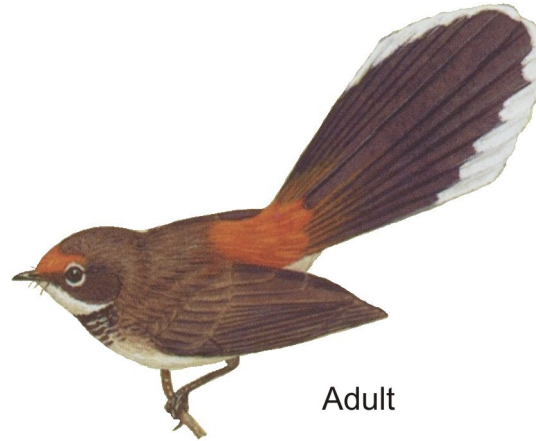


Arafura Fantail *Rhipidura dryas*

Species No.: 718 **Band size: 01 AY**



Morphometrics:

Formerly regarded as a subspecies or the Rufous Fantail *Rhipidura rufiventris* (see separate sheet). A resident species of coastal and sub-coastal areas from Kimberley Div. WA, NT & w. Cape York.

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	64 – 72 mm	65.5 – 73.0 mm
Tail:	83.5 – 98.0 mm	82.0 – 92.0 mm
Weight:	7.2 – 9.8 g	7.3 – 10.0 g

Ageing:

	Adult (2+)	Juvenile
Bill:	dark grey or black and some have small pinkish-brown base to lower mandible;	pinkish-brown with narrow dark grey tip, also described as upper mandible black, lower mandible pink with yellow base, becoming darker with age;
Gape:	black;	orange-yellow;
Iris:	dark brown;	dark brown;

Juveniles are similar to adults, but duller all over – more of a rufous-brown, rather than rufous - and facial markings are less distinct. Breast is greyish-brown grading to cream in centre with cinnamon-brown tinge throughout and rather diffuse blackish-brown mottling on upper breast. Belly, flanks and undertail coverts are rich buff or cinnamon-brown with patchy cream feathering on belly in some.

Immature similar to adult but at least some retain all juvenile remiges, rectrices, greater coverts and median secondary coverts, so upper wing and tail are similar to juveniles. Belly and flanks have an off-white to buff wash with patchy black-brown scalloping on upper breast.

Complete moult to adult plumage coincides with adult post-breeding moult early in the second year. Thus adults (2+) and immatures either (1) or (2-) depending on state of plumage and time of year.

Sexing :

No definitive sexual dimorphism in size or plumage;
Both sexes incubate.