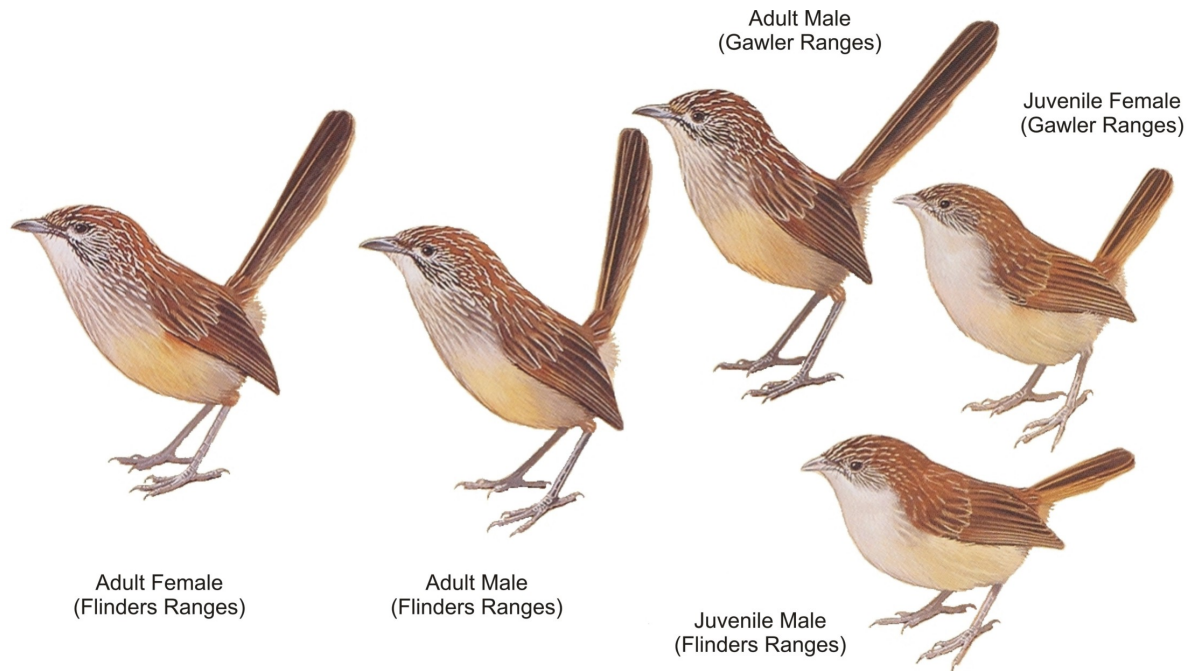


Short-tailed Grasswren *Amytornis merrotsyi* **Species No.: 735** **Band size: (trial)**



Morphometrics:

Formerly regarded as a sub-species of Striated Grasswren *Amytornis striatus*. The measurements below are from a very small sample of the Flinders Ranges population:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	61 – 66 mm	60 – 63 mm
Tail:	67 – 79 mm	66 – 71 mm
Bill:	13.9 – 15.3 mm	12.2 – 15.2 mm
Tarsus:	23.9 – 27.3 mm	24.6 – 26.9 mm
Weight:	22 – 23.5 g	21.5 g

Ageing:

Juveniles are similar to adults but fluffier;
 Sequence of plumages are not known, but probably similar to Striated Grasswren *A. striatus* that undergo a partial post-juvenile moult to an immature plumage soon after fledging;
 Immatures would thus be very similar to adults, but retain juvenile primaries, secondaries and tail, but only separable from adults if synchronous growth-bars can be detected;
 Breed throughout Spring and post-breeding moult of adults commences in November;
 Immatures probably commence moult to full adult plumage at about 12 months old, coinciding with the post-breeding moult of adults;
 Thus birds identified as adults in Autumn, Winter and Spring will be at least (2+);
 Immatures will be either (1) or (2-).

Sexing:

Sexes do not appear to be dimorphic on measurements;
 The sex of all birds can be determined by a subtle difference – females have a rufous-brown spot on the anterior flanks that is visible when the wing is folded;
 Incubation is probably by female only.