

## CIRCUS JARDINII, Gould.

MAS. *Circ. vertice, genis, plumisque auricularibus intensè castaneis, fusco longitudinalitèr notatis ; disco fasciali, nuchâ, dorso superiore, pectore necnon dorso imo, scapularibusque, intensè cinereis, his albo levitèr notatis ; humeris, alis subtus, abdomine, femoribus, crissoque, castaneis, albo perpulchrè notatis ; tectricibus alarum fusco-cineraceis, irregularitèr albo notatis ; secundariis cineraceis, fasciis tribus fuscis angustè notatis, fasciâque latâ terminali ; primariis ad basin cervinis, per reliquas partes nigris ; tectricibus caudæ superioribus fuscis, fascias albas, apicemque album ostendentibus ; caudâ cinereo fuscoque alternatim fasciatâ ; rostro nigro ; pedibus flavis.*

Long. tot. 19 unc. ; alæ, 16 ; caudæ, 10 ; tarsi,  $3\frac{5}{8}$ .

MALE. Crown of the head, cheeks, and ear-coverts dark chestnut, each feather having a mark of brown down the centre ; facial disk, back of the neck, upper part of the back, and chest uniform dark grey ; lower part of the back and scapulars dark grey, most of the feathers being blotched and marked at the tips with two faint spots of white one on either side of the stem ; shoulders, under surface of the wing, abdomen, thighs, and under tail-coverts rich chestnut, the whole of the feathers beautifully spotted with white, the spots regularly disposed down each web, and being largest and most distinct on the abdomen ; greater and lesser wing-coverts brownish grey, irregularly barred and tipped with a lighter colour ; secondaries dark grey, crossed with three narrow lines of dark brown, and tipped with a broad band of the same colour, the extreme tips being paler ; primaries black for two-thirds of their length, their bases brownish buff ; upper tail-coverts brown, barred and tipped with greyish white ; tail alternately barred with conspicuous bands of dark brown and grey, the brown band nearest the extremity being the broadest, and the extreme tips greyish white ; bill black ; legs yellow.

SYN. *Circus Jardinii*, Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc., Part V., 1837, male.

*Circus assimilis*, Jard. and Selb. Ill. Orn., vol. i. pl. 51, female ?

*Remark.* I am induced to believe that the bird figured by Messrs. Jardine and Selby under the name of *Circus assimilis* will prove to be the female of this bird ; but as I am not quite certain, I have thought it best to characterise the present bird under a new name ; at all events, the term *assimilis* only applies to a young bird or a female.

*Habitat.* Australia : locality, New South Wales.





*Circus Jardenii*



Gould, John and Gould, Elizabeth. 1838. "Circus Jardinii, Gould." *A synopsis of the birds of Australia, and the adjacent islands* (3), –.

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