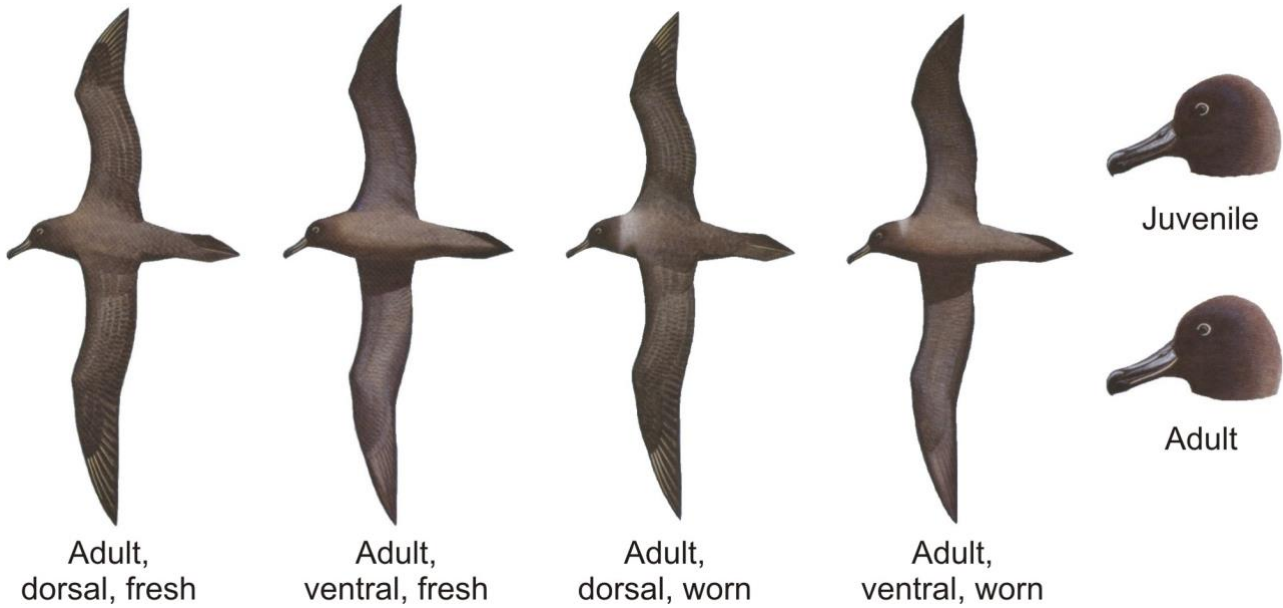


Sooty Albatross *Phoebetria fusca* Species Code.: 912 Band: M



Morphometrics:

	Males	Females
Wing:	490 – 540 mm	490 – 510 mm
Tail:	269 – 280 mm	245 – 267 mm
Bill (tip to skull):	109 – 117 mm	101 – 112 mm
Bill depth at base:	28.1 – 29.0 mm	25.3 – 26.9 mm
Tarsus:	81.2 – 86.0 mm	79.1 – 83.7 mm
Weight:	2.300 – 2.700 kg	2.300 – 2.600 kg

Ageing:

Juveniles are similar to adults, but wear of head and neck feathers exposes bases of feathers, producing light grey-brown nape and lower neck;
 The groove (sulcus) in the dull black upper mandible of juveniles varies from flesh-grey, dull yellow or violet, whereas in adults the bill is shiny black and the groove is buff;
 Age of first breeding is about 10 years of age.

Sexing:

It would appear from the measurements above that males are generally larger than females;
 Method of sexing of live birds in the field has not been documented, but discriminant function analysis of 203 unsexed and nine sexed birds was unable to separate sexes;
 Both sexes incubate in alternative shifts.