

Shining Bronze-Cuckoo *Chalcites lucidus* Species No.: 344 Band size: 03

Nominate *C. l. lucidus* (breeds NZ - non breeding passage migrant through eastern Australia Feb to April to s-w Pacific islands)



Adult Male



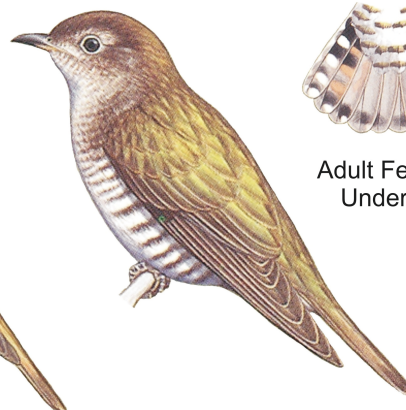
Adult Female



Juvenile



Adult Male Undertail



Adult Female Undertail

Ssp. *C. l. plagosus* (breeds Tas, eastern & s-w. Aust. then migrates to N. Aust, Indonesia and New Guinea in the non-breeding season)

Morphometrics:

	<i>C.l. plagosus</i> (breed Aust)		<i>C.l.lucidus</i> (breed NZ)	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
Bill width:	4.1 – 5.3 mm	4.6 – 5.1 mm	5.3 – 6.2 mm	4.8 – 6.3 mm
Wing:	101 – 110 mm	102 – 110 mm	101 – 112 mm	99 – 109 mm
Tail:	64 – 72 mm	66 – 72 mm	63 – 75 mm	64 – 73 mm
Weight:	17 – 35 g	18 – 28.5 g	16.7 – 32 g	18.5 – 29.0 g

Ageing:

	Adult (2+)	Immature (1)
Bill:	grey-black;	pinkish changing to dull black;
Gape & palate:	black;	yellow through grey to black;
Eye:	creamish grey to pale brown;	brownish grey with brown inner;
Orbital ringing:	male - pale green and very narrow, female – pale blue-green or yellowish green to grey-cream;	yellow-green;
Throat:	barred dark brown on white;	off-white with indistinct barring;
Lower breast & abdomen:	completely barred dark brown on white;	incomplete or no bars;

Sexing :

Not size dimorphic; but several plumage characters separates the sexes; The back of the female is brownish-green glossy bronze whereas the male is more iridescent green-bronze; Orbital ring is different - see above under Ageing; The underside of the outer tail feathers are also fairly definitive with the female having rufous spots on t4 and some rufous, or buff, colouring on t3 & t5. No rufous on males (see illustrations above); Barring on the lower chest and abdomen of females is narrower than on males.

Subspecies differences:

See illustrations and bill width above.