



- The following pages have some identification markers for each of the Robins & Shamas found in India
- To know more on these birds you can visit
  - <http://ogaclicks.com/robin-shama/>
- If you are interested in coming on any of my tours or workshops please share your email id. I will keep you updated
- Mail me at [ogaclicks@gmail.com](mailto:ogaclicks@gmail.com)
- You can also call me on (91)9840119078 ,  
(91) 9445219078  
(91) 6369815812

## List of Robin & Shama found in India

Sno.	Name	Binomial Name
<b>Robin (<i>Copsychus</i>)</b>		
1	Indian Robin	<i>Copsychus fulicatus</i>
2	Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>
<b>Shama (<i>Kittacincla</i>)</b>		
1	White-rumped Shama	<i>Kittacincla malabaricus</i>
2	Andaman Shama	<i>Kittacincla malabaricus albiventris</i>
<b>Blue Robins (<i>Luscinia</i>)</b>		
1	Indian Blue Robin	<i>Luscinia brunnea</i>
2	Siberian Blue Robin	<i>Luscinia cyane</i>
4	Firethroat	<i>Luscinia pectardens</i>
5	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>
<b>Blue Robins (<i>Myiomela</i>)</b>		
1	White-bellied Blue Robin	<i>Myiomela albiventris</i>
2	White-tailed Robin	<i>Myiomela leucura</i>
3	Nilgiri Blue Robin	<i>Myiomela major</i>
<b>Robin (<i>Tarsiger</i>)</b>		
1	Himalayan Bluetail	<i>Tarsiger (cyanurus) rufilatus</i>
2	Golden Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger chrysaeus</i>
3	Red-flanked Bluetail	<i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i>
4	Rufous-breasted Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger hyperythrus</i>
5	White-browed Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger indicus</i>
<b>Other Robin</b>		
1	Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas galactotes</i>
2	Blue-fronted Robin	<i>Cinclidium frontale</i>

***Genus- Copsychus***

# Indian Robin Identification Tips

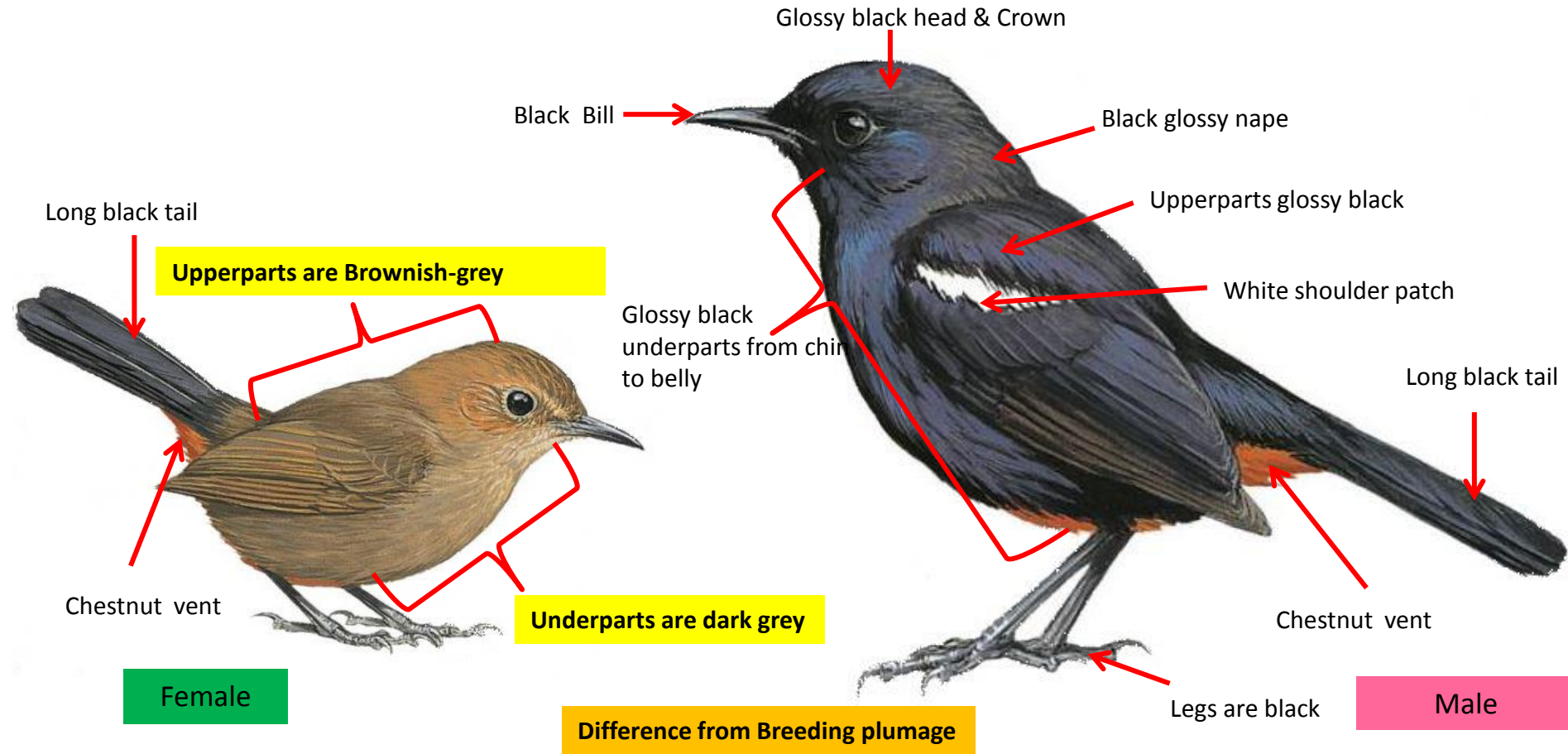
## Indian Robin : *Copsychus fulicatus* :

Nominate- South India

*C. f. cambaiensis* - North & West India , East to Bihar, South to River Tapti

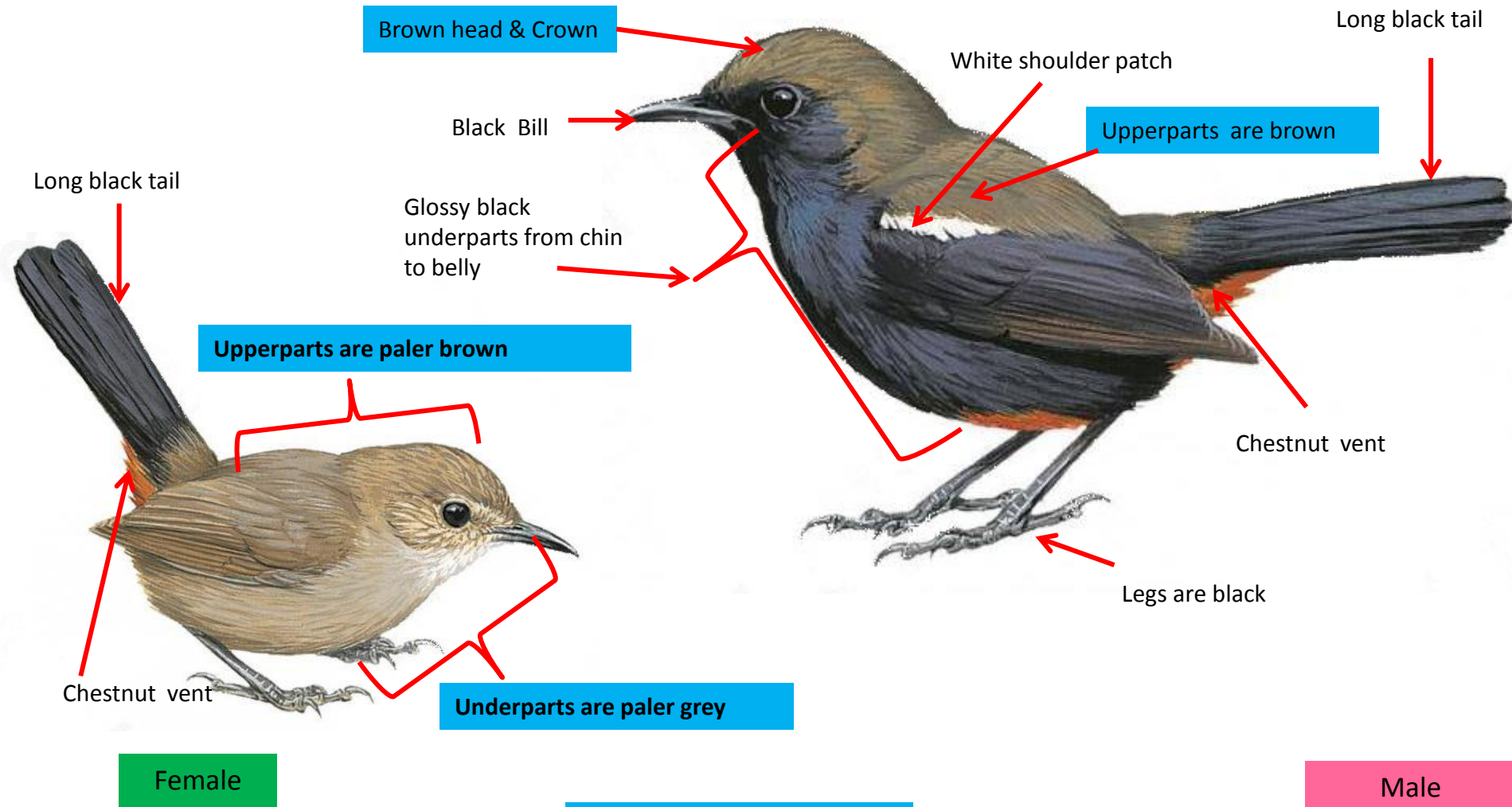
*C. f. erythrurus* - North East India

*C. f. intermedius* - Central India (River Tapti, South Madhya Pradesh and Odisha South to River Krishna)



# Indian Robin Identification Tips - *C. f. cambaiensis*

**Indian Robin : *Copsychus fulicatus* : *C. f. cambaiensis*** - North & West India , East to Bihar, South to River Tapi



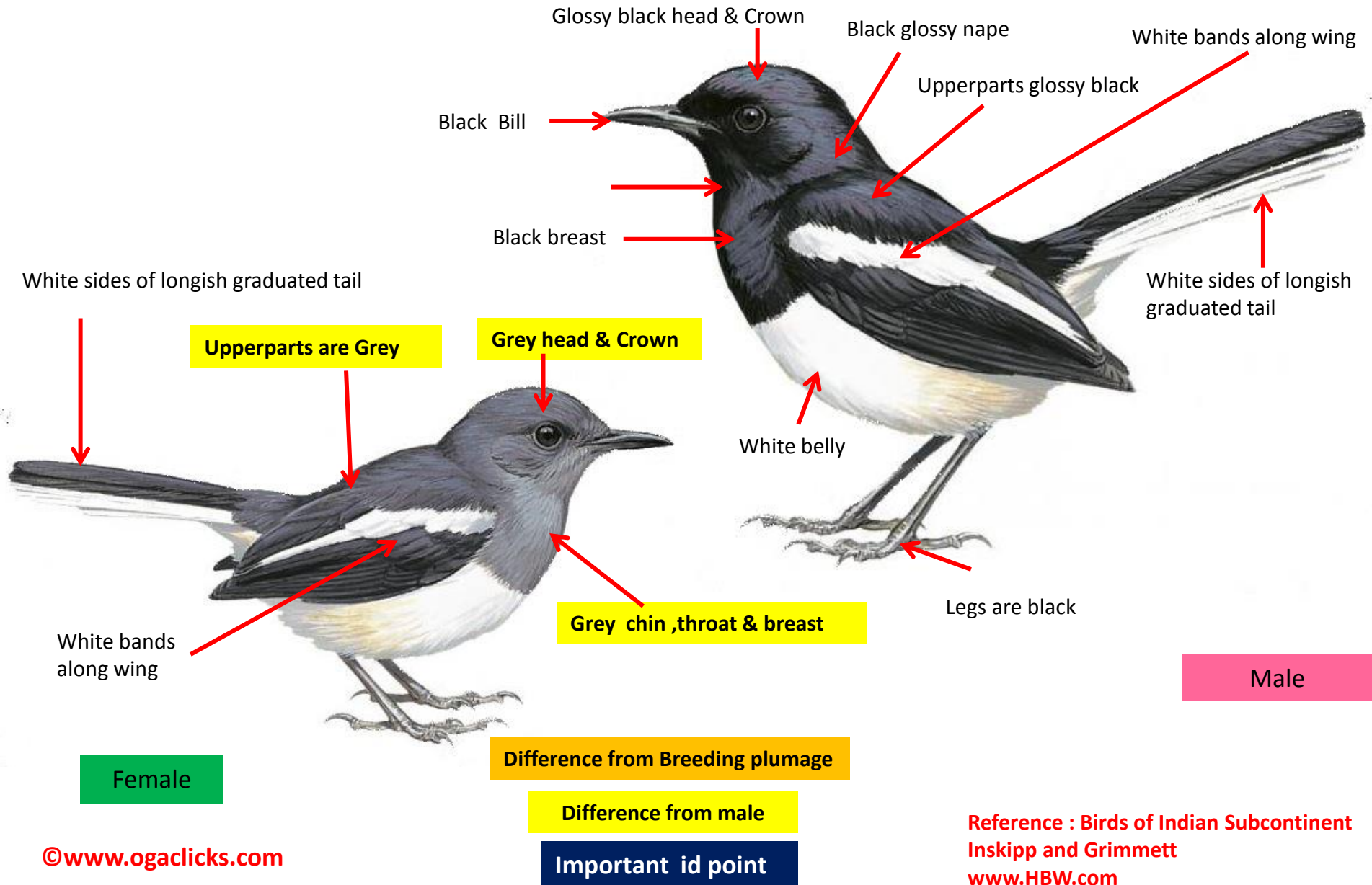
Difference from Nominate

Difference from male

Important id point

# Oriental Magpie Robin Identification Tips

Indian Robin : *Copsychus saularis* : Widespread resident in India



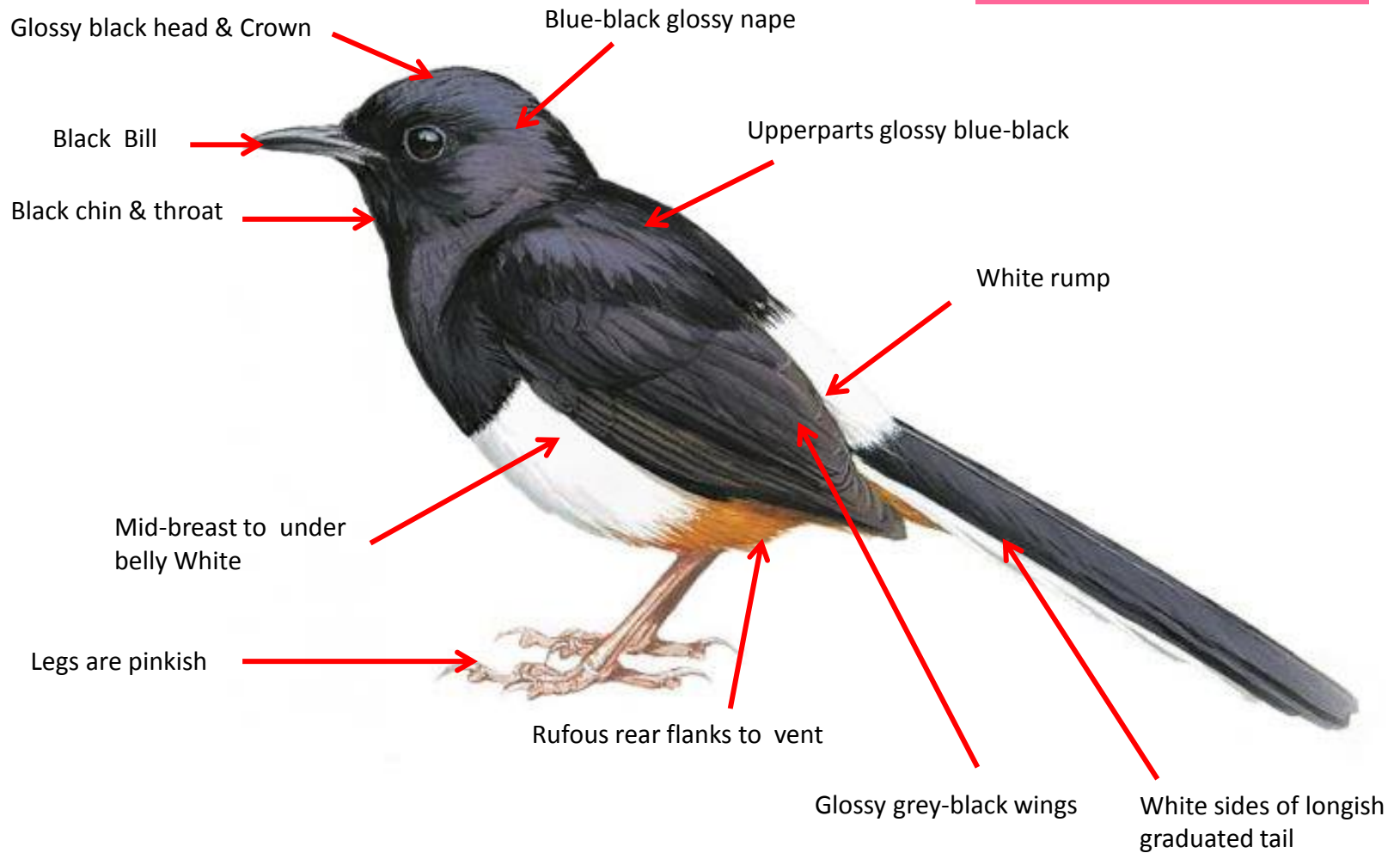


***Genus- Kittacincla***

# Andaman Shama Identification Tips

**Andaman Shama: *Kittacincla albiventris*:** Resident of Andaman islands in India

**Both Sexes are similar**



**Difference from male**

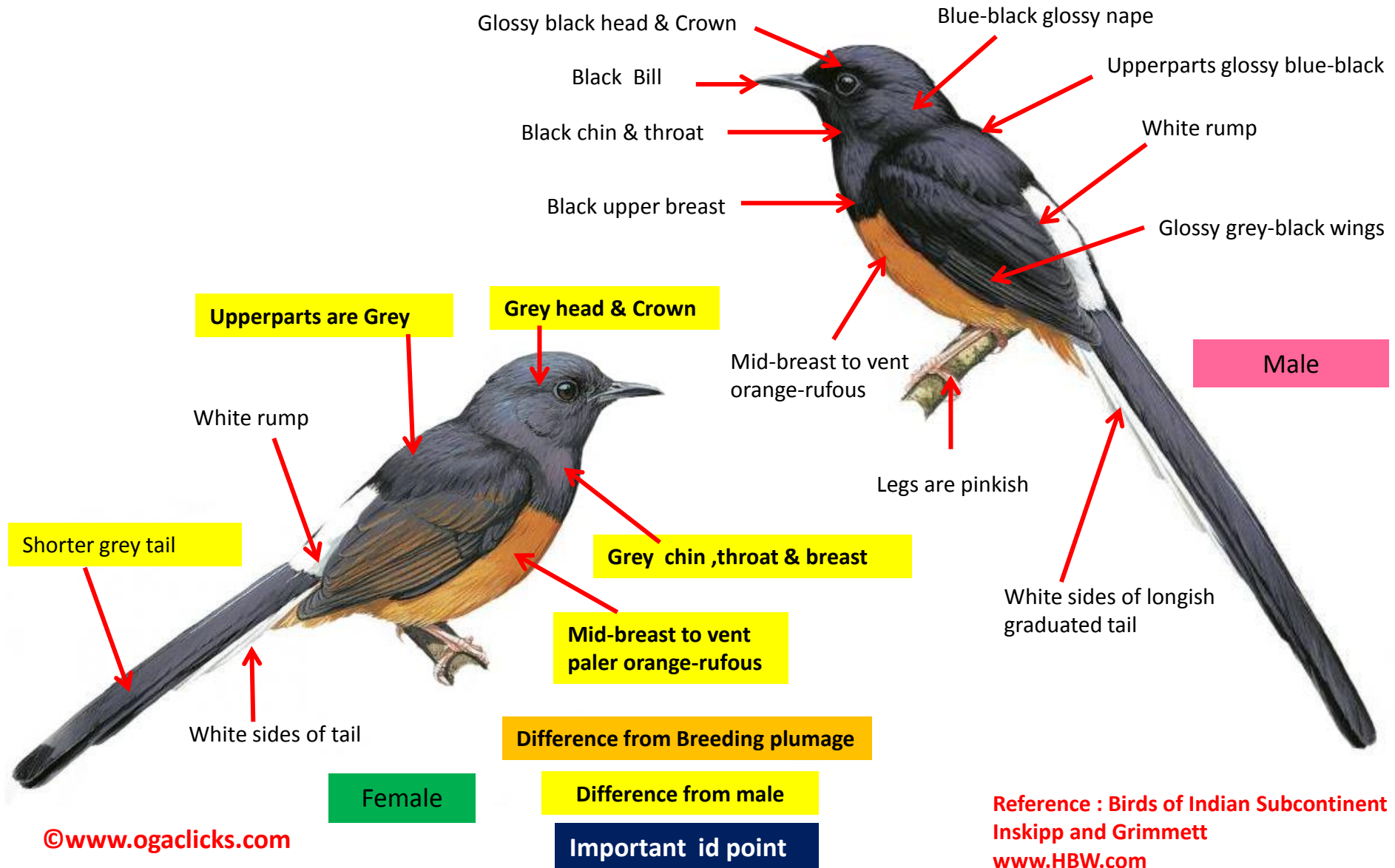
**Important id point**



# White-rumped Shama Identification Tips

## White-rumped Shama: *Kittacincla malabaricus*:

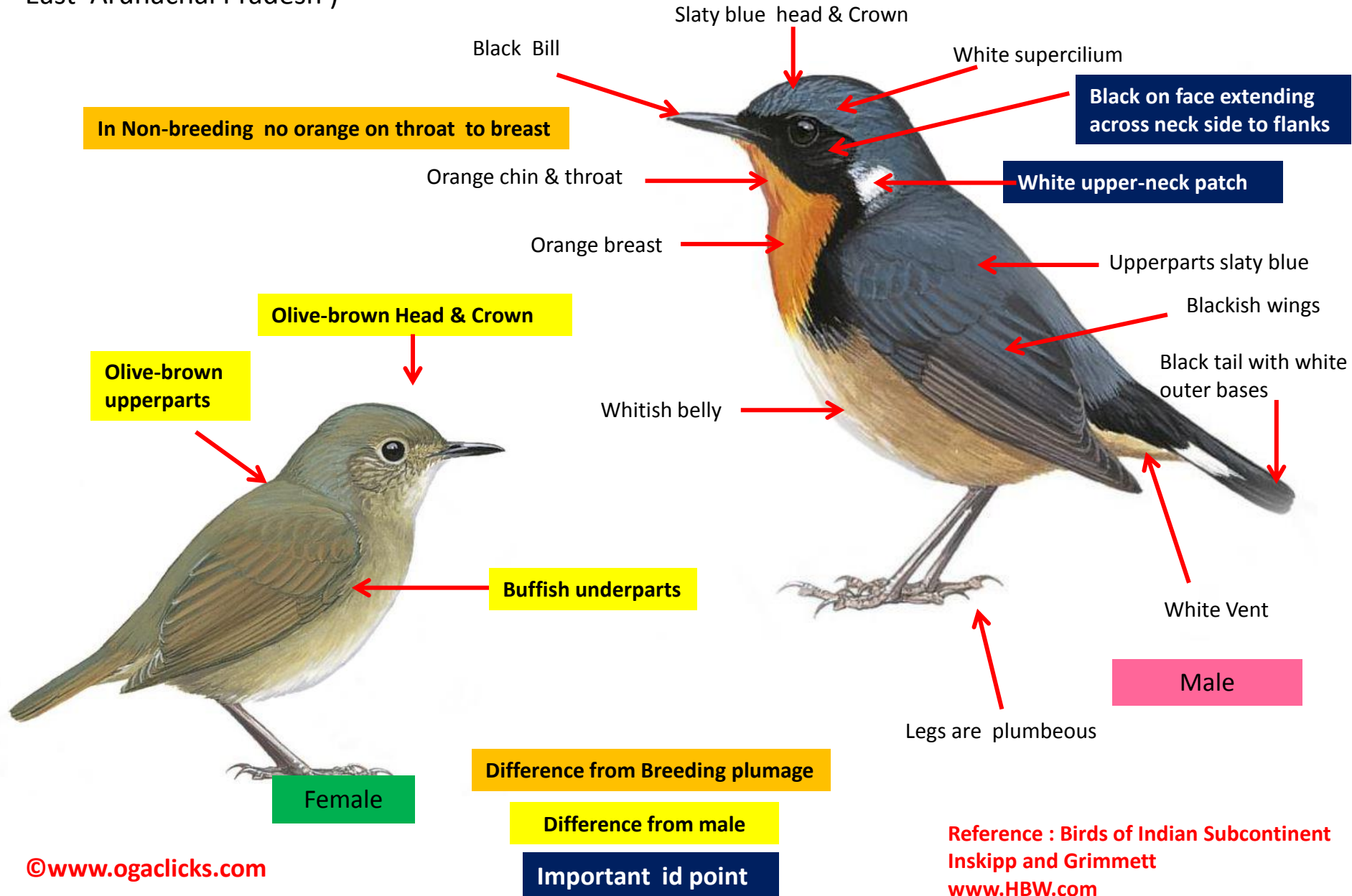
- Nominate – Resident of West & South India.
- *K. m. interposita* - Resident of North, Central, East & North East India



***Genus- Luscinia***

# Firethroat Identification Tips

**Firethroat : *Luscinia pectardens*:** Recorded in East & North East India (West Bengal, Meghalaya, North East Arunachal Pradesh )



# Indian Blue Robin Identification Tips

**Indian Blue Robin : *Luscinia brunnea*** : Breeds in Himalayas & North East India, winter visitor to North east India & South India

In Non-breeding bill is brownish with pink base

Slaty blue head & Crown

White supercilium

Black Bill

Black face

Orange chin & throat

Upperparts slaty blue

Orange breast

Male

Olive-brown Head & Crown

Olive-brown upperparts

Rufous rump

Dappled fulvous breast

Dappled fulvous flanks

Whitish underparts

Female

Difference from Breeding plumage

Difference from male

Important id point

Slaty blue tail

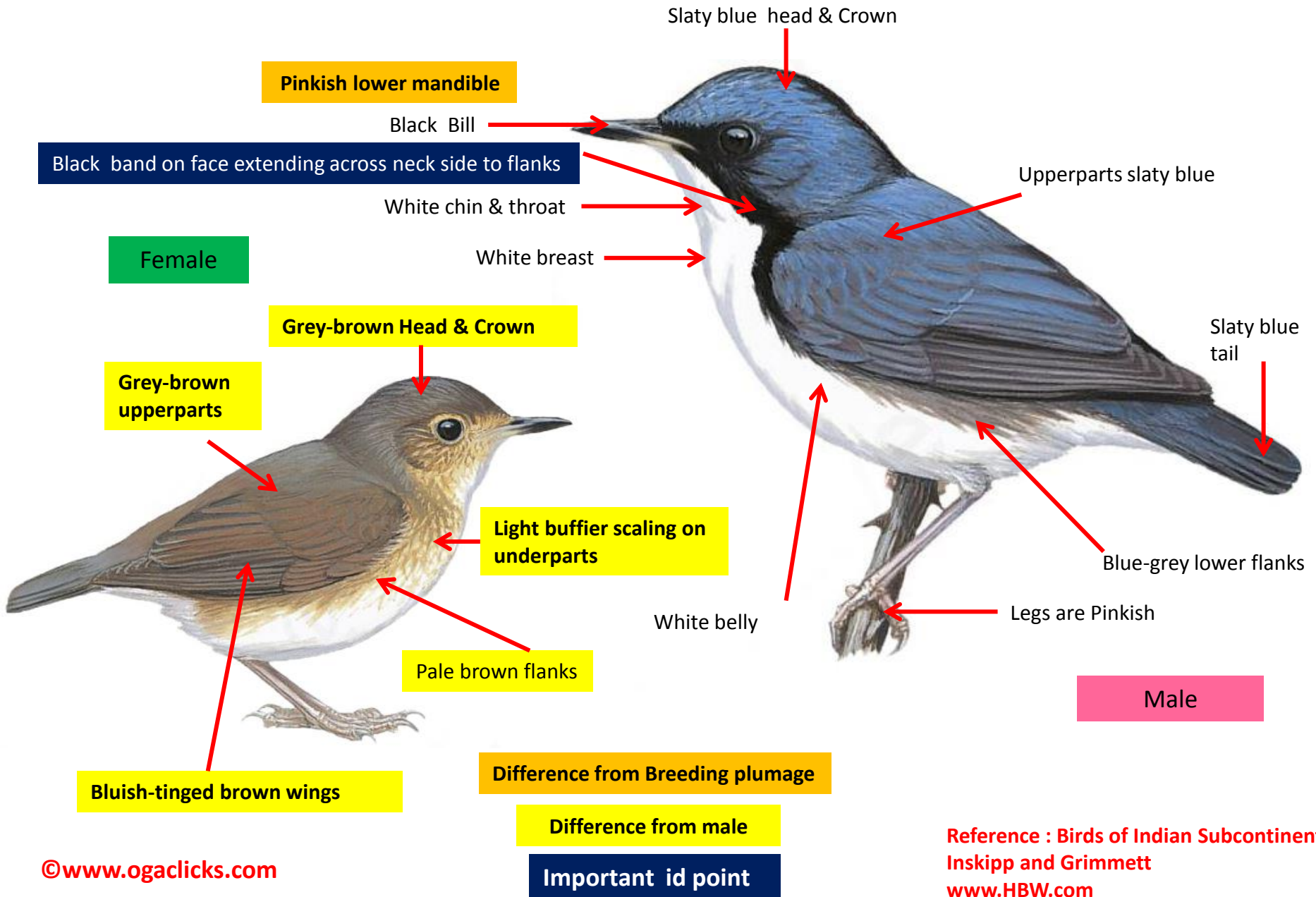
White Vent

Legs are Pinkish -brown

Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

# Siberian blue Robin Identification Tips

Siberian blue Robin : *Luscinia cyane* : Vagrant in India

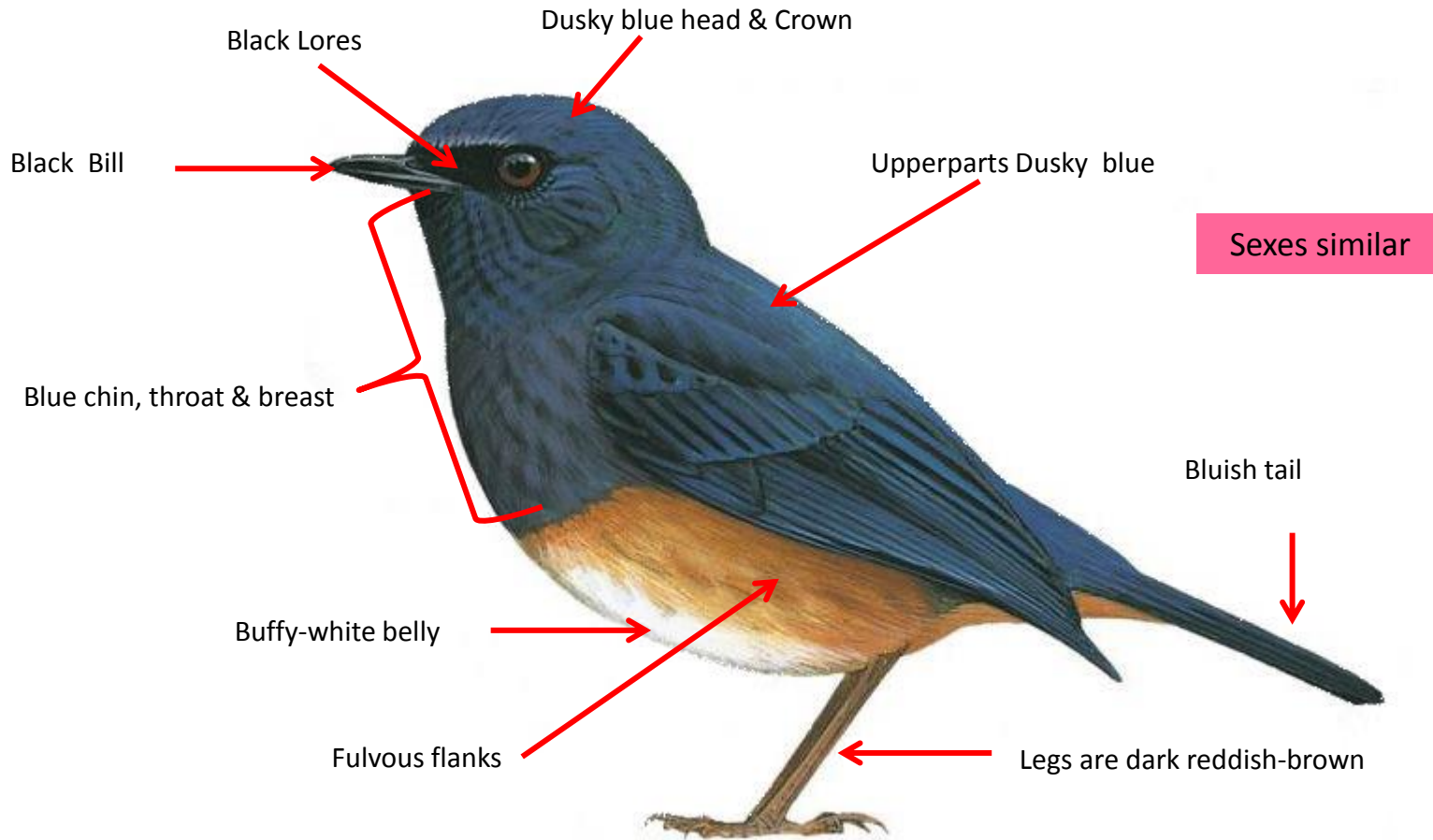


*Genus- Myiomela*



## Nilgiri Blue Robin Identification Tips

**Nilgiri Blue Robin: *Myiomela major*:** Resident hills of Kerala & Tamil Nadu in north of Palghat gap & south Karnataka in India



Female

Difference from Breeding plumage

Difference from male

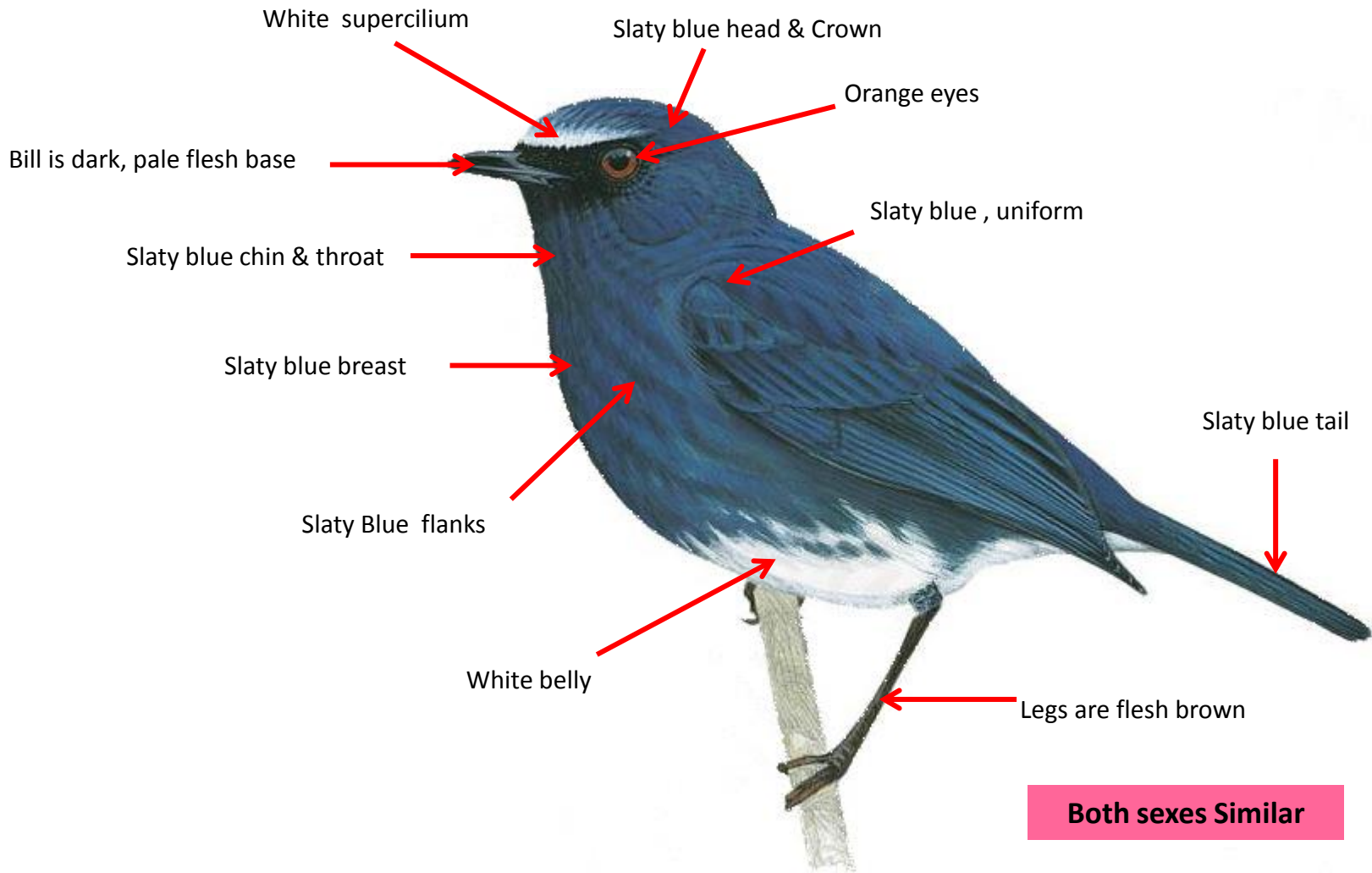
Important id point

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Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
www.HBW.com

# White-bellied Blue Robin identification Tips

White-bellied Blue Robin Blue Robin : *Myiomela leucura* : Vagrant in India



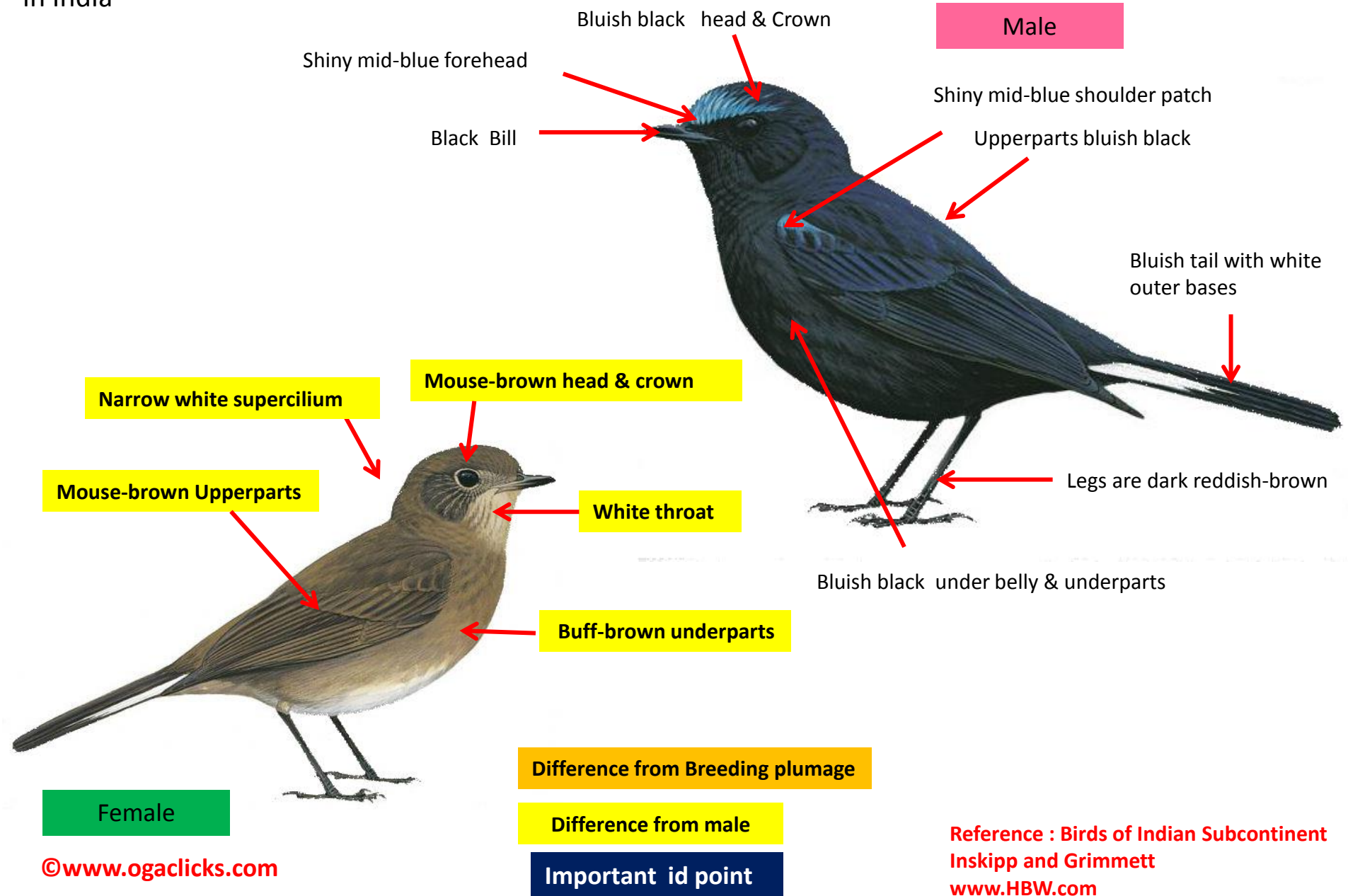
Difference from Breeding plumage

Difference from male

Important id point

# White-tailed Robin Identification Tips

**White-tailed Blue Robin: *Myiomela leucura*:** Resident hills of Kerala & Tamil Nadu in south of Palghat gap in India



# *Genus- Tarsiger*

- Blue backed robins

# Golden Bush Robin Identification Tips

**Golden Bush Robin : *Tarsiger chrysaeus*** : Resident of Himalayas & hills of North East India

Male

Brownish-olive head & Crown

Bright Orange -yellow Supercilium

Bill is dark above, yellowish below

Blackish mask

Upperparts are brownish-olive

Bright Orange -yellow Supercilium

Underparts orange -yellow

Bright Orange -yellow rump

Black tail

orange eyering

Duller yellow supercilium

Yellow sides of tail

Blackish wings, fringed yellow

Legs are olive-yellow.

Buffish-orange underparts

Difference from Breeding plumage

Difference from male

Important id point

Female

Orange sides to tail

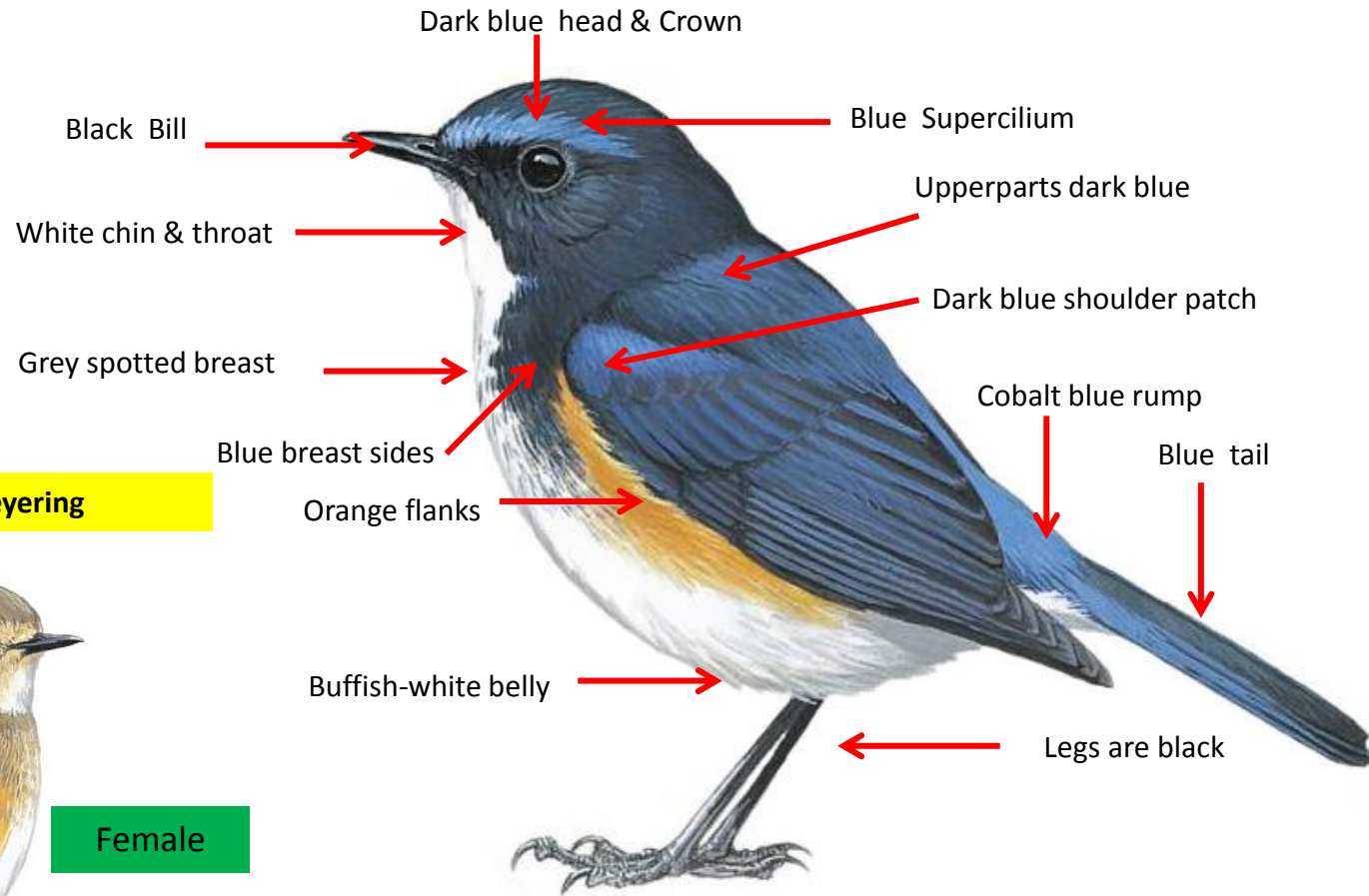
Upperparts olive-tinged golden-brownish



# Himalayan bluetail Identification Tips

**Himalayan bluetail : *Tarsiger (cyanurus) rufilatus*:** Breeds in Himalayas, Winter visitor to foothills & North East India

Male



White eyering

Grey -brown Head & Crown

Bluish Rump

Female

Difference from Breeding plumage

Difference from male

Important id point

Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)



# Red-flanked Bluetail Identification Tips

Red-flanked Bluetail : *Tarsiger cyanurus*: Vagrant in India

White Supercilium becoming bluish behind the eye

Dark blue head & Crown

Brown head & Crown

Black Bill

Brown upperparts

White chin & throat

Upperparts dark blue

Grey spotted breast

Dark blue shoulder patch

White eyering

Olive-brown Head & Crown

Blue breast sides

Orange flanks

Blue tail

Olive-brown upperparts

White bib set in buffy-brown face

Bluish Rump

Breastband

Orange flanks

Buffish-white belly

Legs are black

Male

Difference from Breeding plumage

Difference from male

Important id point

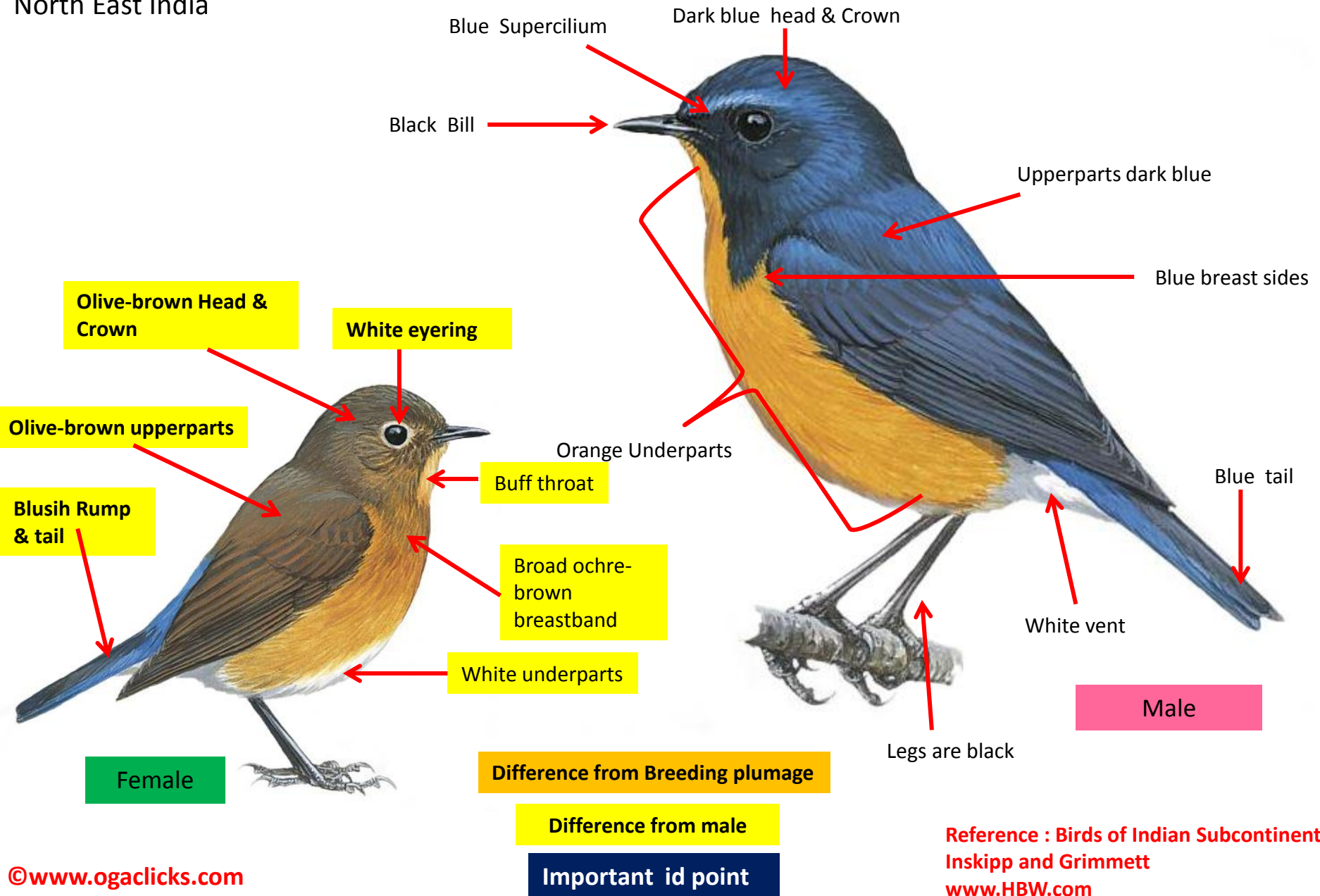
Female

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Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
www.HBW.com

# Rufous-breasted Bush Robin Identification Tips

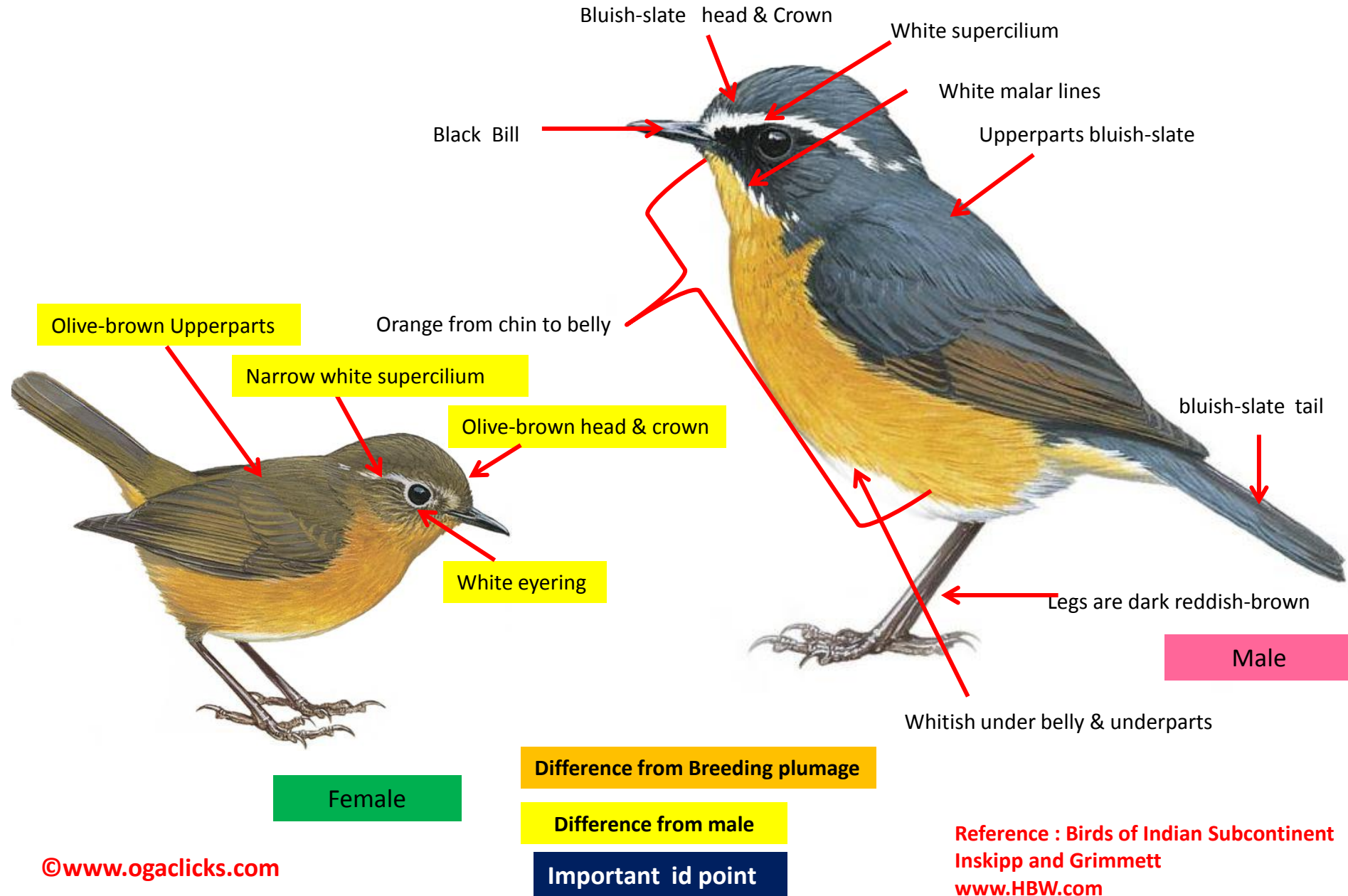
**Rufous-breasted Bush Robin : *Tarsiger hyperythrus*** : Breeds in Himalayas, Winter visitor to foothills & North East India



Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

# White-browed Bush-robin Identification Tips

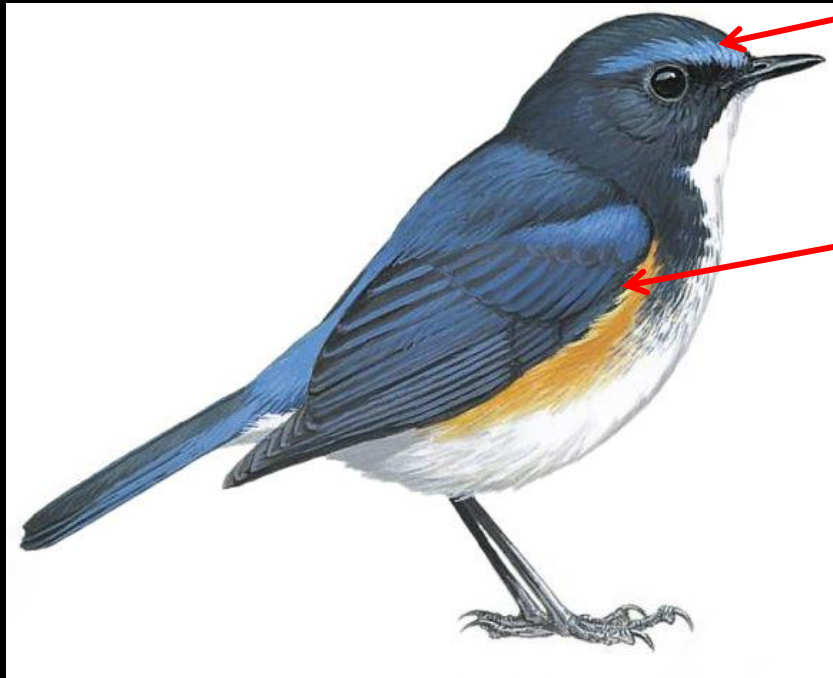
**White-browed Bush -robin : *Tarsiger indicus*** : Resident of Himalayas & hills of North East India



# Bluetails Comparison-Male

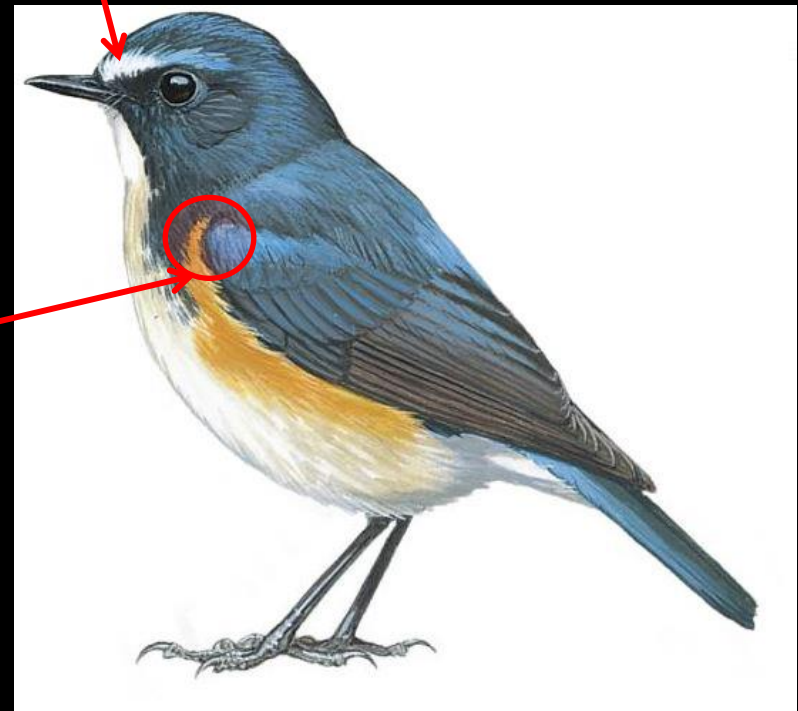
Blue supercilium

Orange sides of the breast  
restricted to sides only



Himalayan Bluetail

White supercilium that becomes blue behind the eye



Orange sides of the breast  
forming a wedge into the  
blue wings

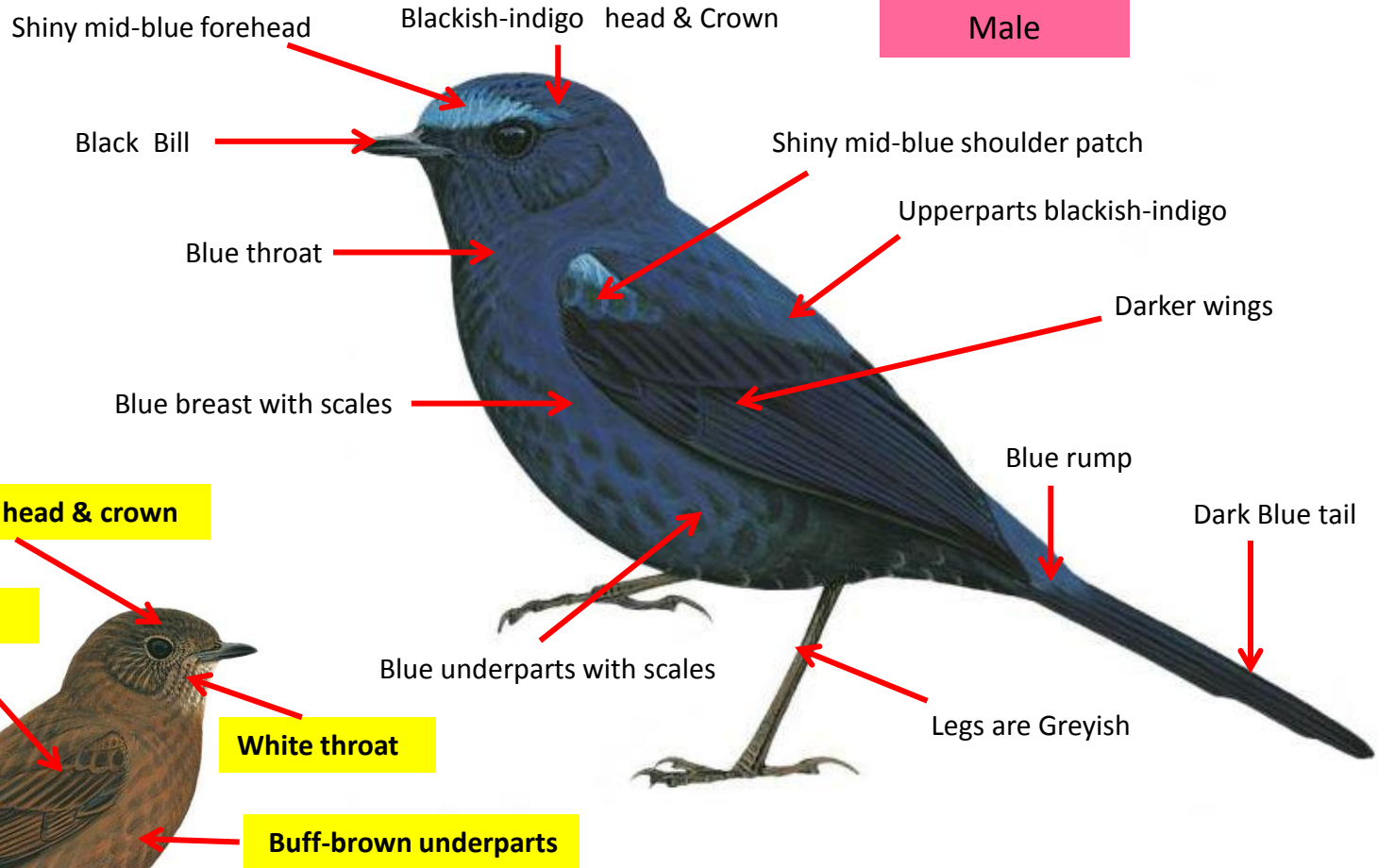
Red-flanked Bluetail

# Other Robins



# Blue-fronted Robin Identification Tips

**Blue-fronted Robin: *Cinclidium frontale*:** Resident Eastern Himalayas in India



Olive-brown head & crown

Olive-brown Upperparts

White throat

Buff-brown underparts

Female

Difference from Breeding plumage

Difference from male

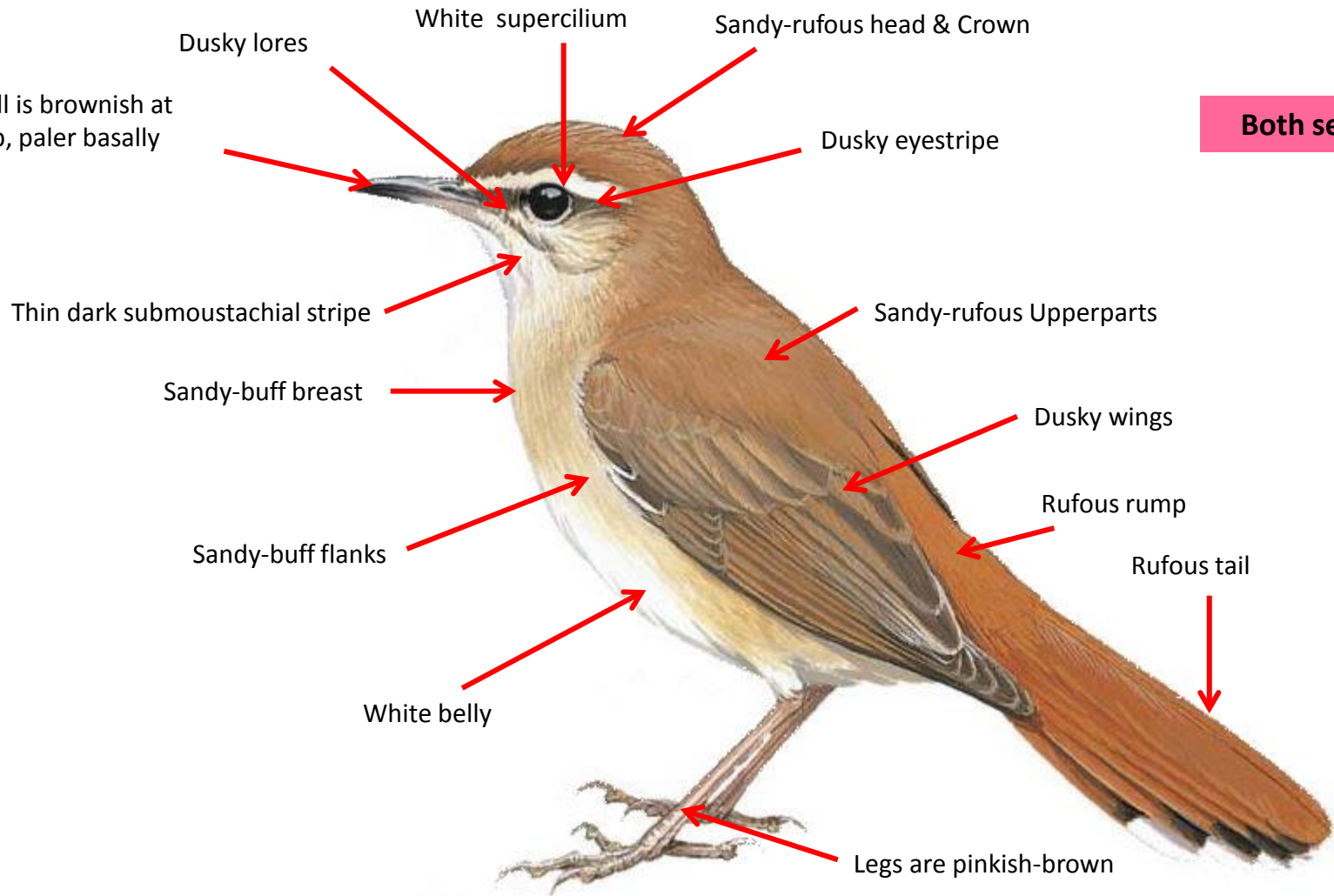
Important id point



# Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin identification Tips

**Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin : *Cercotrichas galactotes*:** Passage migrant in North West India

**Both sexes Similar**



**Difference from Breeding plumage**

**Difference from male**

**Important id point**