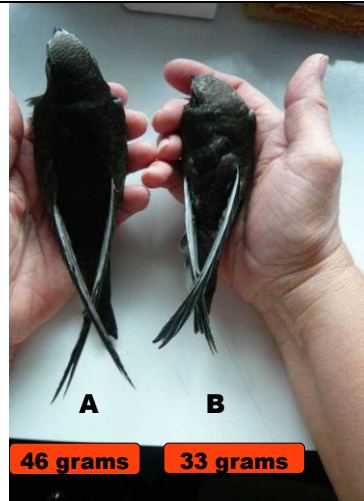


RELEASING A COMMON SWIFT

Everything about a swift is done within a rigid time table needing correct weights and behaviour at every stage of development. Once the physical criteria of feather length and weights are reached behaviour becomes the most significant factor.

Trying to escape the container at dusk indicates readiness to fledge....this must of course be left until daylight!



Size Variation

Both of these swifts are fully grown

A = Normal sized bird

B = Very small bird (the minority)

PRE - RELEASE CHECK

- ✓ **Weight** — 40-45 grams for an average fledgling .
- ✓ **Feathers** — No white casings, min wing length 16cms.
- ✓ **Strength**...able to take off from floor! Must be done with great care in a **safe** room with drawn curtains.
- ✓ **See video clip of swift taking off from floor!**
- ✓ **Behaviour** - increasingly restless at dusk, resisting feeding.
- ✓ **Weather** – set fair
- ✓ **Safe Place** - To be able to retrieve if necessary.

**A SWIFT WILL FLY BY ITSELF FROM AN OPEN HAND
IF IT CAN!**