

# BIRD IN THE HAND

H. J. de S. DISNEY

and others

Editor

S. G. LANE

Published by

The Bird Banders' Association of Australia  
P.O. Box A313, Sydney South, 2000.

1974



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## *Preface*

The "Bird in the Hand" series has appeared regularly in *The Australian Bird Bander* since March 1963, and now consists of some 40 articles on almost 80 species. The series is designed to help anyone identify, age and sex a bird in the hand on external characters alone; it has proved popular with bird banders, and field workers who often find dead or injured birds. Particular emphasis has been placed on the separation of species similar in appearance. This information is not yet generally available for Australian birds.

There has been a steady demand for reprints of these articles and, as these are now difficult to obtain, it seems opportune to republish the full series to date in a single booklet. Each article has been fully revised and, in most cases, illustrated with extra black and white photographs. Some of the original line drawings have been altered or replaced, although existing blocks have been used wherever possible to minimise costs. Inevitably this has led to some unevenness in style.

This booklet has been prepared in the same format as the Journal so that the binding can be trimmed into a loose-leaf form, if so desired, and future articles added in systematic order as they appear. The order and nomenclature follow *The Official Checklist of the Birds of Australia*, Second Edition (1926) as amended. The wing and tail feathers have been numbered as in most moult studies; this is also the order in which most passerines renew these feathers.

Dr John Broadbent and Dr Arthur Gwynn helped us revise and produce this book. We are grateful to them for their very considerable and valuable assistance.

We also thank the Trustees and Director of the Australian Museum for permitting one of us (Disney) to carry out this work.

Finally, the advice and co-operation of the printers, Messrs Surrey Beatty and Sons, has done much to keep down the cost of this booklet.

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*S. G. Lane,*

Sydney, N.S.W.  
June, 1974.

## Authors

Mr H. J. de S. Disney, Curator of Birds, Australian Museum, Sydney, contributed all but the eight items listed below:

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