

# RELATIONSHIPS OF AGE, MOULT AND PLUMAGE IN THE WHITE-CHEEKED HONEYEATER NEAR BEVERLEY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Wing and head/bill measurements of 415 White-checked Honeyeaters *Phylidonyris nigra* taken at initial capture and again at subsequent retraps are compared to establish growth patterns. A plumage sequence from juvenile to adult is presented. Moulting records are examined to ascertain the role moulting plays in the division of age classes into the three age groups of Juvenile, Immature and Adult. From the analysis of these data, some changes are suggested in the application of the present age codes used for banded birds, in order to relate them to the age groups and terms commonly used to describe age in birds.