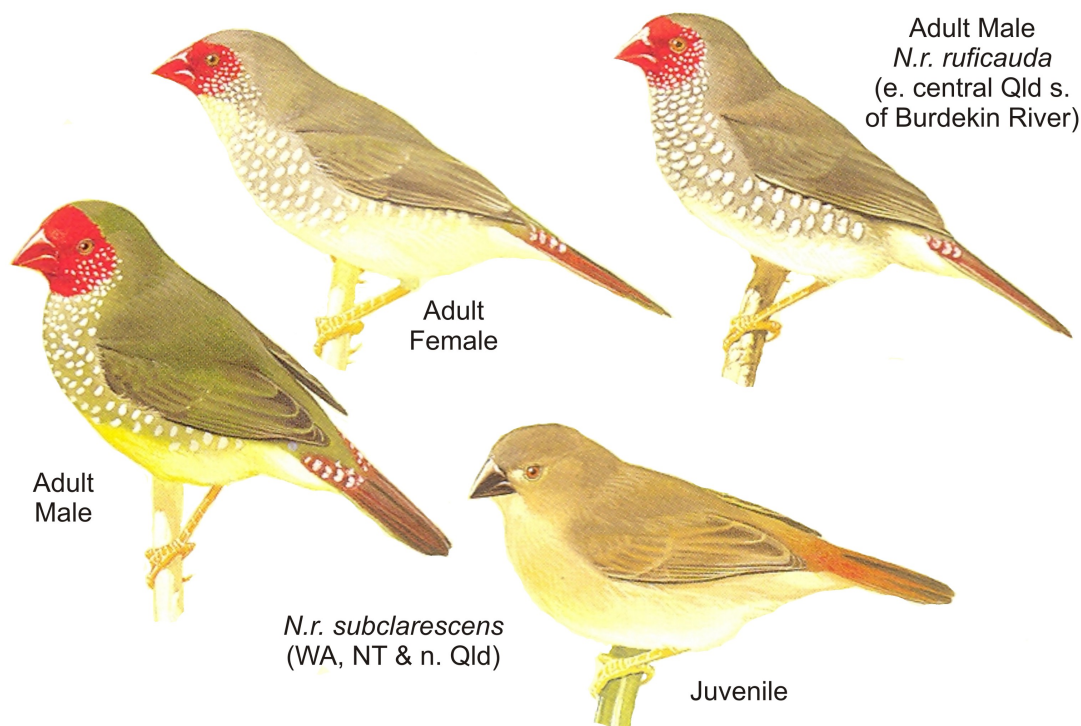


Star Finch *Neochmia ruficauda*

Species No.: 663

Band size: 02



Morphometrics:

Three subspecies are recognised: nominate *N.r. ruficauda* of eastern central Qld has been little studied and few data exist; *N.r. clarescens* of Cape York Peninsular resembles *N.r. subclarescens* of WA, NT and n-w Qld in plumage, but the few data available suggest that it may be slightly smaller. The measurements presented here are for *N.r. subclarescens*:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
THL:	23.1 – 25.1 mm	22.5 – 25.3 mm
Wing:	50 – 57 mm	49 – 55 mm
Tail:	40 – 46 mm	39 – 46 mm
Weight:	9 – 12 g	9.5 – 12.9 g

Ageing:

	Adult (1+)	Juvenile
Bill:	red;	black or orange-red in birds partway through post-juvenile moult;
Face:	red;	brown to light brown;
Upper tail coverts:	dark red-brown with narrow crimson fringes and pink-white sub-terminal spots or bands;	lacks any white;

Sexing :

The sexes are plumage dimorphic in subspecies *clarescens* and *subclarescens* with the extent of red on the face (see illustrations above) , but possibly not so in nominate *ruficauda*; Incubation by both sexes.