

Genus ENTOMOPHILA, Gould.

CHARACTERES GENERICI.

GEN. CHAR. Rostrum ferè capitis longitudinem æquans ; ad basin latiusculum, dein compressum, et ad apicem acutum ; mandibulæ superioris tomis arcuatis, et apicem versus levitè indentatis. Nares basales, ovales, in membranâ positæ, et operculo tectæ. Alæ longiusculæ ; remige primo spurio, secundo tertium ferè æquante, hóc longissimo. Cauda brevis, sub-quadrata. Tarsi breves, et subdebiles ; digito posteriore brevi, forti ; digitis externis haud æqualibus, interno paululùm brevior.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill nearly as long as the head, somewhat broad at the base, becoming compressed and pointed the tip ; tomia of the upper mandible arched and slightly notched at the tip ; nostrils basal, oval, pierced in a membrane and protected by an operculum ; wings rather long, first quill spurious, the second nearly as long as the third, which is the longest ; tail short and nearly square ; tarsi short and rather feeble ; hind toe short and stout ; lateral toes unequal, the inner one being rather the shortest.

ENTOMOPHILA PICTA, Gould.

MAS. Ent. capite, genis, corporeque suprâ nigris ; plumis auricularibus posticè albo fimbriatis ; alis nigris primariis secundariisque extus nitidè flavis ; caudæ rectricibus nigris, extus flavo marginatis, omnibusque (duabus internis exceptis) plus minùsve extus albo ad apicem notatis ; gulâ, corporeque subtus albis, hóc ad latera notis subfuscis longitudinalibus sparsè ornato ; rostro flavescente ; pedibus nigrescentibus.

FÆM. VEL MAS JUNIOR ? Differt partibus fuscis, quæ in mare adulto nigrae ; in cæteris mari simillima, flavo colore minùs nitido, rostroque ad apicem fusco.

Long. tot. $5\frac{1}{2}$ unc. ; rostri, $\frac{3}{4}$; alæ, $3\frac{5}{8}$; caudæ, $2\frac{5}{8}$; tarsi, $\frac{5}{8}$.

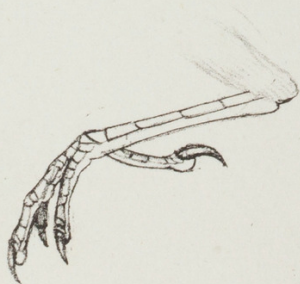
MALE. Head, cheeks, and all the upper surface black, the posterior edges of the ear-coverts tipped with white ; wings black, the outer edges of the primaries and secondaries rich yellow, forming a conspicuous broad bar on the wing ; tail black, margined externally with rich yellow, each feather except the two centre ones more or less largely tipped on the internal web with white ; throat and all the under surface white, the flanks having a few longitudinal faint spots of brown ; bill yellowish white ; feet blackish brown.

FEMALE, OR YOUNG MALE. Differs in having all those parts of hair brown which are black in the male ; in other respects the colours are the same, except that they are less brilliant, and the bill brown at the tip.

SYN. *Entomophila picta*, Gould in Proc. of Zool. Soc., Part V., 1837.

Remark. The disposition of the yellow markings of the wings and tail of this kind reminds us of the Goldfinch (*Carduelis elegans*, Steph.) : the lengthened wing, broad and short tail, the great breadth of the bill at its base, and the short tarsi lead me to believe that this species feeds principally upon insects which it pursues and captures on the wing.

Habitat. Australia : locality, interior of New South Wales.



Entomophila picta.



Gould, John and Gould, Elizabeth. 1838. "Entomophila picta, Gould." *A synopsis of the birds of Australia, and the adjacent islands* (4), –.

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