Australian Bird Study Association Inc. - Bird in the Hand (Second Edition), published on www.absa.asn.au - Revised February 2020



| | nominate <i>P.c. cincta</i> | | |
|---------|--|----------------|--|
| | (white uppertail coverts – central n. & coastal Qld n. to Halifax Bay) | | |
| | | | |
| | Adult Male | Adult Female | |
| Wing: | 58 – 65 mm | 59 – 62 mm | |
| Tail: | 31 – 40 mm | 59 – 62 mm | |
| Bill: | 11.3 – 12.5 mm | 11.3 – 11.9 mm | |
| Tarsus: | 14.4 – 17.0 mm | 13.7 – 16.3 mm | |
| Weight: | 14.1 – 16.7 g | 14.6 – 17.1 g | |
| | | | |

Ageing:

١

F

۱

| Adult (1+) | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Bill: | black, sometimes paler at base; | |
| Iris: | dark brown, chestnut or red; | |

| ssp. P.c. atropygialis | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| (black uppertail coverts – s. & | | | |
| central Cape York) | | | |
| Adult Male | Adult Female | | |
| 57 – 61 mm | 56 – 60 mm | | |
| 34 – 45 mm | 34 – 50 mm | | |
| 10.5 – 12.8 mm | 10.9 – 13.0 mm | | |
| 14.8 – 16.8 mm | 14.6 – 17.2 mm | | |
| 12.9 – 16.9 g | 13.0 – 16.5 g | | |
| | | | |

Juvenile similar to adult; brown-black or dark brown;

Plumage – juvenile is much darker, but duller, and has a smaller bib than adult – see illustrations above;

Post-juvenile moult (probably at 5-6 months) results in full adult plumage; All birds other than obvious Juveniles (J) should be aged (1+).

Sexing :

There is apparently no consistently reliable sexual dimorphism in plumage. However, some claim that females have slightly smaller and narrower blackish bib with more rounded lower edge than males, which have a slightly larger pure black bib with straighter lower edge;

The leg and feet colour of adult males is quite variable – peach-red, dull pink, pink-red, red or orange-pink to red. The legs and feet of females are all orange, or orange-pink – ie. no red; Old (3+ ?) males are said to have a more silver-grey head than younger males and females; Both sexes incubate.