COTURNIX AUSTRALIS, Temm.

Cot. sincipite, loro, guldque griseo-albis, stramineo lavatis; partibus superioribus fascis striis transversalibus delicatulis, griseis, nigris et castaneis, plumis singulis dorsi striis tenui centrali; secpulix griseo-fuscis; alis fuscis obscuris canis brunneis nigrosisque; remigibus primariis fuscis griseo brunneo notatis; partibus inferioribus stramineo-canis, plumis omnibus lineis frequentibus interrupitis, pluribus lineis tenui centrali alba; rostro brunneo; pedibus carneis.

Long. tot. 6½ unc.; rostri, ½; alae, 2; tarsi, ½.

Forehead, space between the bill and the eye, and the throat greyish white with a tinge of buff; all the upper surface irregularly marked with beautiful transverse bars of grey, black, and chestnut, each feather on the back having a fine stripe down the centre; shoulders greyish brown, the remainder of the wing marked with obscure transverse lines of grey, brown, and black; primaries brown, mottled on their external edges with greyish brown; all the under surface buffy grey, each feather having numerous zigzag markings of black, and many of them having a very fine line of white down the centre; bill brown; feet flesh colour.


Remark. This species may at all times be distinguished from the rest of the genus by the minute and uniform character of its markings, although this character is more strongly developed in some specimens than in others. In some the black markings predominate over the lighter: these in all probability are either females or young birds of the year.

Habitat. Australia: locality, New South Wales.
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