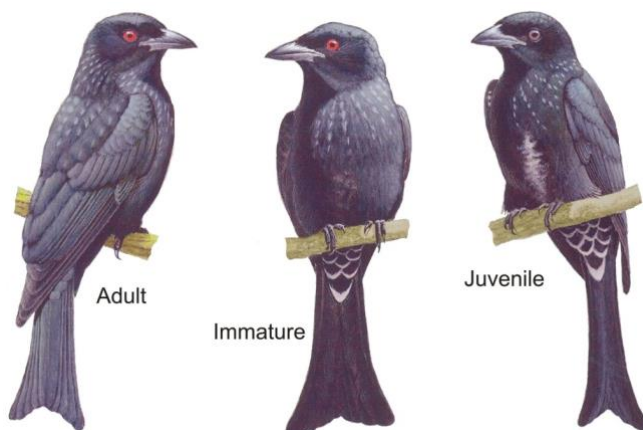


**Spangled Drongo** *Dicrurus bracteatus* Species No.: 673 Band size: 06 AY



**Morphometrics:**

Four subspecies in Australia as follows:

Nominate *D.b. bracteatus* - Qld s. of Townsville, NSW, Vic & SA;

ssp. *D.b. arrabectus* - Cape York and south to Townsville, Qld;

ssp. *D.b. baileyi* - WA & NT;

ssp *D.b. carbonarius* – Boigu, Dauan, Saibai and other islands of n. Torres Strait.

There is minimal size difference between the subspecies. The measurement below are for the nominate *D.b. bracteatus*:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	154 – 172.5 mm	164.5 – 169.5 mm
Tail:	121 – 142 mm	130 – 135.5 mm
Bill:	34.6 – 40.3 mm	36.0 – 39.7 mm
Tarsus:	18.4 – 23.2 mm	19.8 – 22.4 mm
Weight:	69.0 – 87.0 g	75 – 80 g

**Ageing:**

	Adult (2+)	Immature (2-)	Juvenile
iris:	red;	reddish-brown, hazel, yellow or brown;	dark brown or black;
General appearance:	glossy black with the sheen created by iridescent blue spots (spangles);	black, but far less gloss than adults;	mostly blackish-brown with little or no iridescence;

Juveniles moult to an immature plumage within a few months of fledging;

Immatures retain most, or all, brownish juvenile rectrices, all remiges, alula, all greater primary coverts and some median and greater secondary coverts;

Immatures moult to adult plumage coinciding with the adult post-breeding moult when just over one year old. Thus immatures are aged either (1) or (2-) depending on time of year and adults are aged (2+).

**Sexing:**

No apparent or confirmed difference in plumage in Australian subspecies / populations, but in populations in PNG, the shape of the iridescent markings (spangles) on hindneck and breast differ between sexes. Females are said to have roughly equal likelihood of rounded (29%), lanceolate (36%) or intermediate (35%) spangles, whereas males have mostly lanceolate (55%) and intermediate (31%) spangles;

Adult males average slightly larger than adult females;

Incubation thought to be by both sexes, but this needs confirmation.