

#### 08j – FEATHERED GAME (*FEDERWILD*)

#### (4) Wild Pigeons (*Wildtauben*)



Ringeltaube (Ringdove or Wood Pigeon)

Breeding season Eggs per nest March – June 4

The Ringdove is the largest of the four varieties of wild pigeons.

Ringdoves are about 17 inches long, weigh about 1 pound, and have a wingspan of 30 inches. Their overall color is bluish-gray.

The belly of the Ringdove has a wine-red shine that grows brighter toward the tail.

A white stripe on the tail can be seen when the pigeon is in flight. The front edge of the wings has a white border; the bill is red with a yellow tip; the feet are red; and the eyes are circled by a yellow ring.

The most distinctive marks of a mature pigeon are the half moon-shaped white spots on each side of the neck that, from a distance, appear like a ring and, with the white band on the wings, account for the birds name. Their wings clap noisily during flight.





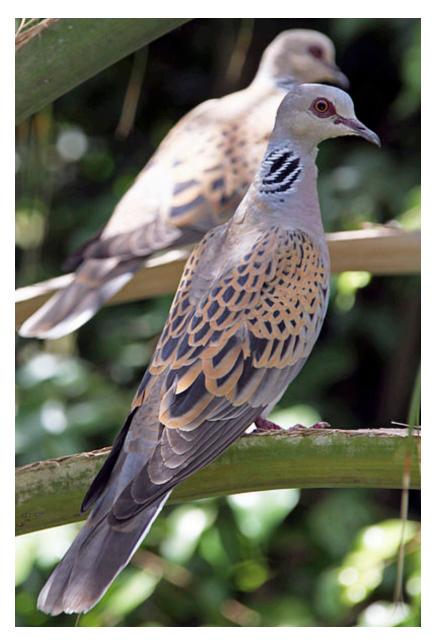
Hohltaube (Stock Dove)

The Stock Dove is considerably smaller than the Ringdove. The Stock Dove has a bluish color with a dark ring around the eyes.

The name comes from their behavior of making their nest in a hollow tree.

There is no open season in Germany for the Stock Dove.





*Turteltaube* (Turtle Dove)

The Turtle dove is the smallest wild pigeon in Germany. A Turtle Dove's predominant color is reddish-brown.

The name comes from the bird's call, which sounds like the word turtle.

There is **no open season in Germany** for the Turtle Dove.





*Türkentaube* (Collared Turtle Dove)

Slightly larger than the Turtle Dove, the Collared Turtle Dove has a prominent black stripe on the rear and sides of the neck.

The *Türkentaube* is not migratory, and is widely dispersed throughout Europe and Western Asia.

This dove has a white patch on the throat, and white bars on the wings.