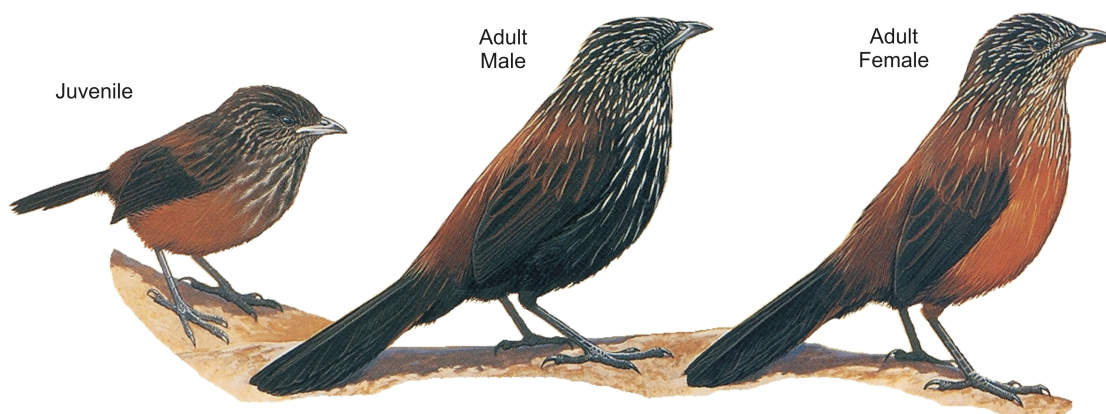


**Black Grasswren** *Amytornis housei*      **Species No.: 518**      **Band size: (trial)**



**Morphometrics:**

The following measurements have been obtained from the few museum specimens that exist (5 males and 5 females) and they combine both immatures and adult specimens:

	Male	Female
Wing:	73 – 76 mm	69 – 75 mm
Tail:	91 – 100 mm	90 – 93 mm
Weight:	29.0 – 31.0 g	23.5 – 34.9

**Ageing:**

Juveniles have a dark grey-brown base colour with mottled or diffuse broad white shaft streaks; Immature plumage (similar to adult) is attained in a partial post-juvenile moult and moult to adult plumage probably commences at about one year of age; Immatures differ from adults by retained juvenile primaries, secondaries, primary coverts and tail; Synchronous growth bars are most conspicuous on secondaries rather than tail; Adults can be aged (2+).

**Sexing:**

The plumage of males and females differ in at least immature and adult plumages. As illustrated above – males have predominantly black chin, breast, flanks and belly, whereas females are rufous-brown; Incubation apparently by female only.