

# THE SUBURBAN BIRD COMMUNITY OF TOWNSVILLE REVISITED: CHANGES OVER 16 YEARS

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The suburban avifauna of Townsville, north Queensland had been studied during the wet and dry seasons of 1980–81. In 1996–97, the sites and methods used in the earlier study were repeated with the aim of assessing changes in the bird community of this tropical city. No significant differences in species richness or the numbers of individuals were found to have occurred in the 16 years between the two studies. There were, however, significant increases in the numbers of individuals detected for eight species (including Peaceful Dove *Geopelia striata* and Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*) and significant decreases in numbers of two introduced species (House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* and Nutmeg Mannikin *Lonchura punctulata*).