

Graceful Honeyeater *Microptilotis gracilis* **Species No.: 612** **Band size: 03 (02) AY**



Status:

Former subspecies *M.g. imitatrix* from south of Cooktown was elevated to species level in 2019 as the Imitatress Honeyeater *M. imitatrix*– see separate sheet. *M. gracilis* is restricted to Cape York north of Rinyirru (Lakefield) National Park.

Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
THL:	39.5 – 40.6 mm	36.4 -39.1 mm
Bill:	20.0 – 23.5 mm	19.0 – 23.4 mm
Bill width:	4.5 – 4.8 mm	4.0 – 4.6 mm
Wing:	75 – 78 mm	70 – 72 mm
Wing Span:	242 – 248 mm	225 – 238 mm
Tail	61 – 67 mm	55 – 61 mm
Tarsus:	18.3 – 21.9 mm	18.1 – 20.4 mm
Weight:	14.0 – 17.0 g	12.5 – 16.5 g

Ageing:

	Adult (1+) & Immature (1)	Juvenile
Moustachial stripe:	orange-yellow;	pale yellow, less distinct than adult;
Mantle, scapulars back & rump:	uniform grey-olive;	light greyish olive with light tawny; brown suffusion to centre
Breast:	pale olive-grey centrally, darker olive on sides of upper breast and faint straw- yellow suffusion over entire breast;	pale olive-grey with faint yellow- olive suffusion to centre of breast;

Sexing:

Sexes are identical in plumage but male is larger than female;
Not known whether both sexes brood.

Similar Species:

Graceful and Imitatress Honeyeaters do not have any overlapping range. Graceful can be separated from the similarly plumaged Yellow-spotted and Lewin’s Honeyeaters by its much finer bill and overall size, for example:

	Graceful Honeyeater	Yellow-spotted Honeyeater	Lewin’s Honeyeater
Weight:	≤17.0 g	≥ 21.0 g	≥ 28.0 g
Width of bill:	≤ 4.8 mm	≥ 5.2 mm	

