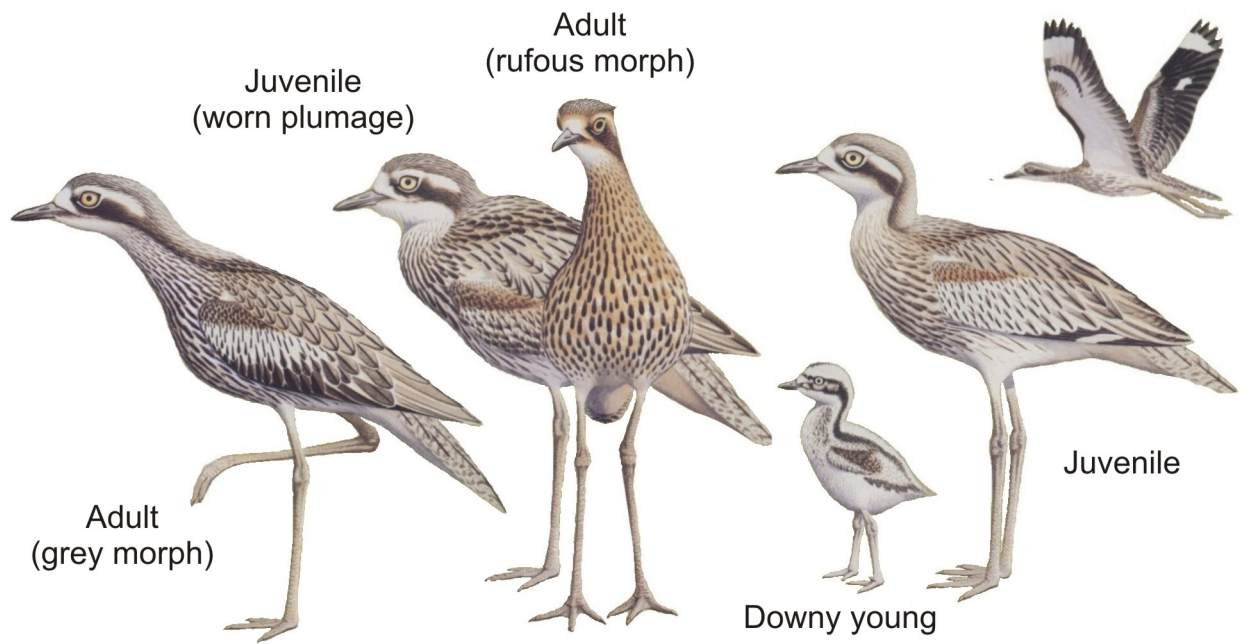


Bush Stone-curlew *Burhinus grallarius*

Species No.: 174 Band size: 09 SS



Morphometrics:

Bush Stone-curlews of tropical Australia are smaller than those of temperate Australia (south of 33°S). Measurement (where available) are therefore provided for both regions:

	Tropical Aust.		Temperate Aust.	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult female
Wing:	270 – 288 mm	258 – 254 mm	292 – 306 mm	279 – 288 mm
Tail:	171 – 188 mm	150 – 190 mm	186 – 204 mm	168 – 206 mm
Bill F (from feathers):	46.3 – 52.2 mm	43.2 – 51.0 mm		
Bill S (from skull):	52.5 – 56.1 mm			
Tarsus:	128 – 143 mm	22 – 137 mm	117 – 134 mm	109 – 131 mm
Weight:	580 – 860 g	530 – 710 g		

Ageing:

Juvenile birds differ from adults by smaller and narrower feathers than adults;
 The marginal and smaller lesser coverts of juveniles have broader rufous fringes than adults;
 Median coverts of juveniles have varying light brown-grey bases sometimes so large that they look continuous with lesser coverts, not wholly dark brown like Adults;
 Molt from Juvenile to Immature plumage occurs in the first Autumn. Immatures are very similar to adults but may retain juvenile remiges which are narrower than in adults;
 Adult plumage is attained in a complete moult at about one year of age. All birds should be aged (1) for juveniles or immatures and adults (1+).

Sexing:

In the grey morph in southern Australia, adult females can be separated from adult males by the colour of the light plumage on the head and neck: males are white and females off-white to cream;
 Differences between the sexes in plumage of rufous birds (which only occur in tropical Aust.) have not been documented;
 Incubation by both sexes.