

FACT SHEET

Stubble Quail Sex Identification

Characteristics of Stubble Quail

Male and female Stubble Quail have distinct characteristics. Male Stubble Quail have orange-buff throat and face markings, and a large black patch on the breast; females have cream-white throat and face markings and lack a solid black breast-patch.

Immature Stubble Quail are similar in colouration to adults however, the male black breast patch

may include white streaking throughout the feathers.

Juvenile Stubble Quail are smaller in size than adults or immature birds. For both sexes, breast feathers are white with brown spots, and belly feathers extensively white. Due to the similar colouration between sexes in juvenile, it is difficult to correctly identify sex.



Adult male

Wing (95% CI) 100-111 mm

Orange face and throat

Black patch in breast includes some entirely black feathers



Adult Female

Wing 102-114 mm

Cream-white face and throat; no black central patch in breast



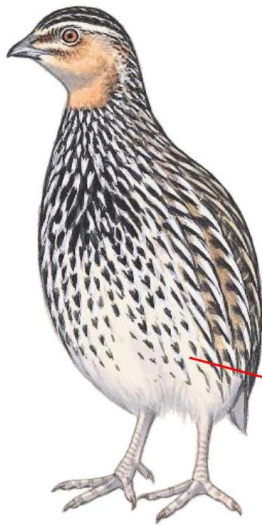
Adult male breast feathers (HANZAB 1993)



Adult female breast feathers (HANZAB 1993)

For the full sex and age identification report scan the QR code or visit:
gma.vic.gov.au/research/quail-research





Immature

Wing ♂ 102–109 mm, ♀ 101–110 mm

Immature male

Similar to adult ♂ but black breast patch has white streaking on all feathers

Immature female (not illustrated)

Very similar to adult female, only differs in wing pattern (see full report)

Both sexes can retain some juvenile feathers in underparts (spotted rather than streaked black)

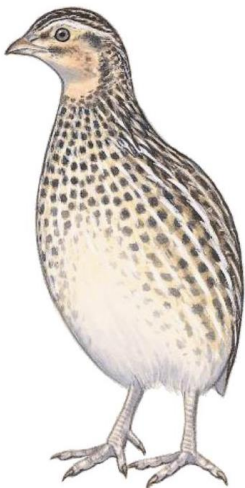


Immature male breast feathers (HANZAB 1993)



Immature female breast feathers (HANZAB 1993)

Juvenile



Juvenile male



Smaller than Adult or Immature. Can fly before fully grown

Underparts feathers spotted, not streaked; extensively white belly

Face and throat patterned like adult ♀

In most or all ♂, faint rufous tinge in face foreshadows orange face and throat of adult



Juvenile breast feathers (HANZAB 1993)

Source:

- Rogers, D., Menkhorst, P. and Davies, J. (2018). *Ageing and sexing Victorian game birds using plumage characters*. ARI Technical Report Series No. 294.
- Marchant, S. and Higgins, P.J. (1993). *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds. Volume 2, Raptors to lapwings*. Melbourne, Oxford University Press. Pages 321, 357-358, 404-414.

Legend: Male = ♂ Female = ♀

Published by Game Management Authority February 2022.
©The State of Victoria 2022

This publication is copyright. No part may be reproduced by any process except in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright Act 1968.

Authorised by Game Management Authority, 535 Bourke Street, Melbourne 3000

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

For more information about Game Management Authority go to www.gma.vic.gov.au