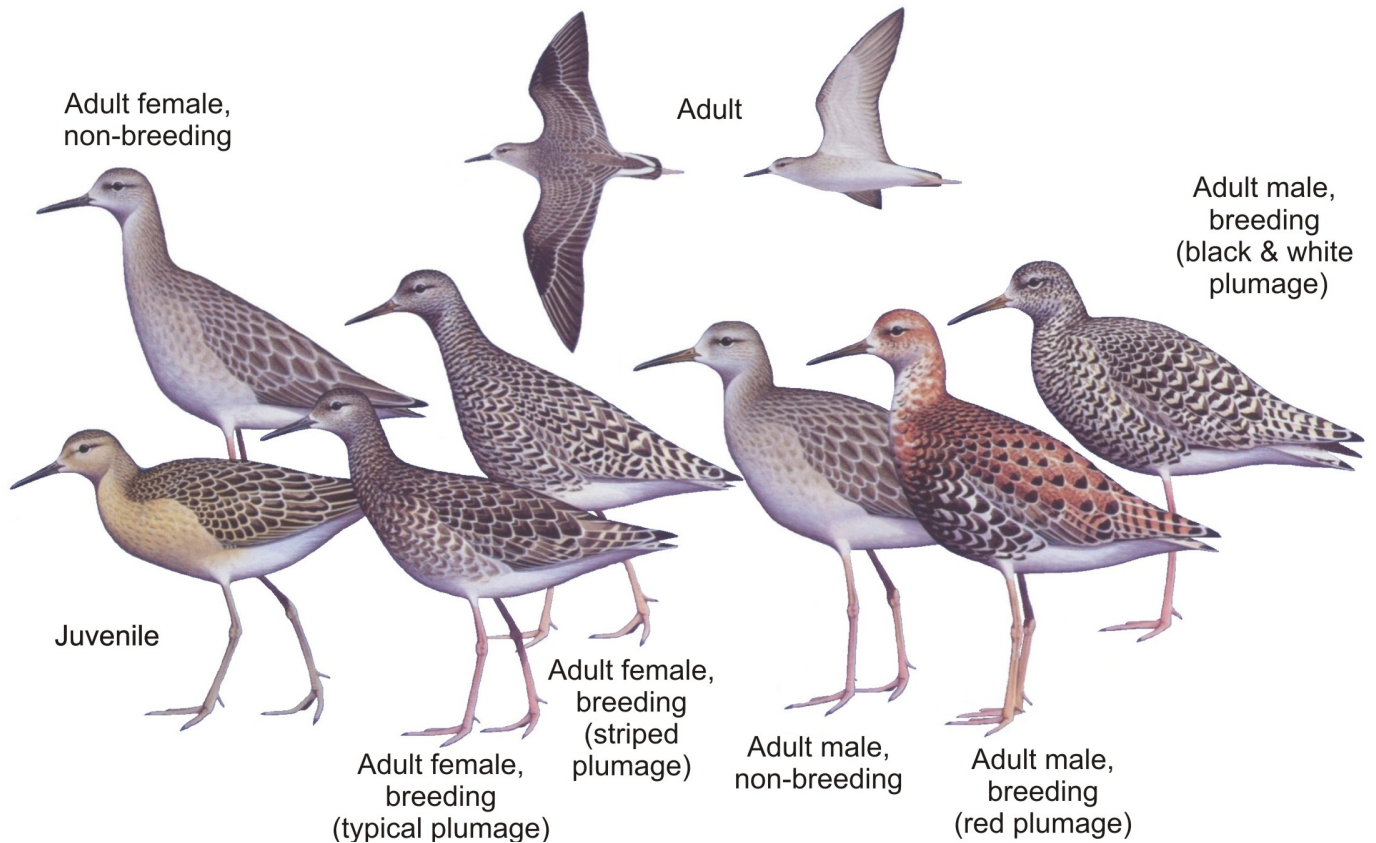


Ruff (& Reeve) *Calidris pugnax*

Species Code: 486

Band: [Male (Ruff) Y/YP]

[Female (Reeve) D/DP]



Morphometrics:

	Ruff (male)	Reeve (female)
Wing:	180 – 200 mm	154 – 164 mm
Tail:	62 – 70 mm	81 – 60 mm
Bill (tip to skull):	33 – 37 mm	29 – 33 mm
Tarsus:	47 – 54 mm	40 – 46 mm
Middle Toe:	35 – 41 mm	30 – 35 mm
Weight:	130 – 230 g	72 – 150 g

Ageing:

Breed in northern Eurasia and Alaska and migrate south arriving in Australia in September; On arrival in Australia, first year birds have fresh primaries while adults have old or moulting primaries; By December adults have completed moult of primaries, while first year birds can still be separated by their more worn primaries and lack of pre-breeding plumage; Adult males start first pre-alternate moult Nov to early Jan; immature males Jan to early Mar; Adult females start first pre-alternate moult Dec to early Mar, immature females Feb to Mar; Adult male ruff and ear-tufts develop mainly in Apr for breeding display and are most unlikely to be observed in non-breeding areas, so are not illustrated above; Juveniles / Immatures can also be identified by leg colour – Juveniles / Immatures are dull green, but may be mottled with yellow or orange, adults have pinkish red or orange-red legs and feet; At least some birds breed when one year old so age adults (2+).

Sexing:

Males are larger than females (see measurements above) and plumage is different in breeding plumage, but similar in non-breeding plumage.