Australasian Figbird Sphecotheres viridis Species No.: 432 Band size: 07 (06)



Morphometrics:

Three subspecies in Australia: S.v. ashbyi (NT & WA – not illustrated - very similar in plumage and size to S.v. flaviventris of n-e Qld; and S.v. vieilloti of s-e Qld, NSW and Vic:

| | S.v. ashbyi | | S.v. vieilloti | |
|---------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Adult Male | Adult Female | Adult Male | Adult Female |
| Wing: | 141.5 – 156.5 mm | 143.5 – 153.0 mm | 150 – 160 mm | 149 – 165 mm |
| Tail: | 97.5 – 114.0 mm | 97.0 – 111.0 mm | 104 -118 mm | 104.5 – 117 mm |
| Weight: | 97 – 119 g | 104 – 124 g | 112 – 149 g | 142 – 146.2 g |

Ageing:

Detailed descriptions appear unnecessary for ageing and sexing in the field because of the quality of the illustrations above and the following notes:

Fledge in juvenile plumage and undergo an immediate partial post-juvenile moult to immature plumage that resembles adult plumage in both sexes;

Immatures are duller in appearance to adults because of bare-part and retained juvenile feathers in wing and tail and feathers of the head, upperparts and underparts, which are intermediate between juvenile and adult colours in both sexes;

Moult to complete adult plumage commences at about one year of age, coinciding with adult post-breeding moult;

Thus adults will be aged (2+) and depending on time of year, immatures will be either (1) or (2-).

Sexing:

Adults differ markedly in plumage (see illustrations), but no size difference. Incubation by both male & female.