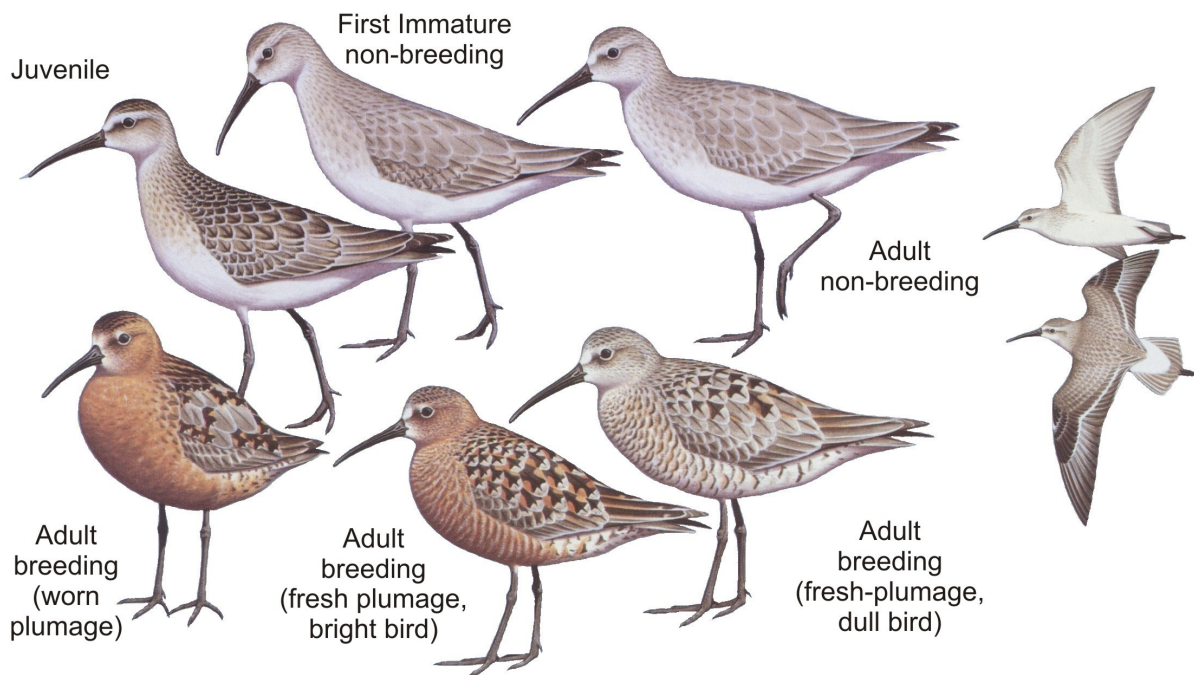


## Curlew Sandpiper

*Calidris ferruginea*

Species Code: 461

Band: B(SS)/BP



### Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	125 – 134 mm	126 – 136 mm
Tail:	43 – 50 mm	43 – 51 mm
Bill:	32.0 – 39.6 mm	35.7 – 43 mm
Tarsus:	27 – 32.3 mm	28.5 – 33 mm
Weight:	53.6 – 85.3 g	56.7 – 89.0 g

### Ageing:

After arrival in Australia (Aug – Dec) three ages are distinguishable:

- Juveniles (J) and first Immature (1) – Juveniles arrive in full Juvenile plumage with fresh primaries which are retained until at least Feb and first basic body plumage is attained by about early Dec. Most of these birds remain in Australia over their first Austral Winter undergoing partial pre-breeding moult to second immature plumage;
- probably first breed late in the second year and return to Australia as adults early in their third year;
- Adults (3+) arrive with all primaries worn and moult of primaries begins soon after arrival and remains active until Jan – Feb. All birds with fresh wings are aged as adults from about Jan;

Birds undergoing second pre-basic moult to first non-breeding adult plumage (2) can be distinguished before late Nov by very worn inner primaries;

Some birds in second pre-basic moult (those that did not undergo pre-supplemental moult and retained all juvenile primaries) are recognisable until about Jan by extremely worn outer primaries;

### Sexing:

There is no sexual dimorphism in size, sexes are similar in non-breeding plumage, but sexes differ slightly in breeding plumage.