

Common Name/Scientific name: Pale Yellow Robin / *Tregellasia capito*

The Pale-yellow Robin occurs in two widely-separated populations, one in the Wet Tropics region of north-eastern Queensland, and the other along Australia's east coast, from SE Queensland to the mid-north coast of NSW. There they inhabit rainforests and moist eucalypt forests, and are often seen along tracks and clearings at the margins of these forests. This species is sometimes known as the Buff-faced, Large-headed, Pale or Rufous-lored Robin.



Description: The adult Pale-yellow Robin is a small bird, grey-olive above, yellow below, with white or orange sides to the forehead. It has yellowish legs and a short and rather broad bill. The juveniles are red-brown above, pale below and have white streaks. These robins are usually seen in pairs or singly and are quiet and unobtrusive birds.

Feeding & Behaviour in the gardens: The Pale-yellow Robin feeds mainly on insects, and sometimes seeds. This species forages on the ground to the middle levels of the forest. They forage among foliage or on the ground, mainly pouncing on prey on the ground or from perches.

Breeding and Nesting: The Pale-yellow Robin builds a cup-shaped nest from grass, rootlets and spiders' web, decorated with moss, bark, lichen and leaves. The nests are usually found one to six metres above the ground in the fork of a shrub or vine in dense vegetation. The eggs are incubated by the female. The male brings food back to the female on the nest. The young are fed by both parents and additional helpers (usually males), if available. If a predator approaches the nest, the parent can distract the predator by faking an injury and drawing the predator away from the nest.

Similar species seen in the gardens: The slightly larger Eastern Yellow Robin, *Eopsaltria australis*, has blackish legs, lacks white markings in front of the eye and has a yellow rump. Eastern Yellow Robins are seen very often in the Maroochy gardens.