Breeding stage	Patch development	3P Code	2				
		0	Absent				
Nest building start	Defeathering	1	Starting Breast & belly not fully defeathered while feather papillae still visible.	BLUTI	REEBU		
end Egg laying	Vascularisation (Blood vessels form) Loose skin Oedema (swelling)	2	Well defined Breast & belly are fully defeathered. Prominent veins. Skin can appear loose (some folding). Signs of skin swelling or oedema. Breast muscle and gut still visible through skin.	REEWA	CHAFF	REEWA	Reewa - male, not a brood pa Feathers cover skin, Note the wrinkling
Incubation	Moderate oedema Marked oedema	3	Skin of belly opaque, thickened or engorged (swollen) Looks loose and 'puffy'; deep, rolling folds or broad undulating wrinkles. Breast muscle	CHIFF	REEWA FILAS A - F	BLACA - M Final Action of the second	Greti - male, i moult
Hatching	I ↓		and gut obscured.	力王		A A	
	REEWA No oedema; skin loose with fine transverse and vertical wrinkles	4	Skin of belly has thin wrinkles Engorgement gone. Skin still stretched. Breast muscle and gut visible. Large veins usually not visible	BLUTI	BLUTI		
Post-breeding moult	REEBU WILWA	5	Re-feathering Skin tighter, white feather papillae become visible feathers develop.	BLUTI	REEWA		







Reebu - 3J, not a brood patch. Note some skin wrinkling over gut



Blaca - 3J, starting PJ moult



in main



Same Greti - male, in main moult, but with ventral feathers parted; breast and belly refeathering, but not a brood patch



Wren - 3J

s in identifying brood patches