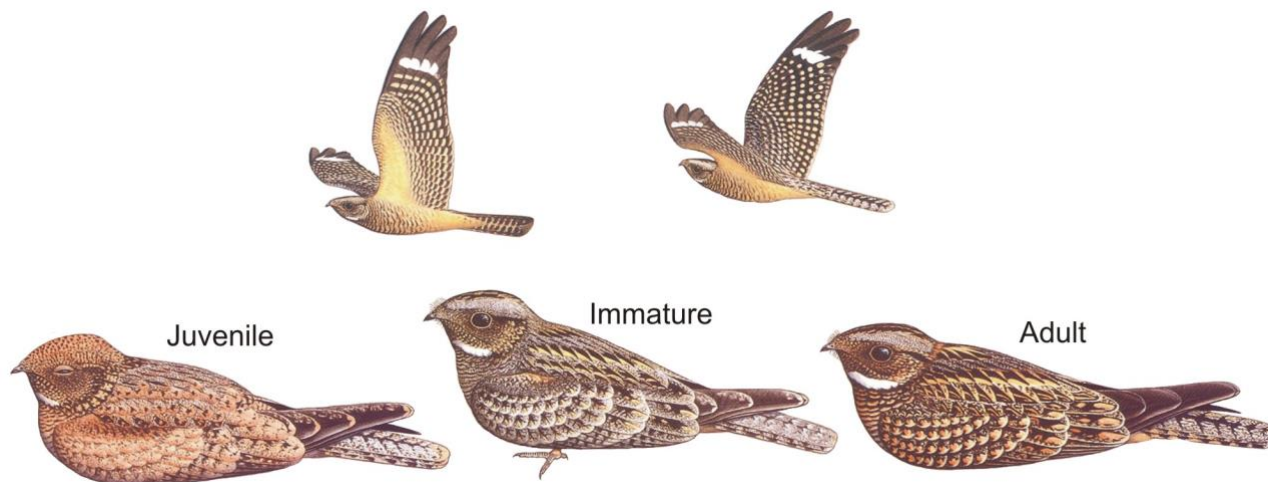


Spotted Nightjar *Eurostopodus argus*

Species No.: 331 **Band size:** 06 AY



Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	215 – 239 mm	213 – 235 mm
Tail:	145 – 165 mm	137 – 185 mm
Bill:	15.0 – 24.5 mm	15.6 – 25.0 mm
Tarsus:	18.5 – 25.6 mm	17.4 – 29.0 mm
Weight:	88 – 132 g	72 – 107 g

These measurements are from across the whole Australian range, but geographical variation is clinal with northern birds smaller than southern birds, consistent with Bergmann’s Rule, but details are confused by southern birds moving north in Winter.

Ageing:

	Adult (1+)	Immature (1)	Juvenile (J)
Iris:	dark brown;	opaque grey;	opaque grey;
Orbital ring:	buff to yellow-brown;	buff;	buff;
Overall appearance:	grey, black & buff;	(see illustration);	rich, rufous, brown;
Outer primaries:	dark brown;	retained juvenile, tips fade;	dark brown with softly mottled pink-buff or rufous-brown tips;

The complex sequence of plumages is poorly known because of the complexity of patterning, considerable individual variation in patterning and extent of immature moults. Pre-breeding and post-breeding moult and fading of plumage further confuses age identification. Complete moult to adult post-breeding plumage probably begins at the end of the first year coinciding with adult post-breeding moult. Adults undergo a partial moult to breeding plumage during the Winter months. It is not known whether immatures breed in their second year. Thus adults should only be aged (1+).

Sexing:

Sexes are similar in size and plumage; Apparently both sexes incubate.