

Date	Age	Sex	Race	Inner	Primaries	Outer	Locality	Rel. No.	Date	Age	Sex	Race	Inner	Primaries	Outer	Locality
5 20 Nov	A	F	s	5 5 5	5 5 5	5 5 5		AIN153.15	10 Dec	A	M	s	5 5 5	5 5 5	5 5 5	0 0 0
21 Nov	A	F	s	5 5 5	5 5 5	5 0 0		CM16139	14 Dec	A	M	c	5 5 5	0 0 0	0 0 0	5 5 5
21 Nov	A	M	s	0 5 0	0 0 0	0 5 5		NKNZ17388	21 Dec	A	F	c	5 5 5	5 0 5	0 0 0	0 0 0
1 22 Nov	A	F	c	5 5 0	5 0 0	0 0 0	A	CM155	- Dec	A	F	c	R 5 5	5 5 5	5 0 5	5 5 5
0 22 Nov	A	M	c	5 5 5	5 5 5	0 0 0	A	CM156	- Dec	A	M	c	R 5 5	5 5 5	5 5 5	0 0 0
4 Dec	A	M	c	R 5 5	5 0 5	5 0 0		AIN153.39	- Dec	A	M	c	5 5 5	5 5 5	5 5 5	0 5 5
4 Dec	A	M	c	5 5 5	5 5 5	0 0 0		AIN99104	- Dec	A	?	s	5 5 5	5 5 5	5 5 5	5 5 5
9 Dec	A	?	c	5 5 5	5 5 5	5 0 0		AIN991.3	- Dec	A	M	s	5 5 5	5 5 5	5 5 5	5 5 5
8 9 Dec	A	M	c	- - -	- - -	5 0 0	B	AIN991.2	- -	A	M	s	5 5 5	5 5 5	5 5 5	5 5 5



SHORT NOTE

Variation in leg colour of Black-winged Petrels

During 1988-89 visits to Macauley and Curtis Islands, in the Kermadec group, we examined the legs of over 500 Black-winged Petrels (*Pterodroma nigripennis*). The ends of the webs and toes and all of the outer toe were black on each bird examined. However, there was considerable variation in the coloration of the remainder of the feet and tarsus. Most birds had mauve or pink legs but extremes were from very pale flesh coloured or almost white to distinctly pale blue.

Seventy *et al.* (1971, *Handbook of Australian Sea-birds*) noted that most Black-winged Petrels' legs were largely flesh coloured but occasional individuals had blue legs. They referred to a specimen taken on Norfolk Island and others that had been collected at sea with blue legs. The presence of Black-winged Petrels with blue legs on Macauley and Curtis Islands clearly demonstrates that this colouring is not confined to birds from one colony. Moreover, rather than there being two distinct colour phases, our findings show that flesh and blue are extremes of considerable colour variation.

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