Superb Lyrebird (1 of 2)  *Menura novaehollandiae*  
Species No.: 350  
Band size: 11

Morphometrics:
There are three recognised subspecies, but measurements for all three are very similar to the nominate *M.n. novaehollandiae* of the Great Dividing Range and coastal NSW from the Hunter River to the NSW/Vic border. However, the morphometrics presented here are for the combined subspecies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Adult Male</th>
<th>Adult Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wing</td>
<td>270 – 301 mm</td>
<td>231 – 270 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tail - longest median (t1)</td>
<td>645 - 800 mm</td>
<td>290 -- 505 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tail - longest filamentary (t2 – t7):</td>
<td>486 – 750 mm</td>
<td>377 - 396 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tail - longest lyrate (t8)</td>
<td>542 – 713 mm</td>
<td>289 – 473 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>890 – 1200 g</td>
<td>721 – 1010 g</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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:

Figures 1, 2 & 3 show changes to the structure of tail feathers. The tail is moulted once per year and gradually develops to its full form in females between 5 – 7 years old and in males between 7 – 9 years old;

Sexing:
Males can be reliably separated from females on tail feather shapes and structure from their third year;
Females alone incubate.
Superb Lyrebird (2 of 2)

Figure 1 - Medians (t1)

Figure 2 - Filamentaries (t2 - t7)

Figure 3 - Lyrates (t8)

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