

though they be, are among the most mysterious links in the bird world which tell of the steady drying out of the great heart of Australia, with all that statement implies in adverse economic condition and the well-being of man himself.

SHORT KEY TO SPECIES

Band on tail narrow and subterminal, base of tail fuscous	<i>Acanthiza</i>
Throat buff, abdomen yellowish	<i>nana</i>
Throat and abdomen cream, small forehead crescents	<i>inornata</i>
Undersurface yellowish, throat streaked black	<i>lineata</i>
Throat white, streaked black, crescentic marks on forehead.	
Tail with distinct white tips, full bar.	
Rump brussels brown, abdomen dusky	<i>apicalis</i>
Rump brown, abdomen and crescents white	<i>whitlocki</i>
Rump argus brown, crescents buff.	<i>pyrrhopygia</i>
Rump hazel, base of tail lighter	<i>albiventris</i>
Tail not tipped white, bar narrow, spot on centre.	
Upper olive, crescents distinct, buff with blackish base and fringe	<i>pusilla</i>
Forehead and wing patch tawny	<i>ewingi</i>
Crescents and throat marks indistinct, flanks dark citrine	<i>katherina</i>
Band over half tail, base light or brightly coloured	<i>Geobasileus</i>
Upper tail coverts yellow.	
Forehead black with white spots	<i>chrysorrhous</i>
Face whitish, few buff crescents, base of tail buff	<i>squamatus</i>
Upper coverts cream, base of tail grey.	
Crescents large, undersurface cream	<i>morgani</i>
Crescents small, undersurface dark buffy olive, throat streaked	<i>hedleyi</i>
Upper coverts and base of tail buff	<i>reguloides</i>
Upper coverts and base of tail tawny	<i>uropygialis</i>
Upper coverts and base of tail cinnamon, crown streaked black	<i>robustirostris</i>

Ethics of the Quail Shooter.—In the Melbourne evening paper, *The Star*, of March 16, 1936, appears the following: "You'd be surprised at the excitement the shooting of an old Crow brings," said Mr. D. Mackintosh, one of the Quail's most bloodthirsty enemies to-day. "If there are no Quail to shoot, shoot anything—that's what we say," he said. "*Shoot anything!*" Further comment appears unnecessary.