

**Southern Emu-wren** *Stipiturus malachurus*      **Species No.: 526**      **Band size: 01 AY**



**Morphometrics:**

Eight subspecies are recognised, they are all much the same size, but the measurements of the two most frequently captured subspecies are presented here:

	nominate <i>S.m. malachurus</i> (coastal & sub-coastal eastern Australia)		ssp. <i>S.m. westernensis</i> (s-w Western Australia)	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult female
Wing:	42 – 44 mm	39 – 46 mm	39 – 46 mm	40 – 46 mm
Tail:	90 – 123 mm	100 – 124 mm	110 – 137 mm	104 – 127 mm
Bill:	9.7 – 11.7 mm	10.1 – 12.2 mm	9.9 – 12.5 mm	10.0 – 11.8 mm
Tarsus:	17.7 – 20.7 mm	17.8 – 20.1 mm	18.2 – 21.3 mm	18.2 – 20.6 mm
Weight:	5.5 – 9.0 g	5.5 – 8.3 g	7.0 – 8.0 g	7.5 g (1)

**Ageing:**

Timing and extent of post-juvenile moult is not known, but probably results in adult plumage. Thus all birds that are aged as definitely not juveniles, should be aged (1+).

**Sexing:**

All subspecies are sexually dimorphic on chin and throat colour from about 5-day-old nestling:  
 males – initially pale whitish or greyish-white, changing by completion of post-juvenile moult soon after fledging, to light blue or greyish-blue in the nominate *S.m. malachurus*, to various shades of blue in other subspecies with *S.m. westernensis* being the most striking with a rich sky-blue chin and throat;  
 females – light brown or yellow-brown;  
 Female incubates alone.