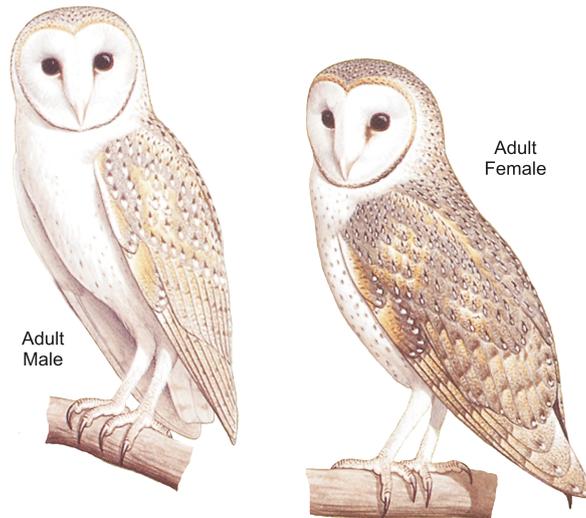


Eastern Barn Owl *Tyto javanica* (formerly - *alba delicatula*) Species No.: 249 Band size: 11 (27)



Morphometrics:

Barn Owls are distributed over Europe, Africa, North and South America and parts of Asia. Only one subspecies occurs in Australia *T.a. delicatula* and some measurements for this subspecies are given below:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	268 – 291 mm	280 – 296 mm
Tail:	107 – 123 mm	111 – 126 mm
Weight:	250 – 418 g	258 – 470 g

Ageing:

The tip of the outermost primary of juveniles is very pointed and in adults is slightly rounded. In Europe, juvenile p10 is retained for up to 5 years. Data is not available for the Australian subspecies;

Young juveniles have a narrow (< 1mm) ridge on the middle toe without pectinated serrations on the inner side of the claw, but this quickly becomes like that of the adult. In adults the inner side of the middle claw is pectinated and the ridge on the toe is wider (1 – 2mm);

It is not known at what age birds first breed. All birds can probably only be reliably aged (1+).

Sexing:

There are no significant differences between males and females in any measurements; The underparts of both sexes varies considerably from wholly white to washed with cream and pale ochre, to strongly washed with ochre (= buff) over the entire underbody. Males are more often in the paler end of the underbody colour range and females at darker end of colour range; The number of dark flecks on the underbody is very variable, but there is no significant difference between the sexes. However, females tend to have larger flecks than males; The number of flecks on leg feathers is also variable, but males have fewer (average for both leg combined - 11) than females (average for both legs combined - 46); Similarly, the number of flecks on the underwing primary and secondary covers is significantly different between males (average both wings combined – 78) and females (average - 153); As with the colour of underparts, there is considerable variation in the colour of upperparts of both sexes, and males tend toward the paler range of colours whereas females tend toward the darker. Incubation by female only.

Similar species:

	Barn Owl	Grass Owl	Masked Owl
Wing length:	268 – 296 mm	305 – 346 mm	292 – 356 mm
Tarsus length:	57.5 – 68.3 mm	72.1 – 82.2 mm	56.6 – 77.1 mm
Tarsus feathering:	to about half way, lower half & toes covered by sparse hair-like feathers;	less than half way, rest like barn owl;	fully feathered to toes which are covered by hair-like feathers;