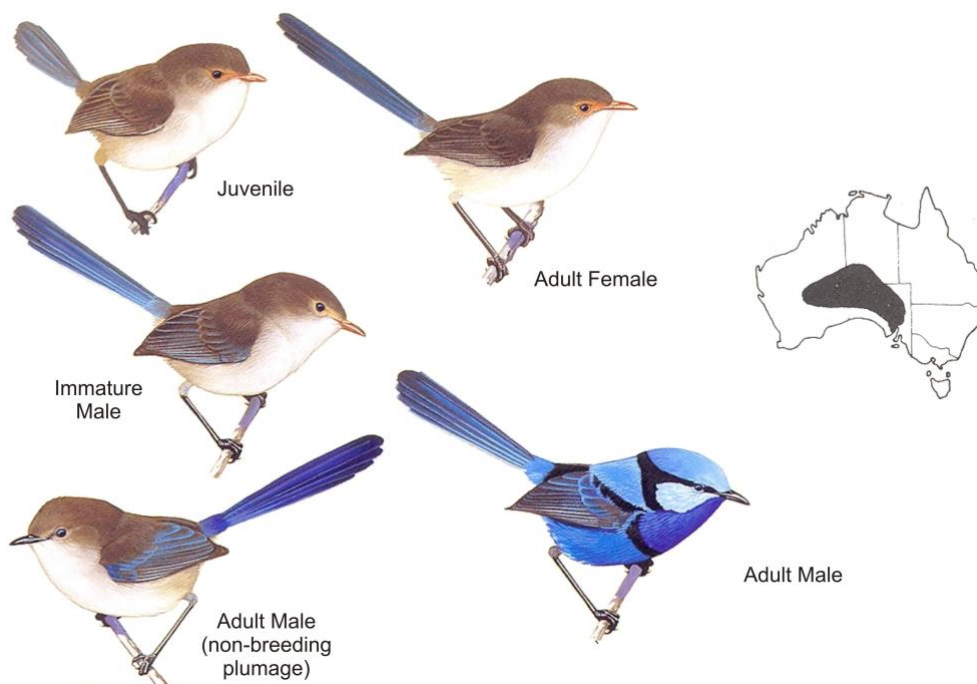


**Turquoise Fairy-wren *Malurus splendens musgravi* (formerly known as *M.s. callainus*)**

**Subspecies of Splendid Fairy-wren Species No.: 532 (for ABBBS records use the CAVS subspecies code 8637)**

**Band size: 01 AY**



**Status:**

There is some confusion re the subspecies name *callainus* (Gould, 1867) and *musgravi* (Mathews, 1922) because of type specimen collection sites, but *musgravi* may be an intergrade with *M.s. melanotus*. HANZAB recognises only *M.s. callainus*, but the CAVS recognises only *M.s. musgravi* and has allocated species number 8637 to it.

**Morphometrics:**

This subspecies is widely separated from the nominate which occurs in s-w WA. The presently allocated Census of Australian Vertebrate Species (CAVS) subspecies number 8637 should be used for ABBBS records.

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	46 - 54 mm	48 - 51 mm
Tail:	56 – 63 mm	55 – 61 mm
Bill:	10.9 – 12.7 mm	11.0 – 12.4 mm
Tarsus:	20.0 – 23.2 mm	20.5 – 23.1 mm
Weight:	8.0 – 10.0 g	7.6 – 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 “brown” plumage for their second Winter, before again moulting to “breeding” plumage;
- males moult through successive breeding plumages from their third year;
- males in “brown” plumage in Winter will be either (1) or (2-)
- males in breeding plumage in mid-Winter is 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 alone incubates, so females with an active brood patch will be (2+).