

The Wood Lark is a rather abundant species in the West, and from which it differs principally in its habits and manners. Its range over the continent is much more extensive, but in the West it appears to be most numerous in the southern counties, where, according to observation, most common in the spring. It gives preference to open fields, particularly where, or extensive plantations where large trees are dispersed abundantly, upon which, unlike its near ally, it is fond of perching, and from whence it pours forth its melodious strains, which, although soft and sweet, are not so full and rolling as those of the Sky Lark. Its notes of flight are very considerable, and often on the wing it utters a short and peculiar piping cry. It is strictly migratory, departing from our shores before the autumn, and returning in the month of April.

The sexes are alike in plumage; the young, like all the larks, are hatched with yellowish white, and their actual time more tardy than those of the other.

The nest is said to be placed on the ground, frequently under the cover of some turf or shrub; the eggs wood brown, blotched with grey and dusky.

Still brownish black; above the eye is a conspicuous dark colored stripe; all the upper surface and breast each feather having a black central mark; under surface yellowish white spotted upon the neck and chest with dark brown; wings and tail tipped with white; the middle tail-feathers brown, the remainder brown tipped with white; legs pale brown.

The following is a table of the natural size.