

**Brown-headed Honeyeater *Melithreptus brevirostris* Species N.: 583 Band Size: 02 AY**



**Morphometrics:**

Five subspecies recognised with distribution and measurements as follows:

	n nominate <i>M.b. brevirostris</i> (e. NSW, n. Vic & s-e. SA)		ssp. <i>M.b. pallidiceps</i> (central & western Murray-Darling Basin)	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	69 – 76 mm	74, 75 mm (2)	67 – 72 mm	65 – 72 mm
Tail:	54 – 60 mm	58, 58 mm (2)	52 – 59 mm	53 – 58 mm
Bill:	14.5 – 16.6 mm	14.1 – 16.8 mm	12.8 – 15.3 mm	12.1 – 13.1 mm
Tarsus:	16.3 – 17.8 mm	16.3 – 18.2 mm	14.7 – 18.0 mm	16.3 – 18.2 mm
Weight:	12 – 16 g	14.1, 17 g (2)	11.0 – 14.2 g	12 – 16 g

  

	ssp. <i>M.b. wombeyi</i> (southern Vic)		ssp. <i>M.b. magnirostris</i> (Kangaroo Is, SA)	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	71 – 77 mm	71 – 74 mm	73 – 75 mm	69 – 75 mm
Tail:	56 – 61 mm	57 – 58 mm	58 – 63 mm	57 – 61 mm
Bill:	16.4 – 18.1 mm	14.9 – 16.6 mm	16.2 – 18.0 mm	15.5 – 17.8 mm
Tarsus:	17.7 – 18.5 mm	16.7 – 18.6 mm	18.0 – 22.3 mm	18.2 – 20.1 mm
Weight:	17.5 – 20.0 g	16.5 – 18.0 g	17.0 – 19.3 g	15.7 – 18.0 g

  

	ssp. <i>M.b. leucogenys</i> (s-w WA & Eyre Pen., SA)	
	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	54 – 73 mm	60 – 71 mm
Tail:	51 – 62 mm	52 – 60 mm
Bill:	13.1 – 14.9 mm	12.3 – 15.0 mm
Tarsus:	15.3 – 17.5 mm	16.1 – 17.7 mm
Weight:	11.0 – 14.5 g	11 – 15 g

**Ageing:**

	Adult (1+)	Immature (1)
Bill:	black	upper mandible pale brown, lower mandible orange
Gape:	black	orange-yellow
Eye:	reddish brown	dark brown
Bare skin above eye:	creamy yellow	pale turquoise
Nape band:	dull cream	indistinct
Plumage generally:	upper parts – washed olive-brown, crown & face – brownish, throat & underparts - buffy-white	grey-brown, throat & breast – fluffy brown, abdomen - off-white.

Adult plumage is attained at about one year old, so age adults (1+).

**Sexing:**

Not sexually dimorphic in plumage or size.

Both sexes incubate.

