

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.