

## MORPHOMETRICS OF THE WHITE-FACED ROBIN

In November 1990, the Australian Bird Study Association organized a campout for bird banders to establish a co-operative bird banding station at Iron Range National Park, Cape Yorke, Queensland. The birds of this remote region have rarely been studied and little information has been published.

The Australian subspecies of the White-faced Robin *Tregelasia leucops albigularis* was among the birds most commonly caught and banded during the course of the week-long campout, and 186 individuals were captured in mist-nets scattered throughout approximately 50 hectares of tropical lowland rainforest. Of these, 65 were recorded as adult birds in breeding condition and positively sexed by cloacal examination (40 male and 25 female). Their weights and measurements are recorded in the following table.

It appears, from this small sample, that adult White-faced Robins can be sexed on wing span and wing length measurements. Birds with a wingspan and wing length greater than 239 mm and 79 mm respectively will be male. Those with wingspan and wing length of less than 232 mm and 74 mm respectively will be female. Additional data will be required to confirm that an overlap does not exist in the wingspan measurement and that there is an overlap between the sexes in wing length measurements.

	Sex	No.	Range	Mean	SD
Weight (g)	M	37	13.0-18.3	15.9	1.1
	F	21	12.5-17.3	13.8	1.3
Head/Bill (mm)	M	24	32.8-36.1	35.1	0.8
	F	19	32.1-34.2	33.0	0.5
Wing Span (mm)	M	34	235-253	244.2	5.2
	F	22	214-234	227.2	4.9
Wing Length (mm)	M	40	74-82	78.6	1.9
	F	25	69-76	72.2	1.6
Tail Length (mm)	M	35	47-54	50.3	1.4
	F	22	44-54	46.7	1.9
Total Length (mm)	M	7	133-145	139.0	3.4
	F	4	128-142	134.5	5.0
Tarsus Length (mm)	M	8	19.0-21.5	20.5	0.9
	F	3	18.8-20.2	19.5	0.6

We acknowledge the contribution made by the 18 banders who participated in the campout and the co-operation and assistance provided by the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme.

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# RECOVERY ROUND-UP

This section is prepared with the co-operation of the Secretary, Australian Bird and Bat Banding Schemes, Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service. The recoveries are only a selection of the thousands received each year; they are not a complete list and should not be analysed in full or part without prior consent of the banders concerned. Longevity and distance records refer to the ABBBS unless otherwise stated. The distance is the shortest distance in kilometres along the direct line joining the place of banding and recovery; the compass direction refers to the same direct line. (There is no implication regarding the distance flown or the route followed by the bird). Where available ABBBS age codes have been included in the banding data.

Recovery or longevity items may be submitted directly to me whereupon their merits for inclusion will be considered.

Hon. Editor.

### Cattle Egret *Ardeola ibis*

- (a) 100-71950, Nestling banded by D. J. Geering at Lawrence, NSW on 5 Jan. 89. Colour marking sighted in field (band number inferred) at: (1) Bairnsdale, Vic., from 1 June 89 to 17 Aug. 89, 1 051 km SW. (2) banding site on 27 Dec. 89. (3) Bairnsdale, Vic. from 18 June 90 to 26 Aug. 90, 1 051 km SW. (4) various locations in Clarence valley,

near banding site, from 4 Dec. 90 to 16 Dec. 90. (5) Bairnsdale, Vic. on 24 May 91, 1 051 km SW. (6) in Clarence valley, near banding site on 9 Mar. 92.

- (b) 100-71975, Nestling banded by D. J. Geering at Lawrence, NSW on 5 Jan. 89. Colour marking sighted in field (band number inferred) at: (1) near banding site on 24 Mar. 89. (2) Edithvale, Vic. on 28 Aug. 89, 1 201 km SW. (3) various locations in Clarence valley, including banding site, from 27 Dec. 89 to 16 Apr. 90. (4) Portland, Vic. on 6 July 90, 1 445 km SW.
- (c) 100-73011, Nestling banded by D. J. Geering at Junction Hill near Grafton, NSW on 13 Jan. 90. Colour marking sighted in field (band number inferred) at: (1) Seaham, NSW on 30 Nov. 90, 354 km SSW. (2) various locations in Clarence valley, including banding site, from 27 Dec. 90 to 21 Feb. 91. (3) Shoalhaven Heads, NSW on 10 Nov. 91. (4) Seaham, NSW on 13 Nov. 91, 354 km SSW. (5) banding site on 3 Dec. 91.

### Great Egret *Egretta alba*

- 110-60313, Nestling banded by D. J. Geering at Lawrence, NSW on 26 Dec. 89. Colour marking sighted in field (band number inferred) at: (1) on ninety occasions at Wards River, near Gloucester, NSW from 12 May 90 to 20 Oct. 90. (2) on twenty occasions at Seaham, NSW from 5 Nov. 90 to 31 Dec. 90, 374 km S.

**Rufous Night Heron** *Nycticorax caledonicus*

111-10158. Juvenile (J) banded by V. G. Hurley at Geelong, Vic. on 14 Mar. 92. Recovered at Hopetoun, Vic. on 22 Mar. 92, 320 km NNW.

**Sacred Ibis** *Threskiornis aethiopicus*

121-20084. Nestling banded by K. W. Lowe at Coolart Lagoon, Balnarring, Vic. on 24 Sep. 82. Recovered dead at Sunshine, Vic. on 13 Apr. 92, over 9 years 6 months after banding, 72 km NNW.

**Black Swan** *Cygnus atratus*

140-38710. Immature (I) banded by J. R. Wheeler at Lake Wendouree, Ballarat, Vic. on 26 Feb. 69. Recovered dead near banding place on 23 Feb. 92, over 22 years 11 months after banding.

**Whistling Kite** *Haliastur sphenurus*

(a) 110-85751. Adult (1+) banded by A. L. Hertog at King-swamp near Darwin, NT on 1 July 81. Recovered dead at Howard Springs near Darwin on 16 Dec. 91, over 10 years 5 months after banding, 12 km SE.

(b) 110-92314. Adult (1+) banded by J. A. Estbergs near Humpty-Doo, NT on 23 Aug. 81. Recovered at Howard Springs near Darwin, NT on 6 Apr. 92, over 10 years 7 months after banding, 20 km NW.

**Ground Parrot** *Pezoporus wallicicus*

230-03501. Adult (1+) banded by R. Jordan at Barren Grounds Bird Observatory, NSW on 27 Sep. 86. Recaptured at banding place twice, the last occasion by J. Baker on 7 Mar. 92, over 5 years 5 months after banding.

**Laughing Kookaburra** *Dacelo novaeguineae*

090-42357. Adult (1+) banded by G. J. Logan at Munmorah Power Station near Doyalson, NSW on 2 Aug. 80. Recovered dead at Gorokan, NSW on 10 Nov. 91, over 11 years 3 months after banding, 5 km SW.

**Grey-headed Robin** *Poecilodryas albispecularis*

031-58458. Banded by C. Frith near Paluma, Qld on 16 Aug. 78. Recaptured at banding place by J. W. Hardy on 30 Nov. 90, over 12 years 3 months after banding.

**Large-billed Scrubwren** *Poecilodryas magnirostris*

013-44444. Banded by D. W. Frith near Paluma, Qld on 20 Oct. 80. Recaptured at banding place by J. W. Hardy on 30 Nov. 90, over 10 years 1 month after banding.

**Yellow-faced Honeyeater***Lichenostomus chrysops*

022-73171. Adult (1+) banded by R. Jordan at Barren Grounds Bird Observatory, NSW on 2 Sep. 83. Recaptured at banding place eight times, the last occasion by J. Baker on 3 Mar. 92, over 8 years 6 months after banding.

**Yellow-tufted Honeyeater***Lichenostomus melanops*

031-65904. Adult banded by G. R. Cam at Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve near Mudgee, NSW on 9 Apr. 82. Recaptured at banding place three times, the last occasion by J. Hardy on 26 Jan. 92, over 9 years 9 months after banding.

**White-fronted Honeyeater** *Phylidonyris albifrons*

024-47944. Adult (1+) banded by W. L. Klau at Wilmington, SA on 29 Apr. 91. Recovered at Kimba, SA on 11 Feb. 92, 165 km WSW.

**Eastern Spinebill** *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*

(a) 014-61239. Adult (2+) banded by R. Jordan at Barren Grounds Bird Observatory, NSW on 23 Apr. 86. Recaptured at banding place ten times, the last occasion by J. Baker on 11 Jan. 92, over 6 years 8 months after banding.

(b) 015-05189. Adult (1+) banded by R. Jordan at Barren Grounds Bird Observatory, NSW on 6 Oct. 86. Recaptured at banding place 20 times, the last occasion by J. Baker on 18 Mar. 92, over 6 years 5 months after banding.

**Silvereye** *Zosterops lateralis*

015-89495. Adult (1+) banded by A. J. Leishman at Mount Annan Botanic Garden, Campbelltown, NSW on 17 Apr. 91. Recovered dead at Stony Creek, Vic. on 27 Oct. 91, 657 km SW.

**Common Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*

061-21999. Juvenile (J) banded by B. S. Dale at Scaford, Vic. on 13 Dec. 81. Recovered dead near banding place on 17 Dec. 91, over 10 years after banding.

**Golden Bowerbird** *Prionodura newtoniana*

050-82712. Banded by C. Frith near Paluma, Qld on 29 Sep. 84. Recaptured at banding place by J. W. Hardy on 1 Dec. 90, over 6 years 2 months after banding.

**Satin Bowerbird** *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*

(a) 082-66763. Adult (2+) banded by S. G. Lane at Moonee, near Coffs Harbour, NSW on 30 July 89. Recovered dead at Stuarts Point, NSW on 4 Feb. 92, 68 km SSW.

(b) 082-66797. Adult male banded by S. G. Lane at Matcham, NSW on 21 July 90. Recovered dead at Woy Woy, NSW on 21 Nov. 91, 11 km SW.

(c) 091-05217. Banded by S. Marchant at Moruya, NSW on 9 Jun. 79. Recovered near Moruya, NSW on 6 Dec. 91, over 12 years 5 months after banding, 6 km N.

(d) 090-25110. Banded by S. Marchant at Moruya, NSW on 8 Oct. 80. Recovered dead near Moruya on 16 Dec. 91, over 11 years 2 months after banding, 6 km N.