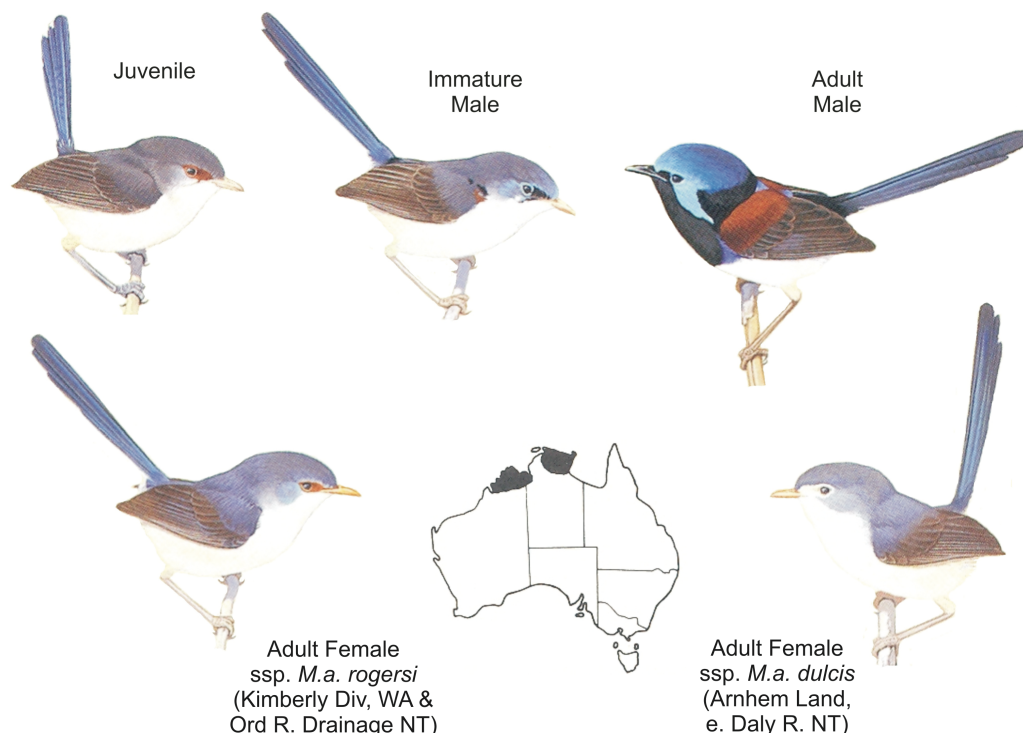


# **Lavender-flanked Fairy-wren *Malurus assimilis dulcis* & *Malurus assimilis rogersi*** (ssp. of Purple-backed Fairy-wren)

Species No.: 537 Band size: 01



## Morphometrics:

Two subspecies recognised and the Census of Australian Vertebrate Species (CAVS) subspecies numbers are provided below, but do not use these in ABBBS records.

	ssp. <i>M.a. rogersi</i> (CAVS ssp. No. 8129)		ssp. <i>M.a. dulcis</i> (CAVS ssp. No. 8130)	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	47 – 52 mm	44 – 50 mm	48 – 52 mm	44 – 49 mm
Tail:	60 – 74 mm	58 – 78 mm	61 – 70 mm	61 – 69 mm
Weight:	7.1 – 9.5 g	7.1 – 9.2 g	6.0 – 8.0 g	7.0 – 8.9 g

## Ageing:

- fairy-wrens moult all body feathers twice every year;
- male “breeding” plumage is first attained at approximately one year old, but then males moult back to “brown” plumage for their second Autumn / Winter, before again moulting to “breeding” plumage;
- males moult through successive breeding plumages from their third year;
- males in “brown” plumage in Autumn / Winter will be either (1) or (2-);
- males in breeding plumage in mid-Winter are thus aged (3+).

## Sexing:

- post-juvenile moult results in identifiable male and female immatures based on bill colour – males grey/black and females orange/rufous;
- males attain black bill, lores and eye-ring within about six months of fledging;
- female does all incubation, so females with an active brood patch will be at least in their second year (2+).