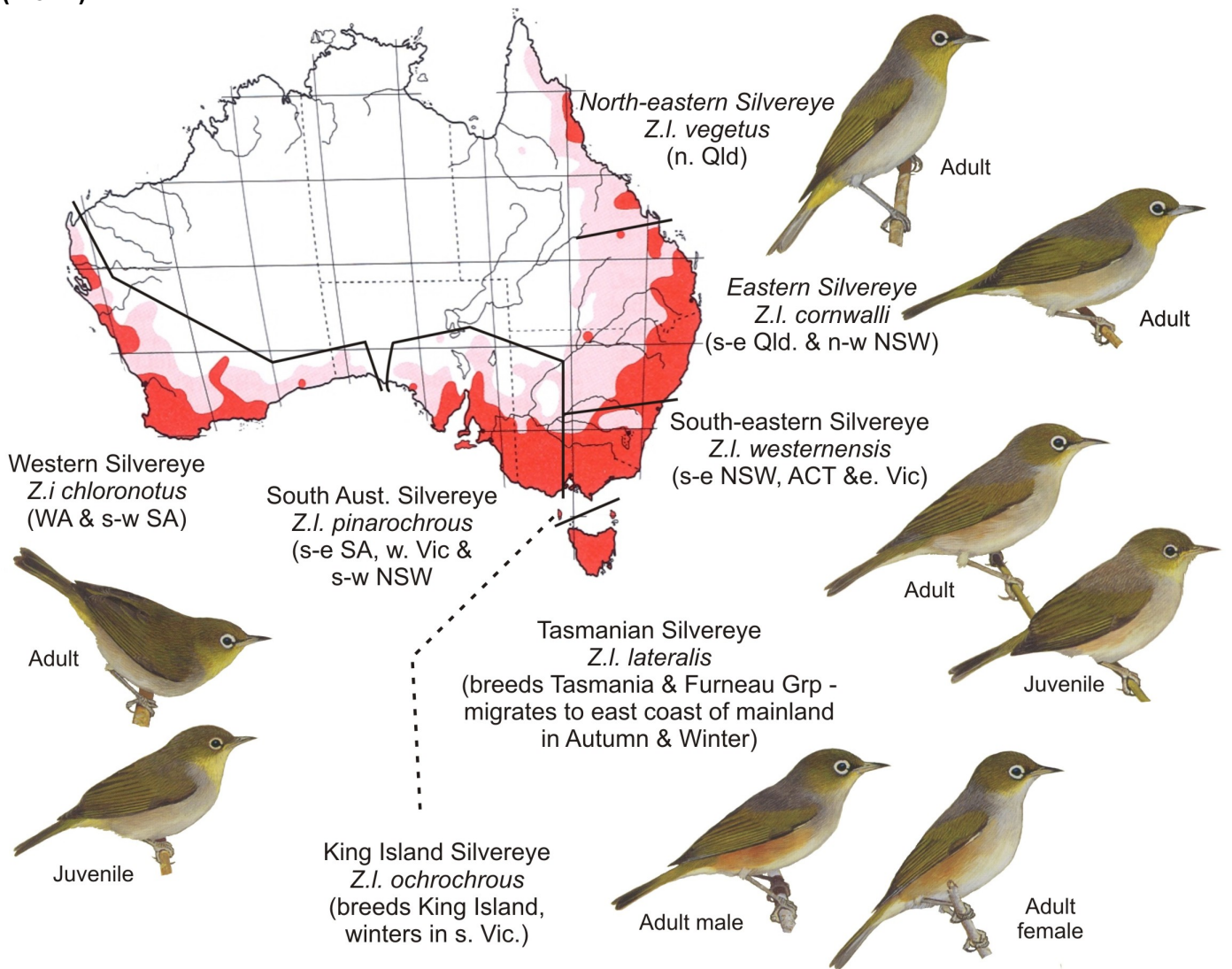


**Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis***

**Species No.: 574 Band size: 01 AY**

(1 of 2)



**Status:**

Nine subspecies are presently recognised with seven of those (five illustrated) shown above. The other two subspecies are the Capricorn Silvereye *Z.i. chlorocephalus* found on cays of the southern Great Barrier Reef and the Lord Howe Silvereye *Z.i. tephroleurus*.

Prior to the recognition of subspecies, researchers classed plumage variation based on the breeding ranges of the (then) eastern subspecies *Zosterops lateralis familiaris* as shown below:

<u>"Type</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Throat Colour</u>	<u>Flank Colour</u>
A	Mid-coastal NSW (now <i>Z.i. cornwalli</i> )	Yellow varying from bright to pale yellow, or olive green	Grey, sometimes with buff, or tawny tinge
A – B	Southern NSW & ACT (now <i>Z.i. westernensis</i> )	Yellow, or pale yellow	Tawny
B	Eastern Victoria (now <i>Z.i. westernensis</i> )	Yellow, or pale yellow	Rufous
C	Western Victoria (now <i>Z.i. pinarochrous</i> )	Grey	Grey
D	King Island (now <i>Z.i. ochrochrous</i> )	Whitish to pale grey, flecked with yellow usually near chin	Rufous
E	Tasmania (now <i>Z.i. lateralis</i> )	Grey	Rufous brown

Types A, A-B and B normally have a clear line of demarcation between throat colour and breast colour, even though faint at times. Types D and E have no such differentiation."

## Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis*

(2 of 2)

### Morphometrics:

The sub-species that breed on the Australian mainland hybridise with adjoining subspecies; There is very little difference in the size of the eastern mainland and Tasmanian subspecies, but the western subspecies is marginally smaller, so measurement for *Z.l. lateralis* and *Z.l. chloronotus* are provided below:

	<i>Z.l. lateralis</i> (typical for eastern states)		<i>Z.l. chloronotus</i> (WA)	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	57 – 68 mm	57 – 65 mm	52 – 58 mm	54 – 57 mm
Tail:	40 – 51 mm	40 – 51 mm	41 – 50 mm	39 – 50 mm
THL:	28.0 – 29.3 mm			
Bill:	11.0 – 14.5 mm	12.2 – 14.5 mm	11.6 – 14.2 mm	11.8 – 14.0 mm
Tarsus:	15.7 – 19.8 mm	14.9 – 18.5 mm	15.5 – 18.1 mm	15.8 – 18.3 mm
Weight:	10.0 – 13.5 g	9.5 – 15.0 g	8.8 – 10.0 g	8.0 – 10.0 g

### Ageing:

All subspecies:

	Adult (1+)	Juvenile (J)
Bill:	Upper mandible – dark grey, Lower mandible – blue-grey or creamy -grey	pale grey with paler base to lower mandible;
Gape:	grey;	yellow fading to flesh-pink;
Eye-ring:	broad and white;	narrower and dull white;

The overall plumage of Juveniles (J) is softer and more loosely textured than adults; First Immatures (1) are difficult to distinguish from adults and some probably acquire adult plumage in a complete post-juvenile moult when only a few months old, but some retain all or most juvenile remiges, greater primary coverts, alula and rectrices; Retained juvenile rectrices are slightly narrower and have more acute tips than those of adults and often have synchronous growth-bars or fault-bars (asynchronous in adults; Adult-like birds with synchronous growth-bars or fault-bars to primaries or secondaries, or both, are probably first immatures; Adult plumage is attained in the first year and first breeding usually occurs toward the end of the first year, so age adults (1+).

### Sexing:

There is a slight sexual dimorphism in wing measurements, with adult males having a mean wing Length greater than adult females; Plumage is similar in both sexes, but females of a pair are always duller in overall colour than the male, especially noticeable in throat and flanks colour; Both sexes incubate.