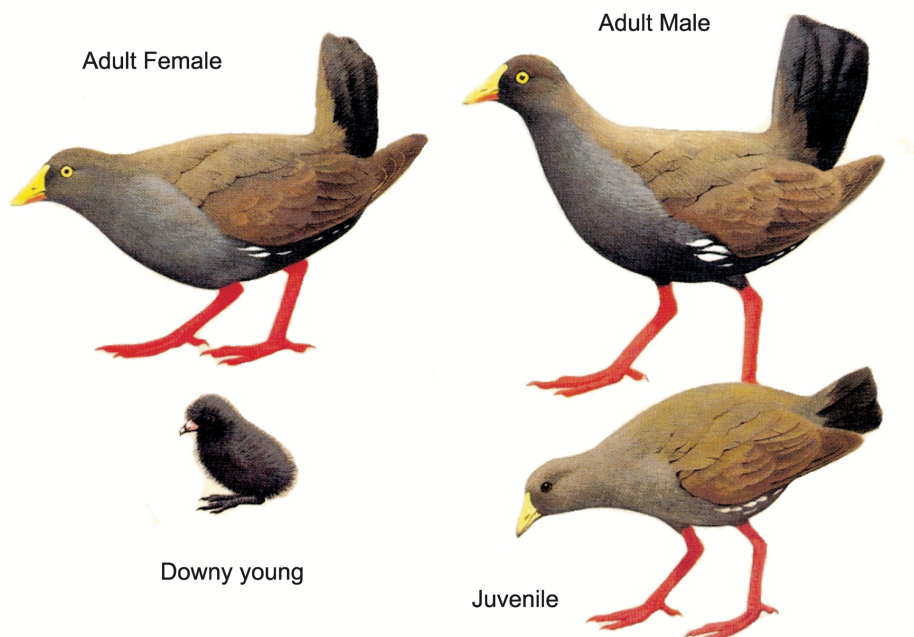


Black-tailed Native-hen *Gallinula ventralis*

Species Code: 344 Band: [T elliptical]



Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	205 – 231 mm	200 – 233 mm
8 th Primary:	139 – 159 mm	131 – 160 mm
Tail:	76 – 88 mm	72 – 87 mm
Tarsus:	59 – 66 mm	50.5 – 62.4 mm
Weight:	250 – 530 g	322 – 405 g

Ageing:

	Adult (2+) & Immature (1)	Juvenile (J)
Bill & frontal shield:	light green, dull green or pale bluish-grey tip to lower mandible. Basal half of lower mandible orange red to red;	greenish yellow with dusky tip;
Iris:	orange-yellow or sometimes yellow;	black-brown;
Legs & feet:	tarsus & toes pinkish red and claws grey-black;	dirty pink with brown centres to scutes;
Plumage:	adults sexually dimorphic (see below);	similar to adult female, but duller and feathers generally smaller & narrower; flank spots much smaller than adults.

Juvenile moult to immature plumage within a few months of leaving nest, but immatures retain some juvenile feathers. Adult plumage attained in moult coinciding with adult post-breeding moult; commencing at approximately 1 year old. Thus adults are aged (2+).

Sexing:

Adult males tend to be larger than females (see above);
Adults are sexually dimorphic on plumage (see below):

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Base of bill:	black-brown feathers form dark band;	band narrower or absent;
Crown to hindneck:	olive-brown to dark olive-brown;	lighter and greyer than male;
Upperparts:	uniform olive;	pale olive to olive-grey;
Breast & belly:	dark grey or dark leaden grey;	leaden grey to grey often with bluish tinge;
Flanks:	large elongated white tips to feathers;	white spots smaller than male.

No information on incubation roles.

