
- Avibase (http://www.bsc-eoc.org/avibase/species.jsp?lang=EN&id=E64885A53D86F59A&ts=1221225600034&sec=summary)
- Ageing and sexing (PDF; 2.3 MB) by Javier Blasco-Zumeta & Gerd-Michael Heinze (http://aulaenred.ibercaja.es/wp-content/uploads/359_ReedWarblerAscirpaceus.pdf)



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