

## Morphometrics:

There are approximately 30 subspecies recognised world-wide. There may be five or at least two subspecies that occur in Australia *B.s. stagnatilis* (including *rogersi* and *cinerea*) in coastal mid- and nw Aust. E to Gulf of Carpentaria and *B.s. macrorhyncha* (including *littleri*) along coastal e. Aust. There is only a small clinal difference in measurements with southern birds being marginally larger than northern birds, but the morphometrics of all five subspecies are combined below:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Bill:	62 – 71 mm	63 – 72 mm
Wing:	176 – 201 mm	173 – 207 mm
Tail:	56 – 68 mm	57 – 74 mm
Tarsus	47 – 56 mm	46 – 56 mm
Weight:	209 – 263 g	9

## Plumage:

Adults of all subspecies may be of rufous or grey morph, but also vary in colour depending on the substrate colour and mineral composition of their habitat.

## Ageing:

See illustrations above;

Juvenile (J) - heavily streaked on head, neck and underparts; - greater coverts tipped white; alula, median, lesser and marginal coverts tipped buff; Immature (1) – represented by gradual loss of streaking and white/buff tips in wings; Adult (1+) – timing of moults not fully known.

## Sexing:

No sexual dimorphism in size or plumage; Both sexes are thought to incubate.