

in this genus. The latter species is mostly referred to as Sharpe's Longclaw *Macronyx sharpei* in the latest works. The generic *Hemimacronyx* is derived from the genus of longclaws, *Macronyx*, which in turn is derived from the Greek *macro*, large and *nyx*, a talon or claw. The prefix *Hemi* implies "half", which reflects the Yellow-breasted Pipit's apparent similarity to a longclaw. Thus "half-a-longclaw" (Clinning 1989).

Note that the specific *chloris* means green. This is erroneous and should be yellow (*flava*). Alternative English names include 'Small Yellowtufted Pipit' as opposed to the African Rock Pipit which is also known as the

'Large Yellowtufted Pipit' (Hockey 1996). These names are derived from these two species' shared characteristic of yellow feathers on the axillaries or 'armpits'. These appear as tufts of feathers under the folded wing (much like sunbirds). Geelborskoester (Afrikaans). R6 725; R7 p1100.

Field identification: In summer plumage, the bright yellow underparts of the Yellow-breasted Pipit makes it easily separable from all other *Anthus* pipits. However, in the non-breeding season (approximately May-September) the Yellow-breasted Pipit loses much of its bright yellow plumage and

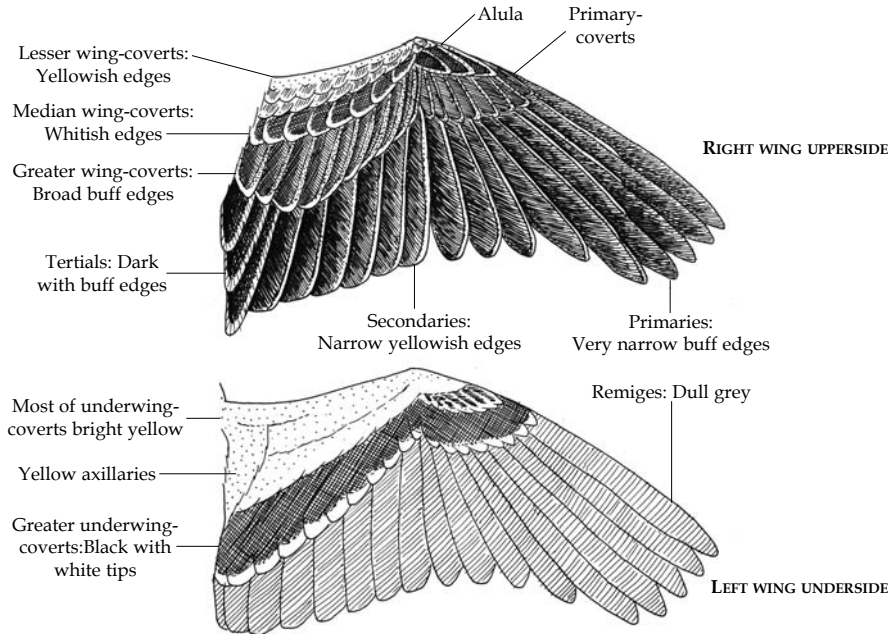


Fig. 106. Yellow-breasted Pipit wing details. From above the wing resembles that of other pipits, apart from the dull yellowish edges of the lesser wing-coverts (visible on the leading edge). From below however, the bright yellow axillaries are very striking. These are offset against a white bar and black greater underwing-coverts with white edges. The details of the underwing are difficult to see in the field but the flying bird gives the impression of having yellow underwings with black and white mottling.