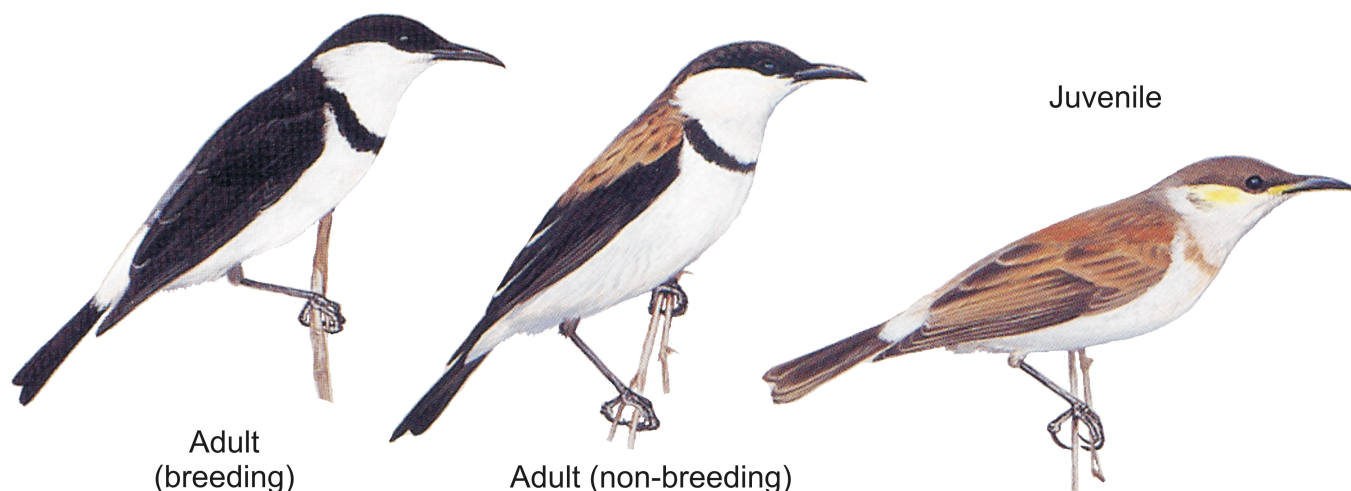


**Banded Honeyeater** *Certhionyx pectoralis* Species No.: 588 Band size: 02



Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	57 – 70 mm	58 – 68 mm
Tail:	39 – 49 mm	37 – 47 mm
Weight:	9.5 – 11.0 g	8.2 – 13.0 g

Ageing:

	Adult (1+)	Juvenile
Bill:	black;	dark brown to black;
Gape:	black or pale grey – possibly black only in breeding season;	yellow;
Iris:	black-brown or dark brown;	grey, grey-brown or brown;
Mantle, back & scapulars:	breeding – black, non-breeding – variable light brown with black shaft streaks;	light brown often washed with rufous-brown;

There has been considerable confusion over the plumage of this species. Initially it was thought that brown-backed birds were adult females, but when breeding pairs were observed, both male and female were completely black and white. It was then assumed that brown-backed birds were immatures. However, that is not the case either – brown-backed birds can be either non-breeding adults, or immatures.

Soon after fledging juveniles moult to an immature plumage that closely resembles that of non-breeding adults, except they may retain juvenile remiges and rectrices until their second moult at the end of the breeding season when they replace all remiges and rectrices and are then probably indistinguishable from non-breeding adults.

Brown-backed birds should be aged (1) if juvenile feathers are present, but otherwise (1+). Totally black and white birds are (2+).

Sexing:

There appears to be no reliable sexual dimorphism in plumage or measurements; Some claim that the breast band on adult females is not as wide as on adult males, but this claim is disputed; Female alone incubates.