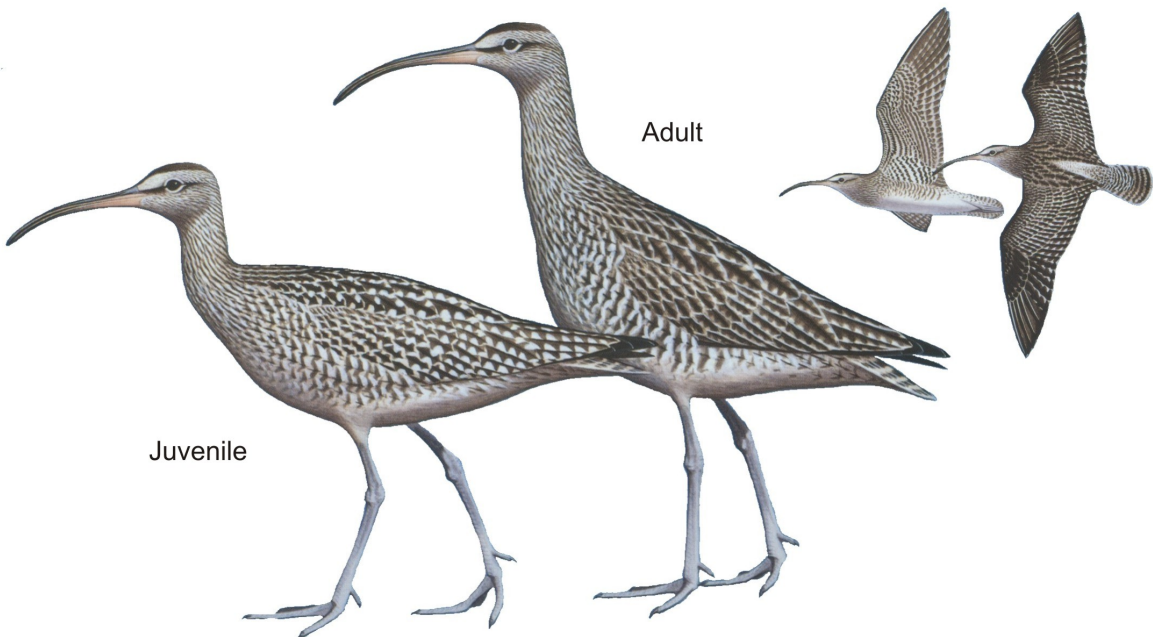


Whimbrel

Numenius phaopus

Species No.: 150

Band size: 07 (08) IN SS



Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	218 – 240 mm	227 – 254 mm
Tail:	87 – 99 mm	89 – 100 mm
Bill:	68.7 – 81.2 mm	80.9 – 89.0 mm
Tarsus:	54.3 – 59.3 mm	56.4 – 64.5 mm
Middle Toe:	36.7 – 38.8 mm	38.0 – 43.2 mm
Weight:	370 – 495 g	300 – 490 g

Ageing:

	Adult	Juvenile
Forehead, crown & nape:	dark brown with narrow off-white to pale -buff median stripe from forehead to nape;	black-brown with less distinct median stripe;
Mantle:	black-brown to dark-brown with light grey-brown edges to feathers;	black-brown with narrow buff or off-white spots on sides of feathers;
Scapulars:	black-brown to dark-brown with indistinct or smudged light grey-brown to off-white rounded or triangular spots at sides and tips of feathers;	black-brown when fresh with large round pink-buff to orange-buff spots on edge of feathers, but fade to dark brown with white spots;
Median & greater secondary coverts:	brown with long shallow indistinct white to off-white spots along margins of feathers;	dark brown with large pink-buff to off-white spots along margins.

Begin post-juvenile moult soon after arrival in non-breeding areas, such as Australia;
 The resultant Immature (1) is similar in plumage to that of adults, but retain some juvenile plumage on back, rump, outer rectrices and most upperwing coverts and also juvenile primaries which are more worn than adults and are not replaced until January – April;
 Adult plumage first attained early in second year, Thus adults are aged (2+);
 Some of those that return to breeding areas at the end of their first year (some over-winter in Australia in their first year) will breed, but others don't breed until their third year.

Sexing:

Some females are slightly larger than males, despite the overlap in measurements, some may be reliably sexed on a combination of measurements;
 No differences in plumage.