

Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore

Bird Walk (Site 7)



Scarlet Honeyeater (*Myzomela sanguinolenta*)



Female



Male

Local Status - Common

Status relates only to the relative abundance of species on the Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk

(Photography by Amelia Nielsen)

For further information, email cooloolanature@spiderweb.com.au

The Scarlet male is a little jewel, being overall red with black wings, tail, and a white abdomen. The female is light brown, paler below, with a touch of red under the chin.

Bird Size - 10-11cm.

Food - Insects and nectar.

Nest style - A tiny cup.

Material used - Thin strips of bark and rootlets, sometimes horsehair, all bound with spider webbing and lined with fine grass.

Nest Site - Suspended from the forked twig of a drooping branch in the outer foliage of a tree, at heights from fifteen metres or more above the ground.

Breeding Season & Details - June to January, with two to three eggs laid once or twice a year.

Habits - Found in a variety of woodland habitats, favouring the upper canopy of flowering Eucalypts, Melaleucas, and Banksias. This beautiful bird has an irruption in numbers every two or three years, adding natural beauty to towns and city gardens, where it feeds in preference on the nectar of Callistemons. Its high pitched, tinkling call is often heard in the heat of the day when other birds are silent.