

Common Name/*Scientific name* **Grey Fantail/*Rhipidura albiscapa***



**Description:** A constantly fanned tail and agile aerial twists and turns. Both sexes are similar in appearance: grey above, with white eyebrow, throat and tail edges.

**Behaviour in the gardens:** The most restless of Australia's fantails, Grey Fantails are almost continually on the move, constantly changing position when perched, the tail swished back and forth, fluttering about in the canopy of trees or darting out after flying insects. This species is quite inquisitive and will closely approach a visitor.

**Where seen in the gardens:** Almost any treed area.

**Feeding:** The Grey Fantail feeds on flying insects, which it catches by chasing them from the edge of foliage at all levels in the canopy.

**Nesting:** The Grey Fantail builds its nest in a thin tree-fork, unusually between 2 and 5 metres from the ground. It is made of fine grass bound together with large amounts of spider web. The bottom of the nest is drawn out into a long stem, resembling that of a wine-glass. Both parents share nest-building, incubation of the eggs and feeding of the young when they hatch.

**Similar Species:** Willie Wagtail, Rufous Fantail