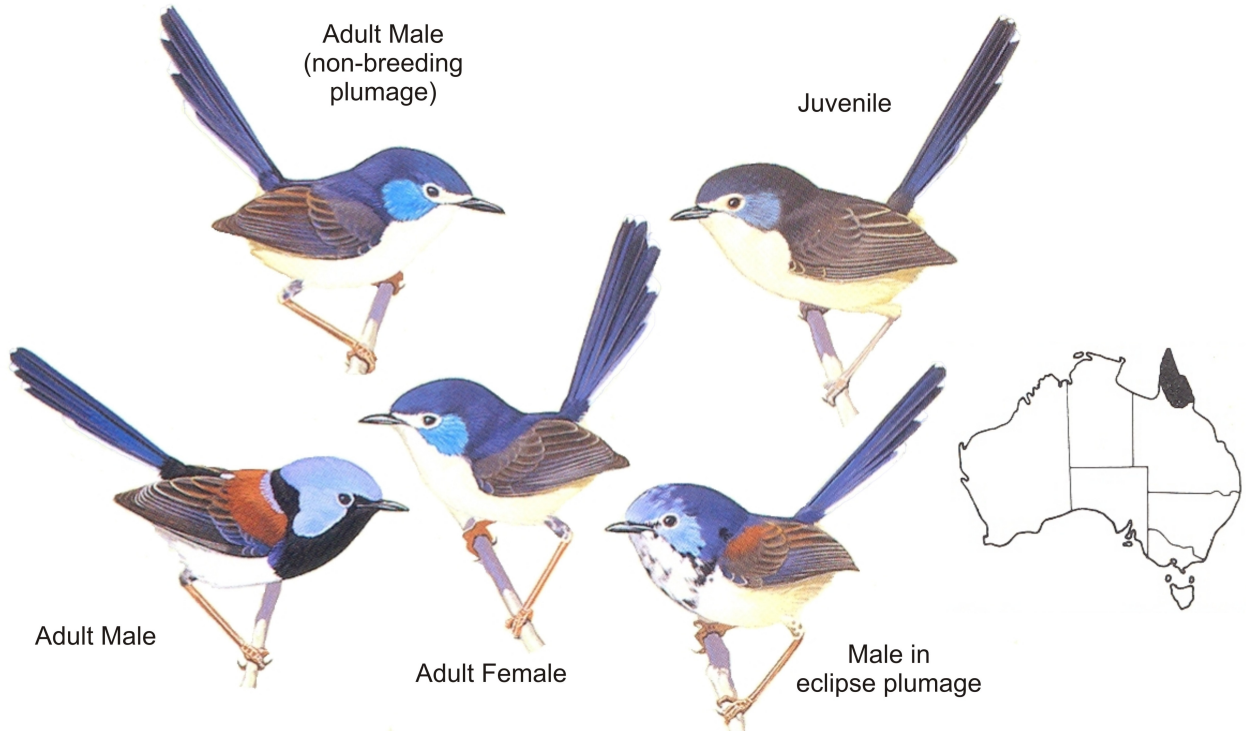


## Lovely Fairy-wren

*Malurus amabilis*

Species No.: 539

Band size: 01



### Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	48 – 54 mm	46 – 52
Tail:	51 – 62 mm	56 - 62
Weight:	7.5 – 11.5 g	7.5 – 9.0 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 “female” plumage for their second Winter, before again moulting to “breeding” plumage;
- males moult through successive breeding plumages from their third year;
- males in “female” plumage in Winter will be either (1) or (2-)
- males in breeding plumage in mid-Winter are thus aged (3+).

### Sexing:

- both males & females attain and maintain a black bill within about six months of fledging;
- no data are available to separate immature males or females from adult females;
- female alone incubates, so females with an active brood patch will be (2+).