

Kimberley Honeyeater *Microptilotis fordianus*

Species No.: 8293 Band size: (trial)



Adult

Status:

Formerly regarded as a subspecies of the White-lined Honeyeater *Meliphaga albilineata*. Elevated to species status in a new genus in 2014.

Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Bill:	24.8, 28.1 mm (2)	21.0 – 21.9 mm
Wing:	87 – 90 mm	77 – 82 mm
Tail:	76 – 82 mm	68 – 71 mm
Tarsus:	20.9 – 23.8 mm	19.2 – 21.3 mm
Weight:	27.2 – 30.5 g	19.5 – 26.5 g

Ageing:

	Adult (2+)	Juvenile
Bill:	black;	dark grey or black
Gape:	pale yellow or yellow;	yellow;
Iris:	cream, bluish grey, off-white, dark brown or pale grey;	light grey;
Greater secondary & primary coverts;	dark brown with straw yellow fringe outer web & buff inner edges;	dark brown with light brown inner edges;
Primaries:	dark brown with olive-yellow outer edges and pinkish-buff inner edges;	dark brown;

Juvenile readily distinguished by plumage; Immatures difficult to distinguish from adults, but some retain longest feather of alula, juvenile remiges and rectrices. Some also retain some juvenile median and greater coverts; Immatures commence moult to complete adult plumage when approximately 1 year old coinciding with adult post breeding moult. Adults should thus be aged (2+).

Sexing :

No difference in plumage, but males are larger than females; Suspected, but not confirmed whether female alone incubates.