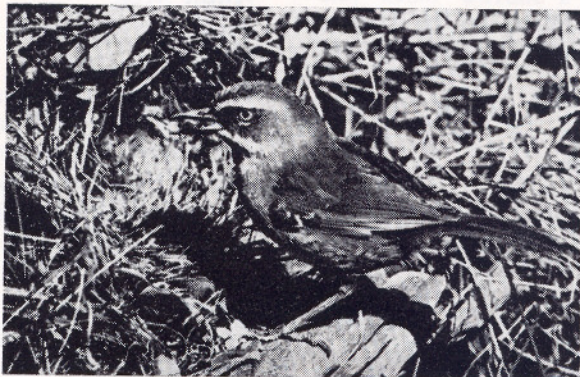


SCRUB-WRENS



• *White-browed Scrub-Wren (male) at nest.*

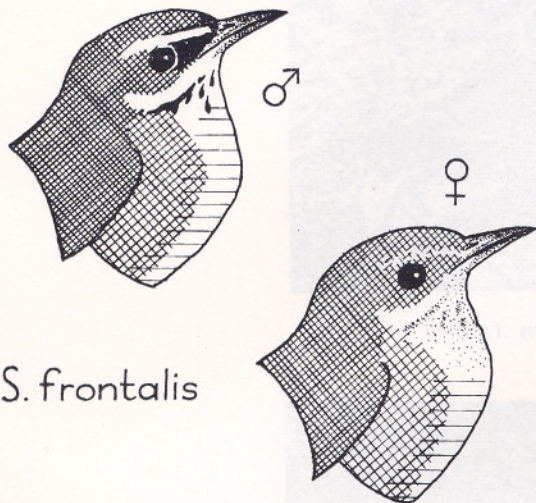


• *Yellow-throated Scrub-Wren (male) at nest.*

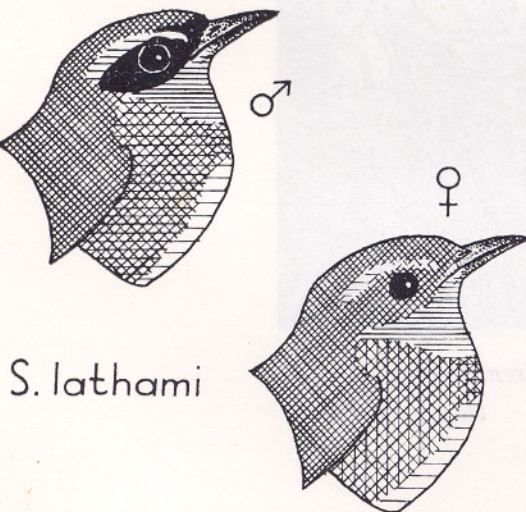
Photos: N. Chaffer

Scrub-Wrens *Sericornis* spp. (except *S. magnirostris*)

The distinguishing characters of male and female birds are similar among members of the *S. frontalis* group (which includes *laevigaster*, *maculatus*, *minimus* and *humilis*) and in the Yellow-throated Scrub-Wren *S. lathami*. The males have the lores and above the bill black or blackish brown, with a narrow black line above the white supraloral stripe. In the females the lores are brown, not contrasting with the ear



S. frontalis



S. lathami

coverts, and with only slight-black spotting above the supraloral stripe.

WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN

Sericornis frontalis

Adult Male

Forehead: Tip over bill black, same colour as lores.

Face: Lores black; line above lores (supraloral) and eye white with a narrow black line above; ear coverts brown, similar to crown.

Throat: Sides (malar region), a white line defined by dark brownish broken line underneath; centre yellowish with a few dark streaks.

Adult Female

Forehead: Tip over bill brown, same colour as crown.

Face: Lores dusky brown; line above lores and eye whitish, but broken and not well defined; ear coverts brownish, similar to crown.

Throat: Dusky white with a pale grey underneath, but not well defined from rest of throat as in the male; centre of throat dusky or greyish white with grey streaks.

S. maculatus, *minimus* and *humilis* have similar sex differences, except that in *S. humilis* the lores of the male are dark blackish brown.

YELLOW-THROATED SCRUB-WREN

Sericornis lathami

Adult Male

Forehead: Black.

Face: Face, area under and through eye, and ear coverts, all black; a white line over lores turning yellow and extending over ear coverts.

Breast: Broken band of greenish brown.

Adult Female

Forehead: Brown.

Face: Lores, area under and through eye, and ear coverts all greeny brown; broken line over eye becoming yellow above ear coverts.

Breast: Broken rufous band.

Drawings by B. Bertram