

April. Therefore, it is possible that individual moult may take as long as five months (plus) which is much slower than similar sized palaeartic sandpipers and local plovers such as the Tereble banded Ch. tricoloris and Kittlitz Ch. pecurius.

First year birds have a complete moult which is more rapid than that of the adults. This is a very similar case to that of the Little Stint Calidris minuta. The first birds start moulting as early as November whilst others do not start until January. The complete moult may only take 3 to 3½ months.

#### Conclusion:

The above information is presented in the hope that coastal workers may be able to add considerably to the limited data offered here. This plover is under considerable study in the North Atlantic and is worthy of much further consideration in the south of its range.

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#### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

##### Thick-billed Weavers

Would anyone who catches a ringed Thick-billed Weaver Amblyospiza albifrons (R. 804), besides reporting it to the Pretoria Zoo and/or SAFRING as normal, please send the information to:-

Dr Handley T. Laycock,  
Hargeisa,  
39 Armstrong Drive,  
Wembley,  
Pietermaritzburg,  
3201.

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