Brown Cuckoo-Dove Macropygia phasianella Species No.: 29 Band size: 08 AY



Status:

Elevated in 1997 from subspecies of *M. amboinensis* to species *M. phasianella*. Three subspecies recognised in Australia, measurements for two of the subspecies are shown below, but there is no data available for *M.p. robinsoni* which occurs on the tip of Cape York and offshore Islands in Torres Strait.

Morphometrics:

M.p. phasianella	M.p. quinkan	
(s. of Cooktown, Qld)	(Cape York, Qld, s. of Weipa / Iron	
	Range to Cooktown)	

	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	180 – 207 mm	177 – 201 mm	172 – 181 mm	169, 186 mm (2)
Tail:	181 – 225 mm	185 – 215 mm	178 – 188 mm	186 mm (1)
Bill:	16.3 – 18.9 mm	15.4 – 18.3 mm	16.6 – 18.1 mm	15.3, 17.3 mm (2)
Tarsus:	21.6 – 28.6 mm	23.1 – 27.8 mm	24.5 – 26.5 mm	24.9, 25.3 mm (2)
Weight:	215 – 272 g	205 – 268 g	169, 170 g (2)	163 g (1)

Ageing:

Adult (1+)

Bill: grey-black; grey-brown;
Iris: light blue with red outer ring; dark brown;
Legs & feet: pink-red; reddish-grey

Undergo a post-juvenile moult to adult plumage within the first year. Thus adults are aged (1+).

Sexing:

Adults can be sexed on plumage as follows:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Forehead, lores & malar area:	light brown;	rufous-brown with concealed dark -brown base to feathers;
Crown, nape & hindneck:	dark blue-grey with broad red -brown tips to feathers;	rufous-brown with concealed dark -brown base to feathers;
Chin & upper throat:	cream;	cream to light brown;
Lower throat & neck sides:	brown;	buff-brown with dark brown barring;
Mantle:	dark grey finely speckled rufous-	dark brown and lacking iridescence of

brown or red brown with broad iridescent tips to feathers varying

from dark green to purple;

Upper breast: red-brown with fine grey-black irregularly barred rufous brown & dark speckling in faint bars; brown;

male;

Both sexes incubate.