

**Silver-backed Butcherbird** *Cracticus argenteus* Species No.: 702 Band size: 06 IN

(Species code not yet allocated – use species code 702 for the Grey Butcherbird )



Status:

Some references regard the Silver-backed Butcherbird as *Cracticus torquatus argenteus*, a subspecies of the Grey Butcherbird, but since 2006, others have classified it as a separate species, based on its size and its restricted distribution n.w Australia being widely separated from other Grey Butcherbird subspecies. Two subspecies: nominate *C.a. argenteus* and ssp. *C.a. colletti*.

Morphometrics:

	<i>C.a. argenteus</i> (Kimberley Div. WA)		<i>C.a. colletti</i> (n-w NT)	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	139 – 160 mm	139 – 151 mm	135 – 146 mm	131 – 150 mm
Tail:	110 – 128 mm	107 – 117 mm	98 – 113 mm	100 – 112 mm
Bill:	37.8 – 45.9 mm	35.5 – 41.9 mm	35.6 – 39.5 mm	34.4 – 40.3 mm
Tarsus:	29 – 33 mm	27 – 32 mm	24.2 – 30.5 mm	26.0 – 31.9 mm
Weight:	83 – 110 g	79 – 110 g	77 – 84 g	68 – 84 g

Ageing:

Little information on plumages;

Adults plumage is not attained until at least toward the end of the second year, so age adults (2+).

Sexing:

In the nominate *C.a. argenteus* adult males are larger than adult females, but that does not appear to be the case with *C.a. colletti*;

Sexes are thought to be indistinguishable on plumage;

Both sexes incubate.