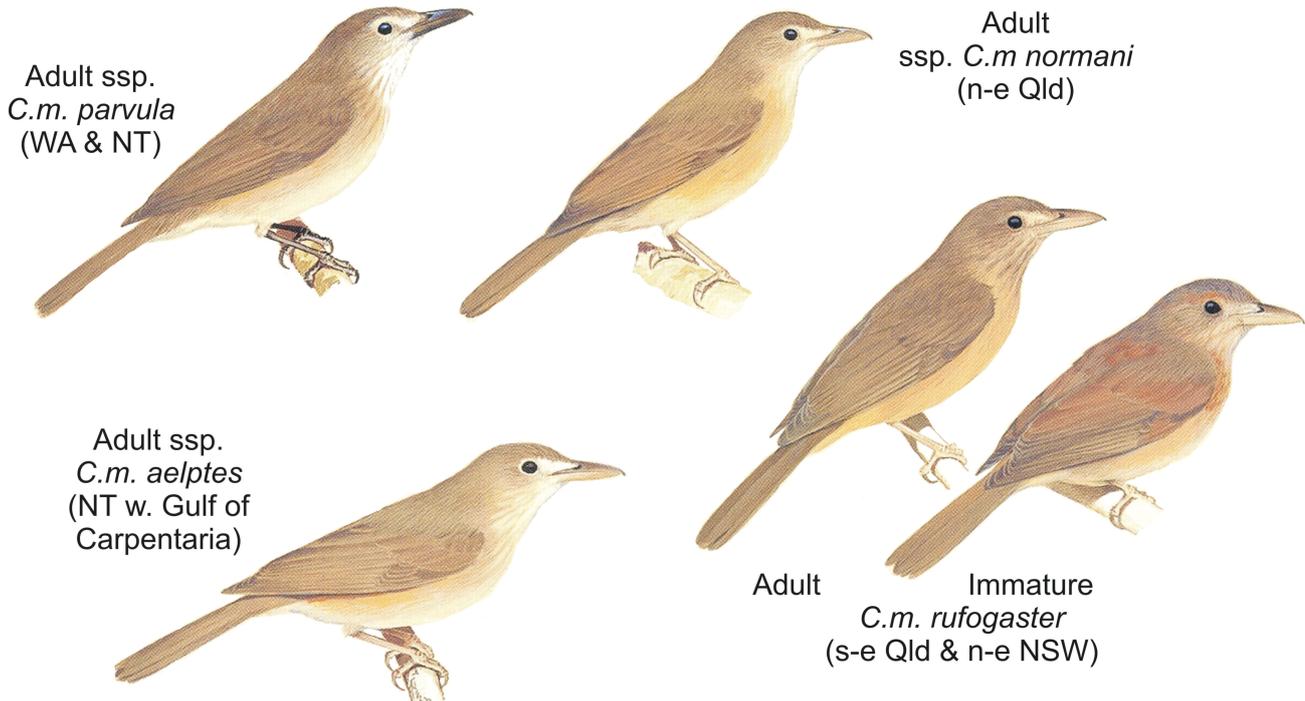
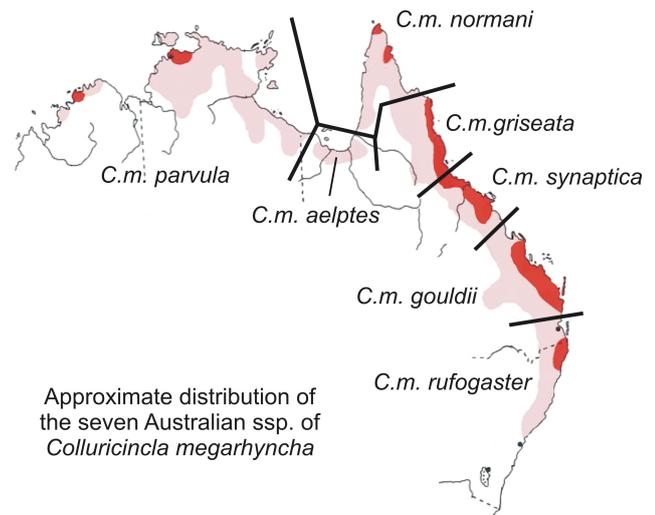


Little Shrike-thrush (1 of 2) *Colluricincla megarhyncha* Species No.: 413 Band size: 04 (03)



Geographic variation:

There are presently seven subspecies recognised in Australia. Extralimitally, in New Guinea and its satellite islands, there are an additional twenty-one subspecies including the nominate. Morphometrics vary marginally between subspecies, but also geographically within subspecies, and there is also the issue of intergrades between the subspecies along the east coast where there are five subspecies (approx. distributions shown on the map opposite). The measurements below are for the two groups: **PARVULA GROUP**– dark bills and grey-brown plumage of the Top End (*C.m. parvula* only); and the most frequently encountered representative of the **RUFOGASTER GROUP** – the remaining six subspecies from the Gulf of Carpentaria, Cape York and the east coast of Qld & NSW.



Morphometrics:

	<i>C.m. parvula</i>		<i>C.m. rufogaster</i>	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	97 -104 mm	93.5 – 100.5 mm	93 – 103 mm	92 -97 mm
Tail:	83.5 – 91 mm	80 – 88 mm	75 – 82 mm	72 – 82 mm
Weight:	40 – 45 g	38 – 45 g	36.5 – 41 g	33.4 – 42 g

Ageing:

	<i>C.m. parvula</i>		<i>C.m. rufogaster</i>	
	Adult (2+)	Juvenile	Adult (2+)	Juvenile
Bill:	black or grey-brown;	no info;	varies – pinkish grey pink-brown, pink- white;	upper mandible – dark grey; lower – pink and both paler at base;
Iris:	maroon;	mid brown;	dark red-brown, or rufous-brown;	black-brown, olive- grey to dark brown;

Little Shrike-thrush (2 of 2)

	<i>C.m. parvula</i>		<i>C.m. rufogaster</i>	
	Adult (2+)	Juvenile	Adult (2+)	Juvenile
Forehead, crown, nape & hindneck:	dark brown;	no info;	dark olive-brown;	light rufous-brown;
Lores:	off-white;	no info;	brownish-white;	off-white;
Eye-ring:	off-white;	no info;	brownish-white;	light rufous-brown;
Ear coverts:	brown;	no info;	olive-brown;	brownish-grey;
Upperparts:	uniform dark brown;	no info;	uniform dark olive-brown;	uniform dark reddish-brown;
Chin:	off-white;	no info;	brownish-white;	pale rufous-brown;
Throat:	off-white with diffuse grey-brown shaft streaks;	no info;	off-white grading to light brown on lower throat with brownish-grey shaft streaks;	pale rufous-brown with white bases to feathers;
Breast:	light grey-brown with warmer light brown wash & narrow grey-brown shaft streaks;	no info;	light brown with broad diffuse brownish-grey shaft streaks;	rufous-brown;
Greater secondary coverts:	dark brown with diffuse light grey-brown edges to distal outer webs;	dark brown with strong rufous-brown suffusion to outer webs;	dark olive-brown;	dark olive-brown with strong rufous-brown suffusion;
Greater primary coverts & alula:	black-brown grading to dark brown on outer edges of outer webs;	like adult, but with weak light rufous-brown suffusion;	black-brown grading to dark olive-brown edges on outer webs;	dark olive-brown with strong rufous-brown suffusion to edges of outer webs;
Tertials:	dark brown;	no info;	dark olive-brown;	dark olive-brown with weak rufous-brown suffusion to outer webs;

In all subspecies a post-juvenile moult, soon after fledging, results in an immature plumage resembling adults, but retain juvenile greater primary coverts, alula, some greater secondary coverts, all remiges and rectrices;

Retained juvenile plumage of wings is much more rufous than new immature plumage and contrast is obvious in the hand;

Adult plumage is first attained toward the end of the first year or early in the second year, probably coinciding with adult post-breeding moult. Thus adults should be aged (2+) and immatures will be aged (2-) or (1) depending on time of the year.

Sexing :

There is no sexual dimorphism in plumage or bare parts, but adult males tend to be slightly larger than adult females;

It is thought that both sexes incubate.