

Tasman Morepork *Ninox novaeseelandiae* Species No.: 9922 Band size: 09 (8) SS



Adult

Adult

Juvenile

ssp. *N.n. undulata*

nominate *N.n. novaeseelandiae*

Status:

Australian mainland sub-species, along with others in PNG and surrounding islands, were separated in 2017 from Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae* of NZ and Norfolk Island on the basis of genetics and were given the New Zealand common name Tasman Morepork. Data for the Norfolk Island subspecies are provided below with those for the NZ nominate for comparison.

Former Australian mainland subspecies of *N. novaeseelandiae* are now recognised as within the species *Ninox boobook*, but retain the common name Southern Boobook. The Tasmanian subspecies *N.n. leucopsis* was elevated to species status as *N. leucopsis* and given the common name Tasmanian Boobook. These are dealt with in separate profile sheets.

Morphometrics:

	nominate <i>N.n. novaeseelandiae</i> (New Zealand)		ssp. <i>N.n. undulata</i> (Norfolk Island)	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	191 – 196 mm	179 – 200 mm	189 – 205 mm	197 – 209 mm
Tail:	108 – 123 mm	109 – 133 mm	124 – 132 mm	115 – 137 mm
Bill tip to cere:	13.3 – 15.0 mm	13.0 – 15.8 mm	23 – 36 mm	23.5 – 27.0 mm
Weight:	118 – 250 g	125 – 275 g		

Ageing:

	Adult (3+)	Juvenile (J)
Iris:	straw-yellow, light greenish-grey, or orange-buff;	powder-blue changes to straw-yellow;
Legs & feet:	light grey or pink-grey;	pale pink or grey;

Post-juvenile moult from downy Juvenile (J) to adult-like First Immature (1) plumage is completed about 3 months after fledging;

First immatures retain juvenile remiges and rectrices (often with fault bars) until commencement of a complete moult at the end of the first year;

Full adult plumage is not attained until third or fourth year. Thus adults are aged (3+).

Sexing:

Sexes are similar in plumage and size, but females tend to be slightly larger than their mates, especially in weight;
Incubation by female only;