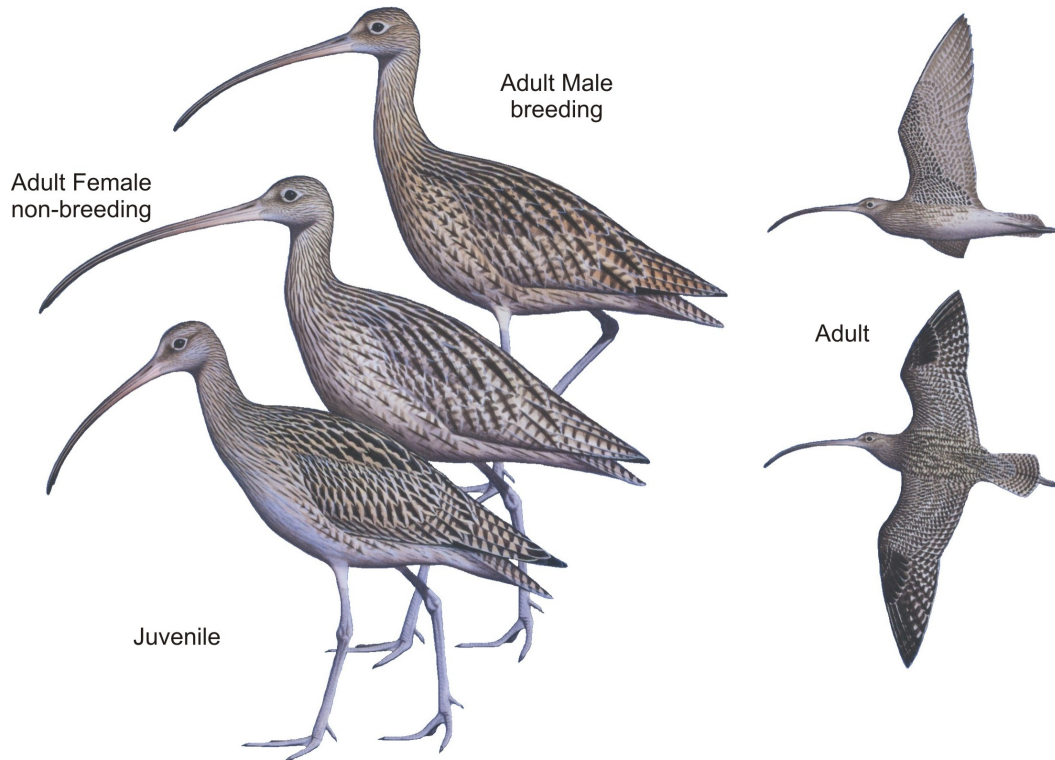


Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*

Species Code: 441

Band: [K]



Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	297 – 319 mm	292 – 336 mm
Tail:	100 – 118 mm	101 – 124 mm
Bill:	146.9 – 178.6 mm	135 – 207 mm
Tarsus:	86.0 – 92.4 mm	82.7 – 100.9 mm
Toe:	50.0 – 54.8 mm	43.2 – 57.0 mm
Weight (October):	696.6 g	796.7 g
Weight (February):	1083.3 g	1224.5 g

Ageing:

Partial post juvenile moult to first immature (1) non-breeding plumage before arrival in Australia; Stay in non-breeding areas through first year and some possibly stay for their second year; First attain adult non-breeding plumage in a complete moult starting in first austral Winter (2-); Those that return to breeding grounds complete first moult to non-breeding plumage (2) before southern migration and commence moult to first breeding plumage before northern migration; Complete moult to first breeding plumage is attained in the third year (3), but it is not known whether they first breed in their third or fourth year, so age adult plumaged birds (3+).

Juveniles have much shorter bills than adults; dark centres to scapulars and tertials; orange buff fringes to tertials and feathers of upperparts; tertials fringed buff; p1 – p8 tipped white; and underparts less streaked than adults; First Immatures (1) retain worn juvenile wing.

Sexing:

No sexual dimorphism in plumage; In Victoria, sexes separated by bivariate analysis of length of wing and bill which show the differences between the sexes to be significant.