

# INDEX

- Aboriginal significance  
    Dreaming 4, 11–13, 37  
    hunting 13, 14, 15–17, 50, 83–4  
    language names 12, 16  
    taboo 13–15  
    totem 13–15  
    traditional law 13–15  
    use of fire 15, 87  
aggression 56, 61–2  
Arabian bustard 21, 22, 51  
Australian brush turkey 4, 5
- Banks, Joseph 2, 3  
Barkly Tableland 35, 44, 71, 75  
Barossa Valley 5  
behaviour 51, 55–7, *see also* courtship  
bill 26  
bird atlas 29, 71, 91  
breeding *see also* courtship; lek  
    breeding season 61, 67, 77, 78  
Brigalow Belt 30  
budgerigar 72  
Bustard Bay 2, 4
- call *see* vocalisation  
*Calytrix exstipulata* *see* turkey bush  
camouflage 20, 24, 41  
cane toad 50  
Cape York Peninsula 34  
captive breeding 89–90  
Channel Country 44, 75  
chicks 24, 38, 68  
clutch *see* eggs  
conservation 82, 84, 89–91  
    Aboriginal perspectives 14–15  
    implications of movements 90  
    predictive conservation planning 91  
Cook, James 2–3  
copulation 65–6  
courtship *see also* breeding; lek  
    display routine 43, 64–6  
    ritualised bout 62
- decline 1, 23, 29, 81–2, 84–5, 86, 90  
description 22–6  
    original 2, 3  
diet 41, 42, 45–54  
    switching 46, 69  
dimorphism  
    plumage 24  
    sexual size 20, 22, 23, 46, 48
- distribution  
    contemporary 29–31  
    historical 27–8  
drinking 40, 49  
drought 64, 71, 77, 91
- eggs 14, 37, 68  
    clutch size 68  
    description 68  
    incubation 68  
emu 5, 12–13  
eye 26
- female choice 24, 61, 90  
fire 15, 31, 49, 73, 74, 75–6, 87, 89  
    seasonal importance 76  
fledging 68  
Flinders, Matthew 4  
folklore 5–9  
food, bustard as a 3, 6, 7, 14, 15, 16–17, 28,  
    63  
foraging 48–9, 51, 55, 56, 75, 76, 77  
fox 68, 85
- Gagudju 4  
gastrolith 47, 51  
Gould, John 82  
grasshoppers 32, 45, 46, 47, 71, 86  
great bustard 1, 3, 4, 20, 21, 23, 79, 82  
Great Indian bustard 21, 22  
*Grewia retusifolia* *see* turkey bush
- habitat preferences 31–5, 66–7  
heaviest 1, 23  
home range 77  
horticulture 33–4  
houbara bustard 20, 21  
hunting *see* threats
- irrigated crops *see* horticulture
- Kimberley 30, 34, 46  
Kori bustard 1, 21, 22, 23, 41, 49, 51, 64
- land clearing 33–4, 86  
legs 26  
lek *see also* courtship  
    classical 60, 61, 63, 64  
    configuration 60–1, 63, 67  
    definition 59  
    exploded 60, 61, 64, 77

- fidelity 63, 85
- habitat characteristics 63, 66–7
- implications of hunting 85
- social structure 60–2
- timing of display 67
- lekking *see* lek
- lifespan 23
- locomotion 56, 79
- Mathews, Gregory 9
- mating strategy *see also* courtship; lek
  - flexibility 63–4
  - lekking *see* lek
  - monogamy 64
  - polygyny 24, 59
- Melbourne 28
- melon 49, 54
- Melopsittacus undulatus* *see* budgerigar
- Monaro Plains 5
- monitoring 31, 71, 91
- morphology 22–3, 25
- movements 30, 44, 69–79
  - dispersal 78, 79
  - flexibility 71
  - irruptions 70, 76
  - local 77
  - migration 70, 71
  - nomadism 70, 71
  - partial migration 70, 71, 78–9
  - sedentariness 70, 71, 78
- Myoporum deserti* *see* turkey bush
- name, origin of 19–20
- nesting 37, 67, 68, 78
- New Guinea 21, 27, 28, 30
- New South Wales 12, 28, 29, 50, 82
- Ngarigo 4
- nomadism *see* movements
- Northern Territory 4, 12, 14, 29, 33, 34, 37, 46, 50, 82, 87, 88, 90
- Nullarbor Plain 12, 28, 33
- Otididae 20
  - bustard species 21
  - distribution 21
- parasites 16
- Pitjantjatjara 13
- place names 4
- plumage
  - adult 24
  - chicks 24
- population density 34, 78
- predation *see* threats
- preening 56, 57
- Queensland 2, 3, 5, 16, 29, 30, 44, 50, 70, 74, 83
- refugia 75, 91
- re-introduction 89–90
- reproduction *see* breeding
- roosting 31, 56
- Sahul 27, 28
- satellite tracking 44, 66, 71, 72–5, 78, 91
- seed dispersal 49
- Serendip Sanctuary 90
- sexual bimaturism 23, 60
- sexual maturity 23–4
- sexual selection 23–4 *see also* female choice
- size 1–2, 22–3, 25, 40, 46, 59, 61, 62, 73, 85
- Solander, Daniel 2, 3, 22
- South Australia 5, 8, 12, 13, 29, 33, 82, 90
- status 29–31, 82
- Tanami Desert 12, 16
- Tasmania 27, 28
- taxonomy 20, 22
- territoriality 78
- threats 81–9
  - altered fire regimes 81, 87
  - disturbance 68, 82
  - habitat alteration 3, 82, 86–8
  - hunting 3, 6, 8, 23, 29, 81, 82–5, 91
  - pastoralism 81, 87
  - pesticides 81, 86
  - powerlines 89
  - predation 68, 82, 85–6
  - roadkill 89
  - 'woody weed' infestation 87, 88
- Torres Strait 27, 28
- tropical savannas 25, 31, 32, 33, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 56, 57, 61, 75
- turkey bush 5, 49, 54
- turkey nest 5
- Victoria 2, 23, 29, 82, 83, 90
- vocalisation 26, 64
- Wardaman 12, 14
- Warlpiri 12, 16
- wedge-tailed eagle 23
- weight 2, 17, 23, 25, 55
- Western Australia 12, 29, 30, 34, 46
- Wills, William 35
- wingspan 79