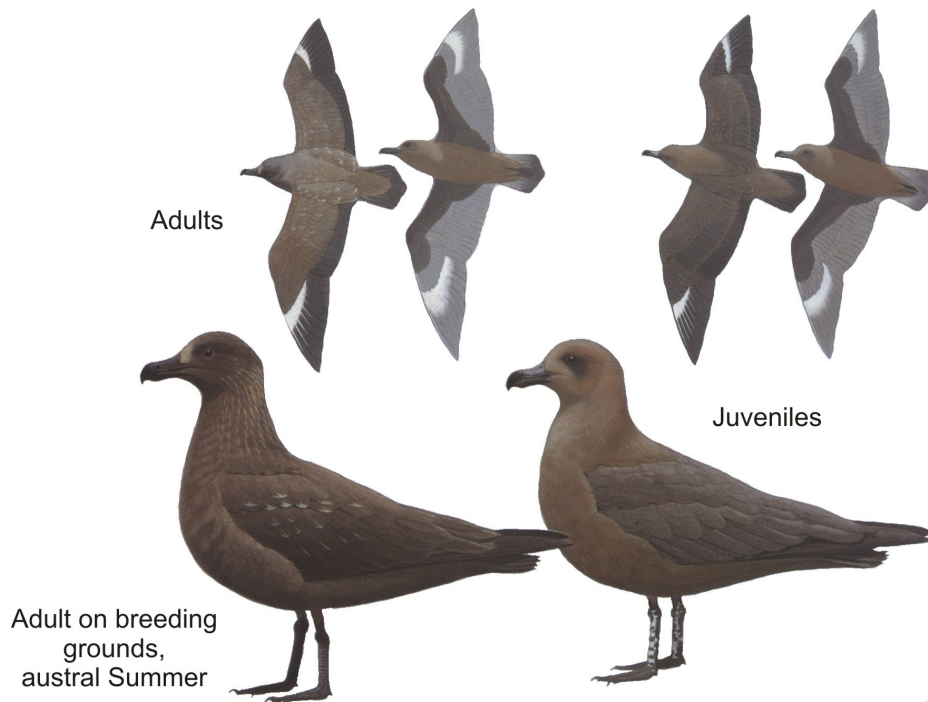


Brown Skua *Stercorarius antarcticus*

Species No.: 890

Band size: 12 SS



Morphometrics:

| | Adult Male | Adult Female |
|---------|----------------|----------------|
| Wing: | 375 – 447 mm | 181 – 475 mm |
| Tail: | 138 – 193 mm | 143 – 183 mm |
| Bill: | 43.5 – 61.5 mm | 44.0 – 62.0 mm |
| Tarsus: | 62.3 – 95.0 mm | 64.0 – 92.0 mm |
| Weight: | 1250 – 2150 g | 1432 – 2180 g |

Ageing:

Juveniles (1) are readily separated from immature (3-) and adult (4+) plumages by:

- uniform, rich dark-brown plumage without contrasting pale nape and shaft streaks whereas Immatures and adults are entirely rich dark brown;
- often, rufous tinge at tips of feathers, especially on scapulars and breast;
- bicoloured bill (black on ridge and tip with dull grey sides) whereas bill is completely uniform dull black in Immature and adult birds;

After post-juvenile moult, Immature (2+) birds gradually transition to adult plumage probably up to third year, but differ only slightly and cannot be reliably separated on current knowledge;

Minimum age of breeding is probably 4 years, but not recorded breeding until 6 to 8 years old, so record unknown-aged breeding birds as (4+).

Sexing:

Sexes similar in plumage, but females slightly larger than males;
Both sexes incubate.