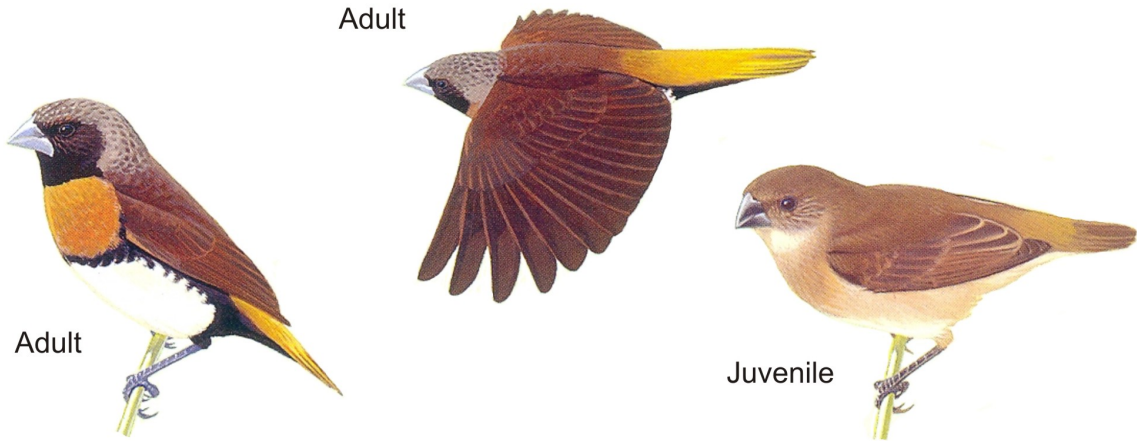


Chestnut-breasted Mannikin *Lonchura castaneothorax* Species No.: 657 Band size: 02 AY



Morphometrics:

Five subspecies recognised – nominate in northern and eastern Australia (measurements below) and four subspecies in PNG:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	53 – 57 mm	51 – 56 mm
Tail:	29 – 40 mm	29 – 37 mm
Bill:	11.6 – 13.0 mm	11.2 – 12.9 mm
THL:	24.1 – 27.5 mm	
Tarsus:	14.2 – 16.0 mm	14.4 – 16.3 mm
Weight:	12.0 – 16.1 g	

Ageing:

	Adult (1+)	Juvenile
Bill:	mostly light blue-grey or grey-mauve with off-white cutting edges;	grey or blue-grey, darker than adult;
Iris:	black-brown;	dark brown or brown;

There are significant differences in plumage between juvenile and adult birds - see illustrations; Post-juvenile moult is thought to result in adult plumage; Age Juveniles (J) and all others (1+).

Sexing :

Not sexually dimorphic on size and claimed plumage differences (by aviculturists) appear unreliable for sexing birds in the field. The sexual differences claimed by some aviculturists that require confirmation in the field are:

- males have brighter overall plumage than females;
- males have more silver-grey crown and nape than females;
- males have black under tail coverts and thighs, whereas females are rust-brown;
- males have a wider, straighter breast band than females; and
- males have a broader and larger bill than females.

Both sexes incubate.