

approximately four cm, straight, black-brown with last half-centimetre at base pale buff-brown. Legs and feet bright orange, black toe-nails. Feet slightly webbed.

In flight, the wings show a faint bar, while on the rump there are white patches similar to those of a Sharp-tailed Sandpiper.

On three out of four sightings the bird was feeding around the margins of pools bordered with samphire.

During sighting three, I was interested to see that part of its feeding was done by picking insects from samphire bushes, rather than by probing in the mud as it usually did. —  
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#### RUFF SIGHTED ON EYRE PENINSULA —

Between 29 October 1978 and 2 November 1978, four sightings have been made of a Ruff *Philomachus pugnax* on the B.H.P. Saltfields about five km N. of Whyalla.

Initially the bird was seen feeding among Sharp-tailed Sandpipers *Calidris acuminata*. Its larger size and bright orange legs clearly established it as being different from that species. The most useful observation was made at a distance of 25 m with 10 x 50 binoculars while the bird was preening. From this and other observations, I was able to compile the following description.

Size approximately 28 cm. Head and neck pale grey-brown, with fine brown streaking on the crown. Back and wings darker with slight scalloping. Breast clouded with pale brown, remainder of underside white. Face pale, eye dark with a dark spot behind the eye giving a "Chinese eye" effect. Bill