

Common Name/*Scientific name*: **Brown Cuckoo-Dove/ *Macropygia amboinensis***

This species is also known as the Brown, Pheasant or Large-tailed Pigeon



**Description:** The Brown Cuckoo-Dove is a large brown pigeon of rainforests, with a very long, tapering tail. There is a pale streak below the blue-grey eye and a red eye-ring. The female has a brighter chestnut cap and a scaly pattern on the breast. The legs and feet are red. Their flight is strong and graceful, usually low among the trees

**Where seen in the gardens:** This is a pigeon of rainforests and wet sclerophyll forest, particularly at the forest edges, along creeks and rivers. Mainly seen on the Creek and Lagoon Walks and in the Ephemeral Wetlands: sometimes on the Upland Bushwalk.

**Feeding & Behaviour in the gardens:** Brown Cuckoo-Doves feed on fruit, berries and seeds from a variety of rainforest trees, shrubs and vines. They usually feed in the trees in the early morning and the late afternoon, often hanging upside down to reach fruit. They come to the ground to drink and to eat grit. They can digest very hard seeds.

**Nesting:** Brown Cuckoo-Doves nest in rainforest trees, shrubs and the tops of vines and ferns, with the nest being a scanty collection of twigs and sticks placed sideways on a branch. The young are covered with long thick down when first hatched. Both parents share the incubation and care of the young.

**Similar Species in the gardens:** The large size and graduated tail distinguishes the Brown Cuckoo-Dove from any other pigeon in the region