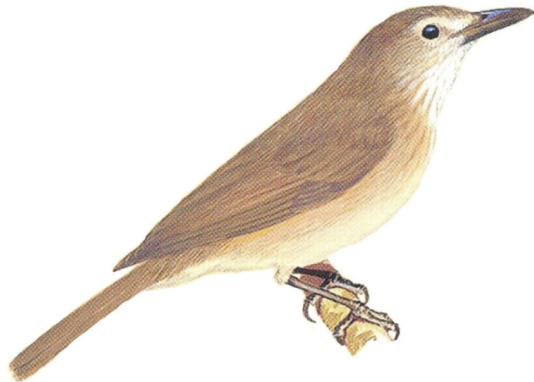# Arafura Shrike-thrush   *Colluricincla megarhyncha*   Species No.: 413   Band size: 04 (03) AY

(A species code has not yet been allocated to this species – use 413, the old Little Shrike-thrush code.)

Status:

Formerly recognised as a subspecies of the Little Shrike-thrush complex which was split into seven species in 2011 following genetic investigations. Two species occuring in Australia – the Arafura Shrike-thrush *C. megarhyncha* has two subspecies in PNG and *C.m. parvula* in WA and the NT and the second Australian species is the Rufous Shrike-thrush *C. rufogaster* with three subspecies that are described in a separate profile sheet.

Morphometrics:

The measurements below are for *C.m. parvula:*

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	97 – 104 mm	93.5 – 100.5 mm
Tail:	83.5 – 91 mm	80 – 88 mm
Bill:	23.6 – 12.7 mm	23.1 – 26.9 mm
Tarsus:	25.5 – 28.5 mm	25 – 28.5 mm
Weight:	37 – 49 g	36 – 45 g

Ageing:

	Adult (2+)	Juvenile
Bill:	black or grey-brown;	no info;
Iris:	maroon;	mid brown;
Greater secondary coverts:	dark brown with diffuse light grey-brown edges to distal outer webs;	dark brown with strong rufous-brown suffusion to outer webs;
Greater primary coverts & alula:	black-brown grading to dark brown on outer edges of outer webs;	like adult, but with weak light rufous- brown suffusion;

A post-juvenile moult, soon after fledging, results in an immature plumage resembling adults, but retain juvenile greater primary coverts, alula, some greater secondary coverts, all remiges and rectrices;

Retained juvenile plumage of wings is much more rufous than new immature plumage and contrast is obvious in the hand;

Adult plumage is fist attained toward the end of the first year or early in the second year, probably coinciding with adult post-breeding moult. Thus adults should be aged (2+) and immatures will be aged (2-) or (1) depending on time of the year.

Sexing:

There is no sexual dimorphism in plumage or bare parts, but adult males tend to be slightly larger than adult females;

It is thought that both sexes incubate.