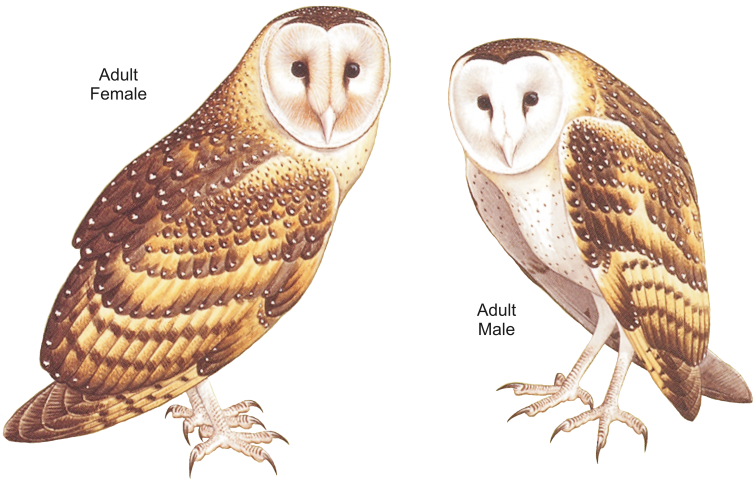


Eastern Grass Owl *Tyto capensis longimembris* **Species No.: 252** **Band size: 11**



Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	305 – 324 mm	316 – 346 mm
Tail:	106 – 125 mm	109 – 129 mm
Weight:	256 – 390 g	312 – 478 g

Ageing:

The tip of the outermost primary of juveniles is narrow and very pointed and in adults p10 is broader and has a rounded tip.
In adults the inner side of the middle claw is pectinated and the ridge on the toe is wider (1.5 – 2mm) than juveniles which are also less serrated;
Juveniles of both sexes have a darker facial disk than adults (see below);
It is not known at what age birds first breed. All birds can probably only be reliably aged (1+).

Sexing:

Females are larger than males;
Plumage differences are as follows:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Facial disk:	typically white to patchy cream & white with white edge;	cream-buff to orange-buff and patterned white and cream and with white outer surround;

Overall appearance: see illustrations – females are darker than males;

Incubation by female alone.

Similar species:

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