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SOME ASPECTS OF THE BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION OF THE THICK-BILLED GRASSWREN *Amytornis textilis* IN THE SHARK BAY AREA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Colour-banded populations of Thick-billed Grasswrens *Amytornis textilis* were studied over three years at two sites in the Shark Bay region, Western Australia. The estimated density (2-3/ha) for the site on Peron Peninsula was surprisingly high and it is likely that the northern two-thirds of the Peninsula is the major stronghold of this species in Western Australia. They are also widespread in several habitats in pastoral country east of Shark Bay. Their preferred habitat is characterized by the presence of chenopod species and tall recumbant shrubs. Other aspects of their biology and conservation are presented.