Grey-headed Honeyeater Lichenostomus keartlandi Species No.: 621 Band size: 02



Morphometrics:

Ageing:

Adult (1+) Juvenile

Bill may change colour for breeding; grey-black with orange-yellow or pinkish

breeding – black; -brown base to lower mandible

non-breeding – black with yellow

basal half to lower mandible:

Gape: black; yellow or orange;

Iris: dark brown; black or brown-black, dull blue or grey; Forehead & light grey; pale grey with faint yellow-olive tinge;

crown:

Ear coverts: grey with black tips to rearmost brownish-grey;

coverts forming a dark band;

Mantle, back grey-brown with brown suffusion; light grey-brown;

& scapulars:

Juveniles undergo a partial moult to immature plumage that basically resembles adult plumage soon after fledging, but immatures retain some or all juvenile remiges and rectrices;

Presence of synchronous growth or fault bars in the tail indicate retained juvenile feathers – thus immature aged (1);

Adult plumage is acquired in the first year, so all adult plumaged birds through the breeding season (late Winter to early Summer) are aged (2+), otherwise (1+);

Sexing:

No difference in plumage, but adult and immature males are generally larger than females; Wing and tail length are useful for sexing some birds, but there is overlap – no females have a wing length > 78 mm or tail length > 65 mm;

There is no information available on the role of the sexes in incubation.