

Indian Ocean Yellow-nosed Albatross *Thalassarche carteri* Species Code.: 905 Band: M



Status:

Elevated in 2004 from Yellow-nosed Albatross subspecies *T. chlororhynchos bassi* (= *T.c. carteri*) to species status.

Morphometrics:

	Unsexed
Wing:	462 – 499 mm
Tail:	185 – 210 mm
Bill (tip to skull):	110.5 – 124.2 mm
Tarsus:	72.0 – 86.6 mm
Weight:	2.130 -2.930 kg

Ageing:

Juveniles differs from Adults in white head with smaller eye patch (see illustrations above);
The upper tip of the Juvenile bill is black, whereas Adults is cream;
Juveniles also have light pink tarsus and feet, whereas the tarsus, feet and claws of Adults are whitish suffused with grey-mauve, or with light bluish grey;
The distinctive yellow culminicorn (upper bill) stripe develops slowly, passing through stages of brown and brownish yellow before the Adult colour of yellow to orange yellow is achieved – the period over which this colour change occurs is not known.

Sexing:

No information, though it has been suggested that the male of a breeding pair has a longer bill than the female;
Both sexes incubate.

Similar species:

Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross *T. chlororhynchos* has a darker grey head and may have a longer wing length.