

**Common Name/Scientific name:**

**Striated Thornbill/*Acanthiza lineata***

Typically seen actively moving through the outer foliage of eucalypts in a range of forests and woodlands, the Striated Thornbill often maintains contact with other members of its flock by continually uttering very soft and quiet, insect-like calls, that we may have difficulty hearing. They often occur as a part of mixed-species feeding-flocks in the treetops, usually joining with other species of thornbills, but also occasionally other small insectivorous species. They feed mainly by gleaning insects from the foliage.



**Description:** The Striated Thornbill is a medium-sized thornbill with greenish upperparts, an orange-brown cap, streaked distinctively with white and off-white to cream underparts, heavily streaked on chin, throat and breast. The sexes are similar and young birds are only slightly different to adults, with less streaking on the underside.

**Where could be seen in the gardens:** The Striated Thornbill is found in open forests and woodlands, mainly those dominated by eucalypts, with a well-developed understorey. Sometimes seen in parks and gardens, preferring areas that are more than ten years old. So you could expect to see Striated Thornbills in most areas, excepting the thick forested areas along the creeks such as the Ephemeral Wetlands and Fern Glade

**Feeding & Behaviour in the gardens:** They feed mainly on insects, but sometimes seeds, nectar or fruit. They often feed in trees in small flocks, but may sometimes feed on the ground. Will be seen feeding in mixed flocks with other small insect-eating birds.

**Nesting:** Striated Thornbills breed in small related groups, defending a particular nesting territory. Both members of a pair of Striated Thornbills help to build the oval, domed nest, with a hooded entrance near the top, out of bark mixed with lichen, mosses and spider webs and egg sacs (the nest is commonly covered with white material), lining it with feathers, fur or soft plant down. The nest is usually in the outer branches of trees, shrubs and vine-covered saplings, mainly of eucalypts. The female incubates the eggs and both parents feed the young, along with other members of the breeding group.

**Similar Species in the gardens:** The Striated Thornbill can be distinguished from the similarly sized and shaped Brown Thornbill ( *A. pusilla*) by its orange-brown cap streaked with white and by black streaking on its yellow-white underparts. It also has a thinner, higher pitched call than the Brown Thornbill and is more commonly found higher in the trees.