

Common Name/*Scientific name*:

Cicadabird/ *Edolisoma tenuirostre*



Description: The Cicadabird is a medium sized cuckoo-shrike. The male is blue grey with black bill and dark legs. The female is brown grey above with white underside barred with fine black lines, the eye has a horizontal dark stripe through it. Juveniles are similar to females, but with some white streaking on brown upper parts and head, and less prominent eye stripe.

Where seen in the gardens: Cicadabirds prefer moist forests and woodlands, but will also be found in mangrove and paperbark swamps. At the gardens, look for them in the lower, forested areas.

Feeding & Behaviour in the gardens: Adult and larval insects such as beetles, crickets and stick insects as well as some fruits and seeds.

Nesting: Their nest is a small shallow cup of fine twigs, plant stems and casuarina leaves between 3m and 28m above the ground. The single egg is blotched and spotted, pale blue to green-grey, 32x22mm. Both birds share the nest building, then the female sits while the male feeds her. Both feed the young.

Similar Species in the gardens: The Blackfaced Cuckoo-shrike is similar, but can be distinguished by its obvious black face.