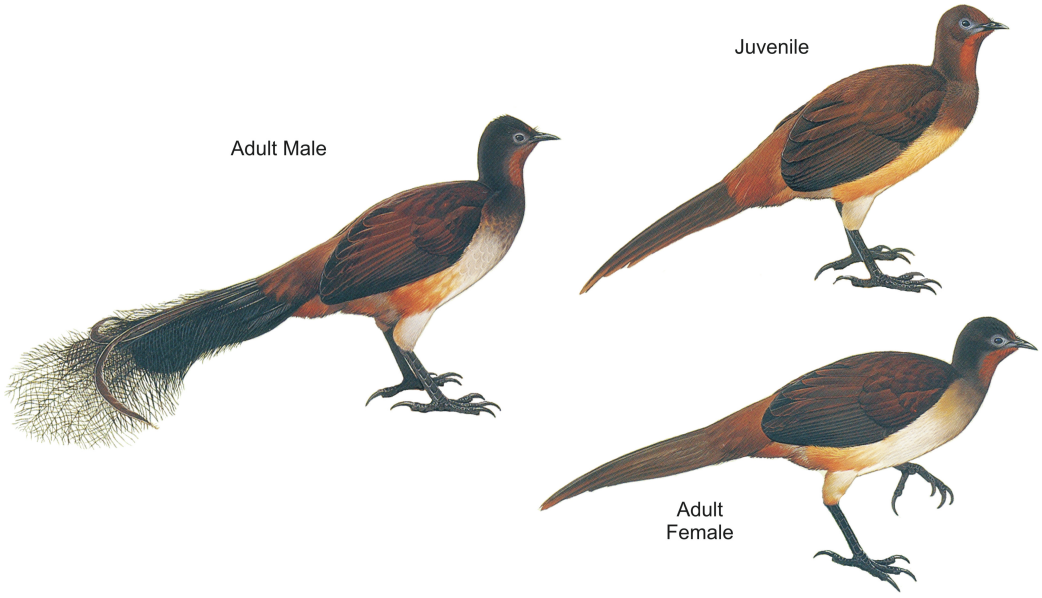
Albert's Lyrebird (1 of 2) *Menura alberti*

Species No.: 351 **Band size: 11**



Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	265 – 287 mm	240 – 276 mm
Tail - longest median (t1):	490 – 585 mm	360 – 423 mm
Tail - longest filamentary (t2 – t7)):	469 – 572 mm	342 – 370 mm
Tail - longest lyrate (t8):	348 – 425 mm	246 – 286 mm
Weight:	668 – 1215 g	No records

Ageing:

Younger birds, (1) & (2) can be identified by strong rufous suffusion to forehead and rufous colour to chin and throat. The rufous on the forehead begins to diminish toward the end of the first year while the rufous of the chin and neck gradually diminishes ay 3 to 4 years old;

Timing of moults and the sequence of changes in plumage structure is not known;
However, based on knowledge of the only other species in the genus, the Superb Lyrebird *Menura novaehollandiae*, it could be reasonably assumed that plumage development will be comparable between the two species. Accordingly, it is probable that plumage development in *alberti* parallels that of *novaehollandiae*, but confirmation is required.

Figures 1, 2 & 3 below show changes to the structure of tail feathers for juvenile, adult female and adult male;

If the tail moults completely each year and if the above assumption is correct, the development of the tail will be:

- juvenile shape – first and second year (1) & (2);
- gradual development of female tail structure through intermediate stages in years three and four (3) & (4);
- adult female (5+);
- two or three years development of male tail structure through several years (3) to (6);
- adult male (7+).

Sexing:

Adults differ markedly in tail structure (see illustrations and the morphometrics above);
Incubation by female alone.

References: HANZAB 5; Drawings: P. Marsack in HANZAB 5 - © BirdLife Australia

Albert's Lyrebird (2 of 2)

Juvenile Adult Female Adult Male

Figure 1 - Medians (t1)

Juvenile Adult Female Adult Male

Figure 2 - Filamentaries (t2 - t7)

Juvenile Adult Female Adult Male

Figure 3 - Lyrates (t8)