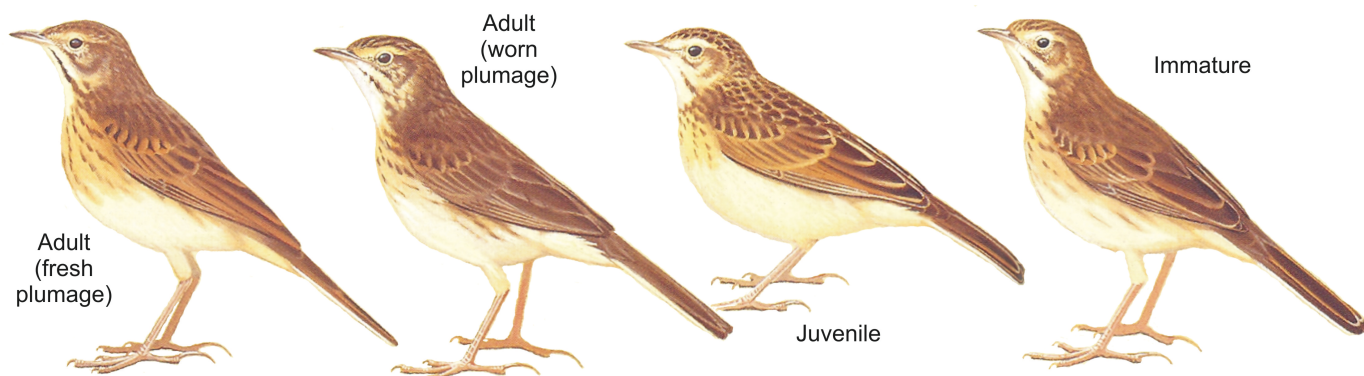


Australasian Pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae* **Species No.: 647** **Band size: 03**



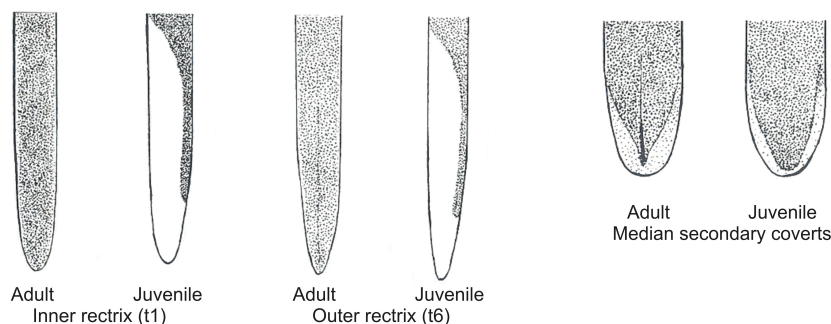
Morphometrics:

There are at least three subspecies in Australia, but the measurements presented below are for the most widespread subspecies *A.n. australis* which is distributed across most of mainland Australia and is illustrated above:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	81 – 91 mm	72 – 87 mm
Tail:	57 – 72 mm	58 – 69 mm
Weight:	20 – 30 g	20 – 33 g

Ageing:

Juvenile moults to an adult-like immature plumage within 3 months of fledging and they are difficult to distinguish from adults without careful examination in the hand;
Some immatures retain all juvenile rectrices which are narrower and more pointed than adults – see illustrations below;



Most immature birds, possibly all, retain some juvenile secondary coverts that are somewhat different in shape and pattern to those of adults – see illustration above;
All immatures retain juvenile greater primary coverts and the longest feather of the alula and these have slightly broader and whiter fringes at the tip compared with adults;
Immatures also retain all juvenile primaries and secondaries which are very worn by Autumn, whereas adults will have fresh plumage following their post-breeding moult;
Immatures attain full adult plumage in complete moult commencing when about one year of age and coinciding with adult post-breeding moult; Thus birds that have no juvenile plumage are adults and are aged (2+).

Sexing:

There is no plumage difference between the sexes, but adult males average larger than adult females;
The role of the sexes in incubation is not known.